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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2025

VOL/52 NO/49

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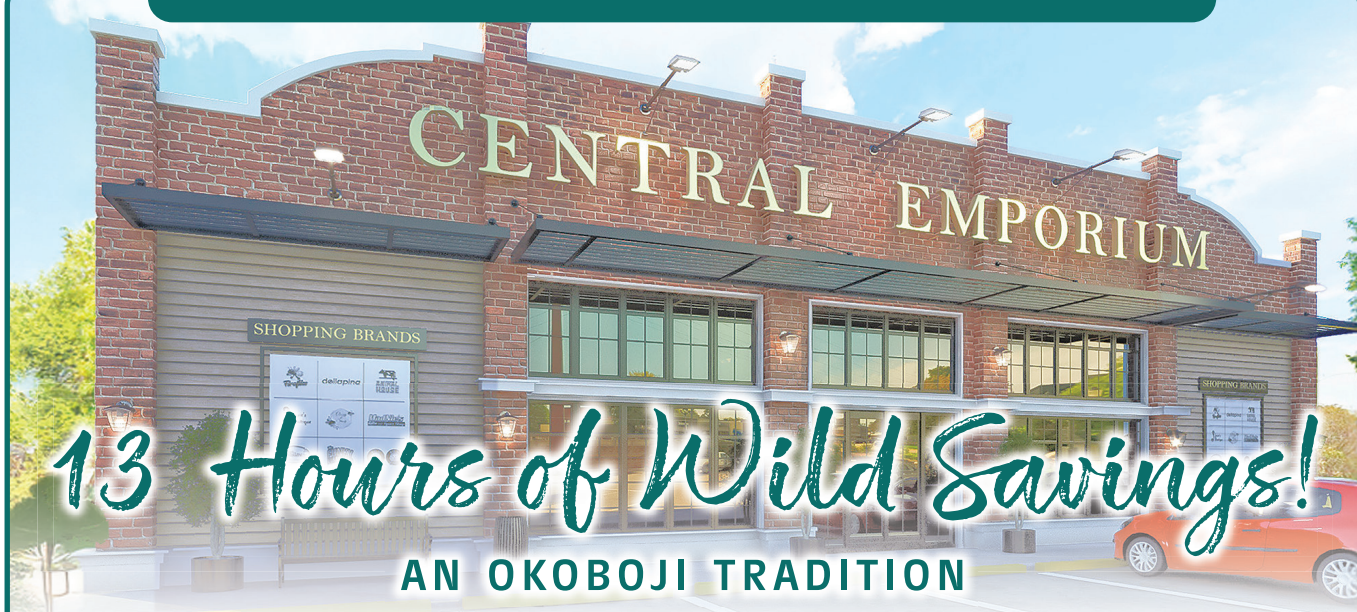
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The key to the Lakes Area Activities/Senior Center success rests in people in the community that are willing to dedicate their time to help out with various events. They are looking for more volunteers to join their team that are willing to help with events and Dinner Date.

If you are willing and able to be a volunteer, please contact Kathleen at 712-336-5247. One day a week or one day a month, all volunteers are appreciated.

Al-Anon Meetings

Milford New Hope Al-Anon meetings will take place on Zoom. Meeting ID is 77557290457 and the pass code is JXEU2H.

For more information, go online to Iowa-Al-Anon.org, meetings tab, find a group (enter: Milford, IA 51351 USA). Or call 712-580-4406.

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U-PICK-EM FOOTBALL CHALLENGE

TO MAKE YOUR PICKS:
Enter Online at LakesNewsShopper.com
Or Enter in Person by circling your picks & dropping this form at The Lakes News Shopper by 4:00 PM Friday for your chance to **WIN \$100 IN GIFT CARDS.**

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Game #3 Harris-Lake Park at Kingsley-Pierson

Game #4 Western Christian at Spencer

Game #5 Iowa State at Arkansas State

Game #6 UMMA at Iowa

Game #7 Georgia at Tennessee

Game #8 Texas A&M at Notre Dame

Game #9 Pittsburgh at West Virginia

Game #10 Minnesota at California

Game #11 49ers at Saints

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Game #14 Falcons at Vikings

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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

WHO ARE YOU CHEERING FOR?

Check out the Games on page 2A!

Go to www.lakesnewsshopper.com to make your picks before 4pm Friday!

U-PICK-EM FOOTBALL CHALLENGE

THE LAKES NEWS Auction Calendar

Wed., Sept. 10 – 12:00 PM—Onlineonly consignment auction. Auctioneers: Vander Werffs, Hattermann, Rydberg & Mouw. 712-3264. www.vw72.com.

Wed., Sept. 10 – 5:00 PM—2 day online and live machinery auction. Auctioneers: Hallberg Auction. 800-373-2255. www.hallbergauction.com.

Thurs., Sept. 11 – 10:00 AM—2 day online and live machinery auction. Auctioneers: Hallberg Auction. 800-373-2255. www.hallbergauction.com.

Sun., Sept. 14 – 11:00 AM—Estate auction in Estherville. Auctioneers: Nattress. 712-330-1921. www.nattressauctions.com.

Sat., Sept. 20 – 9:00 AM—Retirement metal fabrication auction in Estherville. Auctioneers: Howells. 712-260-9690. www.howellrealestateandauction.com.

ISU Summer Graduates

Iowa State University awarded degrees or certificates to 577 graduates this summer. Students earning degrees during the summer have the opportunity to participate in fall or spring commencement ceremonies. Congratulations to the following area graduates: Owen Kendall McKim, of Spirit Lake, Bachelor of Science, Hospitality Management, Magna Cum Laude; and Avarie Lynn Knaak, of Terril, Bachelor of Science, Marketing.

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AUTUMN

THE LAKES NEWS Auctions

Page 2B

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Jamie Hicks, CNP



Wedding Announcement

Kiana Svoboda and Jamison Helmers were married on July 26 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Milford by Fr. David Hemann. Kiana is the daughter of Doug and Denise Svoboda from Milford. Jamison is the son of Jeremy and Melissa Helmers from Milford. The bride is employed as a 3rd grade teacher at Graettinger-Terril CSD in Terril. The groom is employed as a 6th grade science teacher at Okoboji CSD in Milford.



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“A Sweet Week” for Okoboji Homecoming 2025

Okoboji schools present “A Sweet Week” for Homecoming 2025, running from September 22nd-26th, 2025.


This year's Homecoming activities include: Wednesday, September 24th, 7:00 PM - Coronation and Community Pep Rally, OHS South Gym, followed by Beefcake Volleyball and Powderpuff Football finals.

Friday, September 26th, 1:00 PM - All School Pep Rally followed by the Community Parade beginning at 2:15 PM. The parade will begin at OMS on 6th Street (East), to H Avenue (North), to 7th Street (East), to N Avenue (North), to 10th Street (West), and back to Okoboji High School.

Friday, September 26th, 7:00 PM - Homecoming Football Game vs. Estherville-Lincoln Central, halftime entertainment by the OHS Dance Team and the Pioneer Pride Marching Band.

Friday, September 26th, 9:30 PM to 11:00 PM - OHS Homecoming Dance at OHS Commons.

Get your official Okoboji Homecoming 2025 t-shirt (pictured) by ordering online through the form on our OHS Facebook Page. Orders must be submitted by Thursday, September 18th, and will be delivered to the OCSD building of your choice.





Iowa Great Lakes

Dinner & Auction

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2025
DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 PM

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SCAN ME





THIS WEEK!

FRIDAY 9/12	The Lake View Deck Friday Night Live Now through October 3rd! Join us for live music on The Lake View Deck. The Lake View Deck is open at 4pm. 6:00-9:00PM
FRIDAY & SATURDAY 9/13 - 9/14	Raceway Arcade Go-Karts & Arcade Now through October 4th! Take a ride on our go-karts & play some games at the arcade! Friday - 6:00-10:00PM, Saturday - 2:00-10:00PM. 2:00-10:00PM
SATURDAY 9/13	The Lake View Deck College Football Now through October 4th! Join us in cheering on all your favorite college football teams! 10:00AM
SATURDAY & SUNDAY 9/13 - 9/14	Queen II Queen II Cruise Now through November 1st! Join us for a fall cruise around Lake Okoboji! 1 PM Cruise only. 1:00PM

AP Gift Shop, Maritime & AP Museum - Monday - Friday - 10am - 4pm
** Wooden slide is closed for the season

Queen II Ticket Booth - Opens at 11:30 AM for ticket purchases.
** Times Subject to Change

THANK YOU!



For all of your support, please scan the QR Code to take a brief survey asking for feedback as we look to give more great experiences in 2026!

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

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.

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 blackknightsclub.net or contact Nick Maranell at 712-209-3722 or Ray Tucker at 712-330-7183.

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September 17 - Travis Johnson
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September 24 - TBA

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SEPTEMBER 6-14, 2025





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WINNER

Congratulations to Larry Bollman of Ruthven for being our first winner of The LNS U-Pick-EM Contest! We had a record 11 contestants tie for first place with 12 correct picks, with Larry winning by being the closest to the combined score of our two tiebreaker games. Larry wins \$100 in cash compliments of Blink Marketing and The Lakes News Shopper. Be sure to play this week for your chance at \$100 of Gift Cards! A HUGE thank you to all of our sponsors for making this weekly football contest possible.



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Entry fees range from \$17-\$38

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Saturday, September 20	Sunday, September 21
8:30 AM Store opens	8:30 AM Store opens
9:00 am On-site Registration/Practice	9:00 am On-site Registration/Practice
10:00 am Big Air Wave #1	10:00 am Big Air Wave #5
11:30 am Big Air Wave #2	11:30 am Big Air Wave #6
1:00 pm Big Air Wave #3	1:30 pm Speed Retrieve (All in one Finals)
2:30 pm Big Air Wave #4	3:30 pm Big Air Finals
4:00 pm Extreme Vertical Competition	(Pro, Semi Pro, Contender & Amateur Finals)





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SUNDAY

Schedule

WORSHIP

8:30 AM &

11:00 AM

FELLOWSHIP

9:30 AM

EDUCATION

9:45 AM

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T X M A Z W V N C H Z B E A X D L X Z R

H K W H U A I I N R G U I T O T D Z E P

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K I Y A T L X R E V E I V E K D M X I S

R O P L A E D C F S A Y R L I M K H F T

S N A D Z S E S I R I N O I T A V E L E

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E H E P B L O O P R V M T R E K I N G

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BLAZE

CAIRN

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FILTER

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HEADLAMP

HIKE

LEAVE NO TRACE

LOOP

POLES

REGISTER

REST

SCRAMBLING

SECTION

SWITCHBACK

TENT

TRAILHEAD

TRAIL MIX

TREKKING

WILDLIFE

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

Weekly Social Gathering

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.

Psalm 18:2

"The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my

God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the

horn of my salvation, my stronghold."

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP EVERY

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WEEK 37

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Dickinson County Taxpayers

Monthly Meeting

September 11 • 8 AM

Sandhill Board Room

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Meetings are held the 2nd Thursday

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Lakes Area Activities/Senior

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2.) They RELY on donations from the community, room rental

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4.) In order to keep their doors open, they NEED YOUR HELP!

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Today!



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SUNDAY • 10:30 AM

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Before & After the Service

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712.338.4642 • www.faithcommunitymilford.com



10:00 AM

SUNDAYS

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Kiwanis Bingo Nights

Milford Kiwanis presents Bingo

Nights on the second and fourth Thurs-

days 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, and scholarships.





93rd Birthday Annoucement

Clara Andersen will be turning 93 on Thursday, September 18,

2025. Please join her family in wishing her a happy birthday. She

resides at Accura Healthcare of Spirit Lake but wishes should be

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SATURDAY, September 13th 9am-12pm

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ON THE FAIRGROUNDS IN SPIRIT LAKE

NEW HOURS!

Saturday 7:30am-NOON

Wednesday 3:30-7pm

Word Search Puzzle Key from page 10A

T	U	W	O	I	O	L	E	A	V	E	N	O	T	R	A	C	E	O	B
E	F	I	L	D	S	M	G	N	C	U	X	S	R	B	E	A	O	T	D
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70th Anniversary & 90th Birthday

Local couple Ken and Janet Bargfrede were honored with a double early celebration for two major milestones. Friends and family hosted an open house to commemorate Ken's 90th birthday on December 1 and their 70th wedding anniversary on December 2.

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

Your Chance to Lead: Dickinson County Candidates Face September 18 Filing Deadline

Citizens of Dickinson County who are interested in running for local office in the upcoming November 4, 2025, city and school election should be aware of some upcoming important deadlines. The official filing period for candidates seeking positions as mayors, city council members, school board members, or Iowa Lakes Community College trustees opened on Monday, August 25.

In this upcoming election cycle, a total of 27 city council seats, six school board positions, and four seats on the Iowa Lakes Community College Board of Trustees are up for election in Dickinson County. All 10 mayoral positions across the county will be on the ballot for a two-year term. City council and school board members serve four-year, staggered terms. This means approximately half of the city council seats are up for election this year, with the rest to be decided in the November 2027 election. Similarly, school board and community college trustee terms are also staggered.

Candidates must submit their nomination papers to their respective city clerks or school board secretaries by 5 p.m. on Thursday, September 18. These officials will then be responsible for filing the paperwork with the Dickinson County Auditor's Office on Friday, September 19.

Individuals who do not meet the September 18 filing deadline will not have their names printed on the official ballot. However, they may still run a campaign as a write-in candidate, provided they meet all other eligibility requirements for the office.



Lakes Area Activities/Senior Center

Stop in and see what we have to offer!!!

SPEAKERS at 12:30pm

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.

Tuesday, Sept. 30th - Public Health comes to do blood pressure checks. No special speaker.

DONATIONS NEEDED! Your willingness to donate keeps the center going! We are not funded by the government.

UPCOMING BREAKFAST Sunday, Sept. 21 • 8:30am-12pm

SERVED AT NOON

DINNER DATE MEALS!

Call to reserve your nutritional meals for NEXT week 712-336-5247!

Donations towards the cost of meals are appreciated!

15 Monday	16 Tuesday	17 Wednesday	18 Thursday	19 Friday
Scalloped Potatoes & Ham, Vegetable, Fruit, Bread	Meatloaf, Vegetable, Fruit, Bread	Chili, Fruit, Bread	Hamburger/Bacon Alfredo, Vegetable, Fruit, Bread	Sliced Roast Beef, Vegetable, Fruit, Bread

PLEASE CALL 712-336-5247 BY 1:00 PM FRIDAY TO RESERVE A MEAL FOR NEXT WEEK

Elderbridge suggests a donation of \$7 - \$10 or whatever is affordable. Dinners are provided by CARSTENSEN'S of Lake Park. MEAT & GROCERY

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Saturdays: Nov. 1 - Dec. 13

Games played on Saturdays

Deadline to Register: October 3 (\$15 late fee)

(No games Thanksgiving weekend)

Practices Begin: Week of October 20

Time: 8:00am - 12:00pm

Grades: K-4th

Cost: \$59 members \$114 non-members

Kids will receive Jr. NBA jerseys for this session

LAZY MAN TRIATHLON

September 15 - October 17 (5 weeks)

Complete an Ironman Triathlon in just 5 weeks and receive a Y Lazy Man T-Shirt! Two events to choose from.

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NON-SWIMMER CHALLENGE: Bike 112 miles; Run/Walk 26.2 miles; Row 35,000 meters

Fee: \$20 Members

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 month.

Zumba class on Thursday at 4:00pm.

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.

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Sheldon TOPS will treat the Spirit Lake TOPS to lunch

by TOPS Reporter Colleen Lemkuil

On September 12, 2025, the Sheldon, Iowa TOPS Chapter will be preparing and serving lunch to the Spirit Lake TOPS Chapter. In 2024, the two chapters challenged each other to a weight loss challenge! Spirit Lake Chapter lost more weight, so the Sheldon Chapter will be bringing a healthy lunch with recipes to serve the Spirit Lake members. RSVP to Betty Sangel at 712-320-4458. The meeting will be held at the Spirit Lake United Methodist Church at 1812 Gary Ave., Spirit Lake, Iowa, one block east of the Dickinson County Courthouse. Go in the front door or the east door.

For this special meeting, we have Beth Samuelson coming to give our program to the two chapters. Beth is the Registered Dietitian and Nutritionist at the Lakes Regional Healthcare Center at Spirit Lake, Iowa. She specializes in Medical Nutrition therapy. Colleen Lemkuil is one of her patients, and she gives her a high recommendation for all your nutrition and diet needs. She has been with the hospital since 2007 and has eighteen years of experience. A picture of Beth Samuelson is attached to this article.

TOPS is a National Organization. You can go to www.tops.org for more information. The Chapter meets weekly for weigh-ins, programs, and contests. There are 65 chapters in Iowa.

New Graduate Fellowship Established to Support Fisheries and Water Science Research in the IGL

A new endowed graduate fellowship has been created to advance research in fisheries biology, water quality, and watershed management within the Iowa Great Lakes ecosystem. The Edward Thelen Graduate Fellowship in Fisheries Biology and Water Science Research will provide funding and field opportunities for graduate students to conduct hands-on research in collaboration with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources and the Iowa Lakeside Laboratory, operated by the University of Iowa.

Funded through the generosity of private donors, the fellowship honors Edward Thelen's career and contributions to the Iowa DNR, where he dedicated his life's work to maintaining, protecting, and enhancing Iowa's fisheries and aquatic habitat.

Partnership to Advance Science and Stewardship

The program will be jointly supported by the Iowa DNR's Fisheries Bureau and the Iowa Lakeside Lab, combining field expertise, scientific rigor, and local stewardship to address the most pressing fisheries and ecological questions in the Iowa Great Lakes region.

"This fellowship represents a remarkable opportunity to attract the brightest graduate students to our unique and valuable ecosystem," said Mike Hawkins, NW Regional Fisheries Management Supervisor with the Iowa DNR. "The Iowa Great Lakes are not only a natural treasure for our state but also a living laboratory for understanding aquatic systems. This program ensures that future scientists will have the resources, mentorship, and access they need to continue protecting these waters for generations to come."

The Iowa Lakeside Lab, located on the shores of West Okoboji Lake, has long served as a hub for research, education, and outreach in the region.

"By pairing the strengths of the DNR's field programs with the academic resources of Lakeside Lab, this fellowship will give graduate students unparalleled opportunities to conduct impactful research," said Mary Skopec, Executive Director of Iowa Lakeside Laboratory. "It's an investment not just in science, but in the future health and sustainability of our lakes, rivers, and watersheds."

Focus on the Iowa Great Lakes Ecosystem

Participants in this new program will engage in projects addressing topics such as fish population dynamics, invasive species management, water quality monitoring, and watershed health. Research outcomes will inform conservation and management strategies for the Iowa Great Lakes and other freshwater systems in the Midwest.

Graduate students pursuing degrees in fisheries biology, aquatic ecology, environmental science, or related fields are encouraged to apply by contacting Andrew Carlson, Fisheries Biologist at the Spirit Lake Fish Hatchery by e-mailing him at andrew.carlson@dnriowa.gov.

The Iowa DNR Fisheries Bureau works to protect, maintain, and improve Iowa's diverse fish populations and aquatic habitats. Through science-based management, public education, and collaboration with partners, the bureau ensures healthy fisheries for both present and future generations.

Founded in 1909, the Iowa Lakeside Laboratory is a field station of Iowa's state universities dedicated to research, education, and outreach focused on the state's natural resources. Its programs bring together students, faculty, and scientists from across the country to study and preserve the unique ecosystems of the Iowa Great Lakes region.

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Chad Elliott Inducted into the Iowa Rock ‘n Roll Hall of Fame

Chad Elliott was inducted into the Iowa Rock ‘n Roll Hall of Fame on August 31, 2025, at the Sami Center in Okoboji, Iowa. He later performed with the Class of 2025 at the induction concert.



Elliott, an Iowa songwriter, blends folk, rock, blues, and soul, and has spent over 25 years performing across the country. He has written more than 2,000 songs and released 26 albums. Throughout his career, he has shared the stage with notable artists like Jimmie Vaughan, Survivor, and the Counting Crows.

His album, Rest Heavy: The Sun Studio Sessions, released in 2018, was recorded at the legendary Sun Studio in Memphis, Tennessee. It was praised for its timeless soul and blues sound. The project earned his band, The Redemptions, a spot in the Sun Studio Sessions documentary on PBS.

Elliott's 25th album, Singing River, was recorded in 2021 at FAME Recording Studios in Muscle Shoals, Alabama. Produced by Bo Ramsey, the album featured original Muscle Shoals “Swampers” Spooner Oldham and David Hood.

In addition to the Hall of Fame induction, Elliott has won multiple awards, including the Woody Guthrie Song Contest and the Kerrville NewFolk contest. He also works as a full-time musician, touring solo and with his duo, Weary Ramblers, and operates Elliott Art Studio in Jefferson, Iowa.

“I am very honored and proud to be an Iowa musician,” Elliott said. “To have that recognized by the Iowa Rock ‘n Roll Hall of Fame is very humbling. Sometimes I feel like I’m still just getting started on this path. This induction has caused me to stop and reflect on what an amazing ride my musical path has been.”

To learn more about Chad Elliott, visit www.chadelliott.net.

ILUUF Celebrates The Life of Winnie Ravenscroft

The Iowa Lakes Unitarian Universalist Fellowship invites you to attend Sunday, September 14th, as the fellowship honors the life of founding member, Winifred “Winnie” Ravenscroft at the Lakes Area Activity (Senior) Center. Allan Saugstad will lead the service celebrating the extraordinary life of this civil rights advocate.



People of all ages and backgrounds share conversation, food and song at an ILUUF service. Guest speakers speak to issues affecting us both locally and globally. The ILUUF meets the 2nd & 4th Sundays of each month. Coffee and conversation begin at 9:00am with the program to follow at 10am. Learn more at www.uuokoboji.com. All are welcome to attend.

Lakes Area Dementia and Caregiver Memory Cafe for September 16

Jean Carney, a retired Department of Homeland Security Canine Trainer and Handler will be talking about her experiences. They worked primarily for the Transportation Security Administration keeping the traveling public safe with the Explosive Detection Canines. She has worked in many airports across the country. They have also provided security for special events throughout the country. She retired with 2 of the Canines she trained and handled. Ette, a trained canine will be with her. Come and learn more on September 16 at the First Presbyterian Church beginning at 10am. This is a social time for the caregiver and the person with dementia.

There will be time to socialize, and refreshments will be served. It is a free program. For more information you can call the church at 712-336-1649.

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.

Dance in Brewster

Norgaard Country will be playing for a dance on Saturday, September 13th, at the Brewster Legion in Brewster, MN, 7-10:30. Singles and couples welcome. Join them for a great evening of music and dancing.

VFW POST 4514 QUILT RAFFLE

Tickets: **\$5.00 each** or **5 for \$20**

Tickets can be purchased at the VFW in Spirit Lake



All proceeds will be given to the Dickinson County Honor Flight for Veterans.

This 77x75 inch quilt was made with various shades of patriotic colors and images of the USA.

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

COME JOIN US!

MONDAY- Drawing Night *Specials: Tacos, Burritos, Nachos*

1ST MONDAY- Patron's Potluck

TUESDAY- Dance Night w/ Music & Local Entertainment *Meal at 5, Dance at 6*

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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SUN 9/14 1:00, 4:00 & 7:00

MON-THUR 9/15-18 6:45

LET'S GET SOCIAL!

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 4-6PM

Get your calendars marked to join us and Bus Party Okoboji in the Maritime Museum Parking Lot for Let's Get Social from 4-6pm!

11 SEPT SAVE THE DATE!

BUS PARTY OKOBOJI

CHAMBER

Let's Get Social with Bus Party Okoboji

The Iowa Great Lakes Area Chamber is hosting a Let's Get Social event in the Maritime Museum parking lot with Bus Party Okoboji on Thursday, September 11th, from 4-6pm.

Remember Business After 5? Well, it's back, just with a new look. This event offers local professionals, business owners, and community members the perfect opportunity to connect, engage, and enjoy an evening of great conversations.

Join us to welcome Bus Party Okoboji to the Iowa Great Lakes Area. We will be doing a Ribbon Cutting right at 4pm with the social to follow from 4-6pm in the Maritime Museum parking lot. Look for their logoed buses and you are in the right spot.

This Business After 5 Social event is free and open to the public. Guests are encouraged to bring business cards and invite colleagues to join in the festivities. See you then!

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MON-THUR 9/15-18 6:30

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• Thur., Sept. 11: Meatloaf Mushroom & Swiss Burger

• Fri., Sept 12: Hawaiian Chicken Country Fried Steak

• Mon., Sept. 15: Hot Beef Taco Salad

• Tues., Sept. 16: CLOSED

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Golf Calendar

Iowa Great Lakes Area

Sept. 13	Lily Putt 4-Person Best Shot	Indian Hills GC
Sept. 13	EH 8" Cup 4-Person Best Shot	Emerald Hills GC
Sept. 13	Delta Waterfall	Brooks GC
Sept. 14	HIWAY 71 Cup Matches	Emerald Hills GC
Sept. 14	Wacky 4-Person Best Shot	Okoboji View GC
Sept. 15	Senior Ladies	Brooks GC
Sept. 21	4-Person Best Shot Tournament	Spencer Golf & CC
Sept. 28	Captain's Getaway Men's ABCD Best Shot	Emerald Hills GC
Sept. 29	SGOWA	Brooks GC
Oct. 4	Honest Fellas Open	Emerald Hills GC
Oct. 4	8" Cup 4-Person Best Shot	Emerald Hills GC
Oct. 5	3-Person Best Shot	Emerald Hills GC
Oct. 12	Chili Bowl	Brooks GC
Oct. 19	EH Fall Classic 4-Person Best Shot	Emerald Hills GC
Oct. 26	EH 2-Person Decathlon	Emerald Hills GC
Oct. 26	Brooks Appreciation Day	Brooks GC

Featured Courses: [Watch for their ads in The Lakes News Shopper!]

Brooks Golf Club 712-332-5011	Emerald Hills Golf Club 712-332-7100	Indian Hills Golf Club 712-336-4768	Okoboji View Golf Course 712-337-3372	Spencer Golf & Country Club 712-262-2028	Spencer Municipal Golf Course 712-580-7280
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UPCOMING EVENTS

13 SEPT.	SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13	Delta Waterfowl Tournament - 9am SG
15 SEPT.	MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15	Senior Ladies 9-Hole - 9am SG
29 SEPT.	MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29	SGOWA - 9am SG
12 OCT.	SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12	Chili Bowl - TT before 1pm 18 Holes with Skins Game \$30 - Members / \$50 - Guests
26 OCT.	SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26	Brooks Appreciation Day - 1pm SG

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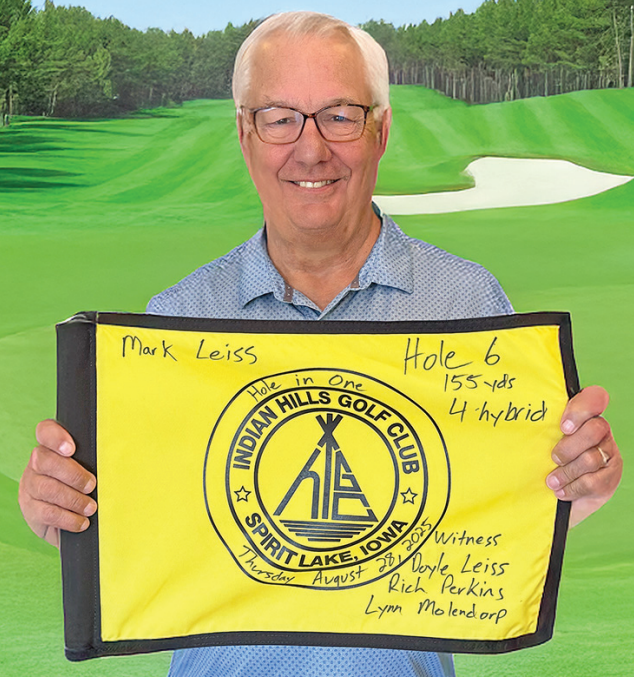


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Mark Leiss Hole 6 155-yds 4 hybrid

Witness
Boyle, Leiss
Rich Perkins
Lynn Molendorp

Leiss Gets Hole In One

Mark Leiss of Spirit Lake and a Real Estate Agent at Stauss Realty of Okoboji, got a hole in one at #6 at Indian Hills on Thursday, August 28th. Leiss aced the 155-yard par 3 with a 4-hybrid club. Congratulations, Mark!



UPCOMING EVENTS

September 14
Okoboji View
4-Person Wacky Best Shot
October 4
Okoboji View
4-Person 8" Cup
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Black Knights Car Club Wins Big at Storm Lake Car Show

The members of The Black Knights Car Club did not take the Labor Day Weekend off from and barbecue brats or burgers. Instead they were competing in the Storm Lake Car Show. They did an admirable fete with 4 Trophies being brought home. Members are (left to right) Robert Mc Quirk, Jim Willmore, Denny Houseman and Eric Anderson, seated.

The Black Knights Car Club began in the 1950s and re-organized 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 communities within the Black Knights Family.

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SUNDAY, SEPT. 21ST



Lakes Area Activities/Senior Center Schedule

Tuesday, September 9
8:30 - Kiwanis
12:00 - Dinner Date
12:30 - Speaker: Keelson Harbour - Joel will be providing an overview of their services/amenities that are available to their residents
12:30 - Bridge
6:30 - Men's Group
Wednesday, September 10
9:00 - Exercise Class
12:00 - Dinner Date
Thursday, September 11
10:00 - Strummers
12:00 - Dinner Date
1:00 - 500 Cards
3:00 - Cribbage
4:00 - Zumba
Friday, September 12
9:00 - Exercise Class
10:00 - Chair Yoga
12:00 - Dinner Date
Saturday, September 13
Dining Hall Reserved
Sunday, September 14
9:00 AM - Church in the Card Room
Monday, September 15
9:00 - Exercise
11:30 - Women's Group
12:00 - Dinner Date
1:00 - Asian Mahjong
6:30 - Dickinson County Democrats/ Meeting Room
Dinner Date meals are available every weekday. Call by 1:00pm on Friday to reserve a meal for the next week. The pool table and ping pong room is open every weekday. The card room closes from 12-12:30 for cleaning. Our Next Breakfast Fundraiser will be Sunday, September 21, 2025, from 8:30-12:30 - Freewill Offering. The facility is available to rent most weekends. Call or visit with someone at the office for more details.

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



Emerald Hills Golf Club

IOWA GREAT LAKES PREMIER GOLF COURSE

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 4-Man Best Shot **NEW 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

Call 712-332-7100
Hwy. 71 S. • Arnolds Park
GolfEmeraldHills.com





Obituary

On August 28, 2025, after a short stay in the Milford Care Center, **Betty Louise (Belken) Smith** passed away with loving children present. Betty's big heart, which served her well for 98 years, gave out after almost a century of love and giving to her family and community. Betty was generous to all who knew her and shared a deep enjoyment in nature and in the beauty she found all around her.

Betty was born at home (Milford, IA) on February 15, 1927, to Charles Dewey Belken and Geneva (Woods) Belken. She was the first of seven children. She was the last remaining sibling, and the mother of seven children: William (Bill) Smith of Milford, IA; Susan Smith of Missouri; Sally Smith of West Des Moines; Sandra Heerd of Milford, IA; Becky Smith of Los Angeles, CA; Shirley Smith of Springfield, MN; and Betty Towles of Potomac, MT. She is also survived by 8 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

Betty was married for 27 years to Robert Lloyd Smith (Smith Lumber, Milford, IA). Together, they raised their 7 children. Betty, Bob, and family had the fortune to live on West Lake Okoboji (Des Moines Beach). The family enjoyed many years of swimming off their dock, annual camping trips, and the most fabulous Christmas celebrations children could wish for. Betty was happiest in nature and introduced her children to the beauty of the West. But she also loved to be elegant - with her hair in a French twist - and a splash of sparkling costume jewelry. She was mistaken at Lumber Conventions she attended with Bob (Atlanta and Las Vegas) for Zsa Zsa Gabor or a sister, and more than once!

Later in life, her dear companion of over 2 decades, Del Leiss, preceded her in death in 2014. She missed him dearly. Betty's friends and family helped her celebrate her 98th birthday in February 2025 with over 80 community members attending.

Betty was a fiercely independent woman who possessed wide talents. She was the first woman to serve on the Lakes Regional Hospital Board and held that position for many years. She bought and pulled a variety of campers across country to Texas, California, and places in between. She created loving memories with children and grandchildren as they camped together. She was a fine seamstress, an interior designer, and an excellent cook. She was a good shot with a rifle, hunting in Wyoming each fall with Bob, where they camped in old miners' tents (sometimes in early-season snow) and fly-fished for trout in western streams. Later in her life, Betty worked at the New Inn Resort, Okoboji; Hill's Jewelry, Spirit Lake; West Oaks Time Share in Arnolds Park, and most joyously, in her own shops in Arnolds Park and Milford, creating personalized sweatshirts and tee-shirts as well as doing fine alterations for proms, weddings, suits, dresses - she could fix any clothing issues people brought her.

Betty was go-go, all the time, with a gorgeous smile and a generous tip for all service people. Her memory was razor sharp up until the end, remembering childhood friends, adventures, places, and people from through-out her life. She was greatly loved by many people, and her children will miss her dearly. Her funeral was held at Downtown Church, Milford, IA, on Thursday, September 4, 2025. Condolences and memorials can be sent in care of Bill Smith, PO Box 126, Milford, IA 51351.

Turner Jenness Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.



Obituary

A funeral service for Mary Arnold, age 101, of Des Moines and formerly of Lake Park, was held Saturday, September 6, 2025, at the Lake Park Methodist Church. Burial was at Silver Lake Cemetery.

Mary Jean Arnold was born on the family farm five miles east of Sibley, Iowa, on April 2, 1924. She was the seventh child born to Augusta (Grew) and Henry Harjehausen. She was baptized in the Evangelical Church at Al-lendorf, Iowa, on July 6, 1924, and joined the First Methodist Episcopal Church in Des Moines on April 24, 1938.

She received her education in a rural school until fourth grade, then attended Sibley School, West Jr. High and Roosevelt High School in Des Moines and graduated from Sibley High School in 1942. Upon graduation, Mary worked as secretary to the Superintendent of Sibley High School and as a teller at the First National Bank in Sibley.

Mary was united in marriage to Allen Arnold on May 11, 1944, in Sibley, Iowa. While living in Burlingame, California, Mary worked in the office at Pan American Airways and later as a teller for the First Bank of Burlingame, CA, until 1946, when they returned to Iowa. The couple lived in Lake Park from 1950-1980 where they raised their family. While living in Lake Park, Mary was active in the United Methodist Women's Group and teaching Sunday School. She was also a Boy Scout leader. They owned Arnold Grain and Feed until 1980, when they moved to Des Moines.

Mary was a member of Aldersgate Methodist Church in Des Moines and former member of the Federated Women's Club. She was a volunteer guide at Terrace Hill for five years. She was a devoted mother to her children and grandchildren and enjoyed spending winters in Arizona.

Mary was a creative person. She spent many years painting watercolors, which grace her children's and grandchildren's homes, along with many others. She loved playing Scrabble, and we, as her family, will never see a Scrabble board again without thinking of her.

Mary passed away on August 27, 2025, at Green Hills Retirement Community in Ames, Iowa, at 101 years of age.

Left to cherish her memory are her children, Dr. David Arnold (Lana) of Dubuque, IA; Richard Arnold (Mary) of Colorado Springs, CO; Deb Osterhout (Dean) of Kelley, IA; and Laura Bray (Richard) of Chanhassen, MN; twelve grandchildren, Chad Arnold (Heather), Carl Arnold (Katie), Wade Arnold (Shannon), Craig Arnold, Dr. Benjamin Arnold (Dr. Terrell Singleton), Jillian Mayles (Dr. Jonathan Mayles), Jason Arnold, Lynn Brownrigg (Trent), Leah Pudenz (Shane), Dana Osterhout, Austin Bray and Christian Bray (Genevieve); seventeen great-grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews.

Mary was preceded in death by her parents, Augusta and Henry Harjehausen; husband, Allen Arnold; four brothers, Leroy, Henry, Donald and A.E. Harjehausen; two sisters, Lydia Petersen and Francis Griffith.

Turner Jenness Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.



Obituary

Joan Benz of Arnolds Park, IA; formerly of Melvin, IA; passed away at Avera McKennan Hospital in Sioux Falls, SD, on Saturday, August 30, 2025.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date. Arrangements are under the direction of the Robinson Funeral Home in Spirit Lake, IA. Online condolences may be directed to www.spiritlakefuneralhome.com

Joan Patricia Benz was born on December 1, 1949, in Derby, CT, to Kenneth and Ruth (Di-Capua) Gagnon. Growing up in a military family, Joan graduated from a high school in Wiesbaden, Germany. Joan worked in New York City in the late 1960s for an airline doing travel bookings. She was united in marriage to John Benz on August 15, 1970, in Shelton, CT. They eventually moved to northwest Iowa in the early 1970s. For nearly 45 years, Joan owned and operated Sunset Travel Agency in Milford, IA, and Sibley, IA, which allowed her to continue her love for travel.

She was a member of the American Lutheran Church in Melvin. In her free time, she enjoyed traveling, painting, tending to her flower and vegetable garden, entertaining family and friends, and cooking and caring for her family. Joan always had a warm smile and a kind heart. She was generous to many people and always treated everyone with respect. Joan was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, and a good friend to many.

She is survived by her husband, John Benz of Arnolds Park, IA, formerly of Melvin, IA; daughter Allison (Kevin) Rossan and their son, Jack, of Gridley, CA; son Eric (Tessa) Benz and their daughter, Kinsley, of Foster City, CA; and siblings Karen, Bruce, Laura, Lynn and Leslie. She was preceded in death by her parents.

The family requests that, instead of flowers, memorial contributions be made to Next Life Foundation in memory of Joan Benz, 2106 Tarzan St., Okoboji, IA 52355. www.nextlifeound.org EIN 46-5588534



Family and Friends are invited to attend a

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

to honor JUDY OLSON GERARD

Saturday, Sept. 20

at Faith Community Church

Memorial Room from 2-4pm.

805 Okoboji Ave., Milford

Program scheduled at 2:30pm

Judy passed away on January 28, 2025, in San Jose, California

Obituary

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

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

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.



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.



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Obituary

A Memorial Service for Delores Boles, age 92, of Milford will be held on Saturday, September 13, 2025, at 2:00pm at Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses in Spirit Lake. There will be a luncheon immediately following the service at the Lakes Area Senior Center in Spirit Lake.

Delores May Boles, age 92, of Milford, passed away peacefully on June 6, 2025, at Accura Healthcare in Milford, Iowa.

Delores was born on May 1, 1933, to Ralph and Beulah (Hanson) Hunt on the family farm west of Milford. She grew up on the family farm and graduated from Milford Community School in 1952. On March 22, 1953, she was united in marriage to Ralph Merlin Boles in Milford. Together, they made their home at 1502 10th Street, where she lived for 68 years.

On July 7, 1957, Delores was baptized as one of Jehovah's Witnesses. A devoted member of the Spirit Lake congregation, she remained active in her ministry throughout her life, faithfully sharing her hope in Jehovah's Kingdom with others until her passing.

Delores will be remembered for her warm hospitality, always ready with a fresh pot of coffee and a stash of frozen cookies. She had a love for fishing, animals, and tending to her flowers.

She is survived by her son, Bruce Boles of Ventura, California; her daughter, Donna (Steve) Hollier of Milford, Iowa; several nieces and nephews; and many spiritual friends.

Delores was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Ralph; her three sisters; Gladys Hunt; and four brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law.

Turner Jenness Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.



Spirit Lake to Host Free Outdoor Movie Night

The Spirit Lake Noon Kiwanis and the Spirit Lake High School Key Club are teaming up to host a free outdoor movie night on Sunday, September 14th, at 5 p.m. The event will feature a screening of Disney and Pixar's film Inside Out 2 at the Spirit Lake Hafer Football Field.

The movie night is being held to promote mental health awareness within the community. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own chairs or blankets for seating. The event will also provide free hot dogs, chips, water, popcorn, and candy while supplies last.

The Kiwanis and Key Club welcome all community members to enjoy an evening of family-friendly entertainment and to help foster an open conversation about mental wellness.

Sunday, September 14th @ 5pm!

Spirit Lake Hafer Football Field

INSIDE OUT 2

MENTAL HEALTH MOVIE NIGHT

*bring your own chair or blanket

FREE hotdogs, chips, water, popcorn & candy (while supplies last)

Sponsored by:

Spirit Lake Noon Kiwanis

Spirit Lake High School Key Club

AA Meetings

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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Dickinson County Democrats Monthly Meeting

Please join the Dickinson County Democrats, Independents, and those not happy with the way the government is going; for their monthly meeting on Monday, September 15, at 7:00 PM at the Spirit Lake Senior Center (2101 Zenith Avenue, Spirit Lake; under the water tower). Everyone is welcome! Please bring a friend or neighbor. Join us if you have any ideas, concerns, questions, suggestions or if you would like to volunteer to help build a better America.

Democrats believe that the economy should work for everyone, health care is a right, our diversity is our strength, and democracy is worth defending.



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?
- 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 Mash

On Monday, September 15, Milford Memorial Library has a variety of free come-and-go activities for kids and young adults. Starting at 11:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., kids can come discover new toys and play with friends at MML's All-Day play. Fourth through twelfth graders can bring their friends and create a washer necklace or bracelet from 9:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. All toys and materials will be provided by the library.

LET'S PLAY

ALL-DAY PLAY

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

9:30 AM - 4:00 PM

JOIN US AT MML

MILFORD MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Y.A. Menz Monday

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

9:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Washer

BRACELET OR NECKLACE

How does your plant collection grow? By joining MML's CrAFTER Hours for a Plant Swap on Wednesday, September 17, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. There is no registration and the cost is bringing a plant to swap.

On Thursday, September 18, at 10:00 a.m., Milford Memorial Library will be welcoming Cari from St. Croix for a How Can Hospice Help You program. She will explain what hospice is, what they do, and answer your questions. Cari will take this intimidating topic and make it a bit more calming. Coffee and Lisa's Bake Shop cinnamon rolls will be provided for this free program.

You are invited to come discuss The Many Lives of Mama Love by Lara Love Hardin with the Milford Memorial Library Book Club 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.

Paint Night at the Library is happening on Tuesday, September 23, at 7 p.m., at Milford Memorial Library. This month we are creating a seasonal interchangeable round door sign. The cost for this event is \$35. Participants can register at Milford Memorial Library, Arnolds Park Library, or Spirit Lake Public Library.

65th Anniversary Announcement

Bob and Donna Schoelmer 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.

FALL FAMILY FUN

Parade & Window Painting

The Okoboji Homecoming Parade will be held on Friday, September 26th, 2025, @ 2:15 pm. We would encourage local businesses to join us in this great event. If your business wants to be in the parade, please fill out the form on the OHS Facebook Page by Wednesday, September 24th. All Parade participants will line up in the Middle School parking lot by 1:30 pm.



Homecoming window painting will be offered to any businesses in the Okoboji School District. Students will paint windows on Monday, September 22nd, and clean them on Sunday, September 28th. If your business wants to have windows painted, please fill out the form on the OHS Facebook Page by Thursday, September 18th.

View From The Bench
by John Adams, Jr.

Cyclone State, Again!

Well, it wasn't pretty, and it actually looked like a game that Iowa normally wins in the Cy-Hawk rivalry, but for the second straight year, a 54-yard field goal late in the fourth quarter (1:54) by Kyle Konrardy gave the Cyclones a victory over the Hawks, 16-13 on a beautiful football day at Jack Trice Stadium. It was Iowa State's first win over Iowa in Ames since 2011, but their third win in the last four games vs the Hawks, with them winning the last two games in Kinnick Stadium. This game always seems to come down to the fourth quarter, with 12 of the last 14 Cy-Hawk games being decided by 10 or fewer points, and this year's game did not trend away from the norm.

The script was flipped from last year's game where Iowa dominated early but couldn't put the Cyclones away, as Iowa State controlled the first quarter, but was only able to score two field goals and take a 6-0 lead. The momentum shifted on the last play of the first quarter when Iowa State's Xavier Townsend was run into on a punt by Iowa's Zach Lutmer. A flag was initially thrown for interference with the returner, but the flag was picked up as it was ruled Lutmer was blocked into Townsend, giving Iowa the ball in ISU territory. Iowa would turn the first turnover of the game into three points on a Drew Stevens 31-yard field goal to trim the lead to 6-3. The Cyclones appeared to take the momentum back when Jeremiah Cooper intercepted Mark Gronowski, and returned it to the Iowa 18-yard line. Several plays later Rocco Becht would hit Ben Brahmer on a 3rd and goal play for a 2-yard TD to give ISU a 13-3 lead that looked pretty safe the way the Cyclones defense was playing against what looked like an inept Iowa offense. The Hawkeyes, however would not go away, and put together a very impressive 75-yard, 4:23 drive that ended with a 2-yard Gronowski run with just :27 left before halftime to trim the lead to 13-10 and give Iowa momentum back. Iowa State appeared to have the Hawkeyes stuffed on a 3rd and goal play with a sack of Gronowski, but was called for costly defensive holding and unsportsmanlike conduct penalties on the play, that gave Iowa new life and a first and goal at the ISU two-yard line.

The third quarter felt like Iowa football, and as an ISU fan, I did not like how the game felt. Iowa put together another impressive "Iowa" drive, going 77 yards in 16 plays, chewing up 9:28 of the third quarter to tie the game at 13-13 on a 36-yard Stevens field goal with 4:32 left in the third frame. Iowa's defense stiffened up in the second half, forcing several three and outs for ISU, and the momentum was definitely in Iowa's favor. Fortunately for the Cyclones, ISU's defense was also up to the task as each team traded punts, and the only fans truly entertained were those who bet the under.

As a Cyclone fan, however, you do feel different about this year's team with Rocco Becht as your quarterback, and once again he came through in the clutch. Iowa State would take over after a deep punt from Rhys Dakin at their own 11-yard line with 8:14 remaining in the game. Becht would orchestrate a 55-yard drive that would chew up 6:20 and put the Cyclones in scoring position. The drive included some luck, as tight end Gabe Burkle made an amazing 17-yard catch on a 3rd down pass that bounced off the hands of wide receiver Xavier Townsend to Burkle who was drilled by Iowa safety Koen Entringer as he made the catch, but was able to hang on and extend the drive. Burkle made another spectacular 3rd down catch on a "pop" pass from Becht that took the Cyclones down to the Iowa 38-yard line and helped set up the game-winning field goal. Iowa State was only able to muster one more yard on the next two plays, but Konrardy has the earned trust of head coach Matt Campbell and his teammates, as on 3rd and 9 ISU just ran a QB draw to put the ball in the middle of the field and set up the game-winning field goal. The kick, which was into a moderate wind, had just enough leg and gave the Cyclones a 16-13 lead with 1:54 remaining. Iowa did still have one timeout, and as we saw in last year's Cy-Hawk game, plenty of time left to pull out the victory. Those hopes, however, faded fast as Gronowski was sacked twice by Yale transfer Tamatoa McDunough for a total of 11 yards to set up a 4th and 15. Gronowski's 4th down pass then fell helplessly out of bounds and the Cyclones would take a knee twice to seal the hard-fought victory.

While I wasn't quite accurate with the final score, predicting a 27-21 Cyclone win, I am more than happy to have picked the winner correctly. As we sat in the parking lot and tailgated before the game with Cyclone and Hawkeye friends (yes I do have Hawkeye friends), and then sat in Jack Trice Stadium with mostly ISU fans, but also in front of some very nice Iowa fans, I couldn't help but think how fortunate we are in the State of Iowa to have two Power Four teams that constantly are on the national stage and are very competitive. This game for the third time in the last six years, had the eyes of the nation on it, with being the Fox Big Noon Kickoff Game, having the Fox Big Noon Kickoff Show and Barstool Sports Pregame Show live in Ames (ESPN Game Day has been in Ames twice). While we may not have a professional team, we have two very passionate fan bases and two very competitive football programs. I'm not sure where Iowa goes from here, they do need Gronowski to improve, as 83 yards passing isn't going to get it done in the BIG, but they showed again on defense that they will be good enough to be in every game. Iowa State showed, once again, that they are tough enough to win a game when they don't play their best, and they can win close games, having won eight of their last nine one possession games. The Big 12 has not looked overly impressive in the non-conference, as it looks like Iowa State, Utah and Texas Tech are the early head of the class in the league. Much can change during the season, but as long as the Cyclones can stay healthy, I really like their chances of making it back to Dallas for another shot at a Big 12 Championship. While I wouldn't place my mortgage on that bet, one thing I do know for sure, once again, it is a CYCLONE STATE!!



Sophomore's Pageant Success

Spirit Lake High School sophomore Anna Tullis, daughter of Mark and Hope Tullis, competed in two different pageants this July, earning a scholarship and several awards.

First, at the National American Miss state pageant in Omaha, Anna competed for the Iowa state title. She was named second runner-up overall and first runner-up in both the runway and casual wear categories. Anna also won the Miss Personality award, which came with a \$112,000 scholarship and multiple trophies.

Following the state pageant, Anna traveled to Branson, Missouri, to compete for the Princess of America national title, which she currently holds the state title for. Competing against girls from across the country, Anna had a full week of rehearsals and appearances but did not make the top ten.

"I would like to thank my community, family, and friends that have supported me through all of this," Anna said. "I'm grateful for the opportunities I get to compete in wonderful programs like National American Miss and Princess of America."

Anna, a varsity cheerleader at Spirit Lake High School, also loves show choir, choir, and art. She plans to give up her Great Plains crown in November and will compete for the Miss Iowa title in February.

She would like to thank her sponsors for their support: Tri-State Litho, Boji Doors, Northwest Bank, State Farm, Elegance Bridal and Prom Boutique, All Fur Love Pet Grooming, Parks Marina, Amy's Sign Design, Steamway, Robinson Funeral Home, and Nautical Bar and Grill in the Iowa Great Lakes Area; Rapid Chiropractic in Rock Rapids, Iowa; River Valley Fitness in Win-don, Minnesota; and Dr. Audra Reynolds of Bealton, Virginia.





Occasions
104 East 4th Street, Spencer

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8AM-12:30PM

Biscuits & Gravy, Scrambled Eggs,
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- DOLL RAFFLE -



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Ticket Cost is \$5

Drawing Will Be Sept. 21 During Breakfast

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New Church in Dickinson County - Life360-Okoboji

There is a new church in town in Arnolds Park. Life360-Okoboji, an Assemblies of God church, is making a move to a larger facility in September. The new church plant started meeting at The Well Coffeeshop and Eat-ery, in Spirit Lake, one year ago and is expanding their ministry to the Founders Hall on the Okoboji Bible Conference grounds, central to Dickinson County.



The pastor is Rev. Brian Kelly, born and raised in Spirit Lake, who holds a Ph.D. in theology from Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, CA. His wife and co-pastor, Dr. Heather Kelly, from Northern California, is a licensed psychologist who also holds a Masters degree in Theology from Fuller, where they met. In addition to ministry, both work as online professors, Heather for Evangel University in Springfield, MO, as the director of the Online Behavioral and Social Sciences department, and Brian for Grand Canyon University in Phoenix, AZ, as a Senior Dissertation Advisor for doctoral students. They were married 28 years ago and have 3 children. Life360-Okoboji is part of a family of over 20 churches dedicated to rural church plants across the Midwest. Jesus said, "I have come that they might have life and have it more abundantly" (Jn. 10:10) which is the mission and message of Life360 church according to Pastor Kelly. Life360-Okoboji meets on Sundays at 10:30 AM with children's ministry provided, and Wednesday at 7:00 PM for Bible study and prayer at the Founders Hall building. In the future, look for community meals, worship events, and holiday celebrations as the church grows. More information about the church and its activities can be accessed at <https://life360.org/okoboji-ia/>. Prayer requests can be directed to bmkelly@life360.org or by calling 712-339-9201.



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IMPORTANT NOTICE:

This sale is not only our final sale of 2025, but this will be our final sale! While we have enjoyed meeting so many wonderful people over these last 15 years, and we've made some friends in the process, it's simply time for us to do other things. We appreciate all of our clients and customers for keeping us busy all these years, but it's time to move on and spend more time with our families and friends while we still have it. We wish you all the best. THANK YOU ALL!



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Okoboji High School Earns Prestigious FAFSA-Focused School of Excellence Designation

Okoboji High School is proud to announce its recognition by the Iowa Department of Education as a FAFSA-Focused School of Excellence for the 2024-25 academic year. This distinction honors schools where 70% or more of graduating seniors completed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), supporting students' access to post-secondary financial aid and removing barriers to higher education.

Out of 28 Iowa high schools awarded this honor, Okoboji High stands among the top performers, with FAFSA completion rates significantly outperforming the statewide average of 52%. The school achieved the highest FAFSA completion rate among all public high schools in its AEA and ranks within the top 9% statewide, demonstrating exceptional success in supporting families through a complex process.

This accomplishment reflects the exceptional dedication of Mary Prososki, Okoboji High School's College and Career Transition Counselor, whose tireless efforts have guided seniors and their families through the FAFSA completion process. Mary's expertise, patience, and commitment ensured students navigated this critical step with confidence and clarity.

"Completing the FAFSA can be daunting, but Mary's support made all the difference for our seniors," said Principal Brian Downing. "Her leadership was a key driver behind Okoboji's outstanding completion rate."

The FAFSA designation highlights Okoboji High School's commitment to "Pioneering Pathways for Every Student" including fostering college-going pathways and ensuring that financial barriers do not impede students' postsecondary aspirations.



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WAGON FULL OF SCHOOL SUPPLIES DONATED TO UPPER DES MOINES - Members of the Lakes Area Senior Activity Center recently donated school supplies to Upper Des Moines. Thanks to everyone that donated School Supplies to the Lakes Area Senior Activity Center.

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Make a Splash at the Kiwanis Duck Derby 2025

Get ready for a quacktastic time as the Spirit Lake Noon Kiwanis Club hosts the highly anticipated annual Duck Derby on Saturday, September 27th, during the University of Okoboji Oktoberfest at Preservation Plaza.

With tickets priced at just \$10 each or 3 for \$25, you could be the lucky winner of the grand prize—\$1,000. Not to mention, 2nd and 3rd place winners will also take home \$250 and \$100, respectively.

Don't miss your chance to be part of this thrilling event. Grab your tickets in advance from any local Spirit Lake Kiwanian or visit the Spirit Lake Noon Kiwanis Club on Facebook to secure yours online. For last-minute thrill-seekers, remaining tickets will be available during the University of Okoboji Oktoberfest festival until 2:00 PM, but hurry — the race kicks off at 3:00 PM sharp.

Remember, every dollar raised helps support children and families in need within our community. A heartfelt thank you goes out to everyone who has purchased a ticket and is making a difference this year.

Join the Spirit Lake Noon Kiwanis Club for a day of fun, excitement, and giving back—may the best duck win.

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Fall Baseball at Wildcat Stadium

Wildcat Stadium in Arnolds Park has a summer athletic schedule running from May through July 4 and features 6th and 7th grade youth baseball competitions, as well as Okoboji Middle School baseball and weekend tournaments.

For the past four years Wildcat has also hosted a Sunday September Fall Baseball League sponsored by Total Baseball Development. The league involves 6th and 7th grade teams and returned September 7 for its fifth anniversary year! Teams are from northwest and north central Iowa. This year's games will be played September 7, 14, 21, 28, and October 5.

The City of Arnolds Park wishes to thank the league, athletes, fans, and parents for enjoying an extra month of youth sports at Wildcat Stadium.

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Shannon Rydberg: 850-712-7041
Levi Mouw: 712-441-6898
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ESTATE TOOL & VEHICLE

• AUCTION •

Sunday, September 14, 2025 • 11:00 AM
LOCATED: 3606 Hwy 9, rural Estherville, IA

ITEMS INCLUDE Craftsman base toolbox* Wall space heater* Pit Stop creeper* Squirrel cage fan* Socket sets* Snap On ratchets* Lots of new motor oil & etc.* Open & box end wrenches* 2- man saws* Husky 680 Power washer* Craftsman top tool chest* Skil Saw table saw* 2-Craftsman 2 pc. Tool chest* Mac base & top chest toolbox* Rolling tool stand* Miller welder* Generator* Woodward Fab cutter* Saber saw* Building jacks* Loaded Organizers* Chain saws* Double head grinders* Car grills & parts* Shop vacs* 15 bin storage rack, MIB* Lg. handle tools* Lots of hand & electric tools* Woodworker carving tool kit* Tie downs* Belt sander* Portable air compressors* Knipco heater* Floor drill press* Fishing poles* Ice auger* Men's Bicycles* Glass jars w/glass lids* New bath tubs* Signs* Lg meat grinder*

OUTDOOR EQUIPMENT: Ariens snow blower* Self-propelled lawn mowers* Dertz riding snow blower w/ rear tire chains*

TRACTOR & VEHICLES: Farmall 706 tractor w/WF end* 1999 Lime Green Ford Mustang* 1988 Dr. blue Ford pickup w/flatbed*

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AUCTIONEERS NOTE: Mel has a lg variety of items too numerous to mention. Come & see for yourself what we have to offer on this auction. **PHOTOS:** Face book: nattressauction & clerking & Web site: nattressauctions.com.

AUCTIONEER: Greg A. Nattress, Milford, IA, 712-330-1921
CLERK: Nattress Clerking, Milford, IA, 712-330-1904
Lunch on grounds



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Spirit Lake Chamber of Commerce Welcomes Krista Smith as New Executive Director

The Spirit Lake Chamber of Commerce is pleased to introduce Krista Smith as its new Executive Director. A proud Spirit Lake native, Krista brings a wealth of experience in event coordination and community engagement to the role.

Krista most recently served as Director of Unified Programs for Special Olympics Iowa, where she led statewide events and managed multiple school programs. Her background includes a strong track record of volunteer coordination, effective communication and championing meaningful community experiences.

"We're excited to welcome Krista as the new Executive Director of the Spirit Lake Chamber," said Janelle Holter, Board Chair. "Along with her Spirit Lake roots, Krista's leadership experience with Special Olympics Iowa makes her a natural fit for this role. She has a passion for community and the ability to bring people together ... qualities to help grow and support businesses here in Spirit Lake."

Krista and her husband, Trevor, who works for the Iowa Lakes Corridor Development Corporation, have a one-year-old daughter and enjoy being active in the community.

Krista will begin her new role at the Spirit Lake Chamber of Commerce later this month.



Seasons Center to Host Free Family Carnival Celebrating Autumn's Center 9th Anniversary and National Recovery Month

In honor of Autumn's Center's 9th anniversary and in celebration of National Recovery Month, Seasons Center for Behavioral Health is excited to host a free, family-friendly Kids' Carnival for the community. This open-to-the-public event will take place on Thursday, September 18, 2025, from 4:00-6:00 PM at Sunset Park in Spencer. The carnival is designed to bring families together for an evening of fun, while also raising awareness about the importance of mental health and recovery.

Since opening its doors in 2016, Autumn's Center has served as a specialized facility providing trauma-informed, evidence-based care for children and families. The center supports youth who have experienced abuse, neglect, grief, bullying, or mental health challenges. With a dedicated team of professionals, Autumn's Center offers a safe, welcoming space that promotes hope, healing, and brighter futures.

The Kids' Carnival will feature a wide variety of classic carnival activities, including face painting, inflatables, games, and prizes, ensuring fun for all ages.

"We hope residents of Spencer and surrounding communities will join us for an evening of family fun and carnival favorites," said Stephanie Pohar, Vice President of Marketing & Fund Development at Seasons Center. "We are excited to celebrate Autumn's Center's 9th year of service, recognize the lives transformed through recovery, and continue increasing awareness around mental health and substance use disorders."

National Recovery Month, observed every September, celebrates the progress made by individuals in recovery from mental health and substance use conditions. It reminds us all that recovery is possible, treatment is effective, and no one is alone. From neighbors and co-workers to celebrities and loved ones, everyone faces challenges, but through strength, support, and connection, resilience is within reach.

If necessary, updates regarding weather will be posted on Seasons Center's website (Events page) and Facebook page.

For more information on this upcoming event and Seasons' services, please visit our website at: www.seasonscenter.org and Facebook page www.facebook.com/SeasonsCenterForBehavioralHealth



free kids' carnival
inflatables, games, prizes, face painting & lots of family fun!

September 18
4:00-6:00 PM

Sunset Park
W. 7th St. & 11th Ave. W. | Spencer

Autumn's Center seasons



Recipe Corner

Clip this recipe card to save 

Thai Shrimp with Roasted Chili Paste

Serves 4

3 tablespoons roasted chili paste

2 tablespoons fish sauce

1/2 cup water or chicken stock

1 teaspoon granulated sugar

1/2 teaspoon salt, or to taste

3 tablespoons vegetable oil

1 tablespoon chopped garlic

1 pound medium shrimp, peeled and deveined

1/4 cup long thin strips red bell pepper (optional)

1 cup fresh basil or mint leaves (optional)

In a small bowl, combine chili paste, fish sauce, water, sugar, and salt and stir well. Set aside. Heat a wok or a large, deep skillet over medium-high heat. Add oil and swirl to coat pan. Add garlic and toss well, until fragrant, about 30 seconds. Add shrimp and spread into a single layer. Cook, until most of the edges turn pink, about 1 minute. Toss well. Add chili paste mixture and toss well. Cook, tossing occasionally, until shrimp are cooked through and coated with a thin dark sauce, 1 to 2 minutes more. Add red pepper and basil leaves, if using, and toss well. Transfer to a serving plate. Serve hot or warm.



Recipe Courtesy of: "300 Best Stir-Fry Recipes" (Robert Rose) by Nancie McDermott

Spirit Lake Library News

Merlin Desktop Electronic Magnifier

by Jill Jennings

This week, I'd like to highlight a resource at the Spirit Lake Public Library that could be of use to you or someone you know who has vision problems: the Merlin Desktop Electronic Magnifier.

The Merlin offers the greatest picture quality available. Boasting an ergonomic design, this flexible desktop magnifier allows you to pivot and adjust the screen for your most comfortable viewing position. Merlin's screen easily pivots vertically and/or horizontally to better accommodate peripheral or eccentric viewing. It lets people with low vision, macular degeneration, retinitis pigmentosa, glaucoma and cataracts read, write, and regain their visual independence.

With its low vision electronic magnifiers, many color select options are available for increased contrast. Depending on your eye condition, certain text and background color combinations allow for ease of reading. For example, one of the color selection options is black and white. It will convert anything you view to a black and white image for increased contrast.

The Merlin can also be used to magnify things other than books: mail, maps, needlework, crafts, photographs, recipes, coins, etc. I used it one day so I could remove a splinter from my finger! Stop by the library and try out the Merlin Desktop Magnifier!

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 includes 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: Amy just finished listening to James by Percival Everett, and is currently reading The Girl with the Deep Blue Eyes by Lawrence Block.

Upcoming activities at SLPL:

- Monday, September 15, 1:00-3:00 p.m., Mah-Jongg
- Tuesday, September 16, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Quilters
- Tuesday, September 16, 7:00 p.m., Evening Edition Book Club at The Revelry (1601 Hill Ave.)
- Wednesday, September 17, 10:30 a.m., Page Turners Book Club (Lord of the Flies by William Golding)
- Wednesday, September 17, 12:30-4:00 p.m., Quilters
- Thursday, September 18, 10:00-11:30 a.m., Block Party (come & go)
- Thursday, September 18, 1:00-3:00 p.m., Mah-Jongg

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Tops Meetings

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.

Family Services Resource Guide

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

Notice to Dickinson County PROPERTY OWNERS

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

Deadline for payments without penalty is Tues., Sept. 30, 2025

Pay online at www.IowaTaxAndTags.org by eCheck, credit or debit card. Service fees may apply. Cheaper than a postage stamp - echecks are only 30 cents.

A payment dropbox is located at the west door of the courthouse. Go paperless! Sign up for eNotices at eNoticesOnline.com

Kris Rowley
Dickinson County Treasurer

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LETTER 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.

Dear Editor,

Milford's Utility Board will soon decide whether or not to fluoridate the city's water with their new water plant.

These are some basic facts regarding water fluoridation: In May of 2025 the FDA announced its intention to remove ingestible fluoride prescription drug products such as tablets and drops for children from the market. (FDA news release)

Fluoride is a waste product from refining phosphate fertilizer. (TimesofAgriculture.org)

There is no way to accurately "dose" fluoride in drinking water since people drink far different amounts.

Fluoride is absorbed by the pineal gland which then disrupts the body's natural melatonin production. (NIH National Library of Medicine)

Israel, Japan, and most countries of Western Europe have discontinued water fluoridation. (Times of Israel)

Fluoride exposure is inversely proportional to the IQ of children. (JAMA Pediatrics January 6, 2025)

We need to remember that drinking water is *not* our only source of fluoride as fluoride is in our food, toothpaste, mouthwash, dental fluoride treatments, etc. Likely, we are consuming more fluoride than what is healthy.

Most fluoride in our municipal drinking water comes from synthetic compounds such as sodium fluoride, fluorosilicic acid, and sodium fluorosilicate and is not the same as fluoride occurring naturally from our lake or ground water. (National Toxicology Program studies)

Please voice your opinion at the public hearing September 16th at 4:00 pm at the Milford Community Center.

Also email the utility board members as follows with your concerns:

- Todd Johnson. MMUTrustee3@mmuia.us
 - Kirb Walters. MMUTrustee1@mmuia.us
 - Kevin Wharton. MMUTrustee5@mmuia.us
 - Chad Wellendorf. MMUTrustee2@mmuia.us
- Brenda Reeder,
Arnolds Park, Iowa

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• PUBLIC NOTICE •

Notice is hereby given that on **Monday the 29th day of September 2025**, at the hour of **7:00 p.m.**, in the **community room, first floor of the Dickinson County Courthouse, 1802 Hill Avenue, Spirit Lake, Iowa** the Board of Adjustment will hold a Public Hearing on the application of **William Hanby c/o Interstate Power and Light Company** for a conditional use on the following described property: **5.42 ac tract in the E ½ of the NE Sec. 8 and the W ½ of the NW Sec. 9, Center Grove Twp. Parcel # 0708200011**. The address is on 28th Street, Spirit Lake, Iowa. Description of Conditional Use: **to erect a Major Utility Facility (electrical substation) in an A-1 Agricultural District, allowed only as a conditional use.**

Jeff Ashland, Chairperson
Dickinson Co. Board of Adjustment

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If interested please contact:
City Clerk’s Office @ 712-338-2741 or, visit www.milford.ia.us for a board member application.

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View complete job description and application at www.iowalakes.edu/employment. Contact Lynn Miller at Immiller@iowalakes.edu or 712-362-0409. For additional information contact Chantel Teeter at cteeter@iowalakes.edu or 712-852-5227.

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Dickinson County Recorder's Office is Hiring a

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Application deadline: September 15, 2025
Dickinson County offers affordable insurance and additional voluntary benefits. Position offers competitive wages dependent upon prior experience.
Dickinson County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

1-49c

IOWA LAKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE is accepting applications for a **TRIO TALENT SEARCH COORDINATOR**

This is a full-time, 205-day, grant funded position located on the Emmetsburg Campus.

Responsibilities are to provide academic, career, and postsecondary education advising to 6-12 grade Talent Search participants. Evening and weekend work required. Position is contingent upon continued grant funding. Bachelor's degree in education, counseling, student services, or related area required. Teaching licensure and prior teaching and/or TRIO experience strongly preferred. Salary \$42,475. Paid sick leave. Employee health, dental and vision insurance. Partially funded family insurance available. Employee life and disability insurance. Employee retirement plan. Review of applications will begin September 15, 2025.

View complete job description and application process at www.iowalakes.edu/employment. Contact Lynn Miller at lmiller@iowalakes.edu or 712-362-0409. Email questions to Autumn Larsen at alarsen@iowalakes.edu.



IOWA LAKES
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Human Resources, 19 South 7th Street, Estherville, IA 51334
EEO/AA Employer

2-49c

The Dickinson County Sheriff's Office is currently looking for a **FULL-TIME DISPATCHER**

POSITION: Full-Time Dispatcher
DESCRIPTION: Taking emergency & non-emergency calls, working with law enforcement agencies, fire & emergency services & other department & agencies.
SCHEDULE: Mid and overnight shifts.
PAY IS \$26.27/HR

All applicants are subject to a complete background investigation. All applicants must obtain a valid drivers license. All applicants must complete a health physical, MMPI testing, first aid-CPR training & other required dispatch training & department training.

Applicants must be able do the following:

- Multi-Task • Active listening skills • Computer & typing skill
- Handle stressful situations • Make quick decisions
- Learn & understand Dickinson County geography, Plus much more that comes with the job & position
- Flexible working days, mid-shift & night shift

Those interested please complete & submit a cover letter & resume.
You may email to jfischer@dickinsoncountyiowa.gov, mail to Dickinson County Sheriffs Office PO Box 214, Spirit Lake Iowa, 51360 or drop it off to the Sheriffs Office at the Dickinson County Court House. Questions please call 712-336-2525

Dickinson County Sheriffs Office is EOE. Taking resumes until the position is filled.

2-50c

IOWA LAKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE is accepting applications for a part-time (27.5 hrs/week) afternoon/evening **CUSTODIAL/MAINTENANCE WORKER**

is on the Estherville Campus. High School diploma or willingness to obtain equivalency required. Experience as a custodian or housekeeper preferred. Primary duties are to perform routine custodial/housekeeping duties. \$16.20/hr. plus \$.35 differential after 5 p.m. Paid sick leave, vacation, and holidays. Employee retirement package. Review of applications will begin September 22, 2025.

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



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- Postage stamps
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- Paper towels and Kleenex
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- Coffee - regular, decaf, filters and Styrofoam coffee cups
- Bottled water - *Priority*

Thank you for your donations!

From Student to Director: Larsen's Debut Faculty Recital at Iowa Lakes

Iowa Lakes Community College will host a Faculty Recital featuring Lincoln Larsen, trumpet, with Laura Garred, collaborative pianist, on Thursday, September 25, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. at the Janice K. Lund Performing Arts Center.

The performance marks Larsen's debut recital as the college's new Director of Music and Performing Arts. A 2019 graduate of Iowa Lakes, Larsen returns to the Estherville campus after building an accomplished career as a soloist, orchestral and chamber musician, and jazz performer. He holds a Bachelor of Music Education from Morningside University (2022) and a Master of Music from New Mexico State University (2024).

The program will highlight the range and versatility of the trumpet, featuring works by Torelli, Neruda, Peskin, DeJarnett, and Clarke. Larsen will perform on four different trumpets.

The recital is free and open to the public. A free-will donation will be accepted, with all proceeds benefiting music scholarships at Iowa Lakes Community College. A reception will follow the performance.

Enjoy an evening of music at the free-will donation Faculty Recital featuring trumpeter Lincoln Larsen and pianist Laura Garred on Thursday, September 25, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. in the Janice K. Lund Performing Arts Center on the Estherville Campus, with proceeds benefiting Iowa Lakes music scholarships.

For additional information, please contact the Iowa Lakes Music Department at 712-362-8345.

LETTER 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.

To the Editor,

The concentration camp in Nebraska will protect us from dangerous concrete finishers, roofing contractors, packing plant employees and their children.

John Christensen,
Spirit Lake, Iowa

Free Breakfast September 20 at Grandview Church Gym

Free Breakfast Saturday, September 20 from 8-10 am at the Grandview Church gym. Burritos, pancakes, sausage, and eggs are being cooked, and milk, juice and coffee will also be served. The breakfast is completely free, and everyone is invited. Breakfast will be served at Grandview Baptist Church's gym, which is at 3705 170th St. in Estherville. They have had an average of 130 people attend the free breakfasts. There will also be a small food pantry for families to take shelf-stable food. Thanks to Estherville Foods, Hy-Vee, Fareway, Ace Hardware, and I & B Ag Supply for donating to the Free Breakfast. If you have questions, please contact Brett Fuelberth at 712-330-1145.

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Four years ago, I lost one of my closest friends to a heart attack. We were the same age and grew up together through high school years. We had fished together, golfed together, laughed with our families, and built memories that still make me smile. I knew him and his family very well. But here's the truth I wish I could rewrite: I never told him how much he meant to me while he was alive.

Now, each summer, we host a memorial golf outing in his honor. The proceeds provide scholarships for students at three schools where we grew up. It's a beautiful tribute. And yet, I carry a quiet regret. Why didn't I tell him directly how much he meant to me while he was alive?

That's the hidden danger of procrastination. It doesn't just keep us from cleaning the garage or finishing a project at work. It can rob us of moments that matter most—words left unsaid, decisions postponed, conversations avoided.

We all procrastinate. Sometimes it's because of fear, sometimes it's because of perfectionism, and sometimes it's simply easier to do nothing. But here's the brutal truth: waiting rarely makes things easier. It usually makes them heavier.

So how do we break the cycle? Here are five practical steps you can take today:

1. Name the Real Reason You're Delaying
Be honest with yourself. Are you afraid of rejection? Worried about conflict? Or just overwhelmed? Naming the reason pulls the shadow into the light. Suddenly, it's not a vague dread—it's a challenge you can actually address.

2. Shrink the Task
Big projects—whether personal or professional—loom larger the longer we avoid them. Break them down. Instead of "finish the report," write the first paragraph. Instead of "call my sister to heal a rift," send a simple text: "Thinking of you." Small beginnings break inertia.

3. Use the 24-Hour Rule
If it's on your mind today, act on it within 24 hours. Make the appointment. Send the note. Have the tough conversation. Time is not guaranteed. My friend's passing taught me that with painful clarity.

4. Rehearse the Hard Conversation
Many of us avoid emotionally charged topics at work or home because we don't know how they'll land. Try rehearsing your opening line aloud. Often the act of speaking it—even privately—releases the fear and gives you courage to begin.

5. Visualize the Aftermath
Ask yourself: What relief or joy will I feel once this is done? Picture the clean slate, the reconciled relationship, or the problem no longer hanging over you. That positive picture can carry you through the discomfort of starting.

Procrastination is an internal battle, but its consequences spill into our external world. It can strain teams at work when deadlines slip, or distance us from loved ones when words remain unspoken. The antidote isn't perfection - it's action. Even the smallest step forward is a victory.

So let me ask you: Who do you need to call today? What conversation at work are you avoiding? What dream are you waiting to pursue "someday"? Make a list, prioritize things, and get after it.

Don't wait. Say the words. Start the work. Take the step. Because life is shorter than we think. And the cost of waiting is far greater than the discomfort of beginning.

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LAKES ART CENTER

nurtured in creative growth

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lakesart.org | 712.332.7029

2201 HWY 71 N | Okoboji, IA 51355

Fall Hours: Tues-Sat: 10am-4pm
Thurs: 10am-9pm

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Visual Arts

Plein Air Okoboji
Opening Reception: 9/11, 5-7pm

Phil Scorza
Through 10/25

Elissa Cox Wenthe
Through 11/22

PERFORMING ARTS

9/25 | Manhattan Short Film Festival
6:00 PM | \$15
Join us after the screening for movie discussion, pizza, and a cash bar!

12/11 | Damon, Dave & Ryan
Holiday Show
7:30 PM | \$30/\$40

Scan for tickets

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.

REGISTRATION OPEN FOR SEPTEMBER YOUTH ART CLASSES: CLAY

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 Tittle-Oltzman of Okoboji Wines
Thursdays | 6pm | \$45/\$55
Must register 1 day prior to each class
Oct. 2: Blends from Around the World
Nov. 6: Varietal Series, Pinot Noir
Dec. 4: Wines of Spain

Kids Corn Festival Cooking | Ages 7 - 12
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.

Mediterranean Dinner Series
With Chef Jay Norton of The Hen House
\$100/\$110 per dinner | 6pm
Must register two days prior to each class.
Enjoy this small group dining experience at our expansive kitchen counter, allowing you up close and personal time with Chef Jay as he teaches and prepares a multi-course feast! Glass of wine served with each dinner.
Tuesday, Sept. 30: Journey to Spain
Thursday, Oct. 30: Journey to The Middle East

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FALL IS HERE!
WE HAVE A GREAT SELECTION OF MUMS & ANNUALS!

UPCOMING Events
Fall Planter Make & Take Design Class
September 13, 11am
Garden Club Tour at Blumejoy!
September 20, 2-4pm
Check out our Facebook events page for more information!

HOURS:
Mon.-Fri. 9-5
Sat. 10-4, Sun. 12-4

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SPECIAL SECTION ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITY

HOME FOR THE *Holidays*

Ready to make your business a household name this holiday season? The **LNS Home for the Holidays** special edition is your recipe for success. This isn't just a publication; it's a holiday tradition. Our readers turn to this special edition for festive inspiration, from cherished family recipes to dazzling decor and gift ideas.

By advertising with us, you'll place your brand directly in the hands of a highly engaged audience actively planning their holiday celebrations. Don't let your business get lost in the winter shuffle. Secure your spot in the **Home for the Holidays** edition and become an essential part of our community's holiday magic.

Space & Copy Deadline: Oct. 30th at Noon

Publication Date: November 4^h

Ad Sizes & Rates

Ad Size		Black & White	Full Color
1/8 page	5" w x 3 1/4" h	\$81.90	\$131.90
1/4 page	5" w x 6 3/4" h	\$163.80	\$213.80
1/2 page	10 1/4" w x 6 3/4" h or 5" w x 13 3/4" h	\$327.60	\$402.60
Full page	10 1/4" w x 13 3/4" h	\$655.20	\$805.20

Advertise Online

Optimize your audience reach with a print and digital advertising package. Ask your ad consultant for details!

SCAN HERE

To View Last Year's Edition

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

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