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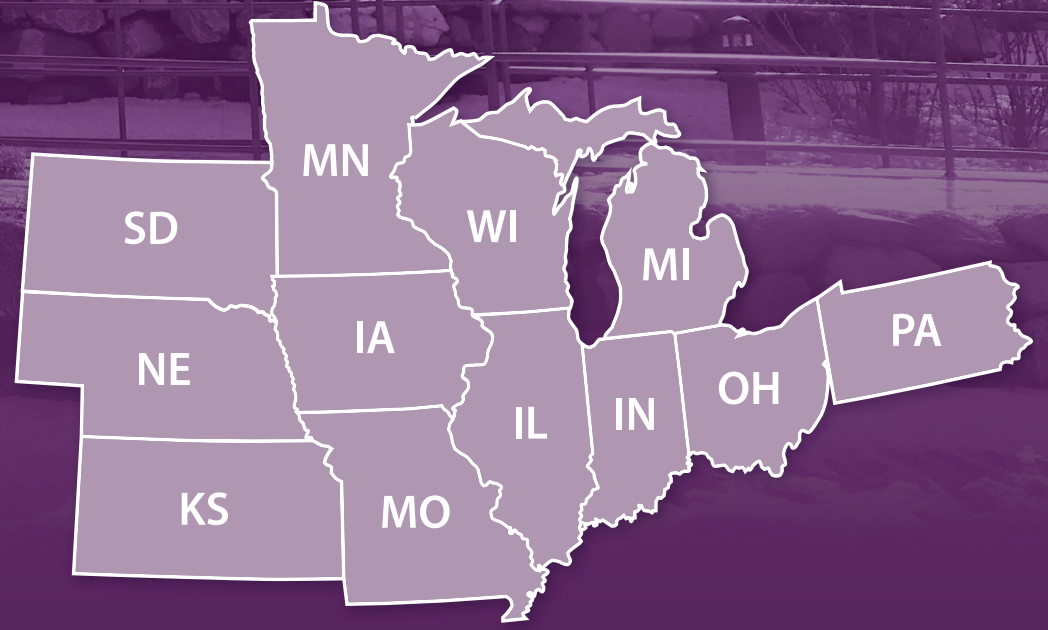
Looking for a career packed with purpose, passion, and an opportunity to make a positive impact? If so, we want YOU to join the GrapeTree bunch at our corporate office in Milford, Iowa! We are looking for self-motivated individuals who thrive in a fast-paced and rewarding work environment.

At GrapeTree, we are more than just coworkers to each other, we are family. Our employees demonstrate a passion for the company and our mission, contribute to our community, and create amazing customer service experiences. These are just a few of the 26 fundamentals we live by, called the GrapeTree Way. We work hard, but we believe in making the workplace a fun place to be, too!

Who We Are & What We Do

We are a healthcare staffing agency that offers staffing solutions to healthcare facilities by providing quality healthcare professionals to fill last-minute or long-term shifts throughout our 12-state footprint. GrapeTree was founded in 1999 by travel RN, Tim Kinnetz. Due to a high demand for healthcare professionals at the time, we became a clear success as we now have now been in business for over 22 years!

We are currently making a difference in healthcare in Iowa, Illinois, Missouri, Nebraska, Minnesota, South Dakota, Indiana, Kansas, Wisconsin, Ohio, Michigan, and Pennsylvania! We are grateful for our partnerships in each of these states, and we are excited to continue expanding throughout the U.S.



Making a difference in healthcare.

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I have been with GrapeTree for over six years, and I truly enjoy going to work each day. The culture we have at GrapeTree is phenomenal because we care. We care about our employee's well-being, we have amazing benefits, and we are all passionate

about healthcare. GrapeTree also has several opportunities to grow within the company, and I know because I am just one of many examples. I started out as a Staffing Specialist providing healthcare professionals to various facilities. I was then promoted to

Data Analyst, and as a data analyst for GrapeTree, I know my role is vital to helping our leaders make decisions as we continue to grow in leaps & bounds across the Midwest.

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THE LAKES NEWS Auction Calendar

- Sun., Mar. 7 - 11:30 AM** - Antiques Auction in Spirit Lake, IA. Auctioneers: Auctioneer: Nattress. 712-330-1921. www.nattressauctions.com.
- Thurs., Mar. 4 - 10:00 AM** - 317.1 Acres in Clay & Buena Vista Co., IA, at auction. Auctioneers: Midwest Land Management. 712-262-3110. www.midwestlandmanagement.com.
- Fri., Mar. 5 - 10:30 AM** - 160 Acres at auction in Post. Auctioneers: Dan Pike 507-847-3468. www.danpikeauction.com.
- Thurs., Mar. 11 - 10:30 AM** - 80 Acres in Clay Co., IA, at auction. Auctioneers: Wedel of Auctioneer Alley. www.auctioneeralley.com.
- Sat., Mar. 20 - 9:00 AM** - Misc. Auction in Estherville, IA. Auctioneers: Howells & Helmers 712-362-4844. www.howellrealstateandauktion.com.
- Sat., Mar. 27 - 10:00 AM** - Live & Online Farm Machinery Auction in Estherville, IA. Auctioneers: Howells & Helmers 712-362-4844. www.howellrealstateandauktion.com.
- Tues., Mar. 30 - 638 Acres** at Auction in Kossuth, Co., IA. Auctioneers: Hjeltn. 712-262-3529. www.theacrecro.com.
- Wed., Mar. 31 - 10:00 AM** - 166 & 75 Acres at Auction in Estherville, IA. Auctioneers: Howells & Helmers 712-362-4844. www.howellrealstateandauktion.com.



Okoboji 8th Grade Wins Tournament

The Okoboji 8th Grade OYBA team won the Okoboji GBB Challenge on February 27th. The Pioneers defeated Harris-Lake Park, North Union and Sergeant Bluff-Lutton Warrior Power to earn the championship.
Left to right, row 1: Addison Johnson, Harper Rabel, Brynne Ness, Cambrie Kleckner
Row 2: McKenna Hesse, Jocelyn Heller, Alyana Hesse, Peyton Schmitz

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Mayou to Retire

Anita Mayou will be retiring after working 32 years as a nurse for Dr. Kalkhoff and at the hospital before that. You are invited to send Anita a card in celebration of her retirement. They can reach her at: Anita Mayou, 1166 190th Avenue, Lake Park, IA 51347.



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Loveall Named to Dean's List

Emma Loveall of Spirit Lake has been named to the Dean's List at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee for the Fall 2020 semester. UWM is the second largest university in the State of Wisconsin, with more than 23,000 associate, undergraduate and graduate students.



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This is for preschool children who are 4 years old (not yet 5) on or before September 15th, 2021, and may wish to attend preschool this fall. Parents should sign up for our full day or half day program by going to our district webpage (www.spirit-lake.k12.ia.us) or the Spirit Lake Elementary Facebook page.

Please call the elementary office at 712-336-2822 or email dblomster@spiritleakecsd.org with questions or for more information.

Information for 2021 Kindergarten enrollment is now available on the Elementary page on the Spirit Lake Community School district's website.

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Girl Scout sisters, Sophia and Audrey Hawn, earned their Building Cookie Partners patch by selling five cases of Girl Scout Cookies to a business. GrapeTree Medical Staffing and Rembrandt Foods helped the girls earn their patch. Troop 10157 thanks them for their generous support of Girl Scouts and our troop.



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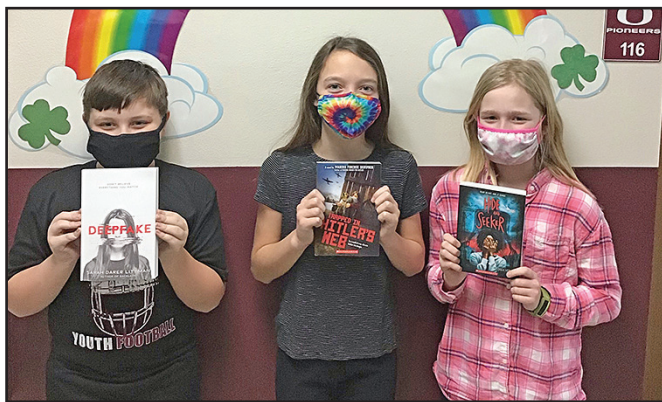
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Eggink Graduates from Bethel University

Sara Eggink graduated from Bethel University, St. Paul, Minnesota, following the fall 2020 semester. Eggink earned a Bachelor of Science in Biology. She is the daughter of Kolette and Leroy Eggink from Sibley, Iowa. For further information on Bethel University, go to www.bethel.edu.



Okoboji School Book Fairs

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Credit cards, cash, checks will be accepted. Online shopping is available from anywhere in the US with free shipping for purchases over \$25. Our websites are www.scholastic.com/bf/okobojiElementarySchool for OES and www.scholastic.com/bf/okobojiMiddleSchool for OMS. The Book Fairs will be open from 3-8 pm on parent-teacher conference nights, March 4 and 9. Profits help classroom libraries and the school libraries. Thank you for your support of reading!

Obituaries

John Mather Hinn
Anonymous Donor, Community Business Leader, Mentor, Friend

John Mather Hinn, beloved husband, father and generous businessman, died on February 26, 2021 after a long, hard-fought battle with cancer. John's passion for life was evident from the very beginning of his life. The son of Robert "Maurice" and Irma Lucille Hinn, John was born in his family's home in Laurens on September 13, 1942. With the love and patience of his mother and aunt Larie Wells, he was deemed healthy after just a few months. He is survived by his sister Marney Hinn Norman.



John knew a good thing when he saw it. He often told the story of his "love at first sight" moment with his soulmate, Kathleen. While John was attending Buena Vista College, he was also managing the Super Valu store in Laurens. It was there that he saw Kathleen Melfer and decided he absolutely had to go out with her. Kathi and John were married after just 6 months of dating, on June 12, 1966, and they celebrated their 54th anniversary in 2020. John was so proud of Kathi that he had a T-shirt made with her picture on the front and he wore it proudly at one of the family's legendary 4th of July pool parties.

Nothing made John happier than his family and friends. John had a gift for making everyone feel special with his trademark smile and big hugs. John and Kathi built their home on the lake to accommodate the non-stop parade of people who stopped by each day, including his many nieces and nephews who always dropped by to see their favorite uncle. He cherished his time on the lake, especially in the summer. John always said there were just 69 beautiful, warm days a year and he refused to leave the lake during that season. John's passion for his spot on the lake was also due to his need to care for his "Secret Garden" situated on over an acre of his backyard. He loved growing vegetables and sharing them. He was especially fond of growing hot peppers. John's homemade salsa and hot pepper jellies had a large fan following across the U.S. Later in life, John looked forward to his timely afternoon meetings and fellowship with local friends at "The Shop".

When John did agree to leave the lake, he would go to his favorite retreat- Saskatchewan, Canada. He visited there twice a year to hunt and fish with his son, Rob, good friends, and cousins. After his High School graduation, John took some time off and traveled with his parents through Mexico. And, he continued to travel to Mexico every winter with his family and his best friend, Duane Mueske and his family.

While John liked to have fun, he was also a man of business. He graduated from Buena Vista College in May 1967. John and Kathi purchased their first cabin in the Iowa Great Lakes in 1969 and moved to the Lakes area permanently in 1974. John owned and operated the Hinn's Super Valu Stores in Laurens and Esterville, which he purchased in 1974. He continued operating them until 1978 (Laurens) & 1980 (Esterville). John started in real estate in 1979 at the Orville Carlson Agency. In 1980, he and Kathi left there and with another couple, started a firm called Town Lakeshore Country Realty. They had an opportunity in 1983 to purchase another firm in Spirit Lake, Iowa, and not have any partners. They purchased the Fred Dowden Agency and renamed it DOWDEN-HINN REALTORS on January 1, 1983. It is there that two of their children and their daughter-in-law are REALTORS. Their oldest daughter, Gretchen, is a real estate agent with Keller Williams in New Jersey. The Dowden Agency was started in 1918, and at 102 years old, DHR is one of the oldest continuous run Real Estate Offices in the State of Iowa. John's vision for the next 100 years had them join the Keller Williams Franchise which will enable them to expand into additional markets.

From his earliest days in business, John was committed to giving back and helping people. From the very beginning of his career, John treated those who worked for him like family. He mentored the carryout boys who worked for him in the grocery stores and bought one of them a suit for graduation so he could be like everyone else. In 2020, John was named Citizen of the Year by the Spirit Lake Noon Kiwanis, and in an interview about the honor John said "I've always felt it necessary to take care of the children of the county. Anything that involves a child, I'm for and will help." And while John and Kathi have been generous to a myriad of organizations throughout their lives, they almost always did so anonymously. They believe that people are meant to help each other, and the stories of their hidden generosity are widespread.

John will be remembered by his children as a generous, loving father who inspired and guided them. He showed them the importance of living a joy-filled, purpose-driven life. He leaves to mourn his wife, Kathleen, daughter Gretchen (Anthony) Lucy of Tenafly, NJ; son Rob (Angela Bousquet), Callan, Cade, Sophie, Gracie, and Max; and daughter Angela (Eric), Alex, Zac, Oliver and Gus; his sister Marney Norman; numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by daughter, Heidi Larie, his parents Morrie and Irma Hinn. A Celebration of Life will be held this summer. (Date TBD)

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations are made to: Camp Foster, the YMCA, Spirit Lake, Iowa.

Warner Funeral Home in Spencer is in charge of the arrangements.

BINGO

Winner Announced!

We have another BINGO! Congratulations to Cemona Hemphil of Jackson, Minnesota. She is the second person to submit a BINGO card obtaining the letter "X", and is the winner of \$100.00 in gift cards. A special thanks to our Gold Sponsors, The Pizza Ranch in Spirit Lake, and Okoboji Flooring in Milford; as well as to our Silver BINGO sponsors, including Dairy Queen (Spirit Lake and Milford), Interior Sewing (Spirit Lake), The Tobacco Shop (Arnolds Park), Milford/Premiere Communications (Milford), Best in Show Pet Grooming (Spirit Lake), Jiffy and Jiffy Smokes & Booze (Spirit Lake), Janie Eick (RE/MAX Okoboji), Erichsen, Kallsen & Associates, CPA's, LLP (Spirit Lake) and Phil's Market Place Motors (Arnolds Park).

There are still many more chances to win. The promotion will run until April 6, 2021, or until all prizes are claimed. The fifteen prizes will total over \$1,500. The complete set of rules are published on our website: LakesNewsShopper.com.

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THE LAKES NEWS
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 • Fri., March 5: Fish Tacos & Country Fried Steak
 • Mon., March 8: Hot Beef & Taco Salad
 • Tues., March 9: Chipped Beef & Quesadillas
 • Wed., March 10: Mushroom & Swiss Burger & Pan Fried Chicken
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SAT. - SUN. March 6 & 7 - 1:00, 3:50, 6:30
MON. - THU. March 8 - 11 - 6:30

TOM & JERRY (PG)
A legendary rivalry reignites when Jerry moves into New York City's best hotel on the eve of the wedding of the century, forcing the desperate event planner to hire Tom to get rid of him. As mayhem ensues, the escalating cat-and-mouse battle soon threatens to destroy her career, the wedding, and possibly the hotel itself!
FRI. March 5 - 4:15, 7:00
SAT. - SUN. March 6 & 7 - 1:15, 4:00, 6:50
MON. - THU. March 8 - 11 - 6:50

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THE LAKES NEWS Auctions Page 12A

World Day of Prayer
March 5

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WEDNESDAYS
6:30PM

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712-338-4514

60th Anniversary Announcement

Norm and Mary Swanson of Primghar will be celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary on Thursday, March 11, 2021. Their children Michelle, Dean and Carmen along with their families invite you to help them celebrate with a card shower. Greetings may be sent to Norm and Mary at 260 6th Street, Primghar, IA 51245.

TIMES FOR FRI-THURS, MARCH 5 - 11

SOUTHPARK 7 ALL MATINEE TIMES BEFORE 5:30:
SPENCER - 262-1234 REALD 3D - ALL SEATS - \$8
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Voices of Kelly Marie Tran Alan Tudyk
FRI: 3:40, 4:00, 4:30, 6:30, 6:50, 7:20, 9:10, 9:30
SAT: 1:00, 1:20, 1:50, 3:40, 4:00, 4:30, 6:30, 6:50, 7:20, 9:10, 9:30
SUN: 1:00, 1:20, 1:50, 3:40, 4:00, 4:30, 6:30, 6:50, 7:20
- ADULT: \$7 | CHILD/SENIOR: \$5 -

TOM AND JERRY (PG)
Chloe Grace Moretz Michael Peña
FRI: 3:30, 4:20, 6:20, 7:10, 8:40, 9:30
SAT: 1:10, 1:40, 3:30, 4:20, 6:20, 7:10, 8:40, 9:30
SUN: 1:10, 1:40, 3:30, 4:20, 6:20, 7:10
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The story of a small town's 6-on-6 girls' basketball team
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SUN: 1:10, 3:50, 7:00
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CHAOS WALKING
Tom Holland Daisy Ridley
FRI: 4:10, 6:40, 9:10
SAT: 1:30, 4:10, 6:40, 9:10
SUN: 1:30, 4:10, 6:40
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RAYA AND THE LAST DRAGON (PG)
Voices of Kelly Marie Tran Awkwafina
FRI: 6:40, 9:20
SAT: 1:10, 3:40, 6:40, 9:20
SUN: 1:10, 3:40, 6:40
- ADULT: \$4 | CHILD/SENIOR: \$3 -

CHAOS WALKING
Tom Holland Daisy Ridley
FRI: 6:50, 9:20
SAT: 1:20, 3:50, 6:50, 9:20
SUN: 1:20, 3:50, 6:50
- REGULAR ADMISSION -

TOM AND JERRY
Chloe Grace Moretz Michael Peña
FRI: 6:30, 8:50
SAT: 1:00, 3:30, 6:30, 8:50
SUN: 1:00, 3:30, 6:30
- ADULT: \$4 | CHILD/SENIOR: \$3 -

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World Day of Prayer

A long-standing tradition will celebrate its 43rd season this year when five lakes region churches celebrate World Day of Prayer Friday, March 5.

Although COVID-19 has changed the Lenten ecumenical program a bit, the committee felt that it was still important to worship together to continue unity among the local churches.

"It's important to remember, regardless of COVID-19, that we are all Christians and we need to work together through the hardship of COVID-19 that has changed all of our lives in one way or another. We need to thank God for the blessings he has given us and pray for strength ahead," said committee member Sharon Mayer, of St. Joseph Catholic Church.

This year's World Day of Prayer theme is from the women of Vanuatu, located in the South Pacific, 2000 miles east of Australia, in an archipelago of 80 islands.

Open to all women and men, the service will be held at the Light of the Lakes Church, in Arnolds Park, beginning at 9:30am followed by coffee and refreshments. No baby-sitting service will be available. Masks and social distancing will be required.

"We are excited that the long standing tradition of ecumenical services in the lakes area will continue even though we are only able to celebrate World Day of Prayer this year. It's amazing that a community event that started in 1978 is still strong today. Committee members find a special bond working with other churches in the community in the planning of the services. Those that attend often get reacquainted with community members they haven't seen for awhile," said Committee Member Susan Reiser of St. Joseph Catholic Church.

The local churches have been sponsoring nondenominational ecumenical services since 1978. In case of inclement weather, a cancellation notice will be aired on local radio stations.

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27 ensembles heard in Larchwood

With 27 ensembles performing in Friday's first-ever West Lyon Jazz Festival, band director Drew Balta had to be pleased with the number of bands that signed up, as well as their performances.

Locally, Okoboji's junior high jazz band garnered third place behind Lewis Central (Council Bluffs), and Rock Valley. Spirit Lake's jazz band earned a Superior rating.

Woodbury Central was first in Class 1A. Central Lyon, Sibley-Ocheyedan, and Cherokee finished at the top of Class 2A; with Sioux Center, Mitchell (South Dakota), and MOC-1 as the top 3A bands; and Lewis Central at the top in Class 4A...

Not to be outdone by the Pearson Lakes Art Center's recent announcement of more summer music at the PLAC, Arnolds Park came forth last week with details of its *Live at the Lakes* free summer concert series, which will begin on Saturday night, June 5th, with *Free Fallin'* -- a tribute to Tom Petty. Subsequent weeks will see *Thunderstruck*, on June 12th; *Paisan and the Family Brass*, June 19th; and the *Shirts & Skins Band*, June 26th.

July will begin with two nights of entertainment on the 3rd and 4th, with *The Rolling Stoners* that Saturday, and *The Trip*, on Sunday. *Rock a la Carte* is set to return on July 10th, followed by *Led Zepplina* on the 17th, *Pet Rock* on the 24th, and Jon Langston, July 31st.

August aggregations will include *Sanctus Real* on the 1st, *Boz Scaggs* (with special guest JD McPherson), on the 7th, *Uptown Funk* on the 14th, *Church of Cash*, on the 21st; and *The Pork Tornadoes* on the 28th.

As in prior years, the *Arch Allies* will cap the season on September 4th -- the Saturday of Labor Day weekend...

Entertainment at the Little Swan Lake Winery is set to include *Boon and Lambert* this Sunday afternoon, from 4-6:00. And, *The Itty Bitty Boji Band* is booked to return to the stage in the barn the following Sunday...

Research director RD tells us today is the day in 1942 that the nominees for the Best Original Song at the 14th Academy Awards included *Baby Mine*, from *Dumbo*, and *Chattanooga Choo Choo*, from *Sun Valley Serenade*; but the Oscar went to *The Last Time I Saw Paris*, written by Jerome Kern and Oscar Hammerstein, for the motion picture *Lady Be Good*, which starred Eleanor Powell. For the record, Monday marked Glenn Miller's 117th natal day...

John 'Wes' Montgomery was born in Indianapolis, on March 6, 1923. The jazz guitarist was known for an unusual technique-- plucking the strings of his guitars with the side of his thumb to give his playing a distinctive sound. At the 9th Grammy Awards, on March 2, 1967, Montgomery won the award for the Best Jazz Instrumental Album, *Goin' Out of my Head...* Other well-known songs on the LP are *Chim-Chim-Cher-ee*, and *It Was a Very Good Year...*

Frank Loesser's musical, How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying, closed on March 6, 1965, after more than 1,400 performances in New York. The song, *I Believe in You*, was originally sung by Robert Morse, on stage, then covered by a number of other artists, including Jack Jones, and Frank Sinatra with Count Basie, on their 1964 album, *It Might As Well Be Swing...*

The musical, Bells are Ringing, closed on March 7, 1959, after more than 1,400 performances on Broadway. One song from the production, *Just in Time*, written by Betty Comden, Adolph Green, and Jule Styne, gained popularity on Broadway, and later appeared on many albums by artists including Peggy Lee, Barbra Streisand, and on multiple Tony Bennett sides, including his 2006 duet with Michael Buble...

FWIW: Even with the relatively mild weather we've enjoyed recently, Stagerat Stan is headed south this week to check on spring break activities. We hope he'll come back with with some news we can actually use here...

ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS WE PRINT
Please send your music-related announcements and comments to
RAMBOling@Mindspring.Com or PO Box 676, Okoboji, Iowa 51355-0676.
DEADLINE for submissions is: 5PM, Friday, prior to Tuesday publication

SUNDAYS: DRIVE IN WORSHIP 11 AM
East Parking Lot
Morning Prayer
8:30 AM on Facebook
Monday - Thursday

For your safety we will not yet resume in-church worship.

Father Tom Early, Rector
Email: office@stalbanepiscopalchurch.org
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Saturdays, April 17-May 22
Ages: U12 & U14
Games played against teams from Storm Lake, Emmetsburg, Spencer, Sioux Center, Sheldon and Orange City in a jamboree setting with host towns putting on all the games.
Practice begins the week of March 29
FEE: \$38 Members
\$76 Non-Members

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REGISTRATION DEADLINE: MARCH 21
Saturdays, April 17-May 22
9am to 1pm
Ages: U6, U8 & U10
All games and practices held at the Y
Practice starts the week of April 5
FEE: \$38 Members
\$76 Non-Members

Work expected to begin this winter on final phase of restoration of Anglers Bay Wildlife Area on East side of Big Spirit Lake

The final phase of the multi-year restoration of a 104-acre section of Anglers Bay Wildlife Area will begin this winter when a contractor will begin removing invasive and non-target trees on a 17-acre section along the shoreline of Anglers Bay.

The goal is to create an oak savanna which involves removing the competition for the bur oaks and restoring a high-quality prairie. This opens the canopy allowing for natural regeneration of oaks on the area and removes shading from the hardwood bulrush beds which allows the aquatic plants to thrive.

"Our long-range plan for this area was first to protect it, then to restore the upland habitat and finally to restore the shoreline by replacing low quality invasive trees and shrubs with a high-quality oak savanna," said Mark Gulick, northwest district supervisor for the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Wildlife Bureau.

This section was acquired in 2006 by the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation, with assistance of many partners, both local and non-local, then turned over to the Iowa DNR to manage. With the restored native prairie and wetlands on the upland areas completed, the focus turns to the final land management action of restoring the shoreline and associated wooded uplands.

This final phase of the long-term management plan was presented during a public meeting at Gull Point State Park Lodge on Oct. 7, and has been part of numerous local discussions. This project is supported by the Spirit Lake Protective Association and was approved by the Natural Resource Commission of the Iowa DNR on Feb. 11. It's available online at <https://www.iowadnr.gov/Hunting/Hunting-and-Habitat-Public-Meetings>, then scroll down to [Oct 7] Forest Stewardship Plan for Angler's Bay Meeting then click on the pdf link at the end.

The project focuses on shoreline stabilization which includes tree and brush removal with follow up treatments using prescribed fire, mowing and spot chemical treatment to prevent trees and shrubs from regaining a foothold. It may take up to four years to complete. The result will be the beginning of a rare oak savanna ecosystem returning to the landscape.

The oak savanna will have an open canopy resulting in less shading to the Anglers Bay hardwood bulrush beds. While these bulrush beds are considered the largest of Iowa's large natural lakes and the healthiest based on aquatic plant species diversity and abundance, only about half of the original pre-settlement species remain, and some are stressed

due to a number of factors including shading from the invasive shoreline trees. Removing this shading allows the aquatic plants to thrive, which helps protect the lake by removing nutrients from the water and protect the shoreline from erosion, and provide exceptional habitat for fish and wildlife.

The area will remain open to all compatible forms of outdoor recreation including hunting, wildlife watching, hiking and more, and provide exceptional views from land and water of a rare ecosystem type that was once common in Iowa. It will support common wildlife species like deer, turkey, eastern bluebirds, black crappie, bluegill as well as species that need this critical habitat, like red-headed woodpeckers, Cope's gray treefrogs, silvery blue butterflies, banded killifish, tiger salamanders, leopard frogs and more.

A detailed video discussing the project is available online at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PyY0jg4CJk>

"This is a legacy project, a living museum when it's done, but it will take time," Gulick said. "A healthy oak savanna of this size is rare."

For more information, contact Mark Gulick, northwest wildlife district supervisor, or Mike Hawkins, fisheries biologist, at 712-336-1840.

Girl Scout Cookies For Sale

The Girl Scout Cookie program is once again offering direct sales for 2021. They are excited about this as it means the girls will have packages of cookies on hand to sell door to door. No more taking orders, waiting weeks, and then returning for the delivery and collecting money. The Cookies Now! program condenses all that work into one simple step. Eight delicious cookies, at \$5 per package, will be available throughout the sale: Caramel deLites, Peanut Butter Patties, Peanut Butter Sandwich, Shortbread, Thin Mints, Lemonades, S'mores, and the newest addition to the lineup - Toast-Yay! Toast-Yay! is a French toast inspired cookie dipped in delicious icing and full of flavor in every bite. Also, available and priced at \$5 per package are Gluten Free Caramel Chocolate Chip Cookies. This gluten free cookie is made up of rich caramel, semi-sweet chocolate chip, and a hint of sea salt. This cookie is available in limited quantities, so get some while they last!



This weekend area Girl Scouts will be selling their world-famous cookies at Bongaars in Spirit Lake. Girls will be there on Saturday, March 6, from 10:00am to 2:00pm; and, then back again on Sunday, March 7, from 11:00am to 3:00pm. If you cannot make it this weekend, don't worry as orders for Girl Scout cookies will be taken through March 14, 2021. If you are not contacted and would like to order any of these products, please call Service Unit Cookie Manager, Linda Nase at 712-330-3251. Thank you for supporting Girl Scouts.

Representatives Cast Vote to Give Extra Funding to Schools for COVID Costs

On Thursday February 18, Representative Megan Jones (R-Sioux Rapids) of House District 2 and Representative John Wills (R-Spirit Lake) of House District 1, voted in support of House File 532 to give more than \$27 million in extra funds to schools to help cover COVID costs.

HF 532 will divvy up \$27 million in COVID relief funds to schools based on the amount of days they spent in-person this fall. This bill was crafted with the understanding that schools incurred increased costs for in-person learning during the pandemic such as PPE, cleaning supplies and more substitute teachers.

"Studies have made clear that having our kids in school is the best learning environment for the majority of students in Iowa," said Jones. "Many school districts worked hard to provide that in-person option for their students this fall and sustained increased costs in the process. This money will help provide relief for those extra costs."

HF 532 passed the Iowa House with a bipartisan vote of 71-26.

Mobile Food Pantry Returns

The mobile food pantry from the Food Bank of Iowa is returning again. The free distribution will take place, from 4:00 to 6:00pm., Thursday, March 4, in the Crossroads (Good News Estherville) Church parking lot. Recipients are asked not to arrive before 4:00pm and to remain in their vehicles - do not line up at the door, because the building will be closed. Recipients are asked to bring bags, laundry baskets or boxes to carry the food.



At the February Food Bank, 430 people (183 families) received 14,290 pounds of food.

If you have questions, please call the Food Bank of Iowa at 515-564-0330.



BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY

<p>Accountants</p> <p>Erpelding-Voigt Co. LLP Certified QuickBooks ProAdvisor Brian L. Sohn, CPA, CFP® Michael Schlitter, CPA</p> <p>1801 Hwy. 71 N., P.O. Box 605 Okoboji, IA 51355 712-332-2443 www.evcpa.com</p>	<p>Accountants</p> <p>RAAK & ASSOCIATES certified public accountants Daniel W. Raak, CPA Providing Rock Solid Financial Advice</p> <p>P.O. Box 273 Spirit Lake, IA 51360 712-336-2355</p>	<p>Accountants</p> <p>WINNER STAVE & CO LLP Certified Public Accountants D. Jeffrey Crew, CPA/CVA/CGMA Carol Sporrer, CPA Trisha Ferguson, CPA</p> <p>Lakeland Square P.O. Box 187 Milford, IA 51351 712-338-2488 www.winner-stave.com</p>
<p>Accountants</p> <p>Erichsen, Kallsen & Associates, CPA's, LLP Premier Tax, Financial and Business Advisors William Kallsen, CEO Certified Public Accountant</p> <p>605 Lake St. Ste 6 Spirit Lake, IA 51360 Phone: 712.336.2632 Fax: 712.336.2763 bill@eka-cpas.com www.eka-cpas.com</p>	<p>Advertising</p> <p>THE LNS THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER</p> <p>Have The Lakes News Shopper emailed to you every Tuesday by going to: lakesnewsshopper.com</p> <p>and clicking on "e-subscribe"</p>	<p>Dentists</p> <p>HILL AVENUE DENTAL DARREN DOTSON, D.D.S. AMY E. HARTZELL, D.D.S.</p> <p>1510 Hill Avenue Downtown Spirit Lake Office: 712-336-4895 www.hillavedental.net Providers for Delta Dental, Blue Dental and MetLife Now Accepting CareCredit Financing Available</p>

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OHS Debater Qualifies for Nationals

For the first time in 5 years, Okoboji has a qualifier in Student Congress for the National Speech & Debate Tournament. Junior Lexi Duffy competed on Saturday, February 20, and earned her spot. Junior Sydney Powell also competed and was selected as first alternate to Nationals. Nationals are in June and are a prestigious event with only the top debaters from around the United States participating. Nationals will be held virtually this year. These are high honors for both young women and our debate program under Coaches Greiner and Shatto.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To The Editor:
Spring must be arriving early this year – already seeing TVs, tires, chairs, etc. in the ditches. What is wrong with people? On what planet is this okay? You nimrods who are doing this – you should be ashamed.

Second thing – the bike trails. While I think the bike trails around the lake are a wonderful idea, I disagree with converting all the abandoned railroad track into bike trails. Owners of RTVs love having a peaceful, quiet and safe place to ride also. An RTV pays tax on the gas, tax for the purchase and a license tag. Not sure what the bikes contribute.

Again, I think the bike, walking paths around the lakes are a wonderful idea, I think converting all the abandoned tracks is silly.

Thank you,
Brenda Packebush, Milford, Iowa

Family Services Resource Guide

Dickinson County's Family Resource Guide is a comprehensive free resource for local residents to utilize when trying to locate services in and around the county. With a variety of services and help providers listed, the book is a one-stop-shop to locate local resources. To access the free guide online, visit <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/dickinson/county-resource-guide>. If you have services to add to the guide, contact Sue at 712-336-3488 or boettche@iastate.edu.

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GENERAC

THE LNS Recipe Corner

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Sheet Pan Brats, Peppers & Onions Sandwich - Serves 4 at 550 calories/person

2 tablespoons olive oil
1 tablespoon red wine vinegar
1/2 tablespoon whole grain mustard
1/4 teaspoon garlic powder
1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper
1 red onion, sliced in 1/4" strips
2 bell peppers, any color, sliced in 1/4" strips
4 bratwursts
4 brat buns
1 pound carrots, peeled & sliced in coins

Preheat oven to 400°F. In a small bowl, whisk together olive oil, vinegar, mustard, garlic powder and black pepper. Place brats on a large sheet pan and scatter sliced peppers and onions around them. Drizzle vinaigrette over top and toss to coat. Press brats down so they are touching the pan. Bake for 20 minutes, then stir veggies and flip brats. Bake 20-25 minutes more until edges have browned and brats have reached 165°F. Meanwhile, bring 1" water to boil in a medium saucepan. Stir in carrots and bring to a boil. Reduce heat to a simmer and cover. Cook for 12-15 minutes until crisp-tender. Place brats on buns. Top with peppers and onions. Serve with carrots on the side.

Recipe Courtesy of: **MEAL SQUEEZE** Iowa Dietitian Tonya Huenink at www.mealsqueeze.com
This weekly meal plan service provides easy, optional meal prep lists which can be done in advance. It would save you precious week night time so you can have meals on the table in 30 minutes or less.

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BINGO

Winner Announced!

We have another BINGO! Congratulations to Marry Oatts, pictured with her son Carter, of Milford. She submitted a BINGO card obtaining the letter "L", and is the winner of \$100.00. A special thanks to our Gold Sponsors, The Pizza Ranch in Spirit Lake, and Okoboji Flooring in Milford; as well as to our Silver BINGO sponsors, including Dairy Queen (Spirit Lake and Milford), Interior Sewing (Spirit Lake), The Tobacco Shop (Arnolds Park), Milford/Premiere Communications (Milford), Best in Show Pet Grooming (Spirit Lake), Jiffy and Jiffy Smokes & Booze (Spirit Lake), Janie Eick (RE/MAX Okoboji), Erichsen, Kallsen & Associates, CPA's, LLP (Spirit Lake) and Phil's Market Place Motors (Arnolds Park). There are still many more chances to win. The promotion will run until April 6, 2021, or until all prizes are claimed. The fifteen prizes will total over \$1,500. The complete set of rules are published on our website: LakesNewsShopper.com.

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Notice to Dickinson County Property Owners

The second half of tax payments for Real Estate • Mobile Homes • Special & Drainage Assessments are now due.

Deadline for payments without penalty is Wed., March 31, 2021

Due to Covid-19, payments can be made online at www.iowaTaxAndTags.org by eCheck, credit or debit card, or pay by mail, by phone at 712-336-1205 or by the dropbox labeled Dickinson County Treasurer near the west door of the courthouse.

We accept American Express, Discover, Visa & MasterCard.

A service delivery fee is charged for echeck/credit/debit card payments.

Kris Rowley
Dickinson County Treasurer

IRRMA announces the 2021 "Rock the Roof" Schedule

The Iowa Rock 'n Roll Music Association announces an exciting 10-date schedule of the music and dance event series that has become an annual Okoboji Spring and Summer favorite, "Rock the Roof". All events are being planned to be indoors at the fabulous Roof Garden Ballroom at Historic Arnolds Park.

Clay Norris, Executive Director of the Iowa Rock 'n Roll Music Association states, "Obviously we missed so very much having these shows in the Roof Garden during most of 2020. We did start to tip-toe into it a bit towards the end of the year with a few indoor events. We will have to start this season cautiously with mask rules in place and somewhat limited socially distanced ticket sales, but we hope to increase seating as more people get their COVID-19 vaccinations, and the science says that we can."

The season gets kicked off on Thursday, March 18, 6-8 pm, with a favorite local band that features an extremely deep and diverse playlist, Rock a la Carte. Doors open at 5 pm. Being the day after St. Patrick's Day, there will be a bit of a St. Paddy's day theme.

For the March 18 show, a maximum of 300 tickets will be sold in social-distanced sets of 2 for \$20 (\$10 ea.), 4 for \$32 (\$8 ea.) and reserved booths that seat up to 6 for \$90. Masks must be worn at all times except when seated. Tickets are available at www.iowarockroll.com/events or at the door.

The rest of the series, as of now, follows: (Each show starts at 6pm, doors open at 5pm)

- Thursday, May 6: "Spring Prom" featuring Denny & The DC Drifters
- Thursday, May 27: Mogen's Heroes & Surf'n' Safari
- Thursday, June 10: Galaxy
- Thursday, June 24: Starfire
- Thursday, July 8: Interstate Cruisers
- Thursday, August 5: Borderline Outlaws
- Thursday, August 12: Sean Benz
- Thursday, August 19: Richie Lee
- Thursday, September 2: "The Iowa Rock 'n Roll Board of Directors" and All-Stars

More details will be forthcoming closer to each show as to the number of available seats and any COVID-19 protocols as the season advances. Please see our Facebook page and/or our website, www.iowarockroll.com for the latest updates.

Realtor Earns 2020 Annual Sales Production Award

Janie Eick, with RE/MAX Lakes Realty, has qualified for the esteemed RE/MAX Platinum Club Award, which honors high-achieving real estate professionals for their service to buyers and sellers during the past year.

"As a real estate agent with RE/MAX Lakes Realty, I'm fully committed to helping my clients and consumers find the home that is right for them."

Eick has been serving her community as a real estate agent with RE/MAX Lakes Realty for 3 years and has extensive experience in residential and new construction sales, as she closed 54 real estate transaction sides in 2020.

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Word Search Puzzle Key from page 8A

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

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THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER Auctions

Help the Humane Society of Northwest Iowa by Donating Cans

The cage for all your returnable cans has been moved to the north east corner of the Hy-Vee Parking lot in Spirit Lake. A big thank you goes out to Hy-Vee for hosting the cage for Humane Society of Northwest Iowa. All the proceeds from these cans go to support the daily operations of the Humane Society of Northwest Iowa. They are very fortunate to have a great community that provides their returnable cans to support them. They look forward to helping you find your forever friend. Please consider adoption. If you must leave glass, please place that on the pallets outside the cage to ensure the safety of all our friends that help empty the cages.



Farm Couples Can Enjoy a Weekend Getaway This Winter

Unwind and Enjoy an Off-Farm Experience with Other Farm Couples In response to high levels of both personal and financial farm stress, the Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Dairy Team is offering three "Farm Couple Getaways" across Iowa, with one location in Northwest Iowa. The program is for farm couples wanting to take advantage of activities to improve farm family communication, work on farm or family goal setting or farm transitioning, or who would just like a weekend away to discuss farm and family issues as a couple. The local getaway will be held on Friday and Saturday, April 9-10, at Lakeshore Center at Okoboji, 1864 HWY 86, Milford. The "getaway" will run from 12:30pm on Friday to 3:15pm on Saturday. There is no cost to attend, as food, lodging and other expenses are being paid for by sponsorships; however, there is a \$50 per couple deposit to hold each reservation, refundable on the second day of the getaway. "Past Farm Couple Getaways have proven to be beneficial to farm couples," said Larry Tranel, dairy specialist with ISU Extension and Outreach. "They are a productive and delightful time to discuss items of importance to help farms and families be successful."

Each getaway will consist of 10 farm couples and the Extension facilitators. Registration will be on a first-come, first-served basis, due two weeks prior to each session. The registration brochure and more information are available at <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/dairyteam/farm-couple-getaways>, by contacting your local ISU Extension and Outreach office, or through Northwest Iowa Dairy Specialist Fred Hall (712-737-4230 or fredhall@iastate.edu).

Mobile Food Pantry Returns

The mobile food pantry from the Food Bank of Iowa is returning again. The free distribution will take place, from 4:00 to 6:00pm., Thursday, March 4, in the Crossroads (Good News Estherville) Church parking lot. Recipients are asked to arrive before 4:00pm and to remain in their vehicles — do not line up at the door, because the building will be closed. Recipients are asked to bring bags, laundry baskets or boxes to carry the food. At the February Food Bank, 430 people (183 families) received 14,290 pounds of food. If you have questions, please call the Food Bank of Iowa at 515-564-0330.



85th Birthday Announcement

Mary Sonius celebrated her 85th birthday on Thursday, February 25, 2021. Greetings can be sent to her at 1307 Maywood Avenue, Milford, Iowa 51351.

80th Birthday Announcement

Vernice Wahl celebrated her 80th Birthday on February 20, 2021. Her family requests that cards can be sent to: 1344 310th Avenue, Spirit Lake, Iowa 51360

Runnings Announces New Store in Watertown, NY

Company to bring 75 new jobs to the region. Runnings, Your Home, Farm and Outdoor Store, announced today it has purchased the vacant Kmart in Watertown, New York, from Watertown Pioneer, LLC. The new store, located at 21082 Pioneer Plaza Drive, will be the company's tenth location in New York and thirteenth in the northeastern part of the nation. "Ever since we first expanded to the northeast in 2014, we've received a number of suggestions to open a new store in Watertown," says Dan Herrmann, Runnings Chief Operating Officer. "There seems to be a very strong fit between the customers who live here and the quality products we sell."



Runnings has a long-standing history of purchasing vacant retail buildings and renovating them to serve the needs of customers in new markets. Renovations to the 112,000 square foot building will begin immediately with the store expected to open this fall. The company plans to hold job fairs in the coming months to hire approximately 75 full and part time team members. Runnings was founded in 1947 and has grown from its early days as an automotive supply and farm store to a large general merchandise retailer selling an extensive selection of sporting goods, clothing, pet supplies, tools, farm supplies, footwear, lawn and garden supplies, and outdoor equipment. The privately owned, family run retailer also sells hunting, fishing, and archery equipment and accessories, as well as firearms. Founded in 1947, Runnings is a privately held general merchandise retailer owned by the Dennis and Adele Reed Family. The company currently has 56 stores and employs more than 2,700 workers across eight states. The company sells an extensive selection of sporting goods, clothing, footwear, pet supplies, housewares, tools, farm supplies, lawn and garden supplies, toys, and outdoor equipment. For more information visit us at www.runnings.com, like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.

Midwest Land Management Land Auction

Thursday, March 4 at 10:00 a.m. American Legion, Sioux Rapids, IA

317.1 Acres m/l
Open Lease for 2021

Clay County • Herdland Township

Tract 1 - 71.6 Ac. m/l • Sec. 33
Cropland • Avg CSR2: 96.7

Tract 4 - 76 Ac. m/l • Sec. 29
Cropland, CRP, Timber • Avg CSR2: 82

Buena Vista County • Lee Township

Tract 2 - 42.5 Ac. m/l • Sec. 4
Cropland • Avg CSR2: 91.9

Tract 3 - 127 Ac. m/l • Sec. 5 & 6
Cropland, CRP & Timber • Avg CSR2: 88.7

All tracts to be surveyed prior to sale.



Ben Hollesen • 712-253-5779

www.midwestlandmanagement.com

BARE FARMLAND AUCTION

Thursday, March 11, 2021 @ 10:30 A.M.

In case of VERY inclement weather—blizzards, please check our website at www.auctioneeralley.com for details. **SALE LOCATION:** The auction will be held at the Royal Community Building located at 302 Main Street in Royal, IA.

PROPERTY LOCATION

From the west edge of Royal, IA, go one mile west on B40 to the intersection of 140th Ave. Farm is located on the southeast corner of the intersection.

PROPERTY LEGAL DESCRIPTION

The West Half of the Northwest Quarter (W 1/2 NW 1/4) Section 11 Clay Township, Clay County Iowa containing 80 acres more or less.

PROPERTY INFORMATION

CSR2 93.1 78.68 acres tillable

For Additional Information & Personal Inspection Go to our website at www.auctioneeralley.com. The information brochure and auction sale bill are listed under "Upcoming Auctions", or call Doug Wedel at 507-236-4255 / 507-238-4318

OWNER: Ruth Draut Revocable Trust

Attorney for the Seller

Kim Shaffer; Attorney
Krahmer, Shaffer & Edmundson, LTD.



HOUSE, ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLE AUCTION

SUNDAY, MARCH 7, 2021 • 11:30 AM

LOCATED: Expo Building, 1602 15th Street, Spirit Lake, IA.

HOUSEHOLD: Kenmore gas range* Half HP garbage disposal* Oval oak table w/6 chairs & 2 leaves* Roll top desk* Oak 4 door lawyers' chest* Sm. oblong table* Open face hutch* Sm. Lighted display case* Gray tweed loveseat, like new* 2-gray/white chairs* Sm. double dresser* Bookcase headboard queen beds* Sm. Patio table w/2 chairs* Lab dog pictures* Corner & end tables* Radio* custom jewelry* Cookbooks* Souvenirs* Bird cage w/stand* Dirt Vac* Pet carriers* Bread maker, pots & pans & canning items* home décor* Halloween collection* Christmas Village kpcs.* Bradford Exchange plates* Brass items*

ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES: Lots of wicker chairs, sm. desks, lamps, planters, patio furniture & much more* Mission glider* 2-Oak rockers* Oak bench* Beekeeper protective hats, smokers & etc.* Milk cans, Parking meters* Kerosene blow torches, Telephones & much more*

MISC. ITEMS: Kenmore Elite gas grill w/ rotisserie* Wheel barrel* Air compressor* Table saw* Porter Cable* Schwinn his & her Trail bikes* Adult tricycle, new*

KEN & JACKIE OLSON SPIRIT LAKE IA - OWNER JIM & SUE REIMAN, FORMERLY OF MILFORD, IA

AUCTIONEER NOTE: DOORS WILL OPEN AT 10:00 A.M. This is a mini listing of the many nice items to be sold. We will be full one more time. We are still stressing the Social Distancing & wear a mask if you wish. Thank you for participating this with us as we all go through this. Photos on website: nattressauctions.com or Facebook: Nattress Auctions & Clerking.

AUCTIONEER: Greg A. Nattress, Milford, IA, 712-330-1921
CLERK: Nattress Auctions
Clerking, Milford, IA, Brenda, 712-330-4631 Or Shirley, 712-330-1904.
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80th Birthday Announcement

Sunny Fronk celebrated her 80th birthday on Sunday, February 21, 2021. Her great-grandchildren, Claire, Cora and Owen, would like to honor her with a card shower. Warm wishes can reach her at 1992 140th Street, Spirit Lake, IA 51360.

Milford Library News

Youth Corner
March has arrived, and Milford Memorial Library has programs ready to go for the kiddos. Please see below for what is going on, as well as follow MML on their website (<http://www.milford.lib.ia.us>) or Facebook page (@milfordlibrary).

- Spring Coloring Contest (Easter Egg): March 1-22
- Book Bundles (I Spy, Lego, If You... series, board books, animals, new fiction picture books): March 1-31
- Grab and Go Bags and Books (Snails): March 1-12
- Grab and Go Bags and Books (Dinosaurs): March 15-26



RETIREMENT FARM MACHINERY AUCTION

LIVE AND ONLINE
Lance and LeAnn Krumwiede Owners

Saturday March 27th, 2021 - 10:00 am
Auction Location: 3840 130th St. Estherville, IA

Late Model John Deere Equip. JD 9770 STS Combine, Spra-Coupe 7650 Sprayer (05)JD 8320R Tractor, JD 9410R Tractor, JD 4000 Tractor, JD 2680 Hi-Speed Disc. J.D. 1770NT Planter. MacDon FD70 Draper Head, (2) Semi's/ (2) Mauer Grain Trailers

Check Website / Facebook For Full Sale Bill & Pictures

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www.howellrealestateandauction.com
Mark Howell Larry Howell Gary Helmers
712-260-9690 712-260-9693 507-236-2921

LAND AUCTION

Wednesday March 31, 2021
10:00 A.M. Start
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One block North of Ace Hardware

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Dickinson County Dems to Hold Off-Year Caucus

The Democratic Party of Dickinson County will conduct their Off-Year Caucus online on Saturday, March 6, at 10:30am. The purpose of the meeting will be to update the county platform, plan for the 2021 Summer Sizzler, and continue to expand precinct leadership.

"I'm immensely proud of the progress our County Democratic Party has made over the last four years," said Brett W. Copeland, Chair of the Dickinson County Democrats. "We brought presidential candidates to Dickinson County to ensure that they heard from Iowans about where our country needs to go."

"We've got amazing community leaders here in Dickinson County," said Copeland. "This is an opportunity to once again show lawmakers in Des Moines and Washington, D.C., how local innovation and hard work can be a model for communities everywhere to be competitive and grow for the future."

To register for the Off-Year Caucus, visit www.thedickinsondems.com and register. The Iowa Democratic Party requires that attendees of the Off-Year Caucus are registered Democratic voters.

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Hedstrom Named To Honors List

Isaac Hedstrom of Lakefield, Minnesota, was named to Concordia University Wisconsin's Fall Honors List for the 2020-2021 academic year. To be eligible for the honor, students must achieve a minimum 3.60 GPA.

View From The Bench

by John Adams, Jr.

Time for IHSAA to Change

It is time for the Iowa High School Athletic Association to change how they do their postseason basketball pairings. I have thought this for a long time, but have never written about it until now. This past weekend Class 2A #1 Boyden-Hull had to play #2 OABCIG for the opportunity to go to the State Tournament; that game should be for the State Championship, not to go to the State Tournament! For years the IHSAA has paired teams together simply based on geography and not based on getting the top 8 teams to the State Tournament, which is how it should be done and how the Iowa Girls High School Athletic Union normally does it (although last year they shafted our 7th ranked team by sending us to the same region as the #2 team, Clear Lake who we had to play to go to State; not that I'm still bitter!). Normally the IGHSAU sends the top 8 teams in the State of Iowa to their own region so they don't have to face each other until they are in Des Moines; just look at this year's bracket as NW Iowa sent three teams in Class 3A in Unity Christian, Cherokee and West Lyon. In 2016 when we made it to the State Tournament, we actually had four NW Iowa teams make it to State in Okoboji, Unity Christian, Western Christian and Manson NW Webster, and three of us made it to the Final Four.

Another outdated thing that the IHSAA does is that they make the boys' coaches for each District meet to determine their seeding. The IHSAA puts boys' teams in their Districts and then the coaches for those teams have to get together and vote on how each team is seeded for tournament play roughly 10 days before District play begins. Can you imagine how awkward this is to be in a meeting with five other coaches and have to vote as to what team gets a higher seed? And can you imagine some of the possible deals that go on with coaches who know each other very well and how that can persuade a certain vote? The IGHSAU simply sends the teams their tournament bracket on one of the last Thursdays of the season and everyone is seeded; you have no idea who you're going to play and you don't have to meet with other coaches to vote who plays who.

One solution to this archaic seeding process would be to have one high school union and then have separate divisions for the boys and girls, but have both be under the same association. I have never understood why we have a separate boys and girls union for high school sports in our state, as I believe we are the only state in the nation to have two separate unions. This would create more uniformity on how things are run, and hopefully the two divisions could work together to find a common solution to tournament seeding. Geography should not be the main factor when determining Districts, it should be how you did during your season and those who had great seasons should be rewarded with higher seeds and protected from playing another top seeded team. When we made it to State in 2016, we had to travel two hours to Clarion to play our Region Final game on a Monday night, but I guarantee you, not one player or fan complained about that trip as it gave us a better chance to get to the State Tournament than simply keeping things based on geography where we would have possibly had to meet Unity Christian or Western Christian in the Regional Final. The IHSAA needs to figure this out and they should have figured this well before this happened, the kids deserve better!



Pioneers Win Tourney

The 7th grade OYBA boys came away with 1st place at the Storm Lake Tornado Booster Tournament on Sunday. Okoboji beat Cherokee 61-59 and GTRA 54-30 in full length regulation games to win the championship.

Front row: Julian Potter, Carson Storey, Ben Roos, Drew Early. Back row: Eli Graves, Walt Blankers, Avery Simington, Mitch Mulhern, Calan Peters. Coached by Mark Geelan. Not pictured: Everett Jorgensen and Koa Hemphill.



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Roses Just Because To Benefit Emergency Services

Lakes Regional Healthcare Foundation announces that its annual fundraiser, Roses Just Because, has begun. This year they teamed up with Ferguson's Floral and Garden Center to host the fundraiser. Individuals may purchase a dozen long-stemmed roses for only \$25 and help support the construction of a negative pressure room within Lakes Regional Healthcare at the same time. A selection of colors will be available; however, orders for specific colors are not available.

For more information and to place orders for a dozen long-stemmed roses, please:

- Visit <https://www.averafoundationevents.org/donate-with-search> and select "Other" for Avera Facility and then type in "Lakes Regional Healthcare." Then be sure to specify an amount of \$25 per dozen and put "Roses" in the "Type your fund, program, or event" in the "Select Your Area of Support" section, or
- Contact Lakes Regional Healthcare Vice President of Human and Foundation Resources Sonja Hamm at 712-336-8791 or sonja.hamm@lakeshealth.org, or
- Message Lakes Regional Healthcare through their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/lakesregional-healthcare.

All orders must be placed and prepaid by Friday, March 12. Roses will be available for pick up on Tuesday, April 20, from 12:30pm until 5:00pm, at Ferguson's Floral and Garden Center. A variety of colors will be available on a first come/first choice basis.

Spring HOME Okoboji

Reach thousands of readers in The Lakes News Shopper's bonus **SPRING HOME OKOBOJI** section of the paper. This issue will roll out on March 30th and will be distributed to our full coverage area. You'll **SPRING** in front of almost 20,000 readers, in addition your ad will be able to be viewed year around on our website. Extra copies will be available at local retail shops.

When you purchase a full page ad, you'll receive a **FREE** half page article!

Don't miss your chance to enhance everyone's Okoboji Lifestyle!

Ad Sizes & Costs:		
Ad Size	Black & White	Full Color
1/4 page	5" w x 3 1/4" h	\$69.30 \$119.30
1/4 page	5" w x 6 3/4" h	\$138.60 \$188.60
1/2 page	10 1/4" w x 6 3/4" h or	\$277.20 \$352.20
	5" w x 13 3/4" h	\$277.20 \$352.20
Full page	10 1/4" w x 13 3/4" h	\$554.40 \$704.40

Spot Color Ads: add an additional \$30; \$50 for half page; \$100 for full page, over the Black & White ad price.

Ad deadline for the tab is Wednesday, March 24th.

The tab will include:

- Enhance Your Indoor & Outdoor Living Spaces
- Lawn & Garden Tips
- Okoboji Lifestyle from Shopping to Entertainment & everything in between

Contact John, Jantina, Jenna or stop by The Lakes News Shopper office today!

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Classes will have under 20 students!



NEW FAMILY KINDERGARTEN MEETING

This meeting is intended for families that are
NEW to the Okoboji Community School District

Monday, April 12, at 6:30 pm.
Okoboji Elementary School

Please enter through our main doors on the east side of the building.

Come meet the Teachers and
learn more about Okoboji Schools!

All children who will be 5 years old on or before September 15, 2021, are eligible for kindergarten for the 2021-22 school year!

Please bring your child so that we can help you in determining the best placement for him/her for next year by conducting some readiness activities.

Beautiful Facilities!
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Come Check Us Out To Find Your Child's Pathway!

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Please feel free to contact us with any questions at 712-338-2458.



Okoboji Community School District

Small Class Sizes!



PRE-KINDERGARTEN AND HEAD START

PARENT INFORMATION NIGHT

THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 2021 • 6:30 P.M.

Okoboji Elementary • 705 N Avenue, Milford

(Children must be age 4 on or before September 15, 2021 to be eligible)
Families interested in Head Start must be able to provide proof of income.
Full day and half day possibilities for Pre-K!

Check out our website www.okobojischools.org

Call the OES office at 712-338-2458 for more information!

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For more information see our blog- bit.ly/3gg4H3X

Okoboji Mock Trial Branches Out to Write Song

Okoboji High School Mock Trial team had an interesting civil case this year involving the spouse of a young adult. The young adult is suing a rock band for not warning fans or canceling the outdoor concert when bad weather suddenly appeared. As a result, the spouse was killed by lightning. The case has strong points for Plaintiff and Defense. The band in question is called Taranis (truh-nyes) and led by an Irish rocker.

One of the team members is also into songwriting. Carter Lambert portrays the lead singer as a witness for the Defense. As he immersed himself into his character, he wondered what the music of Taranis would sound like if the band was real. So Carter wrote a song! His dad is Gary Lambert of Route 86 Records, and they worked together to lay down tracks, including recruiting the amazing guitar work of Jesse Dagle from Rock a la Carte band. Carter also has a chant in the song, and he recorded the OHS mock trial team and coaches answering back on the chant.

The song "Lightning Strikes Us" is now available on all music streaming platforms, including Spotify, Apple Music and Amazon Music. It is just \$.99 with proceeds going towards the OHS Mock Trial program. It is listed from Carter's band Triple Shot on the Route 86 Music Records label.

To continue with the creativity, another Mock Trial team member took their skills in graphic design and created a logo as if imagining that Taranis would have shirts for sale at a rock concert. Maddison Lambert designed the tee, and again the profits go towards the Okoboji Mock Trial program. Both links for the song and tee are being sent to all Mock Trial teams on Monday from the Iowa State Bar Association who loved the creativity.

For more information, go to Okoboji Fine Art's webpage at <https://okobojifinearts.wixsite.com/arts/mocktrial> or on Facebook and Instagram @OkobojiFineArts. The OHS Mock Trial program would love your support! Purchase the song on any music streaming platform, and visit the OFA website for the Taranis Tee link.

Be a Tourist in Your Backyard

by Rebecca Peters, Okoboji Tourism Director

Each year thousands of people visit the Iowa Great Lakes to enjoy the activities and attractions our area has to offer. Join me each week as I become a tourist in our backyard to explore a few of the spots that make the Iowa Great Lakes special!

This week I did a local craft brewery tour, and visited Okoboji Brewing Company and West O to taste their local brews and enjoy the unique vibe each brewery has to offer. The Iowa Great Lakes Area brews delicious beer! Both breweries offer something for everyone's taste, and West O even has a variety of hard seltzers they craft locally! You can enjoy a beer in their taproom or get a growler to go!

My brewery tour started at Okoboji Brewing Company in Spirit Lake. The brewery offers a number of local and regional brews. They also serve local wines and root beer! I tried a beer flight with 4 different beers. I tried Okoboji Brewing Company Early Riser Coffee Porter, Rosey Irish Red Ale, Shot in the Dark, and the Iowa Strangler Cider from Fairfield, IA. All four were uniquely delicious, and it's tough to decide which was my favorite. The brewery offers a wide variety of games to entertain you while you visit, and you are welcome to bring in food. Papa Murphy's Pizza is next door, and Okoboji Brewing Company will bake the pizza for you in the brewery!

My second stop was West O in West Okoboji. West O serves a large variety of their own beer that is brewed right here in West Okoboji. They also have a couple of ciders and wines from Iowa businesses. I also ordered a beer flight at West O to sample four of their beers. I tried the French Toast Coco Stout, Shandy, Smoked Red, and Pilsner. All were delicious! They were unveiling a new Grapefruit Soak'd Pale Ale when I visited. While I didn't sample it, a number of customers gave it a thumbs up! West O also allows you to bring in your own food to enjoy while you're drinking their beer in the tasting room. I paired my beer flight with a JBLT from Jimmy Johns!

I hope you are inspired to become a tourist in our community, and support the many businesses and attractions that attract tourists to visit our community! We're lucky enough to have breweries like Okoboji Brewing Company and West O right in our backyard. Plan your own Okoboji adventure and sample some local beer! Learn more about local breweries and other fun adventures in the Iowa Great Lakes area at www.VacationOkoboji.com.

Boy's Soccer Team Food Drive

The SLPO Boy's High School Soccer team is hosting a Food Drive to replenish the needs of Upper Des Moines on Saturday, March 20, from 1:00-3:00pm. Items in need include non-perishable food items, toilet paper, paper towels, deodorant and toothpaste.

If you would like to donate, please call, text, or email Coach Ditsworth (712-330-5817 or coachditsworth@outlook.com) to inform of your donation to be picked up. Soccer players will come to your house between 1:00 and 3:00 on Saturday, March 20, for pick-up.

Follow their efforts on Twitter @slposoccer.



Winners of FFA Coloring Contest at Okoboji

The Okoboji Future Farmers of America group held many fun activities during National FFA Week and one of those was the FFA coloring contest for all Okoboji Elementary students. We would like to thank all the kids that participated in the contest. Winners (l-r): 4th grade, Pacey Vonk, Chris Samuels; 3rd grade, Zoey Craig, Kaden Becker; 2nd grade, Kaden Meyer, Alex Anderson; 1st grade, Zayla Ruisenor, Angel Fulkerth; Kindergarten, Jaxon Moon and Nova Clark. FFA Students: Kyle Bockman, Cody Wintz, Will Jensen and Garrett Sindt.

ILCC Awarded for Military and Veteran Friendly Efforts

Iowa Lakes Community College receives award designations recognizing efforts to serve military service members and veterans. Iowa Lakes received a "Top 10 Gold" Military Friendly® designation for 2021-2022, a 2020 Top Veteran-Friendly School, and the Certified Higher-Education Academic Military Partner (CHAMP) designation.

"Iowa Lakes has a proud tradition of recognizing and supporting our Military and Veteran students and staff. Some well-established organizations that rate educational value have recognized our efforts. It takes the entire organization being on the same page to set Iowa Lakes apart. We work hard to ensure that our students are getting the best value for their educational dollars. These awards tell us we are on the correct path," explained Tim Ireland, Iowa Lakes Career/Veteran/Military Services Coordinator.

Iowa Lakes received 8th place on the 2021-2022 "Top 10 Gold" Military Friendly® Schools list for small community colleges out of more than 1,000 participating schools. The "Top 10 Gold" designation is the highest honor possible through the prestigious Military Friendly® program created by VIQTORY, a service-disabled, veteran-owned small business founded in 2001. The list is available at www.militaryfriendly.com.

U.S. Veterans Magazine designated Iowa Lakes as a 2020 Top Veteran-Friendly Schools for the 6th consecutive year at usveteransmagazine.com. Additionally, Iowa Lakes is proud to be a Certified Higher-Education Academic Military Partner or CHAMP school.

Iowa Lakes strives to meet military veterans' unique needs and is continually looking for ways to improve military and veteran students and faculty members' experiences. Currently, Iowa Lakes has two Veteran Centers on the main campuses, a Peer/Staff mentorship program, and multiple Military and American Legion scholarship opportunities.

If you have unused military education benefits, Iowa Lakes is proven to be the place to attend community college. Please contact Tim Ireland to get started today at tireland@iowalakes.edu or 712-852-5284.

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Do **NOT** arrive before 4:00pm
 REMAIN IN YOUR VEHICLE
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 REGISTRATION will take place AT YOUR VEHICLE
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Bring bags, laundry baskets, or boxes to carry your food.
 Por favor, traiga bolsas o cajas para llevar sus alimentos.

Questions? Preguntas? Food Bank of Iowa: 515-564-0330

Thursday, March 4
4:00-6:00pm

Jueves, Marzo 4
4:00-6:00pm

Good News (Crossroads) Church, Estherville
 La Iglesia (Crossroads) en Estherville
PARKING LOT ONLY

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Milford Library News

MML's Spring Egg Hunt will have you exploring the town of Milford. This free adventure is for 4th graders and up. Adults, this means you can join in the fun too! Stop by the library to get your Spring Egg Hunt sheet featuring 10 different images and QR codes that will showcase parts of our town. Once you locate the image, write down what it is and where you found it. Scan the QR code for a little history about your location. Then return your completed sheet to the Milford Memorial Library for a chance to win a prize. The hunt is over on Monday, March 22 at 5:00pm.

Take me out to the ball game with MML's Young Adult Subscription Box: Opening Day. This season will run from Tuesday, March 9 to Tuesday, March 30. The power hitting activities are creating your own coffee ground wood stain and hitting and threading together a string art baseball. Your ballpark experience will be assisted by a playlist, reading list, to-watch list, and recipes. Admission is free, but registration is required. To play ball, call the Milford Memorial Library "ticket office" at 712-338-4643 or email milfordlibrary51351@gmail.com. You can pick-up your box at MML's drive-up window during normal hours.

MML is now offering same-day appointments. Schedule a time by calling the library at 712-338-4643. Patrons are required to wear masks and social distance. Time is limited to one hour. The library is limiting the number of patrons to 10 per scheduled appointment time. Appointment times are:
 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday 10:00-11:00am, 11:15am-12:15pm, 12:30-1:30pm, and 1:45-2:45pm.
 Wednesday 10:00-11:00am, 11:15am -12:15pm, 12:30-1:30pm, 1:45- 2:45pm, 4:30-5:30pm, and 5:30-6:30pm.

MML offers printing, copying, faxing, and scanning to email. Printing is completed by emailing the library at milfordlibrary51351@gmail.com. Copying, faxes, and scanning can be done by bring your papers to the drive-up window. For pricing please call the Milford Library at 712-338-4643. These services are available during normal drive-up window hours.

Milford Memorial Library's Drive-Up Window hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10:00am to 5:00pm and Wednesday 10:00am to 6:30pm.

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**Arnolds Park Roof Garden
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Okoboji Youth Little League Baseball & Softball



2021 Registration Information

REGISTER ONLY ONLINE AT

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REGISTER TODAY!

PreK-TK - 60.00 • K/1st- 60.00 2/3 - 60.00

4/5 - 85.00 • 6/7- 85.00

The grade which child is enrolled in for 20/21 school year

No Family pays more than \$100

fee include reimbursable 25.00 volunteer fee: reimbursed following one volunteer session in concession stand*

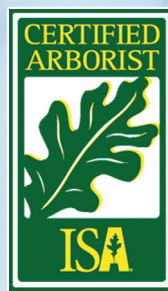


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COORS LIGHT 12 PK 12 oz. cans \$7.99 + DEP. When You Buy \$3.01 or more in meat

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BLACK BOX WINES 3 liter box \$19.99 WHEN YOU BUY ANY SIX

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MOBILE HOME FOR SALE: Double wide 28'x56' mobile home. 28'x30' finished garage. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, many upgrades. Okoboji North Village, lot 144. Call 712-330-1560. TFC

REAL ESTATE

RENTALS

All real estate advertised in The Lakes News Shopper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation, or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex or national origin or any intention to make any such preference limitation or discrimination. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE
The Dickinson County Board of Supervisors has received a copy of a new manure management plan for an existing animal feeding operation (swine). The owner of this feeding operation is Merle Wiese of 1555 125th Street, Lake Park, Iowa. This manure management plan is for an existing operation, adding acres of application to the existing plan. The facility name is Merle Wiese. The location of the operation is 1555 125th Street, Lake Park, Iowa. The township where the animal feeding operation is located is Silver Lake. The land being added to the existing manure management plan, is as follows and all acres are located in Dickinson County, Iowa:
NE ¼ of Section 22, Range 38 West, Silver Lake Township
The application may be examined at the Office of the Dickinson County Auditor, 1802 Hill Avenue, Suite 1400, Spirit Lake, Iowa, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 4:30 P.M. Comments on the manure management plan may be submitted to the Board of Supervisors, in care of the Dickinson County Auditor.
Lori Pedersen
Dickinson County Auditor

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Public notice is hereby given that the Dickinson County Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing at 10:00 a.m. March 16, 2021, in the Community Room at the Dickinson County Courthouse, 1802 Hill Ave, Suite#1510, Spirit Lake, Iowa. The purpose of the public hearing will be to receive public comments on the manure management plan for an existing operation, adding acres to the application (swine). The owner of this feeding operation is Merle Wiese of 1555 125th Street, Lake Park, Iowa. The facility name is Merle Wiese. The location of the operation is 1555 125th Street, Lake Park, Iowa. The township where the animal feeding operation is located is Silver Lake. The land being added to the existing manure management plan, is as follows and all acres are located in Dickinson County, Iowa:
NE ¼ of Section 22, Range 38 West, Silver Lake Township
The application may be examined at the office of the Dickinson County Auditor, 1802 Hill Avenue, Suite#1400, Spirit Lake, Iowa, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 4:30 P.M.
Lori Pedersen
Dickinson County Auditor

NOTICES

CITY OF MILFORD: Planning & Zoning Commission Member Needed
The City of Milford is seeking an applicant to serve on the Planning & Zoning Commission (5 year term) to fill the (remainder of term through 6/30/2023). The Planning and Zoning Commission is in charge of adopting rules and regulations pertaining to planning, zoning and building matters and is an excellent opportunity for community involvement. A small stipend is also paid to board members. The addition of a female representative would help comply with the gender balance rules.
If interested please contact:
LeAnn Reinsbach, City Administrator @ 712-338-2741, Email: lreinsbach@milford.ia.us or visit www.milford.ia.us for a board member application.
All appointments will be in accordance with Milford City Ordinances, Iowa Code 69.16 concerning gender balanced boards, and the City's Volunteer Board Appointment Policy.

PUBLIC NOTICE OF STORM WATER DISCHARGE
Kwik Star plans to submit a Notice of Intent to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources to be covered under the NPDES General Permit No. 2 "Storm Water Discharge Associated with Industrial Activity for Construction Activities." The storm water discharge will be from SE ¼ of NW ¼, Section 31, T99N, R36W, City of Milford, Dickinson County, Iowa. Storm water will be discharged from one-point source and will be discharged to West Okoboji Lake. Comments may be submitted to the Storm Water Discharge Coordinator, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division, 502 E. 9th Street, Des Moines, IA 50319-0034. The public may review the Notice of Intent from 8:00am to 4:30pm, Monday through Friday, at the above address after it has been received by the department.

PETS

They Need A Home, Too!
Amy - is 2 years old and very playful and energetic. She needs work on training. Amy is affectionate and loves attention.
Samuel - is a BIG boy with an even BIGGER heart. This sweetheart loves all humans but is dog selective.
Arnie - is a 3 year-old German Shepherd/French Mastiff Mix. He needs someone to be patient & help him with his socialization.
Call, or stop in, at the Humane Society of NW Iowa for these and other pets to adopt.
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712-338-2738 • Open Thurs. - Sun.
I'll help you find a home, too!
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Broker for HOIEN REALTY
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Marilyn@hoien.com

THANK YOU

I wish to thank all of you who sent me birthday cards on my 91st birthday. Such loving thoughts are greatly appreciated and deserve my heartfelt gratitude.
Jeanne Gross

You made our hearts happy. We had such a wonderful day because of all your cards, thoughts and flowers. Thank you so much,
Pete & Sally Jepsen

- Thank you -
Thank you friends and family for the cards, gifts, calls, Facebook messages, texts, and emails for our 50th Wedding Anniversary. We truly feel blessed and appreciate you all!
Gary & Katie Weiskircher

THE LNS
NOTICE
LAKES NEWS SHOPPER DEADLINES
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Classified Line Ads: Mondays at 11 a.m.

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Talk to Store Manager Warren Jager about becoming a volunteer. If you have furniture or other items to donate, call him at 712-338-3334
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located on the Estherville Campus. Primary responsibilities include teaching a variety of classes for individuals looking to improve their Math, Reading or Writing skills, complete their high school equivalency degree, or English as a Second Language (ESL) classes for multiple levels of proficiency students. Day and evening hours, possibly some Saturdays, and travel within the college's service area will be required. Position is contingent on continued grant funding. Bachelor's Degree required. Teaching experience with Math proficiency and ESL background preferred. \$20.25/hour. Only complete application packets will be considered for this position.
View complete job description and download application at www.iowalakes.edu/jobs.
Position open until filled. Review of applications will begin immediately. Contact Lynn Miller at lmiller@iowalakes.edu or 712-362-0409.
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Taking Quality Business Photos with Smartphones

Iowa Lakes Community College and the Tietz Entrepreneurial Center will offer a Zoom class online entitled, Quality Business Photos - smartphone tips & tricks for better shots on March 4 to help businesses produce quality photos.

Businesses need quality photographs to showcase products, services, and brands, especially online. This class helps companies learn simple smartphone photography tips and tricks to present a professional appearance online without breaking the bank.

The Tietz Entrepreneurial Center will hold the Quality Business Photos class for a \$39 registration fee via Zoom on March 4, from 12:00 to 1:00pm. The online link will be provided following registration.

To register, please visit www.iowalakes.edu/ce and reference class #4381; or call 800-252-5664.

IOWA LAKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE

is accepting applications for two part-time **Cook/Server positions** on the Estherville Campus. 25-27.5 hours per week primarily during the school year, limited hours in the summer. Primary responsibilities are to plan, prepare and serve main course meals. A sincere commitment to customer service is necessary. High school diploma or equivalency required. Quantity cooking experience preferred but not required. \$12.40/hr. plus \$.35 shift differential after 5 p.m. Paid sick leave, vacation and holidays. Retirement package. Position open until filled. Review of applications will begin March 8, 2021.

View complete job description and download application at www.iowalakes.edu/jobs.
 Contact Lynn Miller at lmiller@iowalakes.edu or 712-362-0409.

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Growing Together Mini Grant Awarded to Dickinson County Master Gardener Projects

Thirty-two Iowa projects received funds to help support food security and healthy eating across Iowa

In a time of economic difficulty and special need, a record number of communities across Iowa are slated to receive Growing Together Mini-Grants through Iowa State University Extension and Outreach's SNAP-Education program. A total of 32 projects are being funded, with the goal of increasing food security and promoting healthy food access.

Locally, Dickinson County Master Gardeners will utilize the grant funding to help plant two donation gardens that benefit several local food pantries. They are also planning to conduct a summer garden tour to showcase the produce and educate interested community members.

Growing Together mini grants have been funded by the United States Department of Agriculture's SNAP-Education since 2016. Iowa was the first state to create this model, which has been replicated in Nebraska, Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana, Michigan, Wyoming, and Montana. Over the past five years, the mini grants have resulted in food donations of over 434,729 pounds.

"It continues to amaze me how Extension Master Gardener volunteers have built partnerships to increase fresh produce donations to food pantries," said Susan DeBleeck, master gardener program coordinator. "I am so grateful that the Growing Together projects were already on the ground to respond to increased food pantry need in 2020."

The projects took on renewed importance in 2020, due to the COVID pandemic and economic challenges. Counties responded with creativity and determination.

Master Gardener volunteers planted donation gardens with partners, supported their community with plant-a-row programs to get more produce into food pantries, and gleaned fresh produce from farmers markets.

"The Growing Together Iowa team was very impressed with the awardees this past year," said Katie Sorrell, extension education specialist with ISU Extension and Outreach. "Despite a derecho, drought and a pandemic, the Growing Together Iowa counties pivoted to donate fresh fruits and vegetables at food pantries in creative ways."

This year, the Growing Together Iowa team received a record number of applications, including eight new counties that have never applied before.

Food Bank of Iowa Begins Food Rescue Program with Amazon in Bondurant

Food donations are expected every other week to help feed Iowans in need

On Friday, February 26, Food Bank of Iowa received the first food rescue donation from Amazon's fulfillment center in Bondurant.

With this food rescue program, Amazon will donate food every two weeks which Food Bank of Iowa will distribute to Iowans in need. The food will help feed Iowans in Central Iowa where Amazon's employees live and work, as well as in many other communities across the food bank's 55 county service area.

Food Bank of Iowa, a Feeding America food bank, opened in 1983 as a food rescuer and has been rescuing food ever since. The food bank carefully inspects donations from retailers and wholesalers, keeps the food safe and gets it out to food-insecure Iowans quickly via their comprehensive network of passionate partners.

"I am pleased to work with Amazon to help fight food waste and feed Iowans," said Michelle Book, president and CEO of Food Bank of Iowa. "It is wonderful to collaborate with another great community-minded partner."

Since Amazon opened the Bondurant fulfillment center in December 2020, they have donated more than \$50,000 worth of products to local nonprofits, including Food Bank of Iowa.

The first donation to Food Bank of Iowa from the new program with Amazon is valued at more than \$30,000. It included shelf-stable essentials like baby food, rice, pasta and canned food.

"At Amazon, we leverage our scale for good and make investments to support communities," said Brent Hagan, site leader at Amazon's Bondurant fulfillment center. "We are proud to work with Food Bank of Iowa to get meals to doorsteps of people in need across the state."

Food retailers who would like to join the food rescue effort can learn more at foodbankiowa.org/make-a-difference/donate-food or call Emily Shearer, Food Acquisition Program Manager, at 515-867-2894.

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Qualifications and Skills:

- Excellent communication skills
- Great patient service
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Please send your resume to Dr. Courtney Meyer by:
 Email: courtneymeyer10@yahoo.com
 Office: 808 N. 9th St., Estherville, IA 51334

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IOWA LAKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE

is accepting applications for a **Professional Academic Coach/Math & Science Tutor**

This is a part-time position (27.5 hours per week) based on the Estherville Campus. May be required to travel between campuses using personal vehicle. Provide individual and small group tutoring to students on campus or virtually. Assist students in improving academic achievement by clarifying learning problems and work on study skills. Bachelor's Degree required, Master's Degree preferred. Strong Math and Science skills with three years previous teaching or tutoring experience desired. \$20.25/hr.
 Review of applications will begin March 8, 2021.

View complete job description and download application at www.iowalakes.edu/jobs.
 Contact Lynn Miller at lmiller@iowalakes.edu or 712-362-0409.

IOWA LAKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE
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