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50 YEARS

THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER™

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"Because Fish Don't Care What You Paid!"

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Hours:
Monday - Friday 8am-6pm
Saturday 8am-5pm
Sunday 11am-5pm

Closed Thanksgiving Day

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THE FIRST 50 CUSTOMERS TO PURCHASE A FRABILL FOAM BUCKET AT $8.99 WILL RECEIVE
50% OFF ANY ITEMS YOU CAN FIT INTO THE BUCKET!
- All items must fit in the bucket with the lid closed.
- No other discounts apply
- Sale does not include ice jigs, batteries & jiggers
- 1 bucket per customers

70% OFF ASSORTED* REELS, RODS & COMBOS
*Limit 3 per customer while supplies last.

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Enjoy our
SKIN CARE FEAST
One Ticket Per $100 spent

Enter our....
Skin Care Feast
ONE TICKET PER $100 SPENT
LIMIT OF 10 TICKETS
November 2025
ADMIT ONE
TICKET: LUCKY WINNER

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EXION LIP PACKAGE...4 treatments. $1,400 value
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BLACKSTONE

SALE $899.00
Weber® Smoque™ XL or Searwood™ 600 Wood Pellet Grill
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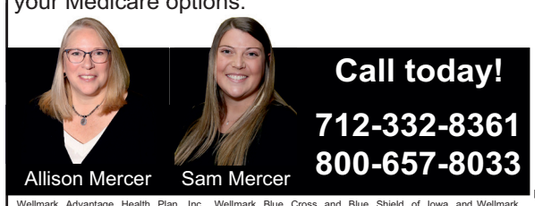

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Ireland, Scotland, England, Iceland, Italy & Spain
Black Friday Sales **BOOK NOW!**
Call Sandy: 712-336-4580

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.



Sunshine Foods

Salad Bar











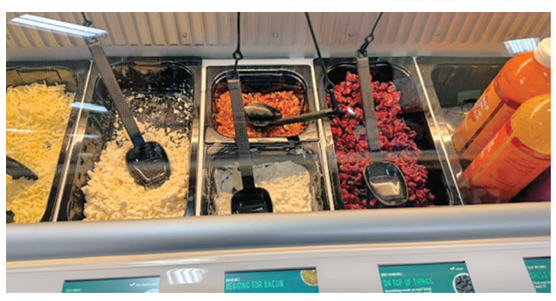



Picadeli Salad Bar located in
Sunshine Foods • North Milford
1704 Okoboji Avenue

Get in the GAME!

THE LNS THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER

U-PICK-EM FOOTBALL CHALLENGE

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

THIS WEEK'S GAMES ARE BROUGHT TO YOU BY:



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LUNCH: Mon.-Sat. 11-2
DINNER: Mon.-Sat. 5-9
HAPPY HOUR: Mon.-Fri. 3-6
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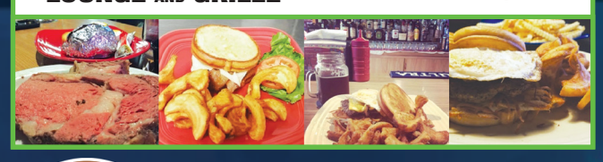

GAME #3 Texas A&M at Texas

blink MARKETING
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GAME #4 Arizona at Arizona State

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GAME #5 Iowa State at Oklahoma State

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GAME #6 Ohio State at Michigan

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GAME #7 Vanderbilt at Tennessee

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GAME #8 Bears at Eagles

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Behind the Great Lakes Mall
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GAME #9 49ers at Browns

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GAME #10 Saints at Dolphins

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GAME #11 Vikings at Seahawks

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GAME #12 Rams at Panthers

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GAME #13 Bills at Steelers

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Excludes Senior/Kid's Menus and Bakery.
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GAME #14 Broncos at Commanders

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GAME #15 Giants at Patriots

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2 TIE BREAKERS: Total Score Iowa vs. Nebraska:_____ AND Total Score Vikings vs. Seahawks:_____
Name:_____ Town:_____ Phone Number:_____ Email :_____
One entry per person per week. The Lakes News Shopper U-Pick-Em Pigskin Challenge runs weekly through the December 12, 2025 issue.
The winner will be whoever picks the most correct games. For rules go to: LakesNewsShopper.com



VanderPol Bags First Bow Buck – Trey VanderPol of Milford, Iowa, recently shot his first deer, an Iowa White Tail 2025, 8-point buck with his bow.

If you would like to submit a photo of your big hunting prize, please send email that with the information to news@LNSprint.com

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THE LAKES NEWS Auctions
Page 4B

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STOP IN FOR BLACK FRIDAY DEALS ON NEW CARTS!
(2) 2019 Yamaha Drive2, electric..... $3,300
2017 Club Car Precedent, electric,lift kit, wheels.. ..... $3,000
2014 E-Z-GO, electric, new batteries $2,450
2008 E-Z-GO, electric, 70% batteries $1,650
2006 E-Z-GO, electric, 1 year old batteries..... $1,950
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NEW & USED GOLF CARTS
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SAVE NOW
GIVE YOUR HOME THE GIFT OF A NEW GARAGE DOOR!
Eligible Models:
• Bridgeport Steel
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• Gallery Steel
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3-Layer Models ONLY
THIS OFFER IS VALID FOR ELIGIBLE PURCHASES FROM NOVEMBER 28 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2025.
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Clopay LiftMaster POWERED BY myQ
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SALE ENDS DECEMBER 8, 2025
up to 60% OFF LIST PRICES in-store and online!* | Several Other Black Friday Only Offers! See store for details!
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85W 62D 40H
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MON.-FRI. 8AM-5:30PM,
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1710 ITHACA AVE, SPIRIT LAKE
MON. CLOSED, TUES.-THURS. 11AM-5:30,
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BLACK FRIDAY SALE

okoboji POOL COMPANY

10:00-5:00

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Sundance® Spas
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SHOP SMALL LOCAL

SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 29

Winter Games Cheerleader Nominations Sought

In the true spirit of community fun and recognition, the University of Okoboji Winter Games Committee is giving the public the opportunity to nominate someone to serve as a 2026 University of Okoboji Winter Games cheerleader. Nominees must be 21 years of age or older and a resident of Dickinson County.

Each nominee should exhibit:

- a ready smile, generous heart and good nature
- an enthusiasm for all that our University of Okoboji campus has to offer and
- a sincere desire to give their time and talent to enhance the quality of life in the Iowa Great Lakes Area
- someone who is involved in volunteerism in our IGLA Community

Eight selected cheerleaders will cheer, cheer, cheer for O-K-O-B-O-J-I during the 46th Annual University of Okoboji Winter Games presented by WestO Beer on January 22-25, 2026.

Nomination forms are available at *uofowintergames.com* under the "Cheerleader" tab or at the Chamber office in Arnolds Park. The deadline for nomination forms is at 5 PM on December 31st, 2025. For more information contact the Iowa Great Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce at 712-332-2107.

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GREAT LAKES MALL , SPIRIT LAKE
OPEN MON-SAT 10-5:30

Hinn Real Estate Welcomes Bryan Sebastian

Hinn Real Estate is pleased to announce a new member of their Real Estate Team! Introducing Bryan Sebastian of Spencer, Iowa. He is a born and raised Spencer native where he owned and operated the KFC in Spencer prior to joining the real estate world in 2017. Bryan has 3 adult children: Mitchell, Leanne and Nick. He enjoys all types of motorsports racing and exploring new restaurants and food. Bryan has always been service-oriented for his customers and clients where he brings his 8 years of experience to Hinn Real Estate with their new office in Spencer and also in Spirit Lake. If you are looking to purchase your forever home or need to sell an existing property, give Bryan a call today! 712 240 6613.



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GREAT STYLES FRIENDLY SMILES

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OLD JEWELRY IS EASY MONEY!

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• Faust Institute of Cosmetology
• Fashion Formula
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• Spirit Lake Silver & Gold
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Happy Thanksgiving


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Sizes Petite-Plus Available
Monday-Saturday 9-5
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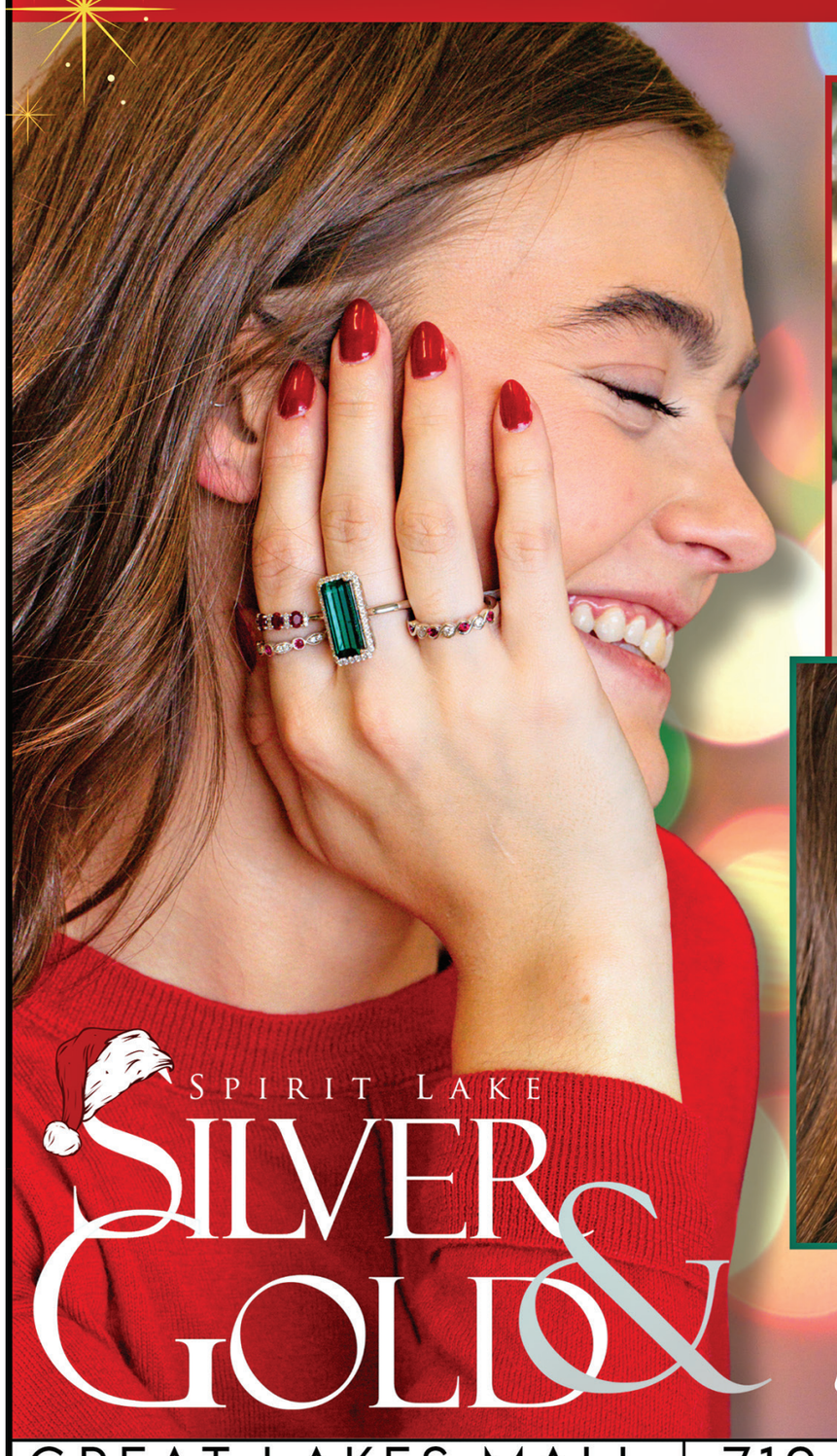
LIGHT UP YOUR HOLIDAY WITH COLOR!








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Holiday sales event

The Gift of Togetherness

OPEN BLACK FRIDAY AND SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY 10AM-3PM





Breeo Double Flame FIRE PIT
50% OFF
Original Price $599
$299*

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50% OFF Original Price $5,173
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67% OFF Original Price $5,868
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*While Supplies Last - Now Thru Christmas

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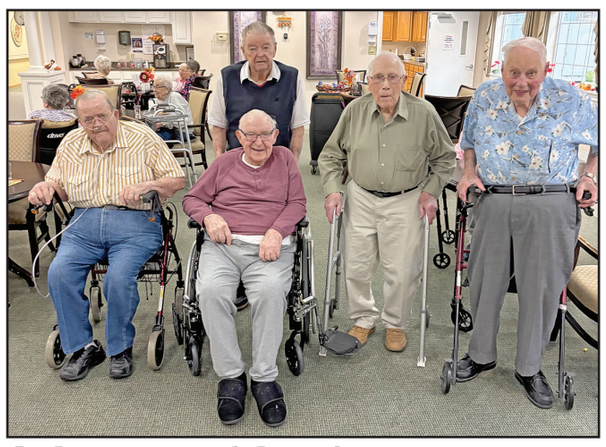

A Century of Service: Milford's Veteran Residents

Five veterans were gathered recently at Stonebridge Suites Assisted Living in Milford, Iowa. From left to right, they are: Gordon Tanderum (89), who served in the Army for two years; Aubrey LaFoy (100), an Army veteran of WWII who served for 2.5 years; Blaine Pedersen (95), who served in the Air Force for two years; Ted Carpenter (102), a Navy Airborne veteran of the South Pacific who served for 25 months; and Virgil Wahlman (96), who served a total of eight years in the Air Force and the Army.

They all enjoy playing BINGO at 2:00 PM every Wednesday with the rest of the residents at Stonebridge Suites.

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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, December 4, at the Good News Estherville Church. The food will be distributed inside the church. Recipients are asked to bring bags, laundry baskets or boxes to carry the food. At the November Food Bank, 738 individuals (261 families) received 10,690 pounds of food. The Food Bank of Iowa partners with 700 agencies in 55 counties to distribute 2.5 million pounds of food each month, so that no one goes hungry in Iowa. If you have questions, call the Good News Estherville Church at 712-362-4984.





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Family Services Resource Guide

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

THE LAKES NEWS Auctions Page 4B



Engagement Announcement

Annabella Dietrich and Tyler Adams are delighted to share the exciting news of their engagement!

The couple first met while attending Wartburg College in Waverly, Iowa, where Tyler was playing basketball and Annabella was playing soccer. Their relationship successfully navigated the challenge of long distance when Tyler moved to Ames to attend Iowa State University the following year. Tyler proposed on the green of Emerald Hills Golf Course, and Annabella said YES this past May!

Annabella is the daughter of Daniel and Amber Dietrich of Jesup, Georgia. She is currently finishing her Physical Therapy Doctorate Degree at Des Moines University, and is set to begin her professional career at Lakes Regional Healthcare in Spirit Lake in January of 2027.

Tyler is the son of John and Michelle Adams of Arnolds Park. He works locally as a Financial Planner for Prairie Plans, and resides in Milford, where he also enjoys helping coach the Okoboji High School boys basketball team.

The couple is planning a wedding celebration on Saturday, August 8, 2026, at First Lutheran Church in Milford with a reception at the Waterfront to follow. They are looking forward to celebrating their special day with all of their cherished family and friends.

The Lakes News Shopper Wants to Share Your Joy! Send your favorite engagement photo and announcement details to news@LNSprint.com. This service is offered complimentary.

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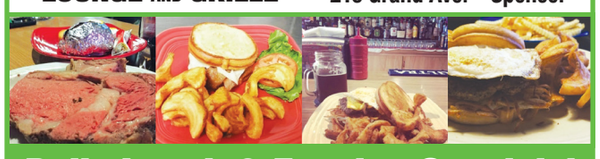

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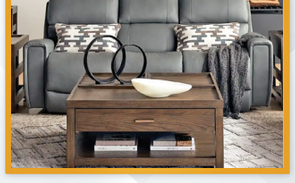

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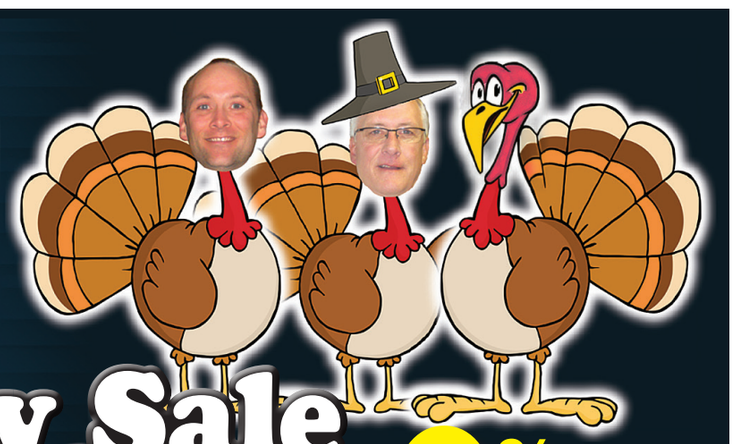

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Community Health Center of Spencer Invites Community Support on Giving Tuesday

Community Health Center of Spencer is proud to participate in Giving Tuesday, December 2, 2025, joining millions around the world in a Global Movement of Generosity. Celebrated annually on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving, Giving Tuesday encourages individuals, businesses, and organizations to give back and support meaningful causes within their communities.

Community Health Center serves patients across Spencer, Fort Dodge, Mason City, Dayton, Eagle Grove and Clarion. As a Federally Qualified Health Center, CHC provides access to quality healthcare for everyone—regardless of insurance status, income, or background. The clinic accepts Medicare, Medicaid, and most major insurance plans and offers a sliding fee scale for those who qualify.

"For many of our patients, financial barriers can make accessing basic healthcare difficult," said Renae Kruckenberg, CEO. "Giving Tuesday provides an opportunity for our community to come together in support of those who need it most. Every contribution helps ensure that cost does not stand in the way of receiving essential medical care."

Funds raised through Giving Tuesday will support CHC patients who need assistance with nominal fees, prescriptions, transportation, and other necessary health-related expenses. These donations directly impact individuals and families who rely on Community Health Center for accessible, affordable care.

"As an organization committed to strengthening community health, we welcome and appreciate any support received on Giving Tuesday," said Dawn Dahm, Office Manager. "Your generosity helps us continue our mission of providing high-quality care to all who walk through our doors."

Community members who wish to contribute can make a donation in any of *the following ways:*

- *Online: Visit www.chcfd.com*
- By Mail: Send contributions to Community Health Center of Spencer, 223 W 7th St., Spencer, IA 51301
- Drop-Off: Donations may also be delivered directly to the Spencer clinic during regular business hours.

Every donation, large or small, helps strengthen access to healthcare for those who need support the most.

For questions or more information, please contact Regina Suhrbier, Outreach Coordinator at *rsuhrbier@chcfortdodge.com* or (515) 576-6500.

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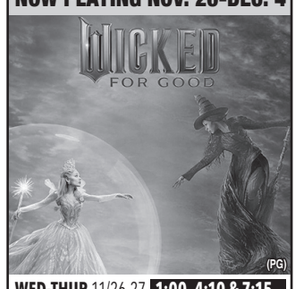
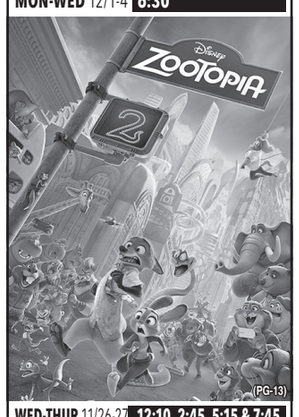


WED-THUR 11/26-27 1:00, 4:10 & 7:15
FRI-SAT 11/28-29 12:20, 3:25, 6:30 & 9:30
SUN 11/30 12:30, 3:40 & 6:50
MON-WED 12/1-4 6:30



WED-THUR 11/26-27 12:10, 2:45, 5:15 & 7:45
FRI-SAT 11/28-29 10:50, 1:30, 4:10, 6:50 & 9:40
SUN 11/30 11:50, 2:20, 4:50 & 7:25
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DAILY SPECIALS at 11am

DAILY SPECIALS

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- Thur., Nov. 27: CLOSED, Happy Thanksgiving!
- Fri., Nov. 28: Mushroom & Swiss Burger, Country Fried Steak
- Mon., Dec. 1: Hot Beef, Taco Salad
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Friday Night Special
Fish Fry / 10 oz. Ribeye

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Sun.: 11am-7:45pm

HAPPY THANKSGIVING
We will be closed on Thanksgiving and open regular hours on the weekend.

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Milford Memorial Library News

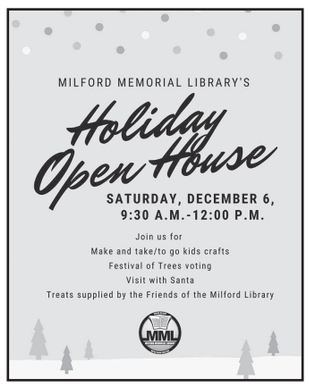
On Saturday, December 6, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., you are invited to Milford Memorial Library's Holiday Open House during Milford's Holiday Fantasy. Come and enjoy kids crafts (make and take or to go), visit with Santa, Festival of Tree Voting, and treats provided by the Friends of the Milford Library.



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.

- December 1, 10:30 a.m. – Jump, Jump, Jump
- December 8, 10:30 a.m. – Kittens
- December 15, 10:30 a.m. – Library
- December 22, 10:30 a.m. – Merriest Time of Year
- December 29, 10:30 a.m. – New

Friday, December 5, is the last day to bring in your tree to Milford Memorial Library for the Festival of Trees! Judging will be on Saturday, December 6, during Holiday Fantasy. Categories are the following: Best Business, Best Personal/Family, Best Organization, Most Creative, and Librarian's Choice. Each category winner will receive Milford Bucks from the Friends of the Milford Library. If you have any questions please contact the library by calling 712-338-4643 or by emailing *milfordlibrary51351@gmail.com*.



Starting Friday, November 21, "Fill the Cart" for Dickinson County Upper Des Moines Food Pantry will begin! We are collecting non-perishable food items at Milford Memorial Library until Friday, December 13. Help us fill their cupboards.

On December 1, join MML for Y.A. Maker Monday! From 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Young Adults can create a 3D Paper lamp or lantern. All materials are provided for this free come-and-go activity.

Come and enjoy MML's All-Day Play, on December 1, from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Spend time with friends and playing with different toys during this come-and-go playtime. All materials are provided by the library.

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Eat LOCAL
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Enjoy LOCAL

It takes YOU to start a Trend

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lakesnewsshopper.com

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

Lakes Area Senior/Activities Center Events

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

Blood Pressure Screening is the last Tuesday of every month.

Tai Chi at 11:00am and Zumba class at 4:30pm on Thursday.

MahJong - 1st and 3rd Mondays at 1:00pm.

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

Chair yoga every Friday at 10:00am.

They also have pool and ping pong available.

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

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Nominate Someone Today!

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The Spirit Lake Noon Kiwanis Club needs your help selecting this year's Citizen of the Years! Do you know a deserving person in our community that has dedicated years of volunteer service to others? This is a very distinguished honor that our Kiwanis club has bestowed upon an area resident, since 1947!

Help us recognize those that have given of themselves tirelessly and unselfishly to make this a better community. If you know of someone that you would like to be considered, please email *slnoonkiwanis@gmail.com* for a nomination form. The deadline is December 10th!

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Lakes Area Activities/Senior Center Wish List

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- Postage stamps
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Lakes Area Activity/Senior Center
Stop in and see what we have to offer!!!

SPEAKERS
TUES., DEC. 2 at 12:30pm- Nature Center Topic: Animal Diets
TUES., DEC. 9 at 12:30pm- Owen Primavera WWII

CLOSED NOV. 27TH & 28TH

Happy Thanksgiving!
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Kiwanis Bingo Nights

The next Milford Kiwanis Bingo Night will be Thursday, December 11. 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.

Gottsche to Celebrate 80th Birthday

Longtime area resident, Peggy Gottsche, will celebrate a significant milestone next week as she turns 80 years old on November 25.

Gottsche is a familiar face to many, having grown up in Arnolds Park. For years, she worked in the medical field as a nurse for the well-known local physician, Dr. Don Rodawig.

Warm wishes for her 80th birthday can be sent by mail to: Peggy Gottsche C/O: Aspire Nursing Home 2001 1st Ave N Estherville, IA 51334

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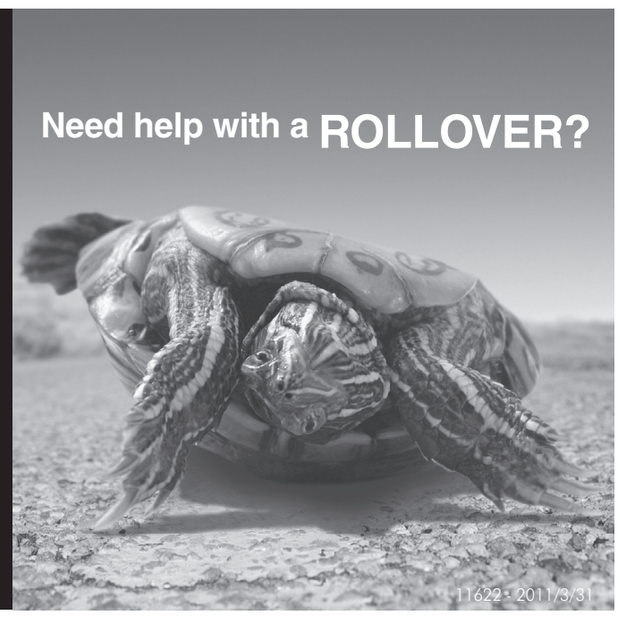

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

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

To the Editor:

Concentration camps, really. I don't remember any letters from you, Mr. Christensen, calling Obama a Nazi when he and Biden were putting children in cages during their administration. During their administration over 3 million illegal immigrants were deported and no complaints. The only thing that has changed, the Trump administration is deporting illegals. I'm not sure why the hatred for Trump, but I feel sorry for you. It must be a miserable life when you have nothing better to do than treat your fellow citizens, most of them you don't even know, with such disdain. I guess you think it is okay to give illegal immigrants free health care, free housing and free education when you have American citizens living in the streets or paycheck to paycheck. I have no problem with having to prove that you are a U.S. citizen to receive any benefits from your local or federal government. Immigration, you bet, just do it legally. You complain that Trump is not bringing costs down, but no complaints about the Biden administration killing energy and causing the worst inflation in American history. Biden spent four years screwing things up, it's going to take more than nine months to get it fixed. As for the Epstein files, Biden had four years to release them and didn't do it. You and your fellow democrats keep throwing stuff at the wall hoping something will stick. If there was something in these files that would implicate any wrong doing by Trump, you better believe it would have been released long ago. In case you weren't paying attention, congress voted to release the Epstein files and Trump signed off on it. How much better could things be if the democrats would stop the hate and work with the Trump administration just a little bit. I held a High-Level Top-Secret security clearance while working for the National Security Agency during my 20 plus years in the military. I'm sure glad they didn't find out that I was a Nazi, probably would have totally screwed up my military career!

Don Origer
US Army Retired
Milford, IA

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View From The Bench

by John Adams, Jr.

September Cyclones Rock, Chalk Jayhawks

The last time that Iowa State won a home football game was September 28th when they rolled what is now an 8-3 Arizona team, 39-14 in Jack Trice Stadium to improve to 5-0 and move to #14 in the national rankings. We all know what has happened since then, a ton of injuries to the defensive backfield, inconsistency on offense, including a banged-up QB in Rocco Becht, some questionable play calling (so easy to do from my couch or seats in Jack Trice), and some penalties and turnovers at inopportune times that all led to a four-game losing streak that was finally snapped last weekend at TCU. The Cyclones looked to send their seniors out in style on Saturday against a Kansas team that had beaten them three straight times, with a quarterback in Jalon Daniels who has been around so long that he played against a Brock Purdy Cyclone team.

It didn't take long on Saturday to see that the Cyclones of September we saw were back in Jack Trice Stadium, as Iowa State took their first two drives and marched down the field, mixing in the run and pass perfectly to take a 14-0 lead with a Becht TD pass to Brent Eskildsen and a Carson Hansen 4-yard run. Becht was definitely back to his September-self as he started the game a perfect 10/10. The defense was flying around, making big plays and held Kansas scoreless in the first half of a game for the first time since 2017. The September Cyclones would make another appearance as Kyle Konrardy, who missed three of the games that ISU lost, booted a 55-yard field goal in the second quarter to give Iowa State a commanding 17-0 halftime lead. The field goal looked very similar to the 54-yard game winner against Iowa from September 6th.

Kansas must have gotten lit up at halftime by coach Lance Leipold, who has resurrected this once dormant program, as the Jayhawks quickly marched down the field and scored in less than two minutes. Iowa State, however, answered with another complimentary drive that ended with the second Becht-Eskildsen touchdown of the day. Kansas, however, would not go away, with another quick TD drive, this one took just 1:17 to trim the lead to 24-14 as Cyclone fans started to get the uneasy feeling that this game could be slipping away like the BYU game. The offense once again answered with a masterful drive that ended with a fourth down, 12-yard touchdown pass from Becht to Ben Brahmer. James Neal would ice the game for Iowa State with an interception in the endzone early in the fourth quarter. Aiden Flora, the hero of the TCU win, would finish things off with a 38-yard touchdown run to give the Cyclones an impressive 38-14 win and have all Iowa State fans thinking we were once again watching our September Cyclones, who were firing on all cylinders and out there having fun once again.

Iowa State improves to 7-4 with the win and travels to Oklahoma State to face the 1-10 Cowboys. If the September Cyclones show up again, they should be able to improve to 8-4 and give themselves an opportunity to become just the third team in program history to win at least nine games with a bowl win. This shows just how high coach Matt Campbell has raised the bar in the program, as many fans, myself included, probably view the 8-4 season as a disappointment, when realistically, we should take a step back and look at all the adversity this team has overcome, how they have stuck together, and how they have come out the other side stronger, and be very thankful to have Matt Campbell and his staff leading our Cyclones!

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Festival of Giving Trees Returns to the Great Lakes Mall

The holiday spirit is shining bright once again as the Festival of Giving Trees returns to the Great Lakes Mall, December 1st through December 24th!



This heartwarming event, hosted by Upper Des Moines in partnership with the Great Lakes Mall, helps collect non-perishable food items for local families in need. Local businesses and organizations "sponsor" and decorate Christmas trees with items most needed by the Upper Des Moines Food Pantry — turning generosity into a festive forest of giving!

Each tree has its own theme, such as a Canned Fruit Tree or Instant Potato Tree, and is decorated to match. Visitors can stop by, admire the creativity, and place their donations beneath their favorite trees.

Two winners will be announced at the end of the event:

- Most Creative Tree
- Most Donations Collected

Both winners will receive $200 to donate to a charity o their choice.

A big thank-you goes out to the businesses and organizations that have already signed up to sponsor trees this year, including:

- El Mariachi – Canned Fruit
- Atlas of the Lakes Area – Canned Soup
- Ladies of the Lake, DAR – Canned Vegetables
- ISU Extension Dickinson County Youth Council – Peanut Butter & Jelly
- Dickinson County Democrats – Pasta Noodles & Sauce
- Hope Haven – Snacks: Crackers, Granola Bars, Popcorn
- Terril Fun Committee – Condiments
- Spirit of Harmony – Cheerios & Honey
- Youth in Philanthropy with Okoboji Foundation- Cereal
- Brown Med - Instant Potatoes
- K-Kids Kiwanis - Pancake Mix & Syrup

There's still room for more! Tree themes still available include Microwavable Meals, Rice Meals, Shelf-Stable Drinks, and Canned Meats.

If your business or organization would like to sponsor a tree, contact Kimberly at *spiritlakesilverandgold@hotmail.com* or call (712) 336-5405 to reserve your spot.

Please have trees decorated by November 30th — voting begins December 1st! (Lights and trees are provided.)

Celebrate the joy of giving, creativity, and community this holiday season at the Great Lakes Mall!

Simply Pristine Clean & Laundry
New!
LAUNDRY SERVICE
Including Pick-Up & Delivery
Schedule to get your holiday linens cleaned & presssed
Follow us on at Simply Pristine Clean
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1207 P. Ave., Milford

NEW JELLY CATS, WOOBLES & LAFUFUS!
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A truly Unique Okoboji Shopping Experience
Books (for all ages) ▪ Cards ▪ Puzzles ▪ Home Accents
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Entire Upstairs for kids
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MONDAY - SUNDAY 9AM-6PM
CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK!
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HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Season of Thanks and Giving
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Stop by and see what's NEW!
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Locally Owned and Operated by Jim & Shari Weideman

Local Performer Joined Disney World's Spectacular

Vanessa Mouw from Spirit Lake High School in Spirit Lake, Iowa, was one of more than 800 high school cheerleaders and dancers from across the country that represented the camp brands of Varsity Spirit in the Varsity Spirit Spectacular at the Walt Disney World® Resort in Orlando, Florida, from November 21 - November 24, 2025.



The individuals invited to perform were part of a select group of captains, co-captains, officers, and seniors who had attended a Varsity Spirit summer camp that summer hosted by Universal Cheerleaders Association (UCA), Universal Dance Association (UDA), National Cheerleaders Association (NCA), National Dance Alliance (NDA), United Spirit Association (USA) and Urban Cheerleading Experience (UCE).

Vanessa performed in an exclusive performance at Disney's Magic Kingdom Park before hundreds of fans. Besides enjoying an exciting trip to Orlando, performers had the opportunity to meet cheerleaders and dancers from across the nation, take part in an exclusive performance, and celebrate the holiday season in the magical setting of Walt Disney World.

"This was my third and final year as an All-American Cheerleader, and it was crazy to think it was coming to an end. These last few years had been an amazing experience and I wouldn't have traded it for the world. The friendships I'd made, the people I'd met, and the places I'd been — I'd loved every second of it. I was so excited to see what that trip had in store, and to give it my all, one last time."

For more information about the Varsity Spirit All-American Program, visit *www.varsity.com*.

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Led By Nicole Stall, Dermatology Certified Nurse Practitioner
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· Purchase a Package of 3 Treatments and Receive a 4th Treatment FREE!
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JACKSON COUNTY LIBRARY
JACKSON • LAKEFIELD • HERON LAKE

Christmas Card Making At The Library

A "Christmas Card Making" event will be held at each of the Jackson County Libraries as the December adult monthly program. The program will be led by Kris Heutinck. Enjoy crafting and creating Christmas cards to send to family and friends. The program will be held at each library location: December 4 from 5:30-7:30 PM at the Lakefield Library; December 6 from 10:00 AM - 12:00 noon at the Heron Lake Library; December 10 from 2:00-4:00 PM at the Jackson Library. All supplies will be provided. Space is limited. Registration is required. Call your local library to register or for more information: Heron Lake 507-793-2641; Lakefield 507-662-5782; Jackson 507-847-4748.

Kenue Coffee Hour

Sip on a warm cup of coffee at Kenue Coffee Hour on Thursday, December 4, at 10:30 a.m. at the Maser Monarch Lodge. This month's speaker, John Varcoe with the American Mountain Men, will speak about how Plains Sign Language was used as a form of communication with Native Americans.



Kenue Coffee Hour is a monthly program hosted by the Dickinson County Nature Center and is free for adults. Enjoy a complimentary coffee bar and some great conversation. No registration is required, and you can find more monthly events under Program/Events at *www.dickinsoncountyconservationboard.com*.

THE LAKES NEWS Auction Calendar

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

Tues., Nov. 25 – 10:15 AM– Estate auction in Amboy, MN. Auctioneers: Kahler & Hartung. 507-236-7629. *www.auctioneer-alley.com*.

Sat., Nov. 29 – 9:00 AM– Large coin auction in Windom, MN. Auctioneer: Gravley. 507-822-0403. *www.auctionsgo.com*.

Tues., Dec. 2 – 8:00 AM– Online auction bidding opens for 80+ acres in LaCross Twp., MN. Auctioneers: Fladeboe. 320-212-9379. *www.ladeboeland.com*.

Wed., Dec. 3 – 10:00 AM– 113.56 acres at auction in Watonwan Co., MN. Auctioneers: Hartungs. 507-236-7629. *www.auctioneeralley.com*.

Wed., Dec. 10 – 10:00 AM– 100 acres at auction in Dickinson Co., IA. Auctioneers: Hjelm, Sikora & Laubenthal. 712-262-3529. *www.theacreco.com*.

Wed., Dec. 10 – 10:00 AM– Online estate auction in Storden, MN. Auctioneers: Christopher. 507-841-3125. *www.christopher-auction.com*.

Thurs., Dec. 18 – 10:00 AM– 148.7 acres at auction in Clay Co., IA. Auctioneers: Midwest Land Management. 712-262-3110. *www.midwestlandmanagement.com*.

THE LAKES NEWS Auctions
Page 4B

THE LNS RECIPE CORNER

Clip this recipe card to save

Grab all the ingredients and more for this delicious recipe at Carstensen's Meat and Grocery.

CARSTENSEN'S Meat & Grocery
712-832-3620 • 201 Market Street • Lake Park

Whole Roast Turkey with Cranberries & Bay Leaves

Serves 15

- 1 whole fresh turkey, approximately 15 pounds, rinsed and patted dry
- 10 tablespoons butter, softened
- 3 tablespoons finely chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley
- 2 tablespoons finely chopped fresh sage
- 2 tablespoons finely chopped fresh rosemary
- 4 bay leaves, plus extra to serve
- 2 large carrots, cut into 1-inch pieces
- 2 large celery stalks, cut into 1-inch pieces
- 2 small onions, quartered
- 4 cups chicken stock, kept warm on stove over very low heat
- 10 ounces fresh cranberries, washed
- Kosher salt
- Freshly ground black peppercorns

Remove turkey from fridge 1 hour prior to preparation. Mash together butter, chopped herbs, 1 teaspoon salt, and ½ teaspoon black pepper in a bowl; alternatively, pulse together in a food processor. Preheat oven to 450° F. Season main cavity of the turkey with plenty of salt and pepper. Stuff cavity with bay leaves and vegetables. Place turkey on a trivet or wire rack set inside a large roasting pan. Rub herb butter all over outside of turkey and season with more salt and pepper. Roast in oven until lightly brown, about 45 minutes. Reduce oven to 350° F and continue to roast until thickest part of thighs register at least 160° F on an instant-read thermometer, 2 to 2 ½ hours; baste turkey every 15 to 20 minutes with warm chicken stock. Remove from oven and let rest, loosely tented with aluminum foil, for at least 30 minutes before serving on a bed of cranberries and bay leaves.

Recipe Courtesy of: Lines+Angles

CARSTENSEN'S Meat & Grocery
712-832-3620
201 Market Street
Lake Park

Dole Golden Pineapple $2.99 each
California Red or Green Grapes $2.99 Per lb.
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17TH ANNUAL Boatload of Toys
NOV 1 – DEC 12
PURCHASE A TOY
New & unwrapped, please!
DROP IT OFF
Parks Marina Okoboji/Sioux Falls or Palm at the Park
RECEIVE A 20% OFF SHOPPING SPREE
Valid for water toys at Parks & Barefoot or Palm apparel
Donate today!
ALL ITEMS WILL BE DONATED TO YOUTH SERVED BY UPPER DES MOINES OPPORTUNITY IN DICKINSON COUNTY
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The Barefoot Bar OPEN 9–3 1 MILE EAST OF FAREWAY
20% OFF HATS BLANKETS YOUTH APPAREL
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NOVEMBER
28 & 29

Scan for tickets & more info

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8:00 pm

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AS SEEN ON...
KILL TONY · NBC · abc · THE COMEDY STORE · Just for laughs · ALL THINGS COMEDY



Congratulations to Stacey Dunker of Jackson, MN for winning Week #13 of our U-Pick-EM Contest. Stacey picked 13 games correctly and edged out 13 other entries who had 11 correct picks. Stacey wins $100 in Fareway Gift Cards compliments of Fareway and The Lakes News Shopper. The season is winding down, be sure to play this week for your chance at $100 in Gift Cards!

A HUGE thank you to all of our sponsors for making this weekly football contest possible!

THE LNS · FAREWAY MEAT & GROCERY

West O Cozy Launch and Winter Games Kick Off

Attendees can get ready to raise a glass and turn on the Winter Games Spirit! The event will take place on Friday, December 5th, from 4-7pm at West O Brewery.

The organization is kicking off the season with a celebration of all things University of Okoboji Winter Games and the debut of this year's official Cozy!

This year's Cozy is described as a rich, malty Czech Dark Lager bursting with warm, comforting flavors: including roasted chocolate, smooth coffee, caramel, toffee, and a hint of toasted bread. It is basically winter in a glass, crafted to welcome the season and spark the excitement leading up to the 46th Annual University of Okoboji Winter Games!

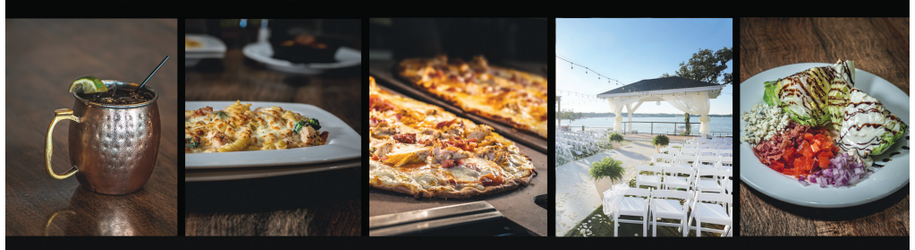


Guests are invited to join for a night filled with great beer, good company, and hometown pride. The IGLA Chamber will also have select apparel on hand, allowing attendees to be among the very first to show off their Winter Games Spirit! Everyone is encouraged to come get COZY... the organizers eagerly await the opportunity to celebrate with the community!

THE WATERFRONT
GRILLE & EVENT CENTER
BRIDGES BAY OKOBOJI



OPEN DAILY



Visit WaterfrontOkoboji.com To Explore All That Waterfront Has To Offer!
610 Linden Drive, Arnolds Park, IA 51331
712.220.3200 WaterfrontOkoboji.com





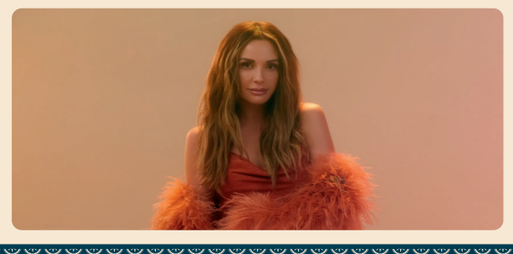
ARNOLDS PARK AMUSEMENT PARK
Lake Okoboji

Happy Thanksgiving!

BLACK FRIDAY
$20 SAVINGS!
2 FOR $63.90
DAY PASSES
RECEIVE 25% OFF ARNOLDS PARK GIFT SHOP MERCHANDISE ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28TH. GIFT SHOP WILL BE OPEN BLACK FRIDAY 1P-5P.

CONCERTS MAKE GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFTS!





PREMIUM SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

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JUNE 18TH 2026

CARLY PEARCE
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SPECIAL SAVE $50!
PURCHASING ALL 5 SHOWS
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Happy Thanksgiving!
Tues-Sat: 10am-4pm | Closed Thursday, 11/27

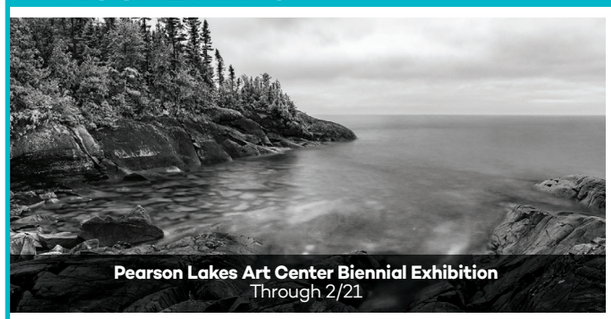
SHOP THE PEARSON LAKES ART CENTER

Friday, 11/28 & Saturday, 11/29
10% OFF ALL MERCHANDISE
Gift Shop • Exhibit Artwork
Give the gift of one-of-a-kind art, artisan goods, and Okoboji-inspired treasures this holiday season.

Looking for gifts that brings people together?
PLAC Gift Cards can be used for merchandise, art classes, workshops, or performances — making memories that last far beyond the holidays.
Gift a PLAC Membership - with discounts on classes, performances, and events for all ages.
Family Memberships start at $75/year

Holiday Open House
Thursday, December 11
Enjoy 10% off merchandise all day — including gift shop treasures and artwork for sale. Stop in for cider and cookies throughout the day.
Evening Gathering | 5–7 pm
Join us in Pomerantz Hall for light hors d'oeuvres and good company as we celebrate the season together.
Stop by the Goodenow Gallery to see new paintings from The Russian & Soviet Impressionism Collection, a gift from John and Karen Goodenow.

VISUAL ARTS


Pearson Lakes Art Center Biennial Exhibition
Through 2/21


What is Disability? Mural Project
Through 2/28

EDUCATION CLASSES
Register online or call 712-332-7029

HOLIDAY TIE-DYE T-SHIRTS
With Holly Zinn Hample
Saturday, Dec. 6 | 10am-11am, 11am-12pm, or 1-2pm
$16/$18 per Shirt | 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.

DECEMBER YOUTH ART CLASSES:
Mini Michelangelo's | K-2nd
Thursdays| 4:00-4:45pm
Dec. 4, 11, 18: Ornament Painting on Canvas
Art Club | 3rd-6th
Thursdays | 5-6pm
Dec. 4, 11, 18: Cloud Painting on Canvas
Teen Art | 7-12th
Tuesdays | 4-5pm
Dec. 2, 9, 16: Trees with Oil Paint
Scan for more info and to register online by 11/26

CULINARY CLASSES
Register online or call 712-332-7029

Wine Class
With Jennifer Tritle-Oitzman of Okoboji Wines
Thursday, Dec. 4 | 6pm | $45/$55
Must register 1 day prior to each class
Wines of Spain



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!

Pictures with Santa & Mrs. Claus 4:30-6:00 pm at The Venue
Please bring a non-perishable food item

Small Parade with a Fire Truck Delivering Santa to The Venue at 5:00

SPIRIT LAKE Chamber of Commerce

HOLIDAY
Window lighting
NOVEMBER 29TH @ 5:00 P.M.
DOWNTOWN SPIRIT LAKE

Kids Can Fill Out a SANTA WISH LIST

Sportsman's & The Venue will have Drink Specials for the Adults!

SHOP Local

VFW Auxiliary Kitchen
Events & Evening Specials

REGULAR MENU AVAILABLE DAILY!

1ST MONDAY - Patron's Potluck | MONDAY - Taco Night
TUESDAY - Dance Night w/ Music & Local Entertainment *Meal at 5, Dance at 6*
WEDNESDAY - Wing Night *Special Hot Sauces by Chuck & Full Menu*
1ST & 3RD THURSDAY - Pork Tenderloin & Fries $10.00
2ND & 4TH THURSDAY - Bingo Night *Meal at 5, Bingo at 6*
FRIDAY - 8 oz. Sirloin, Baked Potato, & Salad $15.00
SATURDAY - Burger Night
SUNDAY - Chislic & 2 Sides *Catch the Games Here!*

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

Hours: Open Daily at 4:00pm
Kids Welcome

VFW Post 4514 Canteen
914 Lake Street • Spirit Lake

OAK HILL OUTDOOR THE HOOK UP MILFORD IA EST. 2019

SIXTH ANNUAL EVENT!
IOWA ICE SHOW
NOVEMBER 29, 2025
9 AM - 4 PM

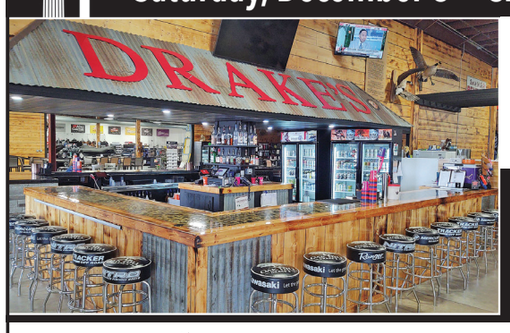
IOWA ICE SHOW REPS
DARRIN JONES - LOCAL ICE ANGLER & IGL FISHING GUIDE
ROD BLAU & RYAN GUBRUD - FREEDOM BAITZ
ERIC TUTT & CORY WINTER - RBM/LE
TRISTEN COX - CLAM • DAN HOUG - COLD SNAP
CHAM CUMMINGS COLD SNAP/JT
DAVID PATTON - 366 OUTDOORS

Join us for our Annual Iowa Ice Show!
Take advantage of our in-store specials while you chat with reps from some of the top brands in the industry. Join us after to kick off the ice fishing season!

UPCOMING LIVE MUSIC & EVENTS at Oak Hill Outdoor - 2188

OAK HILL DRAKE'S

Friday, November 28 • Boone & Lambert • 6 PM
Friday, November 28 • Circus Street Comedy: Lucas Hirl • 8 PM
Saturday, November 29 • Iowa State v. Oklahoma State • 11 AM
Saturday, November 29 • Iowa v. Nebraska • 11 PM
Saturday, November 29 • TBD • 6 PM
Saturday, November 29 • Circus Street Comedy: Lucas Hirl • 8 PM
Friday, December 5 • Circus Street Comedy: Mike Young • 8 PM
Saturday, December 6 • Circus Street Comedy: Mike Young • 8 PM



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FULL BAR • FOOD • NIGHTLY SPECIALS

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THURSDAYS: 3/$6 Tacos Thursday/Karaoke 6-10 PM
FRIDAYS: Live Music Weekly & $4 Crowns!

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HOURS:
Wednesday - Saturday 10am-10pm
Sunday - Tuesday CLOSED



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Holiday Celebration Feast
Feeds Up to 10

Take Home Delicious Pies from Our Holiday Bake Shop
PRE-ORDER NOW!

Holiday Family Meals for 4 - Only $39.99
NEW TURKEY FAMILY MEAL

GOBBLE UP THIS DEAL!



ORDER OUR HOLIDAY TURKEY DINNER
INCLUDES A SLICE OF PUMPKIN PIE!
OUR WAY OF SAYING THANKS TO YOU.



Butterball® Turkey & Dressing for Two
Oven-roasted Butterball® Turkey slices on sage dressing with hearty turkey gravy, cranberry sauce and two dinner sides. $34.99
Our Kids' Holiday Turkey Dinner is also available. Ask your server for details.

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For More Information, call 712-338-2741

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INVITE YOU TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL

CHRISTMAS Luncheon & PROGRAM

Thursday, December 11th
12:30pm

COST: $15.00
RSVP TO 712-336-1649 OR EMAIL OFFICE@FPCSPIRITLAKE.ORG



BETH CROSBY

PROGRAM PRESENTER:
BETH CROSBY
"Celebrate the Gift"

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
3501 HILL AVE.
SPIRIT LAKE, IA 51360

90th Birthday Announcement

Carl Gochnauer will turn 90 on December 1, 2025! He will be celebrating with his family over Thanksgiving. Help him celebrate by sending memories and/or well wishes to 1407 Lakeside Avenue, Lake Park, Iowa 51347.

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

"I will praise God's name in song and glorify Him with thanksgiving." - **Psalm 69:30**

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Jason Petersen, Upper Des Moines Opportunity, with Dave Kollasch, Rob Waterhouse and Johnny Klaschen from the Knights of Columbus.

Knights of Columbus Donate to UDMO

With the increase in families using the local UDMO food pantry, the Iowa Great Lakes Knights of Columbus Council 5043 saw a need in the community and made a quick decision at its monthly meeting to donate to Upper Des Moines Opportunity.

Knights of Columbus Officers presented a check Nov. 11 to Jason Petersen, representing Upper Des Moines Opportunity.

The Knights of Columbus at St. Mary Parish, in Council 5043, would like to thank the Lakes Area residents who support its many activities. The proceeds are used to support a variety of needs in Dickinson County, including Coats for Kid at local schools, local food banks, Special Olympics and families in need.

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, 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.

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 2.1 million members in over 17,000 local councils. Knights provided 1.6 million children with winter coats, brought 243 U.S. service members to Lourdes on pilgrimage, donated more than 158,000 wheelchairs through its Global Wheelchair Mission, and gave more than $325,000 to the formation of men and women pursuing a religious vocation. Knights donated $197 million to people in need and volunteered more than 47 million hours in service.



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big finds from small shops

First Lutheran Church
9/7/2025 - 5/24/2026
SUNDAY Schedule



WORSHIP 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM
FELLOWSHIP 9:30 AM
EDUCATION 9:45 AM
1525 Three Cross Road
Milford, IA
office@3cross.org 712-338-4514 www.3cross.org

HAPPY Thanksgiving DAY

Spirit Lake United Methodist Church



Our theme this year is "Grow Your Heart 3 Sizes" May your heart grow three sizes as we learn together the power of the gift of Christmas!

NOVEMBER 30: LIGHT & PEACE
ADVENT WORSHIP 8:30 & 10:30 AM

DECEMBER 3: WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY
MEAL & WORSHIP 5:30 PM AT WESLEY PLACE

DECEMBER 7: GRACE & HOPE
ADVENT WORSHIP 8:30 & 10:30 AM

DECEMBER 10: CHILDREN'S PROGRAM
5:45 PM FOLLOWED BY POTLUCK

DECEMBER 14: LOVE & TREASURE
ADVENT WORSHIP 8:30 & 10:30 AM
FUN CHRISTMAS SWEATER SUNDAY

DECEMBER 14: IN THE SPIRIT
A CELEBRATION OF THE SEASON EVENT AT OKOBOJI BREWING COMPANY. LIVE MUSIC, FOOD, CRAFTS FOR KIDS 2:30-4:30 PM

DECEMBER 17: WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY
MEAL & WORSHIP 5:30 PM AT WESLEY PLACE
BLUE CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERVICE 7:00 PM

DECEMBER 21: FORGIVENESS & JOY
ADVENT WORSHIP 8:30 & 10:30 AM

▪ DECEMBER 24 ▪
CHRISTMAS EVE
CANDLELIGHT SERVICES
3:00 PM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP
5:30 PM CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

DECEMBER 28: PRAISE GOD!
ONE WORSHIP SERVICE 9:30 AM

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Holiday Fantasy

2025 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Raffle tickets can be purchased at: Boji Junction, The Coffee Shop, Milford Hy-Vee Pharmacy, and Boji Ware Apparel and Gifts.

Saturday, December 6

8:30 am to 10:30 am | **Holiday Bazaar**
At St. Joseph Catholic Church

9:30 am to 12:00 pm | **Milford Library Open House featuring the following:**
Voting on the Festival of Trees - Prizes will be awarded.
Free Holiday Crafts For Kids
Free Treats Sponsored by the Friends of the Milford Library
10:30 am to 12:00 pm | Visit with Santa (Bring your own camera)

TBA | **FREE Holiday Merchant Matinee: "Sing" (2016)**
At Milford Pioneer Theatre (Sponsored by the Milford Commercial Club)
Visit milfordpioneertheatre.com for details

11:00 am | **Holiday Fantasy Parade**
10:30 am | Parade line-up at St. Joseph Catholic Church parking lot

11:30 am to 12:30 pm | **FREE Chili & Soup—Milford Community Center**
Raffle tickets available to purchase at the Milford Community Center

12:00 pm | **Raffle Prize Drawing—Milford Community Center**
Raffle Prize winning numbers will be posted on the MCC website. Need not be present to win.

1:00 pm | **FREE Music Bingo—Milford Community Center**
VIP DJ & Karaoke presents HitMix Bingo! Featuring Patrick Doll
Chance to win Milford Bucks

See milfordcommercialclub.com for details.

Grand Prize Raffle Gifts
(1) $500 Gift Card to your choice of MCC Member Business
(1) $150 Shopping Spree at Sunshine Foods
(1) $100 Gas Card to Boji Junction Cenex
(1) $100 Gas Card to Okoboji Gas Company
(1) $100 Gas Card to Brew
... and much more

Food Drive
Ongoing Food Drive for Dickinson County Upper Des Moines at Milford Memorial Library
Let's fill their cupboards for the holidays!

The Milford Commercial Club would like to remind everyone to shop locally this year, and have a very happy holiday season!
Events Subject to Change



ATLAS INVITES YOU TO THE 2ND ANNUAL
Auction Fundraiser
AT
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Thursday 12/4 5-7PM
Lakes ATLAS
PLEASE Join the auction!
Shop for Christmas while enjoying food and fellowship
All proceeds go to help ATLAS support clients in the area with a hand UP, not OUT!



Local Banks Celebrate the Success of Fraud Prevention Seminar

Bank Midwest, Central Bank, Farmers Savings Bank, Northwest Bank, and local law enforcement representatives are pleased to announce the success of their recent Fraud Prevention Seminar. This free event, designed to educate and empower individuals with the tools and knowledge needed to safeguard their financial well-being, was held at the Waterfront Grille & Event Center in Arnolds Park. The seminar attracted a strong turnout from community members and featured expert speakers, practical advice, and actionable strategies for fraud prevention.

The event emphasized the banks' commitment to supporting the community by addressing the increasing threat of financial fraud. Attendees gained valuable insights from industry professionals who covered essential topics such as recognizing common scams, protecting online accounts, securing personal information, and responding effectively to suspicious activity.

This collaborative effort among local banks highlighted their shared dedication to the community and their unified focus on providing education and resources to help individuals navigate financial challenges. Events like the Fraud Prevention Seminar reflect their collective mission to empower individuals to take proactive steps in protecting their financial security.

The banks extend their gratitude to all who attended and offer special thanks to guest speaker Jenica Lensmeyer from the Iowa Bankers Association, local law enforcement, and representatives from each participating bank for sharing their expertise. Additional appreciation goes to Blain Andera for leading the Q&A session, as well as KUOO Radio, Lakes News Shopper and Spencer Daily Reporter for their support in promoting the seminar.

Through events like this, Bank Midwest, Central Bank, Farmers Savings Bank, and Northwest Bank continue to demonstrate their commitment to fostering a financially secure and informed community. For more information about fraud prevention resources or future community events, please contact your local bank. Member FDIC.

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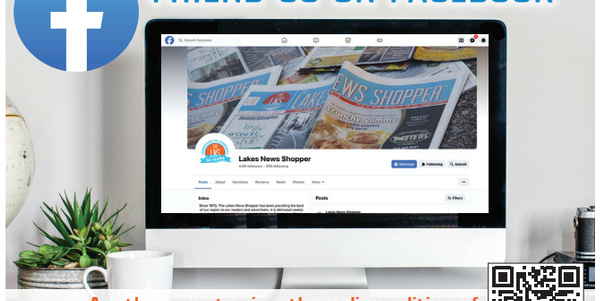

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At Boji Doors, a family-owned and operated company serving NW Iowa and SW Minnesota, they understand that a new garage door is more than a purchase—it's a smart investment in your property's future.

Boost Your Curb Appeal Instantly. An old, dented, or outdated garage door can drag down the entire look of your property. Replacing it with a custom-designed, beautifully crafted door from Boji Doors offers an immediate, dramatic transformation. They blend expertise with passion to create a welcoming and stunning entrance that elevates your home's aesthetic.



Photo courtesy of - Rylan Howe Photography

Custom Craftsmanship: Offering intricate custom designs, premium materials, and diverse styles—from classic carriage house to sleek modern steel—ensuring your new door perfectly complements your home's architecture.



A Lasting First Impression: A new door signals to neighbors and potential buyers that your home is well-maintained and cared for, creating a powerful positive impression right from the curb.

Garage Doors offer the Best ROI for Home Improvement Projects. When considering a home renovation, homeowners naturally look for the best return on investment (ROI). Year after year, replacing a garage door consistently ranks as one of the highest ROI home improvement projects nationwide. Recent industry reports, like the Remodeling magazine's Cost vs. Value Study, show that a garage door replacement can deliver an astounding return of over 260% on the investment cost, far surpassing projects like major kitchen remodels or window replacements. This makes a new garage door installation by Boji Doors arguably the most financially savvy renovation you can choose.

The Boji Doors Difference: Choosing Boji Doors means you are partnering with a local, trusted expert committed to quality and community. With over 10 Years of Experience in swift, professional installation and custom design, Boji Doors offers quality you can trust: Their garage doors enhance security, improve energy efficiency with better insulation, and offer reliable, quiet operation. Boji Doors offers competitive pricing and free design estimates to help you make the best decision for your home.

Ready to unlock the full curb appeal and financial potential of your property? Contact Boji Doors today to start designing your custom garage door and invest in the upgrade that truly pays you back. Contact them at 712-330-9806 or visit their website. www.bojidoors.com to see their latest work! Boji Doors is an authorized Amarr and Clopay dealer, owned and operated by Josh and Jenna Snyder.

Caregivers Support Group

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

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

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

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



Obituary

A memorial service for Gary Kastrup, age 80, of Estherville, was held Saturday, November 22, 2025, at Calvary United Methodist Church in Arnolds Park.



Gary Lou Kastrup, the son of Loren and Esther (Sittler) Kastrup, was born on December 20, 1944, in Spirit Lake, Iowa. He graduated from Arnolds Park High School in 1962 and later studied finance while serving in the United States Army.

Gary served in the Army from October 1966 until September 1969. During his service, he spent time in Germany, earned the rank of Sergeant, and was honorably discharged.

Over the years, Gary held a variety of positions, including work with Marigold, the Spencer Reporter, Fisherman's Factory Outlet, and B&B Distribution. He also built a long and successful career in the cosmetology and salon industry. He was a sales consultant for Redken, Paul Mitchell, Nioxin, and other salon product lines, worked with models at hair shows, and put on many shows of his own. He owned two salons and later concluded his career at Polaris Industries on the ATV line and with Victory Motorcycles.

Gary was a member of the Methodist faith. He was active in several political and civic organizations throughout his life, including the John Birch Society, GOP, Oath Keepers, Constitution Party, Minutemen, Patriots Group, and Republican Party.

In his free time, he enjoyed hunting, fishing, politics, attending parades, music, dancing, and singing karaoke.

Gary passed away on Friday, November 7th, at Avera McKennan Hospital in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, after a courageous battle with cancer. Now he is doing all these special things with his family and friends in Heaven.

Those left to cherish his memory include his wife, Sandy; sister, Kathi Davis; sister-in-law, Joanne Kastrup; nephew, Michael (Jeff) Kastrup; brother-in-law, Barry (Orene) Cressler and their children; mother-in-law, Inez Thomsen; and a host of friends.

Gary was preceded in death by his parents, Loren and Esther Kastrup; brother, Kent Kastrup; brothers-in-law, Andrew Davis and Terry Cressler.

Arrangements are under the care of Turner Jenness Funeral Home.

Obituary

A funeral service for Mary Mittag, age 86, of Spirit Lake, was held Monday, November 24, 2025, at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Estherville. Burial was at Lakeview Gardens Cemetery in Spirit Lake. All memorials given in memory of Mary will be used to fund scholarship opportunities for students pursuing a degree in Education.



Mary Jeanette Mittag, age 86, passed away peacefully on November 15, 2025, at the Good Samaritan Society in Estherville, Iowa. She was born on December 26, 1938, in Cresco, Iowa, to Irvin and Mary (Bieri) Curtis. Mary attended country school through the 8th grade and graduated from Cresco High School with the Class of 1957. She graduated from ISU in 1961 with a degree in vocational home economics from Iowa State University-a field she was passionate about throughout her life. Her first teaching position was in Postville, Iowa.

On December 27, 1961, she married Lawrence Slifka, and together they welcomed three children: Kaaren, Julie, and Paul. They made their home in Swea City where Mary taught for thirty-four years at the North Kossuth Consolidated School District, retiring in 1997.

On June 5, 1992, Mary was united in marriage to Dennis Mittag. They moved to Spirit Lake in 2003 where they settled on East Okoboji.

Mary had a deep connection to her family farming roots and in her youth was active in her 4-H community serving as County 4-H President. She was active in numerous community organizations throughout her life including 4-H judging, serving on the Miss Kossuth Winnebago Scholarship Pageant Board, the Manson library board, Altar Society, Catholic Daughters of America, the American Home Economics Association, and the state board for the Iowa Peer Helping Association. Mary was a faithful member of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Milford.

Mary enjoyed quilting and lovingly made quilts for each of her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. She also found joy in scrapbooking, card making, gardening, genealogy, picnics, and attending Iowa State alumni events. Her love of travel took her to many places, with a particularly meaningful trip to Poland, where she volunteered with Habitat for Humanity to help build an apartment.

For more than fifty years, Mary was known as the family historian. Her greatest joy always came from her family, and she loved to support her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren in all their activities.

Mary is survived by her husband, Dennis Mittag; daughters, Kaaren (Jamie) Rogers and Julie (Mike) Hansen; son, Paul (Heather) Slifka; stepdaughters, Sara (Keith) Deitering and Corinne Mittag; sister, LuAnn (Phil) Sosalla; brothers, Ward Curtis and David (Shelly) Curtis; eight grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents and her sister-in-law, Judy Curtis.

Arrangements were under the care of Turner Jenness Funeral Home.

Adopt a Family FOR CHRISTMAS

Adopt a Family for Christmas

If you are a Dickinson County family experiencing financial 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.

Save Turtle Lake Project Gets Underway

by *Steve Weisman*

One excavator bucket at a time, the dredging of Turtle Lake has begun with work contracted with Superior Seawalls, Docks and dredging, which is located in Illinois City, IL, directly across the Mississippi River from Muscatine, IA. They have completed dredging projects throughout the Midwest, including Iowa.

The process being used is called mechanical dredging, using heavy equipment like excavators and dredge barges to physically remove sediment (silt) from the lakebed. This method is suitable for larger sediment volumes and areas with easy access.

A little history

As mentioned in earlier articles, Turtle Lake was created in the early 1900s as a canal system connecting Millers Bay, Emerson Bay and Spencer Beach. Originally dredged in 1910, over the past 100+ years, sediment has accumulated to the point that now the lake is only a couple feet deep. This has decreased navigation and led to a silted in weed-choked system with poor water quality. In addition, over the years, two original islands have simply disappeared into the water.

Over the past few years, a Save Turtle Lake Committee has been formed to restore the waterway to its original 6-8 foot depth, restore the shoreline, improve water quality and enhance the habitat for wildlife. Fundraising over the past year has secured the funding to dredge the main part of Turtle Lake from bridge to bridge.

According to Tim Ireland, a volunteer with the Save Turtle Lake committee, "It's important to note that Turtle Lake is a full public access lake while most funding for this phase was provided by members of the Lakewood Park Association along with generous grants from the Sherwood Foundation and the Andrea Waitt Carlton Foundation. In addition, other lakes area community supporting organizations and individuals across the region played a meaningful role in helping to reach this milestone. The local community leadership and shared commitment to restoring the Turtle Lake waterways made this once-in-a-century project possible."

The plans are based on sonar work to determine the exact depth of the sediment being taken out, how much the bottom will taper from the shoreline and the amount of riprap and native vegetation will be planted to protect the shoreline. As the buckets take out the sediment, each bucket has a mounted gps sonar that lets the operator know exactly the depth the bucket is at.

So, the work begins



One bucket at a time! Sediment is scraped from the bottom and then dumped on the transport barge to be taken to the shore and put into dump trucks.

According to Ireland, "The hope is the entire project will take two to two and a half months once they get going in the spring. This fall's work is mostly preparatory with excavators set on shore along the southwest corner of the main body of water."

This fall's plan is to excavate down and remove enough sediment so that there is a three-foot depth of water, which is enough depth for the steel floating barges to be able to move about the lake to handle an excavator and the dredged sediment. This is then taken back to the shoreline, where the load of sediment is then scooped by bucket into a big dump truck for removal to a county-owned gravel pit near Milford. The work this fall will stop when Turtle Lake becomes ice covered.

Fundraising continues

Ireland concluded, "You can help us restore this essential ecosystem and recreational area by sending your tax-deductible donation in the form of check, IRA contribution or securities to the Okoboji Foundation, PO Box 593, Okoboji, IA 51355. Donations can be made at Okobojifoundation.org/giveboji/. Scroll down and select Save Turtle Lake. You can also call Mindy Gress with your Save Turtle Lake contribution at 712-332-7177. Please specify Save Turtle Lake."

For more information or to join the committee, please contact us at *save.turtle.lake@gmail.com*.

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Give Joy: Okoboji Secret Santa Program Begins!

Okoboji Flooring & Furniture, the Campus Women's Club, and the Milford Memorial Library's Secret Santa Program is well under way, and the time is here for sponsoring a child in need of Christmas gifts this holiday season!

As of November 19th, individuals, businesses, and organizations may begin choosing a numbered ornament off of the Christmas tree, located at 1007 Okoboji Ave, Milford, during normal 9-5 business hours. Those who choose to sponsor a child/children will receive an anonymous list of clothing sizes and a Christmas present list. We ask that you please return all presents wrapped and tagged with the number and letter of the child you received, by December 12th. If a business would like to sponsor a child/children, but doesn't have the time or staff to do the shopping themselves, we have a group of volunteers ready to step in and take over the shopping portion for you!

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call Okoboji Flooring & Furniture at (712) 338-6161.

Thank you to everyone who has sent in nominations. We are looking forward to brightening the holidays for these deserving families!

Happy Thanksgiving!

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240 N. Pond Dr. • Jackson, MN


NEW LISTING
5 bed, 3 bath home, & 3-car garage with several recent updates. **MLS# 831002 $565,000**

1652 Exchange St. #20 • Okoboji, IA


2 bed and 2 bath second-floor condo. **MLS# 241331 $174,995**

2212 Okoboji Ave. • Milford, IA


Exceptional investment opportunity on HWY 71 providing steady income. 10 fully occupied apartments, 7 furnished dorm style room, storage building & heated shop. **MLS# 251006 $1,400,000**

1400 & 1390 Lake St. • Spirit Lake, IA


Available commercial space in busy shopping mall. 1860 sq ft commercial space with overhead door. **$8/sf NNN** 4 individual office spaces with shared bathroom. **$400-$600/month utilities included.**

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Toyota

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30 VEHICLES UNDER $15,000



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November 25th thru December 1st

We will be closed Thanksgiving Day.



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2012 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 2500 HD LT

OKOBOJI BEST PRICE $14,995



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MSRP $63,560

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LEASE SPECIAL $635** 3 YEAR/10,000 MILES



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MSRP $49,985

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LEASE SPECIAL $550** 3 YEAR/10,000 MILES



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MSRP $43,860

OKOBOJI BEST PRICE $38,474

LEASE SPECIAL $460** 3 YEAR/10,000 MILES



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2025 CHEVROLET COLORADO Z71

MSRP $50,865

OKOBOJI BEST PRICE $40,692

LEASE SPECIAL $420** 3 YEAR/10,000 MILES

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Vehicles listed subject to prior sale.

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Saturday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
SERVICE HOURS:
Mon.-Fri. 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m. • Sat. 8 a.m.-3 p.m

*Tax, title and license not included and due at signing.

Milford HyVee® Pharmacy

Happy Holidays

OPEN HOUSE

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5TH
9AM-5PM

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6TH
9AM-1PM

Skip the lines, avoid the fight, Milford Hy-Vee Pharmacy makes your Christmas bright! Open House deals and Small Business cheer, Find the perfect gifts for all you hold dear!









Enjoy Cider & Cookies!

Free Gift Wrapping!

JOIN US FOR SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY / NOVEMBER 29 SHOP SMALL

Milford HyVee® Pharmacy

1012 Okoboji Avenue • Milford • 712-338-4865

HOURS: 8:30am-5:30pm Mon.-Fri.; 9 am-1pm Sat.

AUTUMN

HyVee®

Introducing one of our newest smiles to help you prepare for the flu season!

Jenny Forsberg, MSN, ARNP
will be at the following locations





Planning to travel? Hosting a feast?

You need your energy for celebrating, not for recovering. Get your flu shot now so you can confidently go from turkey to tinsel without a detour to the sick bed!

Tuesday, Nov. 25th 9am-4pm **- Spirit Lake Hy-Vee**
Wednesday, Nov. 26th 9am-2pm **- Spirit Lake Hy-Vee**
Tuesday, Dec. 2nd 9am-3pm **- Spirit Lake Hy-Vee**



Don't wait! Schedule today.

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EARN 20¢ OFF PER GALLON

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NOVEMBER 26-DECEMBER 2, 2025
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No rain checks on ad specials.

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DOWNLOAD OUR NEW APP AND EARN REWARDS!
SEARCH FOR SUNSHINE FOODS!
GET IT ON Google Play

DIGITAL DEAL! DEAL OF THE WEEK!
Best Choice Grade AA Premium Butter
Salted or Unsalted, 1 lb. Sticks,
2/$6 AD PRICE
-1.00
2/$5
MUST BUY 2 | DIGITAL COUPON | LIMIT OF 1 COUPON USE
Must use digital app to get digital coupons.
Limit 1 coupon use per customer.

SUNNY DEAL!
Charcuterie Party Tray
Serves 15-20
$99.99

SUNNY DEAL!
Fresh Fruit Trays with Dip
$38.99 Serves 10-12, 12”
$54.99 Serves 15-20, 16”
$64.99 Serves 25-30, 18”

SUNNY DEAL!
Fresh Veggie Trays with Dip
$38.99 Serves 10-12, 12”
$54.99 Serves 15-20, 16”
$64.99 Serves 25-30, 18”

SUNNY DEAL!
Fresh Cranberries
12 oz.
2/$5

SUNNY DEAL!
Sweet Jumbo Blueberries
Pint
$2.88

SUNNY DEAL!
Fresh Jumbo Louisiana Sweet Potatoes Per lb.
77¢

SUNNY DEAL!
Fall Acorn, Butternut, or Spaghetti Squash
Per lb.
88¢

SUNNY DEAL!
Deluxe Meat & Cheese Trays
$38.99 Serves 10-12, 12”
$54.99 Serves 15-20, 16”
$64.99 Serves 25-30, 18”

SUNNY DEAL!
Best Choice Russet Potatoes
5 lb.
$1.98

SUNNY DEAL!
80% Lean Ground Beef
10 lb. Tubes, Per lb.
$3.99

SUNNY DEAL!
Ribeye Whole Loins
USDA Choice, Beef Boneless, Per lb., Avg. 15-18 lb.
$15.99
USDA CHOICE
$18.99 Per lb. PRIME RIB ROASTS
$19.99 Per lb. RIBEYE STEAKS

SUNNY DEAL!
Hormel Premium Cure 81 Spiral Sliced Ham Per lb., Avg. 9-12 lb.
$2.77

DIGITAL DEAL! SUNNY DIGITAL DEAL!
Best Choice Premium Turkeys with Pop-Up Timer
9-22 lb. Avg.
89¢ Per lb. WITH APP COUPON!
25% OFF
WITH $25 PURCHASE | DIGITAL COUPON | LIMIT OF 2 COUPON USES
Must use digital app to get digital coupons.
Limit 2 coupon uses per customer.

SUNNY DEAL!
Idahoan Potatoes
4-4.1 oz. Var.
2/$3

SUNNY DEAL!
King's Hawaiian Dinner Rolls
12 Ct.
$3.99

SUNNY DEAL!
Prairie Fresh Pork Sausage Rolls
16 oz.
$3.99

SUNNY DEAL!
Smokin' Boji BBQ
FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK Smokin Boji BBQ For all of our Specials!
Thank you to my loyal customers for your support in 2025!
All 12” Pizzas
2/$20 MUST BUY 2
14” Stuffed Crust Pizzas
Beef, Sausage, or Pepperoni
$14.99
Extra Large Blackened Shrimp
8-10 Ct.
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Smokin Boyd's BBQ Smokin Boji
Okoboji Original
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Smokinbojibbq@gmail.com
18 to 24 hour notice required

SUNNY DEAL!
Chicken Breast
Grade A, Boneless, Skinless, Tray Pack, Per lb.
$2.99

SUNNY DEAL!
Kraft Miracle Whip
19-30 oz.
$4.99
ADDITIONAL DIGITAL COUPON ON APP!

SUNNY DEAL!
Club or Townhouse Crackers
4.9-15 oz.
$1.99

SUNNY DEAL!
Chex Cereal
12-14 oz.
2/$5
MUST BUY 2 or $3.00 Each

DIGITAL DEAL! SUNNY DIGITAL DEAL!
Cool Whip Frozen Whipped Topping
8 oz. Var.
2/$4 AD PRICE
-1.00
2/$3
MUST BUY 2 | DIGITAL COUPON | LIMIT OF 1 COUPON USE
Must use digital app to get digital coupons.
Limit 1 coupon use per customer.

SUNNY DEAL!
Coke Products 12-Pack Cans + Deposit,
Ad Price $8.99
Buy 3 & Get 3 FREE

SUNNY DEAL!
Coke Products
6-Packs .5 L or 7.5 oz. Mini Cans + Deposit
$3.49

SUNNY DEAL!
Bakery Fresh 8" Pies
Apple, Cherry, Peach, or Pumpkin
$5.99

SUNNY DEAL!
Powerade 8-Pack, 20 oz., **BodyArmor** 8-Pack, 12 oz., or **Gold Peak** 6-Pack, .5 L, or **Dasani** 24-Pack, .5 L
$5.99

SUNNY DEAL!
Welch's Sparkling Grape Juice
25.4 oz. Var.
$3.99

SUNNY DEAL!
Village Pie Maker Homemade Frozen Pies
Big 32-48 oz., Pumpkin, Fruit , or Cream Pies
$12.99
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24-Hour Notice Required for All Trays!
CUSTOM SUSHI PLATTERS available upon request!

SUNNY DEAL!
Great Lakes Chips
8 oz.
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MUST BUY 4 or $3.99 Each

DIGITAL DEAL! SUNNY DIGITAL DEAL!
Jameson Irish Whiskey
1.75 L + Deposit
$59.99 AD PRICE
-20.00
$39.99
WHILE SUPPLIES LAST | DIGITAL COUPON | LIMIT OF 3 COUPON USES
Must use digital app to get digital coupons.
Limit 3 coupon uses per customer.

DIGITAL DEAL! SUNNY DIGITAL DEAL!
Bud Light
24-Pack, 12 oz. Cans + Deposit
$20.99 AD PRICE
-3.00
$17.99
WHILE SUPPLIES LAST | DIGITAL COUPON | LIMIT OF 4 COUPON USES
Must use digital app to get digital coupons.
Limit 4 coupon uses per customer.

DIGITAL DEAL! SUNNY DIGITAL DEAL!
Michelob Ultra
24-Pack, 12 oz. Cans + Deposit
$23.99 AD PRICE
-4.00
$19.99
WHILE SUPPLIES LAST | DIGITAL COUPON | LIMIT OF 3 COUPON USES
Must use digital app to get digital coupons.
Limit 3 coupon uses per customer.

Del's GARDEN CENTER

Winter Farmers Market

SATURDAYS 10am-1pm

Del's Fresh Produce
Rigby Farms
Grandma's on the Loose
Craft Tech Studio
Circle 6 Farm and Ranch
JD's Creation
Plain Ol' Bar of Soap Co.
Karen's Handmade Goodies
Lil' Lucy's Boutique
Chicken Coupe
Wenton's Works
Gunn's Goat Milk Soap
Siren's Nest Bakery
Flowers Apothecary
Thrive in Nature
Boji Bloody's
Melanie's Charms and More
B Leaf
Rick Cooke
A Fisherman's Daughter
Little Swan Lake Winery
Acuario Ceramic Goods
Deb Pillen
Hailey Home Baked Goods
This Suits Me Fine
Hattie's Pup Treats
Stich & Stine
My Sweet Addiction



1808 11th St. SE, Spencer, IA For Details, Call 712.262.4912



Lueders Ridiculous Christmas Lights Return to Lake Park

The highly anticipated Lueders Ridiculous Christmas Lights display at 1078 110th St. in Lake Park is officially back for another spectacular season.

The first lighting of the display is scheduled for Thanksgiving night at 5:30 p.m. The lights will then be illuminated nightly from Thanksgiving through New Year's Eve, operating from 5:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Visitors are encouraged to tune their car radios to 97.5 FM to listen to the synchronized music while enjoying the dazzling show.

Special Appearance by Santa

A special event is planned for December 6th, when Santa Claus will be making an appearance from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Santa's helpers will be on hand to distribute goody bags for the children and candy canes for all attendees.

Supporting Veterans

A donation box is located at the end of the driveway, and all contributions received are dedicated to supporting Veterans.

For the latest news and updates, the public is advised to follow the Lueders Ridiculous X-Mas Lights Facebook page. The Lueders Family extends their heartfelt wishes to everyone for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

EXIT REALTY MIDWEST

EXIT Realty Midwest is sponsoring their 5th Annual

TOY DRIVE

NOVEMBER 24 - DECEMBER 15

ALL DONATIONS will be distributed to LOCAL children & teens in need through Upper Des Moines Opportunity.

Please drop off NEW, UNWRAPPED TOYS at our Spirit Lake Branch during regular business hours.

All Toys Donated will be for Christmas Gifts & Birthdays throughout the year.

1306 18th St., Suite C, Spirit Lake
712-336-3405

AA Meetings

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

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

Volunteer at the Lakes Area Activities/Senior Center

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

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

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Integrity Matters... YESTERDAY, TODAY & TOMORROW

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OIL CHANGE $39.95* conventional oil

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Lakes Auto Care Automotive Repair - Spirit Lake, IA
Milford Auto Care Automotive Repair - Milford, IA

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Schedule Your FREE Cold Weather Check Today!

Offers valid at *both locations*. *Prices do not include shop supply fees. Doesn't apply to diesels. Excludes Mobil One oil. Some makes/models require special oil (cost extra). Includes oil filter & up to 7qts of oil. Cannot combine with any other offer.

LakesAutoSport.com | MilfordAutoCareIA.com



Parks Marina holds Annual Boatload of Toys Fundraiser

Parks Marina, located on East Lake in Okoboji, Iowa, is once again teaming up with Upper Des Moines Opportunity (UDMO) in Dickinson County as part of its annual Boatload of Toys fundraiser, happening now through December 12.

A much-anticipated fundraising event, Boatload of Toys encourages community members to bring in new, unwrapped toys to the Marina, all of which are directly distributed through UDMO to families in need over the holiday season. Since 2008, the Boatload of Toys event has accumulated thousands worth of toys donated.

UDMO is dedicated to helping build stronger communities by addressing the effects of poverty on individuals and families.

One of 16 Community Action Agencies serving Iowans since 1965, UDMO provides a helping hand during times of crisis, aiding individuals, families and children as they get back on their feet, with staff members working diligently to provide continued support while encouraging families to achieve self-sufficiency, according to their website.

Those who bring in donations by Dec. 12 will receive a 20% off shopping spree, valid for Parks Marina water accessories, Barefoot apparel, and shopping at Palm at the Park. This year, discounts can also be used online. Donations can be dropped off at Parks Marina in Okoboji or Sioux Falls or Palm at the Park in the Central Emporium.

For more information on the Boatload of Toys fundraiser, go to *www.parksmarina.com* or look for Parks Marina on Facebook. For more details on the Upper Des Moines Opportunity and their initiatives, go to *www.udmo.com*.

Free Breakfast December 6 at Grandview Church Gym

Free Breakfast Saturday, December 6, from 8-10 am at the Grandview Church gym. Burritos, pancakes, sausage, and eggs are being cooked, and milk, juice and coffee will also be served. The breakfast is completely free, and everyone is invited. Breakfast will be served at Grandview Baptist Church's gym, which is at 3705 170th St. in Estherville. 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.





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We do not offer every plan available in your area. Currently we represent 5 organizations which offer 24 products in your area. 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

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50 YEARS

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302 18th Street Spirit Lake (across from Kum & Go)
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Wishing You a Happy Thanksgiving

1605 Chalstrom Beach Rd. #302 • Okoboji, IA



Lovely 2 Bed/2 Bath Condo with upper loft that features newer kitchen, carpet & bathrooms.
$639,000 MLS#250966

1103 Scott Street • Ruthven, IA



Beautiful Brick Duplex!
Each unit offers 2 Beds, 1 Bath with your own laundry area. Tons of updates to baths, roof & mechanicals.
$149,900 MLS#251025

BEN SEXTON 712-320-3311
CHAD BAKER 712-339-0007
sextonsellsokoboji.com





Lakes Area Activities/Senior Center Schedule

Tuesday, November 25
8:30 - Kiwanis
12:00 - Dinner Date
12:00 - Blood Pressure Check
12:30 - Speaker: Fresh Conversations
12.30 - Bridge
Wednesday, November 26
9:00 - Exercise Class
12:00 - Dinner Date
Thursday, November 27
Happy Thanksgiving
Friday, November 28
Center Closed
Saturday, November 29
Facility Available For Rent
Sunday, November 30
Facility Available For Rent
Monday, December 1
9:00 - Exercise
12:00 - Dinner Date
1:00 - Mahjong
Tuesday, December 2
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. 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.



NEW Roof in November 2025!



1208 8th Street, Milford

2-bedroom, 1-bath house located half a block from the elementary school and three blocks from the high school. **Why pay rent when you can own!**

United Country
Iowa Lakes Realty, LLC



Richard Ortman, Associate Broker
712-330-2452



TIME FOR TURKEY TOUCHDOWNS, AND TECH

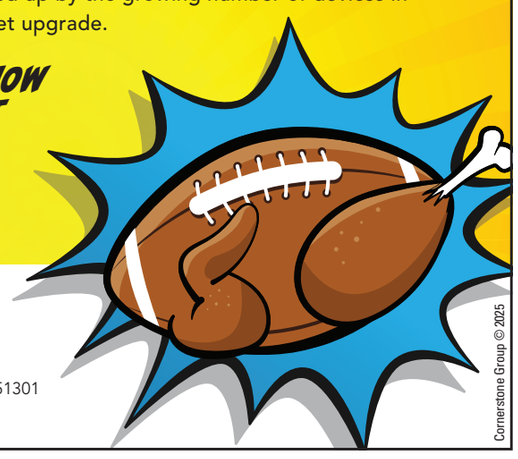
FEAST ON THE FUN OF THANKSGIVING

What's not to love about this holiday? Thanksgiving brings together treasured family and friends. Plus, it combines some of our favorite things — enjoying a turkey dinner with side dishes galore, streaming football games for hours, and sharing memorable moments via video calls and social media.

If your bandwidth is being gobbled up by the growing number of devices in your home, it's time for an internet upgrade.

CALL 712-580-5800 NOW FOR FASTER INTERNET

Happy Thanksgiving to you and yours! Our office will be closed November 27.



SMU Spencer Municipal Utilities
520 2nd Avenue East, Suite 1, Spencer, IA 51301
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15346 Concord Avenue
4 Bed, 3 Bath, 3 Acres

Ayrshire $135,000

4153 380th Avenue
4.76 Acres, Shop, Room to Build

Emmetsburg $510,000

108 Lake Shore Drive
60' Lakefront & 4-Car Garage

Everly $120,000

305 E 3rd Street
Spacious Double Lot, NEW Kitchen!

Lake View $500,000

S State Road
6.34 Acres, Up to 25 Lots

Lake View $350,000

229 N State Road
1.10 Acres, Subdivide Up to 7 Lots

Laurens $48,000

408 N. Harrison Street
Big House, Small Price



Laurens $59,000

407 Nelson Street
3-Stall Garage, Investment Ready

Sac City $414,000


1705 W Main Street
Turn Key Auto Parts & Machine Shop

Spencer $144,000

818 2nd Avenue
Move-In Ready, Fenced Backyard

Spencer $125,000

19 E 2nd Street
Investor Opportunity

Spencer $125,000

309 12th Avenue
Generous Lot with Flexibility

Spencer $117,000

525 E 2nd Street
Main Floor Living with Big Yard

Spencer $80,000

520 E 2nd Street
Opportunity Knocks w/ Great Price!

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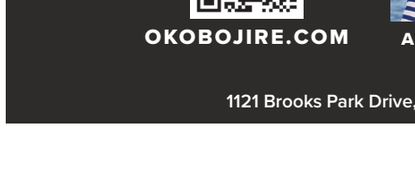
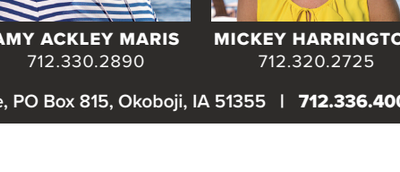
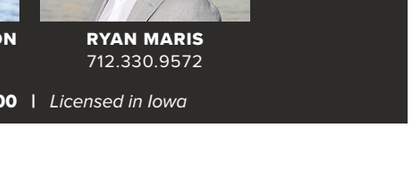
WEST LAKE, EMERSON BAY

$3,200,000
Quiet dead-end road, low lake approach, covered deck, room to host everyone.

WEST LAKE, MANHATTAN BEACH

$2,497,000
Recently updated on West Lake Okoboji with stunning views and high-end finishes.

WEST LAKE, CRESCENT BEACH

$2,399,000
Updated 5 bed, 3 bath home with bright interiors, new features, and a step-free lake approach.

NEW LISTING!
SPIRIT LAKE, 3625 KEOKUK AVE

$348,500
The corner-lot location is family friendly, just minutes away from Schools, YMCA, and bike trails.

NEW LISTING!
SPIRIT LAKE, 1910 CHICAGO AVE

$295,000
Spacious family home with new flooring, floating stairs, modern baths, and oversized garage.

SPIRIT LAKE, COURTYARD ESTATES

$165,000
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THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER **AUCTIONS**

Land Auction

Thursday, December 18 at 10:00 a.m.
Greenville Community Center, Greenville, IA

148.7 Acres m/l

Clay County, IA
Sec. 29 & 32, Gillett Grove Twp.

Excellent Soils!

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Tr. 2 • 77.2 Ac. m/l • Avg. CSR2: 93.2

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Ben Hollesen • 712-253-5779

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Midwest Land Management

Land For Sale

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Sec. 9 & 16, Estherville Twp.

Cropland with development potential
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LAND AUCTION

100 Acres Dickinson Co.
Section 11 Silver Lake Township
New Date: Wed, December 10 - 10:00 am
Lake Park Community Center, Lake Park, IA

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Chuck Sikora
712-260-2788
Joe Laubenthal
515-368-3815

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



ONLINE ESTATE AUCTION

Wednesday, December 10th, 2025 @ 10:00 A.M.

Inspection: Equipment inspection will be welcome by appointment at the address of 35729 County Road 5 Storden, MN.



TRACTORS & HEADERS: Buhler Versatile 2160 Genesis II Tractor MFWD w/ approx. 6,869 hrs. 4 remote hyd. 14.9-46 rear duals, 380/85R30 front rubber, 22 front weights, International 856D Tractor w/ unknown hours, 2 remote hyd. w/ Miller loader & grapple bucket, 18.4-38 rear rubber, International Farmall 806D Tractor w/ unknown hours, cab, 2 remote hyd. newer Agri-trac 18.4-34 rear rubber, rock box, 2006 Mac Don 974 Flex Draper Bean Head 36', fully fingered selling w/ Harvest Hand header trailer, Case 1020 Bean Head 30' w/ AWS air reel, fully fingered, steel snoots, selling w/ homemade header trailer, Case IH 1083 Corn Head 8R30 w/ poly snoots

SEMI, TRAILERS, & WAGONS: 1980 White Road Boss 2 w/ unknown miles, 855 Cummins engine, 9 speed transmission, dual fuel tanks, 2 new batteries, 2001 Wilson Pace Setter Grain Trailer 43' w/ Surco 3500 electric tarp, ag hoppers, aluminum outside rims, 2009 Jet Grain Trailer 38' w/ Surco 4500 HD electric tarp, ag hoppers, steel rims, 1992 Top Hand Manufacturing Gooseneck Trailer 24' dual axle, 8.5 wide, Sure Steel Gooseneck Horse Trailer, dual axle, tack room, rubber mats, 1990 Interstate Manufacturing Inc. Steel Enclosed Utility Trailer, 21' bumper pull, dual axle, 2- Killbros 385 Gravity Wagons w/ brakes, 2- EZ Flow Gravity Wagons

FORKLIFTS, LAND ROLLER, & ROCK PICKERS: Allis- Chalmers I600 Forklift w/ approx. 4,391 hrs. 2 stage lift, 5,000 lb. capacity, 17.5- 24 front rubber, Clark GPS15 Forklift w/ approx. 6,699 hrs. 2 stage lift, 2,250 lb. capacity, LP fuel, Mandako 42' Land roller, 3 section, carrying wheels, Rite Way RR 900 ST Rock Picker w/ hyd. lift, steerable hitch, Rock Picker w/ hyd. lift, 4' pick-up

AUGERS, STALK CHOPPER, & TILLAGE EQUIPMENT : 2- Westfield MK 100-61 Augers w/ hyd. lift, swing hoppers, Peck 10" Auger 41' w/ electric motor, Rapat FX 3012 Conveyer 24', needs new belt, Balzer 2000 Stalk Chopper 20' w/ 4 carrying wheels, Spray Pup 750 Side Dresser 12R, 750-gallon tank, shut offs, Yetter coulters, 3 pt. attach. 2 carrying wheels, White 378 Row Crop Cultivator 12R 30, C-shank, John Deere 400 Rotary Hoe 30',

PICKUP, LAWN MOWER, & LP TANKS: 1998 Chevrolet S10 Pickup w/ approx. 81,185 miles, topper, cloth seats, new battery, Bad Boy ZT Lawn Mower w/ approx. 486 hrs. 60" deck, new battery, 1,000 Gallon LP tank on gear, 500 Gallon LP tank on gear



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Time to Support Fishing and Hunting License Increases

by *Steve Weisman*

There is little doubt that fishing and hunting are important activities to many Iowans. Just look at the fishing that goes on at Iowa's lakes and rivers, along with the upland, waterfowl and deer hunting that takes place. These licenses help drive Iowa's economy, with related recreation contributing over $1 billion to the state's economy. This money, in turn, supports thousands of jobs, and generates substantial tax revenue through license fees and excise taxes.

That's the good news! Now for the bad news! There has not been a fishing/hunting license increase since 2019. Over the past six years, inflation has continued to escalate and yet license costs have remained the same. As a result, the Iowa DNR has had to make cuts in both operations and personnel.

When the last license increase occurred in 2019, the word was that license increases would be looked at every three years or so. Even the cost of increases was set at a maximum of 5%. Findings would then be compiled by the DNR and given to the Natural Resources Commission so they could analyze and make recommendations to the State Legislature. From what I have learned, this has never been done. My question is this…who made that decision?

As a result, there has been no movement at all, and six years have passed. It seems as if any proposed license fee increase becomes a political football. Battle lines are drawn, and it's like pulling teeth to even get the topic on the agenda.

Why is that? The increase does not affect all Iowans. It is really a user fee paid by those of us that purchase fishing, hunting and furbearer licenses. Currently, there is a groundswell of Iowa's sportsmen and women across the state pushing for a 5% license increase. On a $22 fishing license, a 5% increase would be $1.10 per license.





(photos by Steve Weisman) License fees, which go into the Iowa Fish and Game Trust Fund help ensure that Iowa's fisheries continue to improve. These quality fish are the result of the game management efforts.

Where the buck starts and stops

The Natural Resources Commission (NRC), a seven-person commission appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate for a four-year term, is where the buck starts and stops. Areas of work include reviewing and approving hunting and fishing administrative rules; public land donations, acquisitions, and easements; construction projects; general business contracts; leases; grants; and the annual budget.

The NRC normally meets on the second Thursday of the month and have a predetermined agenda at the public comment period for each meeting. The meeting agenda, including location and time, is published on the Iowa DNR website before the meeting.

If people have concerns or recommendations, they can request to get on the NRC's agenda. At the recent Iowa Great Lakes Fishing Club's Fall DNR Night, a total of 132 adults in attendance signed a petition in favor of the 5% license increase. In advance of the DNR Night, IGLFC president, Terry Thomsen spoke at the November Natural Resources Commission's November meeting presenting the need for the license increase. He presented just how desperately the DNR needs this increase. His final plea was this: "Really sportsmen/women are willing to do that. There is no doubt about it. Everybody that I've talked to is way in favor of this license fee increase."

Unfortunately, the wheel isn't moving yet. More people need to write and call the NRC members and voice the need for a 5% license increase. Here are the commissioners and their contact information. Oh, and don't forget about elected senators and representatives and, of course, the Governor.

Bill Moritz - *Bill.Moritz@dnr.iowa.gov*
Collin Brecher - *Collin.Brecher@dnr.iowa.gov*
Uriah Hansen, Vice Chair - *Uriah.Hansen@dnr.iowa.gov*
Tom Prickett, Chair - *Tom.Prickett@dnr.iowa.gov*
KR Buck - *KR.Buck@dnr.iowa.gov*
Laura Kudej - *Laura.Kudej@dnr.iowa.gov*
Tammi Kircher, Secretary - *Tammi.Kircher@dnr.iowa.gov*

Where the license fees go

The Iowa Fish and Game Trust Fund is a dedicated financial resource established to support the conservation, management and enhancement of fish and wildlife resources throughout the state of Iowa. The fund plays a crucial role in sustaining Iowa's natural habitats, promoting outdoor recreation, and ensuring long-term ecological health.

The primary objective of the Fish and Game Trust Fund is to provide reliable funding for programs and initiatives that benefit Iowa's fish and wildlife populations. The fund is used for activities such as habitat restoration, fish stocking, wildlife management, research, education, and enforcement of conservation laws.

A major source of funding comes from the purchase of fishing and hunting licenses: Revenues generated from the sale of fishing and hunting licenses contribute significantly to the trust fund.

What's Next?

Bottom line…we let our voices be heard. You know the old adage, "The squeaky wheel gets the grease." We need to be THE squeaky wheel so that we can get the license increase that Iowa's natural resources so greatly need! We do have the power to make the change. A groundswell of Iowa's anglers and hunters can beat down the door! Let's start the wheel rolling!

Dec. Shooter & Collector Gun Auction!
Online Only - Closes Dec. 4th @ 9am
Preview: Mon. Dec. 1st through Wed Dec. 3rd 10-4 daily
203 E. Blackhawk Ave. Prairie du Chien, WI
600 Lots Online Now @ www KramerSales.com
600 Modern @ Collectible Guns, Colt Snake revs, Weatherby, Ruger, Winchester, Savage, Merkel, AYA, Parker dbls, Remington, Vintage Axe Collection, Kimber, Civil War & WWII Guns, Browning, Glock, Sako, T/C, Anschutz, Vintage Sharps Buffalo Gun, Marlin, Henry Arms, Indian Artifacts & more!
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Jackson County, Minnesota | Section 34 Minneota Township

This attractive all-tillable farm features a gently rolling upland with 67.21 cropland acres and an average Productivity Index of 91.6. Tile maps available upon request. Located one mile north of the Iowa/Minnesota border, take 710th Ave 1.5 miles east from Hwy 86. This farm has an open lease for the 2026 crop season and would make an excellent addition to your farming operation or land investment portfolio.



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712-336-2790 or 712-320-7070



FISHING CLUB HOOKS UP FOURTH GRADERS – The Harris-Lake Park fourth grade classes would like to thank the Iowa Great Lakes Fishing Club for the donation of tackle boxes and fishing supplies for each student who attended School of the Wild earlier this fall. "We are so appreciative of your support, your assistance with our outdoor experience, and your incredible generosity."

Lakes Area Senior/ Activities Center Presentations

Please call 712-336-5247 to let the Lakes Area Senior/ Activities Center know you will be attending. The following presentation begins at 2:00pm

• Tuesday, November 25 12:30pm—"Fresh Conversations" and . Dickinson County Public Health will be providing free blood pressure checks.

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

Al-Anon Meetings

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

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

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While we appreciate every donation, in some cases, we find that we are unable to accept certain vehicles, watercraft, and/or recreational vehicles due to the prohibitive costs of acquisition. If you have any questions, please give us a call at (888) 429-2331.

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Miscellaneous

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Miscellaneous

Seeking family members of Dino Long. Please contact 843-877-0517 to return his belongings. **1-8P**

Storage

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Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8-5

Rentals

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

FOR RENT: 3 bedroom mobile home, all appliances furnished. No smoking, no pets 712-339-0174. **TFC**

Rentals

3 bedroom, 1.5 bath house for rent in Spirit Lake. Oversized single attached garage, appliances included, lots of recent updates, close to Gilbert Park and East Lake Okoboji. $1,250/month plus utilities. No smoking, no pets. Call Keith at Lakeland Realty, 712-336-0400. **2-9**

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

Miscellaneous

Midwest Classified Network Ad

WANT TO BUY

WANT TO BUY your manufactured or mobile home 1990 and newer CENTURY HOMES of OSKALOOSA 641-672-2344 (mcn)

AUTOMOBILES

GOT AN UNWANTED CAR??? DONATE IT TO PATRIOTIC HEARTS. Fast free pick up. Patriotic Hearts' programs help veterans find work or start their own business. Call 24/7: 1-833-485-1046. (mcn)

Get a break on your taxes! Donate your car, truck, or SUV to assist the blind and visually impaired. Arrange a swift, no-cost vehicle pickup and secure a generous tax credit for 2025. Call Heritage for the Blind Today at 1-855 977-7030 today! (mcn)

Donate your car, truck, boat, RV and more to support our veterans! Schedule a FAST, FREE vehicle pickup and receive a top tax deduction! Call Veteran Car Donations at 1-888-429-2331 today! (mcn)

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DIRECTV- All your entertainment. Nothing on your roof! Sign up for Directv and get your first three months of Max, Paramount+, Showtime, Starz, MGM+ and Cinemax included. Choice package $84.99/mo. Some restrictions apply. Call DIRECTV 1-866-296-1409. (mcn)

FINANCIAL

Inflation is at 40-year highs. Interest rates are way up. Credit Cards. Medical Bills. Car Loans. Do you have $10k or more in debt? Call NATIONAL DEBT RELIEF and find out how to pay off your debt for significantly less than what you owe! FREE quote: Call 1-866-552-0649. (mcn)

HEALTH & MEDICAL

DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 400 plus procedures. Real dental insurance -NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1-855-973-9175 www.dental50plus.com/midwest #6258 (mcn)

PORTABLE OXYGEN CONCENTRATOR May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 844-716-2411. (mcn)

STOP OVERPAYING FOR HEALTH INSURANCE! A recent study shows that a majority of people struggle to pay for health coverage. Let us show you how much you can save. Call Now for a no-obligation quote: 1-888-772-8454. You will need to have your zip code to connect to the right provider. (mcn)

ATTENTION OXYGEN THERAPY USERS! Discover Oxygen Therapy That Moves with You with Inogen Portable Oxygen Concentrators. FREE information kit. Call 1-833-650-5916. (mcn)

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Reach over 1.4 million homes for just $249! Advertise your business or item with a classified ad in the Midwest Free Community Papers. Simple, cost-effective, and powerful. One call, and you're done! Boost your visibility now! 888-899-6327. (mcn)

NEED NEW FLOORING? Call today to schedule a FREE in-home estimate on Carpeting & Flooring. Call Today! 1-833-641-6323. (mcn)

INJURED IN AN ACCIDENT? Don't Accept the insurance company's first offer. Many injured parties are entitled to cash settlements in the $1000's. Get a free evaluation to see what your case is really worth. 100% Free Evaluation. Call Now: 1-833-879-1534. (mcn)

Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 5-Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-877-228-5789 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move. (mcn)

NO MORE CLEANING OUT GUTTERS. Guaranteed! LeafFilter is backed by a no-clog guarantee and lifetime transferrable warranty. Call today 1-855-577-1268 to schedule a FREE inspection and no obligation estimate. Plus get 75% off installation and a bonus $250 discount! Limited time only. Restrictions apply, see representative for warranty and offer details. (mcn)

THE BATHROOM OF YOUR DREAMS in as little as 1 day. Limited Time Offer - $1000 off or No Payments and No Interest for 18 months for customers who qualify. BCI Bath & Shower. Many options available. Quality materials & professional installation. Senior & Military Discounts Available. Call Today! 1-833-618-1178. (mcn)

Replace your roof with the best looking and longest lasting material steel from Erie Metal Roofs! Three styles and multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer- up to 50% off installation + Additional 10% off install (for military, health workers & 1st responders.) Call Erie Metal Roofs: 1-844-907-2386. (mcn)

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Notices

DICKINSON COUNTY: Board Representative Needed

Dickinson County is seeking applicants to consider for appointment on County Board and Commissions. Applications are available on the County Website: *www.dickinsoncountyiowa.org* or from the Dickinson County Auditor's Office.

All applications for consideration of the current openings should be submitted to the Auditor's Office by December 15, 2025, at 4:30 P.M.

The following Boards have an opening effective January 1, 2026:

Board of Adjustment
Board of Health
Conservation Board
Planning & Zoning Commission
Trails Board– (Lake Park & Arnolds Park Rep)

All applicants must read the Appointment Policy and submit a signed copy of the Conflict of Interest Policy with their completed application, both of which are on the County Website, and available in the Dickinson County Auditor's Office.

1-08c

Thank You

WOW, THANK YOU ALL FOR THE WONDERFUL CARDS AND LETTERS ON OUR 70TH ANNIVERSARY, YOU MADE OUR DAY. WE ALSO WOULD LIKE TO THANK OUR CHILDREN, GRANDCHILDREN AND GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN FOR THE PARTY WE HAD THIS SUMMER. WE LIVE IN A GREAT COMMUNITY. AGAIN, THANK YOU.
KIRBY AND BARB RANGE

Thank You

THANK YOU

THANK YOU FOR RE-ELECTING ME AS YOUR MAYOR OF SPIRIT LAKE. IT'S AN HONOR TO SERVE THE CITIZENS OF THIS WONDERFUL COMMUNITY.
KEVIN BICE

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Pets

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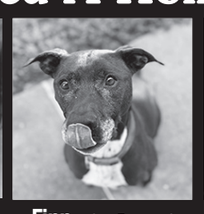
Bear - is a 12 yo chocolate Labrador. He followed his human through every season until one morning Bear woke to silence then found himself at the shelter.



Finn - is a 7 yo male Terrier, American Pit Bull / Mixed Breed (Medium). He is a sweet man & he knows sit, shake and loves treats!



LeRoy - is a sweet, food loving male Beagle / Coonhound, Treeing Walker. Always ready for playtime and adventures.

Call, or stop in, at the Humane Society of NW Iowa for these and other pets to adopt.
607 28th Street • Northeast of Milford
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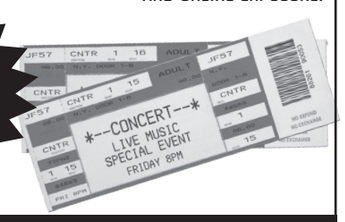

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4-08

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eileenc@countywidedirectories.com
Office 507-847-3771 ext. 120

www.countywidedirectories.com

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CUSTOMER SERVICE SPECIALIST

Are you someone that enjoys helping others and is a team player? Comfortec Heating, Cooling & Plumbing has an immediate opening for a full-time customer service specialist. Join a growing company in Spirit Lake, IA, with available benefits such as health insurance, Aflac, IRA and paid vacation. Applicants must have a strong background in customer service, excellent communication skills, be detail oriented, highly organized, prioritize helping others, provide positive customer experience and possess computer knowledge for data entry.

Job duties include: fielding inbound/outbound phone calls, creating work orders, learn dispatch software, assist with walk-in customers, dispatch service techs to jobs and multi-tasking. Wages to be determined by professional skills and experience level. Office hours Monday-Friday 8:00-5:00.

Applications are available online: www.comfortecphc.com or by calling 712-336-5431. Application, resume and references must be submitted for review, will notify for in person interview.

APPLY TODAY!

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HEATING, COOLING, & PLUMBING

TFC

The Dickinson County Sheriff's Office is looking to hire a DEPUTY SHERIFF
Full & part-time position available.

1-08c

ILEA Certified is Preferred



All applicants must successfully pass all requirements set by the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy
Applicants must have GED or Highschool Diploma

COMPENSATION: $33.47-$44.38/hr depending on qualifications.

BENEFITS: IPERS, Health Insurance, Dental Insurance and other county benefits.

Those interested submit cover letter and resume.
Mail to Dickinson County Sheriff's Office:
PO BOX 214 Spirit Lake, Iowa 51360
Dickinson County Sheriffs Office is EOE. Taking resumes until the position is filled.

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• Great Benefits • Paid Time Off • Pension Plan

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Des Moines Valley Health and Human Services (DVHHS)
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County Agency Social Worker
(Social Worker License NOT required)
2026 Pay Range: $29.71 - $38.77

Eligibility Worker
2026 Pay Range: $25.03 - $32.53

Community Health Educator
2026 Pay Range: $29.71 - $38.77

Visit the DVHHS website for more information and learn how to apply!
www.dvhhs.org
Email or phone inquires welcomed;
applicants@dvhhs.org / 507-847-4000

2-09c

IOWA LAKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE
is accepting applications for part-time
CLINICAL NURSE INSTRUCTORS
2-06c

Responsible for supervising, instructing, and evaluating students in Medical/Surgical or Maternal/Newborn lab/ clinical setting. Clinical rotations may be days depending on availability of clinical sites. BSN required or in progress, plus 2 years of experience in clinical nursing. Prior teaching experience preferred. Must be currently licensed as a registered nurse in Iowa. Salary $43-$47/ hour depending on education. Position open until filled. Review of applications will begin December 1, 2025.

View complete job description and application process at www.iowalakes.edu/employment. Contact Lynn Miller at lmmiller@iowalakes.edu or 712-362-0409. For additional information, contact Tammy Shimon at tshimon@iowalakes.edu or 712-852-5293.

IOWA LAKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Human Resources, 19 South 7th Street, Estherville, IA 51334
EEO/AA Employer

2-08c

ARNOLDS PARK City of 5 Lakes 1897 1997 Iowa

The City of Arnolds Park, Iowa is accepting applications for the position of

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

Primary duties include organizing, coordinating, and performing daily operations in the construction, repair, and maintenance of City streets and infrastructure; and, scheduling and supervising water, street, and parks maintenance personnel, equipment, and materials.

This is a full-time position including excellent salary and benefits.

Experience with a full range of maintenance equipment and a CDL license, or the ability to obtain one is required.

Applications are available at the Arnolds Park City Hall, 54 N. Highway 71, Arnolds Park, Iowa 51331. Applications may be returned to: City of Arnolds Park, Attn: City Clerk, PO Box 437, Arnolds Park, Iowa 51331 or e-mailed to Linda Nase at lnase@arnoldsparkcity.com. Application deadline is Tuesday, December 2, 2025 at 4:00 P.M. If you should have questions concerning this position, please call 712-332-2341.

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2-09c

IOWA LAKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE
is accepting applications for a full-time
NURSING INSTRUCTOR
on the Emmetsburg Campus.
2-08c

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

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

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2-08c

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The City of Arnolds Park, Iowa is accepting applications for the position of

STREET MAINTENANCE WORKER

Responsibilities to include repair and maintenance of City streets and equipment; and, assistance with parks and infrastructure maintenance.

This is a full-time position including excellent salary and benefits.

Experience with a full range of maintenance equipment and a CDL license, or the ability to obtain one is required.

Applications are available at the Arnolds Park City Hall, 54 N. Highway 71, Arnolds Park, Iowa 51331. Applications may be returned to: City of Arnolds Park, Attn: City Clerk, PO Box 437, Arnolds Park, Iowa 51331 or e-mailed to Linda Nase at lnase@arnoldsparkcity.com. Deadline for applying is Tuesday, December 2, 2025 at 4:00 P.M. If you should have questions concerning this position, please call 712-332-2341.

The City of Arnolds Park is an equal opportunity employer.

IOWA LAKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE
is accepting applications for a full-time
HEALTHCARE TRAINING CONSULTANT/PROGRAMMER
located on the Emmetsburg Campus.
3-09c

Primary responsibilities are to determine training and educational needs of acute and long-term health providers and to offer certification programs for individuals interested in working in health care field. Registered Nurse with two or more years of experience including one year in long-term healthcare required. Knowledge of current healthcare issues, policies, practices, and procedures are required. Teaching experience preferred. Train the Trainer Certification required, or willingness to obtain upon hire. Salary $56,135. Paid sick leave, vacation, and holidays. Employee health, dental, and vision insurance. Partially funded family insurance available. Employee life and disability insurance. Employee retirement plan. Review of applications will begin December 8, 2025.

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

IOWA LAKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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Toastmasters International and Mid-Day Club

Toastmasters International is the leading nonprofit dedicated to effective oral communication and leadership development. Over the last 101 years, the organization has served approximately 4 million members. Members meet to deliver and evaluate prepared and impromptu speeches in an effort to improve as speakers and leaders.

The Mid-Day Toastmasters club generally meets on the first and third Saturdays from 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM Central and the second and fourth Tuesdays from 10:30 AM to 11:30 AM Central. Guests are always welcome to attend the fun, educational meetings.

The specific one-hour meetings for December 2025 are scheduled as follows:

- Saturdays, December 6 and December 20, 2025: 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM Central.
- Tuesdays, December 9 and December 23, 2025: 10:30 AM to 11:30 AM Central.

The meetings will stream at the following links:

- https://tinyurl.com/zoomwithmidday
- https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9239283290

An agenda for role signup is available on the club web page at *https://4139.toastmastersclubs.org*.

For more information, interested individuals may contact Jim Samuel, VPPR, at (855) 402-8255 or via email at *jsamuel12@comcast.net*. Further details can also be found on the club web page at *https://4139.toastmastersclubs.org* or the main organization's site at *Toastmasters.org*.

Clay County Fair & Events Center Receives International Recognition

Returning to IAFE competition for the first time in several years, the Clay County Fair & Events Center came back strong in 2025, earning three awards — including the coveted Best of Division honor — during the International Association of Fairs and Expositions (IAFE) Virtual Awards Show on November 20.

This marks the Fair's second Best of Division award, and its first in the Commercial Exhibits & Concessions contest. The Fair earned the distinction for Best Overall Commercial Exhibits & Concessions Award in Division 3, recognized specifically for its vendor recognition initiatives. The Fair last received a Best of Division award in 2022 for excellence in agriculture.

"Winning a Best of Division award is an incredible honor, and earning our second one, this time in a brand-new contest category, makes it even more meaningful," said Jason Brockshus, CEO of the Clay County Fair & Events Center. "These awards reflect our commitment to excellence, our passion for creating remarkable experiences, and the hard work of our board, staff, vendors, partners, and volunteers. We're proud to bring this recognition home to a community that supports the Fair year after year."

Awards received by the Clay County Fair & Events Center include:

- Commercial Exhibits & Concessions Awards — Best of Division Three
- Commercial Exhibits & Concessions Awards, Category Four: Vendor Recognition — "The World's Greatest County Fair" Foods Contest (First Place)
- Non-Fair Facility Usage, Category 1A: Successful Non-Fair Event (produced or co-produced by facility staff) — 2025 Bulls & Brews, co-produced by Raise 'Em Rank (Third Place)

The recognition is especially notable as 2025 was the inaugural year of the Commercial Exhibits & Concessions contest, making the Fair one of the first-ever Best of Division recipients in the new category.

The IAFE awards program allows member fairs to enter competitions across communications, agriculture, competitive exhibits, sponsorships, non-fair facility usage, and commercial exhibits and concessions. Entries are judged on predetermined criteria set by IAFE committees. Judges include industry professionals both within and outside of the association. Member fairs are split into five divisions based on attendance. The Clay County Fair competes in Division 3, representing fairs with attendance between 250,001 and 500,000.

Award winners from the 2025 contests will also be recognized during the 2025 IAFE Annual Convention, scheduled for Nov. 30–Dec. 4 in Denver, Colorado.

Red Cross Urges Holiday Cooking and Decorating Safety to Prevent Home Fires

The Red Cross responds to 20% more home fires during the holiday months

Home fires increase significantly during the holiday months, often sparked by cooking accidents, unattended candles or unsafe decorations. The American Red Cross of Nebraska urges everyone to take simple steps to stay safe while celebrating – from keeping a close eye on what's cooking to checking holiday lights and decorations for hazards. By taking precautions now, families can help prevent tragedies and enjoy a safer, happier holiday season.

"One in five people the Red Cross assists after home fires are helped in just the holiday months," said Emily Holley, Red Cross spokesperson. "Home fires can strike quickly, leaving you with as little as two minutes to escape. Help protect your loved ones by practicing your home fire escape drill until everyone can get out in less than two minutes."

Cooking Safety Tips Follow these safety tips and visit redcross.org/fire for more information, including a fire escape plan to practice with your family.

- Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling or broiling food. If you must leave the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove.
- Use a timer to remind yourself that the stove or oven is on.
- Avoid wearing loose clothing/dangling sleeves while cooking.
- Keep kids and pets at least three feet away from cooking areas.
- Keep anything that can catch on fire — potholders, oven mitts, wooden utensils, paper or plastic bags, food packaging, and towels or curtains — away from your stove top and oven or any other appliance that generates heat.
- Clean cooking surfaces regularly to prevent grease buildup.
- Consider purchasing a fire extinguisher to keep in your kitchen.
- Always check the kitchen before going to bed or leaving home to make sure all stoves, ovens and small appliances are turned off.

Holiday Decorating And Heating Safety December is the peak month for candle fires – which cause about 20 home fires a day on average in the U.S. – and heating equipment remains one of the leading causes of home fires.

- Provide at least three feet of space for all heating equipment. This is critical because most home heating fire tragedies occur when flammable items like furniture, rugs and drapes are too close.
- In addition, never leave space heaters unattended — as they're involved in most fatal home heating fires.
- If you must use a space heater, place it on a level, hard and nonflammable surface, such as a ceramic tile floor. Don't place it on rugs and carpets, or near bedding and drapes. And turn it off every time you leave the room or go to sleep.
- If you must use candles, keep them away from anything that could burn, and place them out of reach from pets and children. Never leave burning candles unattended.
- You can also help keep your family safe by testing your smoke alarms monthly and practicing your home fire escape plan until everyone can escape in two minutes or less.
- Visit redcross.org/fire for more information, including an escape plan to practice with your family. You can also download our free Emergency app (search "American Red Cross" in app stores).

Smoke alarms save lives. Install a smoke alarm near your kitchen, on each level of your home, near sleeping areas, and inside and outside bedrooms if you sleep with doors closed. Use the test button to check it each month. Replace all batteries at least once a year. If you cannot afford to purchase smoke alarms or are physically unable to install one, the Red Cross may be able to help. Contact your local Red Cross for more information.

Home Fire Campaign Saves Lives Since October 2014, the Red Cross Home Fire Campaign, working with community partners, has saved at least 2,489 lives by educating families about fire safety, helping them create escape plans and installing free smoke alarms in high-risk areas across the country. To learn more about the campaign and how you can get involved, visit redcross.org/homefires.

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides comfort to victims of disasters; supplies about 40% of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; distributes international humanitarian aid; and supports veterans, military members and their families. The Red Cross is a nonprofit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to deliver its mission. For more information, please visit redcross.org or CruzRojaAmericana.org, or visit us on Twitter at @RedCross.

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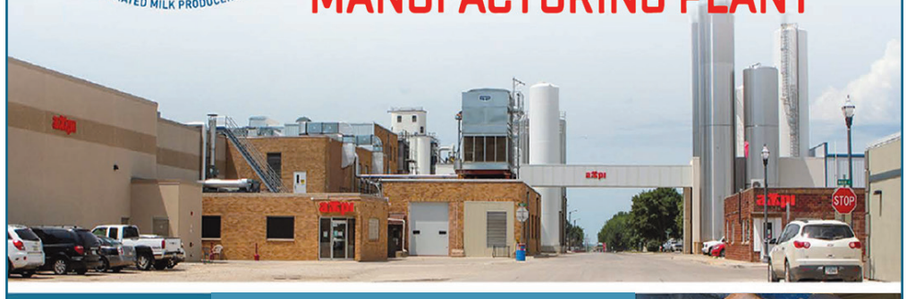

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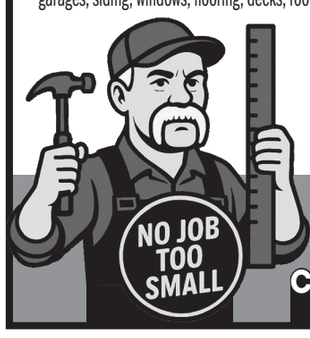

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TRAILS TALK

Erin Reed, Executive Director, DCTB

Dickinson County Recreational Trails
www.dickinsoncountytrails.com



Jan Miller, Tim & Wanda Miller enjoy Stan's new bench.

Honoring A Legacy Of Service

Tim Miller shares the story behind a bench the family recently donated in honor of his dad Stan and his legacy of service to community.

When Stan Miller retired in 1998, he changed his lake home address from a three-season cabin to his permanent four-season home on Pioneer Beach Road. Within a few years the Dickinson County Recreational Trails built a trail right across the street from his home. That lead Stan to discover the S.A.L.T. (Seniors and Lawmen Together) organization. He joined the volunteers on S.A.L.T. to patrol the trails and maintain the safety of riders, walkers, and rollerbladers, report emergencies, provide information, water, and tire pumps. He enjoyed serving the public on his once-a-week shift. Eventually Stan upped his commitment to becoming the President of S.A.L.T. He really enjoyed working with Sheriff Greg Baloun and getting to know the other volunteers. So much so, he served 9 years as President.

It was not only an honor for Stan to serve the community of the Iowa Great Lake Trails, as in his younger years he served our country in the Iowa National Guard. In the early sixties he served as a volunteer fireman in Storm Lake. In the mid- to late sixties, he served the Clive, Iowa, community as a councilman and mayor. He later served the insurance profession on state boards.

In 2024 Stan made his final resting place in Dickinson County. His wife, Jan Miller, chose to honor Stan's life of service by donating a trail bench. It resides in a perfect spot on 252nd Avenue (aka Pioneer Beach Road) in Orleans. Thanks to Erin Reed and Tom Kuhlman for allowing this bench to be placed where neighbors, friends and family can have a beautiful view of East Lake Okoboji.

The Trail Bench Program continues to grow and be a meaningful way to honor loved ones and friends. Each bench not only serves as a heartfelt tribute but also supports trail maintenance and provides inviting rest areas for all who enjoy our local trails. If you are interested in dedicating a new bench in honor of someone special, please visit *www.dickinsoncountytrails.com/donate* for details and the Bench Program form.

Every bench has a unique story behind it, and the DCTB will continue highlighting these stories in Trails Talk. We look forward to celebrating the families, friends, and memories honored through these thoughtful donations.

Fall Friends Campaign

The Iowa Great Lakes Trails continue to grow and connect our communities in exciting new ways. Over the past few years, we've seen remarkable progress - more than 17 miles of new trails, a beautiful new trailhead in Spirit Lake, and several impactful maintenance projects. None of this would be possible without the generosity of our donors. Thank you for helping us move forward mile by mile.

The DCTB remains committed to expanding and enhancing the trail network throughout the Iowa Great Lakes region. With your continued support, we can further connect communities in Clay County, advance development of the rail trail Tatanka Ska Trace and maintain a safe, high-quality trail system.

As we begin our Fall Friends Campaign, we invite you to consider becoming a Friend of the Trails. Your contribution will help enhance the quality of life in the Iowa Great Lakes and make a meaningful impact on the area's health and economy. To learn more or to donate, please visit *www.dickinsoncountytrails.com*.

We deeply appreciate the community's ongoing support. Together, we continue to improve and expand the trail system, creating lasting benefits for generations to come.

As always, Happy Trails to You and Yours.
Erin Reed, DCTB Executive Director



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Spirit Lake Library News

Gingerbread And Good Reads

by Jill Jennings

Thanksgiving is nearly here! What a wonderful opportunity to gather with family and friends, enjoy a delicious meal, and be grateful for all of our blessings. The leftovers will barely be in the refrigerator before we are thinking about the wonderful holiday season. Whatever you celebrate, we have items at the Spirit Lake Public Library that you might find helpful and fun.

The Advent or Christmas season begins November 30th and ends December 25th. We have books to help with planning and decorating, stories to read with the children, audiobooks to listen to while wrapping presents, and movies to watch together with the family. Many of these items are physically in the library and available for checkout, however about half of them are available only digitally via Libby or Hoopla. If you need help accessing our online library, please let us know!

A highlight at the SLPL is our annual gingerbread house building event. Kids and adults are welcome to put together a "gingerbread" house (graham crackers), and decorate it with all sorts of fun treats. Participants are encouraged, but not required, to bring a new, unopened donation of "building materials." This could be anything from peppermints to pretzel sticks! See below for the day and time.

Hanukkah will be celebrated by Jews around the world from the evening of December 14th through December 22nd. At the Spirit Lake Public Library we have a selection of books for children, youth and adults to enjoy.

The celebration of African customs and culture, Kwanzaa, is observed December 26th to January 1st. The book Seven Days of Kwanzaa by Ellen Grier, would be a good one to learn about this tradition.

Just let us know If you need help finding books or resources for your December celebration!

SLPL staff reading spotlight: Diana is reading The Summer of You and Me by Denise Hunter.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES:

- Monday, December 1, 1:00-3:00 p.m., Mah-Jongg
- Tuesday,December 2, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Quilters
- Wednesday, December 3, 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Quilters
- Thursday, December 4, 10:00-11:30 p.m., Block Party
- Thursday, December 4, 1:00-3:00 p.m., Mah-Jongg
- Thursday, December 4, 3:30-5:30 p.m., Gingerbread House activity



There's a classic scene in the movie *This Is Spinal Tap* that might be one of the funniest, and most painful, lessons in managing expectations ever put on film.

The band wants a dramatic stage prop: a towering Stonehenge monolith descending from the ceiling. Nigel Tufnel sketches it out on a napkin and writes "18" next to the drawing. He means **18 feet.** The set designer receives the drawing and assumes **18 inches.**

Opening night arrives. The lights dim. Smoke rolls across the stage. The cables lower the "towering" Stonehenge… all **18 inches of it**. A tiny monument meant to awe the audience instead becomes a symbol of spectacular miscommunication and ridicule.

Two groups. Two interpretations. One assumption. The result: frustration, finger-pointing, and a moment that has lived in comedic history for 40 years.

And while we might laugh at the absurdity, the truth is this: most of us have lived our own version of the "tiny Stonehenge" moment when what we expected and what someone else delivered were two entirely different things.

You don't need a rock band to see it. You can find it in daily life right here in the Iowa Great Lakes:

A dentist expects you in the chair at 8:00 a.m.

You expect that walking in at 8:04 is "close enough."

One expectation is precise; the other is flexible — a four-minute gap that ripples into the day.

Your teenager promises, "I'll mow the lawn today."

You expect "before dinner."

They expect "sometime before midnight."

Same phrase, different interpretations.

Or in the workplace:

A team member agrees to "send the presentation by end of day."

You interpret that as 5:00 p.m.

They interpret it as "before I go to bed tonight."

The clock strikes five. You wait. They think they're on time.

Tiny Stonehenge, corporate edition.

Here's the truth: ***Most frustration in life is simply unmanaged expectations — ours, or someone else's.***

But here's the good news: expectations aren't fate, they're fixable. And with a little intentionality, we can align them before they become costly, annoying, or embarrassingly small monuments on life's stage.

Five Ways to Better Manage Expectations

1. Say exactly what you mean.

Avoid vague phrases like "later," "eventually," or "end of day."

Specify: "by 3:00 p.m.," "before dinner," or "I'll call you by noon."

Precision prevents assumptions.

2. Confirm understanding — out loud.

One of the most powerful phrases in leadership and life is: "Just to make sure we're on the same page…"

You'll be amazed at how often the other person heard something entirely different.

3. Honor your commitments, especially the small ones.

Showing up on time, following through, delivering as promised build trust brick by brick.

If you want stronger relationships, start with stronger reliability.

4. Communicate immediately when something changes.

If you can't meet the expectation, say so as soon as you know.

Silence creates anxiety. Information creates alignment.

5. Reset expectations when reality shifts.

When circumstances change, a deadline moves, a family plan adjusts, or a project expands, take a moment, pause, and say: "Given the change, let's re-set what good looks like."

Clarity today prevents disappointment tomorrow.

Managing expectations is not about perfection. It's about clarity. It's about giving others the information they need to trust us, rely on us, and work with us. When expectations are aligned, relationships strengthen. When they drift, even unintentionally, disappointment fills the space.

As you move through this week at home, on the water, at work, or with those you love, remember the Stonehenge lesson:

"If you don't say it clearly, someone else will shrink it down for you."

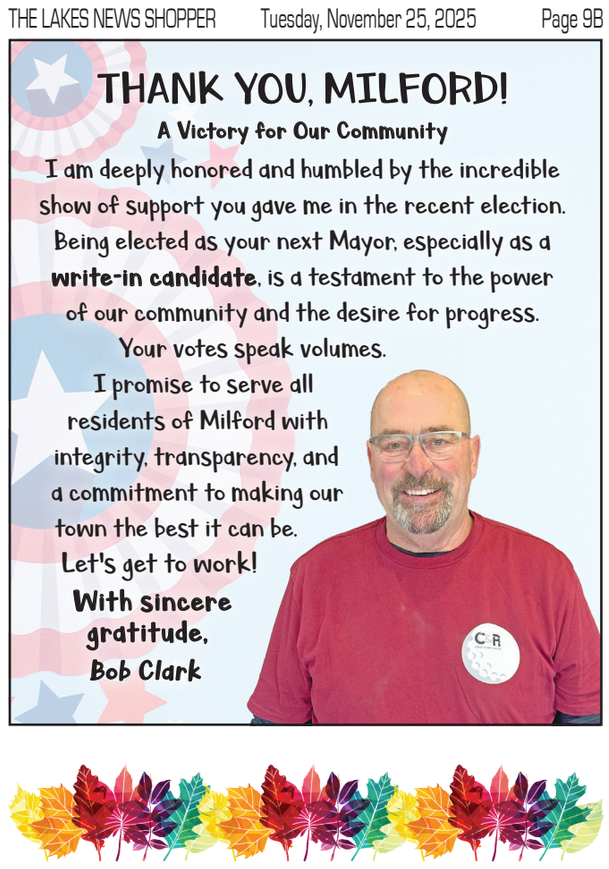
Now that's a river worth navigating.

Tony Thelen is an executive coach and founder of The River Coaching and Consulting based in West Okoboji, Iowa. He has a new book called "Things We Desire" that is available on Amazon or any major book retailer, contact him for signed and personalized copies at tony@therivercoach.org























Where Nature Is The Playground

Giving Tuesday Fundraising Drive Dec. 2, 2025

for the NEW Nature Playscape Coming to The Nature Center!

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Dickinson County Conservation Board is calling on local businesses, families, and nature lovers to join in supporting this effort. Contributions can be made to the CFDC, a 501(c)3 organization that supports the DCCB in their mission to educate, conserve nature, and provide outdoor recreational opportunities for all.

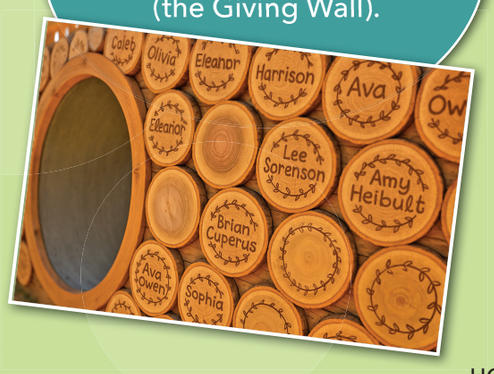
General Donors Have Pledged A $500,000 Match To Encourage Local Donations

The new playscape has been thoughtfully divided into themed zones, each offering unique ways for children to explore. Donors can choose to support an entire zone or help bring individual features to life. Donations can be made by visiting or mailing to the Dickinson County Nature Center or mail to the address:

Conservation Foundation of Dickinson County (CFDC)
22785 Nature Center Road
Okoboji, IA 51355



We are also recognizing donors who give $1,000+ by engraving names on tree cookies placed within the playscape design (the Giving Wall).



HOURS: Tues.-Sat.10am-4pm

www.dickinsoncountyconservationboard.com

Dickinson County CONSERVATION BOARD

Helping Hand

712-390-0406

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- Running Errands with Care
- Enhancing Home Accessibility for Handicap Needs
- Providing Support with Compassion and Kindness
- Dropping off Meals or Needed Items
- Help with Daily Home Chores
- Plus Other Needs

Call us to Chat About Your Needs

Contact Us

Heather: 712-390-0406

Scan Here to Connect on Facebook

Scan Here to Donate for Rides for those who cannot afford them

We are Bruce (Beed) and Heather Geisinger, lifelong residents of Northwest Iowa.

We are deeply committed to serving others and building meaningful connections within our community.

Whether assisting with transportation to appointments, running errands, or enhancing accessibility in the home, we approach each task with compassion and a strong dedication to making a positive impact.

Our goal is to provide reliable support, always delivered with kindness and empathy.



Inspiration for Our Day- *"From his abundance we have all received one gracious blessing after another."* ~John 1:16

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THE LNS THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER

Client TESTIMONIAL



I have been advertising with The Lakes News Shopper for my entire time at Sunshine Foods in Milford the past 10 years. I can honestly say that they are my most powerful tool in my advertising toolbox. John and the entire staff at The LNS are always easy to work with, approachable, and quick to reply when we are planning our ads. Their creativity is out of this world with the design and layout of our weekly ads.

My favorite benefit of advertising in The Lakes News Shopper is when I am too busy to spend a ton of time planning an ad, I can always rely on them to be the creative side of my advertising, and they always deliver on their promises!

We also see fantastic results from our ads in The Lakes News Shopper. Our front page ad in October was a home run! We were 4th of July busy at 8AM and crushed sales all day long, selling out of many items by noon with record sales for the day, thanks in large part to the ad in The LNS!

The grocery business is a nonstop business and very intense at times. Having The Lakes News Shopper ease the stresses of advertising is always something that I appreciate and fully recommend.

Travis Kennedy
Sunshine Foods
Milford, Iowa



Sunshine Foods