

# LAKES NEWS SHOPPER



THIS IS YOUR FREE COPY

THESDAY DECEMBER 9 2025

VNI /53 NN /10

PO BOX 192 / MILFORD / IOWA 51351 / 712 - 338 - 2232 / LAKESNEWSSHOPPER.COM





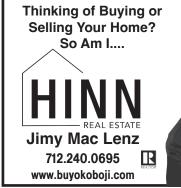


**WORLD TRAVEL INC.** 

**Call Sandy** 712-336-4580

## 80th Birthday Announcement

Mike Jordan of Spirit Lake will be celebrating his 80th birthday December 15th. Many may remember him at the original Black Walnut Candy Shop in Arnolds Park working in the family business that his grandfather Frank Lagios began in 1919. His second career has been as a reporter/photographer for local newspapers in Spirit Lake, Estherville and Lakefield, Minnesota. The family requests a card shower sent to his winter residence: 408 Clen Oak Parkway, Burnet, Texas 78611.











#### 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.

## **ARE BROUGHT TO YOU BY:**





LUNCH: Mon.-Sat. 11-2 **DINNER:** Mon.-Thurs. 5-9 Fri.-Sat. 5-9:30 HAPPY HOUR: Mon.-Fri. 3-6 712-262-9871 216 Grand Ave. • Spencer www.weasys.com





GAME

#4

GAME

#10

GAME

#13

Name:

Army vs. Navy

THIS WEEK'S GAMES

GAME

Boise State vs. Washington

GAME

South Dakota at Montana



Okoboji's ONLY **Locally Owned Supermarket!** 

Raiders at Eagles

Lumber Company Since 1906

**Spencer** 262-4962

GERKIN<sup>™</sup>

**Lake Park** 832-3268 BAYER

OPEN: **Monday-Friday** 

7am-5pm

**MARVIN**<sup>®</sup>



**Spirit Lake** 

336-3610

**Browns at Bears** 

## **FULL SERVICE MARINE BROKER**

Commanders at

Giants

blink



**BROKERAGE** SALES • SERVICE **GEL COAT REPAIR DETAILING** 

find us on **F** 

712-330-3152 · 1520 Hudson Avenue W · Spirit Lake, IA

**NEW and USED GOLF CARTS · Sales and Service Seasonal Rentals** Weekly and **Weekend Rentals** GOLF CART | AUTO Check out our website! crcartsauto.com 712-332-1370 309 Okoboji Ave., Milford • South End of Milford

Cardinals at Texans

**2 GREAT LOCATIONS!** 

# Lakes Auto Care

Call **712-336-2198** 

Milford Auto Care Call **712-338-6198** or Book Online at **v.milfordautocareia.** 

"Driven by Passion, Defined by Care PROFESSIONAL AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR

Chargers at Chiefs

GAME Ravens at Bengals



Titans at 49ers

66 Hwys. 9 & 71 • Spirit Lake

**Gas • Food • Liquor • Tobacco** Like us on 🚹 at Jiffy Convienence Store

Hwys. 9 & 71 • Spirit Lake • 712-336-3129

**FOOTBALL SAVINGS** 

GAME

#14

your total bill when you bring

in this ad

Packers at Broncos

Vikings at Cowboys

AMERICAN FOOD CO.

Hwy. 71 & 86 • Milford

712-338-4060

OUR CONVENIENCE STORE FOR EVERYTHING YOU NEED - QUICK

228 NORTH HWY. 71, ARNOLDS PARK • 712-332-6062

GAME #12

**Lions at Rams** 



**f** www.lchomesiowa.com

for up to \$10 off. **Residential New Construction & Remodeling** Excludes Senior/Kid's Menus and Bakery. See Store for Details. Coupon expires Dec. 31, 2025. GAME Colts at Seahawks



bacco Wine LIQUOR

NEW SELECTION OF WINES • CIGARS • LIQUOR • BEER CBD & KRATOM • WALK-IN HUMIDOR

Open 7 Days a Week Hwy. 71 South • Arnolds Park • 712-332-2915



GAME

<u>See Our Entire Inventory at</u> philsmm.com 577 Hwy. 71 S • Arnolds Park **Financing Available** 

712.332.8202

**2 TIE BREAKERS: Total Score Lions vs. Rams: AND Total Score Vikings vs. Cowboys:** 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





with Qualified Credit CARFAX

BUY • SELL • TRADE Home of the "No Doc Fee"











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

**PELICAN** 



**NEW and USED GOLF CARTS** Sales and Service 712-332-1370

crcartsauto.com 309 Okoboji Ave., Milford south end of Milford



## Let's Get Social at Stay in Home Care in Milford

The Iowa Great Lakes Area Chamber is hosting a Let's Get Social event at Stay in Home Care to help them celebrate their Holiday Open House. Join us on Wednesday, December 10th, from 4-6pm.

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

Help us celebrate Stay in Home care and a kick off to the Holidays with light snacks, drinks and plenty of holiday cheer. We can't wait to see you there!! This Business After 5 Social event is free and open to the public. Guests are encouraged to bring business cards and invite colleagues to join in the festivities. See you then.



# Holiday Savings & Wellness Packages!

25 OFF

\$500 OFF **Emsella Emsculpt Neo** 

**Emsculpt Neo Sculpt Package Package** 

**EM**SCULPT® **EM**SELLA® **Emsella** 

**Function** 

Pelvic Floor Strengthening

**Emsculpt Neo** Helps with Plantar Fasciitis, Knee Pain, **Back Spasms & More** 

Cash, Venmo

or Checks

made out to:

The Joy of Life

**Foundation** 

The Joy of Life Foundation

@TheJOLFoundation

**Spirit Lake** 

**High School** 

**Key Club** 

sunlighten Sunlighten mPulse **Unlimited Sauna Packages** 

Minimum 3 Month Commitment) Single Person \$69/Month

2 Family Members \$99/Month Family \$169/Month





712-336-2626 • 802 Lake St. Suite 4 • Spirit Lake, IA 51360 • naturalfamilychiro.com





# THIS CHRISTMAS

Select a Card from the Tree for a Donation of:

\$120 Sunscreen Dispenser \$55 Refill Bag of Sunscreen **OR Any Amount to Help Prevent** Melanoma Skin Cancer

100% of your Donations go to



Our mission is to help YOU find all the JOY that life has to offer, provide education and spread awareness on the silent disease of Melanoma skin cancer.

HOLIDAY SAVINGS ALL MONTH LONG! FIND THE BEST GIFTS AT OAK HILL!

**APPAREL 60% OFF** 





WATERSPORTS

40% OFF





LEUPOLD & **VORTEX OPTICS** 40% OFF







#### 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!

# **HUGE IOWA ICE SHOW SAVINGS!** SATURDAY ONLY!



25% OFF All Fishing Rods, Reels & **Tackle** 



Maven 40V Battery & Reel FREE with Maven 40V **Auger purchase** 



10% OFF In-Stock **Shacks** & Hubs



Big Buddy Heater \$99.99

**Old Timer** Knives \$34.99\* \*while supplies last

**UPCOMING LIVE MUSIC & EVENTS at Oak Hill Outdoor - 2188** 





**LOCATED INSIDE OAK HILL OUTDOOR FULL BAR • FOOD • NIGHTLY SPECIALS** 

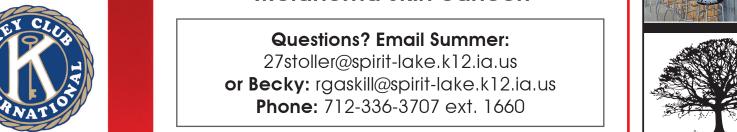
WEDNESDAYS: HitMix Bingo, Flatbreads & Tap-It Wednesday! THURSDAYS: 3/\$6 Tacos, Margaritas/ Jason Grinnen Karaoke 6-10 PM



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



Milford



THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER Tuesday, December 9, 2025 Page

Horseshoe Bend Tubing Hill Open
The recent snow in the region has finally made suitable conditions to open the Horseshoe Bend Sports Area, located at

1924 240th St., Milford.

Day passes to rent tubes are available for \$15 per person with cash or check only (no ATM available). To access the large tubing hill, a day pass is required. Personal tubes, sleds, and other sports equipment are not permitted on the tubing hill; however, they can be used on the shorter hill located

east of the warming house at no cost. Seasonal passes are not available for the 2025-2026 season. Minors must have a chaperone on site at all times.

An automated tow rope is available to go back up the hill, and if it gets chilly, enjoy a cozy central stone fireplace in the warming house. Concessions will be available for purchase, and visitors can also bring their own food and supplies into the warming house.

If conditions are suitable and there is sufficient snowpack, the hill will be scheduled to open on Saturdays and Sundays from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Weekly announcement of openings will be posted to the Dickinson County Nature Center Facebook page and online at <a href="https://dickinsoncountyconservationboard.com/horseshoe-bend-tubing-hill">https://dickinsoncountyconservationboard.com/horseshoe-bend-tubing-hill</a>.

To contact the warming house during the weekend, please call 712-338-2581. For questions regarding the tubing hill during the week, please call 712-338-4786.





## Cemstone's Iconic Christmas Truck is Coming to Spirit Lake

Cemstone, a leading producer of ready-mix concrete and construction materials, is thrilled to announce that its beloved Cemstone Christmas Truck will be stopping at its Spirit Lake, Iowa, location for a special three-day display.

The festive, holiday-themed ready-mix truck, known for its vibrant lights and decorations, will be available for public viewing and photos at Cemstone (1911 Peoria Ave, Spirit Lake) on Monday, December 15, through Wednesday, December 17, 2025.

The Cemstone Christmas Truck is a cherished tradition, bringing cheer to communities across the region each December. Guests are encouraged to bring their cameras to capture the perfect holiday picture.









## Buy your treatments NOW!

# Schedule your lip treatments soon!

ONLINE: okobojiskincare.com

20 Minute **EXION lip treatment**: \$225 regular price: \$450

# no injections pain free

Naturally increases your hyaluronic acid volume by 224% on average

Treatment area includes **fine lines** both above and below the lips as well as the lip area

Notice **results** after one treatment recommended 4 treatments for maximum results

results last 10-12 months



OKOBOJI

LIP LOUNGE
SALE
DEC 8-DEC 13

**\** 712-332-5555



Dr. Delwyn Lassen Medical Director













- Cali Nails
- Carolyn's Hallmark
- El Mariachi Bar & Grill
- Faust Institute of Cosmetology
- Fashion Formula
- Hy-Vee Wine & Spirits
  - Interiors
- Lakes Auto Care
  - The Look Fashions
  - MediaCom
- Spirit Lake Silver & Gold
  - Spirit Spa
  - Valvoline
  - Wild Child

















#### **IMPROVISATIONAL**



Josh & Anna Harris Sherri Jones 🔊



#### **DIRECTORS**

Central Bank & Insure

Diamond Concrete & Construction, Inc. Ron & Donna Harris Northwest Bank

Pizza Ranch

Greg & Sheila Tritle

Scott Trautman State Farm Spirit Lake Noon Kiwanis

If you would like to support music in our schools, p lease fill out a membership form at: <u> https://spirit-lake.k12.ia.us/organizations/</u>

## Local Students Spread 'Joy of Life' to Fight Melanoma

holiday fundraising effort for The Joy of Life Foundation with

Give the Gift of Joy

this Christmas

100% of your

their "Give the Gift of Joy this Christmas" campaign. The foundation is dedicated to providing education and spreading awareness about Melanoma skin cancer.

Donors are asked to select a card from a Christmas tree to make a contribution. The suggested donation amounts are \$120 for a new Sunscreen Dispenser or \$55 for a Refill Bag of Sunscreen. However, con-

tributions of any amount are accepted to help prevent Melanoma. The Joy of Life Foundation ensures that 100% of donations

stay local, with funds specifically directed toward: • Purchasing Sunscreen Dispensers.

• The upkeep and maintenance of the Sunscreen Dispensers.

 Purchasing sunscreen for the Dispensers. The foundation currently maintains dispensers across five different counties: Dickinson, Emmet, Clay, Palo Alto, and Osceola, placing them at numerous local sites, including parks,

pools, beaches, and sports fields, such as Arnolds Park, Gull Point, Lake Park Pool, and several Little League parks. Donations can be made via Cash, Checks made out to The Joy of Life Foundation, or Venmo. Those with questions about the campaign can email Summer at 27stoller@spirit-lake.k12.





# <u>'OUR</u> AGENT! MARILYN STRICKLAND

**Hoien Realty** 

712-336-2790 or 712-320-7070

**Anniversary Announcement** 

Ron and Margo Sievers celebrated five decades of love and commitment. They were united in marriage on a cold and snowy day, December 6th, 1975, in Belle Plaine, Iowa, surrounded by family and friends. A Golden Celebration is being planned for this upcoming June at their summer home on East Lake Okoboji.

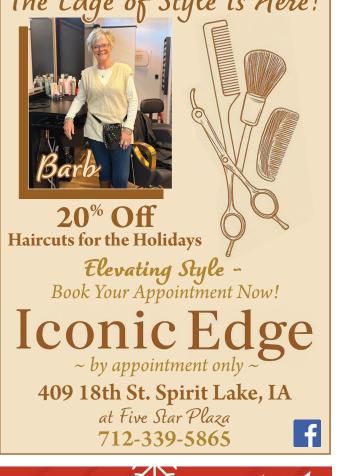














Your Home for all your

**Sports and Collectable Needs!** 

**HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE** 







on your phone!



SPIRIT LAKE PUBLIC LIBRARY COME & GO CERAMIC ORNAMENT PAINTING (\$10) KURIO KASTLE 10:00 - 2:00

10:00 - 2:00 4 CREATE AN ORNAMENT INDIAN MOTOR CYCLE @ THE VENUE

10:00 - 2:00 PICTURES WITH SANTA ALLURE & CO. 10:00 - 4:00 5 ELF HUNT TIMELESS CONSIGNMENTS

10:00 - 2:00 6 I SPY CANDY CANE GAME & TREAT BAGS

10:00 - 3:00 7 HOT COCOA BAR HOLLAND HOUSE & ROOTED BOTUQUE 10:00 - 2:00 8 CHRISTMAS CRAFT
NATURAL FAMILY CHIROPRACTIC &
ESSENTIAL FLOAT

10:00 - 2:00 9 HOLIDAY PHOTO BOOTH SHORELINE THREADS

FACE PAINTING & PHOTOS WITH 10:00 - 2:00 PRANCER & FROSTY
INTERIOR SEWING BY LISA

LETTERS TO SANTA & ORNAMENT CRAFT GREAT LAKES MALL 10:00 - 2:00 🦢



First 25 kids get gift bags and giveaways every



Expanded sales area and lots of great holiday deals!

Local supporter of our youth, area, and schools.

Keep an eye out for "Trade Nights" at the shop and local libraries.



Okoboji Sports And Collectibles LLC

1005 Eastview Ave. • Okoboji (Located with Smart Powersports & Autosmart of Okoboji) **HOURS:** M-F 9-6; Sat. 9-5; Sun. by appointment



## FISH FRY-DAYS

TAILGATE MENU

ALL YOU CAN EAT FISH & CHIPS 8 OZ SIRLOIN (5 PM FRIDAYS) I \$24

# SNAPPERS SATURDAYS

TAILGATE MENU

10 OZ PRIME RIB (5 PM SATURDAYS) I \$29 TVs always on!

# **BLOODY SUNDAYS**

TAILGATE MENU

BOGO FREE BLOODYS & MIMOSAS

#### **SMASH BURGER THURSDAYS**

SMASH BURGER WITH A SIDE

THE BEST DAILY HAPPY HOUR! 1/2 PRICE DRINKS FROM 4-6 PM 24457 178TH STREET · SNAPPERSBOJI.COM · (712)332-8293







Donate today!

ALL ITEMS WILL BE DONATED TO YOUTH SERVED BY **UPPER DES MOINES OPPORTUNITY IN DICKINSON COUNTY**  Donate today!

# WINTER TUNKer everyone \*

Clip & Save Clip & Save

MILFORD PIONEER THEATRE

905 Okoboji Avenue · Milford · 515-207-2306 · milfordpioneertheatre.com

Please visit milfordpioneertheatre.com for show times. Advance reservations are not available.

#### **Slumberland Furniture of Spencer Announces** First-Ever Moonlight Madness Sale

Slumberland Furniture of Spencer is thrilled to announce its first-ever Moonlight Madness SALE on Saturday, December

Midnight. This is an unprecedented event for the community and for anyone planning a furniture purchase in the near future. The story behind the sale -if you plan on making a furniture purchase in the near future, you need to read about this sale! Slumberland is aggressively clearing out their showroom and warehouses for new arrivals. Whether you purchase discontinued closeouts or regular stock items, they are being sold at 25-40% OFF their



already low Black Friday Sale prices! This unprecedented event is this Saturday from Noon till Midnight! It's one day only, so don't miss out! Slumberland Furniture of Spencer invites the public to come in to grab a bite to eat and drink and take advantage of unheard of deals. Shoppers can enjoy food, wine, or beer while they shop, including Busch Light beer. The Busch Light will be served by Spencer Hy-Vee. Mark your calendars for this unique event to score incredible furniture deals while enjoying refreshments at Slumberland Furniture of Spencer





THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER

OFFICIAL BEER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF OKOBOJI WINTER GAMES

west

Tuesday, December 9, 2025

**TAPROOM HOURS** MONDAY | CLOSED TUE-THU | 2-10 pm FRI-SUN | 12-10 pm

**KITCHEN HOURS** MONDAY | CLOSED TUE-THU | 4-9 pm FRI-SUN | 12-9 pm

GET SOCIAL @westobeer

**503 TERRACE PARK BLVD • WEST OKOBOJI** 

LIMIT 1 COUPON PER TICKET | EXPIRES DEC. 31, 2025





the

BALLROOM

FOR TICKETS OR SPONSORSHIP INFORMATION, SCAN CODE OR CONTACT: EMAIL TO SONJA.HAMM@LAKESHEALTH.ORG OR CALL 712.336.8791

CAPITAL CALL

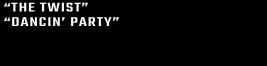


# BOOMERS TWith a CROONERS

#### ROOF GARDEN BALLROOM | ARNOLDS PARK, IOWA

#### CHUBBY CHECKER CELEBRATING 60 "THE TWIST"

2:00 P.M. 7:30 P.M.

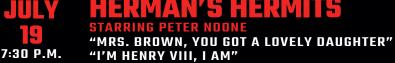














7:30 P.M. **SPECIAL** 

**PURCHASING ALL** 

"SWEET CAROLINE"

"SOLITARY MAN"

FOR TICKETS & UP-TO-DATE CONCERT INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT ROOFGARDENBALLROOM.COM



# ARNOLDS PARK AMUSEMENT PARK

🕨 \$10 OFF SEASON MEMBERSHIPS 🤇 The 2026 Arnolds Park Amusement Park membership deal is good through 12/31/25. Available at arnoldspark.com/tickets/



**ARE REQUIRED** and may be picked up at participating businesses

**DROP OFF YOUR KIDS EARLY** AND CHRISTMAS SHOP AT YOUR LOCAL BUSINESSES!



The Polar Express Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday December 23, 24 & 25 at 10:30am

Wonka

Saturday, Sunday, & Tuesday Dec. 13 & 14 · 10am & 11am

Dec. 16 at 4:15pm

Presented by Campus Women's Club 1 hour 56 minutes

How the Grinch Stole Christmas (2018)

Friday, Saturday, & Sunday Dec. 19 at 2pm · Dec. 20 at 10am Dec. 21 at 10am

1 hour 45 minutes

1 hour 40 minutes

#### **SPONSORS**

PRESENTING SPONSORS: **Boji Junction** Campus Women's Club Boji Ware **Dickinson County Animal Clinic Edward Jones - Amy Hotovec** Milford Commercial Club Okoboji Flooring & Furniture Drip Okoboji

SUPPORTING SPONSORS: Amy's Sign Design **Arnold Motor Supply** Arnold's Park Amusement Park **Bonfire Marketing and Web Co Carstens Financial Group** Clary Lake Service **Dawn's Dance Connection Emerald Hills Exile Gaming Farmers Savings Bank** Godfather's Pizza **Hicks Family Healthcare** 

**Ingwersen Family Chiropractic** 

Jeremy Moyer Trucking, LLC

Kazarelli's Lakes News Shoppe Los Pueblos MHR Insurance Milford Electric, Inc. Milford Hy-Vee Pharmacy Mill Creek Restaurant **Northwest Bank** Oak Hill Marina & Oak Hill Outdoor Okoboji Gas Company Okoboji Inn & Suites **Outrigger Restaurant** 

Pioneer Printing **Prairie Feed & Trucking** Ries Eyecare Sunshine Foods The Coffee Shop The Three Sons Tom's Plumbing & Heating Tri State Litho True Value Hardware **United Community Bank** West O Beer Zen Salon

Additional sponsors may be added and can be found on our website.



## Christmas at Bethany Yesterday & Today

# Saturday, Dec. 13

11:00 am to 2:00 pm

**A Collection of Nativity Scenes** will be displayed this year!

#### **Scandinavian Tea Room** with Traditional Scandinavian Goodies...

Lefse, Kringla, Almond Cake, Krumkake, Sot Suppe (fruit soup), Rommegrot (cream soup), Kransekake (Norwegian wedding cake) and much more!

## **Enjoy a Hearty Pulled Pork Lunch!**

Bake Sale •Kids Corner and much, much more!

A \$5 donation is suggested for the Scandinavian Tea Room and \$7 for the Pulled Pork Lunch.

Proceeds will benefit: Lutheran Lakeside Camp

"For Every Season" Campaign **Bethany Lutheran Church** 15 W 14th St., Spencer, IA

**Everyone Welcome!** 

## **SUNDAY** • 10:30 AM

Coffee & Fellowship Before & After the Service

Rev. Dr. Jennifer Hesebeck, Pastor 805 Okoboji Avenue • Milford, IA



#### Join Us...

Two Worship Services TO CHOOSE FROM

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

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



# 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.

## Lakes Area Activity/Senior Center Holiday Dance

The Lakes Area Activity/ Senior Center will be sponsoring a special Holiday Dance on Sunday, December 14. Bill & Jackie

will be performing that afternoon from 2:00-5:00 in the afternoon. Admission is only \$8.00 per person or \$15.00 per couple. Enjoy the music of Bill & Jackie while you dance on the spacious dance floor of the Lakes Area Senior Activity Center, located at 2101 Zenith Avenue in Spirit





### THE LAKES NEWS **Auctions**



### Family Services Resource Guide

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



### Join Us For Our Cookie Walk **Fundraiser** Tuesday, December 16th S Prom 4 - 6 PM

St. Alban's

"The Lord Be with You"

at Crace Lutheran Church

ST. ALBAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**LESSONS &** 

**CAROLS SERVICE** 

7pm Sunday, December 14

An evening of wonderful Music & Bible

Readings with a choir of singers from

different churches in our community.

Refreshments following the event.

The Episcopal presence in the Iowa Great Lakes Area

23rd & Zenith Ave. • Spirit Lake • 712-336-1117

10:00 AM SUNDAYS 11:00 TUESDAYS

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE:** 

7:00 PM

#### \$12/Dozen Cookies Made by Members of the Church

Proceeds will go to support the Grace Lutheran Church Youth Ministry!





## First Lutheran Church 9/7/2025 - 5/24/2026 00 FELLOWSHIP WORSHIP 9:30 AM 8:30 AM & II DENNE. EDUCATION 11:00 AM 9:45 AM 1525 Three Cross Road Milford, IA

office@3cross.org (#) 712-338-4514 (#) www.3cross.org

MAY THE JOY OF THE ADVENT SEASON **BLESS YOU AND YOURS!** JoyKids Christmas Program - Wed., Dec. 10th Program at 5:15 pm | Supper at 6:00 pm

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

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy & peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." - Romans 5:13

CUPBOARD LOCATED ON SW CORNER OF BUILDING. ITEMS AVAILABLE 24/7

BLESSING BOX



**JOYKIDS WEDNESDAYS 3:30-5PM** HARBOR OF JOY LUTHERAN CHURCH LCM® 1204 L Ave. Milford • 712-338-2355

## **Spirit Lake United Methodist** Church



three sizes as we learn gift of Christmas!

- ADVENT WORSHIP 8:30 & 10:30 AM

OKOBOJI BREWING COMPANY. LIVE MUSIC,

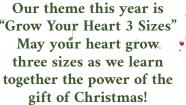
**DECEMBER 21: FORGIVENESS & JOY** ADVENT WORSHIP 8:30 & 10:30 AM

#### - DECEMBER 24 -**CHRISTMAS EVE**

DECEMBER 28:PRAISE GOD!

Joy with community. • including you!

1812 GARY AVE., SPIRIT LAKE, IA • 336-3115



- **DECEMBER 10: CHILDREN'S PROGRAM** 5:45 PM FOLLOWED BY POTLUCK
- **DECEMBER 14: LOVE & TREASURE** FUN CHRISTMAS SWEATER SUNDAY
- **DECEMBER 14: IN THE SPIRIT**

A CELEBRATION OF THE SEASON EVENT AT 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

**CANDLELIGHT SERVICES** 3:00 PM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP 5:30 PM CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

**ONE WORSHIP SERVICE** 9:30 AM

A place for all people,



the

**Bedell Family YMCA** 712.336.9622 • www.okobojiymca.com

FIND US ON FACEBOOK TO STAY **UP TO DATE ON ALL ACTIVITIES!** 

**BE YOUR BEST ROOKIE BASKETBALL - Season 2** 

Saturdays: Feb. 7 - March 14

COOKIE WALK

Saturday, Dec. 20, 2025 🎇 9am-11am

Large assortment of homemade \$9.00/lb.

**Calvary United Methodist Church** 

679 W Okoboji Grove Road, Arnolds Park, IA (Across Hwy 71 from Emerald Hills)

holiday cookies and goodies!

Games played on Saturdays

Deadline to Register: January 9 (\$15 late fee)

THE PLAY WITH

**PURPOSE PLACE** 

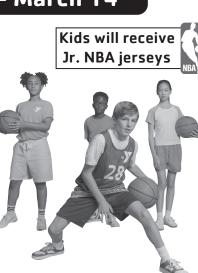
No registrations taken past January 16 Practices Begin: Week of January 26 Time: 8:00am - 12:00pm

Cost: \$59 members

Grades: K to 4th

\$114 non-members

Scan the QR code to register





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

From: **8:30 to 10:00am** Where: **Community Room** 

Sponsored by the Milford American Legion Auxiliary!

FREE Coffee. **Breakfast &** Conversation!





SAT 12/13-14 9:00am0 & 11:00am

TUES 12/16 4:15pm

MILFORD PIONEER

THEATRE

905 Okoboji Avenue Milford • 515-207-2306 milfordpioneertheatre.com

**NOW PLAYING DEC. 10-17** 





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

#### Hope is a Dangerous Thing....

One of my favorite all-time movies is Shawshank Redemption and there is a line in that movie where Ellis Redding, "Red", played by Morgan Freeman, tells Andy Dufresne, played by Tim Robbins, "Hope is a dangerous thing. It can drive a man insane." This hope of what the future may bring definitely drove Cyclone fans insane this past weekend when 10-year head football coach Matt Campbell took the Penn State job, shocking Cyclone Nation, his team and his staff. This all happened just two days after Campbell and his staff signed their highest ranked recruiting class ever, and after an 8-4 season where the team rallied to win their last three games and was set to return 17/22 starters. From all reports, the staff and players were kept completely in the dark about all of this and were as surprised as all of the Cyclone fans who found out on social media late Friday afternoon that this was probably a done deal. You know this is such a big deal when I'm dedicating my entire article to it instead of writing about the #10 Men's Basketball team dismantling the #1 Purdue Boilermakers on their home court on Saturday, 81-58, making it the third straight win vs a #1 ranked team for the Cyclones and tying the largest margin of defeat ever for a #1 ranked team at home. (I had to work that game in here somehow).

Hope is what Campbell and his staff delivered to Cyclone Nation that had not existed prior to their arrival. Sure, we had occasional bowl trips and occasional upsets, but Campbell brought a culture and attitude that "6-6 was for bullshi\* programs" and he delivered on it. When I was at Iowa State from 1992-97 our best win was probably the Marv Seiler Miracle game when ISU took down 7th ranked Nebraska 19-10 yet finished the season 4-7. During my five years in Ames, the Cyclones won a total of 12 games. The 2024 team nearly beat that by themselves with their 11-3 season. When I was growing up, in college, and before Campbell arrived, you prayed that Iowa State would get six wins, perhaps upset a ranked team, and just not get beat by 40 by the Top 10 teams. Campbell and his staff completely changed that, and they did it fairly quickly, suffering just his first 3-9 season where they weren't very competitive. Then in 2017, they shocked #3 Oklahoma on the road with second-string QB Kyle Kempt making his first career DI start, two weeks later they would beat #4 TCU at home, and then they went on to win the Liberty Bowl over hometown #20 Memphis. From that point on, we no longer had to "hope" that we could compete, we knew that the Cyclones would be in every game, and for the most part they were. Heck, even in Campbell's only other losing season, 2022 where ISU went 4-8, that team beat an 8-4 Iowa team, 10-7 in Kinnick Stadium and competed in every game except the last

game of the year at #4 TCU. We are now back to hoping that the program won't take a step back with Campbell and most of his staff departing for Penn State. As of Monday morning, when I write this editorial, we also hope that most of our returning players return to Ames and choose to play for Iowa State instead of transferring. In college sports however, kids normally choose to sign with a coaching staff more than the school, and new head coach Jimmy Rogers will have to do a masterful job of re-recruiting these Cyclones this week. My emotions were a roller coaster all weekend with how I felt about the situation, probably like most Cyclone fans. I was angry at Campbell for leaving, I was angry at Athletic Director Jamie Pollard for allowing Campbell to leave, and for some of the rumors you heard about how he was handling our NIL situation, I was angry at how the players were left completely in the dark, I was again angry at Pollard for not hiring offensive coordinator Taylor Mouser, as I thought that was the only way to keep many of our current players, I was angry that we were turning down a bowl invitation, something we used to cherish so much, and I was angry at our current state of college athletics and how it has become so money driven. As I was texting with fellow Cyclone fan Matt Richter on Sunday, we came up with how they should change the school song from "loyal sons forever true" to "loyal money forever true".

All these feelings now take me to Monday morning, and I'm still not sure how to feel. I'm a positive person by nature, so I'm going to choose that route here and am going to go back to the hope route. I'm going to try and let go of my anger with Campbell, and remember when I was coaching and came close to having the opportunity to come back closer to home to coach at Iowa State and how excited I was, and then heart broken when it didn't happen, and realize that is all part of the business, and coaches come and go but our program is there forever. I'm trying to be thankful for the ten amazing years that Coach Campbell and his staff gave us, and all of the memories they provided our family, friends and Cyclone Nation, including two trips to the Big 12 Championship Game. I'm trying to get fully on board that Jimmy Rogers is the right hire, and I remind myself that I wasn't overly excited when Pollard hired TJ Otzelberger in 2021, and look how that has turned out! I'm choosing to go back to a quote from my favorite movie, Shawshank Redemption, but this time I'm going to choose a quote from Andy Dufresne that comes later in the movie and I'm going to choose to view things like this moving forward as a die-hard Cyclone, "Remember Red, hope is a good thing, maybe the best of things, and no good thing ever dies." Long live Cyclone Nation, whoever is leading us!!





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## 90th Birthday Announcement

Vivian Lynn celebrated her 90th birthday last summer with family, but her official 90th is December 22, 2025. She has been a long-time member of the Lake Park Historical Society, and this group would like to honor her with a card shower (surprise!) Please send your memories and/or greetings to Vivian Lynn, PO Box 424, Lake Park, Iowa 51347.



## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

YOUR AGENT!

MARILYN STRICKLAND

Broker - Associate Hoien Realty

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**Auction Calendar** 

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Wed., Dec. 10 - 10:00 AM-

Thurs., Dec. 18 – 10:00 AM–

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Thank You, Thank You!

Supporters of the Milford St. Joseph Knights of Columbus, your KC Council has completed an active year for the Parish. The Council conducted two Fish Dinners, made over 1,600 pies, provided dinner for the Diocese Seminarians, raised over \$2,000 for the intellectually impaired (Tootsie Roll Drive), provided a breakfast that raised over \$1,500 for Birthright of Spencer, provided donuts and coffee at the Memorial Day Mass, collected Coats for Kids, and Food for Families and made \$25,000 in donations to local charities. The members of your KC Council thank you for your support this year!

The Knights of Columbus is a fraternal organization of Catholic men. It was founded in 1882 by Fr Michael McGivney in New Haven, Connecticut. The founding goals of protecting the poor – especially the widows and orphans – and providing a space for Catholic men to grow in faith together in nearly 17,000 Councils and in 17 countries. We have more than 2.1 million members worldwide. In 2024 more than 47 million volunteer hours were given and more than \$190 million donated to charity.

Milford St. Joseph Knights of Columbus

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

Management. 712-262-3110. I would have never believed that Dickinson County would www.midwestlandmanagement. be in the front line of protection against foreign criminal gangs,

think of when you think of criminal gangs entering the United 137.65 acres at auction in Fairmont, MN. Auctioneers: Hartungs. 507-States. But apparently because of Governor Tim Waltz and his Democratic administration's deep fear of being labeled racist, they have allowed over one billion dollars to be pilfered from the US taxpayers.

So now it's up to the counties in the northern tier of Iowa

I don't know how to identify a Minnesota snowflake or one of their criminal colleagues so I guess we'll just have to look at

Good luck. Sioux City/ Orleans, Iowa

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#### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor:

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**Donald C Parsons** 

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Hwy. 71 • Arnolds Park 712.332.7302 **FALL HOURS:** 

Iowa Lakes Expands Student Pathways Through Partnership

Iowa Lakes Community College has joined the Western Iowa Regents Resource Center

The partnership, coordinated through the Iowa Board of Regents and WIRRC, strengthens

(WIRRC) network, expanding opportunities for students to seamlessly pursue bachelor's degrees

transfer pathways for community college students across northwest Iowa. Through this initiative,

WIRRC transfer specialists will serve as direct resources to help Iowa Lakes students explore

transfer options, navigate admission processes, and connect with programs offered by the Uni-

clear, affordable pathways for students who want to continue their education at Iowa's public

universities," said Scott Stokes, President of Iowa Lakes Community College. "By working to-

gether, we are expanding opportunities for students to achieve their academic and career goals."

colleges in Western Iowa," said Greta Rouse, member of the Iowa Board of Regents. "By providing

personal resources and local points of contact, this will continue the expansion of opportunities

including Creston, Council Bluffs, Harlan, Sheldon and Sioux City, to connect students to Regents

may contact Tiffany Nolta, academic advisor at Iowa Lakes Community College, at 712-362-

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"We are thrilled that the WIRRC has added ILCC to the list of partnerships with community

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Students interested in learning more about transfer options or connecting with the WIRRC

"This partnership demonstrates our shared commitment to removing barriers and creating

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for students to achieve their higher education goals."

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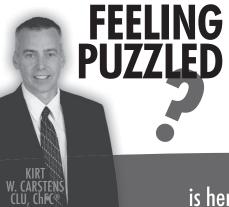












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## **Lueders Ridiculous Christmas** Lights Return to Lake Park

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.

**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 fol-

low 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.

### Sean Hefner Promoted to Electric Manager

Spencer Municipal Utilities (SMU) recently promoted Sean Hefner as their new Electric Manager. Sean has been with SMU since 2007 and has a passion

for SMU and the Spencer Community. Sean has worked in the SMU electric department

for the last twelve years as a lineman and his experience will help him lead the electric utility in the community of Spencer. SMU is a Reliable Public

Power (RP3) provider and a leading provider of television, internet, and telephone service in the Spencer community and has been providing water since

1886 and electric services since 1901.

# Winter Games Registration Now Open!

Grab your friends, form a team, and challenge yourself in one of the many games and activities over University of Okoboji Win-

ter Games weekend! Registration is open for all events! Get signed up for your favorite events from the chili cook off to the broomball



tournament. Visit www.uofowintergames.com for a printable registration form or access to online registration. Forms can also be picked up at the IGLA Chamber at 565 S Hwy 71 – Suite 4 in Arnolds Park. Gather your friends and family today, as certain events have a limit on the number of teams or participants!

While you're on our site, make sure to check out the official University of Okoboji Winter Games apparel! You won't want to miss out on all of the wonderful items available online and in stores at Hy-Vee & Fareway in Spirit Lake and The Three Sons in Milford, and the IGLA Chamber office in Arnolds Park.

For more information and updates regarding University of Okoboji Winter Games, visit www.uofowintergames.com or find us on Facebook at "University of Okoboji Winter Games." Mark your calendars and join the fun January 22-25, 2026!



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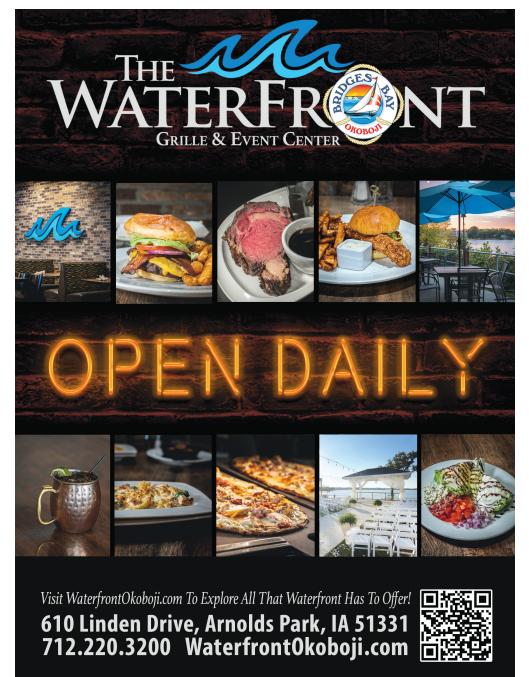
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Seniors Movin' On is an exercise group that meets every Monday, Wednesday & Friday morning at 9:00 a.m. The exercise program is based on the Silver Sneakers Program.

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

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



#### **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.

**2026 Winter Spring Youth Art Classes** 

Registration deadline for youth classes is the Wednesday prior to the class start date. All youth classes are 3 week courses.

#### Mini Michelangelos I K-2nd gr

#### Thursdays | 4:00-4:45pm | \$36/\$48

**EDUCATION CLASSES** 

Jan. 8, 15, 22: Paper Mache Cottages Feb. 5, 12, 19: A Grandma Moses Winter Mar. 5, 12, 19: Wiggle Glaze! Bowl, Plate, & Cup Set

Apr. 2, 9, 16: Printmaking Quilt

#### Art Club I 3-6 gr

#### Thursdays | 5-6pm | \$36/\$48

Jan. 8, 15, 22: Paper Mache Vases Feb. 5, 12, 19: Reflections in the Water Mar. 5, 12, 19: Patterned Slab Vessels

Apr. 2, 9, 16: Beginner Lithography

### Teen Art I 7-12 gr

### Tuesdays | 4-5pm | \$36/\$48

Jan. 6, 13, 20: Paper Mache Animals

Feb. 3, 10, 17: Painting Water Mar. 3, 10, 17: Mugs, Cups, & Containers! Apr. 7, 14, 21: CD Intaglio Printmaking

回路 SCAN FOR FULL CLASS DESCRIPTIONS AND 画数据 TO REGISTER ONLINE

#### SatARTday CLASS

### Youth Sculpture Walk & Workshop

Saturday, May 30 | 10-11:30am | \$10/\$15 1st - 5th grade | Register by 5/20

Students will join on a walking tour of the PLAC outdoor sculpture trail and grounds- where we will view sculptures in a variety of media. Participants will get a peek into what it takes to assemble a sculpture back in the studio- where a large assortment of found objects will be available to create their very own sculpture to take home that day! Students are encouraged to dress for the weather, wear tennis shoes, and bring a water bottle. Inclement Weather Date: Monday, June 1st.

#### **OPEN CLAY STUDIO**

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Open Clay Studio is open for use on Thursdays 5-9pm or allday Saturdays 10am-4pm!

Clay available to purchase, \$35 per 25lb or \$20 per 12.5 lbs, glazing and firing included with purchase! Utilize the pottery wheels, slab roller, and other tools to create pottery, hand-building, and sculptures! Clay storage lockers are now available for rent, \$30 for 6 month rental. Adults must accompany all youth 15 and under. Contact education@ lakesart.org for more information.

If you would like your child to attend but need financial assistance, please register your child by calling the box office at 712-332-7029.

Financial assistance to all youth classes is available thanks to a generous donation from Gary and Pat Ray. Simply tell the box office your are registering utilizing the Gary and Pat Ray scholarship.



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## The Dickinson County Democrats Care

On Saturday, December 6th, the Dickinson County Democrats donated 87 Holiday Food Drive meal bags, at Sunshine Foods, in Milford. The group purchased over 100 bags this month of pre-packaged Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner meals. These bags will be delivered, with the others purchased, to the Upper Des Moines Opportunity Food Bank, in Spirit Lake, just in time for Christmas.

Democrats truly care for those less fortunate, here in Dickinson County, around America, and throughout the World. This year especially, there is an increasing need for food by more families and individuals. This is just one way the Democrats are helping others in our little



## Chili and Soup Contest Winners

Winners in the 2025 Holiday Fantasy chili and soup contest, held Saturday, December 6, in Milford, were Dean Reiser, representing St. Joseph Catholic Church, for his chili recipe and Laurie Simington, representing The Farmers Savings Bank, Milford, with their lasagna soup recipe. Thanks to all the businesses for supporting this event with their soup and chili entry. (Photo by Susan Reiser)



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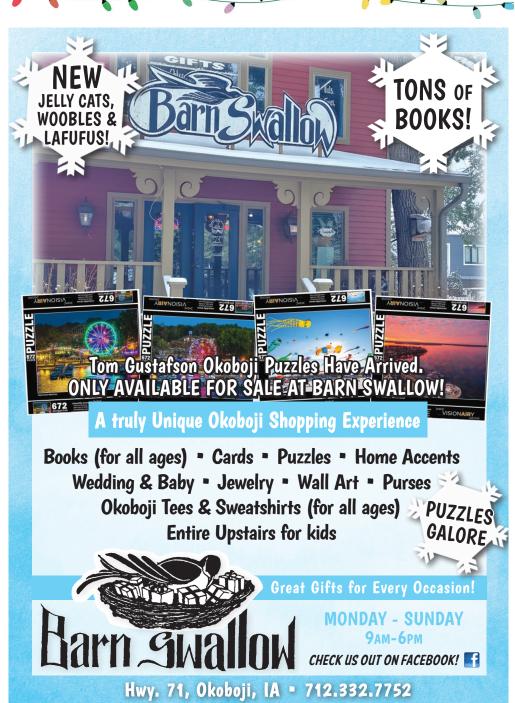
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Clay County Heritage is excited to announce a monthly themed

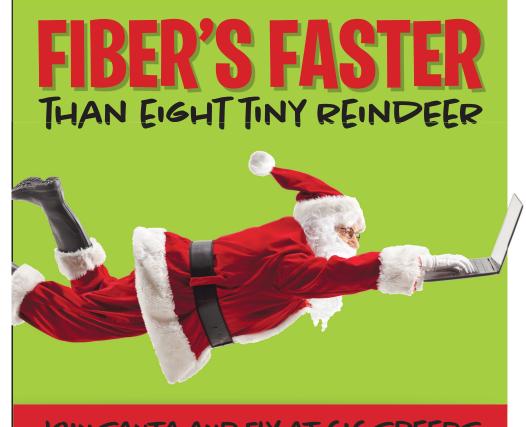
Quilt Auction Fundraiser. All quilts were made by Northwest Iowa native Amy Becker over the course of the last year and are lap quilt size. Amy was delighted to offer these monthly quilts to support a Clay County nonprofit like Clay County Heritage and hopes they wrap each winner in warmth. The January-themed quilt is open for bids until the end of December.

Quilts can be bid on online through bigirongives.com. If

you have any questions about the quilts or with bidding, contact us at 712-363-3741, stop in at the Clay County Heritage Center, or email us at info@claycountyheritage.org. The monthly quilts can be viewed on claycountyheritage.org, the bigirongives.com auction page, or our Facebook page.

Admission to the Clay County Heritage Center and Parker Museum is always free, thanks to sponsorship from Spencer Hy-Vee. Museum hours are Tuesday through Friday, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM, and Saturday, 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Parker Museum Tours can be made by contacting us by phone, email, or by stopping at the 7 Grand Ave location.





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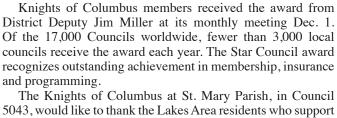
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Spirit Lake Knights sponsor annual youth events including the Free Throw Competition, set for Jan. 18, and the Knights of Columbus Spelling Bee. They also run the Tootsie Roll Drive for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities Labor Day weekend, and 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.



**Knights of Columbus Achieves Star Council** The Iowa Great Lakes Knights of Columbus Council 5043

was presented this week with the prestigious Star Council

2024-2025 award.

its many activities. The proceeds are used to support a variety of needs in Dickinson County, including Coats for Kids 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.

All I Want for Christmas is WHO?!? - ILUUF The Iowa Lakes Unitarian Universalist Fellowship invites you to attend the Sunday, December 14th program "All I Want For Christmas is

WHO?!?"presented by Allan Saugstad. In addition this Sunday will also serve as the ILUUF's Annual Meeting. If you're unfamiliar with the local Unitarian Uni-



versalist Fellowship, they encourage you to attend

Coffee and conversation begin at 9:30am with the program to follow at 10:00am at the Lakes Area Senior Center located at 2101 Zenith Ave. in Spirit Lake.

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

## **Dickinson County Democrats** Meeting Announcement

The Dickinson County Democrats, Independents, and those who are dissatisfied with the current direction of the government, invite the public to attend their monthly meeting on Monday, December 15 at

7:00 PM. The meeting will be held at the Spirit Lake Senior Center (2101 Zenith Avenue, Spirit Lake; located under the water tower).

Everyone is welcome and attendees are encouraged to bring a friend or neighbor. They are asked to join if they have any ideas, concerns, questions, suggestions, or if they would like to volunteer to help build a better America.

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

## Goodlow Named to Dean's List

Edison Goodlow of Spirit Lake, IA, has been named to the 2025 summer trimester Dean's List at Palmer College of Chiropractic's Main Campus in Davenport, Iowa.

Palmer College of Chiropractic, the first and largest college in the chiropractic profession, has campuses in Davenport, Iowa, and Port Orange, Florida.



#### Glenn Henriksen Christmas Concert

Glenn Henriksen of Armstrong, Iowa, will be performing a concert celebrating Christmas hymns of the church on Sunday, December 21st, 2025, 2:00 pm at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Dunnell, Minnesota. This concert will celebrate Christmas, with original arrangements by Glenn as well as a special appearance by Santa Lucia. The concert will also include an audience hymn

A free-will offering will be taken. Plan to stay for coffee and cookies following the concert, where you can meet Glenn in person. Glenn will have CDs available for sale, and can autograph them for you, the perfect Christmas gift for the music

lover on your list.

Glenn Henriksen's special Christmas concert will be held at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 315 N Seeley Ave, Dunnell, Minnesota, Phone 507-695-2710.

In the event of bad weather, please listen to KILR 97.3 FM





Reception

The Milford RAGBRAI Committee will host a "thank-

you" reception Sunday night, Dec. 14, 5:00 to 7:00pm at the

Any one who assisted in any way with the RAGBRAI visit to Milford this past July is invited to stop in for refreshments and horsdeurves. It will be a great time to visit with fellow volunteers about all the events.

Milford City Hall.

**Memory Cafe** A Christmas Cafe with Tracy Anderson as leader will be Tuesday, December 16, 2025. She will sing and lead a sing along of Christmas music. These will be familiar songs that you can join in the singing. The cafe starts at 10am. This is a free event especially for caregivers and the person they care for. Meeting and talking to others is a part of the session along with refreshments. The cafe is held at First Presbyterian Church in Spirit Lake. For more information call 712-336-1649.



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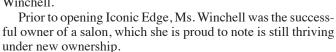
Tuesday, December 9, 2025 Spirit Lake Welcomes Iconic Edge, Featuring Barb Winchell

in Northwest Iowa, veteran stylist and former salon owner Barb

Winchell is excited to announce the grand opening of her new venture, Iconic Edge, located in Spirit Lake's 5 Star Plaza at 409 18th Street.

Iconic Edge promises a highly personalized cutting experience from a stylist with over 20 years of experience. Ms. Winchell specializes in precision hair cutting, with a specific focus on fine and thin hair.

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15500 Tradewind | Spirit Lake West View Place - 4 bedroom, 4 bath with pool and lake access. Offered at \$925.000

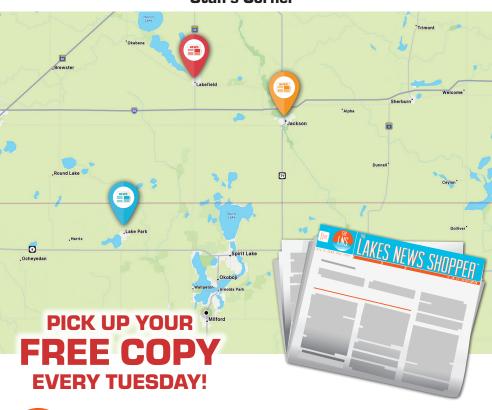


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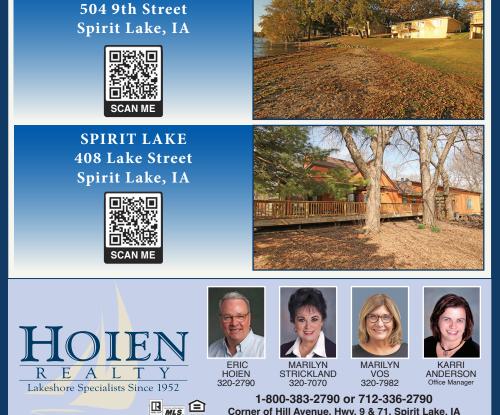




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## **Veterans Hunt Another** Successful Weekend

by Steve Weisman **Outdoor Editor** 

The weekend of November 14-16 was a special one for volunteers from the Iowa Great Lakes Pheasants Forever chapter as they hosted their annual Veterans Pheasant Hunt. Mary Jo Rapp, one of the volunteers noted, "As anticipated, our weekend was both humbling and rewarding as we welcomed 10 veterans on the hunt, including one veteran who brought his 15-year-old daughter."

A total of 10 veterans were part of the hunt with six with the Foundation for Exceptional Warriors (FEW) traveling from Missouri, Oklahoma and Wisconsin, along with four in Iowa from Estherville, Britt, Sutherland and Langdon.

The weather for the entire weekend was perfect beginning with the meet and greet on Friday afternoon for a little target practice and then a meal at Lunker's afterwards. According to Rapp, "We made sure that both volunteers and veterans had plenty to eat throughout the weekend." The pre-hunt and post-hunt meals gave



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share stories of each day's events. From the hunts to the food to the friendships forged, it was an incredible weekend. Limits were taken each day, and

the hunters the chance to connect and

veterans shared their thoughts about the weekend of hunting and comradery. Matthew Jones, a U. S. Navy veteran from Kansas City, said, "Best weekend I have experienced hunting in my life. I am forever grateful for the hospitality and loving people with this weekend."

Meanwhile, Brent Montgomery, from Strang, OK., reflected, "Outstanding weekend in the field hunting birds. Loved watching the dogs work and the chance to spend time with other veterans. Thank you all for everything you do."

Ryan Hale, U. S. Army veteran from Sutherland, IA., added, "What an awesome weekend with great people. Thank you to everyone involved with the Veterans Hunt."

FEW is a national organization that began in 2012. It has as its mission to provide adventures to unite, reward and inspire those that have served together to heal together. Since 2012, FEW has put thousands of Exceptional Warriors in the field throughout the United States, Canada, France, Africa and New Zealand.

A Memorial Service for Julie Karstens, age 86, of Spirit Lake

was held on Saturday, December 6, 2025, at 11:00am at Îmmanuel



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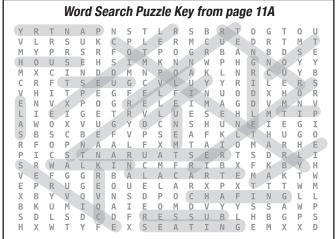
13, from Noon to Midnight. This is an unprecedented event for the community and for anyone planning a furniture purchase in the near future. The story behind the sale -if you plan on making a furniture purchase in the near future, you need to read about this sale! Slumberland is The Iowa Great Lakes Area Chamber is hosting a Let's Get aggressively clearing Social event at Stay in Home Care to help them celebrate their out their showroom and warehouses for new arrivals. Whether you purchase disconlook. This event offers local professionals, business owners, and tinued closeouts or community members the perfect opportunity to connect, engage regular stock items, they are being sold at 25-40% OFF their Help us celebrate Stay in Home care and a kick off to the



already low Black Friday Sale prices! This unprecedented event We can't wait to see you there!! This Business After 5 Social is this Saturday from Noon till Midnight! It's one day only, so event is free and open to the public. Guests are encouraged to don't miss out! Slumberland Furniture of Spencer invites the public to come in to grab a bite to eat and drink and take advantage of unheard of deals. Shoppers can enjoy food, wine, or beer while they shop, including Busch Light beer. The Busch Light will be served by Spencer Hy-Vee. Mark your calendars for this unique event to score incredible furniture deals while enjoying refreshments at Slumberland Furniture of Spencer











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Y0156\_CoopAdAgeIn\_C FVNR 0522 W-2622002 05/22 She was born August 18, 1939, in Hastings, Iowa, to Catherine (Lehman) Weiss and Rev. Oswald Emil (O.E.) Weiss. Her family moved around Iowa during her childhood before settling in Wall Lake, Iowa, where Julie graduated from Wall Lake Community Schools in 1957. After graduation, Julie attended Valparaiso University, Iowa State University, where she was a member of the Chi Omega sorority, Northwest Missouri State, and the University of Nebraska Omaha, where she earned a degree in 1961. On April 17, 1960, she wed Virgil Karstens in Wall Lake. They settled in Gretna, Nebraska, where Julie and Virgil raised three children, helped found a church, and made many lifelong friends. Julie was a teacher in Omaha Public Schools for 35 years and, in 1990, earned **Crystal Meyer** her Master's in Education from the University of Nebraska Omaha. In 1999, Julie and Virgil retired to their dream house on East Lake Okoboji and started a new life in Spirit Lake. They threw themselves into their new home, volunteering through community groups and

Lutheran Church in Spirit Lake.

Julie Karstens died on Thanks-

giving Day, Nov. 27, 2025, after a

long illness. She was surrounded by

loved ones and passed peacefully,

without pain, on to her eternal home.

the congregation at Immanuel Lutheran. Julie and Virgil eagerly gave their time to Hospice, Meals on Wheels, J.O.Y. Camp, the Joyful Voices adult choir, the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, and many other charities. To her family, Julie was a wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, and dear friend. To Virgil, she was a companion and his one true love for almost 70 years. To her children, Julie was a spiritual light and standard for all that was good. She never missed sending a birthday

or anniversary card, and when you called, she was glad to hear your voice. When she had a good recipe or a hard-earned life lesson, she was always eager to pass it along. Julie was perhaps her best as a grandmother and deeply loved

her four grandchildren, Emma, Elle, Karsten, and Ian. She rarely missed a game or school program and was so proud of all their accomplishments. Her true joy, along with Virgil, was watching their grandchildren grow up enjoying life at the lake. When they came to visit, she would greet each grandchild with a big hug and stand back beaming with pride. Julie was an avid reader and for years kept journals. She fussed

over her plants, would leave you in her dust on her many walks, and could whip up a home-cooked meal in no time. Julie was proud to have visited every state, checking off No. 50 - Hawaii - in 2010 to celebrate her and Virgil's 50th anniversary with their children and grandchildren. Illness slowed her down, but it never stopped her. One of her

final accomplishments was getting the doctor's approval to visit her children and grandchildren in Des Moines for the holiday. There, on Thanksgiving Day, she died as she lived - peacefully and full of gratitude, surrounded by the ones she loved most. Julie is survived by her husband, Virgil, of Spirit Lake; daughter

Kristin, of Spirit Lake; daughter Tara Samples (Mitch), of Waukee, Iowa, and their children, Emma, Elle, Karsten, and Ian; son Tim (Sandra) Karstens of Lincoln, Nebraska; brother Richard Weiss (Paula) of Charlotte, N.C., sister Jan McKernan of Cape Girardeau, Missouri; sister Cathy Dickerson of Council Bluffs, Iowa; brotherin-law David Montag of David City, Nebraska; and many beloved nieces, nephews, their families, and many, many friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Catherine and Rev. O.E. Weiss; stepmother Ruth Weiss; sisters-in-law Patricia Montag and Clarice Murchie; and brothers-in-law Duane (Mac) McKernan, David Dickerson, and Daniel Murchie.

Memorials can be dedicated to the family for a general fund they will distribute equally to Julie's many beloved charities. Turner Jenness Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.











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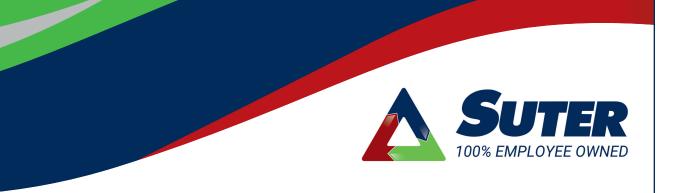
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# THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER **Auctions**

# **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.

Tr. 1 • 71.5 Ac. m/l • Avg. CSR2: 94.8

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

For information call Shane Brant • 712-301-4664 or Ben Hollesen • 712-253-5779

www.midwestlandmanagement.com

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



## Itty Bitty Boji Band to Perform

2025 to dance with the Itty Bitty Boji Band. Ms. Mel, Jackie and Bill will be rocking the house at the Spirit Lake, IA, VFW on Tuesday, December 9. From 6:00-8:00 that evening, they'll be playing your favorite IBBB dance songs from the past 16 years. If you don't hear your favorite, come up and request it. And don't forget to come early and enjoy a meal prepared by Elaine at the VFW. You know it's going to be a great time. See you there.







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**Spirit Lake** 336-3610

**Spencer** 262-4962

Lake Park

832-3268





Every winter on West Okoboji has its own personality. Some years the cold creeps in slowly, like a shy guest settling into the room. Other years, like this one, it charges through the door with a fierce wind, rattling the windows, biting at our faces, and reminding us that nature can be both stunningly beautiful and brutally indifferent.

Yet even in the harshest winters, there are moments, quiet, almost invisible, that carry an outsized warmth. Moments that remind us that while life can feel cold and windy and full of its own storms, there is always

something nearby that can reconnect us to what matters.

A few days ago, I walked out into the bitter cold and noticed a small bird perched on our deck rail. Fluffed against the wind, head tucked, seemingly



trouble. I didn't have much to offer, just a handful of breadcrumbs. But when I scattered them across the snow, that little bird hopped forward with a sense of hope disproportionate to the size of the offering.

And here's the beautiful part: I felt better too.

The storm didn't stop. The wind didn't relent. My own stresses didn't disappear. But in choosing connection, by meeting one tiny creature where it stood, I felt a small warming inside. A reminder that kindness, even the smallest kind, has a ripple effect far beyond its size.

We sometimes imagine that kindness must be grand or orchestrated. We wait for the right moment, the right person, the right circumstance. But more often, it's the smallest gestures that shift the world around us:

- A stranger holding the door.
- A smile across the grocery aisle.
- A text message saying, "Thinking of you today." • A cup of coffee handed to a coworker who's struggling.

These things cost almost nothing. Yet they have disproportionate power in the same way that a tiny flame can warm an entire room on a bitter day.

And, this is important, they don't just lighten someone else's load. They lighten ours too.

We don't talk about this enough. We live in a world where many carry invisible heaviness. Stress. Worry. Loss. Loneliness. The hard stuff that doesn't show up on social media. When we practice small kindness, not the performative kind, but the real, simple, human kind, we create a brief doorway out of our own worry. We connect, even if just for a moment, with the shared experience of being human.

Kindness doesn't disconnect us from our problems, but it does give our souls a place to catch their breath.

In my coaching work, I often see how people imagine life's challenges as giant boulders—immovable, heavy, unavoidable. But sometimes the thing that makes the boulder easier to carry is not a breakthrough strategy or a major shift in circumstances. Sometimes it's a moment of connection: someone seeing us, someone encouraging us, someone showing a little warmth in a cold season.

Even in the harshest winters, warmth is always nearby if we're willing to notice it.

Maybe this winter you're facing a storm of your own. Maybe it's a relationship that's strained. Or a job that feels uncertain. Or a loss you're trying to make sense of. Or the heaviness that can settle on a person this time of year when the days are short and the darkness comes early.

If so, try this:

Look for one small kindness you can offer today. Just one. Feed a bird. Send a note. Hold a hand. Make eye contact

Not because it solves everything, but because these tiny gestures reveal something profound: even in winter, life has warmth tucked right next to the cold.

Even in difficulty, there are moments of grace.

Even in loneliness, there are opportunities for connection. And every time we choose kindness, we are reminded of a quiet truth:

The world may be cold, but we don't have to be.

This week, as the wind snaps at our coats and the snow piles up along the lake, may we all find one small chance to brighten someone's day. And in doing so, may we discover that our own day, our own winter, feels just a little bit warmer too.

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



# CLASSIFIEDS

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#### MISCELLANEOUS

#### MISCELLANEOUS

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**STORAGE** 

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FOR SALE: Treadmill. Power incline, speed control, time & distance control, portable. New was \$1900, selling for \$100. Call 712-260-2190.

1-10C

## STORAGE

**Self Storage Units Several Sizes Available**

www.rightsize-storage.com



Main Office & Supply Store 3000 18th Street, Spirit Lake Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8-5

HANK YOU

HANK YOU

1520 Hudson Ave., Spirit Lake

(2 Bocks West of Walmart)

712-330-3152

www.bojiboatbrokers.com

## **THANK YOU**

for the cards and messages for my 90th birthday. Between a family celebration and fun card shower, I had a great birthday!

Carl Gochnauer

Support

Advertising Family of Merchants.

## 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 dis-crimination." 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.

712-330-5155 to view! 4-12C **FORRENT:** 3 bedroom mobile home,

pets 712-339-0174.

RENTALS

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

## **N**OTICES

### VOTICES

#### **ACCEPTING BIDS Spirit Lake Community School District is** advertising for sale the following vehicle:

2009 Chevrolet Suburban LT 216,418 Miles

If you have any questions, call 712-336-2820 ext. 3500 - leave a message.

Written bids are to be delivered to the District office by noon on December 22nd, after which the highest bid will be awarded the sale at the January 12th board meeting.

## Miscellaneous Miscellaneous Miscellaneous

#### Mechanics and Farm Misc

Everything must go! Craftsman tool box, cutting torch, welder and table, DeWalt Bench Grinder DW 758, tons of garden and home tools including DeWalt, Pit Boss smoker, tents, chairs, motorcycle trailer, horse trailers, Farmall 75G and SuperC tractors, 2014 Puma Fifth Wheel Toy Hauler.

404 Main Street, Plover, Iowa **Sunday, Dec. 14 • 10 AM - 2 PM** 

**Pets** 

# They Need A Home, Too!

Storm - is a 2 year old

**Meeko -** is a 5 year old **Peony** - is a 4 month old

Call, or stop in, at the Humane Society of NW Iowa for these and other pets to adopt. 607 28th Street • Northeast of Milford 712-338-2738 • Open Thurs. - Sun.

I'll help you find a home, too! **MARILYN STRICKLAND** Broker for **HOIEN REALTY** 

MLS 320-7070Marilyn@hoien.com 🛕 😑



#### **WANT TO BUY**

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

**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) CABLE/INTERNET

AFFORDABLE TV & INTERNET. If you are overpaying for your service, call now for a free quote and see how much you can save! 1-833-472-7954. (mcn)

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

#### **Midwest Classified Network Ad**

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 INSUR-**ANCE!** A recent study shows that a major-

ity 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)

**HOME SERVICES** 

Don't Pay For Covered Home Repairs Again! Our home warranty covers ALL MAJOR SYSTEMS AND APPLIANCES. We stand by our service and if we can't fix it, we'll replace it! Pick the plan that fits your budget! Call: 1-833-816-2128.

WATER & FIRE DAMAGE RESTORATION.

Our trusted professionals will restore your home to protect your family and your home's value! Call 24/7: 1-833-879-1480. Mold Remediation services are also available! (mcn)

**MISCELLANEOUS** 

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 estimaté 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.

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 noclog 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% offinstall (for military, health workers & 1st responders.) Call Erie Metal Roofs: 1-844-907-2386. (mcn)

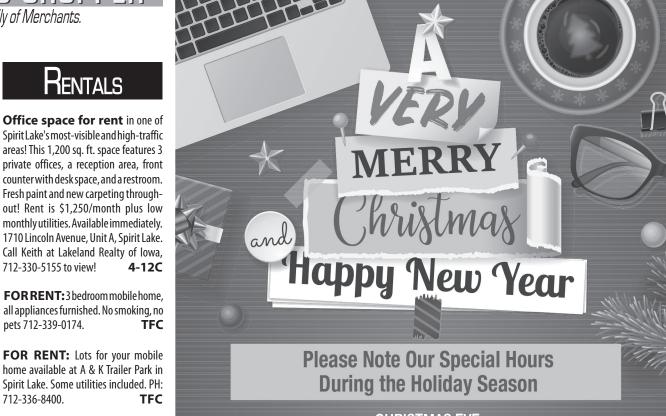
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WATCHES! Rolex, Breitling, Omega, Patek Philippe, Heuer, Daytona, GMT, Submariner and Speedmaster. Call 1-833-641-6646.

WE BUY VINTAGE GUITARS! Looking for 1920-1980 Gibson, Martin, Fender, Gretsch, Epiphone, Guild, Mosrite, Rickenbacker, Prairie State, D'Angelico, Stromberg. And Gibson Mandolins / Banjos. 1-833-641-

# Sipt, Shope, DINE! Lakes Area Activity/Senior Center Schedule



CHRISTMAS EVE WEDNESDAY, DEC. 24 • CLOSING EARLY AT NOON **CHRISTMAS DAY** 

> THURSDAY, DEC. 25 • CLOSED **POST-CHRISTMAS** FRIDAY, DEC. 26 • 10 AM – 4 PM

**NEW YEAR'S EVE** WEDNESDAY, DEC. 31 • USUAL BUSINESS HOURS **NEW YEAR'S DAY** 

> THURSDAY, JAN. 1 · CLOSED **POST-NEW YEAR'S** FRIDAY, JAN. 2 • 9 AM – 4 PM

Wishing you and yours safe and happy holiday season!



Tuesday, December 9 8:30 - Kiwanis

12:00 - Dinner Date 12:30 - Dinner Date Speaker - Owen Primavera - WWII 12.30 - Bridge

Wednesday, December 10 9:00 - Exercise Class 12:00 - Dinner Date Thursday, December 11 10:00 - Strummers

11:00 - Tai Chi 12:00 - Dinner Date 1:00 - 500 Cards 3:00 - Cribbage 4:00 - Zumba

5:30 - Singles Group Friday, December 12 9:00 - Exercise Class 10:00 - Chair Yoga 12:00 - Dinner Date Saturday, December 13

Sunday, December 14 9:00 - Church/Card Room Monday, December 15 9:00 - Exercise

Facility Available For Rent

12:00 - Dinner Date 1:00 - Mahjong Tuesday, December 16 8:30 - Kiwanis 12:00 - Dinner Date

12:30 - Bridge

Dinner Date meals are available every weekday. Call 712-336-5247 by 1:00pm on Friday to reserve a meal for the next week. Come for Dinner Date and hear our wonderful speakers. 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. Dance to live music by Bill and Jackie Sunday December 14, 2-5pm with potluck at 3pm. Call or visit with someone at the office for more details. The Lakes Area Activity/Senior Center is

located at 2101 Zenith Ave in

Spirit Lake.

# Lakes Area Activity/Senior Center Wish List

- City of Spirit Lake *green* garbage bags
- Paper towels and Kleenex
- Toilet paper
- Coffee regular, decaf, filters and Styrofoam coffee cups Thank you for your donations!

# **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.

Atypical 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.



# Lakes Area Activity/Senior Center Event Space

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

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

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

Check out their building updates.

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

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

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

# Date Change: Let's Get Social At Stay In Home Care

The Iowa Great Lakes Area Chamber is hosting a Let's Get Social event at Stay in Home Care to help them celebrate their Holiday Open House. Due to weather, we are changing the date - Join us on Wednesday, December 17th from 4-6pm.

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

Help us celebrate Stay in Home care and a kick off to the Holidays with light snacks, drinks and plenty of holiday cheer. We can't wait to see you there!! This Business After 5 Social event is free and open to the public. Guests are encouraged to bring business cards and invite colleagues to join in the festivities. See you then!



#### **Milford Memorial Library News**

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

- December 15, 10:30 a.m. Library
- December 22, 10:30 a.m. Merriest Time of Year
- December 29, 10:30 a.m. New • January 5, 10:30 a.m. – Owls
- January 12, 10:30 a.m. Paint
- January 19, 10:30 a.m. Quilt

• January 26, 10:30 a.m. - Rhinestones

Help "Fill the Cart" for Dickinson County Upper Des Moines Food Pantry! Bring non-perishable food items to Milford Memorial Library until Friday, Milford Memorial

**CrAFTER** 

Mocktails

Hours

December 12. Join MML for After-School Adventures on Thursday, December 11, at 3:30 p.m. We will be creating a Shrink-a-Dink ornament. A small snack will be provided during this free activity. All materials will be

provided by the library. Milford Memorial Library's CrAFTER Hours! Join us on Wednesday, December 17, from 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. for the mocktail class. This can also be taken as a kit. You will receive a commemorative

glass, recipes and if you make it to the class some instruction and taste testing. Cost for registration is \$5. Call Milford Memorial Library at (712) 338-4643 to register or go to https://milford-ia. whofi.com/calendar/event/5604512

Join us for MML's Book Club on Tuesday, December 16, at 1:00 p.m.! This month we are reading The Greatest Gift, which inspired the film It's a Wonderful Life. Don't worry we picked a quick read with all the events happening in December. We will have treats and a great discussion for this holiday read.

Need a document scanned, faxed, printed, or copied? MML can help you. Documents can be scanned to an email for free. Faxing costs \$3.00 for the first 2 pages and then \$0.50 for each additional page. Printing and copying per page are \$0.25 for black and white and \$0.50 for color. You are able to send printing by email to milfordlibrary51351@gmail.com. MML does have the capability for you to print from your phone. Stop in and see us to try out this service.

## Nominate Someone Today!

"Doing what's expected of you can make you good, but it's the time you spend going above and beyond what's required that makes you great!" -- Josh S. Hinds

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!

# Holiday Concert To Fill The Air With Festive Music At Iowa Lakes

Celebrate the season with music and community at the annual Holiday Concert hosted by the Iowa Lakes Community College Music Department. The performance will take place on Sunday, December 7, at 3:00 p.m. in the Janice K. Lund Performing Arts Center (P.A.C.) on the Estherville Campus.

This year's program will feature the Iowa Lakes Handbell Choir, various instrumental ensembles under the direction of Lincoln Larsen, and the Lakes Area Community Handbell Choir under the direction of Carol Ayres. Together, these talented musicians will share an afternoon of festive selections sure to inspire holiday cheer.

The event is free and open to the public, with no reservations or tickets required. Free-will donations will be gratefully accepted to support the purchase and maintenance of handbells and hand chimes.

Take a musical pause before the holiday rush begins, join friends and family for this heartwarming community tradition



**Gift Ideas** by Jill Jennings

You may not think of the library as a place where you can go Christmas shopping, but you can! There are a variety of items here at the Spirit Lake Public Library that your friends or family would love to find under the tree or in their stocking.

Obviously, the first choice is books! At the front of the library you will find the book sale items that are new or very gently used. There are hardcover and softcover books for all ages by authors such as Diana Palmer and Nicole Baart. There are several DVDs and a few TV series (Family Ties and The Mary Tyler Moore Show) for sale. A few audiobooks are still available for those on your list who would rather listen.

My next idea is the DVDs that were funded by the Friends of the SLPL. Copies of "Remember the Iowa Great Lakes," and "The Iowa Great Lakes Remembers," are for sale at the front desk for \$10 each.

The third suggestion I have is our canvas book bags that are imprinted with "Friends of Spirit Lake Public Library." They have a photo of our Dick & Jane statue and sell for just \$7 each.

Finally, for the person who has everything or just does not want anymore stuff, you could make a donation to the Friends of the Library in his or her name. The donation can be in any amount from \$10 on up.

Stop by the Spirit Lake Public Library and see if you can find a few gifts for the loved ones on your list! Bring cash please, since we are not able to accept cards.

SLPL staff spotlight: Jill is learning German via the Innovative Language Series - Learn German on Hoopla. She's also reading The Deep Places by Ross Douthat.

- Upcoming activities:
- Monday, December 15, 1:00-3:00 p.m., Mah-Jongg • Tuesday, December 16, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Quilters
- Tuesday, December 16, 7:00-8:00 p.m., Evening Edition
- Book Club (LOL Reads) @ the Revelry • Wednesday, December 17, 10:30-11:30 a.m., Page Turners
- Book Club (The Wedding People by Alison Espach) • Wednesday, December 17, 12:30-4:00 p.m., Quilters
- Thursday, December 18, 10:00-11:30 p.m., Block Party • Thursday, December 18, 1:00-3:00 p.m., Mah-Jongg
- Saturday, December 20, 10 a.m., 1000 Books Before Kindergarten Celebration

#### **EMPLOYMENT**

#### **EMPLOYMENT**

 ZONING & BUILDING OFFICIAL The City of Spirit Lake, Iowa is seeking to

fill the position of Zoning and Building Official. **Duties include the following:** 

#### • Under direction, provides City enforcement of local,

- state and federal regulations and policies related to building construction.
- Issue building permits, inspect building sites as necessary.
- Attends and participates in meetings of Planning and Zoning Commission and the Board of Adjustment.
- Maintains and updates zoning map.
- Zoning Officer responsible for processing and reviewing applications related to zoning matters and responding to inquiries related to building and zoning

#### Required Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

- Ability to comprehend and interpret and apply statutory and ordinance provisions related to zoning.
- Knowledge of material and methods used for building construction.
- · Ability to perform standard arithmetic and statistical calculations.
- · Ability to comprehend and interpret maps, plans and blueprints
- Ability to access, comprehend and interpret various
- building codes · Ability to communicate clearly and to work effectively
- with members of the public. Minimum Education, Training and Experience
- High School diploma and five years of work experience in a related field.

Address application, including current resume, to Gregg L. Owens, City Administrator, 1803 Hill Avenue, Spirit Lake, Iowa 51360, by December 22, 2025. Any questions, please email to gregg.owens@ cityofspiritlake.org Salary commensurate with qualifications and experience.



veterans and members of other protected classes are City of Spirit Lake

encouraged to apply

The City of Spirit Lake, Iowa

is an Equal Opportunity

Employer. Females, minorities,

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

#### **HEALTHCARE TRAINING CONSULTANT/PROGRAMMER** located on the Emmetsburg Campus.

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 22, 2025.

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



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

# now hiring?



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1009 22nd Street • Milford, IA 712-338-2232 • lakesnewsshopper.com sales@lakesnewsshopper.com

EMPLOYMENT

**EMPLOYMENT** 



#### **JOIN THE YMCA TEAM!**

Benefits Include: Free Y membership during employment and discounts on YMCA classes and programs.

The YMCA of the Okobojis is seeking: **BUILDING HOST** 

- Must possess excellent customer service/work ethic
- Able to work part-time nights and some weekends Assist other YMCA staff to ensure environment is
- Assist with closing procedures and light cleaning

friendly, welcoming, and safe at all times

Apply at www.okobojiymca.com/employment or call Human Resources at (712) 336-9622 for

more information. Equal Opportunity Employer.

#### Help Wanted: **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.



#### **PART-TIME** ATTENDANTS NEEDED

at Laser Car Wash - Milford & Spencer We are now accepting applications for part-time attendants at Laser Car Wash in Milford and Spencer. Candidates must be available to work weekends or flexible shifts, depending on scheduling and availability.

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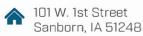
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