

LAKES NEWS SHOPPER



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THESNAY SEPTEMBER 2 2025

VOL/52 NO/48

- PO BOX 192 / MILFORD / IOWA 51351 / 712 - 338 - 2232 / LAKFSNFWSSHOPPFR COI













87th Birthday Announcement

Jim Roberts celebrated his 87th birthday on Wednesday, August 27th, 2025. Jim, who is originally from Moberly, Missouri, has been married to Glenda Cook for the past 14 years, and now resides in Milford after being an optometrist in Estherville for over 50 years. Cards and well-wishes can be sent to Jim at 2909 Prairie Lane, Milford, IA 51351.



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2 TIE BREAKERS: Total Score Iowa vs. Iowa State:

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AND Total Score Vikings vs. Bears:

One entry per person per week. The Lakes News Shopper U-Pick-Em Pigskin Challenge runs weekly through the December 12, 2025 issue. The winner will be whoever picks the most correct games. For rules go to: LakesNewsShopper.com



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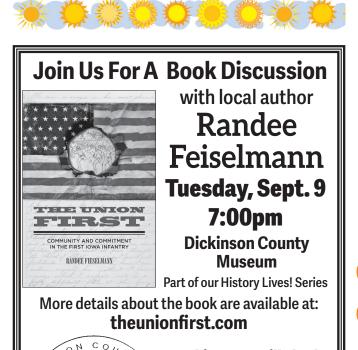
520 2nd Avenue East, Suite 1 Spencer, IA 51301 p: 712.580.5800 • www.smunet.net



Smith-Lorenzen Married

Brooke Smith and Lucas Lorenzen were married on Saturday June 28th, 2025, at 4:00 pm in Arnolds Park, IA, with Greg Jorgensen officiating the beautiful ceremony. The wedding and reception were held at the Roof Garden in Arnolds Park. Brooke is the daughter of David and Lori Smith of Spirit Lake, and is in her senior year of college at Dordt University in Sioux Center. Lucas is the son of Jason and Tracie Lorenzen of Milford, and is also a senior, playing basketball at Western Illinois University in Macomb, IL. The couple is currently living in Macomb.



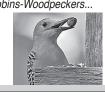


This event will also be livestreamed on our Facebook page.

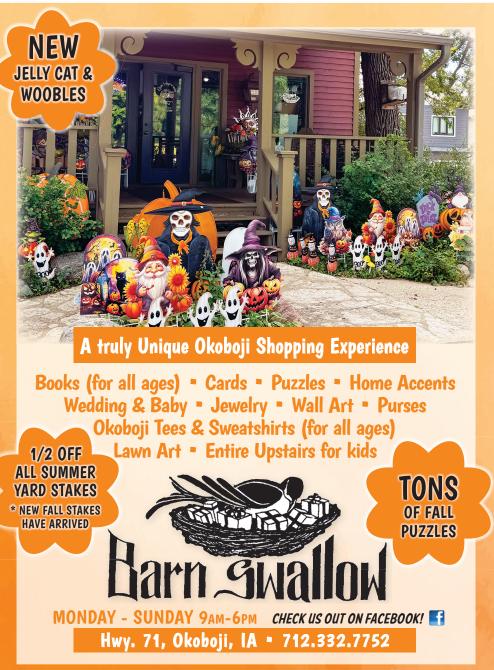
1708 Keokuk Ave., Spirit Lake













Behind the Lens -

Kellner Photography

A great photograph captures more than just a moment; it tells a story. I'm Garrhet, a 24-year-old photographer driven by the beauty

> of life's adventures. With over five years of experience, I've had the privilege of capturing everything from the sleek lines of a classic car to the joyful tears of a graduation. My passion for photog-

raphy began long before I ever considered it a career. It started with an old Polaroid camera and a simple desire to document the world around me. That passion led me to study photography at Ridgewater College, where I honed my skills and developed my unique eye. Now, I specialize in a wide range of subjects, including engagements, landscapes, and automotive photography. My goal is to create images that are not just seen, but felt.

What makes a photo stand out? For me, it's the combination of passion, a bit of creativity, and the right tools. My main camera is the Sony A7Rii, a powerhouse that allows me to capture incredible detail. I have a few lenses that are essential to my work. My 50mm prime lens is a classic for a reason—it's incredibly versatile and produces stunning, true-to-life images. Then, for those breathtaking, in-depth shots that really draw you in, I rely on my 70-200mm lens.

Beyond the gear, I believe that the right atmosphere can make all the difference. That's why I often bring a variety of props to my shoots. Whether it's a vintage blanket for a cozy engagement session or a prop that speaks to a person's personality, these small details help tell a bigger story and add a unique element to every photo.

I've shared my story, and now I'd love to hear yours. Whether you're interested in a photoshoot or just want to chat about photography, let's connect and get to know each other better. gkellphoto@ outlook.com | 507-822-5720

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THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER

Tuesday, September 2, 2025

& Shop the Market!

ON THE FAIRGROUNDS IN SPIRIT LAKE

Couple Celebrates 70 Years of Marriage

Ron and Pat Knutson are set to celebrate a monumental milestone: their 70th wedding anniversary on September 3, 2025.

The couple, who have called Milford home for many years, will mark seven decades of marriage, a remarkable achievement that speaks to their enduring commitment.

Friends, family, and community members are invited to send their greetings to help celebrate this special occasion. Cards and well-wishes can be mailed to: Ron and Pat Knutson, 20560 232nd Ave., Milford, IA 51351.

Congratulations to Ron and Pat on this incredible anniversary!



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It was the Fourth of July, 1936, and Remsen, Iowa, was alive with patriotic celebration. Families lined the streets, flags waved, and children played in the summer heat, which had climbed well into the 90s. The town, built by German and Luxembourg immigrants decades earlier, had become a thriving community of hardworking people proud of their heritage. But on that holiday, a spark — both literal and figurative — would alter Remsen forever and echo through Iowa for the next 80 years.

Behind the local pharmacy, a few children lit fireworks. It was innocent fun kids had done for years. But this time, the wind was fierce—gusting at 35 miles per hour. The fire that began in a patch of grass quickly jumped to nearby buildings, which were built of timber from local groves. Within minutes, the town's greatest celebration turned into its greatest crisis.

Help was scarce. Half the fire department was away in Kingsley, playing in a holiday baseball game. The rest had already embraced the festivities with too much drink, leaving them unable to manage the hand pumps that powered Remsen's water supply. Against the fury of the flames, the townspeople were powerless. By nightfall, fifteen homes and eighteen buildings—housing thirty-eight businesses—were gone. Eyewitnesses described the destruction as a "holocaust." Rail cars melted in the searing heat. A community that had worked for decades to build prosperity watched it vanish in hours.

Remarkably, no one died that day. Yet six days later, a man named John Filburn succumbed to shock after losing his home. His passing became a human reminder of the devastation that swept through Remsen.

But from the ashes came change. Two days later, the city council banned the sale and use of fireworks. Two years later, in 1938, the Iowa Legislature followed suit, making Iowa the first state in the nation to enact a statewide fireworks ban. That law stood for nearly 80 years, until it was repealed in 2017. And still today, Remsen holds fast to its roots: the sale may be permitted, but the use of First Class fireworks—firecrackers, roman candles, and rockets—is not allowed within city limits. The fire of 1936 is not just history; it is memory, woven into the identity of the town.

The lesson of Remsen is simple yet profound: sometimes it takes tragedy to awaken responsibility. The fire began with a spark of carelessness, but its legacy was a spark of wisdom. Communities grow stronger not just from what they celebrate, but from what they learn. Remsen reminds us that even in our darkest hours, resilience and change can arise—and that sometimes the greatest way to honor the past is to protect the future.

Lessons From Remsen

- Responsibility Matters: Small actions, even playful ones, can have far-reaching consequences. Thoughtfulness can pre-
- Community Resilience: Remsen's strength was not only in how it endured tragedy, but in how it changed laws and traditions to protect future generations. • Preparedness is Key: Having systems—and sober, capable
- people to respond in moments of crisis can mean the difference between a scare and a catastrophe.
- Honoring the Past: Remembering the lessons of 1936 keeps the community grounded in its values while preventing history from repeating itself.

• From Loss to Legacy: Just as hope turns pain into purpose, tragedy can be the seed of wiser choices that shape a better future. Check out my website for FREE resources

Got a question? Send it directly to Tony at tony@therivercoach.org

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Special Day Highlights for the 2025 Clay County Fair

There is something for everyone at the 2025 Clay County Fair powered by SMU, September 6-14. With a packed schedule fea-

turing special days, every day at the fair promises something new and exciting for visitors of all ages.

Saturday, September 6: Iowa Lakes Electric Cooperative Day

Sponsored by Iowa Lakes Electric Cooperative, fairgoers can get an up-close look at a large basket truck and meet their local co-op representatives. Saturday, September 6: Iowa vs. Iowa State Game Day

Sponsored by Dish, fans can watch who takes home the Cy-Hawk trophy from the fairgrounds.

Monday, September 8: Veteran's Appreciation Day The Clay County Fair would like to honor all veterans and active-duty military personnel by offering them free admission to the Fair as a token of appreciation for their service. This particular day will feature a Veterans Day Parade at 10:00 AM around the fairgrounds, followed by a Veterans Day Program at 11:00 AM in the Events Center Ballroom. Glenn Henriksen will also perform a special Salute to Veterans Show at 2:00 PM

in the Events Center Ballroom. Tuesday, September 9: Senior Day

Fairgoers aged 65 and older can enjoy admission for \$9.00. The day will also feature a vintage tractor parade at 10:00 AM around the Fair.

Tuesday, September 9: FFA Day

Sponsored by C&B Operations and Purple Wave Auctions, local FFA students will have an exciting day with the unique opportunity to hear from Jason Wetzler, a former National FFA Officer, during his keynote presentation and leadership workshop in the Events Center Ballroom.

Wednesday, September 10: Disability Awareness Day Sponsored by Agriland, Inc., the Clay County Fair will host a day dedicated to disabled persons, featuring exclusive events (pre-registration was required).

Wednesday, September 10: First Responders Day

The Clay County Fair is proud to honor all First Responders with free gate admission for the day. Stop by the LifeServe Blood Drive from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the north parking lot by the Events Center and help save a life!

Thursday, September 11: Iowa Corn Day and Farmers **Appreciation Day**

Sponsored by the Iowa Corn Growers Association and CFE, this day will feature exhibits and presentations that showcase the importance of agriculture in Iowa and beyond.

Thursday, September 11: Iowa Music Day

NEW! Sponsored by the Iowa Rock 'n Roll Music Association, this day will feature exhibits from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Events Center Ballroom. There will also be live music from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. on the Northwest Bank Stage. Friday, September 12: Iowa Dairy Day

Sponsored by the Western Iowa Dairy Alliance, fairgoers will

learn about the importance of the dairy industry in Iowa through various displays and activities at Central Park. Saturday, September 13: Science Saturday

Sponsored by Iowa Lakes Community College and ISU Extension Clay County, fairgoers of all ages can participate in hands-on STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activities and experiments in various locations throughout the Fair.

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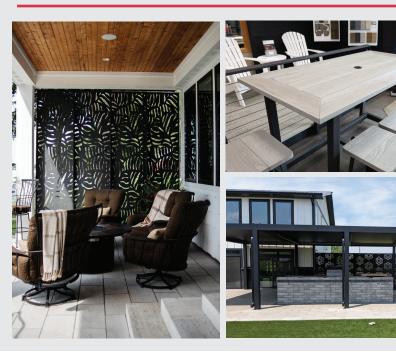
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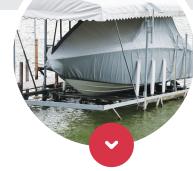




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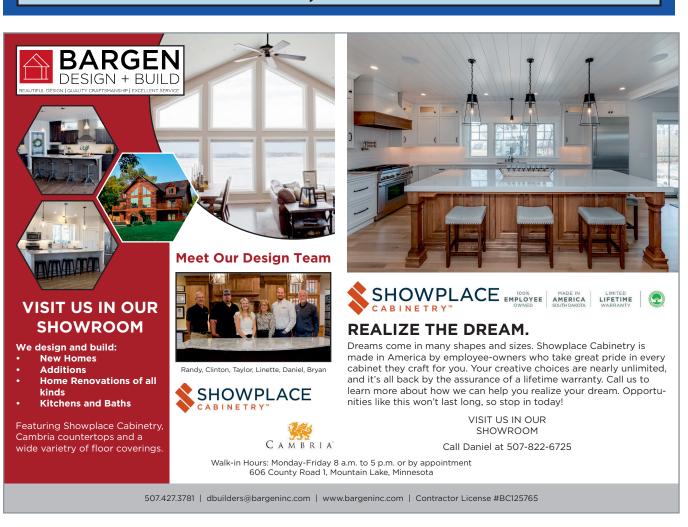
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A daily recap show all 9 days only on The Spencer Channel 3 September 6-14 at 8:00pm and the following day at 8:00am and Noon





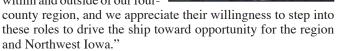
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Corridor Welcomes Two New **Board Members**

The Iowa Lakes Corridor Development Corporation (Corridor) welcomes two new board members in 2025: Thomas Nelson, Commercial Lender at Bank Midwest in Spirit Lake; and Doug Vlasman, Manager of Business & Community Development at Iowa Lakes Electric Cooperative in Estherville.

Nelson and Vlasman were appointed to the Corridor's Board of Directors this summer to fulfill the remaining terms of outgoing board members Keith Deitering and Jed Skogerboe due to career changes or retirement. The new members will add their leadership experience and guidance to the Board of Directors as the Corridor continues to help the region's businesses thrive and to ensure its residents enjoy an active and rewarding quality of life in the Iowa Lakes Corridor region.

"Though we are sad to see Keith and Jed leave the Corridor Board of Directors, having Tom and Doug join the board is exciting for our team," shared Corridor President & CEO Curt Strouth. "Both of them have extensive experience in Economic Development within and outside of our four-



The Corridor Board of Directors consists of four Corridor member representatives from each of the four counties in the region, Buena Vista, Clay, Dickinson, and Emmet. Board members serve three-year terms and are eligible for up to two consecutive terms.



Engines Roar at the 17th Annual Airport Drags

Spencer, Iowa – The Black Knights Car Club invites you to the 17th Annual Airport Drags at the Spencer Airport on Sunday, September 21, 2025, at the Spencer Airport – 1957 330th Street, Spencer. Gates open at 9:00 AM; races: 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM; admission is \$5 per pass or \$30 all day or \$5 for spectators.

Racers will go head-to-head on a 350-foot strip with a light start. This event is open to registered and licensed vehicles with proof of insurance, running D.O.T. tires only. (No motorcycle classes.) All cars will be inspected before racing, and safety inspectors have the final say.

Bring your friends, grab your lawn chairs, and get ready for the roar of engines, the smell of rubber, and a day full of racing excitement. Food and drinks will be available on-site.

For more details, visit blackknightscarclub.net or contact Nick Maranell at 712-209-3722 or Ray Tucker at 712-330-7183.



Iowa Lakes Announces Third Age College Fall Series in Spencer

Iowa Lakes Community College will offer two new Third Age College courses this fall as part of its Seniors Active in Learning (SAIL) program, designed for adults who want to stay engaged through lifelong learning. Both classes will meet on the Spencer campus and run September through December.

The first course, "Wonders of the National Parks: A Geology of North America," begins Monday, Sept. 15, and meets weekly from 9 to 11:30 a.m. Through lectures by geologist and National Geographic director Ford Cochran, participants will explore the geological history of national parks from Yellowstone to the Everglades. No prior science background is required.

On Wednesdays starting Sept. 17, the class "Starring Paul Newman" will showcase the nine films that earned the legendary actor Academy Award nominations between 1957 and 2003. The series includes Cat on a Hot Tin Roof, The Hustler, Cool Hand Luke, The Verdict, and Road to Perdition. Sessions will also be held from 9 to 11:30 a.m.

Each course costs \$25. Registration is available by phone or online at https://ce.iowalakes.edu/community-solutions/ third-age-college/.

For additional information, contact Melissa Haukap at 712-852-5206 or mhaukap@iowalakes.edu.

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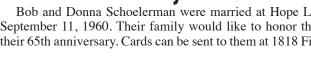
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65th Anniversary Announcement

Bob and Donna Schoelerman were married at Hope Lutheran Church in Everly, Iowa, on September 11, 1960. Their family would like to honor them with a card shower to celebrate their 65th anniversary. Cards can be sent to them at 1818 First Avenue SE Spencer, Iowa 51301.



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Tues., Sept. 2- Danika from the Nature Center is talking about Migrating Animals Tues., Sept. 9- Joel from Keelson Harbour giving an overview of their services/ amenities for their residents.

Wed., Sept. 17- Cari from St. Croix Hospice discussing how hospice has changed and the services they offer.

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Bison Burgers!



Sunday, Sept. 7 Mark

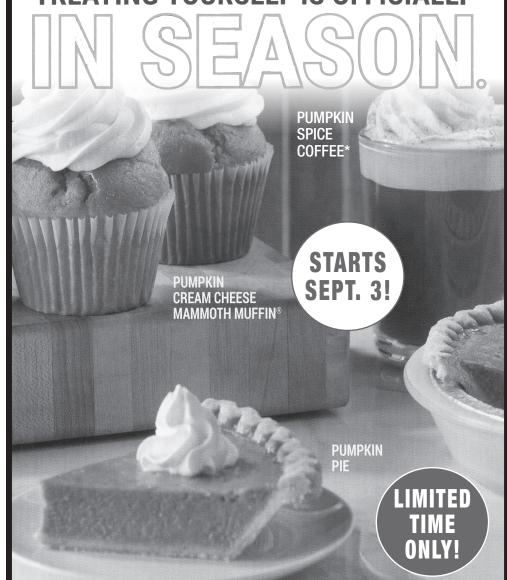


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Have THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER emailed to you every Tuesday by going to www.lakesnewsshopper.com and clicking on "e-subscribe"





Mon. thru Thurs. at 11:00 AM SAT. & SUN. at 8am (Breakfast)
Tuesday - CLOSED

Book your Birthday Party or event with us! We have a special menu for your special occasion.

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Dickinson County Taxpayers Monthly Meeting September 11 · 8 AM

Sandhill Board Room

Located at Lake Okoboji Resort & **Conference Center (formerly Arrowwood)**

> Meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of each month now thru November.

> > **PUBLIC IS WELCOME!**

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Milford New Hope Al-

Anon meetings will take place

on Zoom. Meeting ID is

77557290457 and the pass code

ter: Milford, IA 51351 USA).

ÄKES NEWS

Auction Calendar

Wed., Sept. 3 - 10:00 AM-

153.72 acres at auction in Lake

Park. Auctioneers: Hjelm. 712-

120 acres at auction in Estherville.

Auctioneers: Hielm, Sikora & Laubenthal. 712-262-3529. www.

Wed., Sept. 10 - 5:00 PM-

Thurs., Sept. 11 - 10:00 AM-

2 day online and live machinery auction. Auctioneers: Hallberg

Auction. 800-373-2255. www.

Sat., Sept. 20 - 9:00 AM-

Retirement metal fabrication auc-

tion in Estherville. Auctioneers:

Howells. 712-260-9690. www.

howellrealestateandauction.com.

2 day online and live machinery

auction. Auctioneers: Hallberg Auction. 800-373-2255. www.

theacreco.com.

hallbergauction.com

hallhergauction.com

Lakes Area

8:30 - Kiwanis

Animals

12:30 Bridge

10:30 - Tai Chi

Activities/Senior

Center Schedule

Tuesday, September 2

12:30 - Dinner Date Speaker

- Danika - Nature Center

Wednesday, September 3

talking about Migrating

6:30 - Men's Group

9:00 - Exercise Class

12:00 - Dinner Date

10:00 - Strummers 12:00 - Dinner Date 1:00 - 500 Cards 3:00 - Cribbage 4:00 - Zumba

5:30 - Singles Group Friday, September 5 9:00 - Exercise Class 10:00 - Chair Yoga

12:00 - Dinner Date

Saturday, September 6

Sunday, September 7

Monday, September 8 9:00 - Exercise

11:30 - Women's Group

12:00 - Dinner Date 1:00 - Pinochle Club

12:00 - Dinner Date

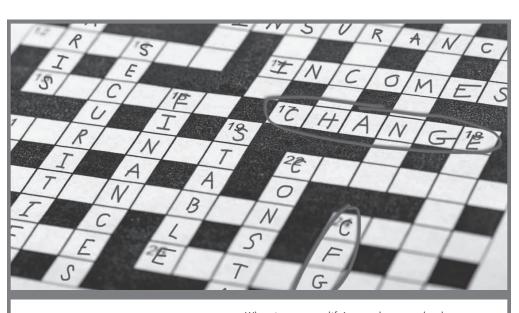
240-3529. www.theacreco.com. Thurs., Sept. 4 - 10:00 AM-

Or call 712-580-4406.

For more information, go online to Iowa-Al-Anon.org, meetings tab, find a group (en-

is JXEU2H.







PENN

When it comes to life's ups, downs and unknowns, you may look to others to help fill in the blanks.

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VETERINARIAN

The Lakes Area Activities/ Senior Center is located at 2101 Zenith Ave in Spirit Lake.

for more details.

Lakes Area Farmers Market News

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

Time is running out. There is only one month left to shop at Lakes Area Farmers Market in Spirit Lake. Food trucks are done for the season, but many late fall vegetables have yet to arrive. Look for pumpkins, winter squash, and sweet potatoes soon and apples now. Shop early and stock up for fall. Lakes Area Farmers Market is open Wednesdays 3:30 to 7:00 and Saturdays 7:30 AM to 12:00 noon. We hope to see you there.

St. Alban's **Episcopal Church** "The Lord Be with You"

SUNDAYS

Live Stream through our Facebook Page

Email: office@stalbansepiscopalchurch.org

The Episcopal presence in the Iowa Great Lakes Area 23rd & Zenith Ave. • Spirit Lake • 712-336-1117

Camp Okoboji Omelet Brunch



Sunday, Sept. 7 9:30am - 1:00pm

Dinina Hall! Tasty omelets with the ingredients of your

1531 Edgewood Drive • Wahpeton

WORSHIP WITH US! **SUNDAY** • 10:30 AM Coffee & Fellowship Before & After the Service Rev. Dr. Jennifer Hesebeck, Pastor 805 Okoboji Avenue • Milford, IA 712.338.4642 • www.faithcommunitymilford.com

10:00 AM

The Reverend Carolyn Tuttle, Rector

Website: stalbansepiscopalchurch.org



served in the Ginny DeWall

choosing, cheesy hashbrown potato casserole, muffins, juice, milk & coffee

All proceeds go toward Joy Camp.

www.campokoboji.org



James 5:16

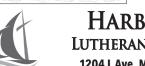
"Therefore confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP EVERY SUNDAY AT 9:30 AM OR ONLINE AT HARBOROFJOY.COM

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> Saturdays at 6:00pm Sundays at 9:00am

try Chair Yoga with Sue DeBord -Tuesdays at 10:00am



679 W. Okoboji Grove Rd. Arnolds Park

Lakes Area Senior/Activities **Center Events**

Seniors Movin' On is an exercise group that meets every Monday, Wednesday & Friday morning at 9:00 a.m. The exercise program is based on the Silver Sneakers Program. Blood Pressure Screening

is the last Tuesday of every Zumba class on Thursday

at 4:00pm. Tai Chi Classes Wednesdays

at 10:30am Asian MahJong - 1st and 3rd

Mondays at 1:00pm. Pinochle Club- 2nd and 4th Mondays at 1:00pm.

Chair yoga every Friday at 10:00am. They also have pool and

ping pong available. The Lakes Area Activities/

Senior Center is located at 2101 Zenith Ave in Spirit Lake.









www.spencermunigolf.com

The Boij Mammoth High School Hockey Team would like to

thank the community for supporting the 7th annual golf

tournament fundraiser held at Brooks Golf August 8th. Shout

out to our amazing sponsors and all those that joined us for a

great day of golf. There were a lot of laughs and fun playing

the hockey themed games on the course and apparently there

was some pretty good golf played with the scores that were

posted. All proceeds from the event benefit the Boji Mammoth

High School Hockey team by subsidizing hockey operations,

uniforms and player warmup gear.

The 2025-2026 season begins with our home opener Saturday,

October 25 as we host the Dubuque Saints 2:00 pm JV, 4:00 pm

Varsity at Lakes Ice Arena. Dress warm and pack the cave! On behalf of the entire Mammoth High School Hockey Program,

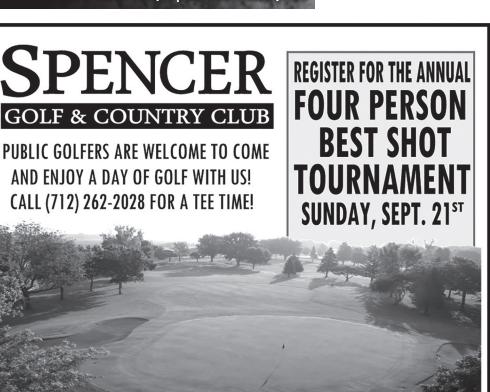
THANK YOU!





Dance 4 Fun

The Everly dance, sponsored by Dance 4 Fun, will be held on Saturday, September 6, at the Hap Ketelsen Community Center in Everly, Iowa. The doors are open at 6:15, the dance is from 7:00pm -10:30 pm. The band is The Prairie Thunder Band. Put on your dancing shoes and come join us for a fun evening of dancing! Feel free to bring snacks to share! Singles and married couples are welcome.



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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26

Chili Bowl - TT before 1pm

Brooks Appreciation Day - 1pm SG

www.brooksgolfclub.com

12

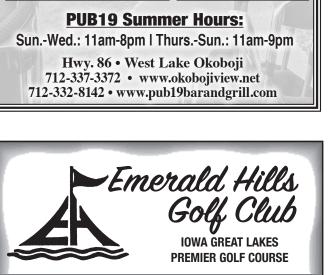
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UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, September 13

Emerald Hills 8" Cup Tournament

4-Person Best Shot

Morning Tee Times

Call for Details and to Register

Sunday, September 28

Captain's Getaway A-Man Best Shot DATE

4-Person Best Shot - 18 Holes

12 PM Shotgun Start Call for Details & to Register

Saturday, October 4 **Honest Fellas 2-Man Benefit: Make-A-Wish Foundation**

Sign up Individually - A & B Golfers

\$100 Entry Fee Includes Golf, Cart & Cocktails

Teams Drawn at 11:30am

Shotgun Start at 1:00pm

Filling Fast - Call to Register Today!

Sunday, October 5 3-Person Best Shot

Tee Times from 10am-12pm

Play in Threesome Meal Included

Call to Register

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You are invited to a weekly social gathering every Wednesday from 12:30 - 4:30pm at the American Legion in Milford. Come and play a game of cards. Coffee will be provided. They hope to see you there.



events

Peals

& Fun!

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Cy-Hawk Preview-2025

It's Cy-Hawk week, one of the best weeks in the State of Iowa for college football fans as we talk smack to each other about who's going to get the football bragging rights for this much-anticipated 2025 season. Last year saw Iowa State rally from a 13-0 halftime deficit to pull out a thrilling 20-19 victory in Kinnick Stadium when freshman kicker Kyle Konrardy nailed a 54-yard field goal with just :06 left. This game is always hard to predict for me in my column because due to early deadline with the Labor Day, I will not have seen Iowa play but am guessing they will be coming off a dismantling of Albany. I did get to watch Iowa State win a Week Zero 24-21 thriller over #17 Kansas State in Dublin, Ireland, and I have a pretty good feel of what the Cyclones have this season.

This year's game features strength on strength, with Iowa again having another strong defense and Iowa State returning a lot of firepower from a very good 2024 offense. Junior quarterback Rocco Becht has proven that he is clutch in key situations, having helped the Cyclones go 8-1 in their last nine one-possession games. He was huge in last year's rally, especially the late drive to put them in field goal position. Iowa's strength is their defensive line, and while Iowa State's offensive line struggled in the first half against Kansas State, they looked great in the fourth quarter and should return starting tackle Trevor Buhr, who missed last week's game with an illness. Iowa State's new receivers will have to continue to improve, and look for transfers Chase Sowell and Xavier Townsend to be more involved this week than they were vs Kansas State.

The matchup of Iowa's offense vs Iowa State's defense has more uncertainty to it with Iowa having a new quarterback in South Dakota State transfer Mark Grownowski. Grownowski is a proven winner at South Dakota State, leading them to a 2023 National Championship and a 2024 Semifinal appearance. The big question will be can that success translate to the Power Four level? Iowa was dealt a big blow this past week when leading receiver Reece Vander Zee injured his foot in practice and is expected to miss at least a month. Iowa holds a bit of an advantage on the line but will have issues with ISU's Dominique Orange, and Iowa State's linebackers showed vs Kansas State that they can stop the run as well as cover vs the pass. Grownowski will look to attack Iowa State's freshmen safeties like Kansas State did for their two deep touchdowns, as Cyclone fans will hope they learned their lesson in that game.

Special teams appear to be an area where both teams are very strong. Iowa State recovered a fumbled punt vs Kansas State, Aiden Flora, who recovered the fumble, also had some nice returns and Tyler Perkins punted well; Kyle Konrardy did miss a 52-yard field goal, but that was in the driving rain. Iowa has loaded special teams again with kicker Drew Stevens, punter Rhys Dakin and returner Kaden Wetjen, so I would consider this area pretty much a toss-up.

As you can tell, this game is once again very close on paper, and will come down to which team makes the least number of mistakes. What is very strange is the road team has won the last four games in this series. I look for Iowa State to end that streak this year, as I think their experience in having a big game vs Kansas State under their belt will pay dividends vs Iowa, who will only have played Albany. This will be another close, hardfought game, with Iowa State pulling it out late again, 27-21.





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Black Knights Car Club Awards Community Grants

The Black Knights Car Club recently made 2 more grant awards to Community Organizations.

The Black Knights Car Club began in the 1950s and reorganized in 2005. The objective of the Club is to support the Community through Grants to Individuals and Organizations who also provide services to their respective Communities. The selections of this round of Grants reflect the needs of the various different Communities within the Black Knights Family.

This round of Grants had grants awarded to the Graettinger Volunteer Ambulance Service and a Grant for two \$500 Scholarships to Students in the Registered Nursing Program at Iowa Lakes Community College. Recently, (June 6, 2025), the Des Moines Register Reported that according to "the latest analysis of federal data on nursing home staffing shows the overwhelming majority of nursing homes in Iowa and the United States are operating with less than the recommended staff to meet residents' needs." These Scholarships will assist Students in their second semester of study and are considered to be very proficient in their skills.

Graettinger Volunteer Ambulance Service



Jennie Rutter, Phillip Schmitt, Stacy Ebel, Ken Dunn (Black Knights) and Jarid Kuchenreuther (Director of Emergency Medical Services-



Iowa Lakes Community College Nursing Program

The Club holds events throughout the year including the Estherville Sweet Corn Days Car Show, the Spectacular Car Show in Arnolds Park and the Airport Drags in Spencer. These events all are supported by the Community through sponsorships as well as fees from the respective shows. All of these proceeds are applied to these and other Grants each year.

To contact the Black Knights Car Club: Ken Dunn (Webmaster / Treasurer) ken@kensculinary.com or blackknightsestherville. com.

Civil War Presentation at **Dickinson County Museum**

Randee Fieselmann will discuss her recently published book, The Union First: Community and Commitment in the First Iowa

Infantry, on Tuesday, September 9, at 7:00 p.m. at the Dickinson County Museum (1708 Keokuk Ave, Spirit Lake, IA 51360) as part of our HistoryLives! presentation series. She will tell the story of the very first young men from Iowa to enlist in the Civil War and of their com-

mitments to reunite the Union. The story is based on the diaries of George Burmeister Company K, Cedar Rapids; Eugene Ware Company E, Burlington; and the newspaper reports of Franc Wilkie, who was assigned to travel with the First Iowa Infantry throughout their ninety days of duty in the summer of 1861. Randee has spent the last seven years

brutal conditions and fought in the Battle of Wilson's Creek. Randee Fieselmann has a PhD in sociology from the University of Iowa and taught at the University of Iowa and at Coe College as a visiting assistant professor. Randee and her husband, John, who grew up in Spencer, now live in Iowa City and spend sum-

researching the history of how Civil War broke out in Missouri

and how the Iowa soldiers marched through Missouri under

mers at Lake Okoboji. More details about the book are available on the website: theunionfirst.com. This event will be both in-person and livestreamed on the Dickinson County Museum Facebook page.

Oh Snap Photo Booth: The Retro Roamer Experience

Looking for a unique way to make your next event unforgettable? Meet the Retro Roamers, two beautifully restored

vintage camper photo booths. It's not just a photo booth; it's an experience that adds a touch of charm and excitement, leaving your guests with lasting memories and high-quality keepsakes.

The Retro Roamers are a crowd-pleaser for weddings, parties, and events of all kinds. Its clean, stylish design is perfect for both indoor and outdoor settings, making it a versatile centerpiece for any celebration.

What makes the Oh Snap Photo Booth experience so special?

Professional-Quality Photos: We use a professional-grade camera and lighting to ensure every photo is crisp, clear, and perfectly lit.

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Fun and Unique Props: Our booth is loaded with a variety of fun and silly props to get your guests laughing and posing. Hassle-Free Service: A professional setup and on-site at-

start to finish. Ready to add a touch of vintage charm to your event? Contact Oh Snap Photo Booth by email: ohsnaprr@gmail.com or check them out on Facebook: Oh Snap Photo Booth.

tendant are included to ensure everything runs smoothly from

70th Anniversary & 90th Birthday

Local couple Ken and Janet Bargfrede will be honored with a double early celebration for two major milestones. The

event will commemorate Ken's 90th birthday on December 1 and their 70th wedding anniversary on December 2.

Friends and family are invited to an open house to celebrate with the couple. The event will feature an afternoon of visiting and special music on Sunday, September 7, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. It will be held at the North City Park Shelter House, located at 400 Funk Ave in Lakefield, Minnesota.

Those wishing to send wellwishes can address them to 58251 720th St, Jackson, MN 56143.



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UPCOMING ENTERTAINMENT **THUR, SEPTEMBER 4** TUES, SEPTEMBER 9 & 16 SWING DANCE LESSONS | 7-9PM

MINGO | 6:30PM SUN, SEPTEMBER 7 & 14 J SCOTT ROHLFSEN | 3-6PM

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Allison Antoine, Ellen Wolfe, Audrey Farrar, Jenny Pope, Allison Oyler. Kindermusik at the Lakes has once again been named a Top Program by Kindermusik International, the world's leading provider of music-based education for infants, toddlers, and

young children.

Allison Antoine is a Kindermusik Accredited Educator and the owner of Kindermusik at the Lakes, which has been serving Northwest Iowa and Southwest MN area families since 2017. The Kindermusik Top Program award recognizes excellence in spreading the lasting developmental benefits of music and movement through Kindermusik's "a cappella" studio curricula.

"At Kindermusik, our mission is to reach every child with the power of joyful music-making," said Kelly Green, President of Kindermusik International. "To be recognized as a Top Program means these Accredited Educators are not only delivering high-quality, research-backed musical learning, but they are also tremendous brand ambassadors—bringing Kindermusik to life for families, community organizations, and schools in their communities."

Kindermusik at the Lakes joins a select group of early childhood music programs that offer Kindermusik classes around the world. Antoine and her team reach over 100 families per year through weekly classes during the school year, single experience Playdates, and summer camps.

The Kindermusik at the Lakes team consists of additional Accredited Educators Ellen Wolfe of Lake Park and Allison Oyler of Milford as well as Studio Coordinator Jenny Pope of Spirit Lake, Summer Intern Audrey Farrar of Milford and Marketing Coordinator Krista Nelson of Spirit Lake (not pictured).

"Kindermusik is a great joy in our lives as the Kindermusik team as well as the families that we get to know and serve" said Antoine. "It's an honor to be named Top Program again for the 6th year in a row. We couldn't do it without the support of our Kindermusik families and our wonderful arts-appreciating community. We are also so grateful for our wonderful home in the Pearson Lakes Art Center and the various partnerships we are able to do with other local entities such as the local libraries and the Nature Center."

The Kindermusik team looks forward to another wonderful year as they enter into their 9th year of serving our community.



Kiwanis Foundation Donates \$75,000 to Spirit Lake Youth Athletics

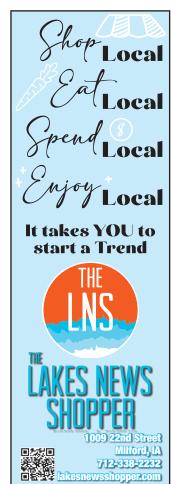
The Spirit Lake Noon Kiwanis Foundation recently donated \$75,000 to Spirit Lake Youth Athletics (SLYA) to help complete their fundraising and retire debt associated with the Triple Play Project. SLYA is a 501C3 nonprofit that operates the Spirit Lake Little League. The Triple Play project was a complete renovation of the existing Spirit Lake little league fields. Total project cost was approximately \$450,000 and this generous donation by the Kiwanis Foundation will allow SLYA to complete their fundraising goal and retire the remaining debt associated with

Lakes Area Senior/ **Activities Center Presentations**

Please call 712-336-5247 to let the Lakes Area Senior/ Activities Center know you will be attending. The following presentations begin at 12:30pm, 1:00pm and 1:30pm

- Tuesday, September 9 -Joel from Keelson Harbour giving an overview of their services/amenities for their residents.
- Wednesday September 17 - Cari from St. Croix Hospice discussing how hospice has changed and the services they offer.
- Tuesday, September 30 public health comes to do blood pressures. No special speakers

All presentations are at 12:30. The Lakes Area Activities/Senior Center is located at 2101 Zenith Ave in Spirit Lake.







WEDNESDAY- Wing Night Hot Wing Challenge & Full Menu

2ND & 4TH THURSDAY- Bingo Night Meal at 5, Bingo at 6

FRIDAY- Taco Night

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Back Alley BBQ

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5:30 PM

ACTIVITIES

4:00 - 7:00 PM **Monarch Butterfly Tagging Temporary Tattoos Scavenger Hunt Petting Zoo with Goats**

Bubbles Water Games

4:00 - 6:30 PM

Bouncy House

Pollinator Crafts

22785 Nature Center Rd, Okoboii IA www.dickinsoncountyconservationboard.com



Lakes Area Activities/Senior Center Event Space

The Lakes Area Activities/Senior Center has rooms to rent for your special event. Do you have a special weekend event in the

future? A Family Gettogether, Anniversary, Graduation, Birthday?

Their card/party room seats 40, has a small kitchenette and rents for \$75.00 per day. There is also a small

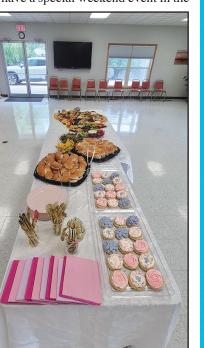
meeting room with tables/seating for 10 plus extra chairs for additional seating. \$40.00 per day.

Check out their building updates.

Consider renting their large dining room which seats 100 if extra tables are set up. Without kitchen: \$125.00 per day.

With kitchen: \$160.00 per day.

They have a beautiful, clean facility with most weekends available. Call and visit with someone at the office for details. 712-





Boji Doors: Your Trusted Garage Door Experts

Boji Doors, a family-owned business in Spirit Lake, Iowa, has been named the Best Garage Door Company in the 2025 Spencer Media Group's People's Choice Awards. Serving the Iowa Great

Lakes and surrounding communities for over nine years, Boji Doors is dedicated to providing expert service and a personal touch for both residential and commercial clients.

They are more than just a garage door company; they are a reliable partner dedicated to enhancing a customer's home or business.

For homeowners looking to elevate their property with unique style, increased value, and stronger security, Boji Doors offers custom garage door options. Their knowledgeable team guides clients through the selection process to ensure they find the perfect door to complement their home's aesthetic and meet their needs.

The company also specializes in a comprehensive range of commercial garage doors tailored to various business applications. Whether a customer owns storage units, warehouses, or agricultural buildings like shouses and Morton buildings, Boji Doors has the ideal commercial-grade solutions to meet operational demands.

As proud dealers of industryleading brands like Clopay and Amarr, Boji Doors guarantees quality.

For all garage door needs, customers can contact Boji Doors to learn how they can enhance their property. The company's new showroom is located at 2310 22nd Street, Spirit Lake, Iowa, and is open six days a week. Customers can also call them at 712-330-9806 or visit them online at bojidoors.com.









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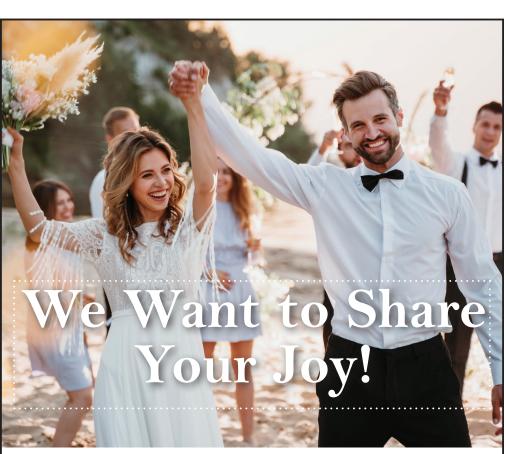
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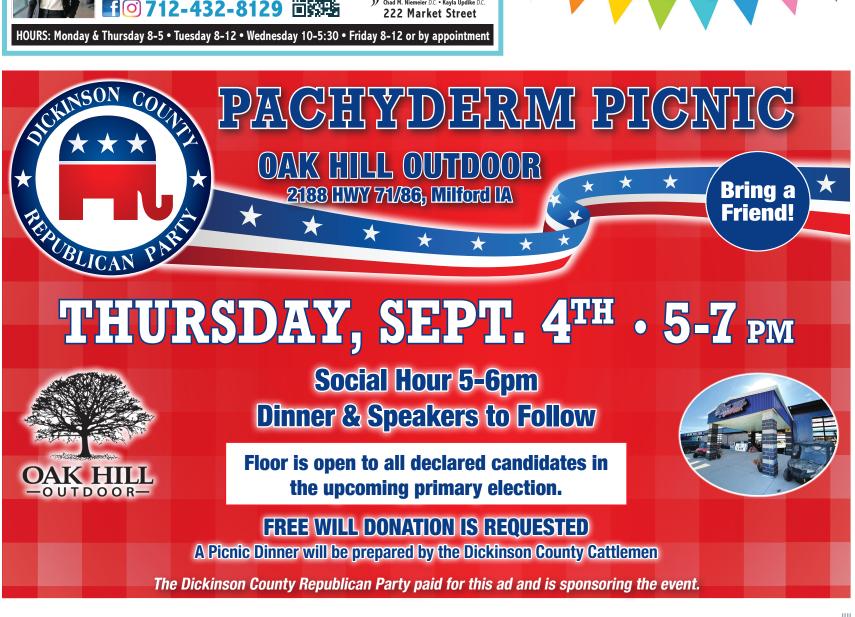
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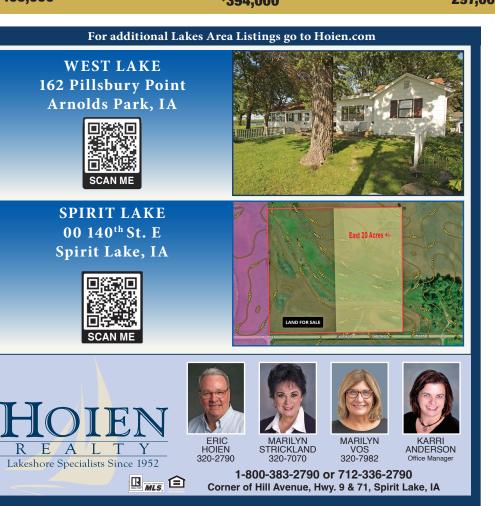


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The Jackson Java open AA meetings will resume on Tuesdays at 7:00pm, at Jackson Center for the Arts (309 2nd Street, Jackson, Minnesota).

For more information, contact Aili at 507-840-0639.



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To the Editor:

Spirit Lake, IA

On September 20, 1950, the first meeting of the Okoboji Women's Club took place. The Club would go on to serve the Lakes Region with many community service projects. Two of the major projects were the Gardner Cabin and the Lakes Art Center. We continue to have projects to help improve our community. Our current project is to help improve Lakes Area EMTs with donations for a piece of equipment that they feel will help improve their services to our community.

Our September meeting is on Friday, September 5 at noon. We are starting early that day due to our September potluck picnic. Please bring a dish to share. I am looking forward to the fun and friendly fellowship we share also.

We do have a speaker scheduled also at 1:00pm. Scheduled is Retina Reed, Director of the Chamber of Commerce. The address of our meeting is 2351 27th Street, the Homestead Coop. We will also be giving our new booklets for programs, dates,

and times for the coming year. If anyone is interested to join us, we encourage you to call Lyn Marksbury at 712-574-2165 for a reservation.

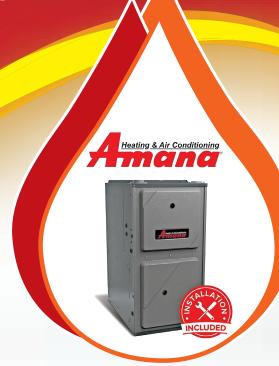
Lyn Marksbury,

President of the Okoboji Women's Club





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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor,

The Red Cross conducted a blood drive on August 25, 2025, at the Senior Center in Spirit Lake and it was a huge success!!! Thank you, Spirit Lake, for stepping up to the plate and giving blood for a wonderful cause.

Our goal was 27 and we exceeded it by 6 making our total blood products 33. We had a very nice attendance with 31 whole blood products, 2 power reds making a total of 33. We had 47 appointments but had 6 deferred donors and 2 quantity not sufficient. We had 3 no shows so this number continues to decrease but I'm hoping to report someday that we had none.

Blood cannot be manufactured. We are able to do numerous types of transplants and medical miracles but blood cannot be humanly made. Thanks to all of you that donated and you can be sure you have saved a life and sometimes 2.

Thanks to my staff for their volunteer help: Sandi Gilligan, Pam Sundall, Linda Erickson and Cheryl Petersen. I am thankful for willing and helpful volunteers and couldn't do this without their help and expertise. Thanks also to the Senior Center that

The Red Cross will return on October 20 so please consider making an appointment for that day. Please listen to KUOO and watch the Lakes News Shopper for details. An appointment can be made on line at *RedCrossBlood.org* or 800-733-2767. Let's jump into fall with a very successful blood drive again.

Karen Dokken, Chairman

Lakes Area Activities/Senior Center Wish List

- City of Spirit Lake green garbage bags
- Postage stamps
- Zip-lock baggies sandwich size
- Paper towels and Kleenex
- Toilet paper • Coffee - regular, decaf, filters and Styrofoam coffee cups
- Bottled water *Priority* Thank you for your donations!



Darlene J. Mac Runnels, age 100, passed away on June 1st after an accident and surgery for a fractured right leg.

She was born in Chandler, Minnesota (on her grandparents farm) on January 14, 1925. She was predeceased by her father and mother, Hobart and Ella Lemon; husband, La Verne (Mac) Mac Runnels; and son-in-law, Joshua T. Day III (Skip).

Darlene is survived by her daughter, Arlene Day, and her great-great-grandchildren.

son, Alan Mac Runnels. She is also survived by grandchildren and great-grandchildren and

Darlene spent her childhood moving around the Midwest with her parents during the Great Depression, finally settling in Spirit

Darlene met her future husband in high school and was married on February 2, 1943. Her husband enlisted in the Army Air Corps and was gone for almost two years during WWII. After the war ended, Darlene, her husband, and her daughter moved to Peterson, Iowa, where he worked for the Iowa Light and Power. They lived there until he was recalled back into the military during the Korean War. Darlene, their daughter, and new baby son, Alan, moved back to Spirit Lake until Darlene and the children could join him at Fairchild AFB, Washington.

Darlene wasn't one to just sit around and not be busy; she worked in and managed a department store retail day care for years. After Darlene retired, she started to volunteer as the Librarian at church and taught adult Sunday School, women's Bible study, and "Pink Ladies" at a local hospital.

Darlene has been to all 50 states and 10 foreign countries. Darlene moved again to live with her daughter and husband in Virginia in 2016. She stayed busy with family and attending Women's bible study.

Darlene had a great sense of humor and loved to play board games (and won most of the time). Her favorite was chocolate and diet coke. There will be a graveside service at Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Spirit Lake, Iowa, on Thursday, September 11, 2025, at 1:00 pm. Following the graveside, you are welcome to join the family for a time of fellowship at the El Mariachi Bar & Grill in Spirit Lake.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be given to your charity of choice.



events, and any other activity her children participated in. Jean was a tremendous cook, finding new recipes and modifying them to make them her own. She was known to make extra for meals, as she never knew who might stop by for dinner. Jean always felt a calling to teaching and returned to school at the University of Iowa, where she graduated in 1987 with a degree in teaching English and a minor in Spanish. In 1990, Jean and Larry divorced and eventually maintained a friendship for the rest of her life.

Obituary

Jean M. (Goodman) Hanon, 77, passed away on August 4,

2025. She was born February 6, 1948, to Judy (Schwarzenbach)

and Edward Goodman, Jr, of Spirit

Lake, Iowa. She was a 1966 graduate

In 1994, Jean moved back to Spirit Lake and reconnected with old friends and created new friendships. She enjoyed being back in Spirit Lake, where she would spend her time camping, swimming, and gardening. Jean loved to eat a good meal with family and friends. She looked forward to her monthly classmates' lunches, always letting her daughters know where the group went and what she had for her meal. Jean was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary and the Red Hat Society. She was also an avid fan of the Iowa Hawkeyes and enjoyed watching the football and basketball games, especially the girls' basketball team.

Jean is survived by her daughters; grandchildren, Margeen Urmie (Bryce Frost), Shon Urmie, Corrin (Cody) Saliba, Isaiah, Aiden, and Malachi Emanuel; great-grandchildren, Estella, Iris, Waylen, and Freya; brothers Jeff (Cheryl) Goodman and Jim (Marva) Goodman; nephews Eric (Deb) Goodman, Chad (Kirston) Goodman, Seth Goodman, Shawn (Lori) Goodman, Tony (Colleen) Goodman, and niece, Jodi (Nick) Hellmich. She was preceded in death by her son, Lane, parents, and brother, Danny. Per Jean's wishes, there will not be a service.

Private arrangements are under the care of Turner Jenness Family Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the Spirit Lake VFW (918 Lake St, Spirit Lake, Iowa 51306) or your local VFW.

Turner Jenness Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.



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Bridge Marathon To Begin

Calling all bridge players! St. Joseph Catholic Church, in Milford, will again host their annual bridge marathon beginning in September 2025 thru April 30, 2026. Persons interested in playing bridge on a round-robin schedule are asked to call the parish office at 712-338-2274 by 12 noon Friday, September 5. This deadline will be strictly enforced. Cost is \$15 for the year. A fun night is held in May to announce the

LRH Created \$106 Million For Local Economy In 2024

Last year, Lakes Regional Healthcare (LRH) generated 639 jobs that added \$106.2 million to Dickinson County's economy, roughly 9.6% of Dickinson County's gross domestic product, according to the latest study by the Iowa Hospital Association

The study showed LRH provided \$2.0 million in community benefits to Dickinson County. That amount, based on 2024 figures, includes \$1.36 million in uncompensated care and \$422,000 in free or discounted community benefits that LRH specifically implemented to help Dickinson County residents.

Community benefits are activities to improve health status and increase access to health care. With uncompensated care and charity care, community benefits include such services and programs as health screenings, support groups, counseling, immunizations, nutrition services and transportation programs.

"The programs and services accounted for in the survey are rplemented in direct response to the needs of Dickinson County residents," said LRH President and CEO Jason Harrington. "Many of these programs and services would not exist without hospital support.'

The study was compiled from hospital-submitted data to the American Hospital Association's annual survey of hospitals. The study found that Iowa hospitals employed 141,708 people in 2024. As an income source, hospitals provide over \$9.6 billion in wages. Hospital expenses accounted for over \$22.9 billion of the state's gross domestic product.

"These benefits aren't just numbers," said Chris Mitchell, IHA President and CEO. "They represent real programs and services that improve lives across Iowa. Many of these initiatives wouldn't exist without the leadership and commitment of our hospitals and health systems."

A funeral service for Marcella Huntress of Milford will be held Wednesday, September 3, 2025, at 1:00PM at First Lutheran

Church in West Okoboji. Burial is at Dickens Cemetery. A visitation for Marcella will be on Tuesday, September 2nd, from 5-7PM at Turner Jenness Funeral Home in Milford.

Marcella (Billie) Ann Huntress was born May 4, 1935, on a farm near Ayrshire, Iowa. She was the daughter of Clarence and Thelma (Blighton) Nelson. She had one brother, Clarence Junior. The name Billie came from her father who is said to have wanted her to be a boy. She spent her childhood years growing up in rural Clay and



Palo Alto counties, attending rural schools. She worked hard doing chores on the farm and then loved to go roller skating with her aunts and friends. Marcella passed away peacefully on August 28, 2025, at the age of 90 years at Spencer Post Acute Rehabilitation Center surrounded by her family. She was a member of the First Lutheran Church of Milford, Iowa.

Marcella married Charles Beck, with 7 children born into this relationship. The marriage later dissolved. In her early working years, she balanced time raising her children while waitressing in Estherville, when an opportunity came her way to manage the all-girls gas station Fina in Estherville and Spencer. This opportunity moved her to Spencer for several years. She spent her leisure time showing horses, sewing clothing for her 4 daughters, dancing, and playing cards (especially when she could beat her dad in a game of 500.)

Later she met Richard Huntress, and they married in 1975, spending many years working together building their restaurant in Fostoria, which served people miles around. She is well known to this day for many items on the menu but mostly for her hashbrowns with cheese and onions and pan-fried chicken. After leaving the restaurant business, she continued to serve people, working at J. C. Penney before becoming the manager of Casey's in Spencer and later moving to Milford to manage that store. While living in Milford, in addition to managing Caseys, they opened The Little Flea Market, an antique and coffee shop. They enjoyed visiting with the community over coffee, bars, and pie. They especially liked spending days off with their grandchildren, teaching them to fish and taking them to Arnolds Park every summer until Rich's death in 2008. She continued to go fishing, bowling, antiquing, and playing cards with her family and neighbors after retiring in 2012. Marcella lived in Milford until 2020 when she moved into the nursing home.

She is survived by her sons, Charles Beck (Nancy) of Fostoria, Iowa, and David Huntress (Michelle) of Milford, Iowa; daughters, Mollie (Mark) Sander of Estherville, Iowa, Debra (Brian) Brodersen of Spencer, Iowa, Melodee (Tito) Mendez of Englewood, Colorado, and Marge (Sid) Roskens of Spencer, Iowa; grandchildren, Carrie (Mark Cole) Beck of Spencer, Iowa, Naomi (Jason Ahlers) Tietjen of Harrisburg, South Dakota, Nathaniel (Chelsea Knephoff) Wolthuis of Spencer, Iowa, Kevin (Molly) Hintz, of Milford, Iowa, Nicole Hintz of Mankato Minnesota, Todd (Vicki) Roskens of North Liberty, Iowa, Deb (Lyon) Anderson of Johnson, Kansas, Jennifer (Shane) Halbur of Milford, Iowa, Erica (Scott) Brown of Aurora, Colorado, Jillian (William Evans) Origer of Riverside, Iowa, Melissa (Aaron) Sedey of Delano, Minnesota, Hope (Spencer) Knierim of San Antonio, Texas, Charlee (Chris) Davis of Centennial, Colorado, Cheryl Morton of Peterson, Iowa, Tabetha Gillette of Spencer, Iowa, Clare (Nate Cooper) Huntress of Iowa City, Iowa, and Brady Huntress of Milwaukee, Wisconsin; 39 great-grandchildren and 3 great-greatgrandchildren; sister-in-law, Wilda (Willy) Wetherell of Peterson, Iowa; aunts, Betty Miller of Emmetsburg, Iowa, and Elaine Manke of Coon Rapids, Minnesota; many other relatives and friends.

Preceding her in death were her husband, Richard; parents, Clarence and Thelma Nelson; brother, Clarence Junior; son, Bertram Bradley Beck: grandsons, Todd Beck, Brian Beck, and Paul Richard Hintz; brothers-in-law, Lionel Huntress, Jack Johnson, Roger Huntress, and Ray (Slim) Wetherell; and sisters-in-law, Dortha Johnson and Ruth Huntress.

The family would like to thank the staff of Spencer Post Acute Rehabilitation Center and St. Croix Hospice for their kindness and care over the years.

Turner Jenness Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.



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Tops Chapter #369, Spirit Lake, meets Friday mornings at 10:00am at the Spirit Lake United Methodist Church, 1812 Gary Avenue, Spirit Lake (use east door). If you are one that needs help with motivation and food planning to lose weight, this may be the support group for you. Visitors are welcome to attend their first TOPS meeting free of charge without obligation. For more information, call Betty Sangel at 712-320-4458.

Word Search Puzzle Key from page 10A

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The quilt was donated by Lynn Peterson, Spirit Lake in honor of her father Kieth Tadlock, Army Air Corp. WWII Veteran, 1941-1945.

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Kris Rowley

Dickinson County Treasurer



Lakes Area Activities/Senior Center Event Space

The Lakes Area Activities/Senior Center has rooms to rent for your special event. Do you have a special weekend event in the future? A Family Get-together, Anniversary, Graduation, Birthday?

Their card/party room seats 40, has a small kitchenette and rents for \$75.00 per day.

There is also a small meeting room with tables/seating for 10 plus extra chairs for additional seating. \$40.00 per day.

Check out their building updates.

Consider renting their large dining room which seats 100 if extra tables are set up. Without kitchen: \$125.00 per day. With kitchen: \$160.00 per day.

They have a beautiful, clean facility with most weekends

Call and visit with someone at the office for details. 712-336-5247



Milford Memorial Library News

Join MML for our weekly Building Bookworms Storytime on Mondays at 10:30 a.m. Take a look below for our themes. All materials and services are provided by the library free to participants. All kids and their adults are welcome to stay after storytime and mingle. For more information, contact the library or check out our Facebook page.

• September 22, 10:30 a.m. – Fall

• September 29, 10:30 a.m. – Can You Bear It? Bring a stuffed animal to stay overnight at Milford Memorial Library

Join Milford Memorial Library on Thursday, September 18,

How Hospice Can

Help You

with Cari from St. Croix

Thursday, September 18

10:00 a.m.

Milford Memoiral Library

• October 6, 10:30 a.m. – Silly Stories

• October 13, 10:30 a.m. – No Building Bookworms

• October 20, 10:30 a.m. - Dino Time • October 27, 10:30 a.m. – Monster Munchies

at 10:00 a.m., as we welcome Cari from St. Croix Hospice for the How Can Hospice Help You program. During this informative program, Cari will explain what hospice is, what they do, and answer your questions. She will take this intimidating topic and make it a little bit more calming. Coffee and cinnamon

program. On Thursday, September 11, join MML for After-School Adventures from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. We will be creating DIY Scratch Art. During this

rolls from Lisa's Bake Shop

will be provided for this free

free program a small snack will provided.

Discover new and exciting toys while having fun with friends during MML's All-Day Play, on Monday, September 15. From 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., a variety of toys will be out for this come-and-go playtime. All toys are supplied by Milford Memorial Library.

Get crafty at Milford Memorial Library! Fourth through twelfth graders are invited to Y.A. Maker Monday on September 15, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. During this free come-and-go activity, the library will provide supplies to make a washer bracelet or necklace.

The Milford Memorial Library Book Club will be discussing The Many Lives of Mama Love by Lara Love Hardin on Tuesday, September 16, at 1:00 p.m. It is not necessary to attend all of the book club meetings, and you are welcome to come and go as you please.

Let's Swap! MML's CrAFTER Hours will be hosting a Plant Swap on Wednesday, September 17, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. There is no registration and the bringing a plant is the only cost.





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Bill & Jackie at

Bill & Jackie will be playing for the weekly dance at the Spirit Lake VFW on Tuesday, September 2, from 6:00 to 8:00. Admission is only \$5.00 per person. Come early and enjoy a meal at the Spirit Lake VFW.



Family Services Resource Guide





290 240th Ave.#297 Arnolds Park

\$229,000

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/countyresource-guide. If you have services to add to the guide, contact Sue at 712-336-3488 or boettche@iastate.edu.





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Civil War Presentation at **Dickinson County Museum**

Randee Fieselmann will discuss her recently published book, The Union First: Community and Commitment in the First Iowa Infantry, on Tuesday,

September 9, at 7:00 p.m. at the Dickinson County Museum (1708 Keokuk Ave, Spirit Lake, IA 51360) as part of our HistoryLives! presentation series. She will tell the story of the very first young men from Iowa to enlist in the Civil War and of their commit-

ments to reunite the Union. The story is based on the diaries

of George Burmeister Company K, Cedar Rapids; Eugene Ware Company E, Burlington; and the newspaper reports of Franc Wilkie, who was assigned to travel with the First Iowa Infantry throughout their ninety days of duty in the summer of 1861. Randee has spent the last seven years researching the history of how Civil War broke out in Missouri and how the Iowa soldiers marched through Missouri under brutal conditions and fought in the Battle of Wilson's Creek.

Randee Fieselmann has a PhD in sociology from the University of Iowa and taught at the University of Iowa and at Coe College as a visiting assistant professor. Randee and her husband, John, who grew up in Spencer, now live in Iowa City and spend summers at Lake Okoboji.

More details about the book are available on the website: theunionfirst.com. This event will be both in-person and livestreamed on the Dickinson County Museum Facebook page.









tablespoon baking powder teaspoon kosher salt egg whites cup sour crean

cup melted butter cup neutral oil, like light olive oil cup milk or buttermilk

Tuxedo frosting 8-ounce package cream cheese

cup salted butter, softened teaspoon vanilla extract

cups confectioners' sugar (Start with three, see how you like it, and add more if you like it sweeter) tablespoons unsweetened cocoa powder tablespoon heavy cream, if needed

Recipe Courtesy of: "Butter, Flour, Sugar, Joy" (Sourcebooks) by Jane Kartes

or spray, a 9-by-13-inch baking pan. Add the flour, sugar, baking powder, and salt to a large mixing bowl, or the bowl of your stand mixer. Mix or whisk to combine. Add the egg whites, sour cream melted butter, oil, milk or buttermilk,



then mix until combined. Do not overmix. Pour the batter into the prepared cake pan. Bake 28 to 32 minutes. For the tuxedo frosting, cream the cream cheese, butter, vanilla, and salt. Add the confectioners' sugar. Mix to combine. Remove half the frosting to a separate bowl and add the cocoa powder to it. Mix to combine, then add the cream if your chocolate frosting feels too thick. Now you have two different frostings, one vanilla and one chocolate. Frost the cake in the pan or turn the cake out onto a large serving board or platter. Make large dollops of frosting, alternating between chocolate and vanilla. Gently swirl the frostings together using a butter knife. Once you've reached the marble pattern of your dreams,

• Tuesday, September 9, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Quilters

• Wednesday, September 10, 12:30-4:00 p.m., Quilters

• Thursday, September 11, 1:00-3:00 p.m., Mah-Jongg



Iowa Lakes Community College hosted its fourth annual All-State Choir Camp on Saturday, August 16, and Sunday, August 17, bringing together more than 150 students from 35 schools across Iowa. The farthest school traveled five hours to attend, underscoring the camp's growing reputation as a premier preparation opportunity for the 2025 All-State Music Festival.

As the only free All-State Choir Camp in Iowa, the event is made possible through the generosity of community supporters including Hy-Vee, Kwik Star, and Krafty's Meat Market, as well as the many local music teachers and accompanists who volunteered their time.

"Iowa Lakes Community College wants this camp to be accessible for all students," said Brett Fuelberth, Iowa Lakes Music Professor. "While many All-State Choir Camps charge between \$100 and \$200, we are able to offer this camp for free, thanks to the dedication and generosity of our donors and volunteers."

Over the course of the two-day camp, students worked intensively with experienced directors to learn and refine the All-State audition repertoire. The experience not only gives participants a strong start on their All-State preparation, but also allows families to save on camp expenses while keeping schedules flexible for other summer commitments.

The weekend concluded with a free public concert on August 17 at the Janice K. Lund Performing Arts Center, where campers showcased the skills they developed in performing selections from the All-State repertoire.



NEW BOOK CHALLENGE by Jill Jennings

September 2nd kicks off our next bi-monthly adult book challenge! Have you participated yet in one of our reading challenges? They are really quite fun! It's an opportunity for you to step outside of your comfort zone, try something new, and have a chance to win a \$25 Amazon gift card!

The September - October Book Challenge has new prompts to choose from. Just to review, you would read four books of your choice that fulfill four of the six given prompts. The six choices for this challenge are as follows: read a book that you find at a Little Free Library (littlefreelibrary.org), read a manga book, read an eBook, read a book set during a holiday that is NOT Christmas, read a book that its title is ALSO a song title, and read a book by an author that you usually avoid reading. Remember: you have to pick only four of the six. Also, the books that you read for the challenge must be read in the year 2025 (any month is ok).

You can find the bookmark on which to record your books and prompts at either the Spirit Lake Public Library or on our website at slpublib.com. Completed book marks must be turned in at the SLPL by 4:00 p.m., Friday, October 31, 2025.

Remember to check our book sale frequently ... especially the bargain books in the Community Room. That selection changes weekly! Our Back-to-School Special is still going on. The new/ like-new children's books at the front of the library are \$5 per bag. This would include the bottom two shelves and the two tubs on the floor. The upper two shelves are still \$1 for hardcover books, \$0.50 for softcover, \$1 for DVDs, and \$3 for audiobooks.

SLPL staff reading spotlight: Nancy is reading Sunrise on the Reaping (The Hunger Games, #0.5) by Suzanne Collins, and listening to Called to Protect (Blue Justice, #2) by Lynette Eason on Libby.

Upcoming activities at SLPL:

• Monday, September 8, 1:00-3:00 p.m., Mah-Jongg

• Monday, September 8, 5:15-6:15 p.m., Library Board

• Thursday, September 11, 10:30-11:15 a.m., Story Time

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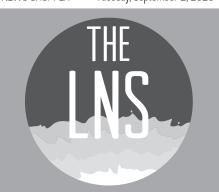
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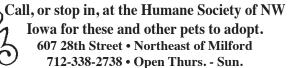
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Free Training Summit Addresses Hidden **Emotional Toll in Helping Professions**

Sheldon, IA – A free training summit aimed at professionals in caregiving and support roles will be held to shine a light on

the emotional and psychological challenges that often go unspoken in the helping professions. Hosted by Seasons Center for Behavioral Health and led by Stephanne Thornton, a Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker and Master Addiction Counselor, the event will offer practical tools to support personal well-being and career sustainability for those who care for others.

Helping professionals - from healthcare providers, social workers, and therapists to law enforcement, educators, and anyone in a helping profession often experience the unintended consequences of exposure to others' pain and trauma. The summit will explore these challenges, including vicarious trauma, empathy fatigue, burnout, and moral injury. Left unaddressed, these conditions can lead to emotional exhaustion, blurred boundaries, burnout, and even career dissatisfaction or departure from the field.

"Many professionals or caregivers don't realize how deeply they're affected by the stories they hear and the systems they navigate," says Sarah Wurm, VP of Program Development & Specialized Services at Seasons Center. "This training is about giving people the language and tools to understand what they're experiencing — as well as strategies to take care of themselves so they can continue to do this vital work."

This event is ideal for anyone working in high-empathy roles - including social workers, clinicians, substance use counselors, case managers, educators, law enforcement, attorneys, first responders, and more.

The free event will be held on Thursday, September 25, 2025, from 1:00 to 4:00 PM at the Crossroads Pavilion Event Center, located at 301 34th Avenue, in Sheldon, Iowa. Registration is required to reserve your spot. https://www.ticketleap.events/ tickets/seasons-center-for-behavioral-health/managing-theweight-of-caring-strategies-for-self-care

This training is more than professional development - it's a step toward creating healthier, more resilient helping professionals who can continue to show up for others without losing themselves in the process.

For more details, please visit our website at seasonscenter. org/events or our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/SeasonsCenterForBehavioral.Health



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plan. Review of applications will begin September 15, 2025.





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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 712-330-1270.

Writers and Writing

Memoir offers memorable history of puppet theater A lot of people dream of making a hobby a profession. Monica

Puppet Theatre

Monica Leo

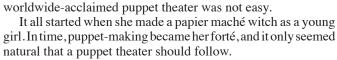
with Head Puppet Alfred Schulz

Leo, author of Hand, Shadow, Rod: The Story of the Eulenspiegel Puppet Theatre, of West Liberty, Iowa, did just that. Hand, Shadow, Rod. The Eulenspiegel Puppet The Story of Eulenspiegel Theatre has performed throughout the United States as well as in Ger-

Austria and Japan. Leo credits Head Puppet Alfred Schulz as coauthor, a testament to the relationship Leo has had with her lifelike friends over the years. "Alfred" intersperses his own italicized comments on Leo's narrative, giving a puppet's-eye view to the story.

many, the Czech Republic,

Leo's journey in transitioning from hobby to



"After that first trip to northern Iowa, the word got out and soon we were doing an average of two five-day residencies a month, sometimes more in all of Iowa's ninety-nine counties," says Leo.

Through the years, Leo was assisted in her puppetry endeavors by a dear friend, Teri Jean Breitbach, who tragically passed from cancer as Leo's enterprise, Owl Glass Puppetry Center, was reaching the height of success.

"Halfway through the week in Tennessee, I got the message: Teri Jean had passed to the other side. Present or not, she will always be part of Eulenspiegel. On our Website, in the "About Us" section, she's listed as our Guardian Angel. Our artistic visions were so intertwined that I don't know what mine would have been without her."

Similar losses of her husband, John, and friend from Mexico, Eli, forced Leo to change course and regroup to keep their mutual vision alive.

"I sometimes imagine John, Teri jean, and Eli hanging out together on the other side. I try to honor Eli's wishes by remembering all of them with joy. I still feel their presences in the blue building in West Liberty that loomed so large in all of their lives."

Leo's book is more than simply a memoir. It's a chronicle of how hard work, creativity and persistence made Eulenspiegel an international presence. Leo also gives credit to every person involved in her endeavor.

Eulenspiegel continues today. For more information, go to https://owlglass.org.

His Facebook page is Author Michael Tidemann.)

(Michael Tidemann writes from Estherville, Iowa.

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Dee's Bee & Butterfly Festival What's buzzing at the Dickinson County Nature Center on Friday, September 5th? Dee's Bee & Butterfly Festival - the Dickinson County Conservation Board's largest annual event.

The celebration of pollinators is free for families and individuals to join from 4:00-7:00 p.m. Stop by the amphitheater to see the main entertainment at 4:30 & 6:30, Tricia and the Toonies. Tricia will sing and play guitar, accompanied by her puppet friends in the show "The Great Pollinator."

During the evening in the Nature Center building, families can look forward to tagging Monarch butterflies (while quantities last), buying cotton candy, viewing the honeybee observation hive, and playing in Pollinator Paradise.

Just outside of the Maser Monarch Lodge, there will be a petting goat herd. Activities will also take place inside the lodge, including pollinator crafts, temporary tattoos, and a photo booth. Families can also meet Sweetie the Bee and receive a free honey straw.

Under the overhang of Maser Monarch Lodge, there will be a few vendors with products for sale. Marlene Boernsen, owner of Boernsen Bees, will be selling honey and beeswax products. Troy and Sarah Davelaar, owners of Siouxland Prairie Farms, will be selling a diverse variety of pollinator-friendly native plants.

At 5:30 by the gazebo near the lodge, Marlene Boernsen will also demonstrate how to extract and bottle honey. "We are excited to celebrate and promote all of the cool things that pollinators do, and we hope anyone interested in insects joins us," exclaimed Amy Heibult, community relations coordinator

of the Dickinson County Conservation Board. Please note that the Nature Center will be closed during Friday's regular hours due to festival preparations, but visitors

can join the beginning activities starting at 4:00 p.m. that day. Although bees generally do not bother people, those who are allergic should take precautions or consult their physician. For more information, visit www.dickinsoncountyconservationboard.com. Like and follow the Dickinson County Nature Center on Facebook and Instagram to see the latest updates and





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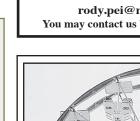
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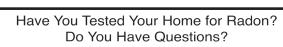
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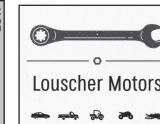
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on the latest programs and news. **Iowa Lakes Corridor Presents** 'Ai Tsunami' IOWA LAKES CORRIDOR **CONNECTIONS:**

Birding on the Green

Brooks Golf. The program of-

fers bird enthusiasts one more

opportunity to enjoy the unique

combination of birding and the

course parking lot, located at

1201 Brooks Park Dr, Okoboji, at 7:00 a.m. before setting out

in golf carts to explore the

to connect."

Participants will meet in the

beauty of the golf course.

take place on Monday, September 8th, from 7:00 to 9:00 a.m., at

course as a group and spot as many bird species as possible.

The program is guided by Don Vrchota and Dickinson County

birding in the Iowa Great Lakes," said Amy Heibult, community

relations coordinator of the Dickinson County Nature Center.

"Everyone is so friendly, and it's an enjoyable time for birders

No registration is required to attend the adult program, and a

CORRIDOR

CONNECTIONS

"AI TSUNAMI"

PAUL GORMLEY

RSVP

THURSDAY

10AM - 11:30PM

PEARSON LAKES

few binoculars will be provided. Like and follow the Dickinson

County Nature Center on Facebook and Instagram to get updates

"Birding on the Green is such a special way to experience

Nature Center staff, who will help with bird identification.

The Iowa Lakes Corridor Development Corporation (Corridor) will host the next Corridor Connections workshop on Tuesday, September 23rd from 10-11:30am at the Pearson Lakes Art Center. Titled "AI Tsunami," the program is presented in partnership with Iowa State University's Center for Industrial Research and Service (CIRAS) and will feature an interac-

tive discussion on the opportunities, risks and real-world applications of artificial intelligence for business leaders.

The wave is already here - and it's not slowing down. In this engaging and interactive session, speaker Paul Gormley uses the "AI Tsunami" metaphor to help business leaders understand the urgency, opportunity, and risks of artificial intelligence. This is not a "which tool should I buy" conversation. It's about recognizing a massive revolution in how work gets done — and making the strategic choice between using AI to expand capacity and invest in people or using it for cost-cutting at the expense of long-term resilience.

Gormley will break down AI in plain English, demystify how it works behind the scenes and highlight real-world use cases that small and medium-sized businesses — especially industrial and manufacturing organizations — can implement now. Attendees will gain a clear understanding of what AI is and isn't, the ability to explain AI to others, practical ideas for low-risk and high-reward AI experiments and a framework for deciding how to use AI to strengthen a business.

"We are excited to bring CIRAS to the region to talk about Artificial Intelligence, how it is and can be used, and why it's important to be aware of it whether we use it or not," said Corridor President & CEO Curt Strouth. "Whether we use it or not. AI is

here, and we can choose to utilize it or watch while others do.' Registration for this event can be found at lakescorridor. com/connect

Kiwanis Bingo Nights The final session of the season for Birding on the Green will

Milford Kiwanis presents Bingo Nights on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month. The next Bingo Nights will be Thursday, September 11 & 25, 2025. Card sales begin at 5:30 and Bingo is from 6:00-8:00. A meal will be provided by the VFW Auxiliary for just \$7.00. The Spirit Lake VFW is located at 914 Lake Street. Bingo profits support Milford youth needs, programs,

Mobile Food Pantry Estherville

The mobile food pantry from the Food Bank of Iowa is returning again. The free distribution will take place from 4:00 -

6:00pm, Thursday, September 4, at the Good News Estherville Church. The food will be distributed inside the church. Recipients are asked to bring bags, laundry baskets or boxes to carry the food. At the August Food Bank, 518 individuals (177 families) received 12,000 lbs. of food. The Food Bank of



Iowa partners with 700 agencies in 55 counties to distribute 2.5 million pounds of food each month, so that no one goes hungry in Iowa. If you have questions, call the Good News Estherville Church at 712-362-4984.

Lake Park Mobile Food Pantry

The Food Bank of Iowa Mobile Food Pantry will be open for distribution on Thursday, September 4, 2025, from 4:30 - 6:30

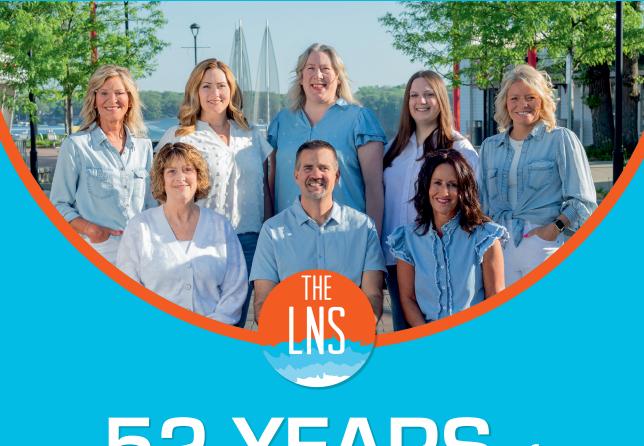
pm at the Lake Park Methodist Church located at 1471 135th Ave, Lake Park. Registration will be inside the church beginning at 3:30 pm, you must be present to register. You may pick up groceries for someone that is not able to make it. Please do not line up at the front door (southeast corner of the



church) before 3:30 pm. Please bring boxes, bags or containers for your groceries. Distribution will begin at 4:30 pm.

Volunteers will help bring your groceries to your vehicle. Questions? Call the Lake Park Methodist Church at 712-832-3361 or Jerilyn Marra 712-348-0475.





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But man is separated from God and His love.

"God is on one side and all the people on the other side."

(1 TIMOTHY 2:5)

Why is man separated from God and His love?

Because he has sinned against God.

"Your sins have cut you off from God." (ISAIAH 59:2)

"All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."

(ROMANS 3:23)

Where does this separation lead?

This separation leads only to death and certain judgment.

"Man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment."

(HEBREWS 9:27)

"Those who do not know God ... will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord."

(2 THESSALONIANS 1:8-9)

But, there is a solution.

Jesus Christ, who died on the cross for our sins, is the way to God.

"God is on one side and all the people on the other side, and Christ Jesus, Himself man, is between them to bring them together, by giving His life for all mankind."

(1 TIMOTHY 2:5-6)

"Christ died for sins once for all... to bring you to God."

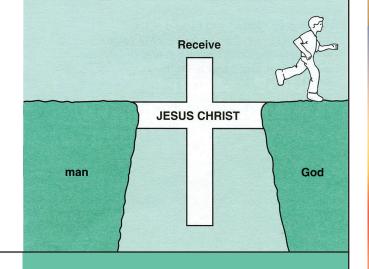
(1 PETER 3:18)

Does this include everyone?

Yes. But only those who personally receive Jesus Christ into their lives, trusting Him to forgive their sins, can cross this bridge.

"To all who received Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God."

(JOHN 1:12)



Jesus says, "Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will go in and eat with him, and he with Me."

(REVELATION 3:20)

How does a person receive Jesus Christ?

Everyone must decide individually whether to receive Christ.

Jesus said, "You may ask Me for anything in my name, and I will do it."

(JOHN 14:14)

Therefore, if you pray sincerely, asking Him this: Lord Jesus, please come into my life and be my Savior and Lord. Please forgive my sins,

and give me the gift of eternal life.

He will do it now.

If you have invited Jesus Christ into your life, the Bible says you now have eternal life.

"God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life."

(1 JOHN 5:11-12)

Thank you to Tyndale Publishing and The Navigators for permission to use their Bridge to Life pamphlet. To order your copy of this pamphlet go to https://www.navpress.com/p/bridge-to-life-green-25-pack/9781641583251

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EDUCATION CLASSES

MINDFUL ART 2.0: MINDFUL TREE With Karess Knudtson

Wednesday, Sept. 17 | 6-8pm | \$30/\$40

Prerequisite Mindful Art 1.0

Participants in the Mindful Tree class will be creating their own tree to uncover and address specific intentions in their lives. The finished product will be a work of art matted to 11x14. All necessary materials provided. Register by 9/16.

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Grades K-12

Scan for full class descriptions and to register online by 9/10

WHAT IS DISABILITY? **EXHIBIT MURAL WORKSHOPS**

Friday, Sept. 19th OR Sept. 26th 10am-11:30pm or 1pm-2:30pm | Free Level: Adult/All levels

Join us for an interactive workshop that celebrates the creativity and expression of artists with disabilities. Create your own piece of the mural to be included in an exhibition in November 2025 at the Pearson Lakes Art Center. Ages 18yrs+ up can create their own piece of the collaborative mural alongside the featured artists on 12x12 canvas. This inclusive and welcoming space encourages everyone, regardless of ability, to express themselves through art. Register by 9/10.

CULINARY CLASSES

Wine Class With Jennifer Tritle-Oitzman of Okoboii Wines

Thursdays | 6pm | \$45/\$55 Must register 1 day prior to each class

Sept. 4: Wines of Germany and Austria Oct. 2: Blends from Around the World

Nov. 6: Varietal Series. Pinot Noir Dec. 4: Wines of Spain

Greens & Grains - Garden Salad Bowls With Sarah Page of So Good By Sarah Custom Catering

Thursday, Sept. 11 | 12pm | \$50/\$60 Registration required by 9/9

Eating well is easy to do when you begin with fresh seasonal garden vegetables! Even better, Sarah's salad bowls taste delicious! In this demonstration class, enjoy a generous tasting menu of several garden bowls combining a variety of plants, proteins, and healthy grains. A glass of wine included.

Kids Corn Festival Cooking | Ages 7 - 12

Register online or call 712-332-7029

With Cathie Critchett of Lagniappe Tea Room Thursday, Sept. 18 | 4-6pm | \$30/\$40

Registration required by 9/16

Learn, cook & create! Explore the history of community festivals and corn palaces, once commonplace celebrations of the planting, growth, and harvesting of corn in the Midwest. Cathie will teach kids to prepare tasty treats, all spotlighting corn as a versatile ingredient, and then lead in an art activity using the husks.





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