



THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER™

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TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2026

VOL/53 NO/17

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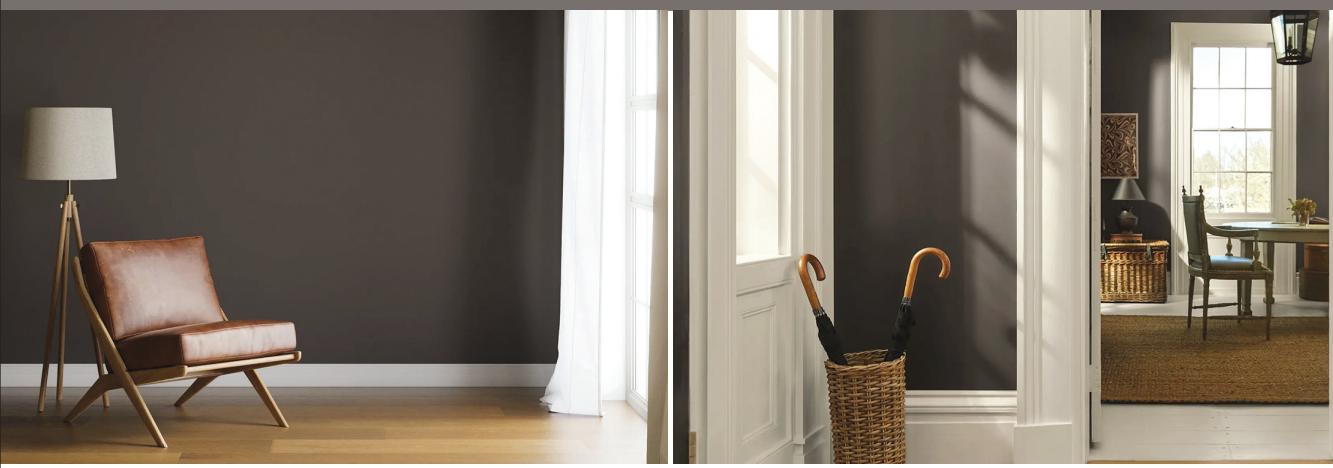
Turn Those "Someday" Plans into Today's Reality—
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*See store for details and destination options.

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Spirit Lake Key Club Inspires Community Support for Joy of Life Foundation

The Spirit Lake Key Club created a fundraiser for "The Joy of Life Foundation," during the holiday season. With their efforts, The Spirit Lake Key Club raised approximately \$360 in cash and Venmo donations. The Key Club promoted the event with an ad and news release in The Lakes News Shopper as well as on KUOO Radio.

The paper advertisement as well as the radio announcement caught the attention of Okoboji Motor Company and Ms. Peggy Rick.

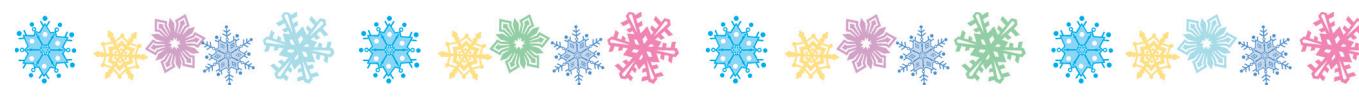
• Okoboji Motor Company donated a check to The Joy of Life Foundation for \$6,380.

• Peggy Rick donated a check to The Joy of Life Foundation for \$1,000.

The Joy of Life Foundation is an organization that provides awareness and education on Melanoma otherwise known as a form of skin cancer.

The Joy of Life Foundation is a non-profit organization to help protect and educate those in our community about Melanoma. You can help by donating to "The Joy of Life Foundation" on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/TheJoyOfLifeFoundation>, or Venmo at @TheJOLFoundation or by calling John Walz at 712-330-2767. Some people donate their time, and some donate their money; anything helps and all is greatly appreciated!

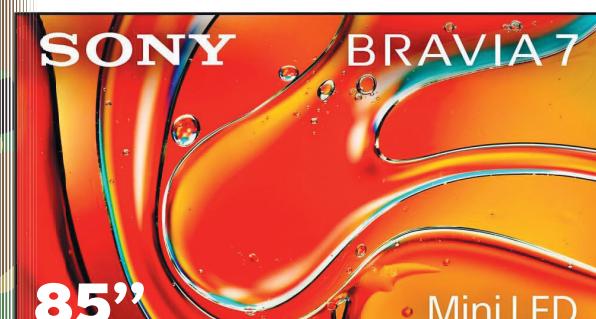
Pictured from Left to right gathering to celebrate the Okoboji Motor Company Donation: Jackie Donkhong, Macy Trierweiler, Lon Noble, John Walz, Matt Fernalius, Key Club President Summer Stoller, Key Club Vice President Liberty Sawyer and Chris Kemna.



BIG GAME HUNTING SONY® SALE

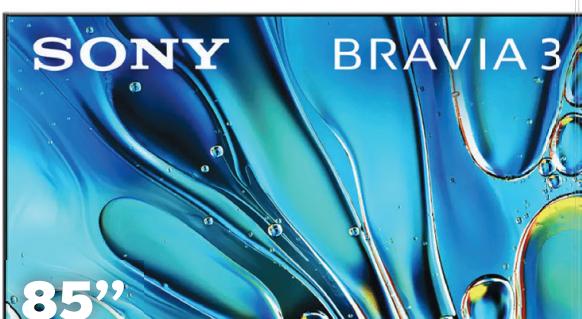
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(Just in time for the BIG GAME!)



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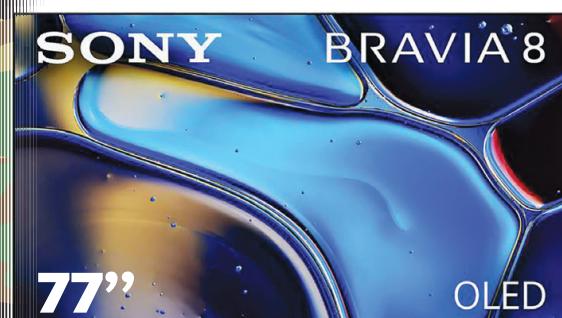


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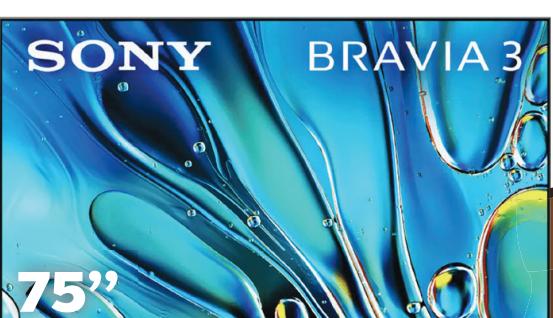
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Kleckner Named to Dean's List

Randy Kleckner of Spencer was named to the Dean's List for the fall 2025 term at University of Maryland Global Campus. To be eligible for the honor, a student must complete at least six credits during the term, earned a grade point average of at least 3.5 for the term, and maintained a cumulative GPA of 3.5 at UMGC.





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www.lakesnewsshopper.com and clicking on "e-subscribe" 



HSNWIA
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WHO'S READY TO PLAY?



B I N G O

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Dickinson County Expo Center • Spirit Lake

**DOORS OPEN AT 11AM
LUNCH • SNACKS • DRINKS**

**BINGO STARTS AT 1PM!
20 BINGO GAMES - GIFT BASKET PRIZES**

**PLUS BLACKOUT
GRAND PRIZE \$500 VISA CARD**

New Specialist Joins Okoboji Physical Therapy Team

Okoboji Physical Therapy is proud to announce the addition of Dr. Emma Baker, PT, to its professional healthcare team. Dr. Baker brings a fresh perspective and specialized clinical training to the practice, expanding the clinic's capacity to serve the local community.



Dr. Baker's academic background includes undergraduate studies at the University of Sioux Falls, followed by the successful completion of her Doctor of Physical Therapy degree at Briar Cliff University in May 2024. Her arrival marks a commitment by the clinic to continue providing high-quality rehabilitative care through highly trained practitioners.

Patients looking to begin treatment with Dr. Baker can now schedule appointments through multiple channels. Bookings are being accepted via phone at 712-336-8404 or through the clinic's online request portal at hpt.biz.

DCNC Kenuue Coffee Hour

Slow down, sip a warm cup of coffee, and learn something new at Kenuue Coffee Hour. This free adult program, hosted by the Dickinson County Nature Center, takes place on the first Thursday of the month at 10:30 AM inside the Maser Monarch Lodge.



This month's program, on February 5th, features Ashley Tieden, Naturalist at the Dickinson County Nature Center, who will share an engaging presentation on wetland ecology. Participants will learn what wetlands are, what role they play in our regional environment, and what wildlife can be found there.

Coffee is complimentary, and the relaxed setting encourages conversation and connection while enjoying the winter season. Pre-registration is not required, so stop in and join. Kenuue Coffee Hour is for adults who enjoy lifelong learning, nature topics, and friendly conversation.

For more events like this, stop by the Dickinson County Nature Center or go online to www.dickinsoncountyconservationboard.com.



Marriage Retreat at Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camp

Enjoy your own Valentine's Day Getaway! On February 13-15, Ingham Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camps is hosting a Marriage Retreat. Featured speakers Eric and Pam Hulstrand will offer biblical teaching during the sessions helping couples take further steps towards a healthy, happy marriage. Optional activities include a banquet meal, evening entertainment, free couples photo shoot and more. The Marriage Retreat is a great opportunity to carve out time together, without kids, without housework, without projects, and enjoy each other's company. Everyone is invited to register and learn more by visiting www.okoboji.org/marriage-retreat or by calling 1-800-OKOBOJI.



HAPPY winter

THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER Tuesday, January 27, 2026 Page 3

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GRAND PRIZE DRAWING: MARCH 2ND



Share the Love this Valentine's Day

PRIZE DRAWINGS EACH WEEK DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY!



Visit the businesses listed on the card and enjoy a meal, beverage, shopping, or other experience. With any purchase, have your card stamped for a chance to win Chamber Bucks or Gift Cards from participating businesses!

Prize entries can be submitted at participating businesses throughout the week. The Spirit Lake Chamber will collect all entries each Monday, with the weekly drawing held afterward.

**3 STAMPS=1 ENTRY
6 STAMPS=3 ENTRIES
9 STAMPS=5 ENTRIES
12 STAMPS=7 ENTRIES
ALL STAMPS=10 ENTRIES**

#1 PICK UP A CARD FROM A PARTICIPATING BUSINESS

#2 VISIT & MAKE A PURCHASE AT PARTICIPATING BUSINESSES



#3 SUBMIT PRIZE ENTRIES AT PARTICIPATING BUSINESSES



Share your purchase or experience on social media for an extra entry. Be sure to tag the Spirit Lake Chamber of Commerce AND the business. (Story posts DO count).

#4 BONUS: SHARE TO SOCIAL MEDIA

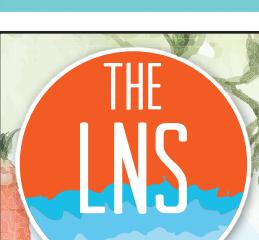
PRESENTING SPONSOR:



WEEKLY SPONSORS:



THE LNS



RECIPE CORNER

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

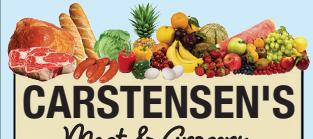
Serves 8

Rich Spicy Pepper Chocolate Dessert

7 ounces dark chocolate chunks
7 ounces unsalted butter
1 teaspoon Rissy's Spicy Pepper Shake
4 eggs
5 1/2 ounces fine golden sugar
3 tablespoons almond flour
1 tablespoon flour
A pinch of sea salt

Line a round cake tin with grease proof paper and grease with butter. Melt the chocolate, butter and spicy pepper shakes in a glass or metal bowl over a pan of barely simmering water. Make sure to not burn the chocolate and the bowl must not touch the water as this will split the mixture. Remove from the heat, stir and leave for a few minutes to cool. Stir in the eggs, one by one, and then the sugar, followed by the almond flour, flour and a pinch of salt. Pour the batter into the cake tin. You may sprinkle with a bit more pepper if you would like it spicy. Bake for 20 minutes. Leave to cool, then cut into thin slices. Try drizzling with pomegranate reduction to cut the richness. Simmer pomegranate juice on low for 15 minutes until almost a syrup and set aside to cool. It will thicken as it cools. Drizzle over each cake slice. Enjoy.

Recipe Courtesy of: [Marisa Sidles](http://marisasideles.com)



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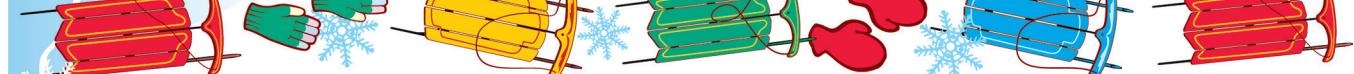
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Birthday Announcement

Mary Ellen Inbody will celebrate her 92nd birthday on February 6, 2026. Her family would like to honor her with a card shower. Your warm wishes can reach Mary Ellen at Accura Health Care of Milford, 1600 13th Street, Room 212, Milford, Iowa 51351.



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**2026 REPUBLICAN
PRECINCT CAUCUSES**



All twelve of Dickinson Counties Precincts
will be held at the same location

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2

Spirit Lake High School East Gym
2701 Hill Ave., Spirit Lake, IA

Doors Open at 6:00 PM • Caucus Activity Begins & Doors Close at 7:00 PM

Park in east parking lot - enter east gym doors.

The Precinct Caucuses will perform the following functions:

- Elect 2 persons who are Republican residents of the precinct to serve on the County Central Committee.
- Elect delegates and alternate delegates to the Dickinson County Republican Convention to be held on Saturday, March 7, 2026.
- Propose and vote on platform planks to be sent to the County Convention.

Verify Your Precinct at <https://sos.iowa.gov/voters/find-my-precinctpolling-place>
Voter Registration Forms will be available to register or update your information.

Paid for by the Dickinson County Republican Central Committee.

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- Valvoline
- Wild Child

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80th Birthday Announcement

Reed and Denise would like to wish former cook and lawn man, Loran Anderson, a happy 80th birthday on January 29 with a card shower. Please send your greetings to Loran Anderson, 6480 220th St., Ocheyedan, IA 51354.

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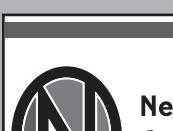
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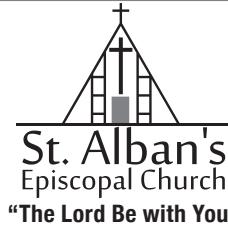
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Anniversary Announcement

Del and Diane Christoffer will celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary on Sunday, February 1, 2026, with an open house at Grandview Church in Estherville, Iowa, 3705 170th Street, 2:00 - 4:00pm.

The event will be hosted by their children, Dawn, Rhonda, Tammy, and Paula and their families.

Del and Diane were married on February 6, 1976, in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.



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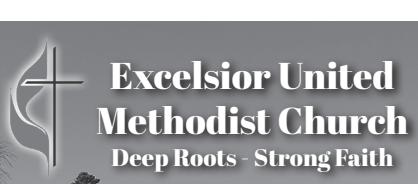
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Okoboji Foundation Invites Grant Applications for 2026

Capital projects that strengthen lake quality, arts and culture, and outdoor recreation encouraged to apply

The Okoboji Foundation has opened its 2026 grant application cycle, inviting nonprofit organizations serving the Iowa Great Lakes region to apply for funding support. Through its annual grant program, the Foundation invests in capital projects that create lasting community impact across the region.

Grant funding supports capital projects that are focused on the Foundation's primary areas of interest including Lake Quality and Environment, Arts and Culture, and Outdoor Experiences and Recreation, with an emphasis on projects that are visible, broadly accessible, and sustainable.

"Each year, we are inspired by the passion and creativity of organizations working to strengthen our communities," said Mindy Gress, President of the Okoboji Foundation. "No project is ever too small to be considered. What matters most is the vision behind it and the long-term benefit it brings to the Iowa Great Lakes region."

Eligible applicants include 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations and government entities. Organizations without nonprofit status may apply through a qualified fiscal sponsor. Grant funds are designated for capital projects and may not be used for operational expenses, marketing costs, school uniforms, or short-term programming.

In 2025, the Okoboji Foundation awarded \$378,000 in Leadership Grants to support major community projects throughout the region. When combined with Youth in Philanthropy grants, total funding distributed reached \$472,462. Since its founding in 1988, the Foundation has awarded more than \$5.8 million in discretionary grants to strengthen communities across the Iowa Great Lakes area.

Grant applications must be submitted online by March 1, 2026, at 11:59 p.m. Organizations are strongly encouraged to review the grant guidelines available on the Foundation's website prior to applying. Foundation staff are available to answer questions, discuss project ideas, and help direct applicants through the application process.

Grant guidelines and application materials are available at okobojifoundation.org/grant-application. For additional information, contact the Okoboji Foundation at 712-332-7177 or info@okobojifoundation.org.

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THE LAKES NEWS
Auction Calendar

Wed., Jan. 28 -10:00 AM-
142.17 acres at auction in Fairmont,
MN. Auctioneers: Hartungs. 507-
236-7628. www.auctioneeralley.com

Thurs., Jan. 29 -10:00 AM-
203.83 acres at auction in Fairmont,
MN. Auctioneers: Hartungs. 507-
236-7628. www.auctioneeralley.com

Sat., Jan. 31 -9:30 AM-
Large coin auction in Spirit Lake,
IA. Auctioneer: Toering. 712-330-
395-0165.

Sun., Feb. 1 - 10:30 AM-
Household auction in Spirit Lake,
IA. Clerking: Nattress. 712-330-
1904. www.nattressauctions.com.

Tues., Feb. 3 - 10:30 AM-
3 tract land auction in Dickinson
Co., IA. Auctioneers: Zomer Com-
pany Land Management. 712-470-
2526. www.zomercompany.com.

Thurs., Feb. 19 - 10:00 AM-
80 acres at auction in Royal, IA.
Auctioneers: Midwest Land Man-
agement. 712-262-3110. [midwestlandmanagement.com](http://www).

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To The Editor:

On behalf of the Iowa Great Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce, we would like to thank you so much for making our 46th Annual University of Okoboji Winter Games another success for our business community.

Events of this scale are not possible without an army of volunteers and the continual support from our entire community. It truly takes a village to make something like this happen and we would like to take a second to thank some key leaders for this year's event.

Thank you to our sponsors for making so much of this possible. Our Presenting Sponsor WestO Beer. A huge shout out to our Platinum Level Sponsors City of Arnolds Park, Smart Powersports of Okoboji, Atlantic Bottling Co./Monster, Wal-Mart Spirit Lake, and BLINK Marketing. Gold level sponsors include Hy-Vee, Pure Fishing, Rosenboom, and Dr. McGillicuddy's, and our Silver sponsors include Alliant Energy, Invenergy, Boji Powersports, and Black Hills Energy.

Thank you to our individual event sponsors Okoboji Motor Company for the Polar Plunge, Tony Thelen with The River Coaching and Consulting for the Food Truck Festival, Bank Midwest for the Burning of the Greens, Consumers Lumber for the Fireworks, Snappers Turtle Bay Cafe for the Bean Bag Toss Tournament, The Ritz for Snowball Softball, Ingvall Real Estate Team for the Chocolate Classic, Hinn Real Estate for the Chili Cook-off, Kozy Heat for the 5K Fun Run, West O Beer for the Stump Tournament, Fareway for Cribbage, MHR Insurance for the Broomball Tournament, and Parks Marina for Flag Football. We also would like to thank Emerald Hills and Mullets Okoboji for sponsoring our new event this year, the Hard Water Open, and O'Farrell Sisters and No Streaking for Human Foosball.

We would also like to thank Regional Transit Authority for providing transportation for our cheerleaders and media, Shores Station for providing a trailer stage for Burning of the Greens and Diamond Concrete for providing the storage containers for the collection of trees.

We appreciate the leadership of this year's Chair Mickey Harrington, Co-chair Jordan Butler, and our 9 wonderful Winter Games Cheerleaders. A huge thank you to Rocky Thompson Photography for providing us with amazing footage of the games all weekend long. Thank you to our hundreds of volunteers, event chairs, Arnolds Park Amusement Park's hard-working staff, KUOO, the Dickinson County News, the Lakes News Shopper, MC22, and all other news outlets for their non-stop coverage.

Thank you to County and City governments for working with us, the courageous Law enforcement of the Lakes Region, the Iowa DNR, Arnolds Park/Okoboji Fire & Rescue for keeping us safe, and all of the Chamber businesses that hosted events that lead to a memorable weekend for our tens of thousands of visitors. Each and every business and their hardworking staff deserves a round of applause for welcoming individuals from near and far and making this weekend happen each and every year. It takes a very special community to unite & support an event that brings joy to our locals and visitors alike with an economic boost for our Chamber Members. Thank you to each and every one of you.

Blain Andera — CEO/President
Morgan Strauss — Director of Marketing and Events
Michaela Arneson — Marketing and Communications Coordinator
Iowa Great Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce

2026 Winter Games Results can be found at uofowintergames.com

Mom Co Fundraiser Event

Okoboji Mom Co is hosting a freewill donation fundraiser event titled "Discipline that Connects with Your Child's Heart" on Sunday, February 1, 2026. The presentation features speaker Chad Hayenga from the organization Connected Families and is scheduled to take place from 4:00 to 6:00pm at Downtown Church. The session is designed for parents, grandparents, babysitters, and friends to learn methods for applying grace, love, and truth when navigating a child's most challenging behaviors.

Mobile Food Pantry Returns

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, February 5, 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 January Food Bank, 527 individuals (191 families) received 7,169 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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Baby Biologist: Eco-Baby

Looking for an interactive time centered around nature for your little one? Baby Biologist is a free program for children under 2 years old accompanied by an adult. This month's session, Eco-Baby, will be held at the Dickinson County Nature Center on Tuesday, February 3, from 10:30 to 11:00 AM. This free program introduces simple and safe ways for little ones to interact with their natural environment.



The session will start with a short story time together, followed by a time of movement activities and using recycled materials. Children will also be introduced to early sorting skills by exploring shapes made from recyclable items.

There is no cost to attend, but registration is required by 5 PM on February 1. Baby Biologist will be held semi-monthly, and more events can be found online by visiting www.dickinsoncountycconservationboard.com or call the Nature Center (712) 336-6352.

View From The Bench

by John Adams, Jr.

What Could Have Been for Vikings?

As Minnesota Vikings fans watched Seattle quarterback Sam Darnold lead his Seattle Seahawks to Super Bowl XL on Sunday night, I couldn't help but wonder what could have been for the Vikings this season had they re-signed the veteran quarterback after his stellar 2024 season. The Vikings had signed Darnold in 2024 to battle with then rookie quarterback JJ McCarthy for the starting job; that all changed when McCarthy hurt his knee in the first exhibition game of the season and was out for the season, making the well-traveled Darnold the starter. All Darnold did was guide the Vikings to a 14-3 regular season while throwing for 4,319 yards, 35 touchdowns and just 12 interceptions. The problem was Darnold's last two games, the biggest of the year against the Detroit Lions for the NFC North title and the #1 Seed in the NFC and then the First Round NFL Playoff Games were both duds, with the Vikings losing both games by a combined 58-18 score as Darnold struggled mightily in both games.

We all know what happened in the offseason, Minnesota did not want to offer Darnold the long-term contract that he deserved and believed that McCarthy was their quarterback of the future. Seattle jumped at the opportunity to land Darnold, believing he was the missing piece to a team that was set for greatness and gave him a three-year contract worth \$100.5 million. Darnold did not disappoint this season, leading Seattle to the #1 overall seed. In a very similar situation, Seattle had to win their last game of the season on the road vs a conference rival in the San Francisco 49ers to earn the #1 seed or lose and be the #5 seed and go on the road for the first round. This time Darnold and his team stepped up to the challenge, knocking off the 49ers 17-13 in a hard-fought game where Darnold was not great but did enough to lead his team to the victory. Darnold was solid as the Seahawks dismantled the 49ers in the Second Round of the Playoffs as their defense dominated a depleted San Francisco team enroute to a 41-9 victory to send Seattle to the NFC Championship game.

This was Darnold's biggest game of his career and everyone was watching to see how he would respond. I was very happy for him, as I obviously pulled for him last year when he was playing so well for the Vikings, and I think it's a great story of redemption how this former #3 pick in the 2018 NFL Draft had bounced around and six years later has finally found success. Darnold did not disappoint on Sunday night, playing his best game of the season as he threw for 346 yards with three touchdowns and, most important, zero interceptions. Darnold went toe to toe with Matthew Stafford, one of the best quarterbacks in the NFL, and led his team to a thrilling 31-27 victory. Darnold and his Seahawks now head to Super Bowl XL and will face the New England Patriots, where Seattle is an early 4.5-point favorite. Vikings' fans will once again be left home watching another Super Bowl while playing the "What if" game that we are so good at; but this year's game hurts just a little bit more because of just how close that "What if" was!

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.

An Open Letter to Iowa's State Representatives and Senators,

I am writing as President of the Dickinson County Taxpayers Association regarding ongoing discussions about property tax reform in Iowa. The Dickinson County Taxpayers Association has served local taxpayers since 1982. Our mission is to advocate for transparent government, fiscal responsibility, and the wise use of taxpayer dollars.

Across Iowa, property taxpayers are increasingly frustrated by rising tax bills driven by continued growth in city, county, and school district spending, coupled with limited transparency and accountability. From our perspective, the core problem in the property tax system is not assessments, levy rates, or complex formulas—it is spending.

If the Iowa Legislature wishes to enact meaningful and lasting property tax reform, it must directly address the growth of local government operating expenses. While our preference is always for the State to remain out of local affairs, many local boards and committees have failed to demonstrate sufficient fiscal restraint. As a result, we reluctantly accept that the State must step in to impose reasonable and enforceable limits.

If the Legislature proceeds, we strongly recommend the following reforms:

1. Spending Limits

Limit the annual growth of property tax revenue to 2 percent for all local taxing entities. Allow local governments to exceed the cap only with voter approval, ensuring transparency and accountability.

2. Property Tax Structure Simplification

Simplify the system so taxpayers can clearly understand how their taxes are calculated. Any changes to the rollback system must ensure that homeowners are protected from sudden and dramatic tax increases, and that levy rates accurately reflect any changes in taxable value.

3. Reserve Balance Limits

Limit aggregate reserve balances to no more than 30% of prior-year operating expenses, excluding capital and bonded projects.

4. Use of Excess Reserves

Require excess reserves to be either:

a) Returned directly to taxpayers, or

b) Used to reduce levy rates.

5. Voter Approval for Major Projects

Require voter approval for any capital improvement project or allied projects exceeding 20% of annual operating expenses. This would ensure taxpayer consent for large-scale expenditures.

6. Taxpayer Voice

Expand voter approval requirements for major decisions, including bonds, shared-service arrangements, and emergency tax increases.

7. Shared Services & Efficiency

Allow counties under 50,000 residents to voluntarily share services between counties, cities, and school districts to reduce duplication and costs.

8. Independent Efficiency Audits

Require third-party efficiency audits to improve transparency, eliminate waste, and ensure taxpayer dollars are being spent effectively.

9. Property Tax Fairness Review

Conduct a comprehensive review of all property tax exemptions and credits—residential, commercial, industrial, and agricultural—to ensure fairness and prevent tax shifting.

We also urge the Legislature to pay close attention to definitions, as the success of any reform depends on clear and consistent language. In particular, definitions must address:

* Population growth measurements

* CPI index selection

* Exemptions and deductions (seniors, first responders, military, etc.)

* Reserves

* Capital projects and improvements

* Bonded projects

* Operating expenses

* Treatment of grants, subsidies, and outside funding

Without firm definitions, spending limits can be bypassed, and the burden will continue to fall on property taxpayers.

Thank you for your service and for your attention to this critical issue. Iowa taxpayers deserve reform that restrains spending, increases transparency, and restores accountability to local government budgets.

Respectfully,

Mark Sullivan

President, Dickinson County Taxpayers Association

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

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.

95th Birthday Announcement

Joan Spangler will be turning 95 on Wednesday, February 4, 2026. Greetings may be sent to: 2319 Lakeside Ave, Milford, IA 51351.

YOUR AGENT!

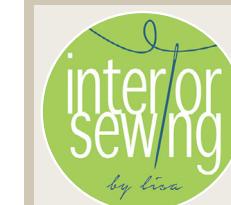


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THE LAKES NEWS Auctions

Page 2B



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Honor Band Success for Okoboji Middle School

Okoboji Middle School sixth grade band was honored to have 9 students selected to participate in the Strong Foundations Honor Band in Sioux City. This year's festival was held on January 19th.

The day featured two bands of equal ability, with guest directors Mrs. Pat Toben and Dr. Christopher Brandt. Selected students were (back row): Zach Titterington-Trombone, Sydney Graves-Clarinet, Xander Schable-Alto Saxophone, Olivia Breuer-Percussion, Aria Derner-Flute. Front Row: Carter Johnson-Flute, Kylene Baschke-Bass Clarinet, Austin Loerts-Bari Saxophone and Jovie Erickson-Tenor Saxophone. The Middle School Instrumental Director is Jody Ingwersen.



The LAMA Express - a FUN New Way to Experience Dickinson County History!

Sunday, February 15 the LAMA Express is taking off for an afternoon of fun enjoying special exhibits, programs, guided tours, and snacks at area museums: the Winchester Store Museum, Steve's Depot at the Dickinson County Museum, and the Historic Arnolds Park Amusement Park and Maritime Museums.

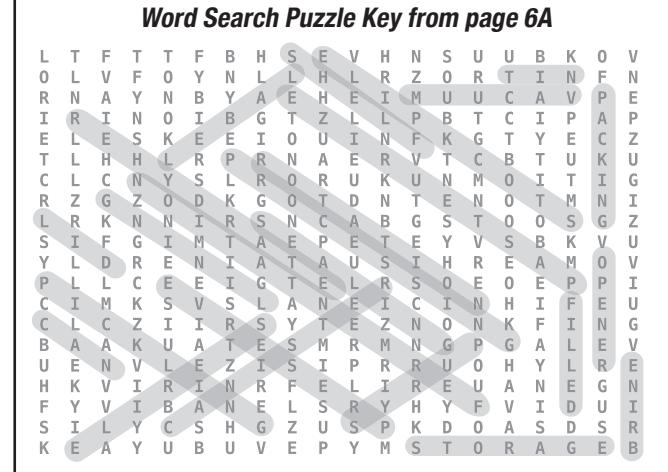
Thanks to the sponsorship of Bus Party Okoboji, guests will enjoy an exceptional experience journeying to the museums together while diving into area historical trivia.

The Winchester Store Museum is a hidden gem of history in the region - showcasing the 6400 franchised hardware stores around the country in the 1920s. Enjoy a guided tour of the recreated Winchester Store that existed on Hill Ave. in Spirit Lake. This is the only museum of its kind in the nation! Visit www.thewinchesterstore.com to learn more.

Steve's Depot at the Dickinson County Museum features professionally created interactive exhibits highlighting the importance of railroading to early Dickinson County and the very beginnings of the country. Prepare to be immersed in local history!

Historic Arnolds Park Amusement Park and Maritime Museums will close out the LAMA Express adventure by highlighting vintage amusement park rides, mechanical models of those rides by the Okoboji No Boundaries students, future plans for the Roof Garden and the No Boundaries students, pinball games, and a guest appearance in the Maritime Museum by Jim Koenig who will share stories of his finding and raising of the historic 30 boat on display at the museum.

The LAMA Express will leave from Historic Arnolds Park at 2:00 and the event will conclude by 5:30. Only 18 tickets are available for purchase at \$35 per person. Please indicate your interest or ask questions via email to marybdeirer@gmail.com. Reservations are not confirmed until payment is received by check or cash to: LAMA Express PO Box 532, Spirit Lake, IA 51360. Reservations and payment must be made by February 10.



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.



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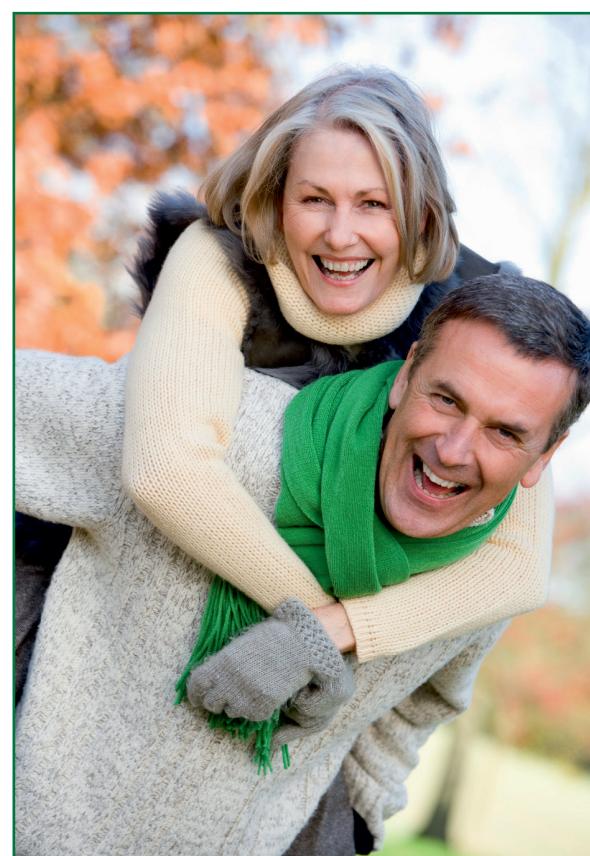
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Obituary

Linda Cheryl Rush Flippin, age 80, of Coon Rapids, Minnesota, passed away peacefully on Monday, December 29, 2025, after a long battle with dementia.

Linda's life was rooted in family, community, and connection. She had a strong work ethic and a genuine love for people that showed up everywhere she went. A longtime employee of Target, Linda worked in a variety of roles over the years, including as an executive assistant and a pharmacy technician. She also worked at Lindee's Bar, where she especially loved getting to know the customers and visiting with the regulars who became friends. Giving back was important to her, and she volunteered her time at the Coon Rapids Senior Center, where her warmth and kindness were always appreciated.



Linda was an amazing cook, baker, and jam maker, well known for her homemade pies—which were truly her specialty. She took pride in sharing (and sometimes selling) her baked goods and jams with friends, family, and many happy customers over the years. Her kitchen was a place of comfort, laughter, and something delicious always waiting to be served.

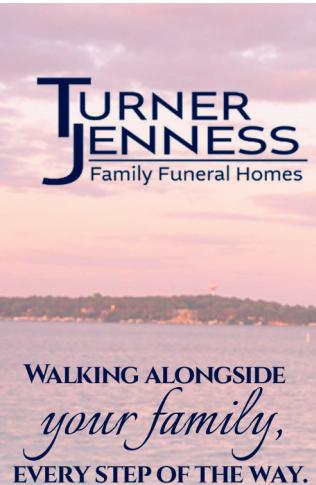
In her quietest moments, Linda loved to read and relax. She treasured her trips to Mexico and Okoboji, especially time spent at the Barefoot Bar, soaking in the sunshine and good company. She also took great joy in her Camaro, which perfectly reflected her spirited personality.

She is survived by her children: Angela Klapperick (Terry) of Coon Rapids, Minnesota; Gretchen Hoosline of Ham Lake, Minnesota; Jason Flippin (Stacey) of Eden Prairie, Minnesota; and Craig Flippin (Amy) of Andover, Minnesota. She also leaves behind her cherished grandchildren: Ryan Snook (Raelynn), Jessica Williams (Elliot), Abbie Hoosline, Addie Fields, Brandon Flippin, Amber Flippin, Alyssa Flippin, Aubrey Flippin, Tyler Flippin, and Carter Flippin, along with six great-grandchildren who brought her pride and joy.

Linda is further survived by her sisters: Lana Borland of Sioux City, Iowa; La Dean Untiedt (Wayne) of Lake Park, Iowa; Leah Voehl (Darcy) of Prior Lake, Minnesota; and Lora Jacob (Gregory) of Sioux Falls, South Dakota; as well as many nieces and nephews who held a special place in her heart.

She was preceded in death by her father, Leslie (Les) Rush and her mother, Lucille (Habben) Rush.

A celebration of life has not been scheduled at this time.



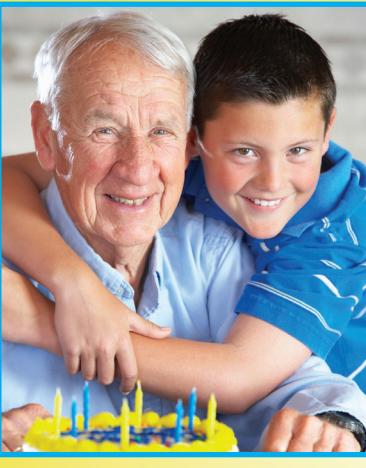
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An Open Letter to Iowa's State Representatives and Senators,

I am writing as President of the Dickinson County Taxpayers Association regarding ongoing discussions about property tax reform in Iowa. The Dickinson County Taxpayers Association has served local taxpayers since 1982. Our mission is to advocate for transparent government, fiscal responsibility, and the wise use of taxpayer dollars.

Across Iowa, property taxpayers are increasingly frustrated by rising tax bills driven by continued growth in city, county, and school district spending, coupled with limited transparency and accountability. From our perspective, the core problem in the property tax system is not assessments, levy rates, or complex formulas—it is spending.

If the Iowa Legislature wishes to enact meaningful and lasting property tax reform, it must directly address the growth of local government operating expenses. While our preference is always for the State to remain out of local affairs, many local boards and committees have failed to demonstrate sufficient fiscal restraint. As a result, we reluctantly accept that the State must step in to impose reasonable and enforceable limits.

If the Legislature proceeds, we strongly recommend the following reforms:

- 1. Spending Limits**
Limit the annual growth of property tax revenue to 2 percent for all local taxing entities. Allow local governments to exceed the cap only with voter approval, ensuring transparency and accountability.
- 2. Property Tax Structure Simplification**
Simplify the system so taxpayers can clearly understand how their taxes are calculated. Any changes to the rollback system must ensure that homeowners are protected from sudden and dramatic tax increases, and that levy rates accurately reflect any changes in taxable value.
- 3. Reserve Balance Limits**
Limit aggregate reserve balances to no more than 30% of prior-year operating expenses, excluding capital and bonded projects.
- 4. Use of Excess Reserves**
Require excess reserves to be either: a) Returned directly to taxpayers, or b) Used to reduce levy rates.
- 5. Voter Approval for Major Projects**
Require voter approval for any capital improvement project—or allied projects—exceeding 20% of annual operating expenses. This would ensure taxpayer consent for large-scale expenditures.
- 6. Taxpayer Voice**
Expand voter approval requirements for major decisions, including bonds, shared-service arrangements, and emergency tax increases.
- 7. Shared Services & Efficiency**
Allow counties under 50,000 residents to voluntarily share services between counties, cities, and school districts to reduce duplication and costs.
- 8. Independent Efficiency Audits**
Require third-party efficiency audits to improve transparency, eliminate waste, and ensure taxpayer dollars are being spent effectively.
- 9. Property Tax Fairness Review**
Conduct a comprehensive review of all property tax exemptions and credits—residential, commercial, industrial, and agricultural—to ensure fairness and prevent tax shifting.

We also urge the Legislature to pay close attention to definitions, as the success of any reform depends on clear and consistent language. In particular, definitions must address:

- Population growth measurements • CPI index selection
- Exemptions and deductions (seniors, first responders, military, etc.)
- Reserves • Capital projects and improvements • Bonded projects
- Operating expenses • Treatment of grants, subsidies, and outside funding

Without firm definitions, spending limits can be bypassed, and the burden will continue to fall on property taxpayers.

Thank you for your service and for your attention to this critical issue. Iowa taxpayers deserve reform that restrains spending, increases transparency, and restores accountability to local government budgets.

Respectfully,
Mark Sullivan
President, Dickinson County Taxpayers Association
info@dctaxpayers.org
dctaxpayers.org

THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER AUCTIONS

• LIVE AUCTION •

HOUSEHOLD, VINTAGE TOYS, TOOLS & ETC.

Sunday, February 1, 2026 • 10:30 AM

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

HOUSEHOLD: Matching gray/white tweed davenport & love seat, like new* Matching Oak lg. sq. coffee table & 2-end tables* 54" flat screen TV* Surround system* Oak TV stand w/drawers* White kitchen table w/oak top, chairs & open face hutch to match* Oak dining table w/leaf end inserts, matching hutch w/silverware drawer* Half-moon silverware drawer end table* 4 pc. Oak full bedroom set w/armoire* 2-2 pc. full bed sets* Queen bed w/ metal frame* Lg desk w/display shelves on the front* Office chair* Antique breakfast bookcase/secretary* Breakfast & writing desks* 6' sewing table on wheels w/extension fold up ends* Lg 4 pc. Book library cupboard w/bottom storage* Dishes, cook & bakeware* Sm. appliances* Cookbooks* Many framed & unframed Terry Redlin & other prints* Lots of decor* Santa's* Dolls* Craft items* Custom jewelry* Old pocket watches & much more too numerous to mention.

TOYS: CAT battery dump w/remote, new* CAT loader w/battery remote, new* Vintage Green metal track loader* 4- lg. & 7 sm. HUBLEY metal airplanes* Older tin orange battery dozer* HUBLEY metal road grader* MACK JD Van bank* Sm. Tin Excavator* Vintage blue STRUCTO steam shovel, nice* Older red steam shovel, good condition* Cast iron bull, cow & calf set* Box full of sm. Vintage toys* Metal lumber truck w/pup & lumber, new* Sm. KNUPP excavator w/breaker* Tonka metal dozer & road grader* Lg. PERTERBILT metal truck tractor, new* Sm. Metal KENWORTH dump* TOOTSE TOY metal dump* 2- lg. HUBLEY Flying circus metal planes, NIB* COED Convertible, metal on display board, new* Wood toy Excavator, new* Heavy Cast metal vintage FIRE TRUCK* Set of sm. WWII planes, NIB* Older yellow metal ABC Freight Semi* Vintage Red metal dump truck 18" long, nice* SPEC Cast Corsair F4U airplane, NIB* ERTL Texas tug boat bank, NIB* 2- SINCLAIR die cast TWIN BEECH airplanes, NIB* Texaco diecast 1931 STEARMAN bank, NIB* TEXACO 1027 TRI MOTOR die cast, NIB* TEXACO 1936 die cast KEYSTON Commemorative, NIB* AVON 1953 BUICK SKYLARK, NIB* HUDSON miniatures 1910 INTERNATIONAL car, NIB* ERTL 1948 American LA France cast iron bank, NIB* ERTL Fire Chief tug boat bank, NIB* 2-Jim Beam 175 Year Presentation bottles, NIB* Vintage Metal tackle box* Lures* Metal COUNTRY GENERAL spray bi-plane* Misc pop bottles from Spirit Lake, Estherville, Boone, Arkansas, K.C. & others* 6- Fancy Pepsi glasses* PG gray, Estherville, 1 qt. VITA RICH bottle, nice* Spirit Lake 100 Anniversary, 6 pack beer cans* Vintage glass chandelier, very fragile*Vintage kerosene lamp w/ extra globe*

LUMBER & TOOLS: Load of rough sawn oak 1"-6" thick, 8' to 16' long, 6-24" wide* Wall mounted glass cutter* Framing & matting machine* Corner brackets* Corner bracket tool* framing supplies* Organizer & a few tools.

GUN: Double barrel shotgun, needs cleaning Make a good piece over the fireplace*

CAR: 2007 grey/blue Honda van, loaded*

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CLERK: Nattress Clerking, LLC, Milford, IA 712-330-1904

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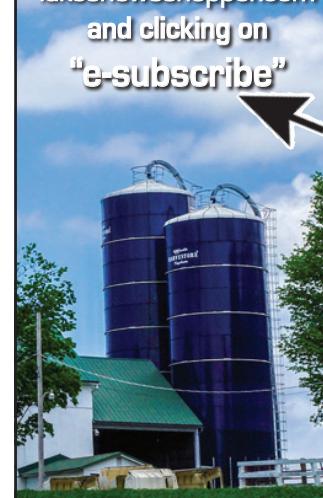
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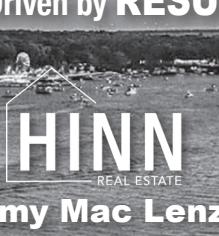
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The Iowa Rock 'n Roll Music Association Announces 2026 Iowa Rock Hall of Fame Inductees & Award Winners

The Class of 2026 will be inducted Labor Day Weekend, Sept. 4-6, in Arnolds Park

(Arnolds Park, IA) - The Iowa Rock 'n Roll Music Association is pleased to announce the Hall of Fame Class of 2026. This year marks the 29th year of the legacy of honoring achievements since the founding of the Association. Inductees and award winners represent all regions of Iowa: Northwest, Northeast, Southwest, Southeast and Central.

Ted Poulsen, President of the Iowa Rock 'n Roll Association stated: "Everybody's working for the weekend—induction weekend! It is our pleasure and honor to publish this list of distinguished inductees and award recipients! We have carefully considered the hundreds of nominations, and with the ability to only issue a few awards each year, we take the review seriously and deeply, with our mission in mind. We have selected an incredible class of inductees representing a broad spectrum of accomplishments and inspiring talents that have impacted many lives and enhanced the artistic fabric of the State of Iowa."

The celebration will kick off with an Okoboji Rocks Concert on Friday evening, September 4. The concert will feature the following acts: Richie Lee, The Floras and Holy Rocka Rollaz, Chris Montez, The Opening Ceremony is on Saturday morning and an Inductee Meet & Greet will be on Saturday evening, September 5. Also, on Saturday afternoon, there will be the finals of the statewide Iowa Rocks Talent Contest. This contest is for Iowa youth, ages 21 and younger, to compete in an exciting live performance environment. The winners will open the Hall of Fame Induction Concert on Sunday evening in the Roof Garden Ballroom and have the opportunity to record at Catamount Studio. The weekend culminates with the Iowa Rock 'n Roll Induction Ceremony and Concert and autograph party on Sunday, September 6.

2026 Iowa Rock 'n Roll Hall of Fame Inductees:

Band Category: Cave Band, Acoustic Groove, The South Prairie Band, Artist Band, Murphy's Law, Standing Hampton, and Lizard Creek

Border Band Category: The Floras

Music Store Category: Ray's Midbell Music

Individual Category: Ryan Sather, Dan Cassady, Steve Hugg, Dan Olsen, Jerry Steinke, Bev Gilpin, Dirk Newton, Chris Montez, Candy Givens, Richie Lee, Damon Dotson

Promoter Category: Steve White, David Bernstein, Adam Feiges

DJ Category: Dan Crouse, Jim Bolland (a.k.a. DJ Jimmy Jim)

Iowa Rock 'n Roll Music Association Lifetime Achievement Award: Carlos Capdivila, Bob Pace

Matousek Lifetime Achievement Award: Walter Chancellor Jr., Clarence "Pops" Kenner

2026 Special Achievement Awards (These are not inductions into the Hall of Fame):

Spirit Award: The Holy Rocka Rollaz, Valerie Kane

John Senn Legacy Award: Doris Welle

The Iowa Rock 'n Roll Music Association annually inducts musicians, bands, DJs, ballrooms, promoters, inventors and others who have significantly contributed to rock and roll music in the State of Iowa. Since incorporation in 1997, more than 575 entities and over 2,000 individuals have had the honor of being inducted or awarded. Inductees must have a minimum of 25 years of experience in the music industry.

The Iowa Rock 'n Roll Music Association welcomes nominations through the website: www.iowarocknroll.com/nominate. Nominations that have been brought forward on or before September 15, 2026, are considered for the Induction Class of 2027.

Details on the Iowa Rock 'n Roll Music Association's Hall of Fame Induction Spectacular Weekend schedule and ticket information will be forthcoming at www.iowarocknroll.com and on the social media website: www.facebook.com/IowaRockNRollMusicAssociation.

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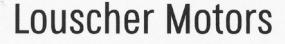
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Location: MS/HS
Start Date: March 1, 2026

MS/HS CUSTODIAN/BUS DRIVER

Employment Type: Full-Time
Location: MS/HS
Start Date: ASAP

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS GOLF COACH

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EMPLOYMENT

EMPLOYMENT

Library Assistant

The Milford Memorial Library has an immediate opening for a Library Assistant, up to 12 hours per week. Successful applicants will be willing to learn of library trends through continuing education and involvement in library operations; process and maintain library collections and assist groups and individuals in locating and obtaining materials. Furnish information on library activities, facilities, rules and services. Explain and assist in use of reference sources including electronic resources. Provide circulation services. Assist with programming as needed.

Minimum Qualifications: Ability to work most Saturdays from 9:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Wednesday evenings from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., and Friday evenings 12:45 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Additional hours may be available. Ability to effectively communicate orally and in writing. Ability to provide quality customer service for library patrons of all ages. Experience with computer systems (word processing, database, spreadsheets, Internet). Ability to use a copy machine, computer and other office equipment and electronic devices.

Physical and Environmental Characteristics: This position requires regular physical activity including bending, reaching and prolonged periods of sitting or standing and regular lifting and carrying of objects weighing up to 50 lbs.

Preferred Qualifications: Experience in a library setting and familiarity with books and other informational sources.

Benefits: Paid time off based on hours worked and access to IPERS.

*Starting hourly range is \$14.18 - \$15.58
dependent on qualifications.*

Please submit an application to Gillian Anderson,
Library Director, Milford Memorial Library,
1009 9th St., Milford, IA 51351.

Applications are available at

Milford Memorial Library or online at:
<http://milfordlibrary.weebly.com/employment-opportunities.html>
or on Indeed.

*Applications accepted until the position is filled.
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View complete job description and application at www.iowlakes.edu/employment. Contact Lynn Miller at lmiller@iowlakes.edu or 712-362-0409.

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

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

The Brand New Kid was written by Katie Couric, who is a well-known journalist.

Jamie Lee Curtis and Henry Winkler have several titles to their credit. Curtis has written many easy reader books, such as Big Words for Little People, Just One More Sleep, and Today I Feel Silly. Winkler, on the other hand, has written some juvenile fiction series. These include Alien Superstar, Detective Duck, and Here's Hank. They are both actors/producers, by the way.

Spike Lee is also an actor/producer ... and a director, too. He wrote Please, Puppy, Please.

Last, but not least, we have some comedians who have written children's books. Jeff Foxworthy of 'You might be a redneck ...' fame, wrote Dirt on My Shirt. Carl Reiner, who was also an actor/director/producer, wrote Tell Me Another Scary Story. And David Walliams, who is a British comedian and actor, wrote Grandpa's Great Escape, and The World's Worst Children.

This is just a handful of famous children's authors. There are more out there! We have all of these books at the SLPL either as a hardcopy book, or in a digital format. Explore some children's books during Children's Authors and Illustrators Week!

SLPL staff reading spotlight: Jill is reading With This Pledge (Carnton, #1) by Tamera Alexander.

Upcoming Activities:

- Monday, February 2, 1:00-3:00 p.m., Mah-Jongg
- Tuesday, February 3, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Quilters
- Wednesday, February 4, 12:30-4:00 p.m., Quilters
- Thursday, February 5, 10:00-11:30 a.m., Block Party
- Thursday, February 5, 1:00-3:00 p.m., Mah-Jongg

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.

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

• February 2, 10:30 a.m. - Spectacular Space

• February 9, 10:30 a.m. - Tremendous Teeth

• February 16, 10:30 a.m. - No Building Bookworms- MML closed in observance of Presidents Day

• February 23, 10:30 a.m. - Underwear

Starting Monday, February 2, through Saturday, February 28, MML's Blind Date with a book is back! It could be funny or sad.

You might be glad with the title you picked it or maybe not. A bookmark is located in each book. Return the completed bookmark to the library to be placed into a drawing. Drawing prizes are sponsored by the Friends of the Milford Library. Blind Date books are available for all age groups.

Young Adults (4th-12th Graders) are invited to MML's Y.A. Make Monday on Monday, February 9, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. This month, you will be sewing a felt earbud case. Don't know how to sew, that is ok. Instructions and help will be available. This is a free come-and-go event. For any questions, please contact the library by calling 712-338-4643 or by emailing milfordlibrary51351@gmail.com.

Join Milford Memorial Library on Monday, February 9, from 11:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., for All-Day Play. Discover new and exciting toys while having fun with friends. This is a come-and-go playtime. All toys are supplied by the library. For any questions, please contact the library by calling 712-338-4643 or by emailing milfordlibrary51351@gmail.com.

On Thursday, February 12, Milford Memorial Library is having After-School Adventures at 3:30 p.m. This month, we will be playing Valentine's Day Bingo. A small snack will be provided during this free event. For any questions, please contact the library by calling 712-338-4643 or by emailing milfordlibrary51351@gmail.com.

The Milford Memorial Library Book Club will be discussing Once There Were Wolves by Charlotte McConaughy on Tuesday, February 17, at 1:00 p.m. Any interested individuals are welcome to join and may find a copy of the book at MML. It is not necessary to attend all of the meetings, and you are welcome to come and go as you please.



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Tops Meetings

Tops Chapter #369, Spirit Lake, meets Friday mornings at 10:00am at the Spirit Lake United Methodist Church, 1812 Gary Avenue, Spirit Lake (use east door). If you are one that needs help with motivation and food planning to lose weight, this may be the support group for you. Visitors are welcome to attend their first TOPS meeting free of charge without obligation. For more information, call Betty Sangel at 712-320-4458.

Family Services Resource Guide

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



FREE FOOD



Children's Authors And Illustrators Week

by Jill Jennings

The first week of February is recognized as Children's Authors and Illustrators Week. I thought it would be fun to showcase some famous names that you might not have known were children's authors.

First up are a couple actors/singers who have written books for children. Julie Andrews, famous for her lovely voice and many movies, has written The Very Fairy Princess, among others. And Chris Colfer has written several juvenile fiction series such as The Land Stories, Roswell Johnson, and A Tale of Magic. He also has several stand-alone juvenile books.

Two athletes-turned-authors are John Cena who wrote Elbow Grease, and Kristi Yamaguchi, who wrote Dream Big, Little Pig. Cena is a WWE wrestler, and Yamaguchi is a gold medal-winning Olympic figure skater.

The Brand New Kid was written by Katie Couric, who is a well-known journalist.

Jamie Lee Curtis and Henry Winkler have several titles to their credit. Curtis has written many easy reader books, such as Big Words for Little People, Just One More Sleep, and Today I Feel Silly. Winkler, on the other hand, has written some juvenile fiction series. These include Alien Superstar, Detective Duck, and Here's Hank. They are both actors/producers, by the way.

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- What happens to my money if something happens to me?



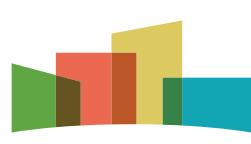
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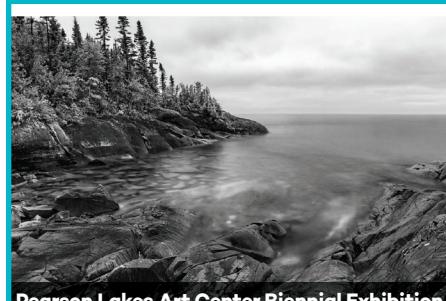
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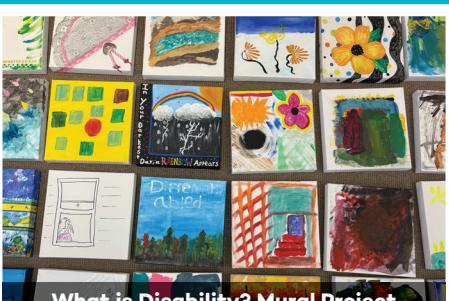
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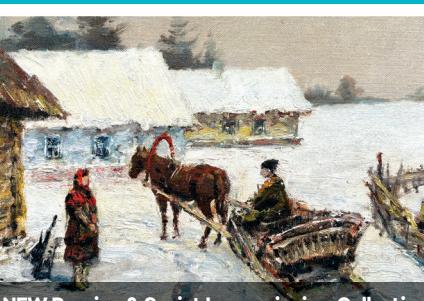
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Pearson Lakes Art Center Biennial Exhibition
Through 2/21



What is Disability? Mural Project
Through 2/28



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Through 5/31

PERFORMING ARTS

6/9 & 6/10 | Hotel California

A Salute to the Eagles | 7:30 PM | \$40/\$50
MEMBERS ONLY PRESALE 2/3-2/9

6/16 & 6/17 | The Texas Tenors

Country/Classical | 7:30 PM | \$40/\$50
MEMBERS ONLY PRESALE 2/10-2/16

6/23 | The Papa's And Mama's

Mamas and Papas Tribute | 7:30 PM | \$40/\$50
MEMBERS ONLY PRESALE 2/17-2/23

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EDUCATION CLASSES

NATURE COMPOSITION: MOSS WALL ART

With Samantha McCandless

Thursday, Feb. 12, 6-8pm OR
Saturday, Apr. 11, 10am-12pm | \$55/\$65 | All Levels, 21+

Design and assemble a beautiful square wall art piece using a mix of preserved moss, live air plants, and realistic faux succulents. Discussion of layout and composition will help you arrange natural textures and colors to create a low maintenance long-lasting work of art. All materials provided. Must register 1 week prior to class. Complimentary adult beverage supplied with each class.

CLOVERLEAF BASKET WEAVING

With Sandie Smith

Thursday, Feb. 26 | 5:30-7pm and
Saturday, Mar. 7 | 10am-3pm | \$55/\$65 | Intermediate, 18+

Join us to create a lucky handwoven treasure with this two-part intermediate basket weaving workshop. Featuring a distinctive cloverleaf design at the base, this basket is perfect for St. Patrick's Day or just because! With guidance of instructor Sandie Smith, students will work with round reeds to shape, form, and finish a unique basket that highlights both skill and creativity. Register by Feb. 18

Register online or call 712-332-7029

CULINARY CLASSES

Valentine Cupcake Decorating

With Janet Steinbach of Lakes Cakes Boji Custom Cakes

Tuesday, Feb. 3 | 4pm-5:15pm

\$40/\$50 per Group, add additional child for \$10

Register by Jan. 29

Designed for kids ages 7-12 years and an adult to work together as a group. Decorate your own adorable animal inspired Valentine Cupcakes! Take away your 6 cupcakes in a bakery box to share with family and friends.

Create & Savor Cooking Class

With Marisa Sides of Rissey's Dry Rubs and Seasonings

Saturday | 6pm | \$80/\$90

Registration required 3 days before each class.

In this hands-on cooking class, Marisa will guide you in preparing a delicious decadent meal, glass of wine included!

Feb. 14: Buttery Lobster Ravioli

Mar. 14: A Night in Naples

Winter Comfort Food

With Jay Norton of The Hen House

\$100/\$110 per dinner | 6pm

Registration required 2 days before each class.

Thursday, Feb. 19: Southern Cooking

Thursday, Mar. 12: Irish Country Supper

Join Chef Jay at the kitchen counter for a small group experience of timeless favorites! A glass of wine is served with each dinner.

Register online or call 712-332-7029

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 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