

LAKES NEWS SHOPPER



THIS IS YNIIR FRFF CNP'

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2025

VOL/53 NO/04

- PO BOX 192 / MILFORD / IOWA 51351 / 712 - 338 - 2232 / LAKFSNEWSSHOPPER CON

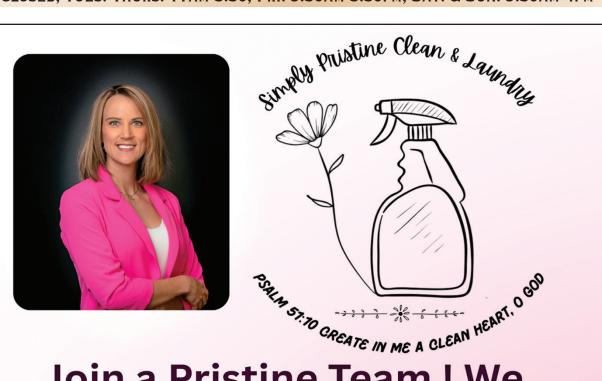












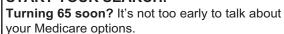
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Name:

Chiefs at Bills



GAME #14

2 TIE BREAKERS: Total Score Vikings vs. Lions:

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AND Total Score Chiefs vs. Bills:

Phone Number: Town: 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

TO MAKE YOUR PICKS:

Enter Online at LakesNewsShopper.com

& dropping this form at The Lakes News Shopper

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2-DAY DIGITAL DEAL! **Red Baron Pizza** 15.39-24.45 oz. RED BARON Must use digital app to get digital coupons. Limit 3 coupon uses per customer.

2-DAY SUNNY DEAL! **Best Potato Chips** 7.75-8 oz.

2-DAY SUNNY DEAL! Nabisco Snack Crackers 3.5-9 oz. triscuit

2-DAY SUNNY DEAL! Best Choice Frozen Potatoes 24-32 oz.

2-DAY DIGITAL DEAL! **Best Choice Fancy Shredded** or Chunk Cheese 15.39-24.45 oz. Must use digital app to get digital coupons. Limit 1 coupon use per custome

2-DAY SUNNY DEAL! **Pringles** Chips 4.9-5.57 oz.





TGI Fridays Snacks Buffalo Wings, Mozzarella Sticks, or Honey BBQ Wings

Soda Pop 2 L Flavors



Milford Catholic Daughters Host Veteran Soup Supper

hosting their 13th annual Free Veterans Soup Supper on Saturday, November 1st. Doors open and social time begins at 5:00pm, with the soup supper, program, and drawings beginning at 5:30pm at St. Joseph Parish Center in Milford. A free soup supper invitation is extended to all area veterans, spouses or significant others, and spouses of deceased veterans.

Let's come together for an evening of appreciation for your service to our country. Thank you so much for your dedication!

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Please contact Medicare.gov, 1-800-MEDICARE, or your local State Health Insurance Program to get information on all of your options For accommodations of individuals with special needs at events, please call 712-332-1215/TTY: 711





JULIE ANDRES

more information

OKOBOJI CITY COUNCIL

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VOTE EARLY NOW Dickinson County Courthouse

VOTE NOV. 4

Dickinson Expo Center — 1600 15th St, Spirit Lake

Paid for by the committee to elect Julie Mau Andres.



CITY COVERNMENT

ARNOLDS PARK CITIZENS 🛨

RE-ELECT

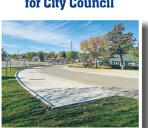
RE-ELECT

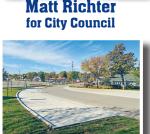


Jim Hussong for Mayor



RE-ELECT





New City Parking



Arnolds Park Amusement Park





New Arnolds Park City Civic Complex 2026 Completion



Randy Pas for City Council



Parking Broadway Arnolds Park

☆ ☆ EXPERIENCE MATTERS! ☆ ☆ **Over the Past Decade These & Many Other City Improvements Were Completed:**

Over the past 10 years, the City of Arnolds Park has lowered the tax asking rate, due to

- growth and the growth of the City tax base.
- Building for the future our new Arnolds Park City Civic Complex (to be completed December of 2026) will give our four city departments – City Hall, City Library, and Fire & Police Departments – the room and efficiency to continue to provide expanded vital services to all of our residents.
- The City of Arnolds Park provided the majority funding (from Hotel/Motel Tax receipts) to the Okoboji Tourism Committee to promote our beautiful Lakes Area.

\Leftrightarrow \Leftrightarrow forward vision...positive thinking \Leftrightarrow \Leftrightarrow

VOTE EARLY Now through Monday, November 3,

Monday-Friday 8AM-4:30PM at the County Auditors Office, Dickinson County Courthouse, Spirit Lake

OR VOTE IN PERSON Tuesday, November 4,

Due to Construction of our new Civic Complex, Arnolds Park voters will vote at the Dickinson County Expo Center in Spirit Lake, 7AM-8PM

Advertising paid for by:

Jim Hussong 653 West Okoboji Road Arnolds Park, IA 51331 Arnolds Park, IA 51331

Randy Pas 64 West Broadway Arnolds Park, IA 51331

THANK YOU TO THE TIRELESS CAPTAINS AND CREW OF THE OKOBOJI TOURISM INDUSTRY: THANK YOU FOR

NAVIGATING ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL SEASON! YOU DIDN'T JUST HOST

GUESTS; YOU CRAFTED MEMORIES BY THE MILE. MAY YOUR OFF-

SEASON BE RESTFUL. WE'LL BE HERE, EAGERLY AWAITING THE





During the Summer Season (May 1-Sept. 1) 765,900 out-of-Market Visitors Spent an Average of 5.1 Days in our area.



51.2% OF VISITOR TRIPS in 2025 were taken by tourists from Sioux City, Sioux Falls, and Des Moines.



Our visitors **SPENT OVER \$241 MILLION*** in Dickinson County. 3.4% increase from 2023. 41 of Iowa's 99 Counties saw a decline or no change in spending.



Total Business Sales from Tourism was over \$344.6 MILLION*. Visitors make up 70% of the total spent in Dickinson County.



Our visitors **GENERATED OVER \$48 MILLION*** of labor income in Dickinson County.



Our visitors **SUPPORTED OVER 1,400 JOBS*** in Dickinson County - 16.6% of jobs in Dickinson County are related to Tourism.



Our visitors CONTRIBUTED OVER \$53.2 MILLION IN LOCAL TAXES.

* State of Iowa 2024 Economic Impact Report





SHOP, DINE, & ENJOY



GREAT STYLES FRIENDLY SMILES

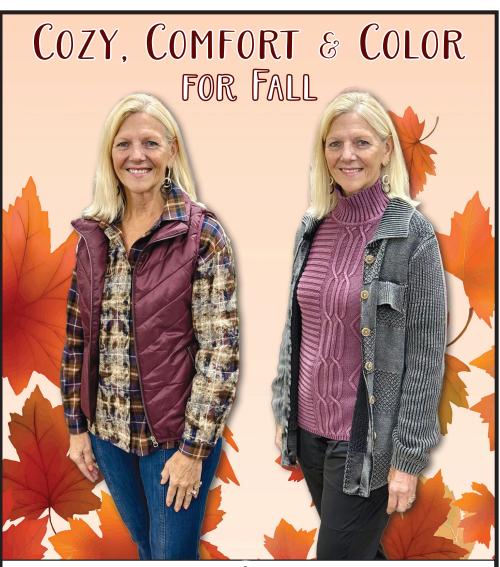






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Save the Date: Turkey Dinner to Support the Lakes Area Senior Center

The leaves are turning, the air is crisp, and it's time for the comforting taste of a holiday tradition! The Lakes Area Activity/Senior Center is inviting the entire community to their annual Fall Turkey Dinner, a beloved event that serves up a delicious meal while raising essential funds for the Center.

Mark your calendars for Sunday, November 16, 2025. From 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM, the Center at 2102 Zenith Ave. in Spirit Lake (right under the familiar Water Tower) will be filled with the warmth and aroma of a classic feast. A Meal Catered with Care

This year's dinner promises a spectacular spread, expertly prepared and catered by Carstensen's. Attendees can look forward to piling their plates high with all the fixings that make autumn dining so special: tender turkey, creamy mashed potatoes swimming in gravy, flavorful sage dressing, hearty green bean casserole, sweet and tart cranberry sauce, fresh rolls and butter, pumpkin pie

Every ticket purchased for this meal directly supports the vital programs and activities that make the Lakes Area Activity/Senior Center a cherished hub for local seniors. It's a chance to enjoy a wonderful meal and invest in a valuable community resource at the same time.

To join this wonderful community gathering, you can purchase tickets in advance: adults: \$18.00, children (ages 5-10): \$9.00, children under 5: free.

Tickets are available for purchase at the Lakes Area Activity/Senior Center itself, or you may pick them up from any Board Member.

For any questions about the dinner, or to get more details about the Center, please call 712-336-5247. Come share a meal with your neighbors and support the heart of the lakes area community!









- City of Spirit Lake green garbage bags
- Postage stamps

• Toilet paper

- Paper towels and Kleenex
- Coffee regular, decaf, filters and Styrofoam coffee cups Thank you for your donations!



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Storm Lake Odd Fellows Donate to Spirit Lake School's Back Pack Program

The Spirit Lake School District's Back Pack Program recently received a generous boost, thanks to the Storm Lake Odd Fellows Lodge.

Kim Johnson, representing the Spirit Lake school, accepted a donation from Jean Reed, who was there on behalf of the Storm Lake Oddfellow Lodge. The funds will go directly to support the Back Pack program which provides meals to children to ensure they have food over the weekend when school-provided meals are not available.







Women's Okoboji Weekend

Now Seeing Patients at re*be Dr. Julie Hamann, MD

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Come say "hi" to Dr. Hamann at WOW Weekend Nov. 7-8th!

Dr. Ronald Kolegraff, MD, FACS • Dr. Julie Hamann, MD

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COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES SPEAK TO THESE KEY TOPICS

The DCTA offered the six school board candidates from Harris-Lake Park, Okoboji & Spirit Lake schools the opportunity to respond to a set of important policy questions that we believe are key for voters. Their responses to our questions are quoted verbatim below.



SPIRIT LAKE CANDIDATES

Fair Taxes. Responsible Spending. Transparent Government.

DCTA QUESTIONS

What do you feel are the top two or three challenges facing your school district over the next 1-3 years and what plans do you have to address them?

HARRIS-LAKE PARK CANDIDATES



CHAD HIBMA

Enrollment is always a challenge. Continuing to get word out about HLP!

As a small school, enrollment is always a challenge. There are a lot of great things going on at H-LP right now and keeping the momentum going and spreading the word is key.

KAYLA UPDIKE

OKOBOJI CANDIDATES



AMANDA PLATHE

Okoboji Schools are currently experiencing positive change and growth. Continuing to supporting that positivity is a priority

JILL KREMMIN

Schools across our nation continually strive to better academic achievement, school and student security, and fiscal responsibility. These should continue to be points of focus in

the Okoboji School District.

Challenging behaviors and mental health

SONJA HAMM

-Continue to support students through resources at school, collaborate with families to support student emotional well-being at home and school, retain quality school counselors and provide specialized spaces - ongoing discussion for a behavioral learning center Ensuring students feel safe at school -Continue to add visible safety measures, emergency preparedness

by fostering partnerships with our law enforcement to continue training drills to prepare our staff and students for emergency situations, continue to build strong relationships between staff and students to foster a sense of belonging,

There are a few similar

opportunities and applications

across grade levels. Teacher

training – aligning standards

and curriculum that includes

students manage their needs both make a big difference. And of course, a huge shoutout to our incredible special education teachers and support staff — they're absolute assets!
Our students and community are fortunate dicated neo ownership of their education is key. When kids are more engaged in their schoolwork, their reading and math skills can grow by leaps and bounds. It truly starts at home — when families encourage learning, limit screen time, set aside time for reading and homework, and practice math facts together, it makes a huge difference. At the same time, our district is taking big steps to support student success. We've restructured our MTSS time to give struggling learners more MTSS time to give struggling learners more focused instruction and intervention, added a math interventionist, and started reviewing

MIEKA STECKER

Our district continues to focus on keeping

our students and staff safe. We're always looking for new ways to strengthen protective

measures and create a secure learning environment. Another big focus is maintaining and improving our school buildings. We recently completed a facilities assessment and are using that information to build a

long-term plan that keeps our campuses strong and supportive for years to come. We're also working hard to attract and keep

great teachers while addressing the growing

behavior challenges we're seeing in students

These two issues are closely connected, and we know supporting our teachers and helping

recommendations to improve reading, math and science scores for elementary, middle and high school in your district?

What are your plans or

good handle on tests scores. Keeping an eye on scores and supporting our staff is important!

Our Administration has a really

and staff do an excellent job of monitoring our scores and making sure we are excelling academically. They are always coming up with new ideas and programs to keep students excited and eager to learn and we support this.

Our administration, teachers,

It's important to understand what's happening in the current state before making any recommendations. Okoboji's scores are currently above average.

Promoting academic success includes continued support of the Okoboji School District teachers and staff. This includes support of school affiliated programs that can keep kids active and engaged in learning and involved in the community.

professional development working alongside a school improvement and curriculum specialist with AEA (Area Education Agency), data-driven interventions, building science skills in a collaborative nature across grade levels, consider incentives for growth achievement, tools and programs to support students setting growth goals for themselves.

and center is our top priority, and I'm proud of how our district continues to strengthen what we do so well. Yes, I believe our current structure is strong and competitive. We offer teacher salaries that rank in the top 20% across the state, along with a great benefits package that shows how much we value and support our staff. Our district also rewards continuing education - and the high quality of our educators at Spirit Lake

student data every month to guide our efforts.
We're also aligning our curriculum across grade levels to make sure there are no gaps in learning. And we can't forget our amazing teachers and support staff — they're some of the best around! Keeping learning front and context is our tea priority and I'm proud

Yes or No: Do you feel that current teacher pay and incentive structures in your district are optimally aligned to incentivize excellence in instruction and support improvement in student outcomes?

Sharing is always something we

should look at if it makes sense.

We have done better, however

there is always room for

improvement.

ves or no. Teachers/staff go above and beyond for our students at H-LP and supporting them is crucial.

I think it is important to keep an

open mind while also making

sure we do what is best for H-LP.

I do not feel like this is a simple

Not being a part of those negotiations previously, it's hard to know this. Supporting teachers to foster greatness within our students is multifaceted.

I think, to be a responsible

great results.

advocate to the school staff and

community, it's wise to be open to

evaluating new ways of achieving

I don't feel I have enough information to fully answer this question. Support of teachers and staff should be a top priority to ensure successful student outcomes.

Due to the variances among the

would need to occur if considering

consolidation of resources due to

the unique needs of each district.

three districts, a full evaluation

top 17% of the state and we offer strong benefit packages and dollars allocated to support educational growth.

Yes - This is a topic that is

for our students.

already in action and is evaluated

regularly in an effort to be fiscally

responsible when possible while

providing the best opportunities

Yes - our pay rates are in the

really speaks for itself.

Yes, I feel there is financial

savings from sharing certain

we can all benefit, however,

it is also important to remain

human resources, and our

unique in our own district and

community. Here at Spirit Lake

we share in athletics, education,

school resource officer. My own children have benefited from

these shared services and they

community and save money between our nearby districts.

are an excellent way to promote

roles and finding synergy where

Yes or No: With three separate school districts in Dickinson County, redundancy in management and administrative services likely exist. Would you support evaluating management and administrative services and implementing a shared service model, to reduce costs and improve efficiency?

What do you feel defines success in education from the student's point of view?

If they are proficient in their classes and have learned life skills to succeed in life, the district has done well

A student being successful not only academically but also learning crucial life skills for what comes next in life. Being heard, building meaningful relationships, achieving goals, all while being in a supportive environment that promotes success

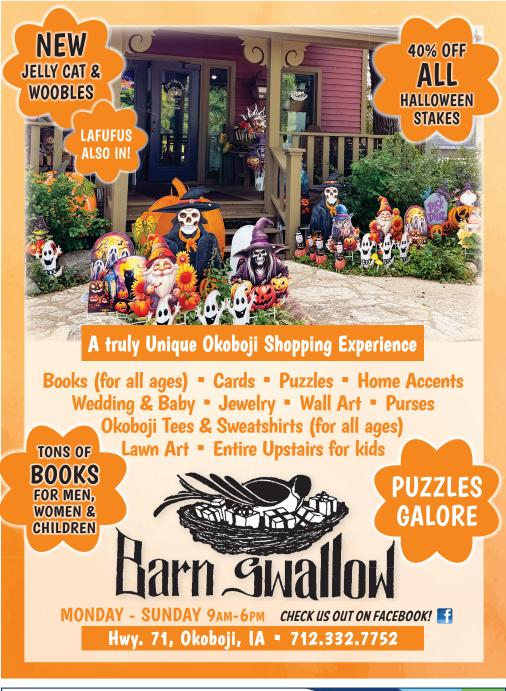
A student being and feeling adequately prepared for their next step whether that's the next grade, advancing their education. or entering the workforce defines success in a school district.

The school district has a responsibility in ensuring students enter their next chapter of life being prepared academically, emotionally, and with a solid set of life skills. This is done in part by the school district creating and maintaining safe, welcoming environments where students can grow. Using these foundations, students can confidently navigate what lies ahead for them.

As this would vary from student to student based on how success is defined along with individual interests and goals, I believe we have been able to capture a few commonalities. They want to feel valued and heard, achieve subject matter mastery and have growth opportunities, be recognized for hard work, sense of confidence, feel what they are learning has real world relevance and feel safe and supported.

From a student's perspective, success is felt in many ways - when they reach personal goals in their learning, collaborate well with peers, and take part in music, clubs, and athletics. It's when they feel noticed and appreciated by teachers and classmates, tackle hard things and surprise themselves with what they can do, and experience opportunities they might not have had otherwise. Most importantly, it's when they recognize that their teachers, staff, and administrators genuinely have their best interests at heart and want nothing more than to see them thrive and graduate with pride from Spirit Lake Community School District.

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November 5-9, 2025

Clay County Regional Events Center

Located on the Clay County Fairgrounds, Spencer, Iowa

Wednesday First Choice Party - Nov. 5th, 5:30-7:30 PM Admission - \$10/person or \$15/two people - Light appetizers served Hardcovers - \$5 Paperbacks - \$2

Thursday & Friday Sales Days - Nov. 6th & 7th \$2 Admission, 10 AM - 7 PM Hardcovers - \$4 Paperbacks - \$2

Saturday, Nov. 8th

No Admission - 10 AM - 5 PM Hardcovers - \$2 Paperbacks - \$1 Free Children's Books

Sunday, Nov. 9th Closing Sale

No Admission - 12 - 4 PM All Books: \$10/Bag or \$30/Shopping Cart Free Children's Books

Enjoy browsing through thousands of books, visit with book-loving friends, and support the Rotary Service Club which is working to provide a better community and world!







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Page 8

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

" Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God." - 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

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Dickinson County Veterans and Spouses

You are invited to attend Coffee & Breakfast with Spring Jones, CVSO

When: **Thurs., Oct. 30th, 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, **Breakfast &** Conversation!





Spirit Lake

Church

United Methodist



Fall Apple Festival Saturday, Nov. 8 9:00am - 1:30pm **Lake Park Methodist Church** 1471 135th Ave., Lake Park



Coffee & Rolls 9-11am



Pampered Chef,

& Color Street Nails

Weekly Social Gathering

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







10:00 AM **SUNDAYS**

The Reverend Carolyn Tuttle, Rector Live Stream through our Facebook Page

Email: office@stalbansepiscopalchurch.org Website: stalbansepiscopalchurch.org

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

Join Us...

Two Worship Services TO CHOOSE FROM

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

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





St. Joseph Parish Center 1301 Okoboji Avenue, Milford

Soup Supper, Program & Drawings - 5:30 PM

A FREE MEAL for all Veterans, their spouse or significant other, and spouses of deceased veterans. Let's come together for an evening of appreciation

for your service to our country. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!



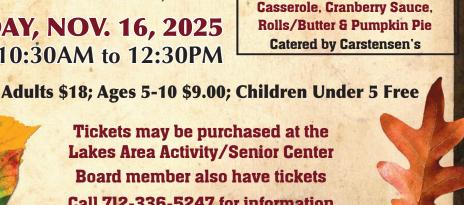
SUNDAY • 10:30 AM

Coffee & Fellowship Before & After the Service

Rev. Dr. Jennifer Hesebeck, Pastor 805 Okoboji Avenue • Milford, IA 712.338.4642 • www.faithcommunitymilford.com



Tickets may be purchased at the **Lakes Area Activity/Senior Center Board member also have tickets Call 712-336-5247 for information**





Council Grand Knight Mark Feldhacker, new member Chet Caneff, new member Mitch Girres, Iowa State Chaplain Rev. Dan Guenther, and new member Brian Forney.

K of C Induct New Graettinger Knights

The Knights of Columbus Iowa Great Lakes Council 5043 oversaw the exemplification for three new members of the Graettinger Council. The ceremony was held October 19 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Spirit Lake.

Inducted by District Deputy Jim Miller, with State Chaplain Rev. Dan Guenther presiding, the new members included Chet Caneff, Mitch Girres and Brian Forney. They were joined by Graettinger Grand Knight Mark Feldhacker.

With family members in attendance, the men committed themselves to the first three degrees of the Knights of Columbus: charity, unity and fraternity.

Iowa Great Lakes Council 5043 is one of the most active in Iowa, in the past few years contributing more than \$30,000 to local community needs, including Hope Haven, Iowa Helping Hands Fund, American Wheelchair Mission, the Grotto of the Redemption, Cherish House, Guatemala Mission, Women of the Well Project, Prison Ministries, as well as to local family, community, and parish needs. Local Knights sponsor annual youth events including the Free Throw Competition, Spelling Bee, Coats for Kids, and the Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest. They also run the Tootsie Roll Drive for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities Labor Day weekend, benefiting Special Olympics and local organizations.

Its largest fundraiser – and arguably its most popular event the annual soup and dessert supper, is approaching rapidly – Sunday, Nov. 2, at St. Mary Parish Hall in Spirit Lake. Savory flavors of five soups and homemade desserts make this a delicious way to have the Knights make supper – and do the dishes! Tickets are available by calling 712-330-8892.

In 1882, Blessed Michael McGivney, a young parish priest in New Haven, Connecticut, founded the Knights of Columbus to serve the needs of a largely immigrant Catholic community. What began as a small fraternal benefit society has since grown into one of the world's leading international charitable organizations, with more than 1.9 million members in over 16,000 local councils. In the past year Knights provided 285,000 children with winter coats, brought 243 U.S. service members to Lourdes on pilgrimage, and gave more than \$325,000 to the formation of men and women pursuing a religious vocation.







Winter Games 46 Presenting Sponsor

is our new Presenting Sponsor for this year's University of Okoboji 46th annual Winter Games. A longtime supporter of our community and a true Okoboji staple, WestO Beer continues to pour their passion into making the Iowa Great Lakes Area an incredible place to live, work and play. Their partnership brings excitement to one of the area's most anticipated winter traditions, a

weekend filled with fun, friendly competition and true Okoboji Spirit.

For more information on this celebration, please visit www.uofowintergames.com.











Tuesday, October 28, 2025









THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER





1027 Highway 71, Okoboji | 712.332.9421 | tweetersokoboji.com **f ©**

KITCHEN OPEN LATE









Meyer-Parks Engagement Announcement

Mia Meyer and Joe Parks are delighted to announce their engagement and forthcoming marriage.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Joe and Ann Meyer of Milford. The groom-to-be is the son of Brady and Lisa Parks

of Spirit Lake. Mia, who hails from Milford, and Joe, a native of Spirit Lake, plan to exchange vows on Saturday, May 16, 2026. The ceremony will take place at First Lutheran Church.

The couples' families are thrilled to celebrate this joyous occasion with them.

FALL VENDOR FAIR SAT. NOVEMBER 1ST · 9_{AM} · 3_{PM} AT THE OLD SCHOOL MERCANTILE VENDOR SPOTS AVAILABLE! SIGN UP AT: FACEBOOK.COM/OLDSCHOOLMERCANTILE 10 BROADWAY STREET • ARNOLDS PARK YEAR-ROUND SHOPPING • SPACE AVAILABLE FOR LEASE

Okoboji Band Students Selected for Northwest Iowa 7th & 8th Grade Honor Bands

Okoboji band students (back row: Alex Anderson-Clarinet, Tristan Johnson-Tuba, Emily Breuer-Percussion and Roslyn Schmitt-Baritone; front: Dashel Van Oort-Trumpet and Nora Oponski-F Horn) have been selected to participate in the 58th annual Northwest Iowa Junior High/Middle School Honor Bands Festival. On Saturday, October 18, over 300 seventh and eighth grade band students from 35 Northwest Iowa schools auditioned for a position in two honor bands. Approximately 190 students were chosen. These selected students will perform a concert at Dordt University in Sioux Center, Saturday, November 8.

Selected from Okoboji are: Alex Anderson on clarinet, Dashel Van Oort on trumpet, Nora Oponski on french horn, Roslyn Schmitt on baritone, Tristan Johnson on tuba and Emily Breuer on percussion. A special "congratulations" to Tristan Johnson, as he was also selected as an alternate for the All Iowa 8th Grade Honor Band to be held in Des Moines in May. The Okoboji middle school band director is Jody Ingwersen.



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SATURDAY, NOV. 1ST Starting at 5:30^{PM}

at Oak Hill Outdoor

2188 Hwy. 86, Milford

\$10 Admission per person

Each round will have a winner of a gun, designer handbag, or cash!



Join Us for an Evening of **Entertainment & Conversation!**

For more information, call Danni 712-339-5126 or Lucy 712-260-5712







Evening Specials this Week!

THUR., OCT. 30TH - Pork Tenderloin & Fries \$10⁰⁰

FRI., OCT. 31^{SI} & SAT. NOV. 1^{SI} - Sirloin, Baked Potato, & Salad \$15⁰⁰

1ST MONDAY - Patron's Potluck

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

WEDNESDAY - Wing Night Special Hot Sauces by Chuck & Full Menu

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

Taking Reservations for Parties, Funeral Luncheons, Class or Family Reunions.

Hours: Open at 4:00pm 4 Days a Week - Kids Welcome

VFW Post 4514 Canteen







Wed., Nov. 5 - 10:00 AM-153.37 acres at auction in Jackson Co., MN. Auctioneers: Pike & Christopher. 507-847-3468. www. auctioneeralley.com.

Wed., Nov. 5 - 10:00 AM-80 acres at auction in O'Brien Co., IA. Auctioneers: Midwest Land Management. 712-262-3110. www.midwestlandmanagement.

Thurs., Nov. 6 - 10:00 AM-195 acres at auction in Clay Co., IA. Auctioneers: Midwest Land Management. 712-262-3110. www. midwestlandmanagement.com.

Fri., Nov. 7 - 10:00 AM-100 acres at auction in Dickinson Co., IA. Auctioneers: Hjelm & Sikora. 712-262-3529. www. theacreco.com.

Wed., Nov. 12 - 10:00 AM-146.3 acres at auction in Clay Co., IA. Auctioneers: Hjelm & Sikora. 712-262-3529. www.theacreco.

Thurs., Nov. 13 - 10:00 AM-133.34 acres at auction in Clay Co., IA. Auctioneers: Vander Werff, Hattermann, Rydberg & Mouw. 712-729-3264. www.vw72.com.

Thurs., Nov. 13 - 10:00 AM-160 acres at auction in Dickinson Co., IA. Auctioneers: Midwest Land Management. 712-262-3110. www.midwestlandmanagement.

Thurs., Nov. 13 - 10:00 AM-154.80 acres at auction in Blue Earth Co., MN. Auctioneers: Hartungs. 507-236-7629. www. auctioneeralley.com.

Fri., Nov. 14 - 10:00 AM-34 acres at auction in Palo Alto Co., IA. Auctioneers: Midwest Land Management. 712-262-3110. www.midwestlandmanagement.

Tues., Nov. 18 - 10:00 AM-290.35 acres at auction in Osceola & Dickinson Counties, IA, Auctioneers: Midwest Land Management. 712-262-3110.www.midwestlandmanagement.com.

Wed., Nov. 19 - 10:00 AM-290.35 acres at auction in Osceola Co., IA. Auctioneers: Hjelm & Sikora. 712-262-3529. www. theacreco.com

Thurs., Nov. 20 - 10:00 AM-80 acres at auction in Jackson Co., MN. Auctioneers: Midwest Land Management. 712-262-3110. www.midwestlandmanagement.

Sat., Nov. 22 - 9:30 AM-Coins at auction in Spirit Lake. Auctioneer: Toering. 712-395-0165.

Sat., Nov. 22 - 1:00 PM-Guns and ammunition at auction in Spirit Lake. Auctioneer: Toering. 712-395-0165.

Tues., Nov. 25 - 10:00 AM-157 acres at auction in Clay & Dickinson Counties, IA. Auctioneers: Midwest Land Management. 712-262-3110.www.midwestlandmanagement.com.

Fruit & Bread



WED-THUR 10/29-30 **7:00**

FRI 10/31 7:00 & 9:40 SAT-SUN 11/1-2 1:10, 4:10 & 7:10

MON-WED 11/3-5 7:00

70th Anniversary Announcement

Kirby and Barbara Range will be celebrating their 70th Wedding Anniversary on Wednesday, November 12, 2025. Cards may be sent to them at 1305 Jepperson RD #114, West Okoboji, Iowa 51351.



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PLEASE **VOTE** FOR **JARET BYERS**

Lake Park City Council Election

Tuesday, November 4th

Things I would like to accomplish while in office

- Financial Planning
- Affordable housing for new families
- Work on moderating taxes

I look forward to meeting you! Ad paid for by candidate



Saturday, Nov. 1 Mark

Lair

Bison Meal!



Sunday, Nov. 2 **Charlie** Leissler

Bison Meal! For upcoming bands & events visit our website: www.lslwinery.com



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See our website & menu: thehuttbarandgrill.com **DAILY SPECIALS at 11am DAILY SPECIALS** · Wed., Oct. 29: Quesadillas **Pan Fried Chicken** • Thur., Oct. 30: Hamburger Steak **Hawaiian Chicken** • Fri., Oct. 31: **Barnyard Burger Country Fried Steak** • Mon., Nov. 3: **Hot Beef Taco Salad** • Tues., Nov. 4: CLOSED **Friday Night Special Fish Fry Saturday Night Special Prime Rib** Mon. thru Thurs. at 11:00 AM SAT. & SUN. at 8am (Breakfast) Tuesday - CLOSED

Tuesday, October 28, 2025

Located directly across from Arnolds Park Amusement Park

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THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER

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.

Book your Birthday Party or event with us!

We have a special menu for your special occasion.

Hwy. 71 South • Arnolds Park, IA • 712.332.8074

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.







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.

A Call for True Leadership in Spencer

Note: These are my personal statements and I am not speaking on

behalf of the Spencer Chamber, Chamber Foundation, Clay County

As a citizen in Spencer, Iowa, I have always believed in the power of community—especially in times of crisis. I've seen firsthand how our town comes together when it matters most. But I've also witnessed behavior that undermines the very spirit of service and collaboration we strive to uphold. Therefore, I feel compelled to speak out about a moment that has weighed

On June 24, 2024, during the third day of the flood, I was in

the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). Alongside volunteers and community leaders, I was working tirelessly to support our

residents — helping to establish four shelters, coordinate trans-

portation & medical assistance, and organize supply convoys

berated by a current Councilman who is up for re-election in

front of 30-35 city, county, and agency representatives. He repeatedly shouted at me, "You are failing the community, you are failing the community," a statement that was untrue and deeply

hurtful. I was stunned—not because his words held truth, but

because of the sheer disbelief that such behavior could occur in a space meant for collaboration and crisis response. The apol-

As I left the room, I witnessed this councilman continue his

tirade, marching down the hall to confront and berate our Mayor. This was not an isolated incident. There are other verbal and

near-physical confrontations involving this councilman, and respected community leaders-many of whom feel unable to

speak out due to fear of retaliation or professional consequences.

I vividly remember being on the phone with a leader at the distribution center, who was looking for answers as to how to

get this councilman away from the distribution center due to the

and others in that moment; and I will not remain silent any longer.

this councilman did not establish the community distribution

center that served thousands. That credit belongs to Nicholas

& Megan Hanges, their family, and the many volunteers who

I regret not speaking up sooner. I regret not defending myself

As we approach another election, I cannot sit back and read statements that misrepresent the truth. Contrary to recent claims,

In the midst of this chaos, I was publicly and aggressively

Tourism, or Clay County Long Term Recovery Group.

heavily on me since the June 2024 flood response.

for the distribution center.

ogy - delayed and insincere.

disruptions he was causing.





STARTS





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Lakes Area Senior/Activities Center Events

REGRETTINGYOU

WED-THUR 10/29-30 **6:45**

SAT-SUN 11/1-2 1:00, 4:00 & 7:00

FRI 10/31 6:45 & 9:30

MON-WED 11/3-5 **6:45**

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.

Mah Jong - 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.



Italian & American Cuisine from our made from Scratch Kitchen! THURSDAY PASTA NIGHT **COMING SOON!**

Watch Our Ad for Details

15 Dam Road, Arnolds Park • 712-337-3238 FALL HOURS: TUES. - SAT. 5PM-CLOSE

Lakes Area Activities/Senior Center Stop in and see what we have to offer!!!

SPEAKER: Tues., Nov. 4 at 12:30pm- "Nature Center": Danika's theme this week will be "Fresh Fish & Mussels".

TUES., NOV. 11 at 11:30am- Veterans Day Program present by Veteran John W. Kidd VFW Post #4514 and American Legion Timpe Post #23 Appreciation Thank you to the First Presbyterian Church Deacons and an Days



SIGN UP FOR DINNER DATE MEALS! Reserve your meal for next week Call Today! 712-336-5257 Low Cost: \$7-\$10 Donation

Delicious, hot cooked meals. Great conversations- meet new people! 5 Wednesday 3 Monday 4 Tuesday 6 Thursday 7 Friday **Grilled** Hot Chicken Gravy | Shepherd's Pie **Taco Pasta** Lasagna Hamburger/Bun **Mashed Potatoes Garlic Bread** Fruit Vegetable Vegetable Vegetable

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Fruit & Bread Fruit & Bread PLEASE CALL 712-336-5247 Elderbridge suggests a donation of \$7 - \$10 or whatever is affordable. Dinners are provided by CARSTENSEN'S of Lake Park.

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anonymous donor for providing 40 Veterans with a free lunch.

Bread

stepped up when our community needed them most. Leadership is not about titles or visibility—it's about integrity, humility, and the ability to unite people in service of a greater good. Spencer deserves leaders who lift others up, not tear them down. We deserve leaders who embody the values we hold dear:

respect, collaboration, and compassion. To my fellow citizens: I urge you to reflect deeply on what leadership means to you. Consider both what candidates say they've done, and also how they've treated others along the way. We are all responsible for the future of our community, and that

future depends on the character of those we choose to lead us. I stand for truth. I stand for respect. I stand for Spencer. I stand for true leadership.

Sheriffa Jones, Spencer, Iowa

* A portion of this letter was paid for by the author.

Community Blood Drive Hosted by Harris-Lake Park FFA

Red Cross to host a vital community blood drive. The event will take place on November 5th at the Lake Park Community Center, located at 903 South Market Street in Lake Park, Iowa.

This important opportunity to donate blood will run from 11:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. The American Red Cross emphasizes that "The need is constant. The gratification is instant." for those who choose to donate, helping to ensure a stable blood supply for those in need.

The Harris-Lake Park FFA encourages community members to schedule an appointment in advance. To do so, please visit *RedCrossBlood.org* and enter the sponsor code: HARRIS-LAKEPARK. For more information or assistance, you can also visit redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS.

Lake Park Food Pantry

distribution on Thursday, November 6, 2025, from 4:30 - 6:30 pm at the Lake Park Methodist Church located at 1471 135th Ave, Lake Park. Registration will be inside the church beginning at 3:30 pm, you must be present to register. You may pick up groceries for someone that is not able to make it. Please do not line up at the front door (southeast corner of the church) before 3:30 pm. Please bring boxes, bags or containers for your groceries. Distribution will begin at 4:30 pm.

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



Iowa Lakes to Host Annual Spooktacular Trunk or Treat on October 31

Iowa Lakes Community College invites families and community members to celebrate Halloween at the annual Spooktacular Trunk or Treat, hosted by the Estherville Student Senate. The event will take place Thursday, October 31, from 5:00 to 6:00pm in the Christensen Building on the Estherville Campus.

This family-friendly event offers a safe and festive environment for trick-or-treaters of all ages. Iowa Lakes athletic teams, clubs, and departments will showcase their creativity by decorating themed trunks and competing for the title of Best Decorated Trunk, while handing out treats to local children.

"Trunk or Treat is great family-friendly fun," said Corey Meyer, Student Senate Advisor. "We enjoy sharing everyone's creative trunk decorating ideas, handing out treats, and connecting with the kids in our community. I encourage everyone to stop by and trick or treat at Iowa Lakes this year!"

For more information, contact Corey Meyer at 712-362-7930

or cmeyer@iowalakes.edu.



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Wednesday, Nov. 5th • 12:30-4pm

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Tuesday, November 4th

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Councilman at large designed to preserve and cut waste.

A VOTE FOR BRAD IS A **VOTE FOR ALL OF SPENCER!**

Keep Spencer Strong!



RE-ELECT MITCH WATTERS

for Arnolds Park City Council

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

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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-stopshop to locate local resources. To access the free guide online, visit https://www.extension. iastate.edu/dickinson/countyresource-guide. If you have services to add to the guide, contact Sue at 712-336-3488 or boettche@iastate.edu.



GOLF LEAGUE SIGN UP Runs Nov. 19, 2025 thru Feb. 26, 2026

• Wednesday League: 4-10 pm • Thursday League: 4-10 pm 2 hour time slots

<u>SIGN UP SOON!</u>

Only taking 12 teams* for each League! It's two person best ball.

*Fee is \$265 (or \$275 after 10/30/25) per person plus tax, includes 1 Gift Certificate for one hour on the simulator (\$40 value), which can be used anytime outside of League.



Don't forget to clarify what day you would like to play!

Please let us know if you're interested in a **Monday Morning Senior League!**



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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor,

Ben Voortman

Craig Grothen

THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER

Tuesday, October 28, 2025

Gene Lewis

Lucky Winners at Smokin' Jakes

On Thursday, October 23, four lucky winners won the Smokin Jakes Key Chain Ca\$h Drawing. Linda Geske, owner, presented the

cash to the winners. Congratulations to Craig Grothen (\$125), Gene

Lewis(\$125), Ben Voortman (\$125), and Tammy Johnson(\$141).

entered for every Thursday's cash drawing. Smokin' Jakes is

located at 117 West Broadway Street, in Arnolds Park.

Enter by getting your Key Chain at Smokin' Jakes and you're

Page 13

Spirit Lake, you came through again! We had a blood drive at the Senior Center on Monday, October 20th, and our goal was 33 and we exceeded it by one. We obtained 26 whole blood units and 8 power red products which gave us a total of 34. We only had 3 deferred donors and 3 non-sufficient product donors. We had 6 no shows and that is the bad news. My passion is to get this number to 0.

The exciting news is we had FIVE new donors and that is just amazing. I certainly hope this was a good experience and they will return each time they can give blood.

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

Thanks to my staff for their volunteer help: Sandi Gilligan, Marian Morse, Linda Erickson and Cheryl Petersen. Thank also to Judy Jensen, Cheryl Petersen, Linda Erickson and DeNeitt VanDenBroeke for helping set up and take down tables. I am thankful for willing and helpful volunteers and couldn't do this without their help and expertise. Thanks also to the Senior Center that hosts us.

The Red Cross will not return until February 23 so please consider making an appointment for that day. This will give you all time to increase that hemoglobin. Please listen to KUOO and watch the Lakes News Shopper for details. An appointment can be made on line at *RedCrossBlood.org* or 800-733-2767. Let's do winter with a very successful blood drive again.

Karen Dokken, Chairman



Friday-Sunday

Follow us on

lakesart.org | 712.332.7029

\$61

2201 HWY 71 N | Okoboji, IA 51355

Fall Hours:

Tues-Sat: 10am-4pm | Thurs: 10am-9pm

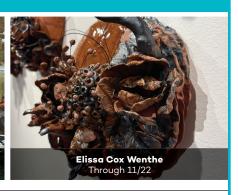






\$41

www.brooksgolfclub.com 712-332-5011





PLAC SCULPTURE TRAIL LOOP

Discover 22 permanent sculptures and 7 annually rotating works along the Pearson Lakes Art Center grounds and Sculpture Trail Loop.

This outdoor gallery is especially stunning in the fall—where vibrant leaves and contemporary art come together in a colorful seasonal display.

Rotating sculptures are on view through May 2026 and available for purchase. Stop inside PLAC to pick up a trail brochure and enjoy the art-filled autumn stroll!

Scan the QR code to learn more about the artists and their creations.



Register online or call 712-332-7029

HOLIDAY PAINTING WORKSHOP With Kris Walker & Kathy McGill

EDUCATION CLASSES

Tuesday, Nov. 11 | 1-4pm | \$55/\$65 All levels, 18+ | Register by 11/4

Join us for a festive afternoon of creativity & cheer (and cookies) in this beginner-friendly watercolor workshop! Led by twin sisters Kathy & Kris, the class is fun, relaxed, and perfect for all skill levels. You'll go home with a framed piece of your own Holiday watercolor art- ready to hang, gift, or proudly display next to your cocoa station. All supplies included, just bring your holiday spirit!

HOLIDAY TIE-DYE T-SHIRTS With Holly Zinn Hample

Saturday, Dec. 6 | 10am-11am, 11am-12pm, or 1-2pm \$16/\$18 | Register by 12/3

In this festive, fun-filled workshop, participants of all ages will create a custom holiday themed tie-dye t-shirt to take home in a zippered bag with the washing instructions. Learn creative folding and tying techniques with a holiday twist! Select shirt size at the time of registration. For Individuals, Groups, and Families of All Ages! All youth must be accompanied by an adult. All materials included.

CULINARY CLASSES

Wine Class With Jennifer Tritle-Oitzman of Okoboji Wines

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

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

Autumn Gourmet Dinner

With Chef Seth Lintelman of Cup N' Saucer

Thursday, Nov. 20 | 6pm | \$135/\$145

Registration required by 11/13

Chef Seth has a gift for choosing flavor combinations - tantalizing taste buds and expanding our understanding of haute cuisine. Indulge in a beautiful four course tasting menu, curated using the freshest local produce and sustainably sourced ingredients. A glass of wine is included.

Register online or call 712-332-7029

A Merry Little Holiday Brunch With Sarah Page of So Good By Sarah Custom Catering

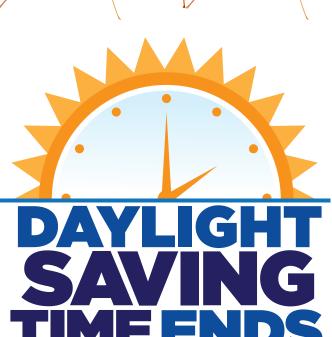
Tuesday, Dec. 9 | 11am | \$60/\$70 Registration required by 12/4

Make time for this lovely morning break in your busy holiday schedule. Let us serve you some delectable brunch foods while you slow down and savor the flavors of the season. Warm up in the company of others while sipping eggnog coffee or spiced wine, and receive a few delightful surprises! Limited seats available!



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Let's Get Social meeting at Okoboji Physical Therapy

The Iowa Great Lakes Area Chamber is hosting a Let's Get Social event at Okoboji Physical Therapy here in Arnolds Park (612 US 71), on Tuesday, October 28th, from 4pm-6pm. Celebrate their customers and their new location! We will be doing a Ribbon Cutting right at 4pm with the social to follow from 4pm-6pm.

All are welcome to network, collaborate, and celebrate their success. 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!

Due to construction of our new Civic Complex, Arnolds Park voters will vote at the Dickinson **County Expo Center in** Spirit Lake on Tuesday, Nov. 4 from **7am - 8pm**



YOU MAY ALSO VOTE EARLY **NOW THROUGH NOV. 3 -**Mon.-Fri. 8am - 4:30pm at the County Auditors Office, Dickinson County Courthouse, Spirit Lake.

Spencer Film Series

In association with Arts on Grand, The Films for the Cinematically Disadvantaged fall series will take place at Carey's Electronics, 220 Grand Avenue in Spencer.

•Monday, November 1, 7 PM "I'm Still Here" (Brazil, 2024) Original Title: Ainda Estou Aqui •Monday, November 8, 7 PM

"Reprise" (Norway 2006) •Monday, November 15, 7 PM "As It Is In Heaven" (Sweden 2004) Original Title: Så som i himmelen





Kiwanis Bingo Nights

Milford Kiwanis presents Bingo Nights on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month. The next Bingo Nights will be Thursday, November 13 and November 27, 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.







for Arnolds Park **City Council**

LISTEN. LEAD. DELIVER. **Leadership that puts Arnolds Park** Residents first.

Committed to accessible government, transparent fiscal responsibility, future-proof Infrastructure, balanced growth, strong community values and real results.

Let me be your **VOICE** at City Hall.



Vote November 4th at Expo Center in Spirit Lake 7AM-8PM

Early Voting NOW - Nov. 3rd

Auditors Office, Dickinson County Courthouse, Spirit Lake 8AM-4PM

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712-336-BIRD (2473)

HOURS:

Students from Okoboji, Spirit Lake, and Harris-Lake Park High Schools:

First Row L-R: Riley Meyer, Karna Droegmiller, Nora Conover, Ada Conover, Gemma Tamisiea, Jada Vander Wolde, Sydney Rahe, Luka Martin, Reece Logan, Addison Munson, Summer Stoller.

Second Row L-R: Elah Brouwer, Ella Kasperbauer, Bethany Frostestad, Peyton Bosch, Cadence Carlson, Isla Nelson, Cecelia Harris, Anabel Sinz, Elanor Sinz, Anthea Leupold, Norah Danbom.

Third Row L-R: Cruz Nitchals, Ethan Weston, Calan Peters, Dexter Peters, Trey Vander Pol, Jacob Neuharth, Colton Johnson, Wesley Evans, Asher Wipperfurth, Cruz Naatjes, Cole Donnenwerth, Beckett Rahe.

Introducing the 2025-2026 **Youth In Philanthropy Class**

Youth in Philanthropy is a program of the Okoboji Foundation that empowers area students to discern community needs and instills a sense of civic responsibility. Since 2010, YIP students have collectively raised over \$787,000 and disbursed over \$649,000 in grants to area nonprofit organizations.

Yes! I want to sponsor YIP!



Do you wish to sponsor a specific student? Please indicate on the memo line.



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www.okobojifoundation.org/YIP

ROOTED IN OKOBOJI. READY TO SERVE.

KAE HOPPE

for Okoboji City Council **INTEGRITY • EXPERIENCE • COMMUNITY**

MY ROOTS RUN DEEP

- · A proud 5th generation Dickinson County resident with a desire to serve our community with advocacy and integrity.
- · Local business owner with experience in accountability, accessibility and leadership.

EXPERIENCE THAT SERVES YOU

- 15+ years as Trustee, lowa Great Lakes Sanitary District (IGLSD), focused on protecting our natural resources while supporting responsible, balanced growth.
- · Executive Director, Iowa Great Lakes Association, and passionate advocate of IGLA's mission to address issues related to proposals affecting our lakes, watershed, and the surrounding environment.
- · Board of Adjustment board member since 2022, protecting taxpayers' investment through uniform and fair ordinances and ensuring property development aligns with community standards and planning goals.

PROVEN TRACK RECORD OF SOUND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

- · Maintained a high credit rating
- · Never raised the tax levy during tenure
- · Worked collaboratively with neighboring towns to reduce costs and increase efficiency.

MY COMMITMENT TO YOU

I believe city council members work for the taxpayers.

- · Ask tough questions and make smart decisions for the good of Okoboji.
- · Keep our community's natural beauty and heritage protected.
- Ensure growth is balanced and sustainable.
- · Serve with honesty, transparency and gratitude.

Kae Hoppe has demonstrated a strong commitment to our lakes' environment and surrounding communities. We need Kae on the Okoboji City Council."

- WILLIAM VAN ORSDEL, PRESIDENT, IOWA GREAT LAKES ASSOCIATION

VOTE FOR KAE HOPPE NOV. 4

READY TO SERVE WITH INTEGRITY AND PASSION FOR OKOBOJI'S FUTURE.

Paid for by Kae Hoppe for City Council - Okoboji

NGRATULATIONS OKOBOJI BOYS CROSS COUNTRY TEAM **ON QUALIFYING FOR STATE!** 8TH INDIVIDUALLY, ALL DISTRICT, DISTRICT **ALL-CONFERENCE RUNNER UPS!**

TEAM QUALIFIERS (L-R): Sam Low, Ryker Ballis, Ray Kaiser, Owen Riphagen, Eli Graves, Tyson Fear, Cooper Boone, Cruz Nitchals, JD Gravert, Wesley Evenson **Coaches: Jacob Evenson, Erin Frerichs, Connery Sweeney**

GOOD LUCK AT STATE!

Friday, October 31st

Kennedy Park • Fort Dodge, IA MEET SCHEDULE: Girls 2A at 10:30AM

Boys 2A at 11:15AM • 2A Awards Ceremony at 12PM



All spectators will need a ticket for admission into the state meet. Tickets will go on sale Monday, October 27 through the IGHSAU digital ticketing partner, Bound. Tickets are \$10, plus \$3 parking fee, plus processing fees.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL ATHLETES & COACHES ON A GREAT SEASON!

This ad proudly sponsored by The Okoboji Pioneer Booster Club & The Lakes News Shopper.



Christmas Wreath Sales

Milford Scout Troop 170 is currently doing their annual Christmas Greens now through November 9th. All Christmas greens are made from natural balsam fir evergreens. Offered

this year are a 22" wreath, door swag, candy cane, cross, mailbox swag, a holiday centerpiece in a wicker basket, real natural garland in lengths of 15', 25', and 50'. They also offer 2' to 3' tall spruce tips in bundles of 10. If you're looking to purchase some of these products, you can contact one of the scouts of the troop to place your order or, if you haven't been contacted, you



can contact Jason Simpson (712-330-7455) or Mick Umscheid (712-330-6343) and they can get you in contact with a scout to stop by and show you what they have to offer. Proceeds from the evergreen sales go to help the scouts cover the cost to go to summer camp. Thank you, from Troop 170, Milford.









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







Clip this recipe card to save -

Pumpkin Martini Cocktail With Cinnamon

- tablespoons maple syrup
- cup graham cracker crumbs
- ounces pumpkin spice liqueur
- ounces Baileys Irish Cream ounces vodka
- 1 42 teaspoons vanilla extract

cinnamon sticks

Pour the maple syrup in a saucer and put the graham cracker crumbs in a separate saucer. Dip the rims of 2 chilled martini glasses first into the maple syrup, then into the graham cracker crumbs. Fill a shaker

with ice and add the pumpkin spice liqueur, Baileys, vodka, and vanilla extract. Shake for 15 seconds and strain between the prepared glasses. Garnish each with a cinnamon stick.

Recipe Courtesy of: Lines+Angles



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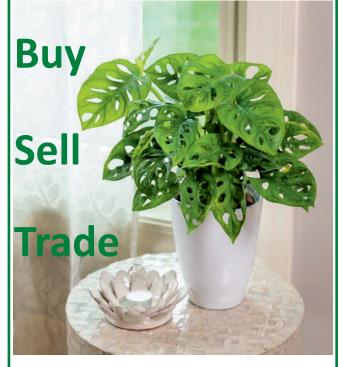






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Lakes Area Activities/Senior Center Event Space

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,

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.

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Writers and Writing

by Michael Tidemann

Iowa Weird a great collection of the strange Just in time for Halloween, Iowa Weird Vol. 1 is a tour de force of the strange, bizarre and, as the title suggests, downright weird.

Editor Nick Nariigon has compiled a collection of 16 stories, ranging from the hauntingly suggestive to zombie apocalypses. Regardless of your taste of the strange, Iowa Weird Vol. 1 should provide something for your Halloween entertainment.

As someone who prefers ghostly apparitions not so distant from reality, I personally liked "The Weeping Woman of the Cedar' by Lauren Riensche.

In the story, based on a real incident, Mary and Bertha Thompson

drown in the Cedar River, an incident followed by other family tragedies. The sisters' drowning was followed by reports of a lone woman walking along the north bank of the river at dusk, in 1891 period dress and weeping. Even today, as people approach her, she vanishes.

"Coal Eaters: The Van Meter Visitors" by Aaron Narigon, Hayseed Press co-founder, and based in early 20th century Van Meter, tells the tale of vampire-like monsters emerging from a coal mine. Dracula could eat his heart out over this one.

In "Young Love in a Storm" Michael Kaufman bookends the story of a young couple in a passionate moment with fantasies of horror taking place in the mind of the narrator. Kaufman has us going for quite a while, until we return to the present with a great sense of relief.

"Dust-Up" by Marc Dickinson chronicles how people respond to tornadoes, drought and deluge but continue to work the land. Undoubtedly, many Iowa farmers could relate to this story.

Twelve other stories round out the collection, all intriguing in their own way.

The title, Iowa Weird Vol. 1 certainly suggests a forthcoming volume 2. I'd like to make some suggestions for future stories. Most Iowans have heard of the Villisca ax murders, of course. People can even book a stay – something definitely not for the

And then there are the Nov. 17, 1973, murders at Gitchie Manitou State Preserve in far northwestern Iowa. I was working in nearby Sioux Falls, S.D., at the time, and I remember

the incident well. I also wonder if the ghost of Ellen Rysdam might return to Pella where she secretly married Virgil Earp, later a noted lawman. They were shortly later tragically separated by the Civil War. The Earp home still stands in Pella.

All three could make great stories.

(Michael Tidemann writes from Estherville, Iowa. His author page is Author Michael Tidemann.)

Tops Meetings AA Meetings

Tops Chapter #369, Spirit Lake, meets Friday mornings AA meetings will resume on at 10:00am at the Spirit Lake Tuesdays at 7:00pm, at Jackson United Methodist Church, 1812 Gary Avenue, Spirit Lake (use Street, Jackson, Minnesota). east door). If you are one that needs help with motivation and tact Aili at 507-840-0639. food planning to lose weight, this may be the support group for you. Visitors are welcome to attend their first TOPS meeting free of charge without obligation. For more information, call

The Jackson Java open Center for the Arts (309 2nd

For more information, con-



The Perfect Flower!

by Beth Doran – Master Gardener

Betty Sangel at 712-320-4458.

I found the perfect flower – at least for me. And the champion is Begonia Semperflorens!

This flower is great for a person on the go. It is noted for its tolerance to hot and humid summers and dry soil. This is true.

After being at the Iowa State Fair for nine days with no one watering it, I returned to find it pretty as ever.

It is low maintenance and self-deadheading. Although it could be deadheaded by pulling off spent blooms, this summer's winds helped to naturally deadhead the flow-



ers. For those that did not drop naturally, I found that turning the pot upside down (while holding the flower in the pot) and gently shaking it removed most of the remaining spent blooms.

Begonia Semperflorens is listed as suitable for locations with full sun to partial shade. It did very well on my patio in partial shade, requiring only 4-6 hours of sunlight daily, and has bloomed continuously since early June. However, it is an annual and will not survive frost.

Although the label listed it as growing 6-12 inches tall, my potted Begonia was 12 inches tall. Begonia Semperflorens blooms may be single or double flowers and range in color – white, pink, red, and bicolor. I discovered my Begonia has maintained the red color of its blooms throughout the growing season. The leaves are usually one of two colors – green or bronze.

The bronze-leaved varieties are more tolerant of full sun. There are also variegated types of Begonia Semperflorens ('Charm' and 'Calla') with new leaves that come out white. This institution is an equal opportunity provider. For the full

non-discrimination statement or accommodation inquiries, go to www.extension.iastate.edu/legal The Begonia Semperflorens is suited to massing in beds, borders, or as an edger as well as containers. But no matter

where you put it, remember it prefers sun-dappled part shade. Are the flowers edible? Wax begonia (Begonia semperflorens-

cultorum) is edible. The flowers are often described as a crisp, bright, slightly sour citrusy flavor.

However, not all begonias have edible flowers. The only two considered edible are wax begonia and tuberous begonia. But it just so happens that these are some of the most common begonias in the landscape.

Our promise is to treat you RIGHT!







Miller Achieves Eagle, Builds Benches for Twin Forks

Local Scout, Oliver Miller (left), a member of Troop 170, has completed his Eagle Scout Service Project benefiting the Twin Forks Trap and Skeet Club.

For the project Miller built four wooden benches to be placed at the trap and skeet range. The benches will provide seating for those watching or waiting their turn to shoot. The trap range is fairly new and was in need of seating.

This service project is a key requirement for earning the Eagle Scout rank, the highest achievement in Scouting. Miller directed a number of volunteers within the troop who provided approximately 140 hours of service to complete the project. Miller is the son of Josh and Kristy Miller of Milford and will be one of three scouts this year out of Troop 170 to earn the Eagle Scout rank. Miller is a senior at Okoboji High School this year and is active in trapshooting, cross country, swimming, key club, FFA and youth group at St. Joseph's Catholic Church. Oliver Miller would like to thank the troop leaders, his family and Grandpa Tim Derner for helping with the project, Rick Kalsow at the Twin Forks Trap and Skeet Club, and also Consumer's Lumber-Jason Lorenzen for donating the supplies.



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Spirit Lake, IA

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Milford Community Secret Santa Program Returns

Okoboji Flooring & Furniture, the Campus Women's Club, and the Milford Memorial Library are hosting a Secret Santa Program in hopes of brightening the holidays for less fortunate children in the area. Starting October 28th, children in the Milford Area may be nominated for this program through emailing info@okobojiflooring.com, visiting our website, or by stopping into Okoboji Flooring & Furniture in Milford or the Milford Memorial Library! Deadline for inclusion is November 17th. This year, the Secret Santa Program will be hosted at Okoboji Flooring & Furniture, 1007 Okoboji Ave, Milford. Individuals, businesses, and organizations may begin selecting names off the tree to adopt on November 19th, at Okoboji Flooring during normal business hours, Monday through Friday. 9:00am to 5:00pm. Deadline for gift turn in is December 12th. Our goal with Milford Secret Santa is to bring the community together, to help those within it who are struggling, to have a memorable and joyous holiday!





View From The Bench by John Adams, Jr.

Of-er October

Iowa State ended September with a 5-0 record coming off their best performance of the season, a 39-14 dismantling of Arizona at Jack Trice Stadium. Vibes were incredibly high as Cyclone fans looked forward to another possible trip to Dallas for their second straight Big 12 Championship Game, and Iowa State entered Week #5 ranked 14th in the nation. Back in the good old days of Brock Purdy, October was known as Brocktober, as ISU rarely lost games in October, and always played their best ball of the season in October and November. Cyclone fans were hoping for the same with Rocco Becht, that we would have some Roctober magic, but this year October was an absolute nightmare for the Cyclones. That 0-3 October nightmare ended on Saturday in Jack Trice Stadium as #11 BYU outscored Iowa State 31-3 in the final 31:00 of the game to pull out the 41-27 win in a game that was statistically dominated by the Cyclones.

The game could not have started any better for ISU, as Rocco Becht threw a perfect pass to Brett Eskildsen for a 75-yard touchdown on the first play of the game as a sold-out Jack Trice Stadium erupted. BYU quickly answered with a long drive to tie the game at 7 with a LJ Martin TD run. The Cyclones then dominated the next 15:00 of the game, as injured kicker Kyle Konrardy made his return to the lineup with a 36-yard field goal, followed by a Carson Hansen short TD run to put ISU up 17-7. The Cyclones appeared to be in total control after a spectacular catch by Ben Brahmer brought ISU deep into BYU territory with that 10-point lead, however, Becht and one of his receivers appeared to have a communication breakdown as a pass was thrown directly to a BYU defender who raced to ball into ISU territory. The Cyclone defense would hold the Cougars to a 50-yard field goal to maintain a 17-10 lead. Iowa State then appeared to take control of the game again, with a methodical 80-yard drive that ended with another short Carson Hansen TD run to put the Cyclones up 24-10 with just 1:52 left in the half. BYU then took advantage of Iowa State's kick-off woes and returned the kickoff to the 40-yard line, providing a short field for the Cougars to march down and make the score 24-17 on a Bear Bachmeier 12-yard TD pass to Parker Kingston.

The second half was more of what has gotten Iowa State into this three game October funk, lack of execution, turnovers and not being able to get big stops on third down. BYU took their first lead of the game at 27-24 on a Bachmeier 9-yard TD run with 4:33 left in the third quarter. Kyle Konrardy would end the 17-0 BYU run with a 43-yard field goal to knot the score at 27 late in the third quarter. The Iowa State defense then got a big three and out and it looked like ISU would get great field possession after a short BYU punt. However, for the second time this season, the Cyclones totally botched the punt, not fair catching it and then had one of their blockers touch the ball at the ISU 37-yard line. Three plays later the Cougars would take the lead on another Bachmeier TD pass. The turnover bug would rear its ugly head on the next possession as Becht was picked off by Faletau Satuala, and he returned it for a 40-yard picksix to put BYU up 41-27. The Cyclones weren't done shooting themselves in the foot yet in the disastrous fourth quarter, as they had a touchdown called back due to a holding penalty and then were unable to convert on a 4th down; then with just over 3:00 left and all three timeouts remaining, Aiden Flora dropped what would have been another touchdown, that then led to Becht's third interception on the next play and ended any hopes of a Cyclone rally.

This team continues to fail to do what last year's team did at a high level, and what head coach Matt Campbell preaches, "win in the margins". While they have been decimated on defense with injuries, losing two all-conference cornerbacks for the season, I put the blame for the last two losses on the offense and their inability to "win in these margins". Whether it's untimely penalties, dropped passes, dropped snaps or turnovers, this offense can't get out of their own way during this three-game losing streak. They had 24 first downs, 495 yards and won the time of possession against the 11th ranked team in the nation, but when you turn the ball over four times and have costly penalties, you end up losing a game to a much more disciplined team. Where this team goes from here, I have no idea, but I do know that I'm happy to see the calendar turn from the horrors of October to hopefully the hopes of November!



Spencer Community Theatre; Directly from the Director

Would you enjoy watching a play called, "The Creature Creeps?" If so, the next performance of it is at the Spencer Community Theatre, from October 31 - November 8.

Steve Deutsch, the director, says he is most fond of, "Getting to work with creative, wonderful people. I think we are a source for success. When you are in the theater, you develop creativity, self-confidence, and skills for succeeding in life."

The theater is most popular when they have "Children's Theatre programming."

Their last play was a children's performance of "The Wizard of Oz," which took place on August 7-11.

Some methods Deutsch uses for producing rehearsals and final shows are: "Very good scheduling, define the expectations, become encouraged. You let the actor collaborate with you."

As for candidates who want to act in the plays, Deutsch claims there are "Never enough. We really encourage people who haven't tried it to come audition and enjoy it."

He says some of the standards he looks for in a potential actor are: " A history of honoring commitments, being a good 'team player' and being yourself."

His favorite genre is comedy.

As for the future, Deutsch states he wants continued growth for the theater and he is excited about new programs. One of them includes a recently started program called, "Senior Theatre," for those 50 and older.

"They use the script and we accommodate for mobility," adds Steve Deutsch.

His comment about aspiring actors is, "There are so many talented people."

One of his personal quotes is, "Be the best person you can

be, and be honest with yourself."





email: info@biobodymbs.com

www.biobodymbs.com

Name .	
Age	

Drop off your coloring sheet at **SPUDNUTZ** or THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER by October 31st at 4pm to be entered into their Halloween Coloring Contest. Ages 12 & under only, please. Do not have to be present to win. More details on Spudnutz' Facebook page.

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Obituary

A memorial service for Sally Will, age 90, of Spirit Lake, will be held at 11:00 AM on Wednesday, October 29, 2025 at Turner Jen-

ness Funeral Home in Spirit Lake. Burial will be at Lakeview Gardens Cemetery. Visitation will begin one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, memorials in memory of Sally can be given to the Warner Dialysis Center in Spirit Lake.

Sally Lynn Will, daughter of Melvin and Beulah (Pierce) Eisele, was born in Onawa, Iowa on July 4, 1935. She was raised in Onawa and later graduated from Spirit Lake High School in 1954.

On August 26, 1956, Sally was united in marriage to Darwin Will in Spirit Lake. Together they made their home in rural Spirit Lake, where they raised their family and farmed. Sally devoted her life to her family as a loving homemaker

and farm wife. Sally was a faithful member of the United Methodist Church in Terril and later in Spirit Lake. She was also active in the United Methodist Women in Terril. Sally was a longtime member of both the Gloria Chapter and Twilight Chapter of the Order of Eastern Star, serving as Worthy Matron of each several times. She was honored to serve as Grand Representative to Arkansas and to Connecticut and as a Grand Chapter committee member in 1994.

She volunteered for many years as a Lakes Regional Healthcare "Pink Lady" and served on the Ladies Auxiliary Board. Sally was an avid bowler in both Terril and Spirit Lake and a devoted fan of the Minnesota Twins and Vikings. She enjoyed countless miles on the motorcycle behind Darwin as they traveled across the United States together.

Sally passed away on October 21, 2025, at Accura Healthcare in Spirit Lake.

She is survived by her sons, Rodney (Tracey) Will of Milford and Trent (Beth) Will of Spirit Lake; grandchildren, Amanda (Dylan) Titterington, Alex (Rebeca) Will, Jennifer (Davin) Wilson, and Gregory (Chloe) Will; great-grandchildren, Claire and Cora Titterington and Owen Will; sister, Sandy Vovos of Portage, Wisconsin; brother-in-law, Arlyn Will of Mesa, Arizona; sister-in-law, Weyvon Will of Spencer, Iowa; and many nieces and nephews.

Sally was preceded in death by her husband, Darwin Will; parents, Melvin and Beulah Eisele; brothers-in-law, Robert Will and Bruce Will; sisters-in-law, Gwen Will and Janet Will; and her grandson, Clayton. Turner Jenness Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.



A Celebration of Life Visitation for Danny Brumley, age 75, of Harris, will be held on Saturday, November 1, 2025, from 4:00-6:00pm with military rites starting

at 4:00pm all at the VFW Memorial Hall in Spirit Lake. Dan Robert Brumley, the son

of Clint and Gladys Brumley, was born on July 22, 1950, in Spirit Lake, Iowa. He passed away on October 21, 2025.

Dan was united in marriage to Diane (Maranell) Brumley on June 25, 1994, in Lake Park, Iowa. During his life, he worked as a truck driver and proudly served his country in the United States Marine Corps from March 1969 until March 1972, earning the rank of Private First Class. He was a member of



the Round Lake VFW. Over the years, Dan lived in Jacksonville, Florida; Lake Park, Iowa; and, since 2012, made his home in Harris. He enjoyed fishing, camping, hunting, riding his Harley, and relaxing with a beer or whiskey while watching Gunsmoke. One of his favorite pastimes was giving golf cart rides to his dog, Harley. Above all, Dan cherished time spent with his family and friends.

Those left to cherish his memory include his wife, Diane Brum ley; son, Clint Brumley; granddaughter, Hannah (Nile) Vincent, and grandson, Cole (fiancé, Katey) Brumley; daughter, Autumn (Mike) Ross; daughter, Susan (Josh & Amanda) Rambo; grandson, Tyler McGarrah; great-grandchildren, Riley, Alexander, and Ashlynn Watts; granddaughter, Aubre Floyd, grandson, Joshua Rambo, granddaughter, Katie Bennett, great-grandson, Carson W.; stepson (deceased), Tom Moore, grandchildren: Nicole, Logan, Connor, Cassie; stepson, Tony Moore, granddaughter, Brooke (Tony) Delgado, great-grandchildren: Parker, Gauge, Lia; granddaughter, Jordan (Jericho) Jones; great-grandchildren: Kaecyn, Gavyn, Maliki, Aubrielle; extended family and friends.

Dan was preceded in death by his parents, Clint and Gladys Brumley; brother, Donnie Brumley; sister, Beverly (Byron) Schuett; stepson, Tom Moore; nephew, Bruce and niece, Linda.

Turner Jenness Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

Obituary

Larry Albert Olsen, 80, remembered for his work, wit, and

Larry Albert Olsen, a police officer turned attorney whose integrity, humor, and devotion to work and friendship left an imprint from Napa to Red Bluff to his hometown of Milford, Iowa, died Oct. 12, 2025,

after a two-year struggle with ALS. Born Jan. 21, 1945, in Spirit Lake, Iowa, and raised in nearby Milford, Larry was the son of Otmar Albert and Lila Rose Olsen. He had two sisters, Geraldine and Shirley, and a brother, Don. His father worked at a meat-packing plant, and his mother cared for the home.

"He started working when he was ten," his daughter Polly said. "They didn't have much, so as soon as you could, you worked. He'd shovel snow, deliver papers, whatever he could do to help the family."

After high school Larry borrowed money from his parents — "with interest," Polly said — and drove west to California to pursue law enforcement. By the mid-1960s he was a police officer in Berkeley and Alameda County during a period of civil unrest. "Larry didn't go into the military like many of us who ended up in Vietnam," said longtime colleague Ken Miller, because he was already serving on the police force during one of the most challenging times in our country."

While working full time, Larry attended San Francisco Law School at night. "Every time I visited, Larry was at the kitchen table studying," said Lynn Munro Carl. "One night Pat [his wife] got so tired of hearing legal terms she threw the book on the floor." He passed the California Bar on his first attempt in 1979.

He later practiced law in Napa and Red Bluff, serving as a deputy district attorney in Tehama County, a public defender in Trinity County, and also in private practice. "He was one of the most honorable attorneys I've ever known," Miller said. "Even when he could barely move, he still wanted to work."

Larry loved Roy Orbison, the Oakland Raiders, and road trips with friends Richard and Raymond Dube. "We'd drive sixteen hundred miles straight through," Richard said. "He could make an

adventure out of anything." In 2023 he suffered a stroke while driving back from Iowa and was later diagnosed with ALS.

Larry Olsen is survived by his children, Nick Olsen of Napa, California, and Polly Alberigi of Occidental, CA; granddaughter Noelle Alberigi; his brother Don; his sister Shirley; and extended family in Iowa and California. Larry was predeceased by his wife, Toby Felice Olsen.

A viewing will be held at Turner & Jenness Funeral Home in Milford on November 1st from 10 a.m. to noon, followed by a private burial. A celebration of life will be held in Red Bluff at a later date. In lieu of flowers the family asks that donations be made to the ALS Association in his memory.

Turner Jenness Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

Free Breakfast Saturday, November 1 at Grandview Church Gym

Free Breakfast Saturday, November 1, from 8-10 am, at the Grandview Church gym. Burritos, pancakes, sausage, and eggs

Community Breakfast

are being cooked, and milk, juice and coffee will also be served. The breakfast is completely free, and everyone is invited. Breakfast will be served at Grandview Baptist Church's gym, which is at 3705 170th St. in Estherville. We have had an average of 130 people attend the free breakfasts. There will also be a small food pantry for families to take shelf-stable food. Thanks to Estherville Foods, Hy-Vee, Fareway, Ace Hardware, and I & B Ag Supply for donating to the Free

Breakfast. If you have questions, please contact Brett Fuelberth at 712-330-1145.



Lakes Area Activities/Senior Center Schedule

Desayuno comunitario

gratis

Tuesday, October 28 8:30 - Kiwanis 12:00 - Dinner Date 12:00 - Blood Pressure Checks 12.30 - Bridge

Wednesday, October 29 9:00 - Exercise Class

12:00 - Dinner Date Thursday, October 30

10:00 - Strummers 11:00 - Tai Chi 12:00 - Dinner Date 1:00 - 500 Cards

3:00 - Cribbage 4:30 - Zumba Friday, October 31

9:00 - Exercise Class 10:00 - Chair Yoga 12:00 - Dinner Date

Saturday, November 1 Facility Available For Rent Sunday, November 2 Facility Available For Rent

Monday, November 3 9:00 - Exercise 12:00 - Dinner Date

1:00 - Mahjong Tuesday, November 4 8:30 - Kiwanis

12:00 - Dinner Date

12.30 - Bridge

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 fundraiser will be a turkey dinner on Sunday November 16,2025 from 10:30-12:30 - Free will 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.

Obituary

Mary Kay Rolling, age 64, of Milford, Iowa, passed away peacefully on Monday, October 13th, 2025, at Spencer Hospital in Spencer,

lowa, surrounded by family. Mary Kay was born March 8th, 1961, at Spencer Hospital, to Wayne and Mary Krieger of Terril, Iowa, during a blizzard. Mary Kay entered the world as both a surprise and a miracle, six years after Wayne and Mary thought their family was complete.

She grew up on the family farm in Terril, where her fearless spirit took root early, famously falling off her horse at the age of two. Alternatively, she had a gentle energy, especially one in which animals were drawn

to. She was known to those around her as an "animal whisperer." She loved all animals, especially horses.

Mary Kay grew up with a love for hard work, family, and community. She carried an unmatched determination for life, a "get it done" kind of woman who never shied away from a challenge. She was known as a "doer." Whether she was tackling a project, organizing a get-together, or helping someone in need, she always poured her heart and energy into everything she touched.

She graduated from Terril High School in 1979, and obtained her cosmetology education at Faust in Storm Lake. She also obtained a teaching certificate at UNI. She would go on to open her own hair salon, Headlines, which she owned and operated for almost 40 years.

She met her husband, Philip Rolling, while attending Terril High School. They married at the Little Brown Church on November 27, 1982. They had two boys, Dylan and Dan. She was active in the community, coaching youth sports and serving on the Milford City Council.

Those who knew her remember her as a force. She was direct, passionate, loyal, and deeply loving. She had a big personality and an even bigger heart. You could never find her sitting still for long; she was always looking to find purpose in creating, planning, and helping.

She is survived by her devoted husband, Philip Rolling; her two beloved sons and their wives; and her cherished grandchildren-Dylan and Samantha Rolling and their children Indica, Dez, Soli, and Vivvi of Spencer, Iowa, and Dan and Lindsey Rolling and son Jasper of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Her grandkids were the light of her life—and she theirs. She is also survived by her Aunt Linda Halquist Drucker; brother Tom and Allyn (wife) Krieger; sister Jayne and Jaime (husband) George, sister Kristine Larson; and many special nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Wayne and Mary Krieger; grandson, Cash Rolling; nephew, Christopher George; and brother-in-law, Tim Larson.

Her life was one of purpose, perseverance, and profound love. She will be greatly missed by her family and many friends. Arrangements under the care of Turner Jenness Funeral Home.

Obituary

A Mass of Christian Burial for Mary Berg, age 94, of Terril, will be held on Wednesday, October 29, 2025, at 10:30am at St. Joseph

Catholic Church in Milford. Interment will be at Calvary Cemetery in Milford. Visitation will take place on Tuesday, October 28, 2025, from 5:00-7:00pm with a rosary recited at 7:00pm at the Turner Jenness Funeral Home in Milford.

Mary Catherine (Burns) Berg was born November 8, 1930, to Bernard (Ben) and Viola (Brennan) Burns in Estherville, Iowa. She had three older siblings- Joe, Betty, and Jim- as well as a younger sister, Margaret. Mary had many fond memories of the years growing up

and shared them with her own family often. She graduated from Estherville High School in 1949 and attended Estherville Junior College. From there, she worked at the Emmet County Bank until after she married and developed many

While at a skating rink, she caught the eye of a young man who swept her off her feet, Charles Berg. They were married January 17, 1955, and enjoyed working side by side for the next 55 years, until Charles passed away in 2010. Charles worked with his family on their farm until the couple rented a farm near Dickens, IA, in 1956 and began to build their farm business. Their sons continue to farm that place 68 years later. In 1965 Mary and Charles bought their home farm west of Terril and moved their family. Mary remained there for 60 years until her death. Mary was a "town" gal who quickly adapted to and became very engaged in farm life. From caring for children and livestock to driving machinery and managing the books. She and Charles served as wonderful role models for their six children— Diane, Joanne, Marsha, Teresa, Charles, and Joseph— who all graduated from the Terril School system. The family worked hard but also managed to have fun along the way, even if it was a Saturday working with the livestock or a hot summer day walking beans or baling hay, picnics to the field, or a Saturday night drive around to the Lakes

Mary and Charles honeymooned in Texas and Mexico but then had limited traveling until the kids were grown. They enjoyed going to the southern and northwestern states as well as to Key West. When Charles' health failed, she became his caregiver. After his passing, Mary remained active with St. Joseph's church in Milford, girls' shopping trips, traveling, weekly coffee at the Terril Library, a luncheon group with her church, and hosting family members throughout the year for big gatherings, as there are now over 60 in the family! Her last big trip was two years ago to Boston with 4 of her children and her sister to visit her brother and family. Mary was an avid reader and excellent seamstress.

Mary was strong in mind, body, and spirit, but about a year ago she was diagnosed with colon cancer and had that beat, only to be diagnosed with Mesothelioma. The disease and treatment took its toll as her family helped her through this process, with Hospice assisting over the past weeks.

She is survived by her children—Diane (Joe) Hunt, Marshalltown; Joanne (Ron) Stoner, North Liberty; Marsha (Brian) Adolph, Coralville; Teresa (Dave) Anderson, Sioux City; Chuck (Steph) Berg, Milford; and Joe Berg, Milford. There are 18 grandchildren as well as spouses and 21 great-grandchildren. She is also survived by her brother Jim from Massachusetts, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Mary was a member of the Rosary and Altar Society and Catholic Daughters of St. Joseph's Parish in Milford. She was preceded in death by her parents; in-laws Joe and Margret

Berg; siblings Joe, Sister Elizabeth, and Margaret. Mary passed away Oct. 23, 2025, at Spencer Hospital under

hospice care surrounded by her family. Memorials can be directed to St. Joseph's Church Milford for cemetery upkeep, Hospice of Spencer, or Terril Library.

Turner Jenness Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements

Word Search Puzzle Key from page 12A





Laurian "Lauri" Ruth (Savage) Pederson, 67, went to be with her Lord and Savior on Monday, October 20, 2025, at 10:30 a.m.

surrounded by her family at Lakes Regional Healthcare in Spirit Lake. Lauri was born August 31, 1958, to Glenn and Clara (Cunningham) Savage in Fergus Falls, MN, the first of three siblings. Glenn's job as a pastor took the family all over the Midwest, including Elbow Lake and Barrett, MN; Killdeer, ND; Hub City, SD; and Sebeka, MN. Lauri attended many different schools, including country school, before graduating from Sebeka High School in 1976. She attended one



year of college for accounting at Golden Valley Lutheran College. graduating in the spring of 1977.

On August 20, 1977, Lauri married Rody Pederson at Our Saviour's Lutheran in Sebeka, MN, and the couple settled in Wadena, MN. In 1982, they moved to the Iowa Lakes Area, eventually settling in Milford. Lauri and Rody were blessed with two children: Kaitlin in January 1990 and Derek in September 1992. Lauri homeschooled their children from kindergarten through 12th grade.

Lauri worked for the Review Messenger in Sebeka, Consumers Lumber, the Beacon newspaper, the Lakes News Shopper, KJIA Radio as interim office manager and radio announcer for the first 11 months of the station being on the air, and finally owned and operated Pederson Electric with Rody in the Lakes Area.

Lauri loved quilting and crafting, blessing many (particularly her grandchildren) with her quilts and crocheted blankets and washcloths. Lauri also enjoyed traveling. She and Rody put many miles on motorcycles and cars, going on vacations and visiting family. The highlight of her life was her four grandchildren and she took advantage of every opportunity to spend time with them.

Above all else, Lauri was committed to living her life for the glory of God. She loved to sing praises and worship the Lord. She played with the worship team on piano, flute, and keyboard as well as vocals. Lauri always had an encouraging word for everyone she met, pointing them to God. If we could hear her from heaven, she'd be saying, "I'd better see you here!"

Grateful for having shared Lauri's life are her husband of 48 years. Rody; daughter Kaitlin (John) Huber, Eureka, SD; son Derek (Tiffany) Pederson, Dallas, PA; mother Clara Savage, Milford; brother Paul (Marcy) Savage, Spirit Lake; sisters-in-law Lynette (Michael) Joines of Canon City, CO. and Leslie (Dennis) Eisenbraun of Gaylord, MN; grandchildren Sarah Pederson and Elizabeth, Sophia, and Arthur Huber; and many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, and great-nephews.

She was preceded in death by her father, Glenn Savage (2014), brother Tim Savage (2023), parents-in-law Elwood "Pete" (2018) and Arlette (2000) Pederson.

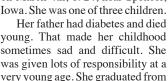
A celebration of life for Lauri was held on Saturday, October 25, 2025, at the Foundation Church in Spencer, Iowa, officiated by Pastor Nicholas Hanges. Music was provided by Laurena Overmire, Annika Overmire, Alyssa and Corgan Petersen. Serving as pallbearers were Paul Savage, Derek Pederson, John Huber, Todd Heck, Alan Otto, Tim Overmire, John Stanley and John DeBoer. A private inurnment will be held at a later date.

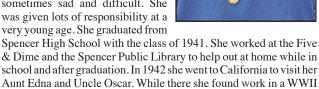
Arrangements were under the care of Turner Jenness Funeral Home.

Obituary

Funeral services for Mrs. Vergene Donovan, 101, of Spirit Lake, will be held Tuesday, October 28th, 2025, at 11:00 A.M., at

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Spirit Lake, Iowa. Interment will be at Lakeview Gardens Cemetery, Spirit Lake. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be given to Immanuel Lutheran Church in Vergene's name. She was born to Harry Bleeker and Minnie (Zishka) Bleeker during an Iowa blizzard at her parent's farm home on March 4th, 1924, near Spencer,





school and after graduation. In 1942 she went to California to visit her Aunt Edna and Uncle Oscar. While there she found work in a WWII defense plant. She met a boy from back home, Edward Donovan. Within a few weeks they decided to get married. WWII was causing boys to enlist, and she and Edward thought it was important to have each other when the war was over. Her happiness was always her husband, her family, and her many

friends. She loved her Church, the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod She was baptized, confirmed, and married in the faith that had guided her life. When her last child left for college, she became more involved in her community, state, and nation. Edward worked long hours at Berkley & Company and her days became filled with activities such as being a member of many boards/committees: The Lakes Art Center (charter member), Okoboji Summer Theatre, Voluntary Action Center, Spirit Lake Centennial, Homestead Retirement, St. Luke's Lutheran Home, American Cancer Society local and state boards (ACS Daffodil Chair, State Golf Tournament Chair, County Golf Tournament Chair), the Republican Women of Iowa local and state boards, the Lakes Regional Hospital Auxiliary board, the Lutheran Women's Mission League, Lincoln Club, Campaign Chair for many political candidates at the local, state, and national level(s) (including both George Bush and George W Bush in her county), George W Bush- N.W. Iowa co-chair in 2024 (23 counties), U.S. Senator Chuck Grassley's County Chair, 5th District Republican Women board member, County Central Committee Member and Finance chair, Precinct Chair, Dickinson County Republican Women board member and President, IFRW District and State Board, Arizona Young Republican Salute to Dan Quayle committee, County Chairperson for Congressman Steve King, District Judicial Nominating Committee, Partner in ALL C's Embroidery & Advertising, Thursday Morning Book Club, Terrace Hill County Chaiman, Dickinson County Heart Association, White House Conference on Families, Spencer High School Class of 1941 Reunion Chair, State Health Council, Governor Terry Branstad Inaugural Committee, Fred Grandy for Congress, Tom Lathan for Congress.

She was given many awards: the Outstanding American Cancer Society, both State and National 1985 and 1986; the John MacDonald Outstanding Republican in Iowa Award 1995 (presented by Gov. Branstad); Honorary Colonel in the Iowa Militia; 2002 Republican Service Award in Dickinson County; the Outstanding National Volunteer Award 1986; Harold Morgan Award 1985, and Who's Who in American Politics, 18th Edition.

She was a proud member of the Class of '41. One hundred and thirteen (113) of them were friends and remained friends all of their lives. She loved her Book Club members and her Bridge Gals!

She loved politics and looking for good candidates and then helping them get elected. She was fortunate to meet nine (9) presidents (Eisenhower, Carter, Nixon, Ford, Reagan, G.H. Bush, G.W. Bush, Clinton, and Trump) and at least three (3) great governors of Iowa, who became her friends (Bob Ray, Terry Branstad, and Kim Reynolds).

But she just wanted to be a good wife and mom, and grandma! She will be dearly missed by all of her children, their families, her friends, and all those she served and worked with!

Vergene is survived by her son Jim Donovan (Charmaine), daughter DeEtte (Donovan) Bryant, son Scott Donovan, seventeen (17) grandchildren, twenty-two (22) great-grandchildren, and eight (8) great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Edward B Donovan;

her parents; her brother, Darrell; her sister, Lois (Jim Dunigan); her son, Edward G Donovan; and her son-in-law, Timothy Bryant. Arrangements are under the care of Turner Jenness Funeral Home

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When I asked hundreds of professionals, "When you think about COVID and how the world has changed, what has changed

THINGS

DESIRE

the most for you and your career?" the answers were strikingly consistent. From every continent and every career path came a shared sense that the world of work — and the world within us will never be the same.

Here are eight powerful lessons that emerged from their stories

1. A Reordering of Priorities The pandemic made many realize

that success without balance isn't really success at all. People spoke of **reclaiming time** for

family, self-care, and reflection. One respondent said, "Everything is not the final thing - family and

our own peace apart from work matter a lot." The frantic pace of achievement was replaced with gratitude for life's quieter moments. Ambition shifted from more to meaningful.

2. The Rise — and Realities — of Remote Work

Flexibility became the new frontier of freedom. Remote work opened possibilities for parents, caregivers, and anyone seeking better integration between work and life.

But that freedom came with a cost: disconnection. Many said they missed hallway conversations and spontaneous laughter. As one person reflected, "Flexibility is great, but it's harder

to connect with coworkers on a personal level." The future belongs to those who master both — the autonomy of remote life and the belonging of shared experience.

3. Technology Became Our New Workspace

Almost overnight, the world learned to lead, teach, and col-

laborate through glowing screens. Platforms like Teams, Zoom, and Slack became the lifeblood of business. Professionals became more tech-savvy, more ef-

ficient, and more global. Yet something was lost — the spark of in-person creativity. "I became more efficient," one respondent wrote, "but lost the

general awareness that came from simply talking to people." The challenge ahead is to use technology to connect, not just to communicate.

4. Mental Health Came Out of the Shadows COVID made mental well-being a mainstream conversation.

Stress, anxiety, and burnout no longer hide behind closed doors — they're part of the leadership agenda. The blurred boundaries between home and work reminded

us that we are not machines. When people said, "The wave of mental health issues is now

common speak," it was both a confession and a call to action. The healthiest organizations of tomorrow will be those that

care for the whole person, not just the performer.

5. Leadership Was Redefined

The crisis tested leaders in new ways — not on financial results, but on empathy, fairness, and humanity. Managing remotely required trust and transparency. One

manager wrote, "It was a headache trying to navigate what can and can't be remote while being fair to my team.' Others discovered compassion as a superpower. "It made me

more caring for people impacted by my decisions."

True leadership after COVID means less command and more connection.

6. Purpose Took Center Stage

When the world stopped, reflection began.

People reconsidered what they were working for. Some went back to school, started businesses, or pivoted

toward causes like sustainability and service. "The space COVID brought was priceless," one person said,

describing how the pause led to a deeper sense of meaning. Purpose — not position — has become the new measure of

a successful career. 7. Reinvention Became the Norm

Careers became more fluid than ever. People changed jobs, industries, even entire identities. "I left one institution for another," one shared. Another said,

"I've had multiple jobs since 2020." The "great resignation" was really a "great reevaluation."

The lesson: in a changing world, adaptability is not optional — it's essential.

8. Gratitude for the Ordinary

Perhaps the most unexpected theme was gratitude — for normalcy, for simple joys, for being together. "Increased appreciation for in-person time," one respondent

said. After so much distance, people rediscovered how precious proximity is — a handshake, a coffee, a smile. The pandemic blurred our days but sharpened our apprecia-

tion for the present.

In the End

What these voices reveal is not just how work changed, but how we changed. We've learned that balance is not laziness, that empathy is

strength, and that technology is a tool — not a substitute for humanity.

We've realized that meaning doesn't come from the hours we log, but from the lives we touch. COVID disrupted our world, but it also recalibrated it. It

taught us that the true future of work is not about where we sit, but about why we show up — to build, to connect, to care, and to matter. If we can hold onto those lessons — balance, empathy, adapt-

ability, and gratitude — then perhaps this difficult chapter will leave behind not just scars, but wisdom. Check out my website for FREE resources and more at www.

therivercoach.org **NEWBOOK** "Things We Desire" coming out 3 November 2025. Preorder at Amazon or any major book retailer.

is scheduled for Saturday, November 1st, at 5:30 PM and will take place at Oak Hill Outdoor, located at 2188 IA-86 in Milford. IA 51351.

The Ducks Unlimited organization, known for its dedication to wetlands and waterfowl conservation, is encouraging area residents to at-

tend for an evening of games & community support.

Admission to the event is \$10 per person, which includes an entry into the evening's door prize drawing. Organizers are inviting attendees to "Bring your friends and family" to support the important mission of preserving and restoring wetland habitats.

The fundraiser is being hosted by the "Marsh Marigolds" chapter, presumably a local women's initiative or committee within Ducks Unlimited.

Tickets can be scanned via a QR code provided on the event flyer. For more information, interested parties can contact Danni at (712) 339-5126 or Lucy at (712) 260-5712.

All proceeds from the Bingo Night are expected to benefit Ducks Unlimited's conservation programs, which are vital for maintaining the natural beauty and ecological health of the region's waterfowl habitats.



Friends of Lakeside Lab Night at the Museum

Thursday, October 30, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm, join the Friends of the Lakeside Lab and the Lakes Area Museum Alliance at the Shimek Stone Lab for an evening showcasing the history of this National Historic District. With rare historic photos and other artifacts, the history of this important Lakes Area institution will come alive.

Lakeside Lab was founded in 1909 by Dr. Thomas Macbride and colleagues from the University of Iowa, for "the study of nature in nature." Ownership was held at first by a private stock company, the Lakeside Laboratory Association. In 1936 the Association deeded the station the state of Iowa, "to be held in trust for the accommodation, promotion, support and maintenance of scientific studies and research."

Visitors may park in the main parking lot just off Highway 86 at Lakeside Lab and enjoy the lighted path to the Shimek Stone Lab. All are welcome.

Caregivers Support Group

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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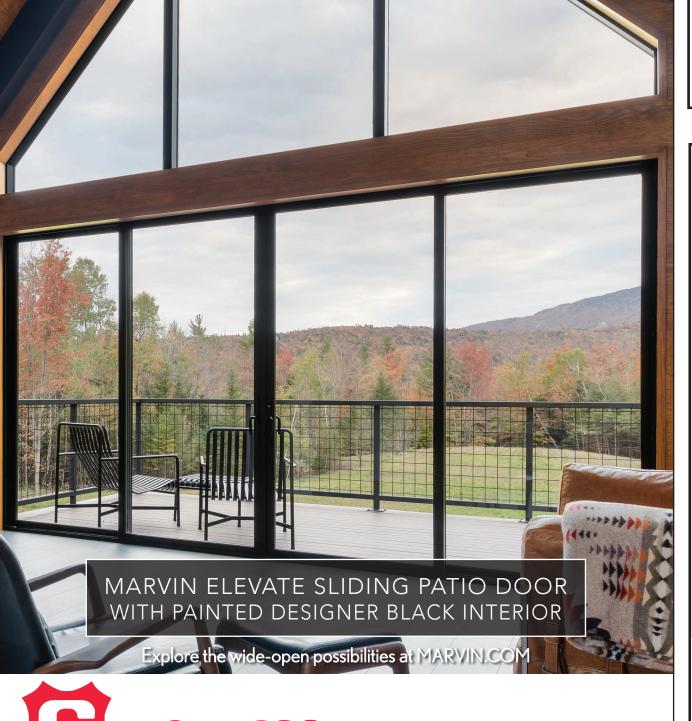


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Walk-Ins always welcome anytime during regular business hours.

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Inspiration for Our Day- "Be strong and of good courage, do not fear nor be afraid of them; for the Lord your God, He is the One who goes with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you." ~Deuteronomy 31:6

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Thursday, November 6 at 10:00 AM Royal Community Center, Royal, IA

195 Acres m/l

Clay County, IA Cropland

Tr. 1 • 40 Ac. m/l • Avg. CSR2: 92.4 Tr. 2 • 114.31 Ac. • Avg. CSR2: 84.7 Tr. 3 • 40.72 ac. • Pasture Land

For information call Ben Hollesen • 712-253-5779 www.midwestlandmanagement.com

Land Auction

Thursday, November 13 at 10:00 AM Milford Community Center, Milford, IA

160 Acres m/

Dickinson County, IA Okoboji Twp, Sec. 17

Excellent

Tr. 1 • 80 Ac. m/l • Avg. CSR2: 95.1 Tr. 2 • 80 Ac. m/l• Avg. CSR2: 95.1

For information call Travis Johnson • 712-330-5345 www.midwestlandmanagement.com

Land Auction

Friday, November 14 • 10:00 A.M. **Ruthven Social Center, Ruthven, IA**

34 Acres m/l

Lost Island Twp., Sec. 21 Palo Alto County, IA

Avg. CSR2: 86.1

For information call Zach Anderson • 712-298-1606

www.midwestlandmanagement.com

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Tuesday, November 18 at 10:00 AM Harris Community Center, Harris, IA

290.35 Acres

Osceola County, IA Sec. 34, Fairview Twp.

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Thursday, November 13, 2025 @ 10:30 AM Auction to be held at the Peterson Legion Community Building

TRACT 1 39.80 surveyed acres in E 1/2 SE 1/4 of Section 31-94-38 TRACT 2 93.54 surveyed acres in E 1/2 of Section 32-94-38

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Land Auction

Tuesday, November 25 at 10:00 a.m. Milford Community Center, Milford, IA

157 Acres m/l

Clay & Dickinson County, IA

Tr. 1 • 77 Ac. m/l • Avg. CSR2: 91 Sec. 20, Meadow Twp, Clay County

Tr. 2 • 80 Ac. m/l • Avg. CSR2: 72.8 Sec. 16, Milford Twp, Dickinson County

For information call Ben Hollesen • 712-253-5779

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LAND AUCTION

100 Acres Dickinson Co.

Section 11 Silver Lake Township Friday, November 7th - 10:00 am Lake Park Community Center, Lake Park, IA

Productive cropland & recreational wetland 74.91 crop acres - Great soils CSR2 86.3 Located 3 miles north of Lake Park Cropland, wetland, and home site



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LAND AUCTION

146.3 Acres Clay County **Section 2 Summit Township**

Wednesday, November 12 - 10:00 am Milford Community Center, Milford, IA

Outstanding all tillable farm CSR2 92.4

Offered in two tracts: 71.8 acres & 74.5 acres Prime location 1 mi west of Fostoria on B14 Take a look at this one! Jon Hjelm ALC



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LAND AUCTION

OSCEOLA & DICKINSON CO.

Wednesday, November 19th - 10 am Lake Park Community Center, Lake Park, IA

80.7 Ac Osceola Co - Sec 4 Harrison Twp Great looking all tillable farm - CSR2 79.1 One mile NW of Business Corner

81 Ac Osceola Co - Sec 5 Harrison Twp Gently rolling nearly all tillable farm - CSR2 84.6 One mile NW of Business Corner

92.4 Ac Dickinson Co - Sec 3 Lakeville Twp Attractive all tillable farm - CSR2 78.5 One mile west of Vick's Corner on Hwy 9



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Kenue Coffee Hour Take a trip across the world with your cup of coffee at Kenue

Coffee Hour on Thursday, November 6 at 10:30 a.m. held at Maser Monarch Lodge.

This month's speaker will be Ashley Scheve, who will share about her first-hand experience with the Peace Corps in Paraguay.

Scheve will also share about the Peace Corps, its mission, and various projects she assisted with while



abroad. Along with stories, the audience will be able to take a closer look at some unique items from Paraguayan culture and learn a few phrases in one of the native languages, Guarani.

"The Peace Corps plays an important role in global conservation and education," said Amy Heibult, community relations coordinator of the Dickinson County Conservation Board. "It's inspiring to hear about someone's personal experiences from

beyond our region!" Enjoy a light coffee bar and good company while listening to an intriguing and educational presentation. All adults are invited to attend the free event hosted by the Dickinson County Nature Center on the first Thursday of the month. Find more events and programs at www.dickinsoncountyconservationboard.com.



16, at 2 p.m. as part of the 2025–2026 Estherville Performing Arts Series.

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Two Priests and Some Lutherans with Glenn Henriksen, Father Paul Kelly, Father David Hemann & Bill

Iowa Lakes Community College will welcome Glenn Henriksen, Father Paul Kelly, Father David Hemann, and Bill Hansen to the Janice K. Lund Performing Arts Center on Sunday, Nov.

The ensemble will present Two Priests and Some Lutherans, an afternoon of wit, warmth, and musical surprises. Combining storytelling, humor, and heartfelt music, the program captures the beauty and spirit of the seasons in a way that uplifts and entertains audiences of all ages. Henriksen, Kelly, Hemann, and Hansen are well-known throughout the region for their performances, blending musical talent with an engaging stage presence that brings audiences back year after year. Their concerts are a tradition for many, offering a mix of laughter, reflection,

Tickets on sale now - \$15 for adults (free admission for Iowa Lakes students and all children) online at: https://www.ticketleap.events/tickets/iowa-lakes/songs-of-the-seasons or call

For more information, contact: Jessi Strom, Performing Arts Center Promotions and Opera-

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tions, Iowa Lakes Community College at 712-362-6977 or jstrom@iowalakes.edu.



Okoboji Foundation Announces 2025–2026 YIP Class

Local high school students join forces to learn, lead, and give back

The Okoboji Foundation is proud to announce the 2025-2026 class of Youth in Philanthropy (YIP) students, representing Spirit Lake, Okoboji, and Lake Park schools across Dickinson County. Now in its 16th year, the Youth in Philanthropy program was created in 2010 to engage and educate the next generation of philanthropists—teaching students not only about giving, but also about leadership, community needs, and the power of collaboration.

Each year, students in grades 9-12 apply through a competitive selection process to join the program. Once selected, they meet monthly at a different nonprofit site to explore the mission and impact of local organizations while also learning about the Okoboji Foundation's role in connecting donors and nonprofits to create lasting community impact.

Throughout the year, YIP members gain hands-on experience in fundraising, grantmaking, and community engagement. In April, the students read, score, and distribute grants funded by the money they raise collectively throughout the program year.

This year's class held their first meeting in October and have already begun prospecting potential donors to help them reach their fundraising goals. Initial donor letters will go out in early December, followed by personal phone calls and visits through the winter months.

"Each year, we are inspired by the passion and creativity these students bring," said Mindy Gress, President of the Okoboji Foundation. "They remind us that philanthropy is about more than money – it's about time, talent, and the desire to make a difference right here at home."

Last year, the YIP class raised a record-breaking \$112,000, bringing the program's cumulative total to more than \$649,000 granted to 34 local nonprofit organizations since its inception—an extraordinary testament to youth leadership and community generosity.

The current YIP Fund Drive runs through March 31, 2026, with YIP Grant Awards to be announced in May 2026. All donations are welcome. If you do not receive a personal fundraising letter and would like to connect with a YIP student, please contact the Foundation at info@okobojifoundation.org or call 712-332-7177, and a student will be assigned to reach out.

First row: Riley Meyer, Karna Droegmiller, Nora Conover, Ada Conover, Gemma Tamisiea, Jada Vander Wolde, Sydney Rahe, Luka Martin, Reece Logan, Addison Munson, Summer Stoller. Second row: Elah Brouwer, Ella Kasperbauer, Bethany Frostestad, Peyton Bosch, Cadence Carlson,

Isla Nelson, Cecelia Harris, Anabel Sinz, Elanor Sinz, Anthea Leupold, Norah Danbom. Third row: Cruz Nitchals, Ethan Weston, Calan Peters, Dexter Peters, Trey Vander Pol, Jacob Neuharth, Colton Johnson, Wesley Evans, Asher Wipperfurth, Cruz Naatjes, Cole Donnenwerth,



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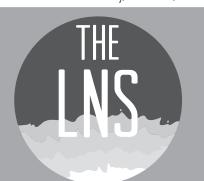


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Thanks also to Mary, Karen and Shawn. They did a super job serving our guests delicious food and beverages. Also to our children Denise & Don and daughter-inlaw Diana for planning this great party. Plus grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

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- Commitment to safety procedures and responsible material handling
- · A positive, team-first attitude with a willingness to learn and grow

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- your expertise in molding and composites
- No two days are the same—every project brings a new challenge and opportunity

Ready to Apply?

If this sounds like your kind of job, we'd love to hear from you! Please send your resume, examples of relevant experience, or even photos of your past work if available.

Apply today at Matuska Supply Company 3735 Hwy 71 Spirit Lake, IA or send resume to matuskataxidermy@gmail.com



LAKES ART CENTER **HELP WANTED: VOLUNTEER & DOCENT COORDINATOR (PART-TIME)**

Join our team at the Pearson Lakes Art Center! We're hiring a Volunteer & Docent Coordinator to recruit, schedule, and support volunteers for exhibitions, events, and educational programs. This flexible, parttime position averages 5 hours per week (some weeks more, some less) and pays \$15/hour.

PEARSON LAKES ART CENTER - OKOBOJI. IA

Ideal candidates are organized, friendly, and passionate about the arts and community engagement. Responsibilities include volunteer outreach, coordination with staff, scheduling, onboarding, and fostering a welcoming volunteer environment.

Interested? Email a brief statement of interest and qualifications to: Katie Rensink, Office Manager katie@lakesart.org 712-332-7013 | www.lakesart.org

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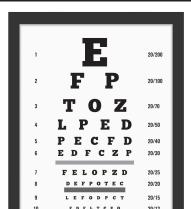
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The day will begin at 11:30 AM with the traditional Presentaholiday. Lunch service will commence at 12:00 PM.

Local veteran's organizations are joining forces to host their annual Veterans Day Program and Lunch, a community event

dedicated to honoring the service and sacrifice of our nation's

The John W. Kidd VFW Post #4514 and the American Legion

Timpe Post #23 will co-host the event on Tuesday, November

11, 2025, at the Lakes Area Activity/Senior Center (2101 Zenith

Ave, Spirit Lake, IA). tion of Colors, followed by a short program to commemorate the

Free meal for veterans—tickets required.

Thanks to the generous donations received from the community, a free lunch will be provided to 40 veterans who secure a ticket in advance.

Veterans must receive a ticket prior to the event to be eligible for the complimentary meal. Tickets are available for pickup at the following locations: Spirit Lake VFW/Legion, Milford Legion, Lake Park Legion, Lakes Area Activity/Senior Center Reservations mandatory for all others.

While the day is dedicated to our veterans, the community is encouraged to attend the program and lunch to show their support. However, due to limited space, reservations are required for spouses and all other interested attendees.

Those wishing to attend the program and lunch must call for a reservation by noon on Thursday, November 6, 2025.

Arts on Grand Upcoming Classes

A list of fun upcoming classes being offered at Arts on Grand. Class information can be found on our website www. artsongrand.org.

Mindful Art 2.0



Saturday, November 1, 10:00am-Noon Rope Bowl Workshop

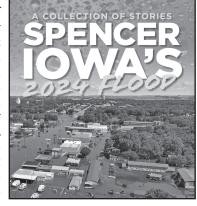
Thursday, November 6, 5:00-6:30pm Mindful Art 1.0

Tuesday, November 11, 6:00-8:00pm Gel Printing with Household Items Thursday, November 20, 5:00-7:00pm

A Collection of Stories: Spencer, Iowa's 2024 Flood

When the Ocheyedan and Little Sioux Rivers converged and surged on the morning of Saturday, June 22, 2024, Spen-

cer, Iowa, was forever altered. Following days of relentless rain, the water rose and violently swept into neighborhoods and the historic downtown in just a few hours. This flash flood required an estimated 600 to 800 water rescues, as local officials, neighbors, and volunteers raced against the rising tide. The bloated rivers and flooded storm sewers engulfed more than two-



thirds of Spencer's homes, churches, and businesses, claiming the life of one out-of-town visitor. Amidst the chaos, many found a small measure of peace that the dark, murky waters arrived during the day. This anthology, presented by Arts on Grand of Spencer, collects the urgent, firsthand accounts—written by the residents, rescuers, and volunteers—who recognized the need to preserve the personal stories and historic details of their community's most fateful day.

Learn more about the historic flooding in Spencer, Iowa, and unite rescuers with rescues, Friday November 7, at Occasions 4-7pm. Located at 104 E. 4th Street in Spencer, Iowa. Books are available to purchase that night or visit Arts on Grand to purchase yours today.

The evening will feature an array of appetizers and beverages and is free to the public. Everyone is welcome. If you do not have your copy of this special book, they will be available

The committee appreciates the part you played in this disaster and hope you will do us the honor of attending.



Milford Memorial Library Youth News

Ghouls, goblins, princesses, and cowboys, remember to stop by Milford Memorial Library during Trick-or-Treat with Milford Businesses on Friday, October 31, from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. We will have plenty of treats sponsored by the Friends of the Milford Library Foundation.

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.

- November 3, 10:30 a.m. Fish Friends with Iowa Lakeside Laboratory
- November 10, 10:30 a.m. Got Your Goat? • November 17, 10:30 a.m. – Harvest with special guests
- from Okoboji FFA • November 24, 10:30 a.m. – Imagination It's Milford Memorial Library's All-Day Play on Monday,

November 3! From 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., discover new and exciting toys while playing with friends. This is a free Y.A. MAKER MONDAY come-and-go playtime. All the

toys are provided by the library. On Monday, November 3, MML's Y.A. Maker Monday will have supplies to make a mousetrap clip. Fourth through twelfth graders are invited to create this unique craft from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. This is a free come-and-go activity.

An open meeting of the Board of Trustees for the Milford Memorial Library will take place on Wednesday,

November 5, at 5:30 p.m., 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 thoughts in order to make MML



MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3 9:30 A.M. -4:00 P.M.

Veterans Day Program and Lunch Make a Splash for Spencer!

For years, a splash pad in Spencer has been a community dream—and now we're closer than ever. The City of Spencer has already pledged funding, and the project is in its final planning stages. Now, we need your help to reach our \$500,000 goal and make the Spencer Splash

Pad a reality! Splash pads bring tremendous benefits to their communities. They encourage healthy, active play for all ages and abilities in a safe environment, foster social connections for

hance community well-being. The Spencer Splash Pad will be located at the Riverview

families and visitors, and en-

Complex, next to the Spencer Aquatic Center. It will feature an 1,800 square foot kids' zone with exciting, interactive water features and a separate 1,000 square foot toddler area designed for children ages 2-5, along with shaded family seating for relaxation and connection. Construction is anticipated to begin in 2026 with completion in 2027.

The future of the Spencer Splash Pad depends on community support. This is our moment to make a lasting impact. We've dreamed, we've planned, and now it's time for action. Every single donation, no matter the size, matters. Please consider donating to help make this Splash Pad a reality! Visit https:// givebutter.com/gYmls7 or scan the QR code to donate today!

New Humane Society Van **Drives Mission Forward**

The Humane Society of Northwest Iowa is thrilled to announce the arrival of our beautiful new transport van — made possible through the incredible generosity of the Dickinson County Endowment Fund (DCEF), Great Lakes Motor Company, and Amy's Sign Design.

The kindness of these community partners means the world to us. Their support ensures that HSNWIA staff can safely transport animals to vet appointments, adoption events, and rescue situations, all while carrying a message of hope and compassion across Northwest Iowa.

Every trip in this van is a reminder of what can be achieved when caring people come together for a shared mission. Yet, despite this overwhelming generosity, we still face a funding gap related to the uncovered costs of the van purchase. If you'd like to help us close this gap and continue driving our mission forward, please consider making a donation to:

Humane Society of Northwest Iowa, 607 28th Street, Milford, Iowa 51351. Or visit our website at humanesocietyofnwia.com/ why-adopt to make a secure online contribution. "From all of us at HSNWIA, and from every cat and dog

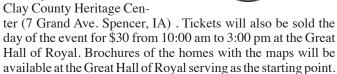
who will travel in this van. Thank You for believing in our work.

Your generosity truly changes lives." 2025 Tour Of Homes

Arts On Grand and Clay County Heritage will be hosting the 2025 Tour of Homes, providing a lovely segue for the holiday sea-

son, on Saturday, November 15 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Four uniquely decked homes will be included on the tour; presenting a variety of homes in the Royal area as well as the Royal Museum and Great Hall of Royal.

Tickets are \$25 beforehand and are available at Arts On Grand (408 Grand Ave. Spencer, IA) and the Clay County Heritage Cen-



Tickets will not be sold at each home - please redirect yourself to the Great Hall of Royal, 300 1st Ave E, on November 15th for tickets.

The following homes will be on tour to visit in any order:

Jeff & Lvnn Cronk Larry & Cecilia Pedersen Pete & Emily Widvey

Matt & Sara Ricke To find out more, please contact Arts On Grand at 712-262-



Soup lovers at the annual Knights of Columbus Iowa Great Lakes Council 5043 Soup and Dessert Supper. This year's event gets underway Sunday, November 2 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Spirit Lake.

Knights of Columbus Soup Supper

Often imitated, but never duplicated, the Iowa Great Lakes Knights of Columbus Council 5043 will hold its annual Soup Supper Sunday, November 2. This year's event will be held at St. Mary's Parish Hall. Two shifts will be served, with the first from 4:00-5:15 p.m. and the second from 5:30-7:00 p.m. Proceeds go toward helping others in the community.

The menu will feature five soups - vegetable beef soup, chicken noodle soup, sauerkraut and sausage soup, chili, and ham and bean soup - as well as delicious dessert. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for children 6-12 years. Children 5 and under are free. Tickets are limited . . . only 400 will be sold this year. For tickets or more information, please call 712-330-8892.

Iowa Great Lakes Council 5043 is one of the most active in Iowa, in the past two years contributing more than \$18,000 to local community needs, including Hope Haven, Iowa Helping Hands Fund, Special Olympics, American Wheelchair Mission, the Grotto of the Redemption, Cherish House, as well as to local family, community and parish needs.

Spirit Lake Knights sponsor annual youth events including the Free Throw Competition and the Knights of Columbus Spelling Bee. They also run the Tootsie Roll Drive for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities Labor Day weekend, and new this year was a hamburger cook out for RAGBRAI.

The Knights of Columbus is an international Catholic family fraternal service organization with 1.9 million members in more than 16,000 local councils, with each Knight called to live a life of charity, unity, and fraternity. Last year, Knights donated more than 49 million volunteer hours and nearly \$200 million to charitable and benevolent causes, sponsoring projects to benefit their church, councils, communities, families, and youth. A few examples of their work include distributing 8,891 wheelchairs, supporting more than 1,200 pregnancy resource centers and maternity homes, and giving nearly 181,000 coats to help warm children in need.

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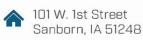


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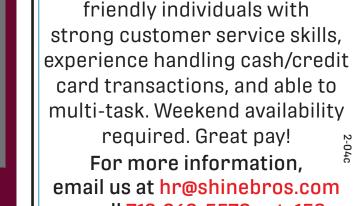
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by Jill Jennings

is a good time to find some cozy indoor activities. The Spirit

Lake Public Library can help you with that! We have a paperback

book and puzzle exchange that can provide you and your family

just to the right of the curbside pick-up cart. The paperback books are organized alphabetically by the author's last name. These

work well for out-of-towners, people who do not have a library

card at the SLPL, someone going on vacation, snowbirds, etc.

Keep the books as long as you like, and return them if you want

to. If you have some paperbacks to donate, you can leave them

one. There are a few puzzles on the paper back shelf in the

entryway, but most of them are inside the library. There is a

designated puzzle shelf just to the north of the circulation desk.

Help yourself to a puzzle or two anytime the library is open. If

you bring in puzzles to donate or exchange, we ask that they are in the original box, in very good condition, and have all

the pieces. We believe that the puzzles we have available are complete, but if after you take one home you find that it has

Take a look at our paperback and/or puzzle exchange. I think

SLPL staff reading spotlight: Seattle is reading Final Offer

Monday, November 3, 1:00-3:00 p.m., Mah-Jongg

Tuesday, November 4, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Quilters

Wednesday, November 5, 12:30-4:00 p.m., Quilters

Thursday, November 6, 10:011:30 a.m., Block Party Thursday, November 6, 1:00-3:00 p.m., Mah-Jongg

you will find one or two you will want to take home! We are

open Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Friday,

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

missing pieces, feel free to keep it or throw it away.

(Dreamland Billionaires, #3) by Lauren Asher.

Upcoming Activities At SLPL:

The puzzle exchange works the same way: bring one, take

on the shelf or pop them into the book drop.

The paperback shelf is located in the entryway of the library,

The days are growing shorter and chiller, which means now

Library News

3-04P

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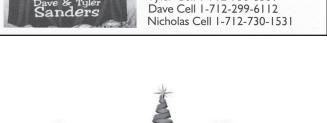


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Estherville Mobile Food Pantry The mobile food pantry from the Food Bank of Iowa is

returning again. The free distribution will take place from 4-6 p.m. Thursday, November 6, 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 October Food Bank, 638 indi-

viduals (215 families) received 9,700 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.

Adopt a Family for Christmas

difficulties, Upper Des Moines Opportunity, INC. would like to brighten your Christmas.

The Upper Des Moines Opportunity Outreach Office is accepting applications for our Adopt a Family program, now through December 8th. Please stop in our office at 1575 18th Street Spirit Lake, IA to pick up your application or you may call our office at (712) 336-1112.

For more information on how to Adopt a Family or contribute to our program, you can also call the UDMO Outreach office at (712) 336-1112.

Names of all applicants and adopters are confidential.

Dickinson County Recreational Trails

www.dickinsoncountytrails.com





Trail Connection at Clay-Dickinson

Clay County Connection Receives More State Rec Trails Funding

Funding recommendations for the 2025 State Recreational Trails Program were presented at the Transportation Commissioner's meeting in October with Phase III of the Clay County Connection receiving high marks and endorsement to award DCTB's request of \$295,000. Overall, the project is an integral part of the 135-mile Iowa Great Lakes Connection Trail, one of Iowa's five trails of statewide significance, that will link several existing trails and lakes in Northwest Iowa.

Clay County completed its final 3 miles to connect with Dickinson County last year, and the DCTB wrapped up construction on the first 1.5-mile segment going south from Milford this month. The new funding from the State Recreational Trails Program will enable the DCTB to build the last 1-mile segment of Phase III next year as well. The Clay County

Connection is divided into three phases totaling 4.5 miles, to date the projects have garnered over \$2.1 million in state, federal and local foundation grants.

34th Annual U Of O Oktoberfest Bike Ride

We could not have asked for better weather on September 27 for the Annual U of O Oktoberfest Bike Ride! Hundreds of riders enjoyed a gorgeous day cruising around West Lake Okoboji, taking in the fall colors and lake views. This fun-filled event continues to

W UNIVERSITY OF OKOBOJI

be a favorite for bicycling enthusiasts from near and far.

Proceeds from the ride benefit Dickinson County Trails and support the continued development and maintenance of our local trails system. The DCTB extends sincere grati-

tude to the Iowa Great Lakes Chamber for their outstanding efforts in organizing the weekend's festivities and making this event such a success year after year.

Pictured: Morgan Strauss with the Iowa Great Lakes Chamber presents a check for \$2,500 from the 2025 Oktoberfest Ride to Erin Reed with the DCTB.

Cycling Is Big Business In Iowa The Iowa Bicycle Coalition's recent study, Economic Impact of Cycling In Iowa's 99 Counties reveals some exciting numbers: cycling and multi-use trails in Iowa generate an estimated \$1.4 billion in annual economic impact. That is up significantly from a previous estimate of roughly \$365 million from 2012.

Along with dollars, the study found that the cycling/trails sector supports over 21,000 jobs across Iowa and generates roughly \$690 million in wages statewide. It also contributes tens of millions in

state tax revenue through income and sales tax.

When people have places to ride, with safe, accessible, scenic routes, they ride. And when they ride, they stop, spend, explore, and talk about our community. This means

new foot traffic for Main Street, new visibility for local businesses, and a stronger case for trail expansion and maintenance. Locally, that means \$9.1 million in economic impact for the Iowa Great Lakes region. Investing in trails isn't just good for recreation - it's good for business, community health, and local pride. Learn more about the recent

study at *iowabicyclecoalition.org*. As always, Happy Trails to You and Yours. Erin Reed, DCTB Executive Director



WISHES TO THANK THEIR 2025 SPONSORS:





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Walker Custom Ice Rods/Freedon Baitz

MASTER ANGLER (\$500-\$999) 59 Power Sports Accurate Financials Accounting Anderson's Manitou Falls Camp Antiques of Okoboji Campbell Higgins & Mummert P.C. **Century Mutual Insurance** City View Farms, LLC **Deberg Construction DeLoss Construction Denison Drywall, Inc. Edward Jones - Amy Hotovec Everly Lions Club Fareway Hartley Lions Club Hennings Tackle LLC Home State Bank Johnston Autostores Kris Johnson Construction**

Lakeland Insurance - Luke Langner McKeen's Pub & Grill **No Limits Outdoors** Northwest Wealth Management P & H Cabinets Perkins Plumbing & Heating **Peterson Lion's Club Royal Lions Club** Shuck's Lures Spencer Office Supply/JCL Solutions **Spirit Lake Kiwanis Sunshine Foods United Community Bank Waubay Lake Guide Service Woodchisel Construction** TROPHY (\$250-\$499) **Arnold Motor Supply Big Fin Guide Service** C & B Operations - C & B Powersports

Christians Sheet Metal Crone Electric **Culligan Soft Water Custom Welding and Repair, Inc Dave's Sand and Gravel. Inc Dean and Maria Jacobsen Doran Ag - Pioneer Doris Wilson Farmers Savings Bank** Got Fish, LLC dba Soo Sports **Greg Drees Kabele's Trading Post Kyle Norris Leisure Outdoor Adventures Midwest Land Management & Real Estate**

Nolin Milling, Inc. **Northwest Glass, LLC Quality Refrigerated Services Rooster's Guide Service Scott Hanson ShoreStation of Okoboii Sioux City Scheels Spencer Women of Today Terry and Pat Thomsen The Prime Rib Tri-State Litho Wine Bar & Art Gallery** Winther, Stave & Co., LLP NICE CATCH (\$125-\$249) Algona Marine & Sport, Inc. **American Legion Glen Petersen Post 31 Asher Motor Company Avera Medical Group Beck Engineering, Inc.**

Boji Custom Metal Works Bridges Bay Resort C-S Agrow **Dale or Sandra Lagner** Dean Seeds, LLC **Del's Garden Center** Evertek, Inc. FNIC **H & N Chevrolet Buick Hawkeye Construction Hinn Real Estate Hubbard's Cupboards Ingwersen Family Chiropractic, LLC Integrity Real Estate** J & J Remodeling, Darwin and **Brenda Johnson** Janet Thomsen **Jimmy Jays Productions**

Krebsbach Landscaping Kuchel Homes Lakes Marketing and Print Lundbeck Service Matuska Taxidermy, Inc. Mediacom **Premier Communications Prins Plumbing & Heating, Inc** Sister's Mainstreet Café Stan's Bait and Tackle **State Bank and Insurance Steffes Companies, LLC** The Concrete Guys, Inc The Lodge on Main **Titan Machinery Toft Electric Treimer's Insurance Agency VFW Post 3159 Walker Insurance**

IN 2025, WE HOSTED OR ASSISTED WITH 22 YOUTH FISHING EVENTS AND

Mr. B's Flooring

Nelson Jewery

New Century FS

We try our best to recognize all of our sponsors and donors. If we did miss your business, please contact us and we will be sure you are added on the 2026 list. We also had several groups donate after our deadline, and they will be included on next year's list.

HAD OVER 900 KIDS PARTICIPATE! AT ALL OF OUR EVENTS WE TRY TO MAKE SURE EVERY CHILD RECEIVES FISHING EQUIPMENT/TACKLE!







JMI Firearms

ANNUAL DIF

THURSDAY, NOVEMBE IN HONOR OF VETERAN'S DAY ON NOV. 11 **Special Door Prizes for Veterans**



Scan this QR **Code to enter** our Raffle & to view full list of Prizes!

5:30 - Doors Open

6:00 - Free Pizza

HOSTED BY

FISHING CLUB

7:00 - DNR Presentation

Free to all Iowa Great Lakes Fishing Club Members

\$10 for non-members

This will be very informative and include updates on area DNR projects

2188 Hwy 86 - Milford

RAFFLE FUNDRAISER

- 40 RAFFLE PRIZES WORTH OVER \$21,000
- FEATURING A SNOW DOG SPORT & MULTIPLE HIGH-END FISHING ELECTRONICS
- MONEY RAISED TO SUPPORT LOCAL YOUTH FISHING EVENTS
- DRAWING HELD AT EVENT (DO NOT NEED TO BE PRESENT TO WIN)
- FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK FOR MORE INFORMATION



The IGLFC is asking for your help to get young people introduced to fishing and to keep them interested in fishing. Young people are the future of our sport, and, at our events, we try to make sure they have a positive experience, so they will remain interested in our sport.

NICE CATCH - \$125 - \$249

TROPHY - \$250 - \$499

MASTER ANGLER - \$500 - \$999

HALL OF FAME - \$1,000 or above

Name listed on Online Calendar of Events page Name listed in Annual Newsletter (400+) Name listed on IGLFC Facebook page periodically

Includes everything in Nice Catch category Name listed on Banner present at selected events Includes everything in Trophy category Company logo on Banner present at selected events Company logo on Online Calendar of Events page

Includes everything in Master Angler category Name and logo on IGLFC Facebook page periodically Special Recognition at all Hosted Events

lowa Great Lakes Fishing Club is a 501c3 Charitable Organization – TIN 47-2986281 705 Grand Ave, Spencer, IA 51301 – Call Terry Thomsen 712-260-3382 or Dean Jacobsen 712-260-4853 with questions