TAKES NEWS SHOPPER



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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2023

VOL/50 NO/18

PO BOX 192 / MILFORD / IOWA 51351 / 712 - 338 - 2232 / LAKESNEWSSHOPPER.COM













BACK PORCH VINTAGE "Attic Treasures" **Occasional Sale** February 9TH, 10TH & 11TH We've been searching high and low for this one folks!

9 E. 2nd Street, Spencer, IA (Yellow House Just Off Grand Ave.) Open all three days: Thursday 10-6, Friday 10-5, Saturday 10-4

97th Birthday Announcement

Please join family and friends in a card shower for Lorraine Little on the occasion of her 97th Birthday on Tuesday, February 14, 2023.

Cards can be sent to Lorraine at: Accura Healthcare of Milford, 1600 13th Avenue, Room #103, Milford, Iowa, 51351.

Allen and Loretta Rowe Celebrate 70 Years

Allen and Loretta Rowe celebrated their 70th Anniversary on Saturday, February 4, 2023. Family and friends would like to honor them with a card shower. Your warm wishes can reach them at 6963 110th Street, Harris, Iowa 51345.







Shake the Lakes - the premiere Jazz and Show Choir competition for the area is back for our 5th year in Spirit Lake February

groups will be performing at the Sami Bedell Center for the Performing Arts showcasing school groups from 3 states. Friday will kick off with the Jazz Choir groups, and Saturday will feature Middle School and High School Show Choir throughout the day with Show



Choir finals Saturday evening. Our Spirit Lake High School Jazz Choir, Lake Effect will perform on Friday at 8:45pm. Our hometown show choir groups will perform Saturday - Middle School Show Choir, Spirit Rising, at 11:50am. The Spirit Lake High School Show Choir, Sonic Boom, will perform at about 5:55pm and Music Factory, will perform at 10:00pm all in the Sami Center. Please check the Spirit Lake School website under Arts tab, our Facebook page. Shake the Lakes and Spirit Lake Music Boosters, for up to date information on performance times as they are subject to change.

We are excited to welcome over 1500 people to our community for the weekend supporting this spectacular music event. Many of these groups are staying in our community on Friday night. We hope they enjoy the array of amenities and take in the wonderful shopping and restaurants.

Come out and support our local Spirit Lake groups. These two days will get you tapping your feet, and ready to sing along to the fantastic line up of high quality music, singing, and dancing. You won't want to miss this event that will leave you with joy in your soul and a smile on your face.

If you would like to help with the event, you can check out the school website spirit-lake.k12.ia.us under the arts tab and Shake The Lakes for sign up opportunities.

This event is a fundraiser for the Spirit Lake Music Boosters. We thank our many donors and volunteers that are helping with



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PICK

#12

#15

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Yards: Eagles or Chiefs

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Halftime Total Score:

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PICK National Anthem: Over 115

#11 Seconds of Under 115 Seconds

PICK #14

Team to call First Time Out: Eagles or Chiefs



Total Field Goals made: PICK 4 & over or Under 4

2 TIE BREAKERS: Total Super Ball Half Time Score: _ **AND:** Total Super Ball Final Score:_ **Phone Number: Email:** Name:

Mon. - Fri. 9 to 5 & Sat. 9-4

One entry per person. The winner will be whoever chooses the most correct picks. For rules go to: LakesNewsShopper.com





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Girl Scout Cookies For Sale

The Girl Scout Cookie program is once again offering direct sales for 2023. We're 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 Sandwiches, Trefoils, Thin Mints, Lemonades, Toast Yays, and Adventurefuls! 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 chips, and a hint of sea salt. Gluten Fee Carmel Chocolate Chip cookies are available in limited quantities, so get some while they last!

This weekend, area Girl Scouts will be selling their world-famous cookies at Bomgaars in Spirit Lake. Girls will be there on Saturday, February 11, from 9:00am to 5:00pm; and, then again on Sunday, February 12, from 11:00am to 3:00pm. You can also find them at Sunshine Foods in Milford from 11:00am to 2:00pm, on Saturday, February 11; and, at Fareway in Spencer from 2:00 to 4:00pm. If you cannot make it this weekend, don't worry as orders for Girl Scout cookies will be taken through March 12, 2023. If you are not contacted and would like to order any of these products, please call our Service Unit Cookie Manager, Linda Nase at 712-330-3251. Thank you for supporting Girl Scouts.



Youth Corner

Happy Valentine's Day library friends! Milford Memorial Library has two more love themed programs coming up this Thursday and next Monday.

There will be Afterschool Activity: Valentine's Day BINGO at 3:30pm on Thursday, February 9, and Building Bookworms: Mail at 10:30am on Monday, February 13. The craft will be



a paper plate mailbox covered in love.

Did you know that our library offers STEAM bags and kits? STEAM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics. We currently have 13 bags/kits available to check out. These include construction/building, sound/music/band, trucks/tools, beebot, coding, senses, arts/crafts, build, animals, letters/numbers, literacy, shapes/patterns, and slinky. We plan to get more STEAM items out in the library, as well as display them in a convenient way.



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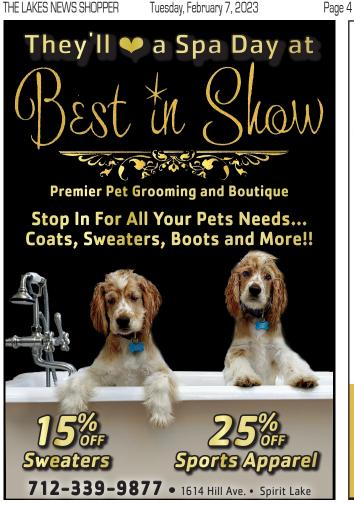
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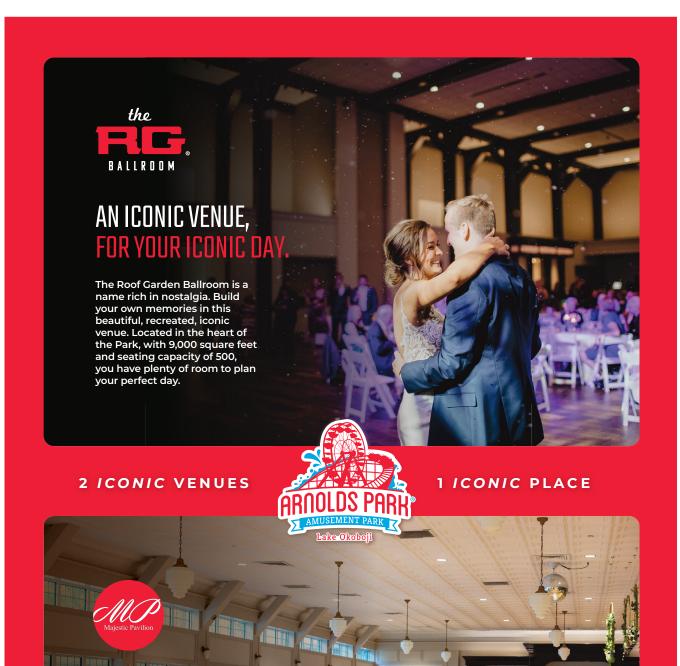
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else you can dream up.









Iowa Lakes Offers Singing Valentines

The Iowa Lakes Community College Music Department offers a local favorite, Singing Valentines, again this year. The Iowa Lakes Men's and Women's Quartets will perform the Singing Valentines on Valentine's Day, February 14, 2023.

"Singing Valentines are a great way to let your significant other know how much you love them while leaving them speechless on Valentine's Day! So, if you're looking for a fun way to send your loved one an unforgettable Valentine's message, don't hesitate to get in touch with us," explained Brett Fuelberth, Iowa Lakes' Vocal Professor.

The Singing Valentines will be delivered in person on Valentine's Day to significant others at the chosen location, including at home, at work, in a restaurant, or anywhere else one can imagine. "When we serenade your loved ones with music, we often see them tear up, and we almost always draw a crowd!" shared Fuelberth. "Our Singing Valentines truly become a memorable

experience for your loved one." A Singing Valentine, for only \$25, includes a red rose presented to the recipient and two love songs sung by the quartet, who will dress to the nines in formal wear.

Please order singing valentines at iowa-lakes.ticketleap.com. To place an order with cash or

SHOP LOCAL. EAT LOCAL. SPEND LOCAL. ENJOY LOCAL. IT TAKES YOU

Nature Tots: Movin' Groovin' Animals

February is the time to get moving! Join us for Nature Tots: Movin' Groovin' Animals at the Dickinson County Nature Center

in beautiful Kenue Park. Nature Tots is for ages 2-5 and their chaperone with a new theme each month!

Naturalist Britney Snell said, "Hop on over to this month's Nature Tots for an up-close look at how many of our creatures go from place to place!"

We are dedicating February to learning about how

animals move. Consider yourself moving on 2 feet, then 4 feet or even wings! We will use our own bodies to move like animals and we can compare the movements of our animal ambassadors. Please join us at the Dickinson County Nature Center on Wednesday, February 8th for Nature Tots. Session 1 is at 10:30am, and session 2 is at 1:30 p.m. Pre-registration is required.

Community Relations Coordinator Jackie Jerge said, "I sometimes imagine what it would be like to move on 4 feet, but I prefer the 2 that I have!"

Elements of this program can be indoors and outdoors, weather permitting. Please dress appropriately. Preregistration is necessary for all Nature Tot programs. All registrations are available 2 months in advance and closes 2 days prior to the event. Please call, 712-336-6352, if you have any questions. Pre-register for this program online at www.dickinsoncountynaturecenter.com. You can expect this program to last one hour.

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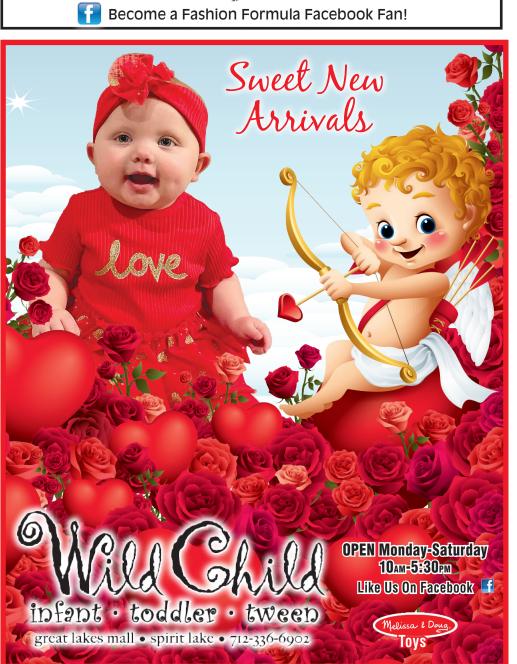
Great Lakes Mall • Spirit Lake Monday - Saturday 10-5:30 | Closed Sunday







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& Bread Stick

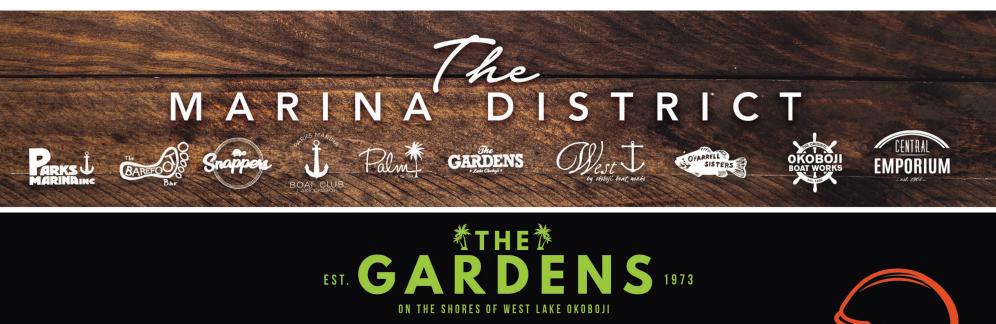
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APPLE CARAMEL PIE

TRIPLE CHOCOLATE CHEESECAKE

View From The Bench

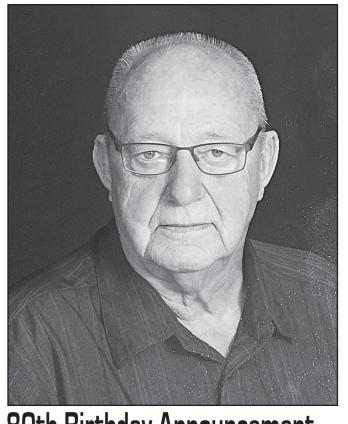


Cyclones Crush Kansas

We had the "Golden" opportunity (it was Gold Out Day at ISU) to have all four of us attend the #13 Iowa State vs #8 Kansas basketball game on Saturday. As the kids get older and with my basketball schedule, these chances don't always work out, so we were excited to get to head down to Ames and catch this Big 12 battle of ranked teams. I was a little nervous about how the game would go after Iowa State blew a Big 12 record 23-point lead at Texas Tech on Monday night, losing 80-77 in a game that sent my New Year's Resolution to be a more positive sports fan who would be more enjoyable to watch sporting events with, up in big-time flames!

The Kansas/Iowa State basketball rivalry has been one of the better ones in the Big 12 for the last 25 years, with Kansas having better national success and normally winning the Big 12 regular season, but Iowa State oftentimes finds a way to win in Ames and then again in Kansas City at the Big 12 Tournament. While Iowa State came in reeling after back-to-back road losses to Missouri and Tech., Kansas, the 2022 National Champion, was riding high with a road win over Kentucky last Saturday and an impressive 90-78 home throttling of in-state rival Kansas State on Tuesday night. I wasn't sure how Iowa State would respond from their meltdown, but I should know by now to not doubt head coach TJ Otzelberger and his team, as they always seem to bounce back from adversity. The Cyclones once again did that in a big way on Saturday with their 68-53 win over the Jayhawks. This was the second-worst Big 12 loss for the Jayhawks under Bill Self in a game in which they had more turnovers (20) than baskets (19). The Cyclones led for 39 of the 40 minutes and pretty much had complete control the entire game, taking a 33-21 lead into halftime. Kansas would trim that lead to five points early in the second half, but Jaren Holmes answered with five straight points of his own to get the lead back to 10 and the Jayhawks would never pull closer than nine the rest of the game. Holmes was sensational for ISU in the second half, scoring all 15 of his points and going 4/4 from 3-point land in the final 20 minutes. The Cyclones also got a big game from their other St. Bonaventure transfer, Osun Osunniyi, who had 13 points and 5 rebounds, as well as Tre King who came off the bench to score 10 points. However, the best performance for ISU came from freshman PG Tamin Lipsey, who struggled mightily during Tech's comeback on Monday night with several key second-half turnovers. Lipsey, however, bounced back in a huge way, with 9 points, 10 assists and 8 rebounds while outplaying KU point guard Dajuan Harris the entire game.

Iowa State now sits alone in second place in the Big 12 at 7-3, one game behind much hated-Texas, and one game ahead of a logjam of 6-4 teams. The Cyclones are 16-6 overall and remain undefeated this season at Hilton Coliseum, as TJ has truly brought back Hilton Magic. I am trying to hold on to realistic expectations for ISU, as I would be very happy if they could go 1-1 every week the rest of the season, which would put them at 11-7 in the Big 12 and guarantee an upper-division finish, and a very nice NCAA Tournament seed. If this group guards, takes care of the basketball and plays with the same sense of urgency they had on Saturday, they are capable of a stronger finish than that, but to keep up with my New Year's resolution, I'm not going to let my mind have the expectations of ISU's first Big 12 regular season championship since 2002, and will be very happy with another trip to the NCAA Tournament!



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80th Birthday Announcement

Ray Andersonn will be turning 80 on Monday, February 20, 2023. To celebrate this special occasion, the children of Ray are hosting a card shower. They invite you to send cards to Ray Anderson at 1106 N Avenue, Milford, IA 51351.



bor of arriar is inspired by life a led solly of the best friends living life to the fullest when they take a wild trip to the 2017 Super Bowl LI to see their hero Tom Brady play. Starring Lily Tomlin, Jane Fonda, Rita Moreno and Sally Field, with 7-time Super Bowl Champion and producer Tom Brady.

FRI. 2/10 - 4:15 & 7:15 SAT. & SUN 2/11 & 12 - 1:15, 4:15 & 7:15 MON.-WED. 2/13-15 - 6:50



Otto (Hanks), a grumpy isolated widower with staunch principles, strict routines and a short fuse, gives everyone in his neighborhood a hard time as he watches over it like a hawk. Just as it seems like

FRI. 2/10 - 3:50 & 6:50 SAT. & SUN 2/11&12 - 1:00, 3:50 & 6:50 MON.-WED. 2/13-15 - 6:30





Sat., Feb. 11 - 9:00 AM -Large Coin Auction in Windom, MN. Auctioneers: Gravley Auction Service. 507-822-0403. www.auc

Tues., Mar. 7 - 10:00 AM -156.1 Acres at Auction in Gruver, IA. Auctioneers: Midwest Land midwestlandmanagement.com.

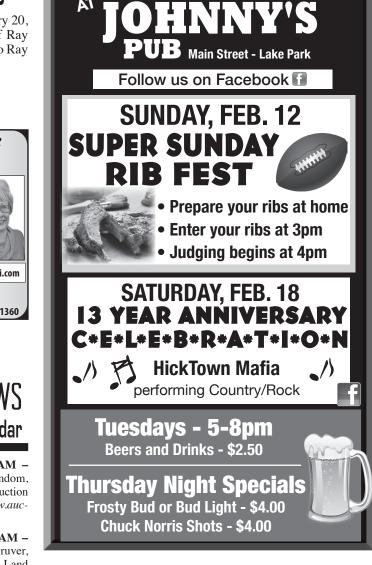




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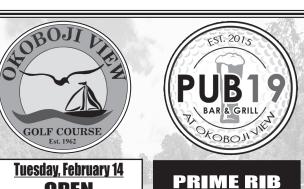
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Dance In Brewster

Steve Lang and Bobby will be playing for a dance at the Brewster Legion in Brewster, Minnesota, on Saturday, February 11, from 7:30-11:00pm. Couples and singles welcome. Hope to see you and your friends.

Steve Lang to Perform at VFW

Steve Lang will be performing at the Spirit Lake VFW on Wednesday, February 8, from 6:00-8:00pm. Admission is only \$5, come and listen to your favorite songs.



Dinner Date Meals for February Lunch is Served Monday - Friday at Noon!

LAKES AREA SENIOR CENTER 2101 Zenith Ave. • Spirit Lake, IA • PLEASE CALL 712-336-5247 BY 1:00 PM FRIDAYS TO RESERVE A MEAL FOR THE NEXT WEEK •

14 Tuesday 15 Wednesday 13 Monday **Polish Sausage Beef Roast Orange Chicken** Skillet w/ Potatoes, **Dinner Roll** w/ Carrots and Rice Onions, Peppers, **Dinner Roll** Veggie & Mushrooms Fruit/Dessert Fruit/Dessert **Dinner Roll** Fruit/Dessert 20 Monday

21 Tuesday **Chicken Stuffing** Casserole **Dinner Roll** Fruit/Dessert Veggie Fruit/Dessert

Goulash

Dinner Roll

Veggie

22 Wednesday **Swedish Meatballs** over Noodles **Dinner Roll** Veggie Fruit/Dessert

Fruit/Dessert 23 Thursday Shepard's Pie **Dinner Roll** Fruit/Dessert

17 Friday

Hot Pork over Mashed Potatoes Bread Veggie Fruit/Dessert

16 Thursday

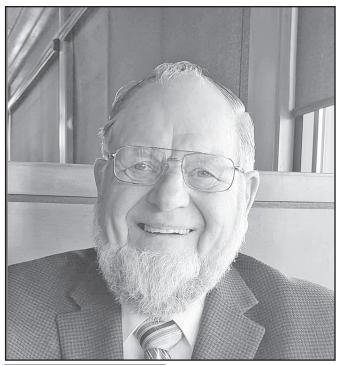
Taco Casserole

Tomatoes, Lettuce,

Onions, Sour Cream

24 Friday Salisbury Steak **Dinner Roll** Veggie Fruit/Dessert

Elderbridge suggests a donation of \$5 - \$8 Dinners are provided by GARSTENSEN'S of Lake Park.





90th Birthday Announcement

Please join the family of Carl Ingwersen in the celebration of his 90th birthday on Saturday, February 18, 2023, with a card shower. Cards may be mailed to 2810 Aurora Avenue, Apartment 205, Spirit Lake, Iowa

Jam the Gym Laker Visit Day Available at Iowa Lakes Community College

Iowa Lakes Community College will hold the annual Jam the Gym Laker Visit Day on Saturday, February 11, beginning at 10:00am, on the Estherville Campus for anyone considering attending college at Iowa Lakes and their families.

The Laker Visit Day will include a tour of campus, presentations from Student Services areas, a meeting with an academic advisor, and a free lunch.

Jam the Gym will feature Laker basketball games versus the Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) Bears. The Laker Women tip off at 1:00pm, and Laker Men tip off at 3:00pm.

"We want to create a fun atmosphere for our prospective students and family members, as well as showcase all that Iowa Lakes has to offer. We would love to see the gym packed with excitement and enthusiasm from current students to prospective students to faculty, staff and community members," explained Annie Kalous, Director of Admissions.

Prospective students attending the Jam the Gym Laker Visit Day will have the opportunity to win prizes, including a \$500 Iowa Lakes scholarship.

Individuals planning to attend the Laker Visit Day, please use Entrance 1. If only attending the Jam the Gym event, please use Entrance 2.

To register for Jam the Gym Laker Visit Day, visit iowalakes. edu/admissions/visit-campus/laker-visit-days. For questions or assistance, contact Iowa Lakes at 800-346-6018 or info@ iowalakes.edu.

Local Students Graduate from BVU

Buena Vista University congratulates more than 140 students who graduated in the Fall of 2022. Local students who graduated include:

Brooke Nitchals of Milford graduated with a Master of Education in teacher leadership, curriculum, & instruction (teaching English as a second language track).

Sarah Lutz of Estherville graduated with a Master of Science in Education in professional school counseling. Abigail Johnson of Spencer graduated summa cum laude

with a Bachelor of Arts in psychology. Sara Falline of Everly graduated summa cum laude with a

Bachelor of Arts in human services. Riley Hansen of Spencer graduated cum laude with a Bachelor

of Arts in psychology and human services.

Lakes Area Farmers Market News

Located at Dickinson Co. Fairgrounds 15th Street & Peoria Avenue, Spirit Lake, IA 51360

The days are feeling somewhat warmer and the ground hog saw his shadow, so in six weeks we should be seeing signs of spring. And spring brings us closer to the opening of Lakes Area Farmers Market. Now is an excellent time to think about becoming a vendor. The fee is low but liability insurance is required and you must live in the 5 county area and make or grow what you will sell. Call 712-336-4430 and leave a message if you think you would like to be a vendor at the market. We'll get back to you with more details and an application. Even if you don't want to be a vendor, shopping at the Farmers Market is a good idea. The produce is fresher and you know that it, and the baked and craft items, didn't come from a foreign country. You are helping to support local farmers and gardeners and that money paid to them goes back into the local community. Prices may be lower and there are no shipping costs, so you save more. Besides, the Lakes Area Farmers Market folks are a great group of people. They love talking to you and will tell you all about their product, how it was grown or how it was made. And you often see friends and neighbors at the Farmers Market. It is a beneficial social event that will be coming soon and we hope







• Highlights with Cut \$60 (Short Hair only) Perm with Cut \$60 (Short Hair only)

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during Sunday School Hour

Summer Is Closer Each Day

While we have enjoyed one of the coldest and snowy Winter seasons this year, the best is yet to come with summer coming closer every day. Even with the weathered-out Okoboji Summer Theatre Association's Omelet Breakfast, late in January, the casts and crews are working diligently to start the 65th season on June 27th. A somewhat major change that

you will see comes in the Boji Bantam Children's Theatre this year. That will see young professional actors and actresses performing on the Bantam stage, as the student actors need a different experience found only on the main stage. The first Bantam production is The Mother Goose News Hour, which will run July 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th. The second Bantam show,

Charlie the No-Good, Really-Rotten, Cheat-A-Saurus Rex, will be seen on July 19th, 20th, and 22nd. All Bantam performances begin at 10:30.

RAMBO-ling

Again, we remind you that you can reserve advance tickets or confirm your season subscriber seats by emailing the box office at **okobojisummertheatre.org**

Discount ticket voucher books are again being offered by the Okoboji Summer Theatre Association, a non-profit volunteer group that operates in support of the OST, with scholarships and other funding. For more information on the OSTA Voucher Books, please email ostavoucherbooklet@gmail.com

The booklets are just \$140, with a variety of uses for single or double situations. The booklets can also be purchased at Northwest Bank locations in Spirit Lake, Arnolds Park, and Milford, as well as the *Pearson Lakes Art Center*, and *Arts On Grand*, in Spencer. More information is available at the OST's Facebook page.

We know many of you enjoyed the music of *The Barbary Coast Dixieland Band* over the years -- at the Clay County Fair, and Little Swan Lake Winery, among other campus venues. When the band retired a couple years ago not all the members were ready to stay home to watch TV all day and all night. The youngest member of the group that performed together for about 60 years, is Bassman and Trombonist Steve Pikal. You might remember the jokes the older guys made about Steve being hired .."because he was young enough to drive the bus home after late night gigs" While we have kept in touch with several of the band members, we last saw Steve in Denison, where he was playing with a trio on a Sunday afternoon at the century-old downtown theatre. This Saturday night the Trio will be performing in Clear Lake, at the E.B. Stillman Auditorium (in the Clear Lake Middle School, 1601 3rd Avenue North, in Clear Lake) starting at 7:00, and we are planning on being there. It's well worth the drive. In addition to his devilment with the TTATrio, Steve is the first call bassman in the Twin Cities, where a lot of commercial work is done, and done very well!

Closer to home, on Sunday, you will find Mark Lair on the stage in the barn at the Little Swan Lake Winery, from 4-6:00. Reservations are suggested: 712-8584592. Both shows

As always, Research Director RD has come up with several interesting tidbits about the music we all hold so dear.

Charles Dickens (1812-1870, was born in Portsmouth Hampshire, England, on February 7th, 1812. One of his most famous books was Oliver Twist, which was adapted as a musical featuring the songs of Lionel Bart, including Consider yourself Well Off. Two of the most popular recordings were recorded by *The Ray Charles Singers*, for their 1965 album, Young Lovers On Broadway and Broadway Story. You have probably heard Okoboji favorite Marilyn Maye sing several of the tunes as well, including tunes from those shows on her Happiest Sounds In Town.

The MGM, Hanna-Barbera cartoon, Tom and Jerry, premiered On February 10, 1940, featuring the hapless cat who engages in a never-ending pursuit of Jerry, the clever mouse. In keeping with the MGM policy of using classical music as theme songs, the MGM Tom & Jerry theme song was taken from Franz Liszt's Hungarian Rhapsody, No, 2 -- even though the music had been written about 100 years before the two characters had been created!

ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS WE PRINT

Please send your music-related announcements and comments to PO Box 676, Okoboji, Iowa 51355-0676.

DEADLINE for submissions: 5 PM, Thursday, prior to Tuesday publication.



10:00 AM **SUNDAYS**

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Joe Conover, President of Northwest Bank, is pleased to by Rebecca Peters, Okoboji Tourism Director announce the promotion of Eric Walhof to NW Iowa Regional

President. Walhof's responsibilities include overseeing our Sioux Center, Le Mars, Spencer, Milford, Arnolds Park, Spirit Lake, and Estherville locations and their Market Leaders. This includes Chad Schuiteman, Sioux Center; Kevin Eekhoff, Le Mars; Doug Benjamin, Spencer; Nicole Evans, Milford & Arnolds Park; Jed Jensen, Spirit Lake and Curt Smith, Estherville. Eric's role supports the bank's mission of providing progressive banking



services to its customer base while building relationships and exceeding expectations.

Walhof has 25 years of banking experience in agricultural and commercial banking and team management. He has been with Northwest Bank since 2007 and has held various positions including Market President, Senior Lender, and Regional President over Sioux Center and Le Mars, allowing him exposure

to all areas within our organization.

Eric holds a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration from Dordt College. He has been an active community member, serving on the Sioux Center Chamber of Commerce Board, the Sioux Center Health Foundation, the Sioux Center Planning and Zoning Committee, and ATLAS of Sioux Center. He is an active member of Kiwanis and has also been involved with several other community entities. Eric's leadership experience, understanding of Northwest Bank's culture, and business banking experience positions him well to lead the region and growth in the coming years.

Family life is very important to Walhof. His wife Stephanie is a 7th Grade middle school teacher at Sioux Center Community Schools teaching language arts. Their eldest son Trajan lives in Bloomington, MN. He is a graduate of SDSU and works as a Mechanical Engineer for Emanuelson-Podas, Inc. in Edina, MN. Their son Damon is a senior at Iowa State University and will graduate this upcoming December 2023. He is a business student focusing in Procurement and Supply Chain Management. Their daughter Makenna is a senior at Sioux Center High School. She will be attending Dordt University in Sioux Center this upcoming August 2023, majoring in Engineering. Eric and his family will relocate to the Lakes area later this summer.

Joe Conover, President of Northwest Bank, commented, "Eric brings with him over two decades of banking and management experience. He is deeply committed to strengthening the communities that Northwest Bank serves and to supporting our bankers as they grow their careers. Eric will provide a high level of leadership to reflect our mission statement of Building Relationships – Exceeding Expectations".

Northwest Bank is a \$2.4 billion community bank that offers a full line of business, agricultural, mortgage, consumer deposit and lending services as well as wealth management services. Northwest Bank has offices located in Algona, Ames, Arnolds Park, Ankeny, Estherville, Fort Dodge, Humboldt, Le Mars, Milford, Sioux Center, Sioux City, Spencer, Spirit Lake, West Des Moines, Iowa and Omaha and La Vista, Nebraska.

Member FDIC



Walhof, NW Iowa Regional President Be a Tourist in Your Backyard

The Iowa Great Lakes Area has a wide variety of recreational activities, events, and attractions that entice visitors from all over. Let's make sure we enjoy the fun that can be found in our own back yard too! Join me each

of the experiences that make our area so fun. This week I went snowshoe hiking with friends! We've gotten so much snow this year that a pair of snowshoes certainly comes in handy to get out and explore some of the great natural areas our community offers. I borrowed my snowshoes from the Dickinson County Nature Center and explored the trails around Kenue Park.

week as I explore some

Oddly enough, I've never been snowshoe hiking before, so this

was a new adventure for me. I wasn't sure how challenging it would be, but the Nature Center staff assured me I would do just fine. They were right! The most challenging part was putting on my snowshoes and making sure they were tight. Once I had that completed, I was off to explore and have fun! Snowshoeing is pretty easy and very fun!

I like to make everything a little more challenging than it really needs to be, so I brought a set of discs with me to play a little disc golf while snowshoe hiking. It was fun and led to lots of laughs with my group. I'm amazed at where you can walk with snowshoes on! No snowdrift is too big! The biggest lesson I learned was that I should always move forward. When I tried to back up, I fell over, which led to even more laughter!

The Dickinson County Nature Center has snowshoes you can borrow. Grab a friend or two and get out to try this! It's a wonderful way to spend time outside, and get some fresh air. I might suggest not adding the disc golf into your first hike. Learn more about winter recreational opportunities and snowshoe hiking at www.VacationOkoboji.com.

Nominees Sought for 2023 Jim Hall Outstanding Alumni Award

The Iowa Lakes Community College Alumni & Friends Association seeks nominations for the 30th annual Jim Hall Outstanding Alumni Award. This award is presented to Iowa Lakes alumni who exemplify outstanding support for the community, business, school, and service clubs, annually at the spring commencement.

The Iowa Lakes Alumni & Friends Association established the Jim Hall Outstanding Alumni Award in 1992. Hall was a 1968 alumnus of Iowa Lakes. He was a strong supporter of the College and enjoyed being an assistant football coach at Iowa Lakes. Those wishing to name a deserving candidate may send a

nomination to the following: Mail: Iowa Lakes Alumni & Friends Association, 19 South 7th Street, Estherville, IA 51334; e-mail: tcondon@iowalakes.

edu or go to iowalakes.edu/alumni-friends/. All nominations are due by Friday, March 17, 2023. For a list of past recipients of the Jim Hall Outstanding Alumni award,

please visit iowalakes.edu/alumni-friends/.







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EDUCATION CLASSES

PAINTING WITH ENCAUSTICS February 16 | 5:30-7:30pm | \$80/\$100 | Ages 16+

Explore encaustic painting with instructor



Karess Knudtson to create layered, textured surfaces with molten beeswax on a wooden substrate. A brief history and description of encaustic painting will be discussed as well as basic supplies, tools, safety and application techniques. All supplies including encaustic medium, boards, and brushes to use are provided. Register by 2/8.

GEOMETRIC PAINTING ON WOOD February 25 | 10am-1pm | \$50/\$60 | Ages 16+



Inspired by barn quilts, create your very own painting in this Geometric Painting on Wood workshop. Choose a design and color palette while instructor, Marisa Sidles, guides you through the layout process. Bring a reference photo along for design or color inspiration if you choose, all other supplies included. Register by 2/15.

CULINARY CLASSES

Charcuterie Boards With Amy of Lakeside Charcuterie

6:30pm | \$70/\$75 Partner ticket Add \$10. Each class will have its own seasonal twist! Class Dates:

February 23 April 27 March 23 May 25

Get Creative with Flavor With Marisa Sidles

6:00pm | \$75/\$80

March 3: Date Night -Jamaican Jerk Chicken with **Grilled Vegetables**

February 16 6pm | \$90/\$100 per person

Susanne Bicknese. Our guest for the evening will be Trey Johnson of Alexander Valley Vineyards. He will walk you through each of the course pairings and tell the history of the winery. Must

Wine Dinner



A Memorial Service for Kenneth "Kenny" Reynolds, age 94, of Arnolds Park, was held on Monday, February 6 2023, at Turner Jenness Funeral

Home in Milford. Kenneth Lee Reynolds, the son of Adelbert and Gladys (Holcombe) Reynolds, was born on July 5, 1928, in Rock Rapids. Kenny Iowa. Growing up, attended school in Rock Rapids and earned his high school diploma.

Throughout his life, Kenny lived in Rock Rapids and Arnolds

During his working career, Kenny worked as Postmaster. In his free time, he tinkered around

in his garage, fixing anything and everything, driving around in his convertible, and running errands for Dave. He also loved to travel and explore and was a member of the Abu Bekr Shriners.

REYNOLOS

Kenny passed away on January 31, 2023.

Those left to cherish his memory include his daughters, Bobbi (Reed) Grafing and Sandy Reynolds Meschk; son, Brad Reynolds; 8 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; extended family and friends.

Kenny was preceded in death by his wife of over 50 years, Darline Dieters Reynolds and his son, Brian (Len)

Turner Jenness Funeral Home in Milford was in charge of the arrangements.



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Obituaries

Shirley Werner, of Omaha, Nebraska, formerly of Okoboji and Fort Dodge, passed away on Friday, February 3, 2023, at Heritage Pointe Assisted Living

in Omaha, Nebraska. Funeral services will be held Saturday, February 11, at 2:00pm, at the Robinson Funeral Home in Spirit Lake, Iowa. A visitation will be held one hour prior to Arrangements are under the direction of the Robinson Funeral Home, formerly Schuchert-Lentz Funeral Home in Spirit Lake. Online condolences may be left at www. spiritlakefuneralhome.com.



Shirley Jean Werner was born March 27, 1928, in Minneapolis, Minnesota, to Jacob and Myrtle (Singer) Westvig. Myrtle died shortly after Shirley's birth. A few years later, Jacob married Florence (Anderson) Westvig, and they raised Shirley together. Shirley graduated from high school in 1946. After, she attended and graduated from the University of Minnesota, School of Medical Technology in 1949. For 9 years she worked as a lab technician. On September 9, 1950, she was united in marriage to Frederick (Fritz) Werner in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Shirley was a member of the 1st Presbyterian Church in Fort Dodge. In her free time, she enjoyed mahjong, bridge club, knitting and reading. She was a wonderful cook and enjoyed traveling with her husband Fritz.

Shirley was preceded in death by her parents, husband Fritz, and daughter Nancy. Left to cherish her memory are her son, David Werner of Coralville, Iowa; daughter, Lisa Werner of Omaha, Nebraska; and grandchildren, Nikkole Werner, Brittney Werner, Zachary Luppen and Shelby

In lieu of flowers, Shirley's family requests that donations to be made to the International Essential Tremor Foundation. https://essentialtremor.org/donate/





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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-stopshop 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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A Funeral Service for Jean Goetsch, age 86, of Spirit Lake, was held Saturday, February 4, 2023, at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Spirit Lake.

Cemetery. Jean Y. Goetsch, was born August 30, 1936, in Terril, Iowa, to Harry and Della Probst Goetsch, and passed January

Burial was at Lakeview Gardens

Jean graduated from Terril High School in 1954. She was baptized and confirmed at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Terril and later an avid member

of the Immanuel Lutheran Church in Spirit Lake where she taught Pre-K Sunday School for over fifteen years.

Jean started working while in Jr. High at the local café in Terril. She came to Spirit Lake in July of 1956 where she worked for the County Superintendent of Schools and part time work for the County Engineer, Elementary Supervisor and area psychologist. In January of 1959, she started in the Clerk of Court Office in Dickinson County as a deputy and was elected as Clerk of the District Court in November of 1972. She retired from the Clerk's Office in November of 1992. Over the years, Jean served on many local civic committees and was very active in BPW having served on the local, district, and state levels. She served as secretary to the Dickinson County Bar Association and many District and State Committees while Clerk of Court. She was also on the Board of Directors for the Dickinson County Museum, having served as Treasurer for many years. Jean was cited in Outstanding Young Women of America, Outstanding Civic Leaders of America, National Register for Prominent Americans, and listed in "Who's Who" in government. Retirement wasn't for her so she worked at Super 8 Motel for 7 months and then for Cornell Abstract for about a year and a half. She then started working at Wymer Insurance for her sister and remained there for over twenty years until she finally retired at the age of 83.

She loved to travel, having traveled most of the United States, Canada, Mexico, the Hawaiian Islands, Netherlands, Amsterdam, England, France, Italy, Venice, Switzerland, Austria, Germany, East and West Berlin, Spain and Morocco.

She loved to work and help others in need. She loved her family, her church and her friends.

Jean was preceded in death by her parents, Harry and Della Goetsch; brother, Cloy Goetsch and his wife, Carole. Survivors are her sister, Connie Wymer and her husband William; nieces, Cara Wymer Naatjes (DJ), Colette Goetsch Brown (Kelly) and Cheryl Goetsch Adams (Bryce); nephew, Brian (Jennifer) Wymer, along with many other nieces and nephews. Two special people in her life were her great nephews, Cruz (Handsome) and Cain (Cutie Pie) Naatjes.

Turner Jenness Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

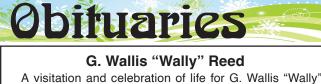
Caregivers Support Group

Lakes Area Caregivers Support Group is available for help dealing with the stress of being a caregiver to someone with Alzheimers or other dementia disorders.

This community caregivers group meets at 10:00 every Wednesday morning at First Presbyterian Church in Spirit Lake. This is an opportunity to discuss with other caregivers stories and concerns in a comfortable and confidential manner.

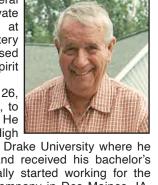
A typical meeting might include a presentation on topics such as handling of legal issues, stress reduction, care facilities, positive coping language, and sharing personal methods of handling challenges faced every day by other caregivers.

For more information, call 712-336-1649 or Lee Nation at 712-330-1270.



Reed, 82 of Spirit Lake, IA will be held on Saturday, February 11, 2023, from 2:30-5:30, at Turner Jenness Funeral Home in Spirit Lake. A private family burial will take place at Fairview Memorial Park Cemetery in Fairmont, MN. Wally passed away at his residence in Spirit Lake on January 6, 2023.

Wally was born February 26, 1940, in Fairmont, Minnesota, to Glenn and Lura (Ross) Reed. He graduated from Fairmont High



School in 1958 and attended Drake University where he studied retail management and received his bachelor's degree. After graduation, Wally started working for the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company in Des Moines, IA. On June 24, 1961, Wally married the love of his life, Mary U'Ren at the United Methodist Church in Fairmont, MN. From their union they had two children, Scott and Marylee. In 1965, he returned to Fairmont to work with his father at Glenn Reed Tire Company, where he became the owner and worked until his retirement in 1990. Leading up to his retirement Wally and Mary started the Spirit Lake Antique Mall with friends Norm and Nelda Meinking. In 1991, Wally and Mary purchased a cottage on Big Spirit Lake that is still a cherished family vacation spot. In 1999, they became year-round residents of Spirit Lake and truly enjoyed all the lowa Great Lakes has to offer.

Wally was a member of Chain Lake Masonic Lodge #64 where he was a 50-year member and a Master Mason. He was a member of the Zuhrah Shrine and Fairmont Commandery and served for a time as captain of the Fairmont Area Shrine Cycle Patrol. Wally was a member of the Fairmont Rotary Club where he was a Paul Harris Fellow; as well as being integral to the foundation and preservation of the Fairmont Trap Club, Chain of Lakes Yacht Club and Fairmont Opera House. He was a lifetime member of the Martin County Historical Society, a sponsor member of the Ducks Unlimited and Pheasants Forever Chapters in Martin County as well as supported the Martin County Conservation Club and Fox Lake Conservation League. Fairmont always held a special place in Wally's heart; he continued to support many organizations in Martin County even after they moved. In Spirit Lake, he supported the Save the Park and Sustain the Park campaigns, Spirit Lake Protective Association, Dickinson County Trails and Spirit Lake Music Boosters. Wally enjoyed coin collecting, classic cars, ice fishing, antiques, trips to the casino and spending time with family and his many friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his sister Marlyse (David) Stanley. Wally is survived by his wife, Mary; son, Scott (Erin) Reed; his daughter, Marylee Reed (Derek Tugel); grandsons, Lance and Evan Reed; brotherin-law, Jim (Dee) Noah; sister-in-law, Susan (Joe) Franjione as well as nieces, Lisa Stapleton (Glenn Hausenfluke), Jennifer (Matt) Dooley, Jill (Che) Franjione Holt and many

Those considering an expression of sympathy may direct memorials to his family for distribution to Wally's favorite charities and organizations. Wally's family wishes to express their gratitude to those that cared for him and the acts of kindness shown to us in our time of sorrow.

Turner Jenness Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.





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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



To The Editor:

On behalf of the Iowa Great Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce we would like to thank so many for making our 43rd Annual University of Okoboji Winter Games another success for our business community.

Thank you to our sponsors for making so much of this possible. Our Presenting Sponsor GrapeTree Medical Staffing. A huge shout out to our Platinum Level Sponsors EV Smart of Okoboji and West O Beer. Gold level sponsors include Hy-Vee, Pure Fishing, Rosenboom, Fireball, and Dr. McGillicuddy's; and our Silver sponsors include Alliant Energy. Thank you to our individual event sponsors Okoboji Motor Company for the Polar Plunge, Bank Midwest for the Burning of the Greens & Fireworks Extravaganza, The Gardens for the Bean Bag Toss Tournament, The Ritz for Snowball Softball, Ingvall Real Estate Team for the Chocolate Classic, Ruthven Meat Locker for the Chili Cook-off, Kozy Heat for the 5K Fun Run, West O Beer for the Stump Tournament, MHR Insurance for the Broomball Tournament, and Parks Marina for Flag Football. We would also like to thank Black Hills Energy for sponsoring the Winter Games schedules, Regional Transit Authority for providing transportation for our cheerleaders and media, and Diamond Concrete for providing the storage containers for the collection of trees.

We appreciate the leadership of this year's Chair Michael Meyers, co-chair Rachel Fandel, our Winter Games Intern Jenny Dykema, and our 8 wonderful Winter Games Cheerleaders. A huge thank you to Dave Petrick and Rocky Thompson Photography for providing us with amazing footage of the games all weekend long. Thank you to our hundreds of volunteers, event chairs, Arnolds Park Amusement Park's hard-working staff, KUOO, the Dickinson County News, the Lakes News Shopper, MC22, and all other news outlets for their non-stop coverage. Thank you to County and City governments for working with us, the courageous Law enforcement of the Lakes Region, the Iowa DNR, Arnolds Park/Okoboji Fire & Rescue for keeping us safe, and all of the Chamber businesses that hosted events that lead to a memorable weekend for our tens of thousands of visitors. It takes a very special community to unite & support an event that brings joy to our locals and visitors alike with an economic boost for our Chamber Members. Thank you to each and every one of you.

Blain Andera — CEO/President Kiley Zankowski — Director of Marketing and Events **Morgan Strauss – Marketing and Events Coordinator**



Gustavus Adolphus College Announces Dean's List

The Fall Semester Dean's List at Gustavus Adolphus College has been released. The list comprises students who have earned a 3.7 grade point average (based on a scale in which 4.0 = A) or higher for the semester ending in December 2022.

The following local students were named to the Dean's List at Gustavus Adolphus College: Cole Nolte of Heron Lake, Minnesota; Breanna Wilkerson of Spencer; and Ruby O'Hagan of Spirit Lake.

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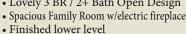
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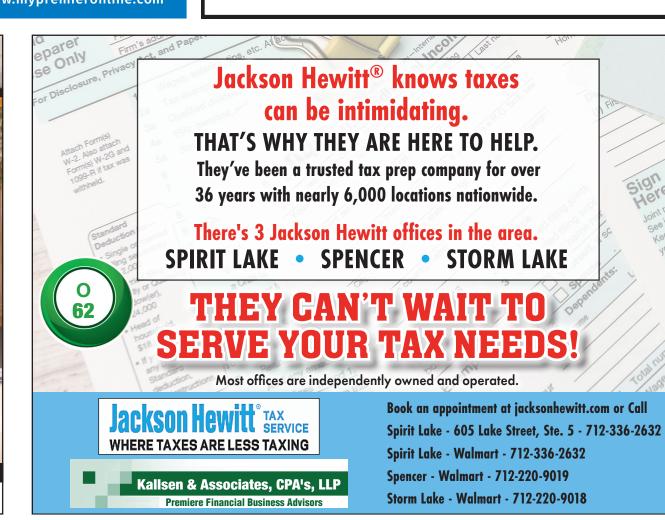


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DNR to Recap Hunting Seasons, Discuss Possible Rule Changes at February 22 Public Meeting

OKOBOJI - The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is hosting a series of town hall-style meetings where

local staff provide updates on recently completed hunting seasons, discuss possible changes to hunting rules and regulations, and address other topics as requested.

Locally, the Iowa DNR will be at the Maser Monarch Lodge, 22785 Nature Center Road, in Okoboji, on February

www.iowadnr.gov

22. The meeting begins at 6:00pm. "We want people to come out, listen to the hunting seasons reviews, ask questions and hear directly from our staff," said Todd Bishop, chief of the Iowa DNR's Wildlife Bureau. "Part of the meeting will be devoted to discussing potential rule changes

and collecting feedback as we work through the rules process." The meetings are open to the public. Comments collected from these public meetings will be considered along with other related comments received by the Iowa DNR prior to proposing changes to hunting rules and regulations. Proposed rules will be presented to the Natural Resource Commission during a regular public meeting for consideration and additional public comment.

Any person attending the public meeting and has special requirements, such as those related to mobility or hearing impairments, should contact the Iowa DNR or ADA Coordinator at 515-725-8200, Relay Iowa TTY Service 800-735-7942, or Webmaster@dnr.iowa.gov, and advise of specific needs.



2023 Grant Funding for Nonprofits Serving the Iowa Great Lakes

The Okoboji Foundation, the community foundation for the Iowa Great Lakes, announces the opening of their 2023 grant application processes.

Area nonprofits are encouraged to apply with capital project requests that seek to impact the quality of life in the lakes region in the areas of arts & culture, outdoor experiences & recreation, lake quality & environment, or economic development. Applications are due March 1st, 2023.

"When reviewing applications," commented Mindy Gress, Foundation president, "our committee looks at the overall impact the project has on the region – the number of individuals that will benefit from the service, the cost compared to the return on the investment, community support, and project longevity, to name a few."

Since 1988, the Okoboji Foundation has addressed important community needs with over \$4.82 million in grants to a wide variety of nonprofit capital projects.

Organizations are encouraged to reach out to foundation staff with questions pertaining to the grant process by phone 712-332-7177 or email info@okobojifoundation.org. All applications must be submitted online at https://okobojifoundation. org/grant-application/ by 11:59pm on March 1st, 2023.



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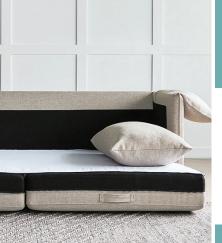




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Milford

Blind Date with a Book is going on until Tuesday, February 28. Take your chance to find a new literary favorite or a

Blind Date with a Book!

Hey, I just met you, and this is crazy.

scrub you want to return. The only information you know is genre and a little bit of information written. There is a bookmark in each book. Return the completed bookmark to be placed into a drawing. Blind books are available for all age groups.

MML's Adult Craft Series will be making Sock Gnomes on Wednesday, February 15, from 5:00 -7:00pm. This craft will also be available in a kit and will include a sock, rice, gnome

hat, beard, and instructions. The cost for this craft is \$5.00 and registration is required. You can register by contacting the Milford Memorial Library or online by going to http://milfordlibrary. weebly.com/adult-program-registration.html.

There is still time for fourth through twelfth graders to register for Y.A.D.O. (Young Adults' Day Off) on Monday, February 13, from 11:30am to 3:00pm. The young adults will be creating edible fossils, a dinosaur lamp, watching Jurassic Park, eating pizza, and playing games. This activity costs \$5.00 and requires registration. To register, call Milford Memorial Library at 712-338-4643 or Arnolds Park Public Library at 712-332-2033.

MML's Young Adult Where'd that Come From Challenge Box is available Tuesday, February 14, through Friday, February 24. Fourth through twelfth graders will be recreating inventions, while learning about the inventors. This is a free activity, but does require registration. To register call 712-338-4643 or online at http://milfordlibrary.weebly.com/young-adult-registration.html.

In early 2023, the OverDrive app will be discontinued. We encourage you to make the switch to Libby, the newer reading app. Libby is made by the same people, with the same goal of connecting you to your library and to your favorite books, audiobooks, and magazines. MML is willing to help you with the transition or any questions about the Libby app, just stop in or give us a call.

Milford Memorial Library will be closed on Monday, February 20, in observance of Presidents Day. We look forward to seeing everyone on Tuesday, February 21, at 9:30am.





4th Annual Ice Fishing Tournament & Fundraiser Set for February 11

Seasons Center for Behavioral Health and Camp Autumn are hosting their 4th Annual Ice Fishing Tournament & Fundraiser at Camp Autumn on Saturday, February 11, 2023. This event is open to the public. Registration is encouraged but not required. There is no registration fee, however, freewill donations will be accepted. All money raised goes towards scholarships for children to attend Camp Autumn, a therapeutic camp for children in northwest Iowa.

This event is supported by the Iowa Great Lakes Fishing Club, which will be coordinating and judging the tournament. Prize categories will be based on length for the following species: bass, crappie, and bluegill/other panfish. In addition, the Iowa Great Lakes Fishing Club will be offering free ice fishing rod and reel combos to the first 60 kids (15 & under). They will also be providing ice shacks, poles, and gear for individuals or families who do not have ice fishing equipment. Equipment will be available on a first-come, first-serve, rotating basis.

"Whether you love ice fishing or have never tried it, this event is for you," said Stephanie Pohar, Marketing and Events Coordinator at Seasons Center. "We will have lots of volunteers to help those trying the sport for the first time. We will also have special challenge holes, bobber and jig demonstrations and a s'more making station on the lake."

Mud on Main Coffee House & Roastery, from Cherokee, will be providing coffee and hot cocoa for the tournament. Lunch will include chili from Spencer Hy-Vee and spaghetti from By the Bucket in Spencer.

Other event sponsors include: City View Farms, Community State Bank, Everly Lions Club, Northwest Bank, Northwest Wealth Management, Valero, Bobber Down, C&B Operations, Great Lakes Guide Service, Johnston Auto Stores, Legends Guide Service, No Limits, Oak Hill Outdoor, Royal Lions Club, Snook's of Okoboji, Stan's Bait & Tackle, Vander Haag's, AgState, Boji Custom Metal Works, and Darwin & Brenda Johnson.

'We are excited to host the 4th Annual Ice Fishing Tournament and Fundraiser at Camp Autumn," said Adam Lybarger, Camp Director at Camp Autumn. "We are thrilled to open up our private lake and give people from area communities an opportunity to fish while supporting a great cause. There is a lot of work that goes into an event like this, and we couldn't do it without the help and support of our sponsors. We are especially grateful to the Iowa Great Lakes Fishing Club for their continued generosity and support of our camp and the youth that we serve."

Camp Autumn is located at 4233 Yew Ave. in Sutherland, Iowa. If necessary, updates regarding weather will be posted on Seasons Center's website (Events page) and Facebook page.

For more information, or to register, visit https://bit.ly/3fi5dnv. If you cannot attend the event, but would like to donate to Camp Autumn, please visit https://seasonscenter.org/donate.php or you can donate via Venmo @SeasonsIowa. In the comments section, please note the donation is for the Ice Fishing Tournament.

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Every year the Iowa Knights of Columbus sponsors a Spelling Bee Contest. Our local St Joseph Council at Milford is continuing this youth activity this year. The educational growth and development of our youth is one of many activities the Knights of Milford are involved with. The St Joseph Council wanted to team up with the schools (public, private, parochial, and home school) in the promotion of this educational activity. It was open to any 4th, 5th, 6th, or 7th grade youth of the area.

There were 13 youth that registered for the Contest. There were participants entered in each grade level except 7th. Winners were: 4th Grade - 1st Place was Olivia Patchinger, 2nd Place was Ziggy Scott and 3rd Place Austin Jensen. 5th Grade – 1st Place was Justus McCollough, 2nd Place was Emily Breuer and 3rd Place Madelyn Low and Alternate was Kierra Briggs. 6th Grade – 1st Place was Kestin Briggs, 2nd Place was Landon Mortwedt and 3rd Place was Brody Titterington. 7th Grade – No Participants.

Every participant received a Certificate recognizing their achievement. The 1st, 2nd, 3rd Place and Alternate receive another certificate acknowledging their placement of achievement. The 1st, 2nd and 3rd place achievers advance to the Regional Competition at Milford, which is Sunday, February 19th. The 4th Place achiever serves as Alternate for the advanced Competition. Qualifiers from Regional then compete at the State Contest, which is in Ames on Sunday, February 26th.

Much credit and thanks goes out to our Okoboji Elementary and Middle School Principals, Office Assistants and the Teaching Staff for their cooperation and encouragement in the promotion of this educational activity. Also, a thanks to the Moms and Dads, Grandpas and Grandmas that attended and showed their support, encouragement and promotion for this type of educational activity. A special thanks to Lenae for coordinating at the Middle School.

The Knights of Columbus will plan to sponsor the Spelling Bee again next year. "I would hope that we surpass the number of participants next year," stated Don Breuker on behalf of the St Joseph Council.

The Knights of Columbus is an International Catholic Family Fraternal Service Organization founded in 1882 by Fr. Michael J. McGivney at St. Mary's Church in New Haven, Connecticut with membership now over 1.9 million. The original intent was to provide welfare and security for families during times of sickness and death which has grown so that last year, Knights donated more than 75.6 million hours of volunteer time and \$185.6 million to charity. Our local Council continues this Mission here at home as well with State, National and Worldwide projects of Charity and Service. One of our next major projects is the support of youth wanting to attend further education after high school. The St Joseph Council 7284 has been providing 6 Scholarships of \$750 each.

Results From 2023 Jazz Band Contest Announced

The Iowa Lakes Community College Music Department is proud to announce the 2023 Jazz Band Contest winners from the event held on January 20 and February 2 at the Janice K. Lund Performing Arts Center. Many local high school bands performed jazz classics throughout the

Experienced judges, Julie Forney and Greg Forney, scored the jazz bands based on ensemble playing, rhythm section, style comprehension, solos, improvisation, and programming.

- First place: MOC Floyd Valley, directed by Matthew Honken
- Second place: LeMars, led by Michael Prichard

• Third place: Spirit Lake, led by Tyler Pedersen **Class 3A Division**

- First place: MOC Floyd Valley, directed by Matthew Honken
- Second place: LeMars, led by Michael Prichard • Third place: Spirit Lake, directed by Tyler Pedersen

Class 4A Division

• First place: Dakota Valley, led by Daryl Jessen

Additionally, 73 individual performers won Outstanding Soloist Awards. For more information about the Iowa Lakes Music Department, please visit iowalakes.edu/





Bank Midwest Donates to Spirit Lake and Okoboji

Bank Midwest recently delivered checks to Spirit Lake and Okoboji schools as part of a savings program that began over 25 years ago.

"Bank Midwest is happy to provide these dollars to our local schools," said Luke Donnenwerth, Market President of the Lakes Market, and graduate of Spirit Lake High School "I believe the schools are best suited to use this money on whatever they believe is most important for the students."

The amounts of the donations totaled \$8,222, and are part of funds that have been accumulating since 2007.

"Anyone who's been part of the Spirit Lake and Okoboji schools knows how lucky we

are," said Amy Radcliffe, Marketing Manager for Bank Midwest, and graduate of Spirit Lake High School. "I'm excited to hear how they'll put the money to use and glad I could part of

this program.' Bank Midwest is an employee-owned organization with 11 locations throughout Iowa, Minnesota and South Dakota. The financial institution has assets exceeding \$1 billion, and is a full-service financial institution offering loans and traditional FDIC-insured accounts, as well as insurance, investment and trust services. *Investments and insurance services are not deposits, not FDIC insured, not guaranteed by the bank and may go down in value.



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Pepperoni Pizza Dip with Breadstick Dippers - Serves 8

1 jar or can (14 ounces) pizza sauce Combine pizza sauce, pepperoni, green onions, olives, and 3/4 cup chopped turkey pepperoni

4 green onions, chopped 12 44 oz. can sliced black olives,

drained 1/2 teaspoon dried oregano

1 cup (4 oz.) shredded mozzarella 1 package (3 oz.) cream cheese,

softened <u>Dippers</u>

parsley

1 package (8 oz.) refrigerated breadstick dough 2 teaspoons melted butter

2 teaspoons minced fresh Italian

oregano in a 2-quart slow cooker. Cover; cook on low 2 hours or on high 1 to 1/2 hours or until mixture is hot. Meanwhile, make the dippers

Recipe Courtesy of:the Crock*Pot Kitchens book "Crock*Pot® 365 Year-Round Recipes".

by bake breadsticks according to package

directions. Brush with melted butter and sprinkle with parsley.

When the dip is warm, stir in mozzarella and cream cheese until melted and well blended. Serve with warm breadstick dippers.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The publisher does not necessarily share the views/opinions stated in the "Letters to the Editor" published in The Lakes News Shopper.

As we enter the second month of 2023, it appears this year will be pretty much a repeat of the last two years. We face many challenges on many fronts. Our political system is in chaos with increased polarization by both political parties. A recently elected member of congress from New York falsified his resume 100%. When confronted, his comment was "everybody does it". If an incumbent loses election it is "election fraud". Politics is being reduced to a matter of redistributing cash; reference school debt cancellation and rent moratoriums.

Economists are predicting a moderate recession later this year. Tech companies have already cut tens of thousands of employees. We are told that this inflation is waning. My supermarket and gasoline stations have not been notified. Inflation has robbed us of 25% of our net worth over the past years.

Covid-19 has killed over one million of our citizens. That is one in every 332 citizens. A sub-variant 5 is now current in the Northeastern U.S. We have never been told how or where this virus originated.

The year 2022 saw 690 mass shootings with 260 of those in schools. As of January 30, there have been 42 in the month. 2023 will probably set a new record. Please encourage your local officers to arm school personnel. Armed personnel is a great deterrent. If there is an incident there may be one or two casualties but not 26 as in Uvalde, Texas.

The best way we can prepare for the future is to be aware of what can and might happen in 2023.

J. Roger Carr Spirit Lake, Iowa

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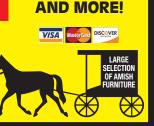




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SUNNY DEAL!

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Okoboji Middle School Receives STEM BEST® + HD Program Award

The Iowa Governor's STEM Advisory Council announced Okoboji Middle School will receive \$40,000 to launch the new Curious Minds program as one of the 37 school districts joining the STEM BEST® (Businesses Engaging Students and Teachers) + HD (High Demand) Program. The STEM BEST Program brings schools and businesses together to provide students with real workplace experiences, introduce businesses and career opportunities in Iowa and gain career-ready skills.

The STEM BEST + HD Program encourages teachers and industry professionals to work side-by-side to develop a work-based learning model that incorporates STEM subjects like mathematics and science with experiential learning opportunities to emphasize high-demand skills for the workplace. The Council's investment of professional and financial support can be used for curriculum development and coordination, educator training and development in workplace-classroom integration and preparing work-based learning environments.

The Curious Minds STEM program will be trailblazing the latest technologies that many students are showing interest in today! Students will be able to create programs that graphic designers, architects, game designers, and engineers are using in their career fields. Students will be able to learn from mentors that are currently working with these technologies and gain valuable experiences with these technologies to help guide their potential career choices. Using platforms like Unreal Engine, coding, VR, and 3D design students will have an opportunity like no other in the District.

Beyond just the STEM classes, teachers in all areas will be able to integrate virtual reality technology to support learning across the curriculum. Whether it's taking a tour of Anne Franks's house, exploring the Universe from Antarctica, or even meeting Rembrandt through virtual meeting rooms, allowing the opportunity for

students and teachers to have the experience will not only enhance lessons but create one-of-a-kind learning for our students.

"No day is the same in the STEM classroom here at Okoboji. Our STEM program was created to allow students to explore anything and everything in the STEM field with a curious mind and support from teachers. By allowing our students to have this ability, they are able to find their passions, work with their hands, and engage with many different platforms of media. When our students leave the Curious Minds program, they will have the drive, knowledge and skills that are in demand for their future, all while having fun along the way!" - Alex Spooner, Curious Minds Program Facilitator "With the impact of the STEM BEST grant, our No Boundaries Middle School students will continue to learn and thrive in cutting-edge technologies used in our businesses today. Students will be

able to dig deeper into their passions and learn from one another. We are excited

about this opportu-CURIOUS MINDS nity to work with our STEM program and bring more authentic learning experiences to our students!" Becky Rients, STEM Mentor and No Boundaries Middles Facilitator The STEM BEST

HD Program encourages teachers and industry professionals to work sideby-side to develop a

work-based learning model that incorporates STEM subjects like mathematics and science with experiential learning opportunities to emphasize high-demand skills for the workplace. The awards can be used for curriculum development and coordination, educator training and development in workplace-classroom integration, and preparing work-based learning environments.

To be considered for a STEM BEST + HD Program award, applicants were required to submit a comprehensive proposal that incorporates rigorous and relevant STEM curriculum, includes valuable partnerships with community businesses or organizations, aligns with STEM goals, addresses sustainability of the model program and evaluates the program's effectiveness.

For more information on the STEM BEST+HDProgram, please visit https:// www.iowastem.org/STEMBEST.

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DON'T MISS THE **LAND FOR SALE** AD ON PAGE 2B

Weekly Social Gathering

social gathering every Wednesday from 12:30 - 4:30pm at the American Legion in Milford. Coffee will be provided. They hope to see you there!



Iowa Lakes Softball Announces Spring Camps The Iowa Lakes Softball team will be hosting two day

camps this Spring, a Youth Camp and an Elite Softball Camp. The camps are separated by age and are available for students in grades kindergarten through 12th.

The Youth Camp will take place on Sunday, February 19, and will run from 1:00 to 3:00pm, for athletes in grades kindergarten through third and 3:30 to 5:30pm, for players in grades fourth through sixth. The camp will focus on offense and defense, where young athletes learn skills and drills from the Laker Softball Team. The Youth Camp costs \$25.

The Elite Camp will take place on Sunday, February 26, for athletes in grades seventh through 12th. The camp will feature four sessions: outfield from 12:00 to 1:30pm, hitting from 1:45 to 3:15pm, infield from 3:30 to 5:00pm, and pitching and catching from 5:15-6:15pm. Athletes will have the option to sign up for individual ses-

sions or multiple sessions. When signing up for more than one session, a discount is automatically applied. The prices for the Elite Camp are: 1 Session is \$35,2 Sessions are \$60,3 Sessions are \$80, or ALL Sessions are \$100.

For more information or to register for camps, please go to www.iowalakesathletics.com/sports/sball and click the "More" tab, followed by "Camps."

For any questions, please contact Katie King at kmking@ iowalakes.edu or 712-362-8367.



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Spirit Lake **Library News**

Win A Free Kindle! by Jill Jennings

Are you in a reading rut? Do you tend to read the same authors and/or the same genres all the time? The Spirit Lake

🎙 Library Challenge Card 🦞

Public Library is challenging you to read outside your comfort zone! The fun thing about a book challenge is that you often are pleasantly surprised to find that you actually LIKE reading different books!

Stop by during open hours (Monday - Thursday 9:00 - 6:00, Friday 9:00 - 4:00, Saturday 9:00 - 2:00), and pick up your 2023 calendar and Challenge Card. You can also find the Challenge information on our website at slpublib. com. Around the perimeter of the calendar, you will find forty eight different prompts. Choose books based on each prompt. Some examples are A Book with a Number in the Title, A Book a Friend Recommended, and A Book Published This Year. On the Library Challenge Card, write down the prompt and the matching book in each square. To fill out a card, you will need to read 34 different prompts/books. All books need to be read during the 2023 calendar year. Your completed Challenge Card must be turned in by closing time on Saturday, December 30,2023. Individuals may turn in a maximum of three unique cards. All entries will be put

into a drawing for a brand new Kindle e-Reader! If you have any questions regarding this reading challenge, please call the Spirit Lake Public Library at 712-336 – 2667.

Word Search Puzzle Key from page 8A

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David Connon to Speak at ILUUF

THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER

Iowa Lakes Unitarian Universalist Fellowship has received funding from Humanities Iowa, a private non-profit, to host a presentation called "Josiah Bushnell Grinnell and the Iowa Underground Railroad" by David Connon on Sunday, February 12. A cultural resource for Iowans since 1971, Humanities Iowa offers many cultural and historical programs and grants to Iowa's communities.

For those comfortable meeting in person, the program will be held in the Bay Hill Room at Arrowwood Resort and Conference Center. Coffee begins at 10:30am, with the program beginning at 11:00am. Visitors are always welcome and those who wish to attend via Zoom can request an invitation with the Contact Us link on the Fellowship Website www.uuokoboji.com. The event is free and open to the public.

The Iowa Lakes Unitarian Universalist Fellowship (ILUUF) is a member of the Unitarian/Universalist Association. ILUUF is a welcoming community seeking to provide opportunities for people of all ages to grow in their spiritual and ethical lives, finding the means to engage the world in creative and transformative ways. Learn more at www.uuokoboji.com.

Corridor to Host First Quarterly **Investor Meeting Of 2023**

The Iowa Lakes Corridor Development Corporation (Corridor) will be hosting a Quarterly Investor Meeting on Thursday,

February 23, from noon to 1:00pm, at the Iowa Lakes Community College Estherville Campus. The Corridor is partnering with Northwest Iowa STEM (NW STEM) for this event.



The Governor's STEM Advisory Council mission is increasing interest and achievements in STEM (Science, Technology Engineering and Mathematics) studies and careers through partnerships engaging preK-12 students, parents, educators, employers, non-profits, policy leaders and others. The Council provides opportunities that inspire Iowa's young people to become innovative, enterprising contributors to our future workforce and the quality of life in our communities.

Northwest Iowa STEM is one of six regions in Iowa. In the presentation, NW STEM will share some of the programs available and discuss how business and industry can be involved with the STEM Council.

"The Iowa Lakes Corridor always looks to bring quality education and networking opportunities to our area businesses, said Corridor President & CEO Shannon Landauer. "As workforce continues to be a challenge, we look at all opportunities in education partnerships, automation and more to bring solutions to local employers."

The Quarterly Investor Meetings are free to attend for all Corridor investors, but RSVPs are required. Please contact the Corridor office at 712-264-3474 or info@lakescorridor.com to

Spencer Hospital Nurses Honored As "Great Iowa Nurses"

Four Spencer Hospital nurses were among the 78 nurses across the state who were recognized as 2023 Great Iowa Nurses. "We're very excited to congratulate Roxanne Warburton,

Lindsey Kelleher, Kylee Zinn and Jessica Dirks who are being honored by the Great Iowa Nurses Program," said Brenda Tiefenthaler, Senior Vice President of Patient Care and Operations at Spencer Hospital. "Each of these nurses are outstanding clinicians, exceptional caregivers, and also serve as leaders and mentors within our organization. I'm so proud of each of them and grateful for their many

contributions."

The program, formerly 100 Great Iowa Nurses, annually honors Iowa nurses for their contributions to the nursing profession. Great Iowa Nurses are chosen on the basis of demonstrated service to patients, leadership, and mentoring or serving as a role model.

Roxanne Warburton is a labor and delivery nurse at Spencer Hospital's Birth Center. Her nominator noted, "Roxanne is the most fun loving, energetic OB nurse that you could ever meet. Roxanne always has a smile on her face and has the most contagious personality. She can turn a bad day into a good day just by her presence in a room. Roxanne is always willing to work extra and help staff, even if that means floating to other departments within the hospital. She remembers every detail about every patient and patients remember her as well.'

Lindsey Kelleher provides excellent care for inpatients on the Medical/Surgical Unit. In the letter nominating Lindsey, it was shared: "Lindsey goes above and beyond for her patients by making each one of them feel special. For example, she makes her patients a personalized birthday card if it is their birthday. She willing to stay late, even after a night shift, to help the oncoming staff."

Clinical Educator Kylee Zinn has wonderful critical care experience from working as a nurse in ER and ICU. Her nominated commented, "Kylee loves to take new staff under her wing to make sure they are knowledgeable and succeed in the nursing profession. She strives to keep up to date with healthcare changes, which helps ensure the patients at the hospital have the best care possible."

Jessica Dirks currently serves as a Clinical Informaticist, and also

have experience as an ER nurse. Her nominated wrote, in part: "Jessica demonstrates teamwork and collaboration by always willing to help or pick up extra shifts when departments are short staffed. Her past experiences of critical

care nursing makes her a great team leader in stressful situations. Jessica has taken many leadership roles at the hospital, including being certified and serving as a SANE (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner) nurse. Being a SANE nurse takes a special person and she takes this role very seriously, even if it means responding to a call in the middle of the night."

Congratulations to these four exceptional nurses for their statewide recognition!









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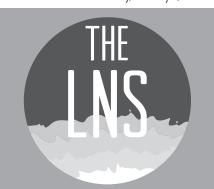
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