



# THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER™



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ARNOLDS PARK  
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Lake Okoboji

THIS WEEK!

FRIDAY 9/26	The Lake View Deck <b>Friday Night Live</b> 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 9/26 - 9/27	Raceway   Arcade <b>Go-Karts &amp; Arcade</b> 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 9/27	Arnolds Park <b>Oktoberfest</b> Join us for Oktoberfest, it kicks off with a bike ride and continues throughout the day with fall activities! 8:00AM
SATURDAY 9/27	The Lake View Deck <b>College Football</b> Now through October 4th! Join us in cheering on all your favorite college football teams! 10:00AM
SATURDAY & SUNDAY 9/27 - 9/28	Queen II <b>Queen II Cruise</b> Now through November 1st! Join us for a fall cruise around Lake Okoboji! 1PM 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

### OKTOBERFEST 2025

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH

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**4th Annual Model Train Show in Spencer**

The Prairie Lakes Division will hold their annual PLD Model Train Fall Event on Saturday, October 4, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., at the Clay County Events Center at the fairgrounds in Spencer. Admission is \$3.00.


Several module layouts will be presented, along with speakers, vendors, contests, clinics, drawings, and lunch.

In addition, the Smoky Mountain Railroad in the Depot Building will also be open to visitors during the show event.

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**Enter Online** at [LakesNewsShopper.com](http://LakesNewsShopper.com)  
**Or Enter in Person** by circling your picks  
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by 4:00 PM Friday for your chance to  
**WIN \$100 IN GIFT CARDS.**

**THIS WEEK'S GAMES**

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309 Okoboji Ave., Milford • South End of Milford  
CALL US NOW FOR YOUR 2026 SEASONAL RENTAL!  
2026 Yamaha DR-2 Quietech EFI  
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Check out our website!  
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**GAME #1** **Estherville Lincoln Central at Okoboji**

**GAME #2** **Spirit Lake at OABCIG**

**GAME #3** **Spencer at Le Mars**

**GAME #4** **Indiana at Iowa**

**GAME #5** **Arizona at Iowa State**

**GAME #6** **USC at Illinois**

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Excludes Senior/Kid's Menus, Burger, Pies & Fries and Bakery. See Store for Details. Coupon expires Nov. 30, 2025.

**GAME #7** **LSU at Ole Miss**

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**GAME #8** **Alabama at Georgia**

**GAME #9** **Oregon at Penn State**

**GAME #10** **Utah at West Virginia**

**MM PHIL'S MARKETPLACE MOTORS**  
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**GAME #11** **Vikings vs. Steelers**

**GAME #12** **Eagles at Buccaneers**

**GAME #13** **Ravens at Chiefs**

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**2 TIE BREAKERS:** Total Score Arizona vs. Iowa State: **AND** Total Score Packers vs. Cowboys:  
Name: Town: Phone Number: Email :  
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](http://LakesNewsShopper.com)

### HUGE INVENTORY FALL CART SALE!

(2) 2026 Yamaha Drive2 QuieTech EFI .. \$11,100

(3) 2025 Evolution Ranger 5 2+2.....\$7,500

(1) 2025 Dach Falcon 2+2 .....\$9,500

(1) 2025 Yamaha Drive2 QuieTech EFI .. \$10,500

2023 ICON EV i40L, custom wheels, lights, lift kit, rear seat .....\$6,450

2023 ICON EV i40, custom wheels, lights, golf cart wheels .....\$5,450

2022 E-Z-GO Valor, custom wheels, rear seat, lights, gas .....\$6,500

2022 Club Car Onward, custom wheels, lights, wheels & club cover, gas.....\$7,450

2022 Club Car Onward, custom wheels, lights, wheels & club cover, electric .....\$5,500

2020 Yamaha Drive2 QuieTech, rear seat, lights, gas .....\$5,450

2020 Yamaha Drive2 QuieTech, gas .....\$4,950

2019 Yamaha Drive2, electric, 2 year old batteries .....\$3,250

2019 Yamaha Drive2, gas .....\$4,950

2018 Yamaha Drive2, gas .....\$3,750

2018 Yamaha Drive2, rear seat, lights, gas .....\$4,650

2017 Yamaha Drive2, .....\$3,650

2017 Club Car, custom wheels, lift kit, electric, 1 year batteries.....\$3,500

2016 E-Z-GO, lift kit, rear seat, lights, custom wheels .....\$4,500

2016 Yamaha G29 EFI, gas .....\$3,350

2015 E-Z-GO, rear seat, lights, custom wheels, 1 year batteries.....\$5,000

2014 Yamaha, gas.....\$2,450

2014 E-Z-GO, electric, new batteries .....\$2,450

2013 Yamaha, gas .....\$2,350

2008 E-Z-GO, electric, 70% batteries .....\$1,650

2007 Club Car Precedent, gas.....\$2,450

2006 E-Z-GO, electric, 1 year old batteries \$1,950

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### University of Okoboji Oktoberfest - Fun, Fall, Family & Bikes!

Join the Iowa Great Lakes Area Chamber on Saturday, September 27, from 10am-4pm. They are thrilled to continue the UoFo Oktoberfest for the 34th year to celebrate our amazing community. A full day of fall festivities for the entire family. Mark your calendars.

This year's Oktoberfest is non-stop fun with crowd favorites and exciting activities including Stein Holding, Keg Toss, Bags Tournament, Vendor show and inflatables for the kiddos. We will also have live music all day at Preservation Plaza.

Head to [ufooktoberfest.com](http://ufooktoberfest.com) today to register for the bike ride, bags tournament, and vendor show. Keg toss and Stein holding is day of sign up and *free!* Come together to celebrate fall in The Iowa Great Lakes.

Big *thank you* to our amazing community for coming together for another great event, our sponsors, and volunteers.

Clark Museum

will be open as long as the weather stays nice!

- A visit through the Clark Museum, whether you live in Dickinson County or another area, will probably display photos or advertisements of past schools, churches and businesses that you attended.

- Thousands of photos and advertisements of communities on display.

- Many say the Clark Museum is "ONE OF A KIND."

OPEN DAILY • 10AM - 5PM

Call for Appointments or Large Groups

Clark Museum

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Customer Loyalty Coupon

SAVE 25%

25% Off Your Total Bill

UP TO TOTAL OF \$10 OFF

Present this coupon to the cashier at the time of sale and receive a 25% discount off your total bill (including entrées, drinks, side items, and desserts). \* Not valid with any other special or discount programs.

Valid only at Perkins® Restaurant & Bakery located at Boy Junction, Milford, IA. One coupon per person per visit at participating Perkins® Restaurant and Bakery locations. Not valid with any other discount or offer. Coupon void if purchased, sold or bartered for cash. Only original coupons accepted. Multilisted, tampered, forged, or photocopied coupons are not accepted. Sales tax, if applicable, must be paid by customer. Please present coupon when ordering.

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Excludes Senior/ Kid's Menus, Bakery & To-Go

Customer Loyalty Coupon

SAVE 25%

25% Off Your Total Bill

UP TO TOTAL OF \$10 OFF

Present this coupon to the cashier at the time of sale and receive a 25% discount off your total bill (including entrées, drinks, side items, and desserts). \* Not valid with any other special or discount programs.

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Perkins

AMERICAN FOOD CO.

Coupon Expires October 31, 2025

Excludes Senior/ Kid's Menus, Bakery & To-Go

Customer Loyalty Coupon

Buy One, Get One

1/2 PRICE DINNER ENTREE

WITH PURCHASE OF 2 BEVERAGES

Buy one of our delicious Perkins Dinner Entrees along with 2 beverages and receive one dinner entree of equal or lesser value at 1/2 price. \* Not valid with any other special or discount programs.

Valid only at Perkins® Restaurant & Bakery located at Boy Junction, Milford, IA. One coupon per person per visit at participating Perkins® Restaurant and Bakery locations. Not valid with any other discount or offer. Coupon void if purchased, sold or bartered for cash. Only original coupons accepted. Multilisted, tampered, forged, or photocopied coupons are not accepted. Sales tax, if applicable, must be paid by customer. Please present coupon when ordering.

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Coupon Expires October 31, 2025

Excludes senior menu items.

Customer Loyalty Coupon

Buy One, Get One

1/2 PRICE BREAKFAST ENTREE

WITH PURCHASE OF 2 BEVERAGES

Buy one of our delicious Perkins Breakfast Entrees along with 2 beverages and receive one breakfast entree of equal or lesser value at 1/2 price. \* Not valid with any other special or discount programs.

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Coupon Expires October 31, 2025

Excludes senior menu items.

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Coupon Expires October 31, 2025

Customer Loyalty Coupon

6 MAMMOTH MUFFINS®

FOR JUST \$8.99

Purchase any six of our delicious muffins for only \$8.99!

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Sat., Sept. 27, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Sun., Sept. 28, noon to 5 p.m.  
  
Fri., Oct. 3, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Sat., Oct. 4, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Sun., Oct. 5, noon to 5 p.m.

**QUESTIONS? CALL 712-330-4325**

# FALL FAMILY FUN



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**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

**St. Jude Novena** - May the sacred heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world, now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us; St. Jude, helper of the hopeless, pray for us. Say this prayer 9 times a day, your prayers will be answered by the 8th day. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised. Thank you Jesus and St. Jude. T.B.

**Submitted by Ray Heller,**  
Milford, Iowa





**The River**  
AN EXECUTIVE COACHING BLOG  
TONY TEELEN

Dear Tony, My son just started a new job. What advice would you give him to help him get off to a great start?

I've started 20 new jobs over 35 years and below are my top 10 pieces of advice from these experiences.

- 1. Work hard at your job and it will differentiate you.** First things first. Take your career seriously and make sure you do great work at whatever you are paid to do. Don't be one of those who is always looking for the next job or the one who signs up for everything in the company except doing their job well.
- 2. Don't worry about who gets the credit.** Bring so much value that no one will ever question your contributions. Focus on creating value, together, with everyone, and don't focus on what your contribution is. People who focus on who gets the credit tend to forget about the customer, forget about their teammates, and in general tend to gravitate toward a "me" centered view of the world.
- 3. Network as much as you can.** Learn about different parts of the organization, formal and informal. Your life experience will be richer, you will enjoy the journey more, and you will be more effective and efficient in your work. Be careful not to over-do it.
- 4. Be curious.** Seek to learn about other parts of the organization. Keep the mind open and always think broadly. Learn how the company creates value, how it operates in different market conditions, what works and what doesn't work in the culture, and how changes occur best. Think about how you can help drive positive changes in yourself, your co-workers, and your organization.
- 5. Realize you are always a work in progress.** Peter Drucker suggests spending half your career switching careers to learn what you love, and the 2nd half doing what you love. I'm not sure about this ratio of half your life, but his point is a good one. Try some things out, take some risks in your career, especially in the first 15 years, and learn what you love by doing a few different things.
- 6. Go back to school when the time is right.** This may be an advanced degree or MBA, it may be a specialized course on coding python, or it may be a course on Coursera or LinkedIn learning. The key is to advance your mastery, in combination with work experience.
- 7. Seek formal communication training** – presentation, writing, etc. Practice it (these skills are perishable). Learn how to communicate and organize your thoughts in 1 on 1 as well as group presentations. Join Toastmasters, get practice giving presentations, learn what makes effective communications. I received formal training early in my career from Dardis Communications out of Iowa City ([www.dardiscommunications.com](http://www.dardiscommunications.com)).
- 8. Seek mentors** – who do you admire, who has been through some things you are interested in, and who can you learn from? Ask if they would spend 30 or 45 minutes sharing their experience. Come prepared with serious questions and don't waste their time.
- 9. Give back to the community.** Get to know others not in your company. Be generous. Make it a habit. You will lead a more fulfilling life and you will enjoy the journey more. Not only is it good for the community, but it's good for the soul to be generous and help others.
- 10. Be grateful and always remember to say thank you.** It's a basic courtesy to never forget – always say thanks to the people who have helped you.

**Bonus Tip** - Have a plan for your first 100 days. Learn from other's experiences, ask your boss what they want, ask co-workers, when possible, ask customers. When you think you are ready to set some objectives and get to work, use a framework to build a 100-day plan. There are a ton of tools on the web to do this, and many books as well. A good one is "Right from the Start: Taking Charge in a New Leadership Role" by Dan Ciampa. (<https://a.co/d2gQ8Fez>)

Check out my website for FREE resources and more at [www.rivercoach.org](http://www.rivercoach.org)  
\*\*NEW BOOK\*\* "Things We Desire" coming out 3 November 2025

**END OF SUMMER IS NEAR...**

**GET THOSE LAST MINUTE OR WEEKEND PROJECTS COMPLETE!**

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**WATCH FOR AD IN NEXT WEEK'S LAKES NEWS SHOPPER!**



**Okoboji Announces Homecoming Court**

The Okoboji High School Homecoming Court was announced on Friday, September 19th. This year's court includes Walt Blankers, Abby Pausley, Aidan Gehrke, Sally Androski, Avery Simington, Madilyn Loerts, Eli Graves, Norah Danbom, Jack Swygman, and Alyssa Hintz. Homecoming Week for Okoboji is September 22nd through September 26th and includes Coronation and a Community Pep Rally on Wednesday, September 24th, starting at 7:00PM in the OHS South Gym followed by Beefcake Volleyball and Powder Puff Football. On Friday, September 26th, there will be an All-School Pep Rally at 1:00PM at OHS followed by a Community Parade starting at 2:15PM. The Pioneers will take on ELC at 7:00PM in the Homecoming Football Game with the OHS Pioneer Pride Marching Band performing at halftime. Homecoming Week will conclude with a Homecoming Dance at 9:30PM following the football game.

**COME TAILGATE WITH US!**

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26<sup>TH</sup>**

**Okoboji vs. Estherville-Lincoln Central**

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**U-PICK-EM FOOTBALL CHALLENGE**

**WINNER**

**CONGRATULATIONS TO DON ORIGER FROM MILFORD FOR BEING THE WINNER OF OUR U-PICK-EM CHALLENGE FOR WEEK #3.** Don picked 12 games correctly and edged out four other contestants who also had 12 correct picks with the tiebreaker score, just nudging Sean Christensen of Arnolds Park by one point. Don wins \$100 in cash compliments of Consumers Lumber Company and The Lakes News Shopper. Be sure to play this week for your chance to win \$100 in Gift Cards. A HUGE thank you to all of our sponsors for making this weekly football contest possible!

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Garvin Named Mortgage Loan Originator at Northwest Bank in Arnolds Park

Nicole Evans, Bank President of Northwest Bank in Arnolds Park and Milford, IA, is pleased to announce Jessica Garvin as Mortgage Loan Originator in Arnolds Park. Bringing more than 17 years of trusted banking experience to her new role. In this new position, Jessica will assist customers with home financing solutions, offering expert guidance and personalized service throughout the mortgage process.



Jessica began her career at Northwest Bank in 2008 and has held various roles in consumer banking, retail lending and most recently serving in a leadership role as Retail Manager at our Arnolds Park location. Known for building strong customer relationships and delivering exceptional service, Garvin has a deep understanding of financial needs across all stages of life.

Jessica and her husband Justin and their children Brayden and Brenlee reside in Spirit Lake. Jessica is an active community member. She is involved with Dickinson County Relay for Life, Boji Mammoths hockey team, is a member of St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Spirit Lake, and a board member of Friends of Lake-side Lab and participates in many other volunteer opportunities.

“After years of helping customers with their everyday financial needs, I’m excited to now assist them with one of the most important milestones in life—homeownership,” said Garvin. “I look forward to continuing to build lasting relationships and guiding customers through the mortgage process with confidence and care.”

“We’re excited for Jessica to move into this new role,” said Nicole Evans, Bank President. “Her experience in consumer banking and strong community ties make her a natural fit to help guide our customers through one of the most important financial decisions of their lives.”

Northwest Bank is a \$2.9 billion community bank that offers a full line of business, agricultural, mortgage, consumer deposit and lending services as well as wealth management services. Northwest Bank has offices located in Afton, Algona, Ames, Ankeny, Arnolds Park, Creston, Estherville, Fort Dodge, Humboldt, Le Mars, Milford, Shenandoah, Sioux Center, Sioux City, Spencer, Spirit Lake, West Des Moines, Iowa and Omaha and La Vista, Nebraska. Member FDIC. Equal Housing Lender.

Union Public Speakers

Toastmasters International is the leading nonprofit dedicated to effective oral communication and leadership development. In the last 101 years there have been 4 million members. Members meet to deliver and evaluate prepared and impromptu speeches in an effort to improve as speakers and leaders. Union Public Speakers club generally meets the second and fourth Wednesdays at 5pm to 6pm Central Daylight Time. Guests are always welcome.

Union Public Speakers Toastmasters meets for 1 hour on - Wednesdays October 8, 2025, and October 22, 2025, at 5pm to 6pm Central Daylight Time.

To RSVP, see <https://6520.toastmastersclubs.org/> They have fun educational meetings. Email: [Info@tm-club6520.org](mailto:Info@tm-club6520.org) for Invite.

For more information contact Jim Samuel, VPR, (855) 402-8255, or [Info@tmclub6520.org](mailto:Info@tmclub6520.org) or see the club web page <https://6520.toastmastersclubs.org/>, or [Toastmasters.org](https://www.toastmasters.org)

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.



**Megan K.**  
Celebrating Local Farms  
One Cut at a Time!

**A HEARTFELT THANK YOU FROM THE FAMILY OF TIM SMALL**

The Small family would like to extend our deepest gratitude to Megan for her dedication and commitment during her time working alongside Tim at the Greenville Locker. It is with great pride that we announce Megan as the new owner of the Greenville Locker.

We are confident that Megan will continue to provide the same quality service to both longtime and new clients for all of their processing needs. Her hard work and passion for the business make us certain that the future of the Greenville Locker is in good hands.

To anyone needing processing services, we encourage you to reach out to **Megan** at **712-262-3956**.

Thank you once again, Megan, for continuing Tim's legacy and carrying the business forward. We wish you all the best as you move forward in this exciting new chapter!

**WITH GRATITUDE, THE SMALL FAMILY**

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CELL: 712-260-2552**

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MIGHTY MAYHEM AT 1 PM**

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Meets second & fourth Sundays  
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See [uukoboji.com](http://uukoboji.com) for dates and program schedule.  
We are a progressive, liberal welcoming congregation





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Colossians 3:23  
"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart,  
as working for the Lord, not for human masters."

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BIBLE  
READING  
WEEK 39

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A warm  
**THANK YOU**  
to my hometown!

I have spent all of my summers in Okoboji And have countless memories from my grandparents' home in Terril. Some of you have known me my entire life. Some know my family. A lot don't know any of us at all. None of you have met my fiancé, Kyle, or our happy little Jocelyn. Yet you all showed up for us beyond expectation when we needed it most. From the bottom of our hearts, we can't thank you all enough for participating in the benefit and for all the generous donations from all over. You have truly shown us what it means to "have a village", and it appears that our village knows no distance. From AZ to IA, we are endlessly thankful for each of you and the imprints you have forever left on our hearts.

With sincere thanks and appreciation,  
**Brittany, Kyle, and Jocelyn**

**Dickinson County  
Veterans and Spouses**


You are invited to attend Coffee  
& Breakfast with Spring Jones, CVSO  
When: **Thurs., Sept. 25th, 2025**  
From: **8:30 to 10:00am**  
Where: **Community Room  
Dickinson County Courthouse**  
1802 Hill Ave, Spirit Lake, IA  
Sponsored by the Milford American Legion Auxiliary!

**FREE Coffee,  
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Come join the family  
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**Surprise  
Come & Go Social**  
Sunday, September 28th • 1-3pm

• Milford Community Center (806 N. Ave.)  
• Cake and Ice Cream will be Served

Gary turns 85 on September 23rd!  
Birthday wishes can also be sent to him:  
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SEPT. & OCT.  
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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 25  
and October 9, 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.





First Lutheran Church

9/7/2025 - 5/24/2026

**SUNDAY**

*Schedule*


WORSHIP  
8:30 AM &  
11:00 AM



FELLOWSHIP  
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EDUCATION  
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Join us for Food Truck Wednesday.  
Bring the Family for Dinner  
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ON THE FAIRGROUNDS IN SPIRIT LAKE



**View From The Bench**  
by John Adams, Jr.

Selfless over Selfies

With Iowa State off this weekend and not being able to watch the Iowa game on Friday night because I was at the Okoboji/Spirit Lake game, I'm not going to write about the Cyclones or Hawkeyes and not much about sports this week. I will say, however that we are so blessed to have two football programs at the level where they are right now, with Coach Josh Bolluyt having Spirit Lake as one of the premiere programs in Class 2-A for the past 15 years; constantly in the Playoffs with numerous trips to the UNI-Dome and State Championship appearances, including just last season. Coach Eric Clouse and his staff have done an amazing job of building the Pioneers program to the level where they can beat programs like Spirit Lake and Boyden Hull-Rock Valley. That win on Friday night and the success the Pioneer program is having now is due in large part to all of the kids who suffered through the 0-9 and 2-7 seasons, who battled every Friday night knowing they were overmatched, who stuck it out in the maroon and white and helped lay the foundation to get the program where it is today.

Ok, enough about football. Thank you to everyone who read and commented about my View From The Bench last week. This past Sunday I heard a sermon that got me thinking again about how we can make our country and communities better places by being more like Jesus and being selfless. Did you know that the average Generation Z person will take 25,000 selfies during their life? Our social media and smartphone world has made us believe that life is all about us, when really the more obsessed we become with ourselves, the less joy we actually have. There is no greater example in this world about being selfless than Jesus Christ. Jesus chose to come down and live among sinners, to give the ultimate sacrifice, his own life, to save all of us!

I spoke last week about how divisive our country and sadly even some of our churches have become. We all need to realize that our unity in Christ is so much bigger than our differences. Unity is not uniformity, it is harmony and that harmony comes from diversity, which is a true picture of Heaven. Our diversity is what makes us a great nation, and we need to get back to celebrating this diversity while unifying in our belief in Christ. Philippians 2:1-4 describes being selfless and unity so well, "Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, 2 then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. 3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, 4 not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

My challenge to you this week is to think of others ahead of yourself. Instead of thinking, "how do I look today?" think, "who can I love today?" Serve others without expecting anything in return, go out of your way to make someone smile at work, give someone a compliment at the grocery store, heck, even tell a Hawkeye fan that you like them! While there is so much doom and gloom in this world, I am encouraged by how many people I saw last week who were going back to church and turning back to Jesus. Let's all concentrate on the good in the world and focus on what we can do to shine light on that good. I'll leave you with this thought for the week, joy is found in being selfless, not in selfies!

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OKOBOJI

"I have come that they might have life - and have it more abundantly" - Jn. 10:10

— Discover More About God  
— Join a Spirit-led Community  
— Experience New Life in Christ  
— He's Looking for You!



Sundays 10:30 AM  
Wednesdays 7:00 PM  
Founders Hall  
Okoboji Bible  
Conference Grounds  
Arnolds Park, IA

**Our Pastors Brian &  
Heather Kelly**

Contact us with your prayer requests:  
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Founders Hall-Okoboji Bible Conference  
7 S. Highway 71, Arnolds Park, IA  
(712) 339-9201  
[www.https://life360.org/okoboji-ia/](http://www.https://life360.org/okoboji-ia/)

**AG**  
ASSEMBLIES OF GOD



**OKOBOJI FFA'S 22<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL**

**PUMPKIN PICKIN' DAYS!**

Come & pick your own or  
choose from some that have already been  
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Sunday, October 5 • 11am-4pm**  
or until they are gone

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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.

To the Editor:

Next to my house in Orleans is an Orleans City Parking Lot. When they were building a new house across the street, the contractors used this parking lot for two years. So, why when I hire someone to put in a new driveway for me does someone from the city of Orleans call my contractor this last weekend to move his truck?

I believe in rules, but I question rules that only pertain to me. Maybe I have a misunderstanding with the city of Orleans, and I would love for them to respond to this letter in The Lakes News Shopper.

Donald C Parsons,  
Sioux City/Orleans, Iowa

Bill & Jackie Play for Dance on Sunday, September 28

Bill & Jackie Carpenter will be playing for a dance at the Lakes Area Senior Activity Center on Sunday, September 28 from 2:00-5:00 PM. The dance is open to all ages. Admission is \$8.00 per person or \$15.00 per couple. The Center is located at 2101 Zenith Avenue in Spirit Lake.



University of Okoboji Oktoberfest - Fun, Fall, Family & Bikes!

Join the Iowa Great Lakes Area Chamber on Saturday, September 27, from 10am-4pm. They are thrilled to continue the Uofo Oktoberfest for the 34th year to celebrate our amazing community.

A full day of fall festivities for the entire family. Mark your calendars.

This year's Oktoberfest is non-stop fun with crowd favorites and exciting activities including Stein Holding, Keg Toss, Bags Tournament, Vendor show and inflatables for the kiddos. We will also have live music all day at Preservation Plaza.

Head to [uofooktoberfest.com](http://uofooktoberfest.com) today to register for the bike ride, bags tournament, and vendor show. Keg toss and Stein holding is day of sign up and free! Come together to celebrate fall in The Iowa Great Lakes.

Big thank you to our amazing community for coming together for another great event, our sponsors, and volunteers.



Have THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER emailed to you every Tuesday by going to [www.lakesnewssshopper.com](http://www.lakesnewssshopper.com) and clicking on "e-subscribe"

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[milfordpioneertheatre.com](http://milfordpioneertheatre.com)  
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HOLD ON TIGHT  
GABBY'S DOLLHOUSE  
FRI 9/26 4:10 & 7:00  
SAT-SUN 9/27-28 1:00, 4:00 & 7:00  
MON-WED 9/29-10/2 6:45  
DOWNTON ABBEY  
THE GRAND FINALE  
WED-THUR 9/24-25 6:45  
FRI 9/26 4:00 & 6:45  
SAT-SUN 9/27-28 12:50, 3:45 & 6:45  
MON-WED 9/29-10/2 6:30

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JOHNNY'S PUB Main Street - Lake Park  
Follow us for Events & Daily Specials  
Wednesday, Sept. 24  
5-8pm  
Hot Rod Cruise-In  
All Vehicles Welcome  
Enjoy Hot Dogs & Burgers  
Saturday, Sept. 27  
Register at 11am  
Lake Park Town & Country Booster  
SXS Fundraiser Ride  
Chili Feed after the Ride  
OPEN 8am  
Sunday, Sept. 28  
VIKINGS FOOTBALL!!  
Bottomless Screwdrivers  
& FREE Breakfast  
Let's Go Vikings!

VFW BREAKFAST

Sunday, Sept. 28  
8:00 am to 12:30 pm

— PUBLIC WELCOME —

SERVING:  
Pancakes • French Toast • Eggs  
Sausage • Coffee • Juice

VFW Post 3159  
Veterans Hall  
15 East 21<sup>st</sup> St. Spencer, IA



Located directly across from Arnolds Park Amusement Park



See our website & menu: [thehuttbarandgrill.com](http://thehuttbarandgrill.com)

DAILY SPECIALS at 11am

DAILY SPECIALS

- Wed., Sept. 24: Black & Bleu Burger  
Pan Fried Chicken
- Thur., Sept. 25: Bourbon Burger  
Scalloped Potatoes & Ham
- Fri., Sept 26: Barnyard Burger  
Country Fried Steak
- Mon., Sept. 29: Hot Beef  
Taco Salad
- Tues., Sept. 30: CLOSED

Friday Night Special

Fish Fry  
Coconut Shrimp

Saturday Night Special

Prime Rib  
BBQ Ribs

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

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

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SHOP LOCAL

FREE "Old Rockers" Jam Session  
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4<sup>TH</sup> • 5-8 PM

- Bands Performing: The Ridottos and the debut performance of "Still Cruisin'", a new band from Pocahontas
- Jam regular guests - Steve Schroeder, Gilbert Wilden, Mick Buckley, and others will also be performing
- Food & Drinks Available
- Sponsored by the Estherville VFW and The Ridottos Rock Band
- Musicians wishing to participate text Al Klein at 507-230-1264

PLEASE NOTE! Due to unfinished road construction, please turn south off Central Ave. onto South 2nd Street (1 block east of the traffic light by Casey's at the bridge) and go 2 blocks south of VFW parking lot.

ESTHERVILLE VFW  
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712-332-5152



Little Swan Lake Winery  
Life... Drink it in!

We are open for walk-in & tasting!

Fall Hours

Tuesday-Sunday 11am-6pm  
Open until 8 on Saturdays

Saturday, Sept. 27

Adam  
Layman

6-8pm

Bison Burgers!



Sunday, Sept. 28

Lauren &  
The Drifters

4-6pm

Bison Pasta!



For upcoming bands & events visit our website:  
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THE LAKES NEWS Auctions



Page 2B

Pirate Jack's Bar  
The only bar surrounded by West Lake Okoboji.  
Located at Arnolds Park Amusement Park  
Next to the State Pier  
Staying open as long as the weather permits!  
Watch your favorite college & pro football games on the lake!  
• All Outdoor Seating  
• Come by Land or Sea  
• Beautiful Sunsets  
• Seating up to 180  
Fall Hours: Mon-Fri open at 1pm • Sat at 11am & Sun at Noon (weather permitting)

Lakes Area Activities/Senior Center  
Stop in and see what we have to offer!!!  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 at 12:00PM  
FREE Blood Pressure Screening  
Dickinson County Public Health will be providing BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS FREE OF CHARGE. Anyone can attend!  
DINNER DATE MEALS!  
Call to reserve your nutritional meals for NEXT week 712-336-5247!  
29 Monday: Beef Tips, Vegetable, Fruit & Bread  
30 Tuesday: Ham Salad/ Bun, Vegetable, Fruit  
1 Wednesday: Hamburger, Hot Dish, Vegetable, Fruit & Bread  
2 Thursday: Goulash, Vegetable, Fruit & Bread  
3 Friday: Hot Beef, Mashed Potatoes, 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 MEAT & GROCERY of Lake Park.  
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SAT. 11AM-CLOSE & 5PM-CLOSE

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85th Birthday Announcement

The family of Gary Reason would like to announce that Gary Lee will be celebrating his 85th Birthday on September 23rd. Gary otherwise also known as "Mr.G" owned Mr. G's Supper club in north Milford for many years serving up delicious steaks, chops, orange roughly, and pan fried chicken.

The family is hosting a *surprise* come and go ice cream and cake social at the Milford Community Center located at 806 N Ave in Milford on Sunday, September 28th, from 1:00PM to 3:00PM. Birthday wishes can also be mailed to Gary Reason at 3200 Okobojo Ave, Lot #87, Milford, Iowa.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To The Editor:

A Warm Thank You to My Hometown

I have spent all of my summers in Okobojo and have countless memories from my grandparents' home in Terril. Some of you have known me my entire life. Some know my family. A lot don't know any of us at all. None of you have met my fiancé, Kyle, or our happy little Jocelyn. Yet you all showed up for us beyond expectation when we needed it most. From the bottom of our hearts, we can't thank you all enough for participating in the benefit and for all the generous donations from all over. You have truly shown us what it means to "have a village", and it appears that our village knows no distance. From Arizona to Iowa, we are endlessly thankful for each of you and the imprints you have forever left on our hearts. With sincere thanks and appreciation,

Brittany, Kyle, and Jocelyn Prescott, Arizona

Volunteer at the Lakes Area Activities/Senior Center

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.

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](http://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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50% OFF Fall Sportswear & Okobojo Fleece

• Regular, Big & Tall Men • Tommy Bahama, Johnnie 'O, 7 Diamonds, Kuhl, Flag&Anthem

50-70% OFF Footwear Toms, Hey Dudes, Sperry, Nunn Bush, Under Armour and Teva

50-70% OFF Summer Activewear Swimwear, Shorts, Short Sleeve Sport Shirts and T-Shirts

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• 3 casts per customer • Discounts available on purchases up to \$100 • Not valid with other offers • One discount per day Special good thru Sunday, September 28, 2025

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• Stock up with ALL the new products for 2025 •

Shakespeare SPIDERWORM Berkley PLANO Abu Garcia MITCHELL JOHNSON STREN PFLUEGER

City of Spirit Lake

CLEAN UP DAYS

OCTOBER 6TH thru OCTOBER 9TH

Within the City of Spirit Lake, residential customers may dispose of items not normally picked up by the sanitation department.

Fall Cleanup days will coincide with resident's normal day of garbage pickup

This Cleanup will not include construction, debris, paint, toxic or flammable chemicals, nor material from construction or commercial establishments.

TAGS will be required for all white goods, electronics items, car & truck tires (no rims), mattresses and box springs, daybeds & futons with mattresses. ALL TAGS MUST BE PURCHASED AT CITY HALL. ITEMS THAT REQUIRE A TAG WILL NOT BE PICKED UP UNLESS THEY ARE TAGGED. A tag will not be required on couches and chairs on cleanup days only. Carpet and pad will be picked up as long as rolls are cut to 4 ft. lengths and tied with string, wire or duct tape. Lumber will also be picked up as long as all nails are pulled or bent over and the lumber is cut and bound tightly with wire or string with bundles no longer than 4 ft. in length and 12 inches in diameter.

ITEMS FOR CLEANUP DAYS MAY BE PLACED AT CURB NO EARLIER THAN OCTOBER 4TH

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WHAT'S POPPIN' WORD SEARCH WORDS

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H U T H R S N G I H S N T I D N G F Y A  
F H K O H N R C M A L P E P S O C R V F T  
S L C U I P N H O A V F I Y F F U L F C  
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AIR BAG BUCKET BUTTER CARMEL CHEESE CORN CRUNCHY FLUFFY GARLAND HULL KERNEL KETTLE MICROWAVE MOVIE NIGHT OIL POPPING SALT SEASONING SNACK STOVETOP THEATER

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

# Golf Calendar

## Iowa Great Lakes Area

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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## AN UNPARALLELED OKOBOJI GOLF EXPERIENCE.

27 HOLES. 3 COURSES. 1 CLEAR CHOICE.

# FALL RATES

	9 HOLES	18 HOLES	27 HOLES
Monday-Thursday	\$36	\$56	\$76
Friday-Sunday	\$41	\$61	\$81

Prices include cart

## Check Out Our Golf Shop Fall Sale!

Men's & Women's Shirts & Golf Bags - **20% Off**  
Men's Shorts - **30% Off**  
Men's & Women's Shoes - **25% Off**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Follow us on [www.brooksgolfclub.com](http://www.brooksgolfclub.com) 712-332-5011

Have

# THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER

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# west

## Local BREWERY FUNDRAISER

# ON US

PROCEEDS BENEFIT LOCAL NON-PROFITS

Oct. 2	Family Crisis Center
Nov. 6	Milford American Legion
Dec. 4	Voluntary Action Center

PRESENTING SPONSOR: OKOBOJI FOUNDATION

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# WIN BIG AT Rock & Roll BINGO NIGHT

FEATURING: Mingo Music Bingo

Looking for an exciting way to spend your evening and a chance to win great prizes? Join us for Bingo Night at Occasions in Spencer and experience the thrill of winning big while having a blast with friends and family!

\$10 PER PERSON (Includes 1 Bingo Card - additional cards \$5 per card)  
\$50 for a table for 6 (Includes 6 Bingo Cards - additional cards \$5 per card)

COCKTAIL HOUR: 5-6PM  
BINGO GAMES: 6-8PM

Serving Hot Dogs & Maid-Rites!

SEPTEMBER 26 & OCTOBER 24

104 EAST 4<sup>TH</sup> ST., SPENCER, IOWA (IN THE OLD MIDDLE SCHOOL)

## 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](mailto:boettche@iastate.edu).

## THE LAKES NEWS Auctions

Page 2B

## THE LAKES NEWS Auction Calendar

Sat., Sept. 27 - 9:00 AM- Coin auction in Windom, MN. Auctioneers: Gravley Auction. [www.auctionsgo.com](http://www.auctionsgo.com).

Sat., Sept. 27 - 9:00 AM- Golden Buys public auction in Spirit Lake. Auctioneers: Toerings. 712-395-0016.

Sun., Sept. 28 - 11:00 AM- Household auction in Spirit Lake. Auctioneers: Nattress. 712-330-1921. [www.nattressauctions.com](http://www.nattressauctions.com)

Tues., Sept. 30 - 10:30 AM- Live & online farm equipment auction near Paullina. Auctioneers: Vander Werffs, Hattermann, Rydberg & Mouw. 712-729-3264. [www.vw72.com](http://www.vw72.com).

Thurs., Oct. 2 - 12:00 PM- Online bidding begins for shop & property auction near Milford. Auctioneers: Vander Werffs, Hattermann, Rydberg & Mouw. 712-729-3264. [www.vw72.com](http://www.vw72.com).

Wed., Nov. 5 - 10:00 AM- 153.37 acres at auction in Jackson Co., MN. Auctioneers: Pike & Christopher. 507-847-3468. [www.auctioneerall.com](http://www.auctioneerall.com).

## WE WILL BE AERIFYING OUR GREENS SEPTEMBER 22-24

October 4  
Okoboji View  
4-Person 8" Cup

## PRIME RIB Friday & Saturday Nights

Pub 19 will be OPEN 7 DAYS a week thru September!

**PUB19 Fall Hours:**  
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712-332-8142 • [www.pub19barandgrill.com](http://www.pub19barandgrill.com)

# Emerald Hills Golf Club

IOWA GREAT LAKES PREMIER GOLF COURSE

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Sunday, September 28

#### Captain's Getaway 4-Man Best Shot

- 4-Person Best Shot - 18 Holes
- 12 PM Shotgun Start
- Call for Details & to Register

**NEW DATE!**

### 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

### Sunday, October 19

#### Emerald Hills Fall Classic 4-Person Best Shot

- 12pm Shotgun Start
- Great Mix of Fun & Competition
- Dinner After Golf
- Call to Register

Call 712-332-7100  
Hwy. 71 S. • Arnolds Park  
[GolfEmeraldHills.com](http://GolfEmeraldHills.com)



## lakesart.org | 712.332.7029

2201 HWY 71 N | Okoboji, IA 51355

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

## VISUAL ARTS

Plein Air Okoboji  
Through 11/1

Phil Scorza  
Through 10/25

Elissa Cox Wenhe  
Through 11/22

## PERFORMING ARTS

**9/25 | Manhattan Short**  
Film Festival  
6:00 PM | \$15

Audiences in over 500 cities spanning 6 continents unite for one week for the 28th Annual MANHATTAN SHORT Film Festival.

Join us after the screening for movie discussion, pizza, and a cash bar!

**October 6: Auditions from 4-6pm**  
Followed by two hours of rehearsal for a small portion of the cast.  
Registration Fee: \$25 per student  
Registration open through 10/3  
*Please visit the PLAC website for commitment requirements and important details BEFORE registering.*

HERCULES! is part of Missoula Children's Theatre's unique international touring project and is presented by The Pearson Lakes Art Center.

Open auditions are for 50-60 student roles, plus 4 assistant directors for 1st-8th graders. All students are encouraged to audition. Most students rehearse around 4 hours per day. **No advance preparation is necessary, but each student must pre-register.** Scan the QR code above or visit [lakesart.org/performing](http://lakesart.org/performing).

## EDUCATION CLASSES

Register online or call 712-332-7029

### MODERN GRANNY SQUARE With Sandie Smith

Thursday, Oct. 23 & 30 | 6-8pm | \$35/\$45  
Level: Ages 14+, All levels | Register by 10/15

By using modern materials and design we will bring new life to the traditional granny square. You can use your new skills to make an afghan or many other granny square projects.

After completing this workshop you will be able to keep on stitching with confidence to complete your first project and the skills to take on new crochet projects on your own! Supplies to learn and start the project are provided.

### OCTOBER YOUTH ART CLASSES: ILLUSTRATION

Grades K-12  
Scan for full class descriptions and to register online by 9/24

### Wine Class

With Jennifer Tritle-Oitzman 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

### 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

### French Crepes with Four de Marie Bakery

With Pastry Chef Jacques Bouli & Brigitte Bouli

Thursday, Oct. 16 | 4pm | \$40/\$50  
Registration required by 10/15

Chef Jacques will reveal the secrets to making mouth-watering crepes, which are rolled or folded with a variety of fillings. This class is a blend of hands-on and demonstration with the tasty reward of a savory traditional crepe filled with ham, cheese, garlic, and onion. A glass of wine is included.

## CULINARY CLASSES

Register online or call 712-332-7029



# LET'S GET SOCIAL!

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23RD  
4-6PM

Join us at O'Farrell Sisters and Let's Get Social from 4-6pm!



## Let's Get Social at O'Farrell Sisters Okoboji

The Iowa Great Lakes Area Chamber is excited to host another great Let's Get Social event at O'Farrell Sisters Okoboji on Tuesday, September 23rd, from 4-6pm. They are rebranding the Business after 5 events and are looking forward to seeing everyone there. This event offers local professionals, business owners, and community members the perfect opportunity to connect, engage and enjoy an evening of great conversations, light snacks and a cash bar. The IGLA Chamber team is thrilled to bring together our local businesses for an evening of networking and camaraderie at The original O'Farrell Sisters in Okoboji. They will also be celebrating their Ribbon Cutting right at 4pm with the social to follow. 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!



## BVU Summer 2025 Graduates

Buena Vista University congratulates more than 130 students who graduated in Summer 2025.

Sara Grossnickle of Spencer graduated with a Master of Arts in organizational leadership from Buena Vista University.

Ana Alonso Magallanes of Estherville graduated with a Master of Science in Education in clinical mental health counseling from Buena Vista University.

Julia Renkly of Orleans graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts in scientific illustration (pre-medical illustration track) and studio art from Buena Vista University.

Sadie Raper of Spencer graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in animation from Buena Vista University.

Abby Forsling of Spirit Lake graduated with a Master of Education in teacher leadership, curriculum, & instruction (effective teaching & instructional leadership track) from Buena Vista University.

## Ducks Unlimited: Leave Your Legacy at the Marsh Marigolds Happy Hour

The local chapter of Ducks Unlimited, "The Marsh Marigolds," invites the public to a recruitment meeting on Wednesday, September 24, at 6:00 p.m. at Oak Hill Outdoor in Milford.

Join the committee for drinks and wings to learn how you can contribute to waterfowl and wetlands conservation. This event is an opportunity to meet the dedicated members of "The Marsh Marigolds" and discover how your involvement can help leave a lasting legacy for future generations.

For more information, please contact Danni at 712-339-5126. Hope to see you there!



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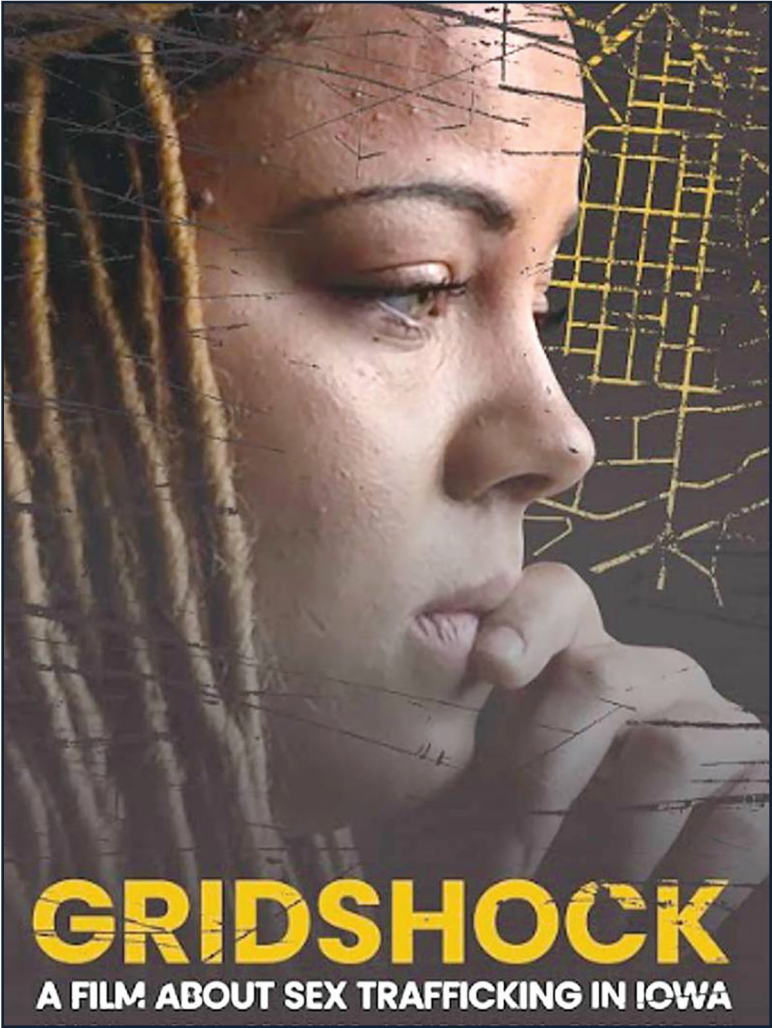
FREE PUBLIC SHOWING

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5 • 7 PM**

**SPIRIT LAKE, IOWA**

**SAMI CENTER AT SPIRIT LAKE SCHOOLS**

Educating on the dangers of human trafficking in Iowa



We are committed to bringing awareness to every community in our state, to help combat and bring clarity on the misconceptions of human trafficking.

### Key Points:

- WHAT IS IT
- WHO IS INVOLVED
- ACTION STEPS
- WHAT TO LOOK FOR
- THE 'SEED' OF IT ALL



**Presenting:**  
**Stacy Besch, Team Iowa**



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FREE PUBLIC SHOWING

**Okoboji High School Auditorium**

**Sunday, September 28**

**6:30PM**

**Milford, Iowa**

Educating on the dangers of human trafficking in Iowa

We are committed to bringing awareness to every community in our state, to help combat and bring clarity on the misconceptions of human trafficking.

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- WHO IS INVOLVED
- ACTION STEPS
- WHAT TO LOOK FOR
- THE 'SEED' OF IT ALL

**Presenting:**  
**Stacy Besch, Team Iowa**

**GRIDSHOCK**  
A FILM ABOUT SEX TRAFFICKING IN IOWA

Free "Old Rockers" Jam Session

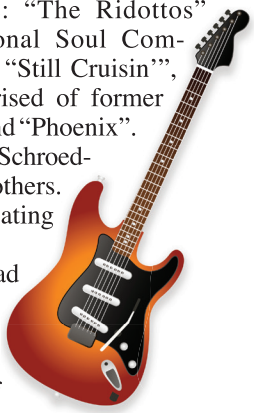
The Estherville VFW will host a free jam session on Saturday, October 4, from 5:00-8:00pm, featuring many area rock + roll musicians. The event is free to the public and will include numerous Iowa Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductees.

Bands on the schedule include: "The Ridottos" (former members of the "Sensational Soul Company") and the debut performance of "Still Cruisin'", a new band from Pocahontas comprised of former members of the "Senders", "Stinray" and "Phoenix".

Jam regular guests will include Steve Schroeder, Gilbert Wilden, Mick Buckley, and others. Any musicians interested in participating should text Al Klein at 507-230-1264.

**Please note:** due to unfinished road construction, please turn south off Central Ave. onto South 2nd Street (1 block east of the traffic light by Casey's at the bridge) and go 2 blocks south of VFW parking lot.

Food and drinks are available. This event is sponsored by the Estherville VFW and "The Ridottos" rock band.



THE LAKES NEWS Auction Calendar

**Sat., Sept. 27 – 9:00 AM**– Coin auction in Windom, MN. Auctioneers: Gravelly Auction. [www.auctionsgo.com](http://www.auctionsgo.com).

**Sat., Sept. 27 – 9:00 AM**– Golden Buys public auction in Spirit Lake. Auctioneers: Toerings. 712-395-0016.

**Sun., Sept. 28 – 11:00 AM**– Household auction in Spirit Lake. Auctioneers: Nattress. 712-330-1921. [www.nattressauctions.com](http://www.nattressauctions.com)

**Tues., Sept. 30 – 10:30 AM**– Live & online farm equipment auction near Paullina. Auctioneers: Vander Werffs, Hattermann, Rydberg & Mouw. 712-729-3264. [www.vw72.com](http://www.vw72.com).

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**Wed., Nov. 5 – 10:00 AM**– 153.37 acres at auction in Jackson Co., MN. Auctioneers: Pike & Christopher. 507-847-3468. [www.auctioneeralley.com](http://www.auctioneeralley.com).

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Join us at O'Farrell Sisters and Let's Get Social from 4-6pm!

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**HOURS: Mon., Tue., Wed., Fri., Sat. 9:00-5:30 • Thursday: 9:00-7:00 • Sunday - Closed**

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For more information, please contact Danni at 712-339-5126. Hope to see you there!



Lakes Area Activities/Senior Center Event Space

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

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

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

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

They have a beautiful, clean facility with most weekends available.

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



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**THE LNS**

Photos Courtesy of Rocky Thompson

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

**Tickets can be purchased at the VFW in Spirit Lake**

**DRAWING VETERANS DAY Tues., Nov. 11, 2025 at Javi's Grill**  
Need not be present to win.

**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.



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& the Mr. B's Flooring Team**  
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# Child Care Market Analysis and Strategic Plan Released for Spencer Community

SPENCER, IOWA – Spencer Economic Development Corporation (SEDC) and First Children's Finance (FCF) have released a Child Care Market Analysis and Strategic Plan for the Spencer area, outlining relevant child care data, child care market analysis, and FCF's key findings regarding care in the area.

SEDC contracted with FCF to perform a child care study to better identify and understand the gaps in child care services in the community. The study was paid for in part by grants received from the Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA), Iowa Area Development Group (IADG), and Iowa Rural Development Council (IRDC).

In February 2025, FCF and SEDC released three surveys to the Spencer community: one for parents, one for employers, and one for child care providers. The findings from these surveys were compiled into a single market analysis report.

According to the US Census Bureau in 2023, there are 6,053 total workers age 16 and older in the 51301-zip code, with 90% of families with children ages 0-5 and 92% of families with children ages 6-17 have all parents in the labor force. According to the study, over the last 12 months, parents have experienced child care challenges that have affected their job with 66% indicating the most common problem of having to leave work early. Employers indicated the same statistic.

Child care providers indicated lack of space in local programs with 79% saying they had turned away families or put them on a waitlist due to lack of space or openings in their programs in the last 12 months. FCF estimates there are 1,317 children in Spencer from families likely to use a regulated child care setting. According to Iowa Health and Human Services, there are 737 regulated spaces available during the school year and 529 regulated spaces during the summer, indicating a shortage of up to 580 spaces during the school year and up to 788 spaces during the summer.

"Many of us have heard or experienced the need for quality and affordable child care services in the community, but this market analysis from First Children's Finance has helped us put specific numbers to those needs," shared SEDC President Philip Ramstack. "Being able to walk through the results of the study, and work with other community members on a strategic plan to create more availability going forward has been a valuable exercise and tool to support our community."

520 2nd Avenue East, Suite 2 Spencer, IA 51301 | www.lakescorridor.com | 712-264-3474

After the market analysis, FCF led a strategic planning process, with a series of planning sessions held from April to July 2025. A total of 30 local individuals participated in the process, engaging in exercises to develop a vision for child care in the community, and goals and strategies to address the child care challenges identified through the child care market analysis.

Angie Duncan, Business Development Manager for First Children's Finance, presented the findings from both the Market Analysis and Strategic Plan to the Spencer City Council in a Committee of the Whole meeting on September 15, and to the Clay County Board of Supervisors on September 16.

The final step in the process with FCF is to create a financial model and budget projects for a local child care center project. This process is expected to wrap up in December 2025.

This process has been guided by a steering committee consisting of Kevin Robinson (City of Spencer), Courtney DeLoss (Clay County), Philip Ramstack (SEDC), Sheriffa Jones (Spencer Chamber of Commerce), Terry Hemann (Spencer Schools), and Iowa Lakes Corridor Development Corporation staff.

Both the Market Analysis and Strategic Plan have been published and are linked on the *SpencerEDC.com* website.

## Lakes Area Farmers Market News

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

Lakes Area Farmers Market will start new fall hours this week. It will be open from 3:30 to 5:30 PM on Wednesdays, but Saturday hours will remain 7:30 AM to 12:00 noon. You can still purchase most fall vegetables at the Farmers Market. With only 1 week left inside the building, now is the time to stock up. After boats are moved into the building, some vendors will set up on market days outside but are dependent on good weather. Check this column later for information about a winter market. We hope to see you there.

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## Obituary

Private family services will be held at Turner Jenness Funeral Home in Spirit Lake for John Kent Lago, age 60, of Omaha, Nebraska. Interment will be at Lakeview Cemetery in Spirit Lake.

**John Kent Lago** was born Friday, December 28, 1964 in Spirit Lake, Iowa, the third child of four children to Donald Raymond & Phyllis Ann Lago. He entered the Kingdom of Heaven on Saturday, September 6, 2025, in Omaha, Nebraska.

He graduated from Spirit Lake High School in 1983 and then pursued Financial Studies at Morningside University, graduating in 1987 with a bachelor's degree in Business and Economics: Dean's List and National Dean's List. He thereafter applied his knowledge, skills, and abilities in prominent business leadership and development roles as Senior Vice President and Partner/Managing Director positions that reflected his financial skills and deep understanding of not only business operations, but also his relentless pursuit for employee and customer satisfaction & advancement. He made an instant impact on everyone whom he met and was admired for doing what was right for those he came in contact with. He was known for his warm smile and genuine nature. Whether offering a compliment or support, John had an uncanny ability & passion to make others feel good about themselves.

John was a gifted athlete and lifelong sports enthusiast. He was tenacious in his enthusiasm & support of his daughters' and his grandsons' sporting achievements.

John had an unending love for animals and pets throughout his life growing up on the Montgomery, Iowa, family farm.

He is survived by his beloved daughters - Morgan Magni (Brandon) and Madison Lago; grandchildren - Easton & Braxton Magni; and sister - Nancy Reiman; and brothers - Larry Lago (Marcie) & Douglas Lago (Amy). John fiercely loved his family and will remain the brightest light in their lives as he now lives in their hearts. He was preceded in death by his parents - Donald & Phyllis Lago, as well as his grandparents - Herbert & Bertha Frank and Jeff & Ethal Lago, and brother-in-law, Dave Reiman.

Turner Jenness Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.



### Word Search Puzzle Key from page 10A

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

**Elaine** was born August 10, 1939, in Estherville, Iowa, to Floyd and Gertrude Gottsche. She graduated from Arnolds Park High School, where she excelled at typing, played in an all-girl accordion band, and enjoyed being a part of her local 4-H club.

Elaine married Ray Schwaller from Milford on August 5, 1961. They lived in Arnolds Park from 1961 to 1963. During that time, Elaine worked for Wilbur Hanson, a lawyer who also did income taxes for people. She did taxes for her own family for many years. In December 1973, the family moved to Spirit Lake, where Elaine continued using her typing and math skills as the bookkeeper at Hilltop Nursing Home. She really came into her calling when she started her in-home childcare service. Elaine spent 23 years sharing her love with many children from this area. She especially loved caring for babies.

Elaine had many interests, including word and jigsaw puzzles, needle crafts, and reading. Her greatest joy was sewing doll clothes for Barbie, Bitty Baby, Cabbage Patch, and American Girl dolls. She was known throughout the community for the quality and creativity she put into her doll clothes, which could often be found at local craft shows, including the Odin Craft Mill in Trimont, MN. She and Ray were a great team, as he enjoyed making display racks for her. She also shared her sewing skills with the quilting ladies at Grace Lutheran Church.

Most of all, Elaine loved her family and enjoyed her time with them, especially the annual fishing trips to northern Minnesota, where she could fillet a Pike with the best of them. Her grandchildren had a special place in her heart, and she loved watching them grow up. They were the beneficiaries of some amazing Halloween costumes she sewed for them.

She is survived by her son, Steven Schwaller of Okoboji; daughter, Lori Masad, and her husband Randy, of Spirit Lake; and daughter Linda Nelson and her husband Chad, of Portland, Oregon. She has four grandsons - Anthony Masad and his wife Jennifer, of Spirit Lake, Iowa; Chris Masad of Minneapolis, Minnesota; and Isaac and Henry Nelson of Portland, Oregon. Her brother, Bruce Gottsche, and his partner, Bill Sherrill, live in Hudson, Wisconsin, and her brother, Richard Gottsche, and his wife Ruth Gottsche, live in Estherville, Iowa. She is also survived by many nieces, nephews, friends, and neighbors.

Elaine was preceded in death by her parents and her husband, Ray. Elaine's family extends their sincere thanks to the staff at Community Memorial Health Center in Hartley for their professionalism and compassion, as well as the extremely high-quality level of care she received there over these years. We also want to express our sincere appreciation and gratitude to St. Croix Hospice. They responded to our needs at a very crucial time. The dedication, skills, and compassion shown by both teams were truly top-notch.

A funeral service will be held Saturday, September 27, 2025, at 10:30 AM at Grace Lutheran Church in Spirit Lake. Burial will be at Calvary Cemetery. A visitation for Elaine will be on Friday, September 26th, from 5:00-7:00 PM at Turner Jenness Funeral Home in Spirit Lake. Elaine passed away September 21, 2025, at Community Health Center in Hartley, Iowa.

Turner Jenness Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.



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OPEN HOUSE: Sun., Sept. 28, 1-3pm



1508 Blaine's Way | Spirit Lake  
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Free "Old Rockers" Jam Session

The Estherville VFW will host a free jam session on Saturday, October 4, from 5:00-8:00pm, featuring many area rock & roll musicians. The event is free to the public and will include numerous Iowa Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductees.

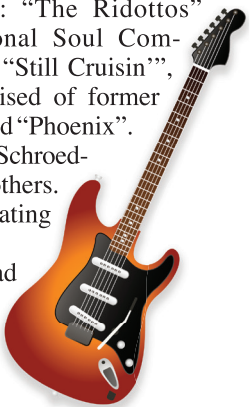
Bands on the schedule include: "The Ridottos" (former members of the "Sensational Soul Company") and the debut performance of "Still Cruisin'", a new band from Pocahontas comprised of former members of the "Senders", "Stinray" and "Phoenix".

Jam regular guests will include Steve Schroeder, Gilbert Wilden, Mick Buckley, and others.

Any musicians interested in participating should text Al Klein at 507-230-1264.

Please note: due to unfinished road construction, please turn south off Central Ave. onto South 2nd Street (1 block east of the traffic light by Casey's at the bridge) and go 2 blocks south of VFW parking lot.

Food and drinks are available. This event is sponsored by the Estherville VFW and "The Ridottos" rock band.



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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.

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— Farmers Savings Bank of Milford and Fostoria is pleased to announce that it has purchased a new building located at 1109 18th St in Spirit Lake. The new branch will bring Farmers Savings Bank's trusted and reliable banking services to residents and businesses, offering a full suite of financial products and personalized customer service.

"We are excited to bring Farmers Savings Bank to the Spirit Lake community," said Brad Simington, President of Farmers Savings Bank. "This expansion is a testament to our commitment to growing strong community ties and providing the same great service our customers have come to know and rely on. We look forward to becoming a valued partner for individuals, families, and businesses."

The new Spirit Lake branch will feature an updated design, a drive-thru, an ATM, and dedicated consumer and business banking services. Customers will have access to all of Farmers Savings Bank signature offerings, including personal and business checking and savings accounts, mortgage and loan services, and commercial and farm lending.

The new branch will be opening Spring 2026. A grand opening celebration will be announced at a later date.

Farmers Savings Bank has been growing strong relationships since 1916. As a full service, locally owned community bank, our team strives to meet the needs of our customers, communities, and businesses. We work hard to provide our customers with all the technology they need while maintaining the personal, small town touch our customers expect and deserve. Farmers Savings Bank is growing to serve you better! Member FDIC

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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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## 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 29, 10:30 a.m. – Can You Bear It?
  - o Bring a stuffed animal to stay overnight at Milford Memorial Library
- October 6, 10:30 a.m. – Silly Stories
- October 13, 10:30 a.m. – No Building Bookworms
- October 20, 10:30 a.m. – Dino Time
- October 27, 10:30 a.m. – Monster Mash

On Monday, October 6, join Milford Memorial Library for Playdate! From 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., discover new and exciting toys while playing with friends. This is a free come-and-go playtime, where all the toys are provided by the library.


Y.A. Maker Monday will be on Monday, October 6, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. During this free come-and-go event, fourth through twelfth graders can create a ghost thumbprint painting. Create your own monster treat during MML's After-School Adventures. Join MML on Thursday, October 9, from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., for this free activity. All supplies will be provided.

The Milford Memorial Library Book Club will be discussing Stephen King's horror novel Pet Sematary on Tuesday, October 14, at 1:00 p.m. It is not necessary to attend all of the book meetings, and you are welcome to come and go as you please.

On Wednesday, October 1, at 5:30 p.m., an open meeting of the Board of Trustees for the Milford Memorial Library will take place in the Milford Community Center. The agenda will be posted on MML's website and front bulletin board at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting. Everyone is welcome to attend and offer their thoughts in order to make MML a better library.


It's beginning to be cozy mystery reading season. Milford Memorial Library recommends, The Thursday Murder Club by Richard Osman, Vera Wong's Unsolicited Advice for Murderers by Jesse G. Sutanto, and The Maid by Nita Prose. Reserve these and other titles by calling MML at 712-338-4643 or on MML's online catalog at [www.milford.lib.ia.us](http://www.milford.lib.ia.us).

Need inspiration for fall décor and food? Stop by MML and browse our magazine selection. Fall magazines of Magnolia Journal, Food Network, Country Living, Allrecipes, and others are available for check out.



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<b>SUNNY DEAL!</b> <b>Kentucky Legend Sliced Bacon</b> 16 oz. <b>\$3.99</b> 	<b>SUNNY DEAL!</b> <b>Marzetti's Ranch Dip</b> 12 oz. <b>\$3.98</b> 	<b>SUNNY DEAL!</b> <b>Sweet Snaps Long Sweet Peppers</b> 12 oz. <b>2/\$5</b> 	<b>SUNNY DEAL!</b> <b>Best Choice Red Potatoes</b> 5 lb. <b>\$2.98</b> 	<b>SUNNY DEAL!</b> <b>Dole Chopped Salads</b> 9.6-12.25 oz. <b>\$3.48</b> 	<b>SUNNY DEAL!</b> <b>Mini Cucumbers</b> 6 Ct. <b>\$1.98</b> 
<b>SUNNY DEAL!</b> <b>Prairie Fresh Pork Sausage Rolls</b> 16 oz. <b>2/\$7</b> 	<b>SUNNY DEAL!</b> <b>Prairie Fresh Boneless Center Cut Pork Loin Roasts</b> Per lb. <b>\$2.49</b> 	<b>SUNNY DEAL!</b> <b>Prairie Fresh Boneless Center Cut Pork Chops</b> Size? <b>BUY 10 FOR \$10 AND GET 2 FREE</b> 	<b>SUNNY DEAL!</b> <b>St. Louis Style Pork Ribs</b> Bone-In, USDA Inspected, Per lb. <b>\$3.49</b> 	<b>SUNNY DEAL!</b> <b>Sunshine's Own Butcher Fresh 80% Lean Ground Beef</b> Per lb., Value Pack <b>\$5.99</b> 	<b>SUNNY DEAL!</b> <b>Chicken Breast</b> Grade A, Boneless, Skinless, Tray Pack, Per lb. <b>\$2.99</b> 
<b>SUNNY DEAL!</b> <b>Smokin' Boji BBQ</b>  Smokin Boyd's Pizza <b>2/\$20</b> All Varieties Fresh Made Pastas <b>\$8.99</b> Each All Varieties Smoked Carolina Style Pulled Pork <b>\$10.99</b> Per lb. Traditional KC Style Smoked Pulled Pork <b>\$10.99</b> Per lb. For Catering Call: <b>712-330-3998</b> Smokinbojibbq@gmail.com 18 to 24 hour notice required	<b>SUNNY DEAL!</b> <b>Best Choice Condensed Soups</b> BIG 26 oz., Cream of Mushroom, Cream of Chicken, Tomato, or Chicken Noodle <b>2/\$4</b> 	<b>SUNNY DEAL!</b> <b>Campbell's Red &amp; White Label Soups</b> 10.5-11.5 oz. <b>2/\$3</b> 	<b>SUNNY DEAL!</b> <b>Prego Pasta Sauce</b> 23-24 oz. <b>2/\$5</b> 	<b>SUNNY DEAL!</b> <b>Creamette Pasta</b> 7-16 oz. Select Varieties <b>99¢</b> 	
<b>SUNNY DEAL!</b> <b>Sabra Hummus</b> 10 oz. <b>2/\$7</b> 	<b>DIGITAL DEAL!</b> <b>Stonefire Naan Bread</b> 2 Pack, White or Garlic <b>\$2.99</b> AD PRICE <b>-50¢</b> <b>\$2.49</b> <b>DIGITAL COUPON</b> LIMIT OF 2 COUPON USES Must use digital app to get digital coupons. Limit 2 coupon uses per customer.	<b>SUNNY DEAL!</b> <b>Toufayan Bagels</b> 20 oz. <b>\$2.99</b> 	<b>DIGITAL DEAL!</b> <b>Life or Cap n' Crunch Cereals</b> 11-14.5 oz. <b>\$3.49</b> AD PRICE <b>-1.00</b> <b>\$2.49</b> <b>DIGITAL COUPON</b> LIMIT OF 1 COUPON USE Must use digital app to get digital coupons. Limit 1 coupon use per customer.	<b>SUNNY DEAL!</b> <b>Little Debbie Mini Muffins</b> 8.27-8.44 oz. <b>2/\$5</b> 	<b>SUNNY DEAL!</b> <b>Kellogg's Pop-Tarts</b> Large Size 12 Ct. Var. <b>\$2.99</b> 
<b>DIGITAL DEAL!</b> <b>Prairie Farms Premium Cottage Cheese or Sour Cream</b> Large Size 24 oz. Var. <b>\$3.79</b> AD PRICE <b>-80¢</b> <b>\$2.99</b> <b>DIGITAL COUPON</b> LIMIT OF 4 COUPON USES Must use digital app to get digital coupons. Limit 4 coupon uses per customer.	<b>SUNNY DEAL!</b> <b>Best Choice String Cheese</b> 10 oz. <b>\$2.99</b> 	<b>DIGITAL DEAL!</b> <b>Dannon Light + Fit, Oikos or Too Good Greek Yogurt</b> 4.5-5.3 oz. <b>10/\$12</b> AD PRICE <b>-2.00</b> <b>10/\$10</b> <b>DIGITAL COUPON</b> LIMIT OF 1 COUPON USE MUST BUY 10 Must use digital app to get digital coupons. Limit 1 coupon use per customer.	<b>SUNNY DEAL!</b> <b>Reddi-Wip Topping</b> 6.5 oz. Aerosol <b>\$2.99</b> 	<b>SUNNY DEAL!</b> <b>Best Choice Cream Cheese</b> 8 oz. Tub <b>\$1.99</b> 	
<b>SUNNY DEAL!</b> <b>Ore-Ida Just Crack An Egg Scrambles</b> 2.25-3 oz. <b>2/\$4</b> 	<b>SUNNY DEAL!</b> <b>Simply Fresh Hashbrowns and Potatoes</b> 20 oz. Var. <b>\$2.99</b> 	<b>SUNNY DEAL!</b> <b>Hunt's Ketchup</b> 20 oz. <b>2/\$3</b> 	<b>SUNNY DEAL!</b> <b>Keekler Club or TownHouse Crackers and Keebler Grahams</b> 9-15 oz. <b>\$3.99</b> 	<b>SUNNY DEAL!</b> <b>Lay's Stax Potato Chips</b> 5.5 oz. Var. <b>2/\$4</b> 	<b>SUNNY DEAL!</b> <b>Best Choice Purified Drinking Water</b> 24 Ct., 16.9 oz. Bottles <b>2/\$7</b> 
<b>DIGITAL DEAL!</b> <b>Blue Bunny Premium Ice Cream</b> 48 oz., <b>\$3.99</b> AD PRICE <b>Sandwiches</b> 49 Ct., <b>-1.00</b> <b>Mini Cones</b> 8 ct. <b>\$2.99</b> <b>DIGITAL COUPON</b> LIMIT OF 1 COUPON USE Must use digital app to get digital coupons. Limit 1 coupon use per customer.	<b>SUNNY DEAL!</b> <b>Bellatoria Sunday Brunch Pizza</b> 11-12", Sweetie Pies, Pizza Bowls, and BrewPub Lottza Mottza Pizza 9" <b>2/\$8.88</b> 	<b>SUNNY DEAL!</b> <b>New York Breadsticks or Texas Toast</b> 6-8 Ct. <b>2/\$5</b> 	<b>SUNNY DEAL!</b> <b>Bertolli Frozen Meals</b> 22-24 oz. <b>\$6.99</b> 	<b>SUNNY DEAL!</b> <b>Best Choice Superior Selections Frozen Fruit</b> 48 oz. Whole Strawberries, Sliced Peaches, Mixed Fruit or Tropical Blend <b>\$7.99</b> 	<b>DIGITAL DEAL!</b> <b>Best Choice Frozen Waffles or Pancakes</b> 12.3-16.5 oz. <b>2/\$5</b> AD PRICE <b>-1.00</b> <b>2/\$4</b> <b>DIGITAL COUPON</b> LIMIT OF 1 COUPON USE MUST BUY 2 Must use digital app to get digital coupons. Limit 1 coupon use per customer.

# THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER AUCTIONS

HOUSEHOLD, TOOL & FORK LIFT

• AUCTION •

Sunday, September 28, 2025 • 11:00 AM

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

HOUSEHOLD: Queen bed w/ 2 nightstands\* Full bed \* Armoire\* Dresser\* 2- round metal nightstands w/storage\* 3 cushion couches\* Elec recliner\* Glider\* Sofa table\* Hall bench\*Queen Anne leg drop leaf table\* Corner cabinet\* 4- red metal bar stools\* Ninya air fryer\* Sm. kitchen appliances\* Bake & cookware\* Set of 8 Villeroy & Backe bone china\* Cook-books\* Wood file cabinet, new\* Elna 9000 computer sewing machine\* Lots of material & craft items\* Sharp stereo w/2 speakers\* Handicap pcs.\* Custom jewelry\* Large dining table w/ 4 chairs\* Lighted display case\* Tea cart\* Hutch\* Small end table w/ drawers\* Small drop leaf table\* 3 bar stools\* set of 4 folding oak trays\* Leather couch\* Set of Pfaltzgraff dishes\*

ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES: Sm. white table w/pull out sides & 4 chairs\* Washstand\* Pie safe\* Dep glass pcs. \* Moss pictures & other nice pictures\* Silhouettes\* Coo coo clock\* 5 & 15 gal & other crocks\* Ball jars\* Many more antique pcs too numerous to mention\* Stamp collection\* Watches\* Red or black trim enamelware\*

OUTDOOR FURNITURE & RECREATION ITEMS: 5 pc. wicker set\* Weber grill, new\* Spring loader lawn chairs\* Hand-made wood boat\* 2- kayaks\* Oars\* Girls bike\* Trek men's bike\* Char-Broil LP fryer\* waders\*

FORK LIFT & TRAILER: White LP fork lift\* Homemade 10' trailer w/tilt bed\*

TOOLS: Craftsman & other\* Organizers\* Open/box end wrenches\* B & D elec tools\* Tool chest\* Yard & hand tools\*Workmate 225 Skil blower\* Craftsman table saw\* Generator\* lumber and carpenter tools\*

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AUCTIONEERS NOTE: Doors open @ 9:30 A.M. This is a partial listing of what will be up for auction. We will be full to the brim, so come & see what we have to offer.

PHOTOS: Face book: nattress auction & clerking\*  
Web site: [nattress.auctions.com](http://nattress.auctions.com).

AUCTIONEER: Greg A. Nattress, Milford, IA, 712-330-1921  
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Lakes Area Activities/Senior Center Wish List

• City of Spirit Lake green garbage bags

• Postage stamps

• Paper towels and Kleenex

• Toilet paper

• Coffee - regular, decaf, filters and Styrofoam coffee cups

Thank you for your donations!

Mobile Food Pantry in Estherville

The mobile food pantry from the Food Bank of Iowa is returning again. The free distribution will take place from 4-6 p.m. Thursday, October 2, at the Good News Estherville Church. The food will be distributed inside the church. Recipients are asked to bring bags, laundry baskets or boxes to carry the food. At the September Food Bank, 641 individuals (213 families) received thousands of pounds of food. The Food Bank of Iowa partners with 700 agencies in 55 counties to distribute 2.5 million pounds of food each month, so that no one goes hungry in Iowa. If you have questions, call the Good News Estherville Church at 712-362-4984.

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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](http://Iowa-Al-Anon.org), meetings tab, find a group (enter: Milford, IA 51351 USA). Or call 712-580-4406.

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ILUUF Presents Audrey McCann

The Iowa Lakes Unitarian Universalist Fellowship invites you to attend the Sunday, September 28th program led by Audrey McCann, UU seminarian at United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities. She also serves as the Director of Children and Family Ministries at the UU Fellowship of Northfield, MN.

Fighting the good fight day-after-day, executive order after executive order—it wears us down. How do we balance taking care of ourselves in authentic, healthy ways while also continuing to advocate for our Unitarian Universalist Shared Values? Pulling inspiration from "I Am Willing" by Holly Near, McCann will discuss ways to stay hopeful, open, and willing to keep the "light of change" burning bright.

Coffee and conversation begin at 9:30am with the program to follow at 10am at the Lakes Area Senior Center located at 2101 Zenith Ave. in Spirit Lake.

People of all ages and backgrounds share conversation, food and song at an ILUUF service. Guest speakers discuss issues affecting us both locally and globally. The ILUUF meets the 2nd & 4th Sundays of each month. Learn more at [www.uuokoboji.com](http://www.uuokoboji.com). All are welcome to attend this progressive fellowship.

Spirit Lake Library News

Going Clubbing ... Book Clubbing, That Is!

by Jill Jennings

Over the years, I have participated in a few different book clubs. The longest running one was called "The Carnegie Library Book Club," and was the traditional "meet in the evening with wine & snacks and talk about the book" set up. I tried an online book club, but I don't think I ever read a book for that one. It was too easy to procrastinate! At the Spirit Lake Public Library, we have three different options for you to choose from.

The first one is our morning book club. We call it "Page Turners" and it meets one Wednesday per month at 10:30 a.m. in the Community Room. The participants all read the same book ahead of time and then gather to discuss it while having coffee and treats.

The second option is called "Book Club to Go." This is a bag filled with ten books (8 regular print, 2 large print), and a discussion guide. A book set can be checked out for six weeks. This option would be for private book clubs, not associated with the library, that meet at their own location and time. If your book club needs help with other resources, please let us know!

The third opportunity is brand new! It is SLPL's Evening Edition Book Club. There is no specific book to read, but rather a topic to discuss. Last week, we talked about our favorite authors, while enjoying some charcuterie board snacks.

If you are looking to connect with friends and/or books, let the Spirit Lake Public Library help you reach that goal! For more information, please go to our website [slpublib.com](http://slpublib.com) or find us on Facebook.

SLPL staff reading spotlight: Diana is reading The Peacemaker (A Mifflin County Mystery, #2) by Wanda Brunstetter and Off the Spectrum: Why the Science of Autism Has Failed Women and Girls by Gina Rippon.

Upcoming activities at SLPL:

- Monday, September 29, 1:00-3:00 p.m., Mah-Jongg
- Tuesday, September 30, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Quilters
- Wednesday, October 1, 12:30-4:00 p.m., Quilters
- Thursday, October 2, 10:00-11:30 a.m., Block Party (come & go)
- Thursday, October 2, 1:00-3:00 p.m., Mah-Jongg

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.

Lakes Area Activities/Senior Center Schedule

Tuesday, September 23

8:30 - Kiwanis

12:00 - Dinner Date

12:30 - Bridge

Wednesday, September 24

9:00 - Exercise Class

12:00 - Dinner Date

Thursday, September 25

10:00 - Strummers

11:00 - Tai Chi

12:00 - Dinner Date

1:00 - 500 Cards

3:00 - Cribbage

4:00 - Zumba

Friday, September 26

9:00 - Exercise Class

10:00 - Chair Yoga

12:00 - Dinner Date

Saturday, September 27

Facility Available For Rent

Sunday, September 28

9:00 - Church in the Card Room

2:00-5:00 Dance and Potluck at 3pm

Music by Bill and Jackie \$8/Single \$15/Couples

Monday, September 29

9:00 - Exercise

12:00 - Dinner Date

1:00 - Mahjong

Tuesday, September 30

8:30 - Kiwanis

12:00 - Dinner Date

12:00 - Blood Pressure Checks

12:30 - Bridge

6:30 - Men's Group

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 October 19, 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.



**THANK YOU FROM THE SLHS KEY CLUB** – SLHS Key Club would like to thank Kiwanis, Spirit Lake High School, B and M Property Management, Fareway, Brent and Jessica Harris, Bank Midwest, and all of the community members that came out to support their first Mental Health Movie Night.



Lake Park Mobile Food Pantry

The Food Bank of Iowa Mobile Food Pantry will be open for distribution on Thursday, October 2, 2025, from 4:30 - 6:30 pm at the Lake Park Methodist Church located at 1471 135th Ave, Lake Park. Registration will be inside the church beginning at 3:30 pm, you must be present to register. You may pick up groceries for someone that is not able to make it. Please do not line up at the front door (southeast corner of the church) before 3:30 pm. Please bring boxes, bags or containers for your groceries. Distribution will begin at 4:30 pm. Volunteers will help take your groceries to your vehicle. Questions? Call the Lake Park Methodist Church at 712-832-3361 or Jerilyn Marra 712-348-0475.



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 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.

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. Tai Chi at 11:00am and Zumba class at 4:30pm on Thursday. 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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- Learn about the 2026 changes for Medicare
- Learn about your options during the AEP (Annual Enrollment Period)
- Learn what the differences are between Supplements, Advantage and Cost Plans?
- Learn what the Medicare Prescription Payment Plan is and how it works.

**Lakes Area Senior Center**  
2101 Zenith Ave, Spirit Lake, IA 51360  
Wednesday October 1st 1:00PM  
Open to the Public


**Presented By:**



Nicole Skoglund  
712-332-1215  
nskoglund@yourhr.com



Mindy Nicholson  
515-320-3460  
mnicholson@yourhr.com

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**Medical Director:**



Daniel Gillette, MD, SM, DFAPA, FACHE.

**Psychiatric Physician Assistants:**



Charles Tilley MSAP, PA-C



Laurie Warren, PA-C

**Psychiatric Nurse Practitioners:**



Jessica Hudspeth, ARNP



Heidi Pedersen, ARNP, PMHNP-BC, FNP-C

**THE LNS Recipe Corner**

Clip this recipe card to save

**Blueberry Lemon Cornmeal Cobbler** Makes 8 to 10 servings

3 tablespoons boiling water  
1 tablespoon ground flaxseed  
5 cups fresh blueberries  
1/2 cup plus 1/3 cup sugar, divided  
3 tablespoons lemon juice, divided  
2 tablespoons cornstarch  
1 1/2 tablespoons finely grated lemon peel, divided  
1/2 cup plain unsweetened soy milk or almond milk  
2/3 cup all-purpose flour  
1/4 cup fine-ground cornmeal  
1 1/2 teaspoons baking powder  
1/4 teaspoon salt  
1/4 cup coconut oil, melted

Preheat oven to 375° F. Spray 8-inch square baking pan with nonstick cooking spray. Combine boiling water and flaxseed in small bowl. Let stand until cool. Combine blueberries, 1/3 cup sugar, 1 tablespoon lemon juice, cornstarch, and 1/2 tablespoon lemon peel in large bowl; toss to coat. Spoon into prepared pan. Combine soy milk and remaining 2 tablespoons lemon juice in small bowl; let stand 5 minutes. Combine flour, cornmeal, remaining 1/2 cup sugar, 1 tablespoon lemon peel, baking powder and salt in medium bowl; mix well. Add soy milk mixture, coconut oil and flaxseed mixture; stir until just combined. Drop topping by 2 tablespoons into mounds over blueberry mixture. Bake 40 to 45 minutes or until filling is bubbly and topping is golden brown. Let stand 30 minutes before serving.



Recipe Courtesy of: "Vegan Cooking for Beginners!" with recipes curated by Publications International, Ltd.



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

**FOR RENT:** Lots for your mobile home available at A & K Trailer Park in Spirit Lake. Some utilities included. PH: 712-336-8400.

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GARAGE SALE

**Milford**  
**2072 220th St, Milford.** Fri, Sept 26, 3-7pm, Sat, Sept 27, 9am-4pm, and Sun, Sept 28, 10am-5pm. 1.4 miles west of Catholic Church. Tons of women clothing and shoes, all sizes, name brand. Bringing out - winter coats & boots for kids and adults, more things added from families! Also baby clothes, baby must haves, swings, bassinet, etc. Hand tools, fishing poles, 2 vintage oval glass doors, and so much more!

**Spirit Lake**  
**107 23rd St, Spirit Lake.** Saturday, September 27th, 730-1130am. Rocking chair, bar stools, dresser, high chair, toddler basketball hoop, sit me up seat, toddler table toy, baby gates, Bumbo seat, jumper, lots of jewelry, wall hangings, decor, seasonal, and much more.

NOTICES NOTICES

**CITY OF MILFORD: BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT MEMBER NEEDED**

The City of Milford is seeking applicants to serve on the Board of Adjustment (5-year term 7/1/25-6/30/2030). The Board of Adjustment is not a policy making board, but rather a quasi-judicial board responsible for the following: (1) Administrative review where it is alleged that there is error in any order, requirement, decision, or determination made by the Zoning Administrator; (2) Hear and decide special exception use applications; and (3) Authorize in specific cases a variance from the terms of the Zoning Ordinance when the variance is not contrary to the public interest and, due to special conditions, a literal enforcement would result in unnecessary hardship, and so that the spirit of the ordinance is observed and substantial justice is done. A small stipend is also paid to board members. Position will remain open until filled.

If interested please contact: City Clerk's Office @ 712-338-2741 or, visit [www.milford.ia.us](http://www.milford.ia.us) for a board member application.

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**IOWA LAKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE** is accepting applications for a full-time

**RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION COORDINATOR**

located on the Emmetsburg Campus.

Primary responsibilities are to coordinate and lead campus tours for potential nursing students, manage communications via email and phone, and serve as the primary academic advisor for all nursing students. Travel between campuses may be required. Bachelor's degree in a health care field preferred. Experience in student services and/or academic advising beneficial. Salary \$47,035. Paid sick leave, vacation, and holidays. Employee health, dental, and vision insurance. Partially funded family insurance available. Employee life and disability insurance. Employee retirement plan. Review of applications will begin October 6, 2025.

**View complete job description and application process at [www.iowalakes.edu/employment](http://www.iowalakes.edu/employment). Contact Lynn Miller at [Immiller@iowalakes.edu](mailto:Immiller@iowalakes.edu) or 712-362-0409.**

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**IOWA LAKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE** is accepting applications for a part-time (27.5 hrs/wk)

**SIMULATION TECHNICIAN**

on the Emmetsburg Campus.

Responsible for the overall usage, maintenance, and upkeep of the medical, simulation, and audio-visual equipment for the Simulation Center. Provide technical support for simulation activities, labs, and exercises. Current license or certification in an allied health care field required. Two years' experience in health care-related field preferred. Demonstrated experience with computer applications and ability to troubleshoot basic technology issues preferred. Salary \$22.61/hour. Paid sick leave, vacation, and holidays. Employee retirement plan. Review of applications will begin October 6, 2025.

**View complete job description and application process at [www.iowalakes.edu/employment](http://www.iowalakes.edu/employment). Contact Lynn Miller at [Immiller@iowalakes.edu](mailto:Immiller@iowalakes.edu) or 712-362-0409.**

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This role is for approximately 10 hours per week and is perfect for someone who is organized, friendly, and proficient in basic office software.

**RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE:**

- Preparing the weekly church bulletin and other correspondence.
- Managing church calendars and scheduling.
- Answering phones and greeting visitors.
- Handling general office tasks and maintaining records.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Proficiency in Microsoft Word and PowerPoint is required.
- Strong organizational and communication skills.
- A reliable and professional demeanor.

**To apply, please send your resume and a cover letter to Al Lickhart at Wall.1995@outlook.com.**

2-52c

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TFC

**IOWA LAKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
is accepting applications for a full-time  
**STUDENT RECORDS SPECIALIST**  
on the Emmetsburg Campus.

Primary responsibility is to assist the Director with all duties and serve as the initial contact for students, parents, and staff. Associate degree in business or a related area is required. Bachelor's degree in education, student services, business or related area is required. Student Services experience at the college level preferred. Additional preference will be given to specific experience in student records, admissions, or financial aid or through demonstrated knowledge of Iowa Lakes' academic programs. Previous experience with student software systems preferred. \$19.94/hr. Paid sick leave, vacation, and holidays. 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 29, 2025.

**View complete job description and application at [www.iowalakes.edu/employment](http://www.iowalakes.edu/employment). Contact Lynn Miller at [Immiller@iowalakes.edu](mailto:Immiller@iowalakes.edu) or 712-362-0409.**

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**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 29, 2025.

**View complete job description and application process at [www.iowalakes.edu/employment](http://www.iowalakes.edu/employment). Contact Lynn Miller at [Immiller@iowalakes.edu](mailto:Immiller@iowalakes.edu) or 712-362-0409. Email questions to Autumn Larsen at [alarsen@iowalakes.edu](mailto:alarsen@iowalakes.edu).**


**IOWA LAKES**  
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Human Resources, 19 South 7th Street, Estherville, IA 51334  
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**IOWA LAKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
is accepting applications for a full-time  
**NURSING INSTRUCTOR**  
on the Emmetsburg Campus.

Primary responsibilities are to deliver classroom instruction, provide clinical supervision for nursing students, and have current Medical/Surgical experience. May include days/evenings/weekend hours. Master's Degree preferred. Bachelor's Degree with significant progress towards Master's Degree required. (Either Bachelor's Degree or Master's Degree must have a major in Nursing.) Three years clinical nursing experience in Medical/Surgical Nursing is required. Prior teaching experience and experience in medical/surgical nursing desired. Must be currently licensed as a registered nurse in Iowa. (Individuals are currently licensed when licensed in another state and recognized for licensure in Iowa, pursuant to the nurse licensure compact contained in Iowa Code Section 152E.1.) Must be in good standing and able to work at all clinical sites/hospitals affiliated with the Iowa Lakes Nursing Program. Salary commensurate with education and related experience for a 209-day contract. Position open until filled. Review of applications will begin September 29, 2025.

**View complete job description and application process at [www.iowalakes.edu/employment](http://www.iowalakes.edu/employment). Contact Lynn Miller at [Immiller@iowalakes.edu](mailto:Immiller@iowalakes.edu) or 712-362-0409.**

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Toastmasters International Meeting

Toastmasters International is the leading nonprofit dedicated to effective oral communication and leadership development. In the last 101 years there have been 4 million members. Members meet to deliver and evaluate prepared and impromptu speeches in an effort to improve as speakers and leaders. Mid-Day club generally meets the first and third Saturdays at 9am to 10am central, and the second and fourth Tuesdays at 10:30 am to 11:30am central. Guests are always welcome.

Mid-Day Toastmasters meets for 1 hour on

- Saturdays October 4 and October 18, 2025, at 9 am to 10am central.
- Tuesdays October 14, 2025 and October 28, 2025, at 10:30 am to 11:30 am central.

The meetings will stream at <https://tinyurl.com/zoomwithmid-day> and <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9239283290>

They have fun educational meetings. An agenda for role sign-up is on the club web page <https://4139.toastmastersclubs.org>.

For more information, contact Jim Samuel, VPPR, (855) 402-8255, or [jsamuel12@comcast.net](mailto:jsamuel12@comcast.net) or see the club web page <https://4139.toastmastersclubs.org>, or [Toastmasters.org](http://Toastmasters.org)

Joyful Journeys Food Program Participation

Joyful Journeys announces their sponsorship of the Child and Adult Care Food Program.

Meals are provided without regard to race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), age, or disability. Child care participants who are members of FIP or SNAP households or who are Head Start participants are automatically eligible to receive free meals. Adult care participants who are members of SNAP households who are SSI or Medicaid participants are automatically eligible to receive free meal benefits. Meals are available at no separate charge to enrolled participants in the following child/adult care center(s):

Income Eligibility Guidelines (IEGs) for Free and Reduced-Price Meals Effective 7-1-2024 to 6-30-2025										
Household Size	Reduced price Meals					Free Meals				
	Yearly	Monthly	Twice Per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly	Yearly	Monthly	Twice Per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly
1	\$27,861	\$2,322	\$1,161	\$1,072	\$536	\$19,578	\$1,632	\$816	\$792	\$377
2	\$37,814	\$3,152	\$1,576	\$1,455	\$728	\$26,972	\$2,215	\$1,108	\$1,022	\$511
3	\$47,767	\$3,981	\$1,991	\$1,838	\$919	\$33,566	\$2,798	\$1,399	\$1,291	\$646
4	\$57,720	\$4,810	\$2,405	\$2,220	\$1,110	\$40,560	\$3,380	\$1,690	\$1,560	\$780
5	\$67,673	\$5,640	\$2,820	\$2,603	\$1,302	\$47,554	\$3,963	\$1,982	\$1,829	\$915
6	\$77,626	\$6,469	\$3,235	\$2,986	\$1,493	\$54,548	\$4,546	\$2,273	\$2,098	\$1,049
7	\$87,579	\$7,299	\$3,650	\$3,369	\$1,685	\$61,542	\$5,129	\$2,565	\$2,367	\$1,184
8	\$97,532	\$8,128	\$4,064	\$3,752	\$1,876	\$68,536	\$5,712	\$2,856	\$2,636	\$1,318
For each additional family member add:	+\$9,953	+\$830	+\$415	+\$383	+\$192	+\$6,594	+\$563	+\$292	+\$269	+\$135

USDA Nondiscrimination Statement:

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

1. mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
  2. fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
  3. email: [Program.Intake@usda.gov](mailto:Program.Intake@usda.gov)
- Iowa Nondiscrimination Statement:
- It is the policy of this CNP provider not to discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, or religion in its programs, activities, or employment practices as required by the Iowa Code section 216.7 and 216.9. If you have questions or grievances related to compliance with this policy by this CNP Provider, please contact the Iowa Civil Rights Commission, 6200 Park Ave., Suite 100, Des Moines, IA 50319-1004; phone number 515-281- 4121, 800- 457-4416; website: <https://icrc.iowa.gov>.

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Lakes Area Activities/Senior Center "Did you know?"

- 1.) They *DO NOT* receive funds from the government for their operating expenses.
- 2.) They *RELY* on donations from the community, room rental income, fundraisers (their monthly breakfast and dance), and any grants they can obtain.
- 3.) They are *HAPPY* to accept *LEGACY* gifts which are given after the passing of a loved one. Money can be left per an estate or will.
- 4.) In order to keep their doors open, *they NEED YOUR HELP!* Donate towards the Lakes Area Activities/Senior Center Today!

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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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:**

In response to the recent letter submitted regarding Charlie Kirk. I do not support violence of any kind, especially political violence. Let's learn some things about Charlie Kirk. The previous letter stated that Kirk stood for all that is good. Here are some quotes directly from Kirk.

Kirk said: gun deaths are worth it so we can have a Second Amendment.

Kirk said: I can't stand the word empathy.

Kirk said: Black people were better in the 1940s under Jim Crow laws.

Kirk said: Black women do not have the brain processing power to be taken seriously.

Kirk said: DEI was the cause of the American Airline/helicopter crash.

Kirk promoted Covid-19 misinformation and made false claims of election fraud in 2020.

Here is my question:

How is this standing for all that is good? He calls himself a Christian. How are any of these statements Christian like? Did Jesus not have empathy for people? Would Jesus have said those things about a certain race? All this does is promote division and violence as we have seen far too often lately. These are scary times, when people call themselves Christians yet choose to worship false idols instead of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Sincerely,  
**Andrew Tanner,**  
**Spencer, Iowa**

Preparing for Fall Manure Application: Key Tips and Certification Reminder

by Daniel Anderson – Extension Agricultural and BioSystems Engineering Specialist

As harvest season begins across Iowa, it is also time to turn attention to fall manure application. Proper preparation now ensures manure is effectively used as a nutrient resource, supports soil health, and protects water quality.

The Iowa State University Extension and Outreach agricultural engineering team has shared its annual guide on best practices for fall manure application. This resource covers everything from manure testing and equipment calibration to optimal timing, soil conditions and safety.

Seasoned applicators and those new to the practice are encouraged to review these reminders to help ensure compliance, efficiency and environmental stewardship.

Read the full article at the new Ag Engineering Extension and Outreach website: <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/ageng/prepping-fall-manure-application-timing-techniques-and-tips>

Before heading out to the field, applicators should make sure their Manure Applicator Certification is up to date. Iowa law requires certification for both commercial and confinement site manure applicators.

There are three convenient options to complete 2025 certification:

1. Visit your county extension office to view a training video.
2. Complete certification online training, including payment, through the Iowa DNR.
3. Schedule a testing appointment at your nearest DNR Field Office.

Early certifications can help avoid delays during application season.

For more information on certification or to access training materials, contact your county extension office or visit the Iowa DNR Manure Applicator Certification website.

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Regional Wage & Benefit Survey Identifies Current Trends And Barriers

The Iowa Lakes Corridor Development Corporation (Corridor) has released the results of the recent regional Wage & Benefit survey to identify current wages and benefits provided to a variety of occupations within the Corridor region of Buena Vista, Clay, Dickinson, and Emmet Counties.



The Corridor contracted with the University of Northern Iowa Strategic Marketing Services (SMS) and Institute for Decision Making (IDM) to develop an online survey to assess local wages and benefits across industries including accommodation and food services; manufacturing; finance and insurance; professional, scientific and technical services; health care and social assistance; education; retail; wholesale; agriculture; construction; and transportation and warehousing. Responses came from 96 organizations across the region, with a majority (28.1%) representing the Manufacturing sector and 12.5% representing Health Care and Social Assistance.

44.2% of responding businesses were medium-sized with 20-99 employees. 32.6% were small with less than 20 employees, and 23.2% had over 100 employees. Most (29.5%) of the businesses had a gross revenue of \$1 million up to \$4.99 million.

The report breaks down starting and maximum estimated wages by both hourly and salaried employees in the various industry sectors. Hourly employees had an average standard annual wage increase in the last 12 months of 4.01%, whereas salaried employees saw an average increase of 3.16%. Both hourly and salaried employees have life insurance, health insurance, optional family health insurance and 401(k) or 403(b) matches as the top additional benefits offered.

Top-ranked amenities across the region were quality schools (50.5%), quality/affordability of houses (49.5%), lower overall cost of living (47.4%), low crime rate (38.9%) and outdoor recreation & leisure (35.8%). Businesses also identified a variety of recruitment barriers, including 64.2% saying there is a shortage of workers with the appropriate knowledge and skills they are looking for. The rural community location is also a major barrier (49.5%) followed by lack of affordable (20.0%) and available housing (17.9%), and lack of affordable childcare at 15.8%.

Top workplace opportunities and incentives included a casual work environment, vehicle allowance or mileage reimbursement, cell phone or reimbursement, flexible spending accounts and flexible work hours.

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“Wage and benefit data like this is important for our local employers,” shared Corridor President & CEO Curt Strouth. “Being able to identify current employment trends and barriers for growth assist us in developing programming and recruitment strategies for our region.”

“Releasing this report this summer has been extremely beneficial for our businesses as they work on their strategic plan and upcoming budgets in the new year,” said Corridor Business Retention & Workforce Partnership Coordinator Joanne Follon. “We are happy to be able to provide this information to our businesses as they make important strategic decisions and continue to recruit a quality workforce to the region.”

Funding for this project was provided by the Iowa Lakes Corridor Development Corporation, MidAmerican Energy Company, Iowa Lakes Electric Cooperative, Corn Belt Power Cooperative, Alliant Energy and ITC Midwest.

Participating businesses received a full report, and an executive summary of the report is available on the Iowa Lakes Corridor Development Corporation website, <http://lakescorridor.com/>, or by email at [info@lakescorridor.com](mailto:info@lakescorridor.com).

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