



THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER™

POST STD
PERMIT PAID
LAKES NEWS SHOPPER

THIS IS YOUR FREE COPY TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2026 VOL/53 NO/20 PO BOX 192 / MILFORD / IOWA 51351 / 712 - 338 - 2232 / LAKESNEWSHOPPER.COM

DermatoLogy SKIN STUDIO

Led By Nicole Stall, Dermatology Certified Nurse Practitioner



Expert Care. Exceptional Glow. Your Skin's New Standard

SkinMedica™ Peels

Illuminize Peel:

Glow & Go Treatment

- Great for all skin types
- Increases radiance & skin smoothness
- Little to no visible peeling

Rejuvenize Peel:

Dramatic Results

- Deeper, professional-grade peel
- Treat sun damage, fine lines & Hyperpigmentation

Medical Services

- Annual Skin Checks
- Skin Cancer Checks & Treatment
- Acne Management
- Hair Loss
- Mole Assessments

SkinPen

- Reduces the appearance of acne scars & neck wrinkles
- Boosts collagen & elastin



- Boosts deep skin hydration in the cheeks
- Improves skin smoothness without adding volume
- Uses micro droplet hyaluronic acid injections
- Lasting glow for up to 6 month



- Our Liquid Gold Facial combines gentle microneedling with your own Platelet-Rich Plasma (PRP), Microtox and Hyaluronic Acid for a Glass Skin Finish



- Improved skin tone & texture
- Fade spots & wrinkles
- Long lasting results on both the face & body
- Supports collagen for firmer, more youthful looking skin
- Prevents future aging by keeping skin healthier over time



- Targets active acne with gentle blue, yellow, and infrared light to calm inflammation and kill acne-causing bacteria
- Reduces redness, breakouts, and oil activity for clearer, smoother skin



- Smooth, Natural Results: Soften fine lines without freezing your face
- Refreshed & Rested: Look like you, just more rejuvenated
- Personalized Care: Tailored treatment for your unique facial anatomy
- Targets 3 Key Areas: Treats forehead lines, crow's feet, and frown lines.
- Preventative & Restorative: Ideal for maintaining a youthful appearance
- Trusted & Proven: #1 selling neurotoxin worldwide

DermatoLogySkinStudio.com | 3205 Zenith Ave, Unit 2 Spirit Lake, IA 51360 | Call Today: 712-339-4443

WE'RE DISHING UP *fish* ON FRIDAYS!



THE PLACE TO MEET

TWEETERS
EST. 1972

in OKOBOJI

SERVING LUNCH & DINNER DAILY!

FULL BAR | DINE IN | CARRY OUT | MENU ONLINE

1027 HWY 71, Okoboji | 712.332.9421 | tweetersokoboji.com



CLEAN MODERN SLEEK

We have all your glass needs



There is no home improvement job too large or small, and we can't wait to continue servicing your glass needs - from shower doors to replacing your screens.

Northwest Glass

511 S Grand Ave | Spencer, IA | www.nwglassia.com | 712-262-4992

JOIN OUR TEAM
Apply online!
Family owned & operated
for over 50 years.



Iowa Great Lakes Pheasants Forever Annual Banquet

WOMEN'S
RAFFLE!

FEBRUARY
28TH, 2026

DOORS OPEN
AT 4:00PM
FOOD SERVED
AT 5:30PM

DICKINSON
COUNTY EXPO
BUILDING

KIDS UNDER
8 GET IN
FREE!



GUNS, GUNS,
GUNS!

Come join us for an evening of
fun, live and silent auction,
games, and prizes!



Use QR Code for Tickets

For more information contact:
Stephen Blom 712-540-4348
ch0020@pfofficers.org
www.pheasantforever.org

Pheasant Forever mission is to conserve pheasant, quail, and other wildlife through habitat improvements, public access, education and conservation advocacy.



JOIN OUR TEAM!

FRONT OF HOUSE MANAGER

The Okoboji Store is seeking a Front of House Manager to lead our service team and help create memorable guest experiences. This role combines leadership, hospitality, and hands-on management in a fun, fast-paced lakeside environment.

- ✓ Lead, Support, Motivate
- ✓ Oversee Daily Operations
- ✓ Train & Develop Team
- ✓ Full-Time or Seasonal



SCAN
TO
APPLY

VISIT [MAUCAREERS.COM](https://maucareers.com) TO VIEW ALL OPENINGS

PRESCHOOL & NEW FAMILY OPEN HOUSE



OKOBOJI
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL

NEW FAMILIES in grades 1-4:
Don't miss the open enrollment
deadline of March 1st!

Preschool

All children that will be 4 on or before 9/15/26 are eligible for Preschool

We have full and half day options available for families!

New Families KG-4th Grade

All children that will be 5 on or before 9/15/26 are eligible for Kindergarten

All families that will be new to OES are welcome to attend!

WHY YOU SHOULD COME:

- Register your child for next year!
- Meet our PK and KG teachers and see our classrooms!
- Attend an optional presentation on our school, district, and PK program!
- Ask questions and get personalized answers for your family!
- A chance for us to meet your child and plan proper classroom placement!
- Learn what makes Okoboji a special place for your child's life journey!

WE HAVE A BRAND NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL OPENING IN THE FALL OF 2027



EVENT DATE:

MARCH 10, 2026

AT OKOBOJI ELEMENTARY, 1205 7TH ST, MILFORD, IA 51351

www.okobojischools.org

712-338-2458

OPEN HOUSE FROM 5:00-6:30

ALL NEW FAMILIES ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND THE OPTIONAL INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION FROM 5:30-6:00 IN THE LUNCHROOM



**INTRODUCING
3D/4D
ULTRASOUND**

**IMAGING YOU
CAN AFFORD.
QUALITY YOU
CAN TRUST.**

**SPENCER
IMAGING CENTER**
www.spencerimagingcenter.com

712.580.5074
710 S Grand Ave, Spencer IA 51301



**ULTRASOUND APPOINTMENTS
BEGINNING 2/20/26**

*A mindful, cost approach, transparent pricing,
convenient access, respect for your time.
YOU are the priority!*

**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.



E-Z-GO \$7,500

YAMAHA \$5,450

2022 E-Z-GO Valor EFI
gas, headlights, taillights, rear seat

2020 Yamaha Drive2 EFI QuietTech
gas, headlights, taillights, rear seat

Call us now for your 2026 seasonal rental!

NEW and USED GOLF CARTS
Sales and Service

C&R
GOLF CART | AUTO

- Seasonal Rentals
- Weekly and Weekend Rentals

crcartsauto.com

712-332-1370
309 Okoboji Ave., Milford South end of Milford





Engagement Announcement

Rick and Lisa Crofts of Urbandale, along with Mike and Brittany Vander Pol of Milford and TJ and Natalie Barthman of Brandon, South Dakota, are pleased to announce the engagement and upcoming wedding of their children, Megan Crofts and Brett Barthman. Megan is a graduate of the University of Iowa and A.T. Still University (ATSU) in Kirksville, Missouri. Megan is currently serving as a Surgery Resident at St. Mary's KCU in Kansas City. Brett is a graduate of Iowa State University and is currently completing his final year of Medical School at ATSU. Brett will graduate this May. The couple will exchange vows on April 18 in Des Moines, where they will be joined by family and friends to celebrate their marriage.

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



BUICK PRESIDENT'S DAY SALE!

**H&N CHEVROLET BUICK IN SPENCER
IS STILL HERE FOR EVERYTHING**


• NEW VEHICLES • SERVICE • WARRANTY & SUPPORT

**SALE ENDS
MARCH 2ND**

2025 Buick Envista Avenir.....	MSRP \$31,585
Ocean Blue/Pebble Gray Leather.....	H&N Discount -\$4,590
Stock #0771.....	Sale Price \$26,995
2025 Buick Envista Avenir.....	MSRP \$31,885
White Frost/Black Leather.....	H&N Discount -\$4,590
Stock #7389.....	Sale Price \$27,295
2026 Buick Encore GX Sport Touring AWD.....	MSRP \$33,280
Brilliant Red/Black Leatherette.....	H&N Discount -\$2,000
Stock #070585.....	Sale Price \$31,280
	Conquest Rebate -\$3,000
	\$28,280*
2026 Buick Enclave Preferred AWD.....	MSRP \$55,054
Cherry Red/Sandstone Leatherette.....	H&N Discount -\$3,000
Stock #8110.....	Bonus Cash -\$1,500
	Customer Cash -\$500
	\$50,054**
2026 Buick Enclave Preferred AWD.....	MSRP \$54,904
Ocean Blue/Black Leatherette.....	H&N Discount -\$3,000
Stock #8820.....	Bonus Cash -\$1,500
	Customer Cash -\$500
	\$49,904**
2026 Buick Enclave Avenir AWD.....	MSRP \$67,909
Cherry Red/Ebony Leather.....	H&N Discount -\$3,000
Stock #9410.....	Customer Cash -\$500
	\$64,409**
2026 Buick Enclave Avenir AWD.....	MSRP \$68,359
Iridescent White Tricoat/Ebony Leather.....	H&N Discount -\$3,000
Stock #1605.....	Customer Cash -\$500
	\$64,859**

**PLUS OVER 15 2026 BUICK ENVISIONS IN TRANSIT!
EXPECTED TO HIT THE LOT MID TO LATE FEBRUARY**

*Must be a Current Owner of a 2012 or Newer Non-GM vehicle. **0.9% APR for 36 Months and No Monthly Payments for 120 Days for Well-Qualified Buyers when Financed with GM Financial. 1.9% APR for 48 Months, 3.3% AFR for 60 Months, 4.3% APR for 72 Months.



Myles Musser.....712-260-5158
Jack Dodson.....515-720-5368
Brian Fassbender.....712-363-0545
Dave Gruhlke.....712-540-7036

713 GRAND AVE • 712-262-3230
OR WATTS 1-800-698-3230 • SPENCER, IA
www.hnchevy.com | TOGETHER LET'S DRIVE

THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER
Advertising Family of Merchants.

LOVE YOUR COMMUNITY

FEBRUARY 1ST-28TH

WE'RE GIVING SHOP LOCAL-MOTIVE A REFRESH!
LOVE YOUR COMMUNITY IS A GREAT WAY TO SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES & CELEBRATE ALL THE THINGS THAT MAKE OUR SPIRIT LAKE COMMUNITY SPECIAL.

PARTICIPATING BUSINESSES:
Allure & Co - Bedell Family YMCA - Bird Haven - Black Earth Java (Spirit Lake) - Boji Powersports - Burger & Company / The Revelry Carpet One - Custom Creations - Consignment Corner - Dixon Family Chiropractic - Drip Okoboji - Essential Float - Fareway Ferguson's Garden Center - Fisherman's Factory Outlet - Godfather's Pizza - Holland House - Interior Sewing by Lisa Jennings Tow & Repair - Jimmy John's (Spirit Lake) - Kurio Kastle - Lagniappe Tea Room - Lakes Laser Natural Family Chiropractic - Pizza Ranch - Pub 19 - Rooted Boutique - Scooter's Coffee - Shoreline Threads Spirit Lake Silver & Gold - Sportsman's / The Venue - The Look Fashions - The Well - Timeless Consignments - Toast on Hill - Twetten's Interiors

GRAND PRIZE DRAWING: MARCH 2ND

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

Share the Love this Valentine's Day

PRIZE DRAWINGS EACH WEEK DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY!

#1 PICK UP A CARD FROM A PARTICIPATING BUSINESS
Pick up a card at any of the listed locations or at the Spirit Lake Chamber. (Participating Businesses List Above).

#2 VISIT & MAKE A PURCHASE AT PARTICIPATING BUSINESSES
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!

#3 SUBMIT PRIZE ENTRIES AT 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.

#4 BONUS: SHARE TO SOCIAL MEDIA
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).

PRESENTING SPONSOR: Walmart
WEEKLY SPONSORS: CENTRAL BANK, HyVee, NORTHWEST BANK, OKBEOJI, CHEVROLET, TOYOTA

Looking to Upgrade Your Skincare Game...

But Don't Know Where to Start?

Come See Kyla for a Complimentary Consultation & Discounts on Skincare Products

DERMATOLOGY, MEDICAL & COSMETIC PROCEDURES

BIOTE HORMONE THERAPY

- Increase Energy
- Balance Mood
- Improve Your Sleep

Botox® | Face Lifts
Breast Surgery | Fillers
Skin Checks | Liposuction
Laser Face Peels
Varicose Veins | Biote & Much More

Forever Young BBL⁺ moxi

rebe

712.332.6001 | www.rebeyou.com | 3301 Hwy. 71 | Spirit Lake, IA
Dr. Ronald Kolegraff, MD, FACS • Dr. Julie Hamann, MD





Wine LIQUOR Cigars

WALK-IN HUMIDOR

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



OPENING FEBRUARY 13!

GUYS & DOLLS
A MUSICAL FABLE OF BROADWAY

Chanhassen
DINNER THEATRES

952.934.1525
ChanhassenDT.com

Iowa Lakes Community College Remembers Carter “Tater” Johnson

Iowa Lakes Community College is mourning the loss of Carter “Tater” Johnson, 19, of Rapid City, South Dakota, a first-year student and member of the Iowa Lakes baseball team. Johnson was killed in a bus crash on February 11th as his team was heading to Arkansas for a tournament.

Carter was a Criminal Justice Transfer major pursuing his associate in arts degree. In his first year at Iowa Lakes, he quickly became an integral part of the Laker community, respected in the classroom and deeply valued by his teammates and coaches.

A graduate of Rapid City Stevens High School, Carter brought with him a strong foundation as a competitive, multi-sport athlete. He earned recognition as a running back before transitioning his athletic talents to the Iowa Lakes baseball program as an outfielder. His ability to compete at a high level across sports reflected not only his versatility, but also his discipline, determination, and desire to grow.

Whether carrying the ball on the football field or tracking down a fly ball in the outfield, Carter’s speed, instincts, and relentless work ethic consistently set him apart. He embraced every opportunity to improve and approached each practice and game with purpose.

Head Baseball Coach Chris Witzke reflected on the impact Carter made in his time at Iowa Lakes.

“Carter was one of the most bought-in players I’ve ever coached,” Witzke said. “He wanted to be coached hard. He wanted to be great. He was willing to do whatever it took on his side to help the team win.”

Witzke described Carter as one of the easiest players to coach, a young man who was often the first to arrive and the last to leave.

“If you have 45 players like Tater, you have a really great baseball team,” Witzke said. “He checked every box — great athlete, great competitor, coachable, and always wanting to get better. He was a big part of our team’s personality and



identity. He was awesome to have, and we were lucky to know him. It hurts so bad that we won’t have him here.”

Carter came from a close-knit and supportive family who played an important role in shaping the young man he became. His father, a former Division I baseball player at South Dakota State University, shared with him a deep love for the game. His family’s encouragement and unwavering support were evident in the way Carter carried himself — with pride, humility, and gratitude — both on and off the field.

Carter’s faith was also central to who he was. His family shared that his heart was deeply rooted in Christ, and that he regularly spoke about his faith with teammates and friends. They reflected that his time at Iowa Lakes — particularly his involvement in Laker Life — was meaningful in his spiritual journey. According to his family, Carter’s witness and example encouraged others in their own faith.

President Scott Stokes expressed the College’s deep sorrow.

“Carter represented the very best of Iowa Lakes,” Stokes said. “He was driven, kind, committed to his teammates, and serious about his education. Our hearts are with his family, his teammates, and all who knew and loved him. As a college community, we grieve together.”

Vice President of Student Services and Athletic Director Troy Larson shared similar sentiments.

“Carter embraced the opportunity to grow, as a student, as an athlete, and as a young man,” Larson said. “He was committed to leaving no doubt about the kind of person and player he wanted to become. His loss is deeply felt across our athletic department and throughout our campuses.”

The Iowa Lakes Board of Trustees also extended its condolences. Board President Arden Kinnander shared the following on behalf of the Board:

“The Board of Trustees extends its deepest sympathy to the Johnson family, the baseball team, and all of our students, faculty, and staff. While we do not serve on campus daily, we value every opportunity to connect with students during our meetings and hear their stories. Each student is important to us, and we are heartbroken when tragedy touches our college community.

Carter was one of our students. His loss is deeply felt.

You are in our hearts and prayers. The Board remains committed to supporting our faculty, staff, and students in whatever way is needed as we navigate this difficult time together.”

Iowa Lakes Community College extends its deepest condolences to Carter’s family, friends, teammates, and all who knew and loved him. The College community will continue to support one another and honor Carter’s memory in meaningful ways.

Additional information regarding memorial services or campus tributes will be shared in coordination with the Johnson family.



CORE TO FLOOR

Package Savings!

Strengthen Abs, Glutes & Pelvic Floor

Improve Bladder Control, Diastasis Recti & Postpartum

ACHIEVE RESULTS WITHOUT ANY DOWNTIME
Begin your Journey Today!



Sunlighten mPulse
Unlimited Sauna Packages
(Minimum 3 Month Commitment)

Single Person \$69/Month
2 Family Members \$99/Month
Family \$169/Month



EMSCULPT®
EMSELLA®

N 44

Natural Family
CHIROPRACTIC

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

- Anti-Aging
- Detox
- Heart Health
- Muscle Recovery
- Immunity
- Sleep
- Weight Loss
- Relaxation
- Inflammation

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.



Shop Local, Give Local, Celebrate Local Freedom Trivia Night

MORE IOWANS CHOOSE WELLMARK.
Let's talk about your health insurance options and find the right plan for you!



Call today!
712-332-8361
800-657-8033

Allison Mercer Sam Mercer



KHI SOLUTIONS
Your Health Insurance Experts

66 N Hwy 71 Unit 3
Arnolds Park
www.khisolutions.com

AUTHORIZED INDEPENDENT AGENTS FOR **Wellmark** Iowa

The Dickinson County Republican Women cordially invite you to Freedom Trivia Night on Thursday, February 19, from 6:00 to 8:00 PM at the Lost Oar and Paddlefish Bar in Arnolds Park. Gather your friends to test your political knowledge in a fun, high-energy environment featuring music, patriotic prizes, and a true spirit of freedom. Guests are encouraged to arrive early to guarantee a spot; you may bring a pre-arranged team of four or easily join a team upon your arrival. Your generous free-will offering will help the organization strengthen and grow as it works to make a meaningful impact in our community, state, and country. If you have any questions, please call or text Sandy at 712-320-5517.



RECIPE CORNER

Grab all the ingredients and more for this delicious recipe at **CARSTENSEN'S Meat & Grocery.**

712-832-3620 • 201 Market Street • Lake Park

Chunky Butternut Squash Soup

Serves 4

- 1 small butternut squash
- 4 slices bacon, diced
- 1/4 cup chopped onion
- 1 medium clove garlic, crushed
- 1 can (16 oz.) whole tomatoes
- 2 1/2 cups water w/beef bouillon added OR 2 1/2 cups beef broth
- 1/4 c snipped parsley
- 1 bay leaf
- 1/4 tsp. dried basil
- 1/8 tsp dried thyme
- 3 Tbsp. of sherry or white wine

Pare squash and remove seeds. Cut squash into 1/2 inch cubes (about 3 cups) set aside.

Cook bacon until almost crisp in saucepan. Drain off fat; return 1 tablespoon to saucepan. Cook and stir in onion and garlic until tender. Stir in tomatoes, water, squash, parsley, bay leaf, basil and thyme; cover. Simmer until squash is tender, 20 to 25 minutes. Remove bay leaf; stir in sherry. Enjoy!

Recipe Courtesy of: Jan McDonald



CARSTENSEN'S
Meat & Grocery

712-832-3620
201 Market Street
Lake Park

80% Ground Beef
10-11lb. Pkgs
\$39



Chicken Thighs
Tray Pack
99¢ Per lb.

Chicken Breasts
Boneless, Skinless
\$1.99 Per lb.




Certified Angus Beef
Whole Ribeye
\$14.99 Per lb.

CONGRATULATIONS

Okoboji/HMS Wrestlers on Qualifying for the STATE WRESTLING MEET!



Noah Fairchild & Chase Franklin



Noah Fairchild- Freshman
106 lbs., 28-7 Overall Record
Wrestles 1st Round Thursday at 2:30pm

Chase Franklin- Sophomore
138 lbs., 22-1 Overall Record
1st Round Bye, Wrestles Thursday 2nd Round

STATE WRESTLING MEET

Wells Fargo Arena • Des Moines
Wednesday, February 18 to Saturday, February 21
Session #1 in class 2A starts Wednesday at 4:00 PM
FOLLOW THE RESULTS AT: <http://www.iahsaa.org/wrestling>
Head Coach, Nate Dau • Assistant Coaches: Ryan Pratt, Josh Pratt, Todd Gonnerman, Ethan Johnson & Alex Spooner
Individual photo credit to Rocky Thompson • This ad proudly sponsored by the Okoboji Pioneer Booster Club & The Lakes News Shopper.

CONGRATULATIONS

OLIVER MILLER & RAY KAISER

FOR COMPETING AT THE STATE SWIM MEET!



OLIVER MILLER

- 200 Yard Freestyle - 18th Place
- 500 Yard Freestyle - 14th Place
- 400 Yard Freestyle Relay - 21st Place
- Holds School Records in both 200 and 500 Yard Freestyle Races



RAY KAISER

- 100 Yard Backstroke - 24th Place
- 200 Yard Medley Relay - 16th Place
- 200 Yard Freestyle Relay - 24th Place
- 400 Yard Freestyle Relay - 21st Place

THERE IS JUST ONE CLASS IN SWIMMING & ONLY THE TOP 32 INDIVIDUAL SWIMMERS AND TOP 24 RELAYS ADVANCED TO STATE

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



SHOP, DINE,
& ENJOY





GREAT STYLES
FRIENDLY SMILES





Light, Breathable, Beautifully TRIBAL
Made for the Season Ahead.

FASHION
FORMULA

SIZES PETITE-PLUS FOLLOW US:  

TRIBAL®

GREAT LAKES MALL | 712-336-3824 | OPEN MON-SAT 9-5PM

PAYING CASH!
OLD JEWELRY IS EASY MONEY!



WE ARE BUYING GOLD & DIAMONDS

SPIRIT LAKE
SILVER & GOLD

Wouldn't you rather say it came from Spirit Lake Silver & Gold!

• 10k, 14k & 18k Gold • Class Rings
• Broken Chains • Divorce Diamonds
• "Old Boyfriend" Jewelry
• Single (lost) Earrings
• Scrap Gold • Dental Gold

 
Great Lakes Mall
Spirit Lake • 712-336-5405
www.spiritlakesilverandgold.com

Shop Local
Eat Local
Spend Local
Enjoy Local

It takes YOU to start a Trend


THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER

1009 22nd Street
Milford, IA
712-336-2232
lakesnewsshopper.com



- 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

OCCASIONAL
TABLES

THE BEST OF NATURE AND MODERN DESIGN



NEW
ITEMS

Accent your Style at

INTERIORS

FURNITURE & HOME

 Great Lakes Mall • Spirit Lake • 712.336.1000 • Mon.-Sat. 10am-5pm • www.interiorsiowa.com 

LIGHTING • WALL ART • FLORALS
EVERYDAY & SEASONAL DECOR
BATH • BEDDING • KITCHEN

For the Girl
Who Loves
Adventure,
Comfort & Style



Wild Child

Melissa & Doug Toys

infant • toddler • tween

OPEN Monday-Saturday 10AM-5:30PM

 Like Us On Facebook

Everyday Workwear,
Done Right.



the LOOK FASHIONS

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

Capture Your Story.
Close to your heart!



1st Baby

1st Anniversary

Engagement

Wedding

SPIRIT LAKE
SILVER & GOLD



Celebrate Love Your Community event
all month long—shop, collect stamps,
and earn exciting rewards. Swing by
in-store for all the details!

FOLLOW US!  

GREAT LAKES MALL | 712-336-5405 | SPIRITLAKESILVERANDGOLD.COM | OPEN MON-SAT 9AM-5:30 PM



Excelsior United Methodist Church

Deep Roots • Strong Faith



We Invite You to Join Us for
Worship & Fellowship
Sunday at 9:00 am

Rev. Dr. Jennifer Hesebeck
2005 150th Ave, Milford • 712.330.7149



St. Alban's Episcopal Church

"The Lord Be with You"

SUNDAYS • 10:00 AM
TUESDAYS • 11:00 AM

The Reverend Carolyn Tuttle, Rector

Live Stream  through our Facebook Page

Feb. 17: Shrove Tuesday - 11 am service
Pancakes 12 noon at Jarvis Grill, Lake St., Spirit Lake

Feb. 18: Ash Wednesday - 5 pm service

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

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



FAITH COMMUNITY CHURCH

nondenominational

WORSHIP WITH US!
SUNDAY • 10:30 AM

Coffee & Fellowship
Before & After the Service

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



HARBOR OF JOY LUTHERAN CHURCH LCMC

1204 L Ave. Milford • 712-338-2355

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE
Wednesday, Feb. 18 at 6:15pm

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

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."
- John 1:9

BLESSING BOX
Have a blessing LEAVE IT
Need a blessing TAKE IT
Above all be BLESSED

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

JOYKIDS Every Wednesday at 3:30PM




Birthday Announcement

Let's celebrate Vernice Wahl on her 85th birthday on Friday, February 20, 2026. Cards can be sent to 1344 310th Avenue, Spirit Lake, Iowa 51360.

Kiwanis Bingo Nights

Milford Kiwanis presents Bingo Nights on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month. The next Milford Kiwanis Bingo Nights will be Thursday, February 26 and March 12. 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.



Invitation to help this great lady celebrate her **90th Birthday!**
Open house on Feb. 21 from 2-4 pm at the **Milford Community Center in Milford, Iowa.**
Coffee, punch and cake will be provided.

If you are unable to attend and would like to send her your birthday wishes, please mail to:
Mary Ellen Sonius
1307 Maywood Ave., Milford, Iowa 51351.

Family Nature Night

Looking for a free family nature night outing? Bring the whole family to Family Nature Night: Love What's Left at the Dickinson County Nature Center on Friday, February 27th, from 5:00-6:00 p.m. The night will start off with a story about endangered animals, and the group will discuss what endangered animals are and some of the species that are listed in Iowa. Teams will be designated for a Jeopardy-style game to challenge players' nature knowledge. To wrap up the night, families will meet Teddy, the Nature Center's ornate box turtle, and create a turtle inspired craft to take home as a reminder of the animals they learned about and the role we all play in caring for Iowa's wildlife. "Test your animal trivia knowledge with a game night outing", said Community Relations Coordinator Amy Heibult. "The Nature Center's ornate box turtle, Teddy, will make a debut to meet families up close." Registration is required to attend prior to 5:00 PM on February 25 by visiting the Event List on www.dickinsoncountynaturecenter.com. Like and follow the Dickinson County Nature Center on Facebook and Instagram for the latest updates and event announcements.

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

ASH WEDNESDAY
6:30pm
Worship
February 18th

WALK-IN ASH DISTRIBUTION
(South/Main Entrance)
11:30am - 12:30pm

Those unable to attend the worship service are invited to walk in for ash distribution and blessing.

IS IT I?
Lenten Series
Wednesdays
Feb 25th - March 25th
Worship @ 6:30pm

Lenten Soup Suppers
5:30 - 6:15PM
Freewill Offering

Living Last Supper
April 1st & 2nd @ 6:30pm

All Services will be livestreamed
office@3cross.org 1525 Three Cross Rd, Milford 712-338-4514

HAPPY winter

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

JOIN US FOR ASH WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 18TH AT 6PM

calvarylovesall.com

CALVARY
United Methodist Church
Sharing God's Love with ALL

679 W. Okoboji Grove Rd., Arnolds Park
712-332-2447
Find us on 

FREE FOOD FOR THOSE IN NEED

THIRD THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH
FEBRUARY 19
4:30PM - 6:30PM
DOWNTOWN CHURCH
2105 N Ave, Milford, IA
(Located near Cherished Again & The Lakes News Shopper)

FOOD PANTRY IS FREE OF CHARGE. PLEASE DO NOT ARRIVE BEFORE 3:30PM
For More Information, Email: dchungerc@gmail.com



LENTEN

FISH FRY

Fundraiser

\$12 ADULT **\$30 FAMILY DEAL**

Children 5 & under eat FREE



SAINT MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, SPIRIT LAKE
FEB 20 FEB 27 MARCH 06

MARCH 20 + 27 - SAINT JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, MILFORD

5 PM - 7 PM

HAND BREADED FISH, SIDES, DESSERT, AND DRINK
DEACON DARWIN'S SEASONED RED POTATOES

Al-Anon Meeting Schedule

The new Okoboji Al-Anon Group meets every Thursday at 5:30 p.m. at Calvary United Methodist Church, located at 679 W. Okoboji Grove Rd. in Arnolds Park; for additional details, you may call 312-280-8732.

Meanwhile, the Milford New Hope Al-Anon group holds its meetings virtually via Zoom using Meeting ID 775 5729 0457 and passcode JXEU2H.

For further information or to find other local groups, please visit Iowa-Al-Anon.org, navigate to the "Meetings" tab, and search for Milford, IA 51351. You may also contact the area information line at 712-580-4406.

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

SUNDAY

Schedule

WORSHIP
8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

FELLOWSHIP
9:30 AM
EDUCATION
9:45 AM

1525 Three Cross Road
Milford, IA

office@3cross.org  712-338-4514  www.3cross.org




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

SCHEDULED PRESENTATIONS/EVENTS:
Tuesday, February 17, 12:30 PM — Mary Prentice
— Topic: Medicare Updates
Tuesday, February 24 12:00 PM — Dickinson County Public Health will be providing free blood pressure checks

Thursdays - 11:00 AM - TaiChi
Fridays - 9:50 AM - Chair Yoga

SAVE THE DATE!
SUNDAY, MARCH 15
10:30am-12:30pm
HAM DINNER
\$15.00 Tickets available at the Senior Center



SIGN UP FOR FEBRUARY DINNER DATE MEALS!
Reserve your meal for next week
Low Cost: \$7-\$10 Donation
A Gift Certificate for Dinner Date Meals is the Perfect Gift!

23 Monday Tater Tot Casserole Fruit & Bread	24 Tuesday Chicken Fillet Sandwich/Bun Vegetable Fruit	25 Wednesday Scalloped Potatoes & Ham Vegetable Fruit & Bread	26 Thursday Hot Pork Mashed Potatoes Vegetable Fruit & Bread	27 Friday Pizza Casserole Vegetable Fruit Bread
--	---	--	---	--

PLEASE CALL 712-336-5247 BY 1:00 PM FRIDAY TO RESERVE A MEAL FOR NEXT WEEK
Dinners are provided by **CARSTENSEN'S MEAT & GROCERY** of Lake Park. Meals are available for those 60 and older (and their spouse regardless of age)

2101 Zenith Ave. • Spirit Lake, IA • 712-336-5247

WORLD TRAVEL INC.

Call Sandy
712-336-4580



Bird Haven
Enhancing Your Bird Feeding Experience

1655 225th Place • Spirit Lake
Cell 712-320-0320
712-336-BIRD (2473)
HOURS:
TUE.-SAT. 9-4 • SUN. 12-4





**Peanut
Kernels**

\$1⁵⁵/LB

Many birds love this nutritional snack throughout the day.

PETERSUNN ANTIQUES

SHOP OUR INVENTORY
of Antique Guns, Knives, Ammo & Decoys!

Wanted to Buy: Antique Guns, Knives, etc.
Terry Peterson- Owner
775-790-0935 • #35 West 1st St. Spencer, IA

BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY

Accountants



**Erpelding-Voigt-Co.
LLP**

Certified QuickBooks ProAdvisor

Brian L. Sohn, CPA, CFP®
Michael Schlitter, CPA

1801 Hwy. 71 N., P.O. Box 605
Okoboji, IA 51355
712-332-2443
www.evcpa.com

Accountants



RAAK & ASSOCIATES
certified public accountants

Daniel W. Raak, CPA

Providing Rock Solid
Financial Advice

Professional Staff:

Nicole Steffensen, CPA
Tammy Lair
Tyler Turner

Accepting
New Clients

103 S. 6th St.
Estherville, IA 51334
(712) 362-5891
FAX (712) 362-7172

Accountants



**WINTER STAVE
& CO. LLP**

Certified Public Accountants

D. Jeffrey Crew, CPA/CVA/CGMA
Carol Sporrer, CPA
Rebecca Graves, CPA

Lakeland Square P.O. Box 187
Milford, IA 51351

712-338-2488
www.winther-stave.com

Home Care



**Stay in
Home Care**
MEDICAL STAFFING

"Affordable Care in the
Comfort of Your Own Home"

Toll Free: (855) 933-2595
Cell: (712) 346-7019
allie@stayinhomecare.com

Allie Fletcher, LNHA
Owner

Follow us! 



Custom Design



BojiWare
apparel & gifts

✓ Custom Designed
Apparel
✓ Embroidery &
ScreenPrint
✓ Personalized Gifts

913 Okoboji Ave.
Milford, IA
712-363-2297
www.BojiWare.com



Dentists



HILL AVENUE DENTAL
Caring • Committed • Excellence

DARREN DOTSON,
D.D.S.
AMY E. HARTZELL,
D.D.S.

Office: 712-336-4895

LOCALLY OWNED

In-House Savings Plans Available
Accepting New Patients

Providers for Delta Dental, Blue Dental, Ameritas, and United Healthcare
CareCredit financing available

Dentists



**Newell
Orthodontics
P.C.**

CRAIG E. NEWELL, D.D.S., M.S.

611 18th St, Spirit Lake
712-336-3428
www.newell-orthodontics.com

Specialist in
Orthodontics and
Dentofacial Orthopedics

Premier Invisalign
Provider

Delta Dental and
Hawk-i Provider

Dentists



**GREAT LAKES
DENTAL ASSOCIATES**

DENTISTRY DESIGNED FOR TODAY'S FAMILIES

3020 Aurora Ave. W., Spirit Lake

www.greatlakesda.com | (712) 336-2460

Dentists



**Pas & Toale
DENTISTS**

RANDY PAS, DDS
JOE TOALE, DDS

ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS
Call to discuss our in-house savings plan

Locally owned practice since 1994 • Lakeland Square-Milford
bojidental.com • 712-338-2449

Dentists



healthysmiles
FAMILY AND COSMETIC DENTISTRY

Brandy Lancaster, DDS

2210 33rd Street, Spirit Lake • 712-336-2533
www.healthysmilesiowa.com

**Senior/Activity
Center Events**

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

Blood Pressure Screening is the last Tuesday of every month.

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

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

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

Chair yoga every Friday at 10:00am.

Pool and ping pong tables available.

Puzzles and books available to borrow or enjoy.

Greeting cards are available for purchase for \$.50

The center is now collecting pop tabs - collection proceeds will go to the Ronald McDonald House.

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

**Minnesota State Mankato
Announces Dean's List**

Congratulations to the following area students who were named to the Honor lists (Dean's lists) for the past fall semester at Minnesota State University, Mankato by Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs David Hood: Haylee Stokes of Estherville, Sierra Christians of Milford, Maci Higgins and Emmett Trosin of Spirit Lake.

To qualify for academic honors, undergraduate students must be enrolled for at least 12 credit hours for the semester.

**Shape the Market's Future: Lakes Area
Farmers Market Launches Public Survey**

The Lakes Area Farmers Market is urging the public to respond to a survey designed to help the market's directors plan future events and expanded operations. The survey is posted on the market's websites, facebook.com/lakesareafarmersmarketiowa and lakesareafarmersmarket.org or a printed copy can be picked up at the Iowa State Extension office in the Expo Center, Spirit Lake.

Among the new ideas being considered by the market directors are: developing children's fun learning activities to be featured at the Saturday market; food trucks and music for the Wednesday market; the possibility of an enclosed facility for providing a year around market; and fostering young vendors through 4-H and FFA clubs in Dickinson County.

The Lakes Area Farmers Market was one of the first non-urban farmers markets established in the state of Iowa, registered with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship in 1987. Since its inception the market has been located at the Dickinson County Fairgrounds, Spirit Lake, and has provided an outlet for local fruit and vegetable growers, bakers, and craft makers. It operates Saturdays 7:30-noon and Wednesdays 3-6 from late May to early October.

**Free Breakfast Saturday, February
21 at Grandview Church Gym**

Free Breakfast: Saturday, February 21, from 8-10 a.m. at the Grandview Church gym. Burritos, pancakes, sausage, and eggs are being cooked; and milk, juice, and coffee will also be served. The breakfast is completely free, and everyone is invited.

Breakfast will be served at Grandview Baptist Church's gym, which is at 3705 170th St. in Estherville. We have had an average of 130 people attend the free breakfasts. There will also be a small food pantry for families to take shelf-stable food.

Thanks to Estherville Foods, Hy-Vee, Fareway, Ace Hardware, and I & B Ag Supply for donating to the Free Breakfast. If you have questions, please contact Brett Fuelberth at 712-330-1145.



Free Community Breakfast
BURRITOS
PANCAKES
SAUSAGE
EGGS
MILK
JUICE
COFFEE
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21
8AM-10AM
GRANDVIEW BAPTIST CHURCH
3705 170TH ST, ESTHERVILLE
SPECIAL THANKS TO:
FAREWAY HyVee
ACE Hardware
I & B AG SUPPLY

Desayuno comunitario gratis
BURRITOS
PANQUEQUES
SALCHICHA
HUEVOS
LECHE
JUGO
CAFÉ
EL SÁBADO 21 DE FEBRERO
8:00AM-10:00AM
GRANDVIEW BAPTIST
3705 170TH ST, ESTHERVILLE
UN APOYO ESPECIAL A:
FAREWAY HyVee
ACE Hardware
I & B AG SUPPLY

**90th Birthday
Announcement**

You're invited to help Mary Ellen Sonius celebrate her 90th birthday. There will be an open house on February 21, from 2:00 - 4:00pm, at the Milford Community Center Milford, Iowa. Coffee, punch and cake will be provided.

If you are unable to attend and would like to send her your birthday wishes, please mail to Mary Ellen Sonius, 1307 Maywood Avenue, Milford, Iowa 51351.





**SHADE OF THE TREE
Counseling
SERVICES**

**Experienced Professional
Counseling for all needs**

Individual & Group Counseling Available

FREE Consultation

OWI Screening

OWI Driving Classes:
March 13 & 14 - May 1 & 2

OWI Weekend Offender Program
More dates coming soon.

OWI Classes offered (TAADS) classes can be done in-person or via Zoom

Sliding Fee Scale accepted
Text or Call
for Appointment
712.330.9140
Daniel Gigstad MA, CADC
1601 Keokuk Ave. • Spirit Lake
www.mysshadeofthetree.com

**ALL MILITARY
ITEMS WANTED**

WWI • WW2 • KOREA • VIETNAM

Medals, knives, guns, helmets, daggers, uniforms, all items wanted.

ALSO INDIAN ARROWHEADS & ARTIFACTS

Single items or collections. PAYING CASH.

563-581-9568

**Dickinson County
Soil & Water Conservation District
2026 TREE SALE**



Order before February 27th

DECIDUOUS TREES Bundles of 25	SHRUBS Bundles of 10
Silver Maple 2-3 ft. \$85/bdl.	Late Bloom Lilac 2-3 ft. \$40/bdl.
Hybrid Willow (Austree) 2-3 ft. \$95/bdl.	Amur Maple 2-3 ft. \$35/bdl.
Northern Red Oak 2-3 ft. \$100/bdl.	

DECIDUOUS TREES Bundles of 5	CONIFEROUS TRANSPLANTS Bundles of 25
Autumn Blaze Maple 4-5 ft. \$300/bdl.	Eastern Red Cedar 9-15 in. \$100/bdl.

POTTED CONIFEROUS TREES	SHRUBS Bundles of 25
Black Hills Spruce 24-30 in. 2G Potted \$25 ea.	Redosier Dogwood 2-3 ft. \$65/bdl.
Meyer Spruce 15-18 in. 1G Potted \$25 ea.	American Plum 2-3 ft. \$120/bdl.
Colorado Spruce 18-24 in. 2G Potted \$25 ea.	Common Ninebark 12-18 in. \$95/bdl.
Techny Arborvitae 18-24 in. 2G Potted \$35 ea.	Common Lilac 18-24 in. \$95/bdl.
	Cranberry Bush 12-18 in. \$105/bdl.

HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR NEED A SPECIES NOT LISTED?
Visit the SWCD office at 3302 18th Street (Hwy. 9), Spirit Lake, or call 712-336-3782, ext. 3.

100% OF PAYMENT IS DUE AT THE
TIME OF YOUR ORDER.

Trees will be available for pickup mid-April. Notices to be sent later.

*SPECIAL ORDER

Please order early for best selection and avoid shortages.
No survival guarantee on stock sold at these prices.
Sizes are estimated and subject to nursery availability.

96th Birthday Announcement

At 96, Lillian's still at the top of her game with a pinochle game that puts others to shame, a sharp witted pro who plays cards with such flair, she's the 500 queen that no opponent can snare!

Lillian will be celebrating her 96th birthday on Thursday, February 26, 2026. Family and friends would like to honor her with a card shower. Your warm wishes can be sent to her at Court-yard Gardens, 1920 23rd Street #12, Spirit Lake, Iowa 51360.

**2500 Firearms
in Stock! Plenty
of Choices!**



SOUTHERN ARCHERY
712-262-7213
325 11th Street SW • Spencer

WE TAKE FIREARMS IN FOR TRADE ON BOWS & CROSSBOWS!

2026    Bows In-Stock!

Used Guns Are On SALE | GREAT PRICES!

Beautiful OVER & UNDER Shotguns
(NEW in Box, 5 Choke Tubes)

• Bows
• Archery Supplies
• Long Guns

• Hand Guns
• Browning Gun Sales
• X Bows



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

Hwy. 71 & 9
Spirit Lake
712-336-4535



"BECAUSE FISH DON'T CARE
WHAT YOU PAID!"



HOURS:
Mon.-Fri. 8AM - 6PM
Sat. 8AM - 5PM
Sun. 11AM - 5PM
Follow Us on 

**GEAR UP FOR THE
BIG ONE**

**New Spring Arrivals are Here...
from the Brands You Love**



**AT THESE PRICES,
OUR NEW ARRIVALS
MOVE FAST!**

STOCK UP WITH ALL NEW PRODUCTS!



www.lakesnewsshopper.com



Anniversary Announcement

Jackie and Roger Mann are celebrating 60 years of marriage on Thursday, February 26, 2026. Family would like to honor them with a card shower. Please include a written memory to: Roger and Jackie Mann, 815 W. 7th Street, Spencer, Iowa, 51301.

VFW BREAKFAST

Sunday, Feb. 22
8:00 am to 12:30 pm

— PUBLIC WELCOME —

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

VFW Post 3159
Veterans Hall
15 East 21st St. Spencer, IA

Iowa Lakes Community College Announces Rescheduled 2026 Jazz Band Contest

The Iowa Lakes Community College Music Department is excited to announce the rescheduled dates for the 2026 Jazz Band Contest, which was postponed due to weather. The contest will now take place Thursday, February 19, and Friday, February 20, 2026, at the Janice K. Lund Performing Arts Center on the Iowa Lakes Estherville Campus.

The event is open to the public and free of charge. Designed as a purely educational experience, the festival provides participating bands with the opportunity to perform in a formal contest setting.

This is a judged contest in which participating bands will be ranked based on their performances. In addition to receiving ratings, each band will take part in an educational clinic, where judges provide constructive feedback to help students and directors continue to develop their musical and performance skills.

Judges for the 2026 contest are Kevin Linder and Rod Shedenhelm, both retired band directors who spent their entire teaching careers in Northwest Iowa. Their extensive experience in music education brings valuable perspective and insight to the evaluation and clinic process.

Festival Schedule	Friday, February 20
Thursday, February 19	Class 3A
1A Bands	Spencer Jazz II
Newell-Fonda	Spencer Jazz I
George-Little-Rock	Le Mars
2A Bands	Storm Lake
Estherville Lincoln Central	Class 4A
Emmetsburg	Lewis Central Jazz II
Sioux Central	Lewis Central Jazz I
South Central Calhoun	Urbandale
Okoboji	Awards: Class 3A & 4A
Rock Valley	
Awards: Class 1A & 2A	

Please visit the Iowa Lakes Music Department Facebook Page for the most up-to-date schedule, as last-minute changes may occur.

For more information, please contact Lincoln Larsen at llarsen@iowalakes.edu or 712-362-7962.

SHOP LOCAL

SHOP SMALL

HICKORY SMOKED FRESH DAILY
BABY BACK PORK RIBS & BRISKET

TENDER MEATS **BOTTOMLESS**
HOMEMADE SOUPS **BOWL**
DAILY SPECIALS **OF SOUP!**

WEDNESDAY PASTA NIGHT \$12.99 YOUR CHOICE OF
• RIBS & SPAGHETTI • RIBS & LASAGNA ROLL UPS • CHICKEN ALFREDO

Thursdays: Meat Raffle!
Sponsored by the Twilight Masonic Lodge
Key Chain CASH Drawing

HOURS: Mon.-Sat. 11am-10pm
Fri. & Sat. 10pm-3am Late Night Breakfast
117 W. Broadway, Arnolds Park
712-332-5152

Located directly across from Arnolds Park Amusement Park

THE HUTT Bar & Grill

See our website & menu: thehuttbarandgrill.com

DAILY SPECIALS at 11am

DAILY SPECIALS

- Wed., Feb. 18: Pan Fried Chicken Coconut Shrimp & Fish Tacos
- Thur., Feb. 19: Hamburger Steak Bourbon Chicken
- Fri., Feb. 20: Country Fried Steak
- Mon., Feb. 23: Hot Beef Taco Salad
- Tues., Feb. 24: CLOSED

Friday Night Special
Fish Fry • Fish Tacos

Saturday Night Special
Prime Rib • BBQ Ribs

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

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

Hwy. 71 South • Arnolds Park, IA • 712.332.8074

EST. 2015
PUB 19
BAR & GRILL
AT OKOBOJI VILLAGE

PRIME RIB
Friday & Saturday Nights

PIZZA SPECIAL

PUB 19 WINTER HOURS
Closed Mon.-Wed.
Thurs.: 11am-7:45pm
Fri. & Sat.: 11am-8:45pm
Sun.: 11am-7:45pm

MALIBU CHICKEN
Garlic Chicken, Ham & Bacon on BBQ Sauce with a side of Honey Mustard

Hwy. 86 • West Lake Okoboji
712-332-8142 • www.pub19barandgrill.com

SOFTAIL SALOON • SUPERIOR, IA

FISH FRY

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Hand Breaded Pollock with Baked Potato & Homemade Coleslaw

Starts at 4:30pm

Daily Lunch & Evening Specials

Monthly Feature Menu!
712.858.4500
Hwy. 9 | Superior, IA
Open Wed. thru Sun. at 11 a.m.

Support
THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER
Advertising Family of Merchants.

THE THREE SONS

WINTER SALE

30-50% OFF

MANY OF THE NAME BRANDS YOU LOVE!

THE THREE SONS

1 Block East Of Bank Stoplight • Milford • 712-338-2424

OPEN MON.-SAT. 10AM-5:00PM, SUNDAY NOON-3PM

www.threesons.com @thethreesons

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Soup Dinner Fundraiser

Sunday, February 22th • 11am-1pm
American Legion • 1102 15th St., Spirit Lake

5 Kinds of Soup

Desserts • Coffee • Water • Juice

Take-Out Available

Want to upgrade inside the Legion
Come & Enjoy

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!
Free Will Donation

Beach Club
Kazarelli's
Italian & American Cuisine
from our made from Scratch Kitchen!

TUESDAY NIGHT
BURGER SPECIAL
\$5 Hamburger
Fresh Ground Hamburger Blend
While supplies last

THURSDAY NIGHT
PASTA NIGHT
Build Your Own Pasta Bar
with Salad and Bread

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

Perkins
AMERICAN FOOD CO.

NEW DEEP DIVE DELIGHTS
THEY'RE IN A LEAGUE OF THEIR OWN.

MILFORD
712-338-4060
SUN. - THURS. 6am-9pm
FRI. & SAT. 6am-10pm
ONLINE ORDERING AT PERKINSRESTAURANT.COM

PERKINS CATERING
Scan to view the menu and place your order today.

Starts Feb. 18th

Double Catch

SAVE 20%
20% Off Your Total Bill
UP TO TOTAL OF \$10 OFF

Present this coupon to the cashier at the time of sale and receive a 20% discount off your total bill (including entrées, drinks, side items, and desserts). * Not valid with any other special or discount programs.

Perkins
AMERICAN FOOD CO.
Coupon Expires: March 25, 2026

Word Search Puzzle proudly sponsored by

CARNEY
DRAINAGE AND EXCAVATING
SPIRIT LAKE, IA
712.320.5188 | 712.330.8703

HEALTHY HEART WORD SEARCH

WORDS

AEROBIC
ARRHYTHMIA
ARTERIES
ATHEROSCLEROSIS
BEATS
BLOOD
CARDIAC
CARDIOVASCULAR
CHOLESTEROL
CIRCULATION
CORONARY
ENDURANCE
EXERCISE
HEALTHY
HEART
HYPERTENSION
INFLAMMATION
MUSCLE
PLAQUE
PULSE
STRESS
STROKE
VALVES
VEINS

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

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

Little Swan Lake Winery

Life... Drink it In!

We are open for walk-ins & tasting!

Winter Hours: Thursday-Sunday 11am-6pm

Saturday, February 21
CERAMICS & WINE
1-4pm

CERAMIC PAINTING!
Enjoy Wine and Free Munchies while you paint!

Sunday, Feb. 22
Adam Layman & Jacob Wittkamp
Oscar Party Meal! 4-6pm

For upcoming bands and events visit our website:
www.lslwinery.com

Bed & Breakfast Open Year Round!
1 1/2 miles north of Superior on N16
Reservations recommended, Call 712-858-4592 or 712-380-3455

OPENING FEBRUARY 13!

GUYS & DOLLS
A MUSICAL FABLE OF BROADWAY

Chanhasen
DINNER THEATRES

952.934.1525
ChanhasenDT.com

BEER PIZZA WINGS

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 @westobier

503 TERRACE PARK BLVD • WEST OKOBOJI

DRINK LOCAL

\$1 OFF PINT
\$2 OFF PIZZA

BRICK OVEN PIZZA west O

LIMIT 1 COUPON PER TICKET | EXPIRES FEB. 28, 2026

National Margarita Day

is Sunday, February 22nd

22 oz. Margarita Any Flavor

ONLY \$7⁰⁰

Bring Your Friends for Sunday Funday!

El Mariachi Bar & Grill

712-339-9669

1511 18th St. Spirit Lake, IA
Located Inside The Great Lakes Mall

Hours: Mon-Sat 11am-9pm
Sun 11am-8pm

WE ARE SPIRIT LAKE

IABC GALA

Friday, February 27th | Waterfront Event Center

2026

Spirit Lake Indian Athletic Booster Club to Host Annual Gala

The Spirit Lake Indian Athletic Booster Club invites the community to an evening of celebration and support for student athletics at the Spirit Lake Indian Athletic Booster Club Gala, taking place Friday, February 27, at the Waterfront Grille & Event Center.

This special event raises vital funds to support Spirit Lake Middle School and High School athletics, with proceeds benefiting equipment, supplies, and uniform needs for student-athletes across all programs.

Guests will enjoy a memorable night celebrating Indian athletics, featuring a cocktail hour, presentations, an engaging program, and a silent auction filled with exciting items. The evening will also include a featured presentation from Jordan Bohannon, former Iowa Hawkeye and retired American professional basketball player, who will share insights from his athletic career and experiences at the highest levels of competition.

“The Booster Club plays a critical role in enhancing opportunities for our student-athletes,” Booster Club President, Steve Scott, shared. “This gala is not only a fundraiser, but a celebration of the dedication, teamwork, and community pride that define Spirit Lake athletics.”

Tickets are available online through Eventbrite or directly at <https://bit.ly/SLGala2026>. Community members, supporters, and alumni are encouraged to attend and be part of an evening that makes a lasting impact on local student-athletes.

For more information or ticket details, visit <https://bit.ly/SLGala2026>



Spirit Lake Library News

Meet Our New Director!

by Rachel Maly

Hello! I just graduated with my Master's in Library and Information Science from the University of Iowa. I'm originally from Cedar Rapids and have worked at the Ely Public Library for the past four years as the Communications and Adult Services Librarian. In my free time I like to do all sorts of crafts like knitting, sewing, and embroidery. I am so excited to serve the Spirit Lake community and I look forward to seeing you in the library!

SLPL staff reading spotlight: Breanna is listening on Libby to Catch Her if You Can (Big Shots.#5) by Tessa Bailey, and reading the eBook The Long Game (Game Changer #6) by Rachel Reid.

Upcoming activities:

- Monday, February 23, 1:00-3:00 p.m., Mah-Jongg
- Tuesday, February 24, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Quilters
- Wednesday, February 25, 12:30-4:00 p.m., Quilters
- Thursday, February 26, 10:30-11:15 a.m., Story Time (theme: blankies)
- Thursday, February 26, 1:00-3:00 p.m., Mah-Jongg
- Saturday, February 28, January-February Between the Shelves Book Challenge bookmarks due

The River

AN EXECUTIVE COACHING BLOG

TONY THELEN

In 1960, the U.S. Olympic hockey team finished tryouts with a problem most athletes would envy: too much talent. The roster stood at 21 players, but only 20 could go to the Games. One young player was cut at the very last moment.

His name was Herb Brooks.

That team went on to win the gold medal, defeating the Soviet Union, the most dominant hockey machine on the planet at the time. Brooks watched it all from the outside. A crushing event by any measure. A door slammed shut.

Fast-forward exactly twenty years.

In 1980, a very different U.S. Olympic hockey team took the ice in Lake Placid. Young. Amateur. Overmatched. A collection of college kids facing the same Soviet juggernaut. They were older, stronger, professional, and presumed unbeatable.

And standing behind the U.S. bench as head coach? Herb Brooks.

What followed became known as the *Miracle on Ice*. Against every prediction, Brooks led that improbable team past the Soviets and then past Finland to claim Olympic gold. The same man who had once been cut now inspired one of the greatest stories in sports history.

The lesson isn't about hockey.

It's about life.

Events happen. Sometimes unfair ones. Sometimes heartbreaking ones. Sometimes confusing ones that don't make sense until much later, if they ever do. But events do not predict the outcome of our lives.

Our response to events does.

Some people allow events to drain them. Others allow those same events to shape, fuel, and inspire them. The difference is not talent, luck, or circumstance. The difference is whether we choose to be *inspirable*. Are we open to growth, energy, and purpose even when the moment itself feels defeating?

Here are five ways to focus less on the event and more on the response:

- 1. Name the story you're telling yourself.**
When something happens, ask: *What meaning am I assigning to this event?* Most suffering comes not from the event, but from the story we attach to it. Name the story, then decide if it's the one you want to live by.
 - 2. Ask: "What would my best self do here?"**
Not your angriest self. Not your wounded self. Your best self. The question reframes the moment from reaction to identity. Find that calmer, wiser response waiting underneath the noise.
 - 3. Delay your first answer.**
Whether in an email, a meeting, or a difficult conversation, resist the urge to respond immediately. Time is a powerful ally. Even a short delay turns impulse into intention.
 - 4. Choose growth over being right.**
The need to win an argument often costs us more than we realize. In tense moments, ask: *Is my goal to be right, or to grow?* One hardens the moment; the other opens it up to new thinking.
 - 5. Practice response in low-stakes moments.**
You don't learn composure in a crisis. You can rehearse it daily. When traffic slows, when plans change, when someone disappoints you. Small moments are the training ground for life's biggest tests. Being inspirable doesn't mean pretending life is easy. It means believing that even difficult chapters can supply the energy and enthusiasm to write a better next one.
- Herb Brooks didn't become great despite being cut. In many ways, he became great *because* he got cut, and *how he responded to it*.
- So when the unexpected happens, and it will, remember this: the event is just a moment. Your response is the story. Controlling our response is not a gift - it's a practiced skill. And like all skills, it's built one small, intentional moment at a time.
- Tony Thelen is the founder of The River Coaching & Consulting, LLC, where he works with CEOs and senior leaders to help them live and lead with clarity, purpose, and intention. "The River" is a weekly column focused on practical wisdom for a fulfilling life and successful career. Learn more at www.rivercoaching.com or contact him at Tony@therivercoach.org

Mardi Gras PARTY

Oak Hill Outdoor, Milford, IA

Social Hours 5:00pm
Meal 6:30pm

Single Ticket - \$50 Includes DU Membership & 1 Dinner Ticket
Greenwing - 20 (under 18) Includes Membership & Special Prizes
Couples Pkg - \$60 Includes DU Membership & 2 Dinner Tickets
Sponsor - \$300 Includes 1 DU Membership, 2 Dinner Tickets, 2 \$50 Raffle Ticket Packages & 1 Chance for Sponsor Only Drawing
Sponsor - \$1,000 Includes 2 DU Memberships, 2 Dinner Tickets, 4 \$50 Raffle Ticket Package, 1 chance for sponsor only drawing & choice of gun off gun board

Raffles, Games, Live & Silent Auction

For registration call Dani at 712-339-5126,
Lucy at 712-260-5712, Becky at 712-330-3372

ARNOLDS PARK AMUSEMENT PARK

Lake Okoboji

PREMIUM SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

JUNE 18
STYX

JUNE 19
CARLY PEARCE
WITH SPECIAL GUEST **SARA EVANS**

JULY 10
RUSSELL DICKERSON

JULY 24
CROWDER
WITH SPECIAL GUEST **JASON GRAY**

AUGUST 7
COOPER ALAN
WITH SPECIAL GUEST **CHASE MCDANIEL**

NEW SHOW

MAR 13
FOOL HOUSE
THE ULTIMATE 90'S PARTY - THE MILLENNIUM TOUR

ALL TICKET PURCHASERS ARE SUBJECT TO A CONVENIENCE FEE

ROOFGARDENBALLROOM.COM

THE WATERFRONT

GRILLE & EVENT CENTER

OPEN DAILY

Visit WaterfrontOkoboji.com To Explore All That Waterfront Has To Offer!

610 Linden Drive, Arnolds Park, IA 51331
712.220.3200 WaterfrontOkoboji.com

Boji Mammoths Hockey Raises Over \$9,000 During First Hockey Fights Cancer Weekend

The Boji Mammoths High School and Youth Hockey programs proudly raised more than \$9,000 for the American Cancer Society during their first-ever Hockey Fights Cancer weekend at Lakes Ice Arena.

The event brought together players, families, fans, and community members in support of those currently battling cancer, in remembrance of loved ones lost, and in hope of finding a cure. Funds were generated through the auction of 22 specialty Hockey Fights Cancer Mammoth jerseys, the sale of more than 100 apparel items, a 50/50 raffle, free-will donation lunch provided by Burger & Co., and the sale of baked goods.

The Boji Mammoths share, "This weekend was about far more than hockey, it was a meaningful demonstration of community support and commitment to making a real impact".

The Boji Mammoths extend sincere thanks to everyone who contributed, volunteered, and attended to help make the inaugural event a meaningful success. The Mammoths also thank the Windom Eagles, the Fairmont Cardinals and the Lincoln Jr. Stars hockey programs for their collaboration and participation in this year's event.



Shop Local,
 Give Local,
 Celebrate Local

Third Annual Boji Burger Battle | YOU Be The Judge

BOJI BURGER BATTLE

February 1st-28th, 2026

Presented by:
Dickinson County Farm Bureau

Taste & rate several delicious burgers uniquely created for the Boji Burger Battle!

MORE INFO

Route 86 Music Announces January Student of the Month

Route 86 Music is pleased to announce the Student of the Month for January 2026: Veyda Jungers. Veyda just started taking guitar lessons this fall. Veyda has made huge strides this past month, and has been working on playing many new songs. Congratulations, Veyda!

Veyda is taught by Gár Lambert who is a 2025 Iowa Rock & Roll Music Association Hall of Fame inductee and teaches guitar and drum lessons in the region. With Gár you are getting a teacher with over 30 years experience in playing and over 20 years teaching music. Gár tailors lessons to the student's needs and uses music they already love to listen to in order to encourage continued growth and practice. You can start lessons anytime of year and pay per lesson, month, or semester. For more info, visit route86records.wixsite.com/music/lessons, check out Route 86 Records on Facebook, call/text 712-330-8843, or email route86records@gmail.com to sign up for your private or group lesson today!



Okoboji FFA Grilling

The Okoboji FFA will be celebrating National FFA Week and will be hosting their annual grilling with the students on Sunday, February 22nd. They will be serving hamburgers, chips, cookies and drink for \$8.

The grilling will take place at the Okoboji High School Lunchroom from 11:00 to 1:00. Everyone is welcome. The Okoboji FFA hopes to see you there!



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.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

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

To the Editor:

I keep hearing people shouting about the "radical left", without evidence. Let's see who is radical.

The President trashes the Rule of Law and the Constitution. The President's private military attacks our cities and states. Detention and removal of people without due process and changing the rules of who is in the country legally. The pardoning of the January 6th criminals, drug kings, and pedophiles just to name a few. The idea that elections should be nationalized, taken over by the Republican Party but only in places where he cannot win. His acceptance of bribes to enrich himself, to give special treatment to those who pay. There is more. Pretty radical.

The legislature on the right has taken away food and health care to give tax breaks to the top earners. Our representatives on the right, are watching the trashing of our economy through Tariffs, (farm and manufacturing economy) and trade policies (Argentina 40 billion dollars to prop up their economy and importing beef). Not standing up against attacks on our allies and his extrajudicial bombing, without evidence, of boats in the Caribbean and Eastern Pacific. The invasion or threat of invasion of other countries. (Venezuela, Cuba, Columbia, Iceland). There is more. Pretty Radical.

Meanwhile the left wants people to have food and health care as a right not a privilege. The left believes in respecting our neighbors no matter what their circumstances: religion, color, sexual orientation immigration status. Women should have the right to decide what to do with their body. The left believes that the rule of law does matter. The left believes in the Constitution. The left wants the US to thrive as a member of the world, not as a bully but as a friend and a partner making it a better place to live. Yes, there is more. Not very radical.

Cheri Shatto
Fostoria, Iowa

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

NOW PLAYING FEB. 18-25

I CAN ONLY IMAGINE 2
(PG)

THUR 2/19	6:50
FRI 2/20	6:10 & 7:00
SAT-SUN 2/21-22	1:00, 3:50 & 6:45
MON-WED 2/23-25	6:30

GOAT
(PG)

WED 2/18	6:45
THUR 2/19	7:00
FRI 2/20	6:20 & 7:15
SAT-SUN 2/21-22	1:15, 4:10 & 7:00
MON-WED 2/23-25	6:45



LOS PUEBLOS

Winter Happy Hour Special

Mon-Thur 2-6pm

HALF OFF

House Margaritas & Beers!

OPEN:
Sunday-Thursday
11am-8pm
Friday & Saturday
11am-9pm

Hwy. 71, Arnolds Park
332-7515

Support

THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER

Advertising Family of Merchants.

FREEDOM TRIVIA NIGHT!

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19 ★ 6-8 PM
LOST GAR & PADDLEFISH BAR
ARNOLDS PARK, IA

COME & TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE!
WIN PATRIOTIC PRIZES!
HAVE A LOT OF FUN!

COME EARLY TO ESTABLISH A TABLE & TEAM OF 4!

YOUR FREE WILL OFFERING WILL HELP OUR ORGANIZATION STRENGTHEN AND GROW TO MAKE IMPACTFUL DIFFERENCES IN OUR COMMUNITY, STATE & COUNTRY.

"Freedom lies in being bold" - Robert Frost
FOR MORE INFO, PLEASE CALL SANDY: 712-320-5517

NEW!

100% WHOLE WHITE MEAT TENDERS

ON THE BUFFET & TO-GO

CHICKEN TENDERS

Pizza Ranch
★ PIZZA OF THE MONTH ★
GREAT VALUE!

★ OUR ★ LARGE PIZZAS

FEBRUARY BUFFALO CHICKEN \$13

8-PIECE CHICKEN BOX FOR \$14.00 <small>Some restrictions may apply. Price subject to change without notice. Not valid with any other offers. Limit 1 per transaction. Coupon good at Spirit Lake, IA. Valid thru 5-2-26</small>	SMALL CHEESY RANCH STICKS FOR \$6.00 <small>Some restrictions may apply. Price subject to change without notice. Not valid with any other offers. Limit 1 per transaction. Coupon good at Spirit Lake, IA. Valid thru 5-2-26</small>	2 MEDIUM PIZZAS FOR \$22.00 <small>Some restrictions may apply. Price subject to change without notice. Not valid with any other offers. Limit 1 per transaction. Coupon good at Spirit Lake, IA. Valid thru 5-2-26</small>
---	--	---

DINE IN • TO GO • DELIVERY
(Limited Area)
WWW.PIZZARANCH.COM

Pizza Ranch
Hwys. 9 & 71 • Spirit Lake
712-336-1419

ORDER ONLINE

SPECIAL SECTION ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITY

New Season. New Projects. Your NEW Customers.

Why Advertise in the SPRING HOME GUIDE?

- **Targeted Seasonal Intent:** Connect with homeowners exactly when they are planning spring cleaning, landscaping, and remodeling projects.
- **Unmatched Regional Reach:** Benefit from a massive local footprint covering Dickinson, Emmet, Osceola, and Clay counties.
- **High Retention Value:** Unlike daily news, specialty guides are often kept as references for weeks, providing your ad with repeated exposure.
- **Multi-Platform Exposure:** Your advertisement is featured in the physical print edition and the permanent digital archive, accessible on any device.
- **Community Trust:** Leverage the 50-year legacy of a publication that the Iowa Great Lakes community relies on for local commerce and news.

Space & Copy Deadline: March 20th
Publication Date: *March 24th
*Weather permitting we could push back to April

Advertise Online
Optimize your audience reach with a print and digital advertising package. Ask your ad consultant for details!

Contact John, Jantina, Jenna or stop by The Lakes News Shopper office today!

THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER
712.338.2232
www.lakesnewsshopper.com

SCAN HERE

To View Last Year's Edition



shoreline
END OF SEASON
sale

50% off
♥ WOMEN'S CLOTHING
♥ GAMEDAY SOCIAL
♥ SHOES & ACCESSORIES

60% off
ALL MENS CLOTHING

30% off
DYM ACTIVEWEAR

IN-STORE *shoreline* ONLINE

Katie Nissen Joins RE/MAX Lakes Realty Team

Aaron Jones, Broker/Owner of RE/MAX Lakes Realty, is pleased to announce that Katie Nissen has joined the RE/MAX Lakes Realty team as a REALTOR® and Property Manager.

Katie brings years of experience in real estate and property management, along with a strong background in education and technology. Katie serves as a high school business teacher at Okoboji, where she provides leadership, guidance, and a passion for business.

Her coupled work experience allows her to take a thoughtful, organized, and low-pressure approach to working with buyers, sellers, and investors. Katie keeps her sales and property management clients informed and confident throughout the process. Her experience in education allows clients to feel advised, rather than sold, and that's been a huge advantage for Katie.

Katie is one of the few agents in the area performing property management. If you are looking for assistance or a change in your short term rental management such as Bridges Bay, make sure to reach out to Katie.

Outside of work, Katie enjoys spending time with her husband Todd, and two children, Kade and Rylee, and making the most of all the Iowa Great Lakes area has to offer.

RE/MAX Lakes Realty is a leading real estate brokerage in the Iowa Great Lakes area and continues to grow with dedicated professionals like Katie. Please give Katie a call at 712.330.9057 or shoot her an email at katie@sellboji.com if you need any help buying or selling, or if you need assistance with any of your long-term or short term rentals.



Jones, IOM, Appointed to Winter Board of Regents of Institute for Organization Management

A Leadership Training Program Produced by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Institute for Organization Management, the professional development program of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, has appointed Sheriffa Jones, IOM, President & CEO of the Spencer Chamber, to the Winter Board of Regents. As a member of this Board, Jones will implement the policies created by Institute's National Board of Trustees.

"A strong Board of Regents is essential to Institute's success," said Raymond P. Towle, IOM, CAE, Vice President of Institute for Organization Management at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. "These volunteers drive site attendance, provide recommendations for program improvement, and serve as an on-site resource for Institute participants."

Since its commencement in 1921, the Institute program has been educating tens of thousands of association, chamber, and other nonprofit leaders on how to build stronger organizations, better serve their members, and become strong business advocates.

Institute's four Boards of Regents serve on behalf of the National Board of Trustees. Each Board of Regents is responsible for recruitment, retention, and marketing of the program nationwide. Each regent is an Institute graduate nominated by their peers.

Institute for Organization Management is the premier nonprofit professional development program for association and chamber professionals, fostering individual growth through interactive learning and networking opportunities.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is the world's largest business organization representing companies of all sizes across every sector of the economy. Our members range from the small businesses and local chambers of commerce to leading industry associations and large corporations. institute.uschamber.com @IOMeducates



Support
THE
LAKES NEWS SHOPPER™
Advertising Family of Merchants.



Barn Swallow Winter Clearance!

Hwy. 71, Okoboji, IA ▪ 712.332.7752 OPEN: Monday - Sunday ▪ 10am - 5:30pm

20% OFF
SWEATSHIRTS
(Includes Youth & Toddler)

100s TO CHOOSE FROM

Huge Shipment of
NEW Baby Clothes
& Swaddles

Last Year's Designs
30-50% OFF

ALL Pictures
20% OFF

MAKING SPACE FOR NEW!

Jelly Cat ▪ Puzzles ▪ Books ▪ Entire Upstairs for Kids





RE/MAX
LAKES REALTY

OPEN HOUSE
Sat., Feb. 21
from 1-3PM

3302 Ponderosa Court 6B
Spirit Lake, IA

This gorgeous 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath twin home features an open, airy layout with 20 foot ceilings, large windows, with high-end finishes throughout!

\$544,500
MLS# 251559

JANIE Eick
REAL ESTATE
AT RE/MAX LAKES REALTY

Janie Eick
712-339-0574
LICENSED IN IA & MN
JANIE@SELLBOJI.COM

Each office is independently owned and operated.
RE/MAX Lakes Realty | 272 Hwy 71 N, Arnolds Park

Spencer Hospital named a Top 100 Rural & Community Hospital For 11 Consecutive Years

Spencer Hospital has once again been named a 2026 Top 100 Rural & Community Hospital by The Chartis Center for Rural Health, marking an exceptional milestone of 11 consecutive years of national recognition and making us the only hospital in Iowa to achieve this distinction every year since the award's inception. Earning this honor year after year places Spencer Hospital among an elite group of rural hospitals across the country recognized for sustained excellence in performance, quality, and patient care.

The Top 100 Rural & Community Hospital Awards program honors outstanding rural hospitals annually based on the Chartis Rural Hospital Performance INDEX®, a comprehensive assessment of hospital performance across key operational and quality measures.

"Being recognized once is an honor, but earning this distinction 11 years in a row speaks volumes about our people," said Brenda Tiefenthaler, President of Spencer Hospital. "Our team shows up every day with skill, heart, and a shared commitment to doing what's best for our patients. This recognition reflects their dedication to providing high-quality care and keeping exceptional healthcare close to home for our region."

Amanda Bare, Chair of the Spencer Hospital Board of Trustees, emphasized the significance of the hospital's sustained success. "Consistency at this level doesn't happen by accident," Bare said. "This achievement is a direct reflection of the teamwork and commitment of Spencer Hospital's staff, physicians, and leaders. Their focus on delivering excellent, cost-effective care year after year is what makes milestones like this possible."

The Chartis Rural Hospital Performance INDEX is the industry's most comprehensive and objective measure of rural hospital performance. Using publicly available data, the INDEX is relied upon nationwide by rural hospitals, health systems, hospital associations, and state offices of rural health to evaluate and track performance across areas including quality, outcomes, patient experience, operations, and financial stability.

"The delivery of care within rural communities is perhaps more complex today than at any point in recent memory. This year's Top 100 Rural & Community Hospitals have emerged as true leaders – committed to their mission through a powerful combination of resilience, dedication and innovation," said Michael Topchik, Executive Director of The Chartis Center for Rural Health. "We're delighted to recognize this year's winners and celebrate their Top 100 status."

Spencer Hospital is a regional health care provider serving patients throughout northwest Iowa and southern Minnesota. Dedicated to delivering high-quality, patient-centered care, Spencer Hospital offers a full range of services through its full-service hospital and an expanding network of specialty care. These services include a comprehensive cancer treatment center, an inpatient behavioral health center, a multi-specialty surgical center, four primary care clinics, and two satellite dialysis centers located in Spencer and Spirit Lake. Through this integrated approach to care, Spencer Hospital is committed to meeting the health care needs of the region and improving the health and well-being of the communities it serves. For more information, visit SpencerHospital.org.



Spencer Hospital
Healthier Together.

100
RURAL & COMMUNITY
TOP HOSPITAL 2026



VIVID CASEMENT, CASEMENT PICTURE, DIRECT GLAZE & AWNING WINDOWS - PEBBLE GREY
VIVID SLIDING PATIO DOORS - PEBBLE GREY

MARVIN
VIVID™
COLLECTION

BOLD DESIGN. BOLDER SIZES.

Explore the wide-open possibilities at MARVIN.COM | Build Better in 2026 with Quality Materials



CONSUMERS
Lumber Company
Since 1906

OPEN: Monday-Friday 7am - 5pm

Spirit Lake 336-3610
Spencer 262-4962
Lake Park 832-3268

MARVIN



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

Hamon Named Retail Manager at Northwest Bank in Arnolds Park & Milford

Northwest Bank is pleased to announce that Nikki Hamon has joined the organization as Retail Manager according to Nicole Evans, Bank President in Arnolds Park and Milford. In this role, Nikki will lead the retail team while promoting the bank’s products and services and cultivating strong customer relationships.

Prior to joining Northwest Bank, Nikki served in a leadership role at Belco Credit Union in Denver, Colorado, where she provided branch leadership, operational support, personal and business loan underwriting, and employee training.

A Colorado native, Nikki relocated to Iowa four years ago and now resides in Arnolds Park with her significant other, Justin, and son, Dostyn. They are also excited to welcome a new baby in May and are proud to call the Iowa Great Lakes area home. Nikki looks forward to becoming actively involved in the community. In her free time, she enjoys boating, reading, traveling, and spending time with family.

Reflecting on her new role, Nikki shared, “I truly enjoy building relationships with both my team and our customers. I’m excited for the opportunity to lead our team members and deliver first-class service to our customers.”

Nicole Evans added, “Nikki’s banking and leadership experience will enhance our team and the experience we deliver to our customers. Her commitment aligns perfectly with our mission statement, Building Relationships – Exceeding Expectations.”

Northwest Bank is a \$2.9 billion community-focused financial institution providing a comprehensive range of services, including business, agricultural, mortgage, consumer deposit and lending solutions, as well as wealth management offerings. With locations across Iowa—Afton, Algona, Ames, Ankeny, Arnolds Park, Creston, Estherville, Fort Dodge, Humboldt, Le Mars, Milford, Shenandoah, Sioux Center, Sioux City, Spencer, Spirit Lake, and West Des Moines—and in Nebraska—Omaha and La Vista—Northwest Bank is dedicated to serving its communities. Member FDIC.



Okoboji High School and AIM Trap Team Receives Grant From MidwayUSA Foundation

The Okoboji AIM Trap Team and Okoboji High School Trap Team is the recipient of a cash grant from MidwayUSA Foundation. This grant assists the team with expenses, including ammo, targets, competition entry fees, travel, and more.

“With us receiving this grant from MidwayUSA we are able to keep our cost down for all the shooters on our team,” says head coach Rick Kalsow

Growing the MidwayUSA Foundation endowment is crucial to the future of the local youth shooting team. The endowment takes some of the burden off families that have youth interested in shooting sports and this funding is available forever. Every year the team is eligible to receive 5% of the endowment balance in the form of a cash grant. Those interested in supporting the local youth shooting team can make a tax-deductible donation to the team’s MidwayUSA Foundation endowment, which will be matched by MidwayUSA Foundation’s matching program. Every donation grows the annual cash grant.

Thanks to the generosity of Larry and Brenda Potterfield, The Foundation removes nothing for operating expenses, allowing 100% of your donation to benefit the team. The Okoboji AIM and High School Trap Team’s endowment page, can be found here <https://www.midwayusafoundation.org/team-profile/?id=R11218> and you can be sure online donations are safe and secure, as MidwayUSA Foundation is a top-ranked charity.

Contact head coach Rick Kalsow at 712-330-7775 to learn more about becoming involved or supporting the Okoboji AIM Trap Team and Okoboji High School Trap Team.

The MidwayUSA Foundation is a 501(c)(3) public charity working to sustain youth shooting sports by providing long-term funding to youth shooting teams. Every donation made is tax-deductible and allows the Foundation to assist in expanding and enhancing the leadership skills, confidence, and discipline of today’s youth through shooting sports activities. The Foundation supports all shooting disciplines. Learn more at midwayusafoundation.org.



View From The Bench by John Adams, Jr.

Big 12 Madness

It’s only February 16th when I write this article, but I am as excited for the Big 12 Tournament and then March Madness as I can ever remember being since I last coached in the NCAA Tournament. This past week of college basketball, especially in the Big 12, showed that we are in store for one of the craziest, most unpredictable Big 12 and NCAA Men’s Basketball Tournaments that we have ever seen. I truly believe there are 10-12 teams that can win a National Championship this year, with no clear-cut favorite to claim the overall coveted Number 1 seed.

Last week in the Big 12 Conference, which I believe is the best basketball conference in the nation, we saw Arizona lose their first game of the season at Kansas on Monday night, even though Kansas was playing without potential #1 NBA Draft Pick Darryn Peterson. On Tuesday night, we saw #5 Iowa State play uninspired basketball and lose at TCU, 62-55. TCU is not a terrible team, as they are on the NCAA bubble and have a pretty good chance to make the tournament, but Iowa State was mentally not in this game, as shown by their 2/8 free throw shooting, with two of those misses being front ends of one-and ones, as well as their 17 turnovers. Despite playing uninspired basketball, the Cyclones led 55-50 with just over 3:00 remaining, only to be outscored 12-0 to end the game. Fast-forward to Saturday and the streaking hot #9 Kansas Jayhawks came into Hilton Coliseum on an eight-game winning streak, that all started with their throttling of then #2 Iowa State 84-63 in Phog Allen Fieldhouse on January 14th. One would think this would be an epic battle between these two Top 10 teams, but it looked just like the first game, with the home team taking control in the first half and never giving up a double-digit lead after halftime, as the Cyclones rolled to a 74-56 victory in front of an electric Hilton Coliseum crowd. Iowa State led 37-27 at halftime and blew the game wide-open with a 20-7 run to start the second half, behind hot shooting from Milan Momcilovic, Tamin Lipsey and Jamarion Bateman. Later on Saturday in the Big 12, #1 Arizona had a chance to bounce back from their first loss of the season with a home game against #16 Texas Tech. I figured this would be a close game, but that Arizona would pull away at home for the win. Once again, I was wrong, as Texas Tech erased a late eight-point deficit to force overtime and then pulled out a very impressive 78-75 victory.

Iowa State’s victory on Saturday was much needed, as that game started a brutal stretch where they will play five of six games vs. ranked teams, including three Top 10 teams. The Cyclones are now 22-3 and 9-3 in the rugged Big 12, which places them in a tie for third place with Kansas and Texas Tech. I honestly think that any of the top five teams in the Big 12 have a realistic chance of advancing to the Final Four. I would have placed BYU in this group as well, but the Cougars had a devastating blow on Saturday night when All-Big 12 guard Richie Saunders was lost for the season with an ACL injury in their overtime win vs Colorado. I’m not going to jinx Iowa State by predicting them to make a run to the Final Four, as you need so many things to go your way, with the tournament draw, the health of your team, and how well you are playing at the end of the season. One thing is for sure with the Cyclones, we will all have a better idea of how far this team can advance in these next two weeks after going through their toughest stretch of the schedule, and for them to be successful they will need to play with the sense of urgency they showed on Saturday. Let the March Madness begin in February!!

Support

THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER™
Advertising Family of Merchants.



Spirit Lake Archer Bags Eastern Iowa Whitetail – Cail Donkersloot of Spirit Lake, Iowa, bagged a white-tailed deer with a bow in eastern Iowa in November, 2025.

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



SHOP LOCAL

SBCD We Have All Your BUILDING NEEDS!
We work with several local contractors. Work with us from start to finish!

GUTTER PROS by SBCD
712-729-5135
NOW OFFERING SEAMLESS GUTTERS & INSTALLATION

THE KITCHEN + BATH STUDIO
CABINETS • COUNTERTOPS
FLOORING • TILE

WWW.SBCDIA.COM
707 EAST 7TH STREET • SANBORN, IOWA

TEST NOTICE!
March 6th & 7th, 2026
TRAIN ON THE JOB FOR A LIFE LONG CAREER!
*Register by February 19th @ 4pm
www.LakesAreaLawEnforcementCoop.com
POST Scores may be transferred
QUALIFY FOR 11 AGENCIES!
Special Duty Training Opportunities:
*Drug Task Force *SART *Tactical Team *K-9 *Drone Ops
*Traffic Enforcement *Investigations *School Resource Officer
*Instructor: Firearms, Def Tactics, TASER, EVOC, SFST

AGENCIES WITH CURRENT OPENINGS:
Dickinson County Sheriff, Spirit Lake & Milford Police Dept.
AND, QUALIFY FOR FUTURE OPENINGS IN:
Arnolds Park, Emmetsburg, Lake Park, Okoboji, Estherville & Spencer Police Departments; Osceola & Palo Alto County Sheriff

At the time of application, candidates must meet state requirements for law enforcement employment. Currently certified ILEA applicants are allowed lateral transfer. Applicants without certification are required to pass P.O.S.T. & physical exams. EOE.

SHOP
EAT
DRINK
LOCAL

FIND EVERYTHING YOU NEED IN THE IOWA GREAT LAKES IN

THE LNS THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER

CERTIFIED ARBORIST
ISA
MN-0210A

RANDY L. NELSON
TREE CARE
507-236-2824

- YEAR-ROUND Pruning
- Specializing in Tree Preservation
- Bur Oak Blight Treatment
- Removals
- Cabling/Bracing
- Tree Risk Assessments
- Consultations
- 24-Hour Emergency Storm Damage Service
- Specialized Equipment with minimal lawn disturbance

WINTER IS THE BEST TIME FOR PRUNING

FREE ESTIMATES
Insured • 33 Years Professional Experience
www.randylnelsontreecare.com

MEMBER ISA
IOWA ARBORIST ASSOCIATION
TCIA MEMBER
CTSP 03837



Kirk Stauss
712-320-0123



Nick Stauss
712-320-1230



Nick Bjornstad
712-339-0580



Mark Leiss
712-330-2045



Meghan Sloma
712-332-2470



JJ Newman
320-733-2399

To view ALL area properties visit: www.OkobojiHomes.com
Or: ExploreOkobojiHomes.com
1003 Highway 71 S. | Okoboji, IA | 712-332-2470
Follow us on Social Media for all the new listings & area information.

83' OF LAKESHORE



402 15th Street | Spirit Lake
3 bedroom, 2 bath with 83' of lakeshore on East Lake. Offered at **\$745,000**

NEW LISTING



3286 335th | Ruthven
Lost Lunker's Lodge: 5 bedroom, 4 bath home. Residential or Commercial use. Offered at **\$949,000**

CENTRALLY LOCATED



1020 Hwy. 71 #S6 | Okoboji
East Lake, 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo with private garage and boat slip. Offered at **\$519,900**

NEARLY NEW TOWNHOME



1940 35th Street B | Spirit Lake
4 bedroom, 3 bath, nearly new duplex. Offered at **\$425,000**

AFFORDABLE OKOBOJI



806 28th | Milford
2 bedroom, 1 bath, move-in ready home. Offered at **\$149,950**

BUILDABLE LOT



00 335th | Ruthven
Large one acre lot with a building located at Lost Lunker's Lodge on Lost Island Lake. Offered at **\$299,500**

IGL Marsh Marigolds to Host Mardi Gras Party & Conservation Fundraiser on March 7

Get ready to trade the marsh for the masquerade as the IGL Marsh Marigolds, a chapter of Ladies Ducks Unlimited, prepares to host a festive Mardi Gras Party on March 7 at Oak Hill Outdoor in Milford. This vibrant evening blends celebration with conservation, offering a full schedule of entertainment that includes raffles, interactive games, and both live and silent auctions. All proceeds from the event directly support Ducks Unlimited's mission of habitat preservation, ensuring that every bid and ticket purchase contributes to the protection of vital wetlands. The festivities kick off with a social hour at 5:00 PM, followed by a delicious meal served at 6:30 PM.

There are several ways to participate through various ticket and sponsorship packages designed for every level of support. Individual attendees can purchase a Single Ticket for \$50, which includes dinner and a DU membership, while a Couples Package is available for \$60. For younger conservationists under 18, a Greening Ticket is offered for \$20 and includes a membership along with eligibility for special prizes. Those looking to make a larger impact can become a Sponsor for \$300, receiving two dinner tickets, a DU membership, \$100 in raffle packages, and an entry into a sponsor-only drawing. For the ultimate level of support, the \$1,000 Premier Sponsor package includes two memberships, two dinner tickets, \$200 in raffle packages, a sponsor drawing entry, and the choice of a firearm from the gun board.

Event organizers describe the evening as a fantastic opportunity for the community to come together, enjoy a great meal, and have fun while supporting essential environmental work. Because space is limited, early registration is highly encouraged to ensure a spot at the party. To secure tickets or discuss sponsorship, interested guests can contact Dani at 712-339-5126, Lucy at 712-260-5712, or Becky at 712-330-3372. Additionally, digital registration options are available by scanning the QR code found on the official event flyers.

The IGL Marsh Marigolds is a local chapter of Ducks Unlimited focused on engaging women in the mission of wetlands and waterfowl conservation through community events and fundraising.

YOUR AGENT!



MARILYN STRICKLAND
Broker - Associate
Hoien Realty
712-336-2790 or 712-320-7070



EXIT REALTY MIDWEST
real people. real results. real estate.
lakeshore, residential, condominiums,
commercial, rentals, acreages and land

follow us on
social media to see all
listings and open houses

Scan to
View more
Listings



When Winter Ends Early, Real Estate Doesn't Wait.

Buyers come out sooner, sellers get curious sooner, and the
spring market quietly starts before the season officially arrives.



712-336-3405

ExitRealtyMidwest.com

1306 18th St., Suite C
Spirit Lake, IA

Okoboji Realty

SPECIALIZING IN OKOBOJI LAKESHORE PROPERTY

NEW LISTING!

WEST LAKE, NORTH BAY



\$2,950,000

West Lake home featuring a tall living room, fireplace, gourmet kitchen, and 5 bedrooms.

WEST LAKE, MANHATTAN BEACH



\$2,497,000

Recently updated on West Lake Okoboji with stunning views and high-end finishes.

MILFORD, NATURE TRAILS



\$670,000

Beautifully crafted 4 bed, 3 bath home with water views and access to clubhouse and pool.

SPIRIT LAKE, LAKES AREA STORAGE



\$88,900

Lakes Area Storage unit with oversized doors, included utility, and year-round maintenance.

CONTACT US TODAY!



AMY ACKLEY MARIS
712.330.2890



MICKY HARRINGTON
712.320.2725



RYAN MARIS
712.330.9572



SCAN FOR MORE DETAILS ON LISTINGS!
OKOBOJIRE.COM

1121 Brooks Park Drive, PO Box 815, Okoboji, IA 51355 | 712.336.4000 | Licensed in Iowa

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.

DCNC Summer Camp
Registration Opens on March 2nd

Registration for summer camps at the Dickinson County Nature Center will open on Monday, March 2, at 8:00 AM, offering a wide variety of outdoor environmental education camps for children ages 4 (pre-kindergarten) through 8th grade.

This year's camp theme, "From Online to Outdoors," encourages kids to unplug and discover outdoor adventures that spark curiosity and creativity. Camps will take place in Kenue Park, Horseshoe Bend, and with local partnering organizations.

Families should register their children for the grade they will enter in the fall. Some camps will offer two identical sessions, providing additional opportunities to participate in popular youth camps. "Our summer camps offer so many engaging outdoor experiences that keep minds active and off the screens," said Amy Heibult, community relations coordinator of the Dickinson County Conservation Board.

All camp registration will take place online at www.dickinson-countynaturecenter.com under the Programs/Events tab and Event List. More details can be found in the description of each event.

Families are encouraged to register soon after registration opens, as camps tend to fill quickly. For questions, please call the Nature Center at 712-336-6352.



Azimuth Home Repair
and Remodeling LLC

All-in-one solution
for your home
remodeling, repair
and maintenance
needs.

- kitchen and bathroom remodel
- decks and patios
- doors and windows
- cabinets and trims
- lvp, tile and wood floors
- and much more!



Josh Guritz

• (712) 554-9929

• josh@azimuthhomeremodeling.com

Give me a call or check out my website!

www.azimuthhomeremodeling.com



FREE Motorized Wand
with the purchase of
HunterDouglas
Sonnnette Shades!



LISA PARKS

HunterDouglas Custom Crafted Window Fashions



Ask how you can
receive 10% off your next
HunterDouglas
order!

FREE IN-HOME CONSULTATIONS!

1706 Hill Avenue • Spirit Lake • 712-320-3492

Sip, SHOP, DINE!

PRIME LOCATION & UNMATCHED LUXURY



Don't Miss Out!
Starting at \$219,000

1302 HWY 71 N • OKOBOJI

- Okoboji's Newest Exciting Development
- Modern, Beachy Finishes
- Prime Location off HWY 71

ENJOY CONVENIENT
AMENITIES

- Lake Access
- Lush Green Space
- New Pool
- Free Wifi, Water & Sewer
- Beautiful Lake Views
- Patio & Deck w/ Every Unit



JEFF NELSON REALTOR® (712) 490-4130
jeffnelson@myunitedagent.com
www.jeffnelson.unitedrealstatesolutions.com
KELLY NELSON REALTOR® (712) 490-6193
kjnelson4@gmail.com
Licensed in IA & NE | 302 Jones St., Suite 100, Sioux City, IA 51101



BRAD SANDERSON REALTOR® (712) 320-9610
brad@exitrealtymidwest.com
www.exitrealtymidwest.com
Licensed in IA, MN & SD | 1302 18th St. Suite C, Spirit Lake, IA 51360



DCNC Summer Camp
Registration Opens on March 2nd

Registration for summer camps at the Dickinson County Nature Center will open on Monday, March 2, at 8:00 AM, offering a wide variety of outdoor environmental education camps for children ages 4 (pre-kindergarten) through 8th grade.

This year's camp theme, "From Online to Outdoors," encourages kids to unplug and discover outdoor adventures that spark curiosity and creativity. Camps will take place in Kenue Park, Horseshoe Bend, and with local partnering organizations.

Families should register their children for the grade they will enter in the fall. Some camps will offer two identical sessions, providing additional opportunities to participate in popular youth camps. "Our summer camps offer so many engaging outdoor experiences that keep minds active and off the screens," said Amy Heibult, community relations coordinator of the Dickinson County Conservation Board.

All camp registration will take place online at www.dickinson-countynaturecenter.com under the Programs/Events tab and Event List. More details can be found in the description of each event.

Families are encouraged to register soon after registration opens, as camps tend to fill quickly. For questions, please call the Nature Center at 712-336-6352.



HOIEN
REALTY
Lakeshore Specialists Since 1952

Buying or Selling in the Lakes Area?
Call Hoien Realty Today!

712-336-2790



ERIC
HOIEN
320-2790



MARILYN
STRICKLAND
320-7070



MARILYN
VOS
320-7982



KARRI
ANDERSON
Office Manager

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

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

To Whom it May Concern:

Upon hearing of the required resignation effective immediately of Mr. Dalton Perrin as Head Coach for the Okoboji Pioneer Girls team, I was shocked. Historically, I have been to many games as a parent and as a friend. Currently, the games I have attended, I have sat directly behind the bench. I have been close enough to listen to time out discussion. I see the girls when they come from the locker room after halftime. By using the Spirit Lake game as an example, our girls were not playing up to par. During a time out, even some of our players were saying to their teammates they needed to get their head in the game. Not once did I hear Dalton use profanities at these girls, nor at any other game I have attended.

In the past, Dalton has been supportive, guiding his players as an assistant coach to a head coach from plays to providing advice from the sidelines. Above all, looking out for the players off and on the court in everyday life. When John Adams retired from coaching, he placed his faith in Dalton. I do not believe for a moment that John made this decision lightly, putting his players mental and physical health first and foremost above the game. One question that immediately came to my mind, was if John would have left his team in the hands of someone that fit the allegations being made, I can say with great certainty that John would not. He had faith in Dalton, and knew he would do his best for the students on and off the court.

From a personal perspective, Dalton and the rest of the coaching staff had provided my son with a chance. A chance that not many in our school have historically had done. These coaches, Dalton included, allowed him to be statistician, but more so, provided him with the confidence that he so greatly lacked throughout his entire Okoboji career. It was the team and coaches that were there with him when he had his signing day for Northwestern College, something as a parent I will never be able to thank them all enough for. After two years, Dalton will still ask how my son is doing, and remind me what an impact he had for him and for the team. Does someone who is being accused of these ugly allegations typically care and go out of their way to check on a student? To comment every single time how much he was appreciated?

Finally, I find myself questioning if due diligence was met in this situation. Have other coaches been questioned about the events in question and the verbiage utilized at the students? I would assume, as with any sport or employment in today's society, that if something to this magnitude had occurred, one or more of the assistant coaches would have stepped up and told Dalton to walk away from the situation for a moment and one of them would resume instruction. More importantly, I would assume they would come to the board or AD Clouse and make a report on what was occurring. I was curious as to what the assistant coach definition is. In addition to the field of play, it is defined: "Foster a positive, disciplined team culture..... promoting positive behavior and reinforcing the head coach's philosophy." Moreover, if Dalton was not providing a positive behavior nor having a positive philosophy, were the assistants supporting the students privately?

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer L. (Gottsche) Pernick,
Milford, Iowa

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

ILUUF Welcomes Sky Dahstrom

The Iowa Lakes Unitarian Universalist Fellowship (ILUUF) invites the community to an engaging morning of reflection on Sunday, February 22, featuring guest speaker Sky Dahstrom. As a wandering and wondering pilgrim who once prayed, Sky offers a unique opportunity for the spiritually diverse fellowship to share personal experiences with prayer. The program begins at 10:00 AM at the Lakes Area Activity Center, located at 2101 Zenith Ave in Spirit Lake, Iowa. For those who cannot attend in person, a virtual option is available via Zoom links found at www.UUOkoboji.com.



As a "come as you are" community, the ILUUF welcomes everyone regardless of whether they identify as religious, secular, or are simply searching for a meaningful connection. Attendees can expect an open-hearted environment defined by inclusive fellowship among a diverse group of people from all walks of life. The morning's program is designed to inspire and uplift through soulful music and engaging conversation that often dives deep into contemporary social issues.

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.

- February 23, 10:30 a.m. – Underwear
- March 2, 10:30 a.m. – Vegetables
- March 9, 10:30 a.m. – Whales
- March 16, 10:30 a.m. – Xylophone

Saturday, February 28, is the last day of Milford Memorial Library's Blind Date with a Book. Take a chance on a book only from the genre and a few descriptive words. It could be a diamond in the rough or a complete dud. Simply return the book to MML, along with the provided bookmark. The completed bookmark will be placed into a prize drawing. The prize is a basket full of goodies. One basket for adults and one for children. Thank you to the Friends of the Milford Library for sponsoring Blind Date with a Book prizes.

New titles have been springing up at Milford Memorial Library. In children's fiction, we have new books from Daniel Tiger to Chicka Chicka Boom Boom Letters. Children's chapter book readers will enjoy the newest I Survived, Owl Diaries, and Dragon Masters. Graphic novels include Wing It, Sidekicks: Thick as Thieves, and Geronimo Stilton Reporter: Starting Geronimo. In Young Adult, try Rocket Arm, Better Than the Movies, 16 Forever, and My Favorite Color is: Your Something Blue. Adults, we haven't left you out. In adult fiction some titles we have added are The First Time I Saw Him, Where He Left Me, and The Merriest Crime of the Year. In adult non-fiction some titles MML has added are The Pioneer Woman Cooks: The Essential Recipes, The Gales of November: The Untold Story of the Edmund Fitzgerald, and Stop Letting Everything Affect You. Stop in, or check out these and other titles by calling 712-338-4643 or visiting milford.lib.ia.us.

Hoopla is now available at Milford Memorial Library! Hoopla has audiobooks, eBooks, movies, music, series, and more. The best part is that it is all available now. That's right, no need to wait months to read the book. Register now at https://www.hoopladigital.com/register?page=REGISTRATION_WELCOME.



LRH Accepting Applications For 8-Week Summer Junior Volunteer Program

Positions provide great opportunity to experience working in the healthcare industry first-hand

Lakes Regional Healthcare (LRH) is planning another Junior Volunteer Program for this summer. Each year nearly 30 high school and college students assist physicians, nurses and other professional staff, and patients in the Emergency and Surgery Departments. Soon they will welcome back many of these and several more students as they receive applications and complete interviews.



"We appreciate the help our Junior Volunteers provide to our patients and staff, and that we can give the students first-hand knowledge of what it's like to actually work in healthcare," said LRH Vice President of Marketing and Retail Services Jennifer Gustafson.

Interested students must submit an application, signed parental consent form, and written reference from a guidance counselor/ advisor or teacher/professor. Then they are interviewed and possibly selected for a position. After being selected, they undergo the orientation process to include a health assessment, 2-step TB test, orientation assessment, background check, and safety and privacy regulations training. Each student must volunteer at least eight four-hour shifts in the program's eight weeks. This program offers two Junior Volunteer positions from which to choose and students can apply for and volunteer for one or both areas.

ER Junior Volunteer

ER Junior Volunteer shifts are four hours long and around the clock. Some of the responsibilities include assisting physicians, paramedics, and nurses, disinfecting ER rooms after patient discharge, offering items to and transporting patients, and restocking supplies. Up to 21 Junior Volunteers will be selected to be in the ER.

Surgery Junior Volunteer

Five Surgery Junior Volunteers will be accepted to fill five shifts per week – all occurring from 7:30 am until 11:30 am, Monday through Friday. These volunteers will call and escort surgery patients into the Surgery Center, turn over surgery pre-op rooms, give items to patients, transport and escort patients, assist nurses as requested, and watch surgeries in real time in the OR.

The Summer Junior Volunteer Program will run from June 1 through July 25. High school sophomores, juniors, or seniors or college students at least 16 years old by June 1 will be considered for the program. The application and parental consent form can be found at www.lakeshealth.org/volunteer and must be submitted to Gustafson by April 17. Those selected must attend a mandatory orientation session on Wednesday, May 27. For more information, contact Gustafson at 712-336-8799 or jennifer.gustafson@lakeshealth.org.



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.

Check Your Spots... Protect Your Future

Don't let a small change become a big problem— schedule your full body screening today.



Cosmetic - Surgical - Medical



Call Now to Schedule an Appointment: **712-336-2728**
2704 Enterprise Avenue, Spirit Lake, IA
Satellite Clinics in Estherville, Emmetsburg & Humboldt
[We accept most insurances](#)



Thurs., Feb. 19 – 10:00 AM– 80 acres at auction in Royal, IA. Auctioneers: Midwest Land Management. 712-262-3110. www.midwestlandmanagement.com.

Fri., March 6 – 10:00 AM– 77.9 acres at auction in Clay Co., IA. Auctioneers: Brock Auction Company, INC.. 712-548-4634. www.brockauction.com.



Tyler Adams is a passionate financial representative with Prairie Plans, dedicated to helping individuals and families in the Midwest achieve their financial goals.

Tyler's Expertise:

- Retirement Planning
- Investment Strategies
- Education Planning
- Risk Management
- Legacy Planning

Tyler's Commitment to You:

- Personalized Approach
- Ongoing Support
- Transparency & Trust



TYLER ADAMS, CPFA®
Financial Representative

Your financial journey is unique.

Tyler takes the time to understand your dreams and challenges, crafting a personalized plan to help you reach your goals.

Ready to unlock your financial potential?

Book your complimentary consultation today.



PEOPLE YOU TRUST. PLANNING THAT WORKS.

712-262-2600 OR 833-275-1682

Spencer, IA | Spirit Lake, IA | WWW.PRAIRIEPLANS.COM

Securities and advisory services offered through LPL Financial, a registered investment advisor. Member FINRA/SIPC.



Joan Marie Baird-Sik, 81, of Spirit Lake, passed away on Wednesday, January 28, 2026, at Avera Holy Family Hospital in Estherville.

Services for Joan will be held at 11:00 AM on Friday, February 20, 2026, at the First Presbyterian Church in Spirit Lake. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service on Friday at the church. Arrangements are under the direction of the Robinson Funeral Home in Spirit Lake. Online condolences may be left at www.spiritlakefuneralhome.com

Joan was born on August 9, 1944, to Eric and Frances (Cook) Pearson in Los Angeles, CA.

Joan spent her childhood in San Gabriel, CA, and attended Mark Keppel High School in Alhambra, CA.

She spent her 20's surfing and tanning on southern California beaches during the day while working nights waitressing. In 1972, Joan moved to Hawaii and spent a year in Kauai, living on the beach.

Joan visited Iowa in 1974 and fell in love with the slower pace of life and wide-open spaces. She decided to stay and raise her children there.

She waitressed at Teeg's and the American Legion Hall in Milford and was a cherished housekeeper for many lakes area residents.

In her free time, she enjoyed spending time at the beach, working in her garden and spending time with her family, friends and church family. She served as a Deacon for First Presbyterian Church in Spirit Lake. She loved to attend auctions and collect antiques. She was an avid crossword puzzle fan, loved reading and traveling, having visited Hawaii, Taiwan, Ireland and her father's place of birth in Sweden.

Joan's legacy was tracing her family's genealogy many generations back all by handwritten letters and records requests, long before the Internet.

She is survived by her daughter Autumn and grandson, Aiden, both of Everett, WA; and her sister Mary Francis of Irvine, CA. She was preceded in death by her parents, her brother Eric, and her son John.



Visit us at our NEW Domain **fsbmy.bank**

WHY.BANK?

.bank is a secure domain exclusively for verified banks. It ensures authentic communication for website addresses, providing confidence, trust and security. IF IT IS NOT .BANK IT IS NOT US!

fsbmy.bank



Senior Living
Spirit Lake, IA

1 Bedroom & 2 Bedrooms Available!

- Independent Living
- Assisted Living
- Memory Care
- Respite Stay

24-hour staff, full kitchens, transportation, pet friendly, and more!

712-344-2897 Welcome@keelsonharbour.com

YOU DON'T NEED TO TOUGH IT OUT

If you have a bulge or pressure in your abdomen or a dull ache when you cough, it could be a hernia. And ignoring it won't make it go away.

WAITING TOO LONG CAN MAKE IT WORSE.

TALK TO YOUR HEALTHCARE PROVIDER TODAY. CALL 712-336-3750.





DRIVING ★ AMERICA IN CELEBRATION

LOCAL FAVORITES... ★ LOWER PRICES! ★



#29570

2026 CHEVROLET SUBURBAN PREMIER
MSRP \$90,405
OKOBOJI BEST PRICE \$84,405
LEASE SPECIAL \$1,400** 3 YEAR/10,000 MILES



#29485

2026 CHEVROLET TRAVERSE Z71
MSRP \$56,350
OKOBOJI BEST PRICE \$51,350
LEASE SPECIAL \$800** 3 YEAR/10,000 MILES



#29574

2026 CHEVROLET EQUINOX EV LT
MSRP \$36,495
OKOBOJI BEST PRICE \$24,995
LEASE SPECIAL \$325** 3 YEAR/10,000 MILES



#29179

2025 CHEVROLET COLORADO ZR2
MSRP \$58,570
OKOBOJI BEST PRICE \$52,070
LEASE SPECIAL \$450** 3 YEAR/10,000 MILES



#29555

2026 CHEVROLET TRAX 1RS
MSRP \$25,685
OKOBOJI BEST PRICE \$23,185
LEASE SPECIAL \$399** 3 YEAR/10,000 MILES



#29481

2025 CHEVROLET BLAZER 2LT
MSRP \$40,895
OKOBOJI BEST PRICE \$35,475
LEASE SPECIAL \$550** 3 YEAR/10,000 MILES



#29637

2026 CHEVROLET EQUINOX ACTIV
MSRP \$40,985
OKOBOJI BEST PRICE \$39,485
LEASE SPECIAL \$608** 3 YEAR/10,000 MILES



#29641

2026 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500 LTZ
MSRP \$71,995
OKOBOJI BEST PRICE \$62,725



HWY. 9 WEST • SPIRIT LAKE • 712-336-1500

SEE OUR ENTIRE SELECTION OF NEW & USED VEHICLES ONLINE
OKOBOJIGMTOYOTA.COM

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



Vehicles listed subject to prior sale.

*Tax, title & license not included. No money down, with qualified credit.

Wood-Fired Perfection HAS A NEW LOCAL ADDRESS!



RT-BACKYARD BEAST 1200



RT-B380X BULLSEYE DULUXE



CHECK OUT OUR NEW SPRING COLORS!



Fick's **ACE** HARDWARE

3401 Bergquist Ave.
Spirit Lake • 712-336-3373
1 block off Hwy. 71, across from Ferguson's Landscape
Mon.-Fri. 7:30 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Sat. 7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. • Sun. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

409 Central Ave.
Estherville • 712-362-3745
Mon.-Fri. 7:30 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Sat. 7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. • Sun. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.


HAPPY winter

Hit The Road With A Better Rate



New & Refi Auto Loans
Rates as low as

4.95% APR*



Citizens
COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION

www.citizenscu.com

Spirit Lake: 1310 18th Street, Suite A • (712) 336-1095
Estherville: 2 N 2nd Street • (712) 362-7751

* APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Rates based on applicant's credit and are subject to change. Federally insured by NCUA.

Sunshine Foods

OPEN DAILY
PHONE: 712-338-4716
NORTH MILFORD

AD STARTS WEDNESDAY!

Prices Effective WEDNESDAY-TUESDAY FEBRUARY 18-24, 2026
All specials are while supplies last. No rain checks on ad specials.

Download on the App Store
DOWNLOAD OUR NEW APP AND EARN REWARDS!
SEARCH FOR SUNSHINE FOODS!

GET IT ON Google Play

Lent Pollock SPECIAL
2 DAYS ONLY
Friday & Saturday • February 20th & 21st
ALL SPECIALS ARE WHILE SUPPLIES LAST. NO RAIN CHECKS!

SUNNY DEAL!
Alaskan Pollock Fillets
10 lb. Box
\$29.99
Smaller Packages **\$3.99**



SUNNY DEAL!
Premium Grade Granny Smith Apples
Per lb.
98¢
40 lb. CASES **\$35.99**



SUNNY DEAL!
Cotton Candy Sweet Grapes
Per lb.
\$3.98
Tastes like Cotton Candy!



SUNNY DEAL!
Premium Grade Pink Lady Apples
Per lb.
\$1.98



SUNNY DEAL!
California Lemons
Each
68¢



SUNNY DEAL!
Fresh Butcher Cut Pork Spare Ribs
USDA Inspected, Per lb.
\$1.99



SUNNY DEAL!
Fresh Butcher Cut Pork Roasts
USDA Inspected, Boneless Center Cut, Per lb.
\$2.29



SUNNY DEAL!
Fresh Butcher Cut Pork Loin Chops
USDA Inspected, Boneless Center Cut, Per lb.
\$2.49



SUNNY DEAL!
Sweet Ripe Grape Tomatoes
Pint
\$1.98



SUNNY DEAL!
Little Potato Co. Baby Potatoes
1.5 lb. Bags
\$3.48



SUNNY DEAL!
Sweet Tropical Mangoes
Each
\$1.98



SUNNY DEAL!
Beef Arm Roasts
USDA Choice, Boneless, Per lb.
\$5.99



SUNNY DEAL!
Sunshine's Own Butcher Fresh 80% Lean Ground Beef
Family Pack, Per lb.
\$4.99



SUNNY DEAL!
Farmland Roll Sausage or Links
12 oz.
\$2.49



SUNNY DEAL!
Bob Evans Family Size Sides
28-32 oz.
\$4.99



SUNNY DEAL!
Marie Callender's Entrees or Pot Pies
10.5-14 oz.
2/\$6



SUNNY DEAL!
Bellatoria Thin Crust Pizza 12" Thin Crust Var. ONLY or Garlic Bread
\$4.99



SUNNY DEAL!
Smokin' Boji BBQ & Smokin' Boyd's Pizza
Sold Exclusively at Sunshine Foods!

All Frozen or Take N' Bake Pizzas **2/\$20** MUST BUY 2 or 12" Each

Smoked Special Recipe Ham Balls **\$9.99** Per lb.

Smoked Beefy Bacon Mac & Cheese **\$7.99** Per lb.

Smoked Seafood Mac & Cheese **\$7.99** Per lb.

Smoked Atlantic Salmon **\$16.99** Per lb.

Okaboji Original
For Catering Call: 712-330-3998
Smokinbojibbq@gmail.com
18 to 24 hour notice required



DIGITAL DEAL!
Prairie Farms Chip Dips or Sour Cream
16 oz.
\$2.49 AD PRICE
-50¢
\$1.99



DIGITAL COUPON LIMIT OF 1 COUPON USE
Must use digital app to get digital coupons. Limit 1 coupon use per customer.

SUNNY DEAL!
Dinner Bell Premium Butter
1 lb. Quarters
\$3.98



DIGITAL DEAL!
Progresso Soups
18-19 oz. Var.
3/\$6 AD PRICE
-1.00
3/\$5



MUST BUY 3 **DIGITAL COUPON** LIMIT OF 2 COUPON USES
Must use digital app to get digital coupons. Limit 2 coupon uses per customer.

SUNNY DEAL!
Best Choice Broth or Stock
32 oz. Beef, Chicken, or Vegetable
\$1.89



SUNNY DEAL!
Best Choice Trail Mix
18 oz. Cajun, Mountain, or Trail Mix
\$5.99



SUNNY DEAL!
Best Choice Microwave Popcorn
6 Ct.
\$2.99



SUNNY DEAL!
Best Choice Potato Chips
7.75-8 oz.
\$1.88



SUNNY DEAL!
Old Dutch Ripples Potato Chips
Pre-Priced \$4.99 Var.
2/\$5



SUNNY DEAL!
Mission Fajita Tortillas or Soft and Fluffy Fajita Tortillas 20 Ct.
\$2.99



SUNNY DEAL!
Best Choice Oyster Crackers
9 oz.
\$1.48



SUNNY DEAL!
Little Debbie Mini Muffins
8.27-8.44 oz.
2/\$5



SUNNY DEAL!
Sunshine's Own Homemade Popcorn
Regular Price \$6.99
Buy 2 & Get 1 FREE



DIGITAL DEAL!
Snack Factory Pretzel Crisps
7.2 oz. Var.
\$3.49 AD PRICE
-50¢
\$2.99



DIGITAL COUPON LIMIT OF 2 COUPON USES
Must use digital app to get digital coupons. Limit 2 coupon uses per customer.

SUNNY DEAL!
Sabra Hummus
10 oz. Var.
\$3.49



SUNNY DEAL!
General Mills Cereal
8.9-11.2 oz. Honey Nut Cheerios, Cheerios, or Mult Grain
2/\$4



MUST BUY 2 or \$2.99 Each

SUNNY DEAL!
Country Hearth Premium 12 Grain Bread 24 oz.
\$3.59



SUNNY DEAL!
Best Choice Premium Ice Cream
128 oz. Pails
\$4.98



SUNNY DEAL!
Kemp's Crafted Collections Premium Ice Cream 48 oz., 12 Ct. Ice Cream Cups, or 4 Ct. Sandwiches
\$4.79



SUNNY DEAL!
Monster, Nos or Full Throttle
15.5-16 oz. Cans
2/\$5



DIGITAL DEAL!
Pepsi Products
BIG 24-Pack Cans + Deposit
\$11.99 AD PRICE
-1.00
\$10.99



DIGITAL COUPON LIMIT OF 3 COUPON USES
Must use digital app to get digital coupons. Limit 3 coupon uses per customer.

SUNNY DEAL!
Best Choice Purified Drinking Water
24 Ct., 16.9 oz. Bottles
2/\$7



DIGITAL DEAL!
Fiora Mega Bath Tissues 12 Rolls or **Paper Towels** 6 Rolls
\$4.99 AD PRICE
-1.00
\$3.99



DIGITAL COUPON LIMIT OF 1 COUPON USE
Must use digital app to get digital coupons. Limit 1 coupon use per customer.

IRON HORSE

LAND COMPANY

YOUR WIN STARTS HERE

Joel McCartan
(712) 358-0789
Joel@IronhorseLandCompany.com

Your NW Iowa Land Specialist

FARM - RANCH - RECREATION

SALES - AUCTION - MANAGEMENT

Iowa Licensed Real Estate Agent #568527000 | 828 Lake Ave Suite A, Cothurnburg, NE, 69138

Lakes Area Activity/Senior Center Wish List

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

★ ALL MILITARY ITEMS WANTED ★

WWI • WW2 • KOREA • VIETNAM

Medals, knives, guns, helmets, daggers, uniforms, all items wanted.

ALSO INDIAN ARROWHEADS & ARTIFACTS

Single items or collections. PAYING CASH.

563-581-9568

Word Search Puzzle Key from page 9A

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

CRANE RENTAL

ASI CONTRACTING

Need a Lift?

ASI Contracting now offers reliable, on-site crane services (NTC60XL) with a certified operator to keep your project moving safely and efficiently. Contact us for rates and availability!

(712) 415-1243 asi-contracting.com

Okoboji FFA Grilling

The Okoboji FFA will be celebrating National FFA Week and will be hosting their annual grilling with the students on Sunday, February 22nd. They will be serving hamburgers, chips, cookies and drink for \$8.

The grilling will take place at the Okoboji High School Lunchroom from 11:00 to 1:00. Everyone is welcome. The Okoboji FFA hopes to see you there!



Spencer Chamber Strengthens Government Affairs “Eggs & Issues” Program

The Spencer Chamber is updating the Eggs & Issues (E&I) format to strengthen dialogue between residents, local leaders, and state legislators during the 2026 legislative session.

Each year, the Chamber’s Government Affairs Committee works to hold at least three public forums and to focus on issues that impact local businesses and government. These priorities will now include a focused, issue-based topic for the first half and submitted questions for the second half of each of the remaining sessions. Questions can be submitted to the Spencer Chamber ahead of time, or at the beginning of each session – and these will need to be written in greater detail.

Additional Eggs & Issues sessions may be added as determined by the Government Affairs Committee.

“This update is about impact,” said Sheriffa Jones, President & CEO of the Spencer Chamber. “We want our local leaders and business community to clearly communicate how decisions made at the Iowa Capitol affect Clay County — and we want legislators to leave with a deeper understanding of those local realities.”

By identifying topics in advance and incorporating subject matter expertise, the Chamber is creating more productive, informed, and solution-focused conversations. Additionally, the enhanced format will amplify the voice of Chamber businesses, provide clarity on complex policy issues, offer thoughtful legislative engagement, and ensure decisions made in Des Moines reflect their impact in Clay County.

The Spencer Chamber remains committed to strong advocacy, informed leadership, and policies that support economic vitality in Clay County.

For more information about the Government Affairs Committee or upcoming Eggs & Issues sessions, contact the Spencer Chamber at info@spencerchamber.org.



THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER AUCTIONS

Midwest Land Management

Land For Sale

112.2 Acres m/l

Clay County, IA

Sec. 30, Summit Twp.

Open Lease for 2026!

Midwest Land Management

For information call Ben Hollesen • 712-253-5779

www.midwestlandmanagement.com

Jacuzzi

Bath Remodel

Safety. Style. Stress-Free Installation.

CALL NOW 1.866.753.9521

SPECIAL OFFER Waiving All Installation Costs!

Add'l terms apply. Offer subject to change and vary by dealer. Expires soon.

Hands Down

We're the Best in Town!

THE LNS

BROCK AUCTION COMPANY, INC.

“The Land Marketing Professionals for Over 105 Years” Is Offering

77.9 Acres M/L of Farmland in Clay County, IA

Section 23, Summit Township, Clay County, Iowa

PUBLIC AUCTION

LIVE AND ONLINE BIDDING

Online Bidding @ [BrockAuction.com](https://www.BrockAuction.com) & Click on HiBid

Friday, March 6th, 2026 @ 10:00AM

Sale to be held at Clay County Fairgrounds Event Center

800 W 18th St., Spencer, IA 51301

LAND LOCATION - From Spencer: Go North 3 miles on Highway 71, then go West 1 1/2 miles on 310th St. From Milford: Go South 9 miles on Highway 71, then go West 1 1/2 miles on 310th St. From Hartley: Go East 14 miles on Highway 18, North 1 mile on 200th Ave., then go East 1/2 mile on 310th St.

For complete Details, Photos and Video go to www.BrockAuction.com

RUBIS FAMILY LAND TRUST - Owner Kelsey Langel - Attorney

BRUCE R. BROCK - BROKER
BRUCE R. BROCK RE L.L.C.
World Champion Auctioneer
Licensed in IA, MO, NE & SD
1321 Hawkeye Ave SW, Le Mars, IA
(712) 546-4634

AUCTIONEERS:

Austin Popken - Le Mars, IA.....712-539-1178

Brian Rubis - Le Mars, IA.....712-253-5481

Darrell Scott - Mapleton, IA.....712-298-0003

Steve Gaul - Hawarden, IA.....712-551-6586

Adam Kameis - Slurgis, SD.....605-490-1701

Troy Donnelly - Elk Point, SD.....712-899-3748

Brad Brown - Webb, IA.....712-260-2215

David Weidauer - Le Mars, IA.....712-541-3033

"The Midwest's Largest and Fastest Growing Auction Company with 4 Generations Serving The Midwest Since 1919"

Lee Greenwood to Headline Veterans Day at the 2026 Clay County Fair

The Clay County Fair, powered by SMU, is proud to announce legendary country music artist Lee Greenwood with special guest Jimmy Fortune, longtime member of the iconic Statler Brothers, as a Grandstand headliner as part of the SMG Concert Series. Performing on Monday, September 14th, 2026, Greenwood’s appearance will headline Veterans Day at the Fair and serve as a powerful tribute during the United States Semiquincentennial, marking the nation’s 250th anniversary. Known for his iconic anthem "God Bless the USA," and decades of heartfelt performances, Greenwood will help deliver an unforgettable evening honoring those who have served and celebrating the enduring spirit of America.

Lee Greenwood is an American country artist who bridged the gap between traditional and contemporary country music. He is best known for his patriotic anthem “God Bless the USA.” The iconic song, which celebrated its 30th anniversary in 2013, went far beyond what Greenwood expected when he wrote it in the back of his tour bus in 1983. The song has been in the top five on the country singles charts three times (1991, 2001, and 2003), giving it the distinction of being the only song in any genre of music to achieve that feat. It was also #1 on the pop charts after 9/11/01. Greenwood says, “USA is the song I always felt I needed to write. I wanted to have something that would unite Americans from coast to coast, and I wanted to instill pride back into our country.”

While Greenwood could easily talk about the accomplishments in his life, this high-energy entertainer prefers to

continue writing and recording with same passion and integrity that has always fueled his amazing career. Greenwood continues to tour across the country and performs for many charitable events, lending his time and name to numerous organizations, including Helping A Hero, of which he is the National Ambassador. Helping a Hero provides specially-adapted homes for wounded warriors and their families. Greenwood has also achieved success as an author, penning the politically charged book Does God Still Bless the USA: A Plea for a Better America, published in 2012. His latest, a children’s illustrated book, was released Memorial Day Weekend 2015 and is called Proud To Be An American (Clovercroft Publishing). Written to the lyrics of "God Bless The USA" and fully illustrated with colorful pictures by Amanda Sekulow, the hardback book encourages patriotism among our nation's younger generation. It debuted at No. 1 on three Amazon children's book charts the week of its release. For more information, visit leegreenwood.com.

Whether requested by his loyal fans or heralded by fellow artists, the voice of Jimmy Fortune is one of those special instruments. His recognizable tenor has graced some of Country music's biggest hits, earning the Virginia native a spot in both the hallowed ranks of the Country Music Hall of Fame and the Gospel Music Hall of Fame.

Music has always been important in Jimmy’s life, as he first began performing with his father at local square dances back home. At the age of thirteen, he formed

his first band, The New Edition, and the Jimmy Fortune story began. As an adult, Fortune became known as an artist who could sing anything, ranging from Country and Bluegrass to Rock and Roll. In 1982, Jimmy was hired by The Statler Brothers to fill in for Lew DeWitt until it became a permanent job when Lew was too ill with Crohn’s Disease. To say that he carved out his own place as a Statler would be an understatement.

Encouraged to develop his writing talents, Fortune wrote and sang lead on many of their biggest hits. “Elizabeth,” “Too Much On My Heart,” “Forever,” and “More Than A Name On A Wall” are just a few of the Statlers’ hits that feature the Fortune name and voice. He was also part of the group’s award-winning TNN variety series, which ran from 1991 to 1998, and played date after date on the road, bringing their legendary sound to thousands each year.

After The Statler Brothers retired on October 26th, 2002, Jimmy seized the opportunity to launch a solo career to share new music with his fans. From 2002 to 2012, he recorded 4 solo albums. In 2015, Jimmy teamed up with the Gaither Music Group and has recorded three successful projects with them. He is also a member of a group called Brothers of the Heart, which also records for Gaither Music Group, with Ben Isaacs, Mike Rogers, and Bradley Walker. For more information, visit jimmyfortune.com.

Ticket prices are \$35 (Stage Front Chair Seating), \$45 (Reserved Grandstand Seating), and \$25 (General Admission Bleachers).

Tickets will go on sale Friday, February 20th, at 10:00 am. Tickets will be available online at www.midwesttix.com, by phone at 515-244-2771, or in person at the Events Center Box Office. All tickets, regardless of purchase location, are also subject to a \$6.00 ticketing fee, which is not included in the advertised price.

Midwest Land Management

Land For Sale

132 Acres m/l

Emmet County, IA

Sec. 9 & 16, Estherville Twp.

Cropland with development potential

Avg. CSR2: 75.3

Midwest Land Management

Ben Hollesen • 712-253-5779

www.midwestlandmanagement.com

Midwest Land Management

Land For Sale

140.91 Acres

Clay County, IA

Blend of Pasture, Cropland & CRP

with excellent hunting opportunities.

Midwest Land Management

For information call Ben Hollesen • 712-253-5779

www.midwestlandmanagement.com



WE GET THE JOB DONE!

THE CLASSIFIEDS

712 - 338 - 2232 / LAKESNEWSSHOPPER.COM

MISCELLANEOUS

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE: THIS PUBLICATION DOES NOT KNOWINGLY ACCEPT advertising which is deceptive, fraudulent, or which might otherwise violate the law or accepted standards of taste. However, this publication does not warrant or guarantee the accuracy of any advertisement, nor the quality of the goods or services advertised. Readers are cautioned to thoroughly investigate all claims made in any advertisements, and to use good judgment and reasonable care, particularly when dealing with persons unknown to you who ask for money in advance of delivery of the goods or services advertised. The publisher accepts no liability whatsoever for any material supplied by advertisers, including the use of trademarks, logos, slogans, or other service marks, or any other claims made by the advertiser. TFC

RENTALS

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

Two-bedroom, one-bath-room apartment available immediately in Spirit Lake. Approximately 844 sq ft. Absolutely NO PETS and no smoking. A one-year lease is required. Rent is \$875.00 a month, which includes water, sewer, garbage, and cable TV. A security deposit of \$875 is required. Call 712-336-1059 for more information and to schedule a showing. **2-21c**

Four-bedroom, two-bath-room apartment available immediately in Spirit Lake. Approximately 1,125 sq ft. Absolutely NO PETS and no smoking. A one-year lease is required. Rent is \$1,175.00 a month, which includes water, sewer, garbage, and cable TV. A security deposit of \$1,175 is required. Call 712-336-1059 for more information and to schedule a showing. **2-21c**

Two-bedroom, 1.5-bath-room condo available immediately in Milford, IA. Absolutely NO PETS and NO SMOKING! A one-year lease is required: rent is \$1,000.00 a month plus utilities. A security deposit of \$1,000.00 is required! Call 712-336-1059 for more information and to schedule a showing. **2-21c**

First months rent is free!! 1bed/1bath apartments in our fully renovated building in Lakefield, MN. Small complex with only 5 total units. Be the first tenant in these high-end apartments! See the website for photos, video tours and more details. Only two units remaining! Email, call or text with questions. Email: Milwaukeemanor@yahoo.com. Call: 507-360-8548, Website: www.milwaukeemanor.com. **4-23P**

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

MISCELLANEOUS

BOATS

BROKERAGE SALES SERVICE

GEL COAT REPAIR STORAGE

BOJI BOAT BROKERS

1520 Hudson Ave., Spirit Lake (2 Blocks West of Walmart)
712-330-3152
www.bojiboatbrokers.com

STORAGE

Self Storage Units

Several Sizes Available

www.rightsize-storage.com

RIGHT SIZE STORAGE 336-8400

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

THANK YOU

Judy and I would like to thank all the nurses, doctors and personnel at Lakes Regional Hospital and Accura Care for my excellent care during my stay. Also a big thank you to all of our neighbors, friends and family who helped during my hospitalization. — Larry and Judy Larson **1-20p**

PETS

They Need A Home, Too!



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



Katsu - is a Collie, Border / Queensland Heeler looking for a patient, loving home where he can feel safe and maybe have a little dirt to call his own.



Chance - is a sweet Terrier, American Staffordshire who is eager to play and find his forever home with a nice warm bed to sleep on at night!

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**

320-7070
Marilyn@hoien.com

WANTED

WANT TO BUY IOWA GREAT LAKES COINS

IS BUYING COINS, PAPER MONEY AND POSTCARDS. HIGHEST PRICES PAID. APPRAISALS AVAILABLE.

712-330-3671 • 712-336-4618

LOCAL is best!

THANK YOU

THANK YOU

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all my family and friends for the wonderful wishes, cards, and gifts I received on my 92nd birthday. Your kind words and thoughtfulness made my day truly unforgettable.

With love, Mary Ellen Inbody

The family of Nicholas Pattison would like to thank everyone for all of the expressions of sympathy and acts of kindness shown to us at his passing. We appreciate it all so much.

Support **THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER** Advertising Family of Merchants.

MISCELLANEOUS

Autos/Misc
Donate Your Car to Veterans Today! Help and Support our Veterans. Fast - FREE pick up. 100% tax deductible. Call 800-245-0398

Miscellaneous
TOP DOLLAR PAID for old vintage guitars! Gibson, Fender, Martin, Greesch, Rickenbacker, Epiphone, Etc. 1930's to 1980's. Call 866-433-8277

Reach millions of homes nationwide with one easy, affordable buy in the ADS Network! For more information www.communitypublishers.com/category/all-products

Peace of mind & early detection - Now more than ever, it's important to get screened for Stroke & Cardiovascular Disease risk. Life Line Screening is simple & painless. 833-970-4172

Need cash quickly? We buy houses in any condition. Get a fair cash offer within 24 hours! Call today. Liz Buys Houses: 833-359-4707

Portable oxygen concentrator may be covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence & mobility w/the compact design & long-lasting battery. Inogen One free info kit! 877-305-1535

Consumer Cellular - same reliable, nationwide coverage as large carriers. No long-term contract or hidden fees, free activation. All plans unlimited talk & text starting at just \$20/mo. 877-751-0866

Become a published author. We want to read your book! Dorrance Publishing trusted since 1920. Consultation, production, promotion & distribution. Free author's guide 877-729-4998 or dorranceinfo.com/ads

No more cleaning gutters. Guaranteed! LeafFilter backed by no-clog guarantee & lifetime warranty. Call 1-833-610-1936 to schedule FREE inspection/estimate. Get 15% off your entire order.

Ads Network
Military & Seniors get additional 10% off. Limited time. Restrictions apply, see rep for details.

Replace your roof w/the best looking & longest lasting material steel from Erie Metal Roofs! 3 styles/multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited time offer up to 50% off install + additional 10% off install military, health & 1st responders. 833-370-1234

Inflation at 40-year highs. Interest rates are up. Credit cards, medical bills, car loans. Have \$10k+ in debt? Call National Debt Relief to find out how to pay off your debt for much less than you owe! Free quote: 844-955-4930

Don't let the stairs limit your mobility! Discover the solution for anyone who struggles on the stairs, concerned about a fall or wants to regain access to their entire home. AmeriGlide 833-399-3595

Home break-ins take less than 60 seconds. Don't wait! Protect your family, home, assets now for as little as 70¢/day! 833-890-1262

Jacuzzi Bath Remodel can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as 1-day. Limited time, waving all installation costs! Additional terms apply. Subject to change & vary by dealer. Ends soon. 844-501-3208

Pest control: Protect your home from pests safely. Roaches, Bed Bugs, Rodent, Termites, Spiders & more. Locally owned & affordable. For service or inspection today! 833-860-0657 Have zip code ready!

MobileHelp America's premier mobile medical alert system. Home or away. For safety & peace of mind. No long term contracts, free brochure! 888-489-3936

Aging roof? New homeowner? Storm damage? You need a local expert pro-

vider that proudly stands behind their work. Fast, free estimate. Financing available. 833-640-4753 Have zip code ready when calling!

Water damage cleanup & restoration: A small amount of water can lead to major damage in your home. Our trusted professionals do repairs to protect your family & home value! 833-887-0117. Have zip code ready!

Professional lawn service: Fertilization, weed control, seeding, aeration & mosquito control. Free quote. Ask about first application special! 833-860-0811

DIRECTV Stream - Carries the most local MLB games! Choice Pkg \$89.99/mo for 12 mos Stream on 20 devices. HBO Max included for 3 mos w/Choice Package or higher. No contract or hidden fees! Restrictions apply. IVS 866-859-0405

Wesley Financial Group, LLC time-share cancellation experts over \$50 million timeshare debt/fees cancelled in 2019. Free info package. Free consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. 833-308-1971

Bath & shower updates in as little as 1-day! Affordable prices - No payments for 18 months! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Senior & military discounts available. 1-877-543-9189

Prepare for power outages today - Generac Home Standby Generator. Receive free 5-Year warranty w/qualifying purchase. 855-948-6176 to schedule free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

Dental insurance from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. 400+ procedures. Real dental insurance - not a discount plan. Free info kit! 855-526-1060 www.dental50plus.com/ads #6258

THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER WORKS!

80% of people read The LNS & look at the ads.

75% of our readers are between the ages 25-64.

75% of our readers purchase advertised products.

56% of our readers are female, the household purchasers.

50% of our readers keep The LNS for 3 days or more.

Stats per the 2024 Circulation Verification Council audit.

YOUR LAKES. YOUR NEWS. INSTANTLY.

Sign up today to have The LNS digitally delivered to your inbox every Tuesday!

www.LakesNewsShopper.com

Just click on **ESubscribe**

GET YOUR PAPER

ON ANY DEVICE

ON YOUR TIME

THE LNS THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER

1009 22nd Street • Milford, IA • 712-338-2232 • LakesNewsShopper.com

LOOKING FOR RENTERS?

THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER

FOR RENT

THEY'RE LOOKING HERE!


Put your rental in front of the faces of thousands of readers every day in the Classifieds.

CALL TODAY TO PLACE YOUR AD!

THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER

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

SERVICES



Kris Walker • Jennifer Youngwirth • Tami Klein • Joe Loring
joel@walkerinsuranceia.com

WALKER
INSURANCE AGENCY, INC.

197 N Hwy 71, Arnolds Park, IA
712-332-7359

facebook

Ruhland Construction

- 712-541-2736 -

Small Jobs

Handyman Construction Work

40 years experience!

DON'T HAVE TIME? NEED THINGS CLEANED?

Call/Text Jenn at 507-841-2137

For All Your Households Needs

I meet with all prospective clients, see what your needs are, how often, and what you would like done. In all jobs, I mainly use my own products. Unless it is painting to which you supply.

A: Normal Routine Cleaning
B: Deep Cleaning
C: Room Cleaning and Re-organization
D: Interior Painting

**Never hurts to call/text and ask. I'm here to make your life easier!*

AUSTIN HEUCK

CONTACT TODAY

Phone Number:
712-346-3330

Email
austinheuck@gmail.com

SERVICES:

- ✓ Home improvements
- ✓ Finish Carpentry
- ✓ Doors
- ✓ Windows
- ✓ And More!

A&H SERVICES
• HANDYMAN •

Serving Spencer, Okoboji and surrounding areas!

Drain Pro

Your Drains Are Our Business

712-865-2070

Commercial/Residential • Sewer Drain Cleaning

Serving Estherville, Spirit Lake and the Surrounding Areas

Have You Tested Your Home for Radon?
Do You Have Questions?

THE RADON GUY LLC
712-209-1203

www.TheRadonGuy.com

Radon Testing & Mitigation Services.

Attention to Quality!

MATT'S HANDYMAN

SERVICE & CONTRACTING LLC

Additions • Awnings • Concrete • Carports • Mowing • Decks • Fences
Mowing • Painting • Power Washing • Remodeling • Sheds & Garages
Siding • Snow Removal • Spring Clean Up • Welding • Yard Clean Up

Matt Dowson | 605-777-2446

Lakes Area Commercial & Residential • Free Estimates!

Mr. Drain Man, LLC

Jan Coon - Owner

- Drain Cleaning
- Video Inspection
- Locating Services

712-330-5940

www.callmrdrainman.com

SERVICES

SUPERIOR PLUMBING LLC

• Brian Wegener •

Superior, IA 51363

Licensed, Insured and Bonded

(712)320-0058

TUTTLE CONSTRUCTION

LICENSED & INSURED

• NEW CONSTRUCTION

• REMODELS

• REPAIRS

Dan Tuttle • Spirit Lake, IA

712-229-0210

dantuttle68@gmail.com | 712-759-1277

FULLY INSURED & QUALITY WORK

Stump Grinding NOW AVAILABLE!

SOHN'S TREE SERVICE

Brody Sohn
Bubbasohn3@gmail.com
Lake Park, Iowa 51347

712-330-8632

Removals • Trimming • Storm Cleanup • Lake Bank Clearing

BOJI CART REPAIR

We Diagnose, Repair & Service All Makes & Models of Golf Carts

- Battery Sales & Installation
- Accessories Installation
- Pick Up & Delivery Available

Mike 712-330-4851 or Scott 712-330-5947

Arnolds Park, IA

Louscher Motors

Kristopher Louscher

Services & Repair of Foreign & Domestic Autos, Trucks, Diesels, Powersports, Side x Sides, 4 Wheelers, Snowmobiles & Small Engines

1.5 mi West on Hwy 9 from Lake Park

1173 Hwy 9
Lake Park, IA 51347

HOURS:
M - F 9AM - 5PM

712-330-7579

H. JUNG
CONSTRUCTION
LAKE PARK, IA

Build Better. Build Right. Build With Us.

DECKS
WINDOWS
SIDING
KITCHENS

HEATH JUNG, OWNER/CONTRACTOR

14 YEARS EXPERIENCE
FREE ESTIMATES

Hjungeconstruction@yahoo.com
319.442.7095

EMPLOYMENT

now hiring?

WOULD YOU LIKE APPLICANTS LINING UP AT YOUR DOOR?

WE CAN HELP!

Put your job opening in front of the faces of thousands of readers every day in the Classifieds.

CALL TODAY TO PLACE YOUR AD!

THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER

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

EMPLOYMENT

SMU
Spencer Municipal Utilities

Water Operator

Spencer Municipal Utilities ("SMU") is a secure, well-financed municipally owned utility provider that has proudly met the electric and water needs of local Spencer, Iowa residents since 1942. Telecommunication service offerings were added to the service mix in 1997, and today SMU provides the residential and business community with a full range of voice, video, and data services.

SMU is actively seeking applicants for a full-time Water Operator. Reporting directly to the Water Manager, this position has complete responsibility for assisting the water utility operations in maintaining water treatment, processing, and testing equipment in a water treatment facility to treat water to meet permit and operational requirements. Perform routine and preventative operations and maintenance related items as assigned. Position requires a good relationship with the public and responds to customer questions and concerns regarding operational issues. Candidates must be able to plan and execute water main or treatment plant projects; basic water laboratory experience; safety training (confined space, respirators, fall protection, trenching and shoring, etc.) and good mechanical aptitude skills.

Our Requirements:

- High School Diploma or GED, or equivalent,
- Strong preference for candidates with:
- One (1) to Two (2) years of technical or vocational training in water/environmental technology post high school.
- Previous experience working in a water treatment plant along with water systems operations.
- Underground water main and service excavation experience.
- Prefer candidates who currently possess Grade II water treatment and Grade II distribution certification as required by Iowa DNR or the ability to obtain within a specified timeframe.
- A strong set of communications and interpersonal skills that are equally effective with staff, management, and the Board of Trustees.
- Intermediate experience with Microsoft Office products including Word, Outlook, Excel, Teams, PowerPoint, is desired.
- Required to possess and maintain a valid Class "A" Commercial Driver's License (CDL) combination with air brakes and meet SMU insurability requirements within 18 months of hire or sooner.
- Residency requirement to reside within a 30-minute response time to the office.
- Position requires on-call responsibilities including an on-call rotation schedule with department employees.

What this Position Offers You:

- A great career opportunity in an organization that believes in providing superior customer service.
- A lifestyle that offers great amenities and a terrific family environment, in a very desirable Iowa community.
- The opportunity to work in a progressive community minded utility.

To apply candidates must complete an SMU application. Applications can be found on our website at www.smunet.net (click on careers in the 'About Us' tab). Applicants will have the opportunity to upload their cover letter, resume and salary requirements if desired. Please keep in mind that the submission of a resume in lieu of work history on your application or answering the supplemental questions is not sufficient.

SMU is an equal opportunity employer, offers a comprehensive wage and benefit package that includes health/dental/vision/short-long term disability/group life insurance, IPERS, 457(b) retirement plan, employee assistance plan along with paid time off for vacations and holidays. Successful completion of a pre-employment background check, physical examination (if applicable) and a post offer drug screen are required prior to employment with SMU.

Applications accepted through 2/20/2026. This recruitment will be open until filled.

Support

THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER

Advertising Family of Merchants.

Transform Your Bathroom and Change Your Life.

FREE TOILET + \$1,500 OFF

For your FREE information kit and our Senior Discounts, Call Today Toll-Free
1-855-417-1306

safestep

*Free toilet with purchase and installation of a walk-in tub or walk-in shower only. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Market restrictions may apply. Offer available in select markets only. CSLB 1082165 NSCB 0082999 0083445 13VH11096000

DNR to Recap Hunting Seasons, Discuss Possible Rule Changes

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is hosting a series of town hall-style meetings where local staff provide updates on recently completed hunting seasons, discuss possible changes to hunting rules and regulations, and address other topics as requested.

Locally, the Iowa DNR will be at Maser Monarch Lodge, 22785 Nature Center Road, in Okoboji, on March 4. The meeting begins at 6 p.m.

"We want people to come out, listen to the hunting seasons reviews, ask questions and hear directly from our staff," said Todd Bishop, chief of the Iowa DNR's Wildlife Bureau. "Part of the meeting will be devoted to discussing potential rule changes and collecting feedback as we work through the rules process."

The meetings are open to the public. Comments collected from these public meetings will be considered along with other related comments received by the Iowa DNR prior to proposing changes to hunting rules and regulations. Proposed rules will be presented to the Natural Resource Commission during a regular public meeting for consideration and additional public comment.

Comments received during previous listening sessions have resulted in regulation changes, including modifying and removing areas closed to Canada goose hunting, establishing later goose season dates and increased bag limit, expanding the raccoon hunting and trapping season on private land, modifying Iowa's antlerless deer quotas in north central and western Iowa, and extending the regular trapping season through the end of February.

Any person attending the public meeting and has special requirements, such as those related to mobility or hearing impairments, should contact the Iowa DNR or ADA Coordinator at 515-725-8200, Relay Iowa TTY Service 800-735-7942, or Webmaster@dnr.iowa.gov, and advise of specific needs.

EMPLOYMENT

IOWA LAKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE

is accepting applications for a part-time (27.5 hrs/wk)

SIMULATION TECHNICIAN

on the Emmetsburg Campus.

Responsible for the overall usage, maintenance, and upkeep of the medical, simulation, and audio/visual equipment for the Simulation Center. Provide technical support for simulation activities, labs, and exercises. Current license or certification in an allied health care field required. Two years' experience in technology preferred. Demonstrated experience with computer applications and ability to troubleshoot basic technology issues preferred. Salary \$22.25/hour. Paid sick leave, vacation, and holidays. Employee retirement plan.

Review of applications will begin March 2, 2026.

View complete job description and application process at www.iowalakes.edu/employment.

Contact Lynn Miller at lmiller@iowalakes.edu or 712-362-0409.

IOWA LAKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Human Resources, 19 South 7th Street, Estherville, IA 51334

EEO/AA Employer

NOW HIRING:

PART & FULL TIME CDL DRIVERS

FOR CONCRETE & AGGREGATE HAULING

for our 2026 season

FULL-TIME YEAR-ROUND DIESEL & HEAVY EQUIPMENT MECHANIC & PAYLOADER OPERATOR

Competitive wage and benefits

CALL

HANSEN CONCRETE

507-662-6606

YOUR CUSTOMERS ARE LOOKING

CAN THEY FIND YOU?

Put your business in front of the faces of thousands of readers every day in the Classifieds.

CALL TODAY TO PLACE YOUR AD!

THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER

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

CARNEY CONCRETE INC.

Now Hiring Concrete Laborers

- Experience Preferred
- Must Have Valid Drivers Licence

email application to carneyconcrete@hotmail.com or call 712-320-5188

BURRELL PAINTING

Burrell Painting is taking applications for an energetic, detail oriented person for a full time position. This position will include all aspects of interior, exterior, residential and commercial painting in the lakes area.

Call or text 712-330-2627.

Or email burrellpainting@gmail.com.

MATUSKA TAXIDERM
SUPPLY COMPANY

Growing Business With Full Time Positions Available and Flexible Schedule

Open Position Available

- Shipping Packer •

Are you looking to grow with a fast growing company with unlimited learning? Matuska Taxidermy Supply Company is looking for individuals who are willing to grow with our company. You must be detail oriented, follow directions, self-starter, reliable, great communication skills and a team player to work in a fast paced environment. We offer competitive pay, flexible schedule, benefits and fun, family/friendly work environment.

Competitive Pay and Benefits

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

VILLAGE WEST
RESORT • HOTEL

HIRING NOW

- Laundry
- Betsy's Diner
- Maintenance
- Recreation

Applications available at Front Desk OR apply online at villagewestresort.com

Village West Resort & Hotel. EOE

712-337-3223

20785 170th Street, Spirit Lake, IA

EMPLOYMENT

EMPLOYMENT

EMPLOYMENT

Join our Team!

Enjoy GREAT Benefits Including:

- Full or Flexible Part Time Positions Available
- Health, Dental, Vision
- Paid Time Off
- IPERS Retirement Plan
- Competitive Wages
- In-House Education
- On-site Gym, Cafeteria, Coffee Shop & More!

 Spencer Hospital

4-21c

APPLY TODAY!

SpencerHospital.org

712-264-6205



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 per day.

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

Check out their building updates.

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

With kitchen: \$160.00 per day.

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

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





"For five years, we've advertised with The Lakes News Shopper, and the results truly speak for themselves. The ads consistently work for us. Customers often come in holding our ad or mentioning a specific product they saw in the paper. It's clear The Lakes News Shopper directly influences their decision to visit our store."

- Jason and Tammy Brown (Owners)
 & the Mr. B's Flooring Team

Mr. B's Flooring, Spencer, Iowa

BRINGING IN CUSTOMERS TO LOCAL BUSINESSES FOR OVER 50 YEARS...

Count on The Lakes News Shopper to give you the best results for your business when you advertise with a proven leader.

THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER

THE LNS

712-338-2232 • www.lakesnewsshopper.com • sales@lakesnewsshopper.com

NOW HIRING

 SANBORN CHEESE MANUFACTURING PLANT





IMMEDIATE OPENINGS

Operator III – Pasteurizer – Nights
Shift Lead – Days
Shift Lead – Nights
Maintenance Manager



COMPETITIVE PAY & BENEFITS

We offer competitive wages, a generous PTO plan, night premiums, Sunday premiums, 401k with company match and health, dental, vision and life insurance.



101 W. 1st Street
Sanborn, IA 51248

712-729-3255

www.ampi.com

Careers

Veteran-Friendly Employer

Join our team!



Apply Now!

Associated Milk Producers Inc. is an equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, or status as a protected veteran.

1-20c

Seasons Center to Host FREE Youth Mental Health First Aid Training in Sibley

Seasons Center for Behavioral Health will host a free Youth Mental Health First Aid Training in Sibley, Iowa on Thursday, February 26, 2026 from 8:30 am–4:00 pm. This full-day training will cover topics such as anxiety, depression, eating disorders, bullying, social media, substance use, and ADHD. The evidence-based curriculum will teach participants how to talk to young people ages 12-18 about mental health and how to step in when they need help.

Many young people stay quiet and try to handle things alone. This training will teach attendees how to notice the signs that they might be struggling, and how to build trust so they open up. Youth Mental Health First Aid is primarily designed for adults who regularly interact with young people such as parents, family members, guardians, caregivers, teachers and school staff, coaches, counselors, clergy, youth group leaders, healthcare providers, juvenile justice, and health and human services workers.

- Thursday, February 26, 2026
- 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM (with a one-hour lunch break)
- Sibley Presbyterian Church - 601 6th Ave., Sibley, IA
- Registration is required and space is limited: <https://www.ticketleap.com/tickets/seasons-center-for-behavioral-health/youth-mental-health-first-aid-564183768>

"Every adult who interacts with young people has the potential to make a life-changing difference. Youth Mental Health First Aid gives community members the knowledge and confidence to show up, listen, and connect youth to the help they need," says Stephanie Pohar, VP of Marketing & Fund Development with Seasons Center. "This training is a proactive step toward improving youth mental health outcomes by helping adults recognize concerns, respond with confidence, and support youth when it matters most."

Registration links can also be found on the Seasons Center Facebook Events page and on Seasons Center's website under Resources & Events.

Social Work, LMHC, and LMFT CEU's will be available for this training. If you need specific CEUs not listed, please contact Stephanie Pohar at spohar@seasonscenter.org.

Founded in 1959, Seasons Center for Behavioral Health is a Community Mental Health Center with a mission of "Guiding individuals and families towards a meaningful and fulfilling life". Seasons Center provides a variety of behavioral health services in Northwest Iowa including outpatient psychiatry services, outpatient counseling and therapy services, substance use disorder services, emergency and crisis services, case management, peer support, and school-based services. Seasons Center is nationally accredited through COA Accreditation. COA Accreditation means that Seasons Center's programs, services, administration, and management have been rigorously evaluated and meet best practice standards.

For more information on Seasons' services, please visit www.seasonscenter.org or call 1-800-242-5101.



We Want to Share Your Joy!



A time-honored community tradition!

Share the news of your engagement, wedding or 50th and over anniversary with photos at no charge!

THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER

712.338.2232 | www.lakesnewsshopper.com



SHARE YOUR FAMILY RECIPES to be featured in The LNS



Do you have a family favorite dinner recipe or a favorite dish that never lasts long at get-togethers?

The Lakes News Shopper wants to feature your recipes in future issues for the holidays!

Please Send Recipes to Michelle@LNSPrint.com



Pudenz Returns As Palo Alto County RSVP Coordinator

The Northwest Iowa RSVP Program is pleased to announce the return of Kathy Pudenz as the coordinator for the Palo Alto County RSVP program. Having previously served in this role, Kathy brings a wealth of experience and a deep commitment to connecting seniors with meaningful service opportunities. Pudenz is located on the Emmetsburg Campus of Iowa Lakes Community College.

"I'm honored to rejoin RSVP as the Palo Alto County Coordinator, and I look forward to the privilege of supporting our incredible volunteers who give so generously of their time and talents. My commitment is to strengthen connections, identify local community needs, and expand our volunteer network to connect people with possibilities throughout Palo Alto County."

Pudenz brings a personal record of volunteer service and commitment to RSVP. She has past experience as a non-profit board member and advisory council member, Hospice volunteer, and extensive support and advocacy of individuals with disabilities and their parents.

Pudenz will also be responsible for coordinating current RSVP volunteers, recruiting new volunteers, and collaborating with partner volunteer host sites. One of Pudenz' first goals was to launch spring Pen Pal Programs with third-grade classes at Emmetsburg Catholic, Ruthven/Ayrshire Elementary, and West Bend/Mallard schools. The Pen Pal Program is one of RSVP's longest-running community contributions. Volunteers are matched with 3rd or 4th graders to exchange "pen pal" letters for a predetermined schedule. Adults and students know each other only by name and whatever they learn throughout the Pen Pal writing project.

RSVP is a national AmeriCorps Seniors program that matches volunteers with service opportunities to meet community needs. Although RSVP volunteers must be 55 or older, they serve people of all ages. RSVP has been sponsored in Northwest Iowa by Iowa Lakes Community College since 1977.

AmeriCorps brings people together to tackle the country's most pressing challenges through national service and volunteering. AmeriCorps Senior volunteers serve with organizations dedicated to improving communities and helping make service to others a cornerstone of natural culture.

SHOP & ADVERTISE LOCAL




Because Amazon, Facebook & Smart Phone Apps Won't Support Your Kid's Ball Teams

THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER

Helping Local Businesses Reach Their Customers For Over 46 Years!

712-338-2232

lakesnewsshopper.com



SERVICE THAT PUTS YOU FIRST.

B
12

LakesAutoCare.com • MilfordAutoCareIA.com





SUPER BALL GAME CHALLENGE WINNERS



Dawn Kuemper



Mark Matuska



Lynn Neilson



Wally Brunsvold

Thank you to everyone for playing our 2026 Super Bowl Challenge; and a HUGE THANK YOU to our 24 sponsors who made this promotion possible: Austin Heuck (A&H Services), Bedell Family YMCA, Blink Marketing, Boji Boat Brokers, Boji Doors, Brandt Gardens & Greenhouse, Consumers Lumber Company, El Mariachi, Fareway, Fick's Ace Hardware, Hy-Vee, Interior Sewing, Krafty's Meat Market, Lakes Auto Care, Lee Custom Homes, Milford Communications, Premier Communications, Pub 19 Bar & Grill, Sportsman's and the Venue, Sunshine Foods, The Boonedock's, The Peacock Lounge and Grille, The Shed and The Tobacco Shop! All four of our winners had 18 correct picks with the places then determined by the tiebreaker scores. Here are the winners with their hometowns and winnings: congratulations: 1st Place-Dawn Kuemper-Spirit Lake-\$100. 2nd Place-Mark Matuska-Milford-\$75. 3rd Place-Lynn Neilson-Graettinger-\$50. 4th Place-Wally Brunsvold-Spirit Lake-\$25. Be sure to check out our March Madness Brackets coming up!



THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER





Integrity Matters... YESTERDAY, TODAY & TOMORROW

WHAT WE DO!

- FOOTINGS, WALLS, FLOORS, PAVING
- EARTHWORK - EXCAVATION, DEMOLITION
- CONCRETE CRUSHING
- UNDERGROUND UTILITIES
- CONCRETE PUMPING
- TRUCKING

WE ALSO HAVE MATERIAL FOR SALE

- CRUSHED CONCRETE
- CLAY FILL
- BLACK DIRT
- GRAVEL

Your Local Concrete Company Specializing in Providing High-Quality Concrete Construction Services with a Focus on Precision and Efficiency, Ensuring Durable and Reliable Results!

712-336-9062 | 3120 18th St. Spirit Lake, IA 51360
Monday - Friday: 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM | Closed Saturday & Sunday

Inspiration for Our Day- *"Teach me to do your will, for you are my God; may your good Spirit lead me on level ground" ~ Psalms 143:10*

WINTER

The best time for tree pruning



- Winter Pruning Limits Exposure to Pests and Diseases
- Winter Pruning is Less Stressful for Your Trees.
- Winter Pruning Yields a Better Result

We Specialize in Large & Difficult Tree Projects!

Have an "Impossible" Job? **CALL US TODAY!**

Our ISA Certified Arborists and a complete line of equipment can service all your tree needs.

THATE'S TREE SERVICE

24 Hour
Emergency
Service!

John Thate - Owner
800.225.8733
www.thatetree.com • Fully Insured

**FREE
ESTIMATES!**

Easy Ways to SHOP LOCAL



Dine at Local Restaurants



Attend Events Like Sip & Strolls



Buy Gift Cards from Local Shops & Restaurants



Shop Local Online



Not Sure Where to Shop? Ask a Friend!



THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER

1009 22nd Street • Milford, IA
712-338-2232
lakesnewssshopper.com

Spirit Lake K of C Crowns District Free Throw Champions

Area girls and boys ages 9 to 14 participated in the 2026 Knights of Columbus District Free Throw Championship February 15, and nine earned the right to compete at the Regional level. Iowa Great Lakes Council 5043 in Spirit Lake sponsored the District competition at the Bedell Family YMCA, drawing kids from Spirit Lake, Spencer and Okoboji.

For the boys, the 9-year-old winner was Jack Groen, the 10-year-old winner was Beckham Munden, the 11-year-old winner was Bennett Schmitz, and the 12-year-old winner was Henrik Gruys. On the girls' side the 9-year-old winner was Leah Reinking, the 10-year-old winner was Paisley Nissen, the 12-year-old winner was Ali Reinking, the 13-year-old winner was Norah Strouth, and the 14-year-old winner was Claire Kruger.

Each contestant attempted 25 free throws for the District level championship. Every winner earned a unique District medal and is eligible to compete in the Regional competition March 8 at Gehlen High School in LeMars. That is followed by the State competition in Boone, and then International awards are presented. Spirit Lake's own Claire Kruger won an International Crystal Trophy two years ago by hitting 24 of 25 free throws!

Iowa Great Lakes Council 5043 is one of the most active in Iowa, in the past few years contributing more than \$30,000 to local community needs, including Hope Haven, Iowa Helping Hands Fund, American Wheelchair Mission, the Grotto of the Redemption, Cherish House, Guatemala Mission, Women of the Well Project, Prison Ministries, as well as to local family, community, and parish needs. Local Knights sponsor annual youth events including the Free Throw Competition, high school scholarships, Coats for Kids, and the Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest. They also run the Tootsie Roll Drive for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities Labor Day weekend, benefiting Special Olympics and local organizations. They also host a Lenten fish fry February 20 and 27, and March 6.

In 1882, Blessed Michael McGivney, a young parish priest in New Haven, Connecticut, founded the Knights of Columbus to serve the needs of a largely immigrant Catholic community. What began as a small fraternal benefit society has since grown into one of the world's leading international charitable organizations, with more than 1.9 million members in over 16,000 local councils.

Last year, Knights around the world donated nearly 49 million service hours and about \$200 million for worthy causes in their communities. The Knights of Columbus also offers extensive life insurance products to members and their families, reflecting Blessed McGivney's devotion to helping the widowed and the orphaned. Examples of their work include distributing 8,891 wheelchairs, supporting more than 1,200 pregnancy resource centers and maternity homes, and giving nearly 181,000 coats to help warm children in need.