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VOL/53 NO/23

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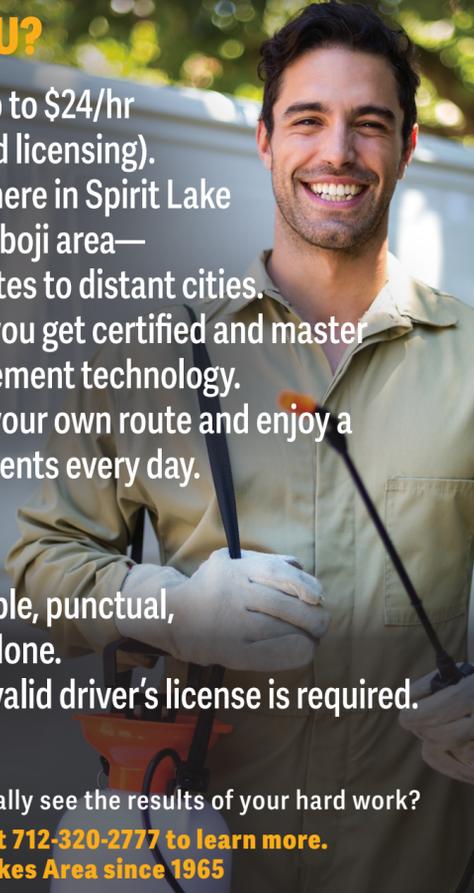
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RE/MAX Lakes Realty Welcomes Realtor Madi Mousel

ARNOLDS PARK, IA – Aaron Jones, Broker & Owner of RE/MAX Lakes Realty, is pleased to announce that Madi Mousel has joined the Janie Eick Real Estate Group at RE/MAX Lakes Realty as a REALTOR®.



Madi recently earned her Iowa real estate license and brings a strong background in client service, organization, and professionalism. Raised in Northwest Iowa and now living just east of Okoboji, she is passionate about serving the communities she knows and loves throughout the Iowa Great Lakes area.

A graduate of Iowa State University with a degree in Healthcare Management and a Professional Sales Certificate, Madi developed a client focused approach centered on communication, attention to detail, and building lasting relationships. Her education and professional background have equipped her to guide buyers and sellers through each step of the transaction with clarity and confidence.

As a member of the Janie Eick Real Estate Group at RE/MAX Lakes Realty, Madi will serve buyers and sellers throughout the region while contributing to the group's continued commitment to high standards of service and local market expertise.

Outside of real estate, Madi enjoys acreage living east of Okoboji and spending time with family and friends while taking advantage of all the Iowa Great Lakes has to offer. You can connect with Madi by calling 712.540.0824 or emailing madi@sellboji.com.

RE/MAX Lakes Realty continues to grow and serve the Iowa Great Lakes area with a strong team of dedicated real estate professionals.

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, March 12 and 26. 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.

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Thaddeus Cook Announces Candidacy for Dickinson County Supervisor, District 4

Thaddeus Cook announced that he is running for Dickinson County Supervisor, District 4, citing a commitment to accountability, transparency, and actively listening to the people of Dickinson County.



District 4 consists of the eastern half of the county, including Terril and Superior, as well as Arnolds Park, West Okobojo, and Wahpeton.

Cook is a 20-year veteran of the United States Air Force and a blue-collar small business owner. He and his wife, Angela, are raising their three children on a farm on the east side of Dickinson County. Cook is originally from Algona and spent many summers here in Dickinson County.

"Our family has lived in several different states with the Air Force, but we chose to put down roots here because we believe in this community," Cook said. "I believe in rural Iowa, and I believe Dickinson County is a special place filled with hard-working people who care about their neighbors and take pride in where they live."

Cook said his two decades of active-duty military service shaped his leadership style and approach to public service.

"In the Air Force, the mission always came first, and the people always mattered," Cook said. "That's the same approach I will bring to county government—service over ego, collaboration over division, and steady leadership focused on the long-term good of Dickinson County."

Cook said his campaign will focus on three priorities:

- **Accountability:** Responsible stewardship of taxpayer dollars and careful budgeting.
- **Transparency:** Open, understandable government and clear decision-making.
- **Active Listening:** Ensuring county leadership stays connected to the people it serves.

Cook said he is running to help keep Dickinson County strong for future generations, with a focus on practical leadership and follow-through.

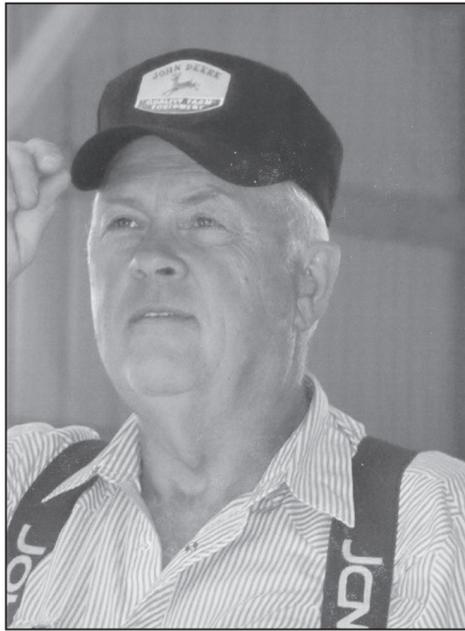
"I'm fired up about the future," Cook said. "I'm ready to work hard, and I would be honored to earn your support and your vote."

To stay informed, donate, or follow the campaign on Facebook, please scan the QR code.



Facebook: Thaddeus Cook For Dickinson County Supervisor

Protect What We Have. Fix What Isn't Working. Keep Government Accountable.



80th Birthday Celebration

"Happy Birthday, Kenny, we love you!"

Family and friends are invited to celebrate with this "old John Deere guy" for his 80th birthday on Wednesday, March 18, 2026. To help mark this milestone, a card shower is being held in his honor.

Cards and well-wishes may be sent to: Kenny Gonnerman, 1795 360th Street, Spencer, IA 51301.

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West O Beer's 'On Us' Program Delivers \$90,000 Impact For Lakes Area Nonprofits

Since its inception in 2023, West O Beer's "On Us" program has raised more than \$90,000 for Lakes Area nonprofits and initiatives, the West Okoboji craft brewery recently announced.

One night per month, every month, "On Us" shines a spotlight on, and raises money for, area nonprofits and initiatives. Each event begins at 6 p.m. and includes a short presentation by the chosen organization with additional materials and information provided throughout the evening. West O Beer's commitment to donating a portion of the proceeds from that day's event, bolstered by the marketing support of the Lakes News Shopper, and a matching donation from the Okoboji Foundation, raised \$90,500 (and 1,450 toilet paper rolls) for 24 individual Lakes Area nonprofits over the past three years.

"As part of our Taproots program, this series is a chance to directly give back, each and every month, to people and organizations doing incredible — and often unsung — work in the Lakes Area," West O Beer Taproots Director Joe Tiefenthaler said. "West O Beer would like to thank the Okoboji Foundation and the Lakes News Shopper for the critical role they've played in the impact story of this series — and especially to all of the partner nonprofit directors, volunteers and communities supporting them along the way."

Area nonprofits and organizations that have been part of "On Us" events at West O Beer include:

- Bearded Rebellion
- Boji Mileage Club
- Boy Scouts Tomahawk Scout Camp
- Boys Town Camp Okoboji
- C.A.A.S.A.
- Clay County Chamber Foundation
- Conservation Foundation of Dickinson County
- Dickinson County Museum
- Dickinson County Hunger Coalition
- Family Crisis Center
- Good Neighbor Fund
- Iowa Lakeside Laboratory
- Keep Okoboji Blue



- Kiwanis' Bike Rodeo
- Lakes Area Hockey Association
- Milford American Legion
- Okoboji Fine Arts
- Okoboji Performing Arts
- Okobotree
- Prairie Lakes Area Delta Waterfowl
- Spirit Lake Music Boosters
- T.T.T.
- Voluntary Action Center
- Youth in Philanthropy

The brewery also recently announced the 2026 "On Us" event lineup, which includes:

- Thursday, March 19 — Special Olympics - Spirit Lake
- Thursday, April 9 — Spirit Lake High School Music Boosters
- Thursday, May 7 — Okoboji Protective Association
- Thursday, June 4 — "Gift a Smile" with Historic Arnolds Park and No Boundaries Middles
- Thursday, July 9 — Iowa Lakeside Laboratory
- Thursday, Aug. 6 — Boji Mileage Club with Lakes Regional Healthcare
- Thursday, Sept. 3 — Keep Okoboji Blue

Blue
 • Thursday, Oct. 1 — Pearson Lakes Art Center Treehouse Studio
 • Thursday, Nov. 5 — Milford American Legion
 • Thursday, Dec. 3 — Youth In Philanthropy / Okoboji Foundation
 Tiefenthaler said his hope is that this series organically creates ongoing donor support from community members and encourages people to consider contributions to participating area nonprofits.

"We're humbled by what a widely impactful program 'On Us' has turned into," Tiefenthaler said, "and we cannot thank our community enough for these three years of support and program building — one pint at a time!"

The brewery is currently looking for a matching donor for the 2026 season and beyond. Any local businesses or organizations that would like to be a matching sponsor in 2026 — and any area nonprofits or initiatives that would like to be part of the brewery's "On Us" series — are encouraged to contact Tiefenthaler at taproots@westobeer.com.

Dance in Brewster

JK Country will be playing for a dance Saturday, March 14th, at the Brewster Legion in Brewster, Minnesota, 7:00 - 10:30. Join them for a fun evening.



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3/4 Cup Mini Chocolate Chips

2/3 Cup Sugar

2 1/2 tsp. Salt

2 Eggs, Beaten

1 1/4 Cup Milk

1/2 Cup Cooking Oil

1 tsp. Vanilla

1 Container Cream Cheese Frosting

Green Sanding Sugar

Grease muffin cups or line them with paper cups. In a large mixing bowl, stir together flour, pudding mix, chocolate chips, sugar, baking powder & salt. In a small bowl, combine beaten eggs, milk, oil & vanilla. Stir into the flour mixture just until combined. Fill cups 2/3 full. Bake at 375 for 18-20 minutes, until golden brown. Cool on a wire rack. Frost with cream cheese frosting and sprinkle with green sugar. Enjoy!

Recipe Courtesy of: **Jill Lufkin**

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Knights of Columbus Council Honored with Father McGivney Award

Grand Knight Joel Naber recently accepted the prestigious Father McGivney Award on behalf of the local Knights of Columbus council, presented by District Deputy Jim James. This honor is reserved for councils that successfully meet significant membership growth challenges, reflecting a vibrant and expanding organization. While the award officially displays the council number and the name of the Grand Knight, Naber noted that the achievement is a collective victory shared by all 109 members of the council.



The recognition comes on the heels of a highly impactful year of local philanthropy and service. Through dedicated fundraising efforts—including their signature apple pie sales, community breakfasts, and annual tootsie roll drives—the council was able to distribute \$20,000 to charitable causes over the past twelve months. These funds provided four \$1,000 scholarships to students and supported various organizations committed to helping those in need. The council members expressed their deep gratitude to the community, whose ongoing support remains the backbone of their mission to serve others.



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Route 86 Music Announces February Student of the Month

Route 86 Music is pleased to announce the Student of the Month for February 2026: Oliver Jensen. Oliver started taking drum lessons in October. He has such a positive attitude and is a quick learner. He's up for challenges and loves drumming to rock songs. Congratulations, Oliver!



Oliver 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!

Iowa Great Lakes Walleye Weekend Grant Applications Open

The 44th Annual Iowa Great Lakes Walleye Weekend will kick off on Saturday, May 2nd. This event welcomes over 2,000 anglers from more than 15 states across the nation to cast their chance at the 10 tagged walleye worth a grand prize amount of \$44,000! Each year, a portion of the proceeds from the Iowa Great Lakes Walleye Weekend registrations are donated back into our community to benefit angling in the Iowa Great Lakes.



In 2025, The Iowa Great Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce was honored to donate \$20,000. The funds were split between six applicants with a variety of projects directly affecting the improvement and enhancement of angling in the Iowa Great Lakes Area.

Grant applications are now open for Iowa Great Lakes Walleye Weekend 2026. Do you have a project or club promoting and encouraging angling in the Iowa Great Lakes Area? All 501C-3 non-profit organizations interested in applying for a grant can fill out the form located at okobojichamber.com/walleye-weekend or email blain@okobojichamber.com for more information. Applications are due by Friday, May 1st, 2026. Grant recipients and awarded amounts will be announced following Iowa Great Lakes Walleye Weekend.

Get registered and cast your chance at the grand prize for the 44th Annual Iowa Great Lakes Walleye Weekend on May 2-3, 2026. For more information on Iowa Great Lakes Walleye Weekend, grant recipient projects, and more, visit okobojichamber.com or call the Iowa Great Lakes Area Chamber at 712-332-2107.



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\$65 per person- if you share a room
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Sunday, March 15

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The VFW Canteen serves beverages & pizza at very reasonable prices.

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BINGO profits support local scholarships & youth programs. Milford Kiwanis meets every Tues. at 7am at the Milford Community Center.

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Mon-Thur 2-6pm

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House Margaritas & Beers!

1 22

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UPCOMING EVENTS

FRIDAY, MARCH 13 SCHOON BROS. 7-11PM	SATURDAY, MARCH 14 CHILI COOK OFF 11AM CALL FOR DETAILS
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18 BUNCO 6PM	ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY JESSE WILSON 8-11PM
FRIDAY, MARCH 20 BLUE MOON RHYTHM 8-10:30PM	SATURDAY, MARCH 21 POKER TOURNAMENT 11AM SPONSORED BY DOCKER STAEBLER
FRIDAY, MARCH 27 SALSA DANCE LESSONS 7PM \$10/PERSON CALL FOR DETAILS	SATURDAY, MARCH 28 RYAN SATHER 7:30-10:30PM

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SAT. 11AM | SUN. 2PM

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Surf Demos
Watch professional surfers Tyler Stewart and a second pro (TBA) in action.

Centurion - Drive & Buy
Experience the wave for yourself with drive-and-buy demos from Centurion. If docks are in, boats will be available right from the slips for easy demo rides.

Food & Drinks
Burgers and hot dogs will be served at the marina throughout the afternoon.

After Party | 6:00 PM
Keep the day going with an after party at Drake's starting at 6 PM.

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Surprise Celebration for Verla

Friends and family are invited to gather for a joyous milestone as Verla Johnson celebrates her 85th birthday. A surprise party in her honor will be held on Sunday, March 22, from 2:00 to 4:00 P.M. at the Lake Area Senior/Activities Center, located at 2101 Zenith Ave. Hosted with love by her daughters and their families, the afternoon will feature ice cream, cupcakes, and a shared celebration of Verla's eighty-five amazing years. To ensure the occasion remains a true surprise for the guest of honor, attendees are kindly asked to keep the details confidential until the big reveal.



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•Special & Drainage Assessments
are now due.

**Deadline for payments without
penalty is Tues., March 31, 2026**

Pay online at
www.IowaTaxAndTags.org
by eCheck, credit or debit card.
Service fees may apply. Cheaper than a
postage stamp - echecks are only 30 cents.

A payment dropbox is located at the west door
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Kris Rowley
Dickinson County Treasurer

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LOAD
MOLDING
OUTLET
PERMIT
PIPES
ROUGH-IN
SHIM
SIDING
SILL
SOFFIT
SUBFLOOR
VALVE
VENEER
WALLS

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

THE LAKES NEWS Auction Calendar

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.

Thurs., March 12 – 10:00 AM – 390.05 acres auction in Cottonwood Co., MN. Auctioneers: Hartungs. 507-236-7629. www.auctioneerale.com.

Sat., March 14 – 9:00 AM – Large coin auction in Spirit Lake, IA. Auctioneers: Howells. 712-260-9690. www.howellrealestateandauktion.com.

Thurs., March 19 – 10:30 AM – 136.82 acres auction in O'Brien Co., IA. Auctioneers: Vander Werffs, Hattermann, Rydberg & Moww. 712-729-3264. www.vw72.com.

Sat., March 21 – 9:00 AM – Large coin auction in Windom, MN. Auctioneers: Gravelly Auction Service. 507-822-0403. www.auctions.go.com.

Wed., March 25 – 10:00 AM – 75 acres at auction in Dickens, IA. Auctioneers: Midwest Land Management. 712-262-3110. www.midwestlandmanagement.com.

Tues., March 31 – 1:00 PM – 309.81 acres at auction in Clay Co., IA. Auctioneers: High Point Land Company. 319-559-2345. www.highpointlandcompany.com.

Thurs., April 2 – 10:00 AM – 127 acres at auction in Terril, IA. Auctioneers: Midwest Land Management. 712-262-3110. www.midwestlandmanagement.com.

Sat., April 11 – 8:30 AM – Consignment auction in Ceylon, MN. Auctioneers: Howells & Winter. 712-260-9690. www.howellrealestateandauktion.com.

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WED-THUR 3/10-11 6:45
FRI 3/13 4:15 & 7:15
SAT 3/14 12:00, 2:30, 5:00 & 7:30
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SCREAM 7 (R)
WED-THUR 3/10-11 7:00

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THE LAKES NEWS Auctions
Page 2B

Dickinson County Democrats Meeting Announcement

The Dickinson County Democrats invite the community to attend their monthly meeting, which will take place following the Dickinson County Democrats' Convention on Saturday, March 21, at 9:00 AM. The event will be held at the Milford Community Room, located at 806 N Avenue in Milford, IA; attendees should take note of the specific change in both day and location for this meeting. While the general public is welcome to attend the county convention, voting privileges are reserved exclusively for delegates, alternates, or members of the platform committee.



Supporters are encouraged to bring a friend or neighbor and join the group to share ideas, concerns, or suggestions. The organization also welcomes those interested in volunteering to help build a better America. The Dickinson County Democrats operate on the fundamental beliefs that the economy should work for everyone, health care is a right, diversity is a strength, and democracy remains an institution worth defending.

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DAILY SPECIALS at 11am

DAILY SPECIALS

- Wed., March 11: Pan Fried Chicken Mushroom & Swiss Burger
- Thur., March 12: Hamburger Steak Chicken Philly
- Fri., March 13: Country Fried Steak
- Mon., March 16: Hot Beef Taco Salad
- Tues., March 17: CLOSED

Friday Night Special
Fish Fry • Fish Tacos

Saturday Night Special
Prime Rib • Grilled Walleye

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

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Fostoria Volunteer Fire & Rescue's Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, March 15 • 8AM-1PM
At the Fostoria Fire Station

FREEWILL DONATION • DINE IN OR CARRY OUT
Proceeds to help purchase & maintain equipment

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Word Search Puzzle Key from page 8A

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W F L A W I R O D A E P D B W E R P L D K U
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Work is now being accepted for the
1st Biannual JURIED SHOW
ENTRY FEE IS \$20 OR STUDENT FEE OF \$10

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

March 17	APPLICATIONS DUE	SCAN FOR APPLICATION
April 17	NOTIFICATIONS SENT OUT	
April 21-May 2	DELIVERY OF ARTWORK WITH SIGNED CONTRACT	
May 11-June 30	EXHIBITION	WINNER OF THE JURIED SHOW RECEIVES THEIR OWN EXHIBIT 2027!
June 15	OPENING RECEPTION 11-2	HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS WILL BE EXHIBITED ON OUR EMERGING ARTIST WALL
July 1 and after	ARTIST PICK UP	

Know Before You Go: Bulls & Brews

Spencer, Iowa – The Clay County Fair & Events Center is excited to welcome attendees to Bulls & Brews on March 13 and 14. Doors will open at 5:00 p.m. each evening. To ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for all guests, please review the following important event details before arrival.

Tickets
Midwestix is the official ticket provider for the Clay County Fair & Events Center. Tickets may be purchased online at www.midwestix.com or by phone at 515-244-2771. Handling and processing fees apply to all purchases and are not included in the advertised ticket price. Tickets purchased from third-party sources are not guaranteed to be valid. There will be no box office available on the day of the event. Guests are strongly encouraged to purchase tickets in advance. QR codes will be available on-site for mobile ticket purchases; however, advance purchase is recommended to avoid delays at entry.

Public Access & Gates
Gate G (Main Gate off West 18th Street) will be the only gate open to the public and contestants. All other gates will remain closed.

Parking
Parking is available in the paved and gravel lots west of the Events Center. Drivers are reminded to park facing north or south in both paved and gravel lots to ensure efficient traffic flow and safety.

Food & Beverage
Outside food and beverages are not permitted inside the Events Center. Attendees age 21 and over who plan to purchase alcoholic beverages must present a valid physical ID. Photos of IDs on mobile devices will not be accepted. Concessions and bar service will accept both cash and card payments.

Security & Entry
For the safety and comfort of all guests, the following items are prohibited: weapons or firearms; alcoholic beverages (unless purchased at the Fair & Events Center); air horns, whistles, or other noisemakers; helium balloons; glitter or confetti; glass bottles; fireworks; and illegal substances. Pets are not permitted inside the Events Center, except for service animals.

Construction Notice – West 18th Street
Construction on the West 18th Street Bridge over the Little Sioux River is currently underway. Guests should plan to use 4th Street or 11th Street as detour routes when traveling to the event. Please note that Gate G off West 18th Street remains the only public entrance. The Clay County Fair & Events Center appreciates the cooperation of all attendees in following these guidelines. We look forward to hosting an exciting and memorable Bulls & Brews weekend. For more information, contact the Clay County Fair Office at 712-580-3000 or email info@claycountyfair.com. Rooted in Tradition, the Clay County Fair and Events Center is a year-round facility that annually hosts more than 200 events, including its signature event, the Clay County Fair. Known as "The World's Greatest County Fair" since 1917, the Clay County Fair attracts more than 300,000 guests each September for nine days of world-class entertainment, competition, food, fun, and the largest farm machinery show at any fair in the United States. Additional information can be found at claycountyfair.com.



BREWSTER AMERICAN LEGION POST 464
825 3RD AVE., BREWSTER, MN 56119

GUN BINGO
SATURDAY, MARCH 21
Doors open at 11am, Bingo starts at 1pm

1st Game: Smith & Wesson M&P 9C – 9mm or \$200
2nd Game: H&K VP9 9mm Luger – or \$500
3rd Game: Sig Sauer P365 AXG Legion – 9mm – or \$1,000
4th Game: Traditions Buckstalker XT w/ scope .50 caliber muzzleloader or \$200
5th Game: Mossberg 590 Nightstick 12 gauge or \$300
6th Game: Benelli Nova 12 gauge 2 3/4", 3" or \$500
7th Game: Ruger 10/22 Autoloading Rifle – .22 LR or \$200
8th Game: Pawn-It \$250.00 Suppressor Gift Card – or \$200
9th Game: Zero Delta Ready Series AR-15 5.56 – or \$300
10th Game: Henry Golden Boy Military Service Tribute – .22LR or \$1,000
1st gun donated by Vietnam Veteran Ken McConkey, LRRP 9th INF DIV
3rd gun - same model Sig Sauer pistol American Patriot Nick Shirley was given
10th gun - In Loving Memory of Gerald McConkey

PLAY ALL 10 GAMES FOR \$50.00, BUY AS MANY PACKETS AS YOU WANT TO PLAY!
30 chances to win per packet. Additional game wild cards available for \$5.00 each

Mike's World Famous Bloody Mary's, mixed drinks, beer, wine, wine coolers, pop, water.
Serving pork loin, cowboy beans and coleslaw until gone.
PROCEEDS WILL GO TOWARDS VETERAN'S CAUSES.

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

Perkins AMERICAN FOOD CO.

Go Overboard on Flavor... Without the Guilt!
Grilled Tilapia & Shrimp

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.

Excludes Burger, Fries & Pies Trio
Excludes Senior/Kid's Menu & Bakery 12-Go
Coupon Expires: April 8, 2026

Community Table

All are Welcome to a **FREE MEAL**
2nd Thursday of each month all year

Next Dinner
Thursday, March 12
5:30-6:30
Doors open at 5:15
Located at Okoboji Bible Conference Center
45 S. Hwy 71, Arnolds Park, IA

This Month Hosted and Sponsored by

All Are Invited To Our Annual Homemade Chicken & Noodle Dinner

Sunday, March 15
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
(or until we run out)

Meal served with real mashed potatoes, salad, dessert bar & beverage

Everyone Welcome!
St. Joseph Catholic Church
Milford, Iowa
Freewill offering with suggested donation of \$12 for adults & \$5 for children 6-12.

Carry-outs & Milford City Delivery Available by calling 338-2274 prior to the dinner or by 10 a.m. on March 15

Proceeds help fund St. Joseph Parish events.



KEEP PLAYING THE LNS Hot Cocoa BINGO!

11 WAYS REMAIN TO WIN!

THREE "L" WINNERS RECEIVE A PRIZE	THREE "N" WINNERS RECEIVE A PRIZE	THREE "S" WINNERS RECEIVE A PRIZE
ALL 3 CLAIMED	ALL 3 CLAIMED	ALL 3 PRIZES REMAIN
THREE "X" WINNERS RECEIVE A PRIZE	THREE "O" WINNERS RECEIVE A PRIZE	FIRST BLACKOUT WINNER RECEIVES \$250!
ALL 3 CLAIMED	1 PRIZE REMAINS	PRIZE REMAINS

1 Prize for O and all 3 Prizes for S are Still Available.
ONE BLACKOUT PRIZE REMAINS. SO KEEP PLAYING!

Lakes Area Activity/Senior Center

Stop in and see what we have to offer!!!

SCHEDULED PRESENTATIONS/EVENTS:
Tuesday, March 10: 12:30 PM - Stay In Home Care
Tuesday, March 17: 12:30 PM - Dianna Donkersloot
 Topic: "Where did I park my car, again?"
Tuesday, March 24: TBD

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

SAVE THE DATE!
SUNDAY, MARCH 15
 10:30am-12:30pm
HAM DINNER
 •Ham •Cheesy Hash Browns
 •Green Beans •Dinner Roll
 •Jello Cake
 \$15.00 Tickets available from any Senior Center Board Member or at the Senior Center.

SIGN UP FOR MARCH 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!

16 Monday Corned Beef/Cabbage Fruit Bread	17 Tuesday Swedish Meatballs Vegetable Fruit & Bread	18 Wednesday Pork Mac & Cheese Vegetable Fruit & Bread	19 Thursday Meatloaf Vegetable Fruit Bread	20 Friday Crab Cakes 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

Easter Basket Giveaway & Easter Egg Hunt

A brand-new bike is up for grabs!
 Families are invited to attend an Easter Basket Giveaway and Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 4th, at 1:00 PM. The event is hosted on the grounds of St. Alban's Episcopal Church in Spirit Lake, where all children are welcome to participate in the festivities. One lucky participant who discovers the hidden golden Easter egg will be awarded a free bicycle. This community gathering is made possible by D & D Helping Hands, the Lakes Area Senior Center, and St. Alban's Episcopal Church. In the event of inclement weather, the activities will be moved inside to the Parish Hall.

To ensure there are enough supplies for everyone, parents and guardians are requested to pre-register their children by March 18. Registration can be completed by contacting Diane Esch at 515-708-9400 or Deb Holz at 507-236-0814 of D&D Helping Hands. St. Alban's Episcopal Church is conveniently located at 2201 23rd Street in Spirit Lake, situated just east of the hospital.



LRH Recognizes Registered Dietitian Nutritionist Day

In acknowledgment of March 11 as Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN) Day, Lakes Regional Healthcare (LRH) is recognizing the contributions their RDN devotes to their patients' care.

According to LRH Vice President of Marketing and Retail Services Jennifer Gustafson, "Beth Samuelson, who is our Registered Dietitian Nutritionist, plays a key part in our continuum of care. She sees patients in our inpatient areas, ensuring their nutritional requirements are met for optimal health and healing. She also meets with people individually who want to have personalized nutrition consultations to lose weight or improve health. She also provides education to the community at various public speaking events."

RDNs dedicate their careers to improving the health of individuals and communities through evidence-based nutrition. They are food and nutrition experts who can translate the science of nutrition into practical solutions for healthy living. They have a degree in either nutrition, dietetics, public health, or a related field. They complete an internship, pass examinations, and use their nutrition expertise daily to help individuals make unique, positive lifestyle changes.

"We are proud of what Beth offers to our patients and the community," said Gustafson. "She is passionate about nutrition, continually learning about the newest research, and helping people."

Those interested in scheduling an appointment with Samuelson can talk to their healthcare provider or call 712-336-8658.

Free Breakfast Saturday, March 21 At Grandview Church Gym

Announcing a free breakfast on Saturday, March 21, from 8-10 am at the Grandview Church gym. Burritos, pancakes, sausage, and eggs are being cooked, and milk, juice and coffee will also be served. The breakfast is completely free, and everyone is invited. Breakfast will be served at Grandview Baptist Church's gym, which is at 3705 170th St. in Estherville. We have had an average of 130 people attend the free breakfasts. There will also be a small food pantry for families to take shelf-stable food. Thanks to Estherville Foods, Hy-Vee, Fareway, Ace Hardware, and I & B Ag Supply for donating to the Free Breakfast. If you have questions, please contact Brett Fuelberth at 712-330-1145.



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

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 f

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

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

The Reverend Carolyn Tuttle, Rector

Live Stream through our Facebook Page

Email: office@stalbanepiscopalchurch.org
Website: stalbanepiscopalchurch.org

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

Iowa Lakes Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Meets second & fourth Sundays
9:30 am/Coffee & Fellowship • 10:00 am Service

Lakes Area Activity Center,
2101 Zenith Ave, Spirit Lake
See uuokoboji.com for dates and program schedule.

We are a progressive, liberal welcoming congregation

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

LENTE SERVICE
Wednesday, March 11 at 6:15pm

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

"God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble." - Psalm 46:1

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

Dance in Brewster

Fun Time Dance is sponsoring a dance, Saturday, March 14th, 7:00-10:30p.m., at the American Legion, Brewster, Minnesota. Music by JK Country. Open to the public. Singles/couples welcome.



Spirit Lake Noon Kiwanis Club to Host Annual Easter Egg Hunt March 28

Families are invited to participate in a beloved spring tradition as the Spirit Lake Noon Kiwanis Club hosts its Annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 28, at 10:00 a.m. at the Bedell Family YMCA soccer fields. This free community event is open to the public and offers fast-paced activity for children. Participants are encouraged to arrive before the start time, as the hunt begins promptly and typically concludes within a few minutes.

Children should bring their own baskets to gather colorful eggs spread across the youth soccer fields. To ensure a fair experience for everyone, the event features three age divisions including children aged 2 and under, those aged 3 to 5, and those aged 6 to 8.

The hunt takes place outdoors on the YMCA soccer fields, weather permitting. In the event of inclement weather, activities move indoors to the YMCA gym areas. Families are encouraged to dress appropriately for the conditions. The Spirit Lake Noon Kiwanis Club continues this annual tradition to bring families together and celebrate the season. The club looks forward to welcoming the community to the festivities.



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

Always Something Happening at Occasions

104 East 4th Street, Spencer

Mondays: 1pm- Mahjong, Snooker Bingo/Bridge

Tuesdays: 7am- Coffee with Randy
10:30am- Chair Exercise
1pm- 500, Snooker

Wednesdays: 10:30am- Tai Chi
12:00pm- lunch provided by area churches
No Speakers until April 8 Due to Lent
1pm- Ponytail Canasta, Snooker

Thursdays: 10:30am- Chair Exercise
1pm- Bingo, 500/Pinochle, Snooker

Fridays: 9am- Coffee 'Klatch'
12:30pm- Movie Every Other Week (1st & 3rd Weeks)
1pm- Snooker

BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER
JOIN US THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH!

SUNDAY, MARCH 15TH
8am-12:30pm

Biscuits & Gravy, Scrambled Eggs, French Toast and Bloody Mary Bar.

FREE WILL OFFERING

- SAVE THE DATE! -
MINGO • Music Bingo
Friday, March 20th

Dickinson County Nature Center Offers No School Day Camps

No school for your child? Need something safe and fun for them to do while you're at work? The Dickinson County Nature Center is offering two opportunities for "No School" Day Camps on March 16 and 20.

On Monday, March 16, from 9 AM to 3 PM, 4th-8th graders are invited to Horseshoe Bend for the "Outdoor No School Day Camp." Participants will learn about ecology through a food-web game and archery, paint a flower pot to take home, go on a spring hike, practice knot-tying, play a fishing-themed game, and decorate and fly a kite.

On Friday, March 20, from 9 AM to 3 PM, K-3rd graders can dress up as their favorite superhero and explore the Nature

Center for the "Animal Superheroes No School Day Camp." Learn about animal adaptations with a scavenger hunt, meet some live "super snakes," play an animal-superpowers Olympic-style game, enjoy playing outside in the Nature Playscape, take on a camouflage challenge, and make a "Super You" craft to take home.

Both camps require registration online at www.dickinsoncountyconservationboard.com under the "Programs/Events" tab and "Event List." The cost is \$15/child for both events, and registration is limited to 20 participants. Two snacks will be provided; campers are required to bring a sack lunch and a water bottle. Get some friends together to enjoy a fun day in nature's classroom!

For more information, visit the website or follow the Dickinson County Nature Center on Facebook and Instagram.



Happy Birthday Kenny, We Love You!!!

Let's celebrate with this old John Deere guy for his 80th Birthday on March 18th

Cards would be welcomed:
Kenny Gonnerman
 1795 360th Street
 Spencer, Iowa 51301



Spencer Chamber Partners with SHS No Boundaries Program to Prepare Students for Professional Success

The Spencer Chamber recently partnered with the Spencer High School No Boundaries program to provide two hands-on experiences designed to equip students with essential workplace skills and professional confidence.

On February 19, 2026, Chamber President & CEO Sheriffa Jones led an interactive session focused on team building, communication, and workplace professionalism. Students engaged in activities that strengthened both verbal and non-verbal communication skills, explored how first impressions shape business relationships, and discussed the importance of maintaining professionalism when interacting with community partners and employers.

The second event, held March 2, 2026, introduced a new initiative called Career Ready Closet. This experience paired students one-on-one with volunteer business professionals who served as clothing "designers," helping students select professional attire suitable for interviews, internships, and future employment opportunities. Beyond clothing selection, volunteers discussed workplace expectations and helped students understand how professional presentation contributes to career readiness and self-confidence.

The volunteer designers represented a strong cross-section of the Spencer business community, featuring members from Fresh Start Market, Sacred Heart Catholic School, Northwest Bank, CMBA Architects, 154i - Web & Digital Marketing, Iowa Lakes Corridor, the Spencer Chamber, and Williams & Company.

The Career Ready Closet initiative was made possible through a generous donation to the Spencer Chamber Foundation from Anna Sampson, an employee of Community State Bank. Her support ensured students had access to professional attire and meaningful engagement with local employers.

"These experiences reflect what makes Spencer strong — collaboration between education and business," said Sheriffa Jones, Spencer Chamber President & CEO. "When students gain practical skills and direct interaction with employers, they are better prepared not only for interviews, but for long-term career success."

The Spencer Chamber remains committed to building a strong talent pipeline by connecting students with local businesses, fostering confidence, and creating opportunities that encourage young professionals to build their futures in Spencer.

For more information about workforce development initiatives or to get involved in future programming, please contact the Spencer Chamber at 712-262-5680 or info@spencerchamber.org.

HSNWIA PUZZLE RACE

Race 1 – 1:00 PM (Family-Friendly)
 12 Wings
 300-Piece Puzzle
 10 Drinks (Beer, Wine, Root Beer, or Soda)
This is the only race that includes non-alcoholic drink options.

Race 2 – 3:30 PM
 12 Wings
 300-Piece Puzzle
 10 Drinks (Beer or Wine)

Race 3 – 6:00 PM
 12 Wings
 300-Piece Puzzle
 10 Drinks (Beer or Wine)

MARCH 28TH, 2026
\$135 PER TEAM
(4 PEOPLE PER TEAM)
CASH PRIZES

SCAN TO BOOK YOUR TEAM

HAPPY HOUR

Monday-Friday 3-5pm

22 oz. Margarita Any Flavor
\$7⁰⁰

28 oz. Draft Beer
\$6⁰⁰

Domestic Bottle Beer
\$3⁰⁰

Imported Bottle Beer
\$4⁰⁰

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

Wine LIQUOR Cigars

WALK-IN HUMIDOR

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



the RG BALLROOM

MAR 13

FOOL HOUSE

THE ULTIMATE 90'S PARTY.
 THE MILLENNIUM TOUR
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT ROOFGARDENBALLROOM.COM

BURRITO BAR & SPECIALTY DRINKS

COME HUNGRY! CHOOSE A BURRITO OR BOWL, CHOICE OF MEAT INCLUDES CHICKEN \$11, CARNITAS \$11 OR BARBACOA \$12 AND THEN LOAD IT UP WITH SEVERAL TOPPING OPTIONS.

GIFT SHOP
 NEW MERCH ARRIVING DAILY, INCLUDING NEE DOH

CAPTAIN'S GETAWAY PRESENTS

MARCH ENTERTAINMENT

MARCH 13 & 14
Atari

MARCH 17
St. Patrick's Day Party
Tim Horsman 5-8pm

HASHLO 2026 LINEUP

THE CASTELLOWS BLACKHAWK BAYKER BLANKENSHIP

JUNE 25

JULY 09

JULY 16

TYLER HALVERSON
JOHN MORGAN

AUG 06

AUG 13

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES With PEPPER ENTERTAINMENT

Check out our current lineup of events at CaptainsGetaway.com

OPEN DAILY at 3PM • 107 WEST BROADWAY, ARNOLDS PARK
LAKE OKOBOJI, IOWA - U.S.A.

CIRCUS STREET PRESENTS

JOHNNY SALAMI



MARCH 13 & 14
6:00 PM MUSIC · 8:00 PM COMEDY
DRAKE'S OAK HILL, 2188 HWY 86

Drakes SPECIALS

<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>
1/2 PRICE TAP BEERS 1/2 PRICE FLATBREADS	3 TACOS FOR \$6 1/2 PRICE MARGARITAS	\$4 CROWN DRINKS

AN IRISH CELEBRATION



THE PLACE TO MEET
TWEETERS
 EST. 1972
 in OKOBOJI

ST. PATRICK'S DAY
 FEATURE MENU SERVED
MARCH 14 & 17!

SERVING LUNCH & DINNER DAILY!

712.332.9421 | tweetersokoboji.com



Boji Burger Battle Brings Community Together

The 3rd Annual Boji Burger Battle wrapped up another successful month of friendly competition, community support, and incredible local flavor throughout the Iowa Great Lakes Area. This year saw a record number of burgers sold, with the total exceeding 1,100.

Held from February 1 through February 28, the month-long event featured eight participating restaurants serving up specialty burgers in hopes of earning the coveted Boji Burger Battle trophy, awarded based on public votes. This year's competitors included:

- Boss' Pizzeria & Sports Bar
- McKeen's Pub & Grill
- The Hutt
- The Ritz
- Waterfront Grille
- Nautical Okoboji
- Dudley's Garage
- The Peacock Lounge & Grille

While one restaurant ultimately takes home the trophy, the true purpose of the Boji Burger Battle goes far beyond winning. The mission is centered on supporting local businesses. Since February can be a slower season in the Iowa Great Lakes Area, the event is designed to encourage people to get out, try something new, and fill seats in local restaurants during a time that is particularly beneficial to member establishments.

Throughout the month, residents and visitors alike explored the local dining scene, shared their experiences, and voted for their favorite burger. The competition created excitement across the community while highlighting the creativity and quality of the area's restaurant industry.

The 2026 Boji Burger Battle was proudly presented by Dickinson County Farm Bureau, whose support helped make this year's event possible.

The Ritz has been named this year's 2026 Boji Burger Battle Winner, with 2nd place going to The Peacock Lounge & Grille and 3rd place to Dudley's Garage.

With strong participation and enthusiastic community engagement, the Boji Burger Battle continues to grow as a winter tradition in the Iowa Great Lakes, proving that even in the off-season, local businesses can thrive when a community rallies behind them.

For more information about the Boji Burger Battle, visit okobojichamber.com or follow along on social media.

Spirit Lake Library News

Book Challenge #2

The first book challenge of 2026 wrapped up recently and we are rolling with #2 already! Thirty people participated in the January-February challenge. Congratulations to Amanda W. for being our first winner of the year! Her prize was a \$25 gift card to Goosefeathers Books and a travel mug. Don't be sad if you didn't win this first challenge; your name will be entered for a prize at the end of the year. You can earn up to six entries by completing every challenge!

For the March-April challenge, the prompt choices are as follows: book from a series you previously abandoned, a book you could not put down, a psychological thriller, a book with a location in the title, a book with less than 150 pages, and a book that features a pet. Choose four of these six prompts, read a corresponding book for each of them, fill out the bookmark, and turn it into the Spirit Lake Public Library by Thursday, April 30th. The winner for this challenge will receive a \$25 gift card to The Well.

There is a display on top of the Browsing section at the library with suggested titles for each of these six prompts. You do not need to choose from these books. As long as the book fits the prompt and you read it this year, it counts!

If you have any questions about the book challenge, please contact us at (712) 336-2667 or come in to the library Monday through Saturday. You can see what the upcoming challenges will be by going to our website spiritlake.lib.ia.us.

SLPL staff reading spotlight: Jill is reading *Stop, in the Name of God: Why Honoring the Sabbath Will Transform Your Life* by Charlie Kirk, and listening on Libby to *Isola* by Allegra Goodman.

Upcoming Activities:

- Monday, March 16, 10:00-11:30 a.m., Shamrock Shenanigans Craft Time (come & go)
- Monday, March 16, 1:00-3:00 p.m., Mah-Jongg
- Tuesday, March 17, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Quilters
- Tuesday, March 17, 7:00-8:00 p.m., Evening Edition Book Club (topic: Movie Tie-Ins)
- Wednesday, March 18, 10:30-11:30 a.m., Page Turners Book Club (Somebody's Fool by Richard Russo)
- Wednesday, March 18, 12:30-4:00 p.m., Quilters
- Thursday, March 19, 10:00-11:30 a.m., Block Party
- Thursday, March 19, 1:00-3:00 p.m., Mah-Jongg

Chicken & Noodle Fundraiser

Saint Joseph Catholic Church, in Milford, will host its annual homemade chicken-and-noodle dinner Sunday, March 15, from 11 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., or until sold out.

The meal will feature homemade chicken and noodles, real mashed potatoes, a salad bar, a dessert bar, and beverages. Those attending may eat in the parish center dining room or take a carryout with them. Delivery within Milford will be available; please call the office before Sunday, March 15, at 11 a.m. at 712-338-2274 to arrange your delivery.

A free-will offering will be taken, with a suggested donation of \$12 for adults and \$5 for children ages 6-12. Proceeds from the dinner will go toward St. Joseph Parish repair projects.



Lakes Area Activity/Senior Center

Ham Dinner

Sunday, March 15
 10:30am-12:30pm



\$15.00
 Tickets Available from any Senior Center Board Member or at the Senior Center.

- Ham
- Cheesy Hash Browns
- Green Beans
- Dinner Roll
- Jello Cake

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



WIN BIG AT

MINGO NIGHT

Looking for an exciting way to spend your evening and a chance to win great prizes?

Join us for our Mingo Night at Occasions in Spencer and experience the thrill of winning big while having a blast with friends and family!

\$15 PER PERSON (Includes 1 Bingo Card - additional cards \$5 per card)
\$75 for a table for 6 (Includes 6 Bingo Cards - additional cards \$5 per card)

COCKTAIL HOUR: 5-6PM
MEAL SERVED: 5-8PM
BINGO GAMES: 6-8PM

MARCH 20TH 712-262-1782 Occasions 104 EAST 4TH ST., SPENCER, IOWA (IN THE OLD MIDDLE SCHOOL)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!
MARCH 14TH



PARKS & MARINA
PRE-OWNED BOAT SHOW
 OVER 100 BOATS ON DISPLAY!

EARLY SEASON SELECTION

SAVE BIG ON DOZENS OF MODELS

PARKS MARINA | 24457 178TH STREET, OKOBOJI IOWA | PARKSMARINA.COM

SNAPPERS ST. PADDY'S !! PARTY !!

SAT, MARCH 14TH

THE FISHHEADS AT 2 PM
 OPEN AT 11 AM | ON THE PARKS MARINA CAMPUS

SCAN FOR DETAILS

IRISH FARE MUSIC & BAR GAMES GREEN BEER KRYPTONITE SHOTS & OTHER SHENANIGANS Snappers

west Local BREWERY FUNDRAISER

ON US

503 Terrace Park Blvd, West Okoboji
Thursday, March 19 6-8pm
 Spirit Lake Park Special Olympics and Unified Activities

PROCEEDS BENEFIT LOCAL NON-PROFIT: SPECIAL OLYMPICS UNIFIED SPORTS

PROMOTIONAL SPONSOR: THE LNS THE LAKES NEWS SHOPPER



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

YOUR LUCKY CHARM IN REAL ESTATE!

EAST LAKE OPPORTUNITY



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

RESIDENTIAL OR COMMERCIAL



3286 335th | Ruthven
 Lost Luncker's Lodge: 5 bedroom, 4 bath home. Lost Island Lake. Offered at **\$949,000**

NEW LISTING



2229 195th Ave. | Milford
 4 bedroom, 3 bath beautiful acreage with a riverview. Offered at **\$575,000**

NEARLY NEW DUPLEX



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

BUILDABLE LOT



00 335th | Ruthven
 Large one acre lot with a building located across from Lost Island Lake. Offered at **\$299,500**

AFFORDABLE OKOBOJI



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

Okoboji Realty

SPECIALIZING IN OKOBOJI LAKESHORE PROPERTY

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
MICKEY HARRINGTON 712.320.2725
RYAN MARIS 712.330.9572

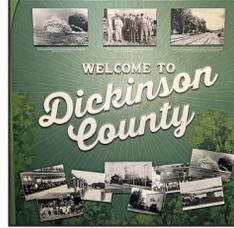


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Spring Events at the Dickinson County Museum

As spring approaches, the Dickinson County Museum invites the public to attend its "Pop Up Saturday" on March 14th from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm. This event offers a chance to explore "Steve's Depot," the museum's newest exhibit which opened to the public on October 27th, 2025. The exhibit is housed in the Spirit Lake Depot, a historic structure completed in 1884 that served as an active railroad hub until 1974.



The museum itself was established in 1970 by the Dickinson County Historical Society, originally utilizing space at the Lakes Art Center. As the collection expanded, it was moved to the former Chicago-Milwaukee railroad depot in 1973, and the Historical Society purchased the building the following year. Today, interactive exhibits allow guests to explore steam engines and the rail system, hear local stories, and travel back in time to the early years of the area. Additionally, the museum invites the public to its popular "Way Back When" series every Wednesday at 10:00 am for coffee and a historical conversation centered around a surprise topic.

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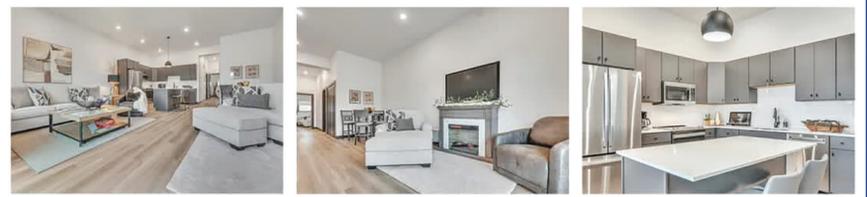


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Lakes Area Senior/Activity Center Presentations

Please call 712-336-5247 to let the Lakes Area Senior/Activity Center know you will be attending.

- Tuesday, March 10, 12:30PM—Kelsey Kindall and Allie Fletcher will discuss "Stay In Home Care"
 - Tuesday, March 17, 12:30 PM - Dianna DonkerSloot—Where did I Park My Car, AGAIN??
 - Tuesday, March 24 12:30PM—Sue Boettcher
 - Tuesday, March 31 12:00PM—Dickinson County Public Health will be providing free blood pressure checks
 - Thursdays — 11:00am— Tai Chi
 - Fridays — 10:50am— Chair Yoga
- The Lakes Area Activity/Senior Center is located at 2101 Zenith Ave in Spirit Lake.

It's So Easy To Eat Healthy

by Bill Brandt, owner and operator of Brandt Gardens & Greenhouse LLC

At Brandt Gardens & Greenhouse LLC in Lakefield, Minnesota, we believe that good food does two simple things: it tastes better and it nourishes the body. There is truly nothing quite like the first taste of a vine-ripened tomato, the crunch of fresh sweet corn, or any garden-fresh vegetable after a long, cold winter. Established in 2000 by Bill and Rhonda Brandt, our business began as a family teaching opportunity that blossomed into a mission to provide the community with local, sustainable produce. We believe that food grown right here in our backyard is a critical component of a thriving local economy, and for the past decade, we have been proud to offer a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program as a convenient, healthy solution for you and your family.

Our CSA program is designed to provide a steady stream of fresh harvest directly to your door or workplace, ensuring you know exactly where your food was grown. For the 2026 growing season, we offer four distinct membership levels to fit your household's needs. The Mini Share provides one box per month for a total of six deliveries, while the Bi-Weekly Share offers ten boxes throughout the season. For those who want a consistent weekly supply, our Half Share is perfect for one to two adults, and our Full Share is tailored for households of three to four. We intend to deliver for a full 20 weeks starting in May and ending in October, though we guarantee a minimum of 17 weeks to account for the unpredictable nature of the Minnesota growing season. To help us prepare for the year, we encourage early payment to assist with the purchase of seeds and plants, and the final deadline to secure your share is May 1, 2026.

Members can look forward to a diverse bounty throughout the 2026 season, including favorites like asparagus, strawberries, and sugar snap peas in the spring, followed by summer staples like sweet corn, zucchini, and several varieties of peppers. As the season turns to fall, boxes will feature items like Brussels sprouts, pie pumpkins, and ten different varieties of winter squash. While the majority of this produce is grown directly by Brandt Gardens & Greenhouse, we also team up with other trusted local growers to supply items we do not produce ourselves, such as apples and garlic. Regardless of the source, we strictly monitor quality and maintain high standards to ensure every box meets our customers' expectations.

We strive to make accessing this fresh produce as seamless as possible through a structured delivery schedule. We visit Lakefield, Esterville, and Windom on Tuesdays; the Lakes Area—including Spirit Lake, Milford, and Spencer—on Wednesdays; Jackson on Thursdays; and Sibley, Brewster, and Worthington on Fridays. For those who prefer to visit us directly, farm pick-up is also an option at our location south of Lakefield off Highway 86. We are also proud to announce that we are now approved to accept SNAP-EBT for the purchase of CSA shares and other produce, further expanding our ability to help everyone in our community get the fresh food they deserve.

If you aren't ready for a full CSA commitment, you can still find us at the Riverside Farmers & Makers Market in Jackson on Thursday afternoons or at the Lakes Area Farmers Market in Spirit Lake on Wednesday evenings and Saturday mornings. Whether you are a longtime supporter or a new neighbor, we are excited to share the 2026 harvest with you. For more information regarding costs and program details, please contact Rhonda at 507-360-5903 or Bill at 507-360-5904, email us at brandtgardens@gmail.com, or visit our website at www.brandtgardens.com. Started as a family teaching opportunity, turned into a business venture; selling annual and perennial plants, as well as a wide variety of vegetables. Bill and Rhonda believe that food grown locally is a critical component of sustaining and growing the local economy.

Throughout this time, they have been selling at local Farmers Markets in the area (currently Riverside Farmers & Makers Market in Jackson on Thursdays from 3:30 – 6:30 at Dann's Island on South Hwy 71 and the Lakes Areas Farmers Market in Spirit Lake which is located at the Dickinson County Fairgrounds on Wednesday evenings from 3 – 6 p.m. and on Saturdays from 7:30 – noon.

In addition to the farmers markets, they sell from their farm which is located south of Lakefield, off of Hwy 86 (highway sign is posted). Then 10 years ago, they decided to expand the operation by offering a CSA the mission of (Community Supported Agriculture), giving citizens an access to purchase locally grown produce with membership ensuring that you get both produce and fruit from the operation. Early payment is encouraged which helps in the purchase of seeds, plants and essentials so that early planting can result in great produce throughout the season. The various sizes of CSA from monthly, bi-weekly and weekly, are delivered from end of May thru October (of course depending on the weather).



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.

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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.

- March 16, 10:30 a.m. – Xylophone
- March 23, 10:30 a.m. – Yak
- March 30, 10:30 a.m. – Zoo
- April 6, 10:30 a.m. – Barn Animals
- April 13, 10:30 a.m. – April Showers

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CLASSICAL GUITARIST

MARCH 16
 Milford Community Center, Milford, IA 51351

Join the Lakes Area Libraries for a night of music from Classical Guitarist Peter Fletcher on Monday, March 16, at 6:30 p.m., in the Milford Community Center. Peter will be performing music from his new album, In Concert, along with music from Russian composer, Nikita Kosshkin, Spanish composer Isaac Albeniz, and more. In 2027, Peter will be returning to Carnegie Hall. This free program is sponsored by the Friends of the Milford Library, Arnolds Park Public Library, and the Spirit Lake Public Library.

On Monday, March 16, fourth through twelfth graders are invited to MML's Y.A. Maker Monday! This month, they will be creating their own button. This free come-and-go activity will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For more information please contact MML by calling 712-338-4649 or emailing milfordlibr51351@gmail.com

Join MML for All-Day Play from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., on Monday, March 16! During this come-and-go playtime, you will discover new and exciting toys while having fun with friends. All toys are supplied by the library.

MML's CrAFTER Hours is happening on Wednesday, March 18, from 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. This month we will be creating a resin bookmark or suncatcher. You will learn how to make a few different items at this class. Make sure to preregister and the cost for the class is \$5. Register by calling MML or online at <https://milford-ia.whofi.com/calendar/event/5647079>.

Younger kids are invited to join MML's Read Across America Bingo. Stop by the Milford Memorial Library to pick up a special bingo card with 25 interactive reading activities. Two full Bingos in a row gets a small prize, and a completed bingo card equals a large prize drawing entry. Read Across America Bingo will be available until Tuesday, March 31.

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.

Letter to the Editor: Update on Iowa Law HF299: What Parents Should Know about Immunization Exemptions.

There has been an update to Iowa law with the signing of HF299.

Under this law, schools, daycares, and community colleges must inform families that medical and religious exemptions to school vaccine requirements are allowed under Iowa law. This means families have the right to be told about exemption options that already exist.

If you have questions about school immunization requirements, it's important to know that Iowa law provides specific medical and religious exemption pathways. Schools are now required to make families fully aware of those options.

Medical Exemption: A licensed healthcare provider may certify that a child should not receive certain vaccines due to a medical condition or health concern. This form can be accessed on the internet. [Certificate_of_Immunization_Exemption_Medical.pdf](#)

Religious Exemption: A parent or guardian may submit a signed form that states that vaccination conflicts with their religious/spiritual beliefs. This form can be accessed on the internet. [Certificate_of_Immunization_Exemption_Religious.pdf](#)

If you are considering an exemption, print out the appropriate Exemption Form or ask the school for a form.

If you have questions, be sure to review Iowa's official guidelines.

Every family wants to make informed decisions for their children. Staying informed about your rights helps you move forward with clarity and confidence.

Please report any intimidation, coercion or violations of this law to Informed Choice Iowa.

<https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/publications/LGI/91/attachments/HF299.html>
Debbie Garrett, Spirit Lake, Iowa

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View From The Bench

by John Adams, Jr.

Panthers are Dancin'!

The Northern Iowa Panthers faced tough odds last weekend, needing to win four games in four consecutive days at the Missouri Valley Conference Tournament to secure an NCAA Tournament spot—a feat no team had achieved in the MVC Tournament's 50-year history. Apparently, UNI didn't get the memo. This past weekend in St. Louis, Ben Jacobson's squad didn't just break the glass ceiling; they shattered it. Entering as the #6 seed, the Panthers turned the Enterprise Center into their home court, culminating in a dominant 84-69 victory over the University of Illinois-Chicago (UIC) on Sunday afternoon to clinch their first NCAA Tournament berth since 2016.

To fully appreciate this MVC Title, you must look at the improbable path the Panthers took. It started Thursday against Evansville with a 68-59 victory. UNI followed that with a commanding 74-52 "revenge" win over an Illinois State team that had swept them in the regular season. Then came the semifinals against the #2-seed Bradley, where the Panthers shot a staggering 65.9% from the field—a postseason record to pull off the 73-69 upset. By the time Sunday rolled around, common logic suggested the legs would be heavy. On the contrary, the Panthers appeared as if they were only beginning to hit their stride. The Panthers and #5-seed Flames had split the regular season series, with each team winning on the road, so this one promised to be a battle. UNI continued their strong play, starting with a 12-4 run to take a lead they would never relinquish. Ben Schweiger's layup put the Panthers ahead 25-12, and they kept a double-digit lead most of the first half until UIC cut it to 48-41 by halftime. The second half was much closer than the final score would suggest, but UNI had an answer for every run that UIC put together, never allowing the Flames to tie the game or take the lead. UIC trimmed the lead to 56-54, but an 11-0 Panther run would push it back to 13-point margin, and the Flames would never get closer than six the rest of the game. UNI continued their torrid shooting, making 63% of their shots and nailing 12/23 3-pointers in the Championship Game. Trey Campbell, a Cedar Falls native, and four-year Panther (something that is rare in this age of NIL and the Transfer Portal) earned the Tournament MVP and finished this game with 23 points, four rebounds and four assists. His three-pointer after UIC had trimmed the lead to just two points and was huge to get momentum back for UNI. Schweiger ended up with 18 points, making seven of eight shots, and also had four rebounds and four assists while Leon Bond had 10 points and two thunderous dunks.

For the first time in a decade, Northern Iowa is headed back to the Big Dance. It is awesome to see a program like UNI which has a head coach in Jacobson, who has turned down bigger jobs to stay in Cedar Falls, win with so many Iowa and Midwest kids who have stayed loyal to the program. With a defense that ranks in the top 25 nationally in adjusted efficiency (per KenPom), and an offense that is clicking on all cylinders, the Panthers aren't just "happy to be there"; they are a team that high-seeded Power Five schools spend all Sunday praying they don't see next to their name on the bracket. Whether they land as a 12 or 13 seed, one thing is certain: after winning four games in four days, this team is battle-tested, healthy, and playing their best basketball of the season at the exact right moment. Let the Madness begin!

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: America Reverses Course To World Disorder

At the conclusion of WWI, the world remained in a disorderly fashion with nations guided by isolationism which led to WWII. Following WWII, America became the dominant leader of a new world order due to our response to the war effort and subsequently the prospectives and leadership of the Truman Administration. Truman, being a student of world history, knew America needed to forego continued isolationism and help rebuild the European and Japanese economies, thus the Marshall Plan was implemented. Truman stated, "In all the history of the world we are the first great nation to feed and support the conquered." When Churchill commented if America would ever get credit for doing this, Truman replied, "I'm not doing this for credit. I am doing it because it's right. I'm doing it because it's necessary to be done if we are going to survive ourselves." What followed was the American dollar became the standard world currency, the United Nations was created, colonialization replaced by independence, NATO and other treaties enacted to promote peace/thwart ambitions of USSR and other rogue nations. But most important, the US Navy protected open seas across the globe providing free shipping lanes for all nations. This led to unprecedented world economic growth, especially for America where corporations developed internationally, the middle-class prospered and the overall standard of living grew.

Then came the emergence of Trump and turmoil. In only a single year of his second term he enacted a "beautiful bill" including a ridiculous tax cut, coupled with previous Republican Administrations cuts, has ruined the middle-class creating vast wealth gaps with skyrocketing national debt. Unhinged corporate/private PAC spending negatively influences elections. America's funding for the UN is in arrears. The NATO alliance is threatened and other treaties torn up. Traditional allies are demeaned. Trump refuses to stand up against dictators like Putin who threaten European stability. Tariffs lay a heavy tax on American consumers and will lead to poverty growth and isolationism again. Plus, now we have wars (unauthorized by Congress) against Venezuela and Iran which makes the entire Middle East a powder keg driving oil prices much higher with the costs borne by Americans. America is well on its way to pre-WWI status where world disorder again reigns. Trump and his allies ignore history, economics or basics for our constitutional democracy. Americans have the right to vote for change, but Trump is moving to remove that right by advocating voting systems are fraudulent requiring national control or ultimately declaring a national emergency to negate voting at all. Clearly democratic American survival is at a true crossroads by Trump creating a very dangerous world disorder. Our past greatest presidents would be alarmed/aghast! Are we? How bad will it be in three years if we aren't?

Terry B. Yarns
 Spirit Lake, Iowa

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

PAMHC's Assertive Community Treatment Team Placed in Highest Tier During Fidelity Review

The University of Iowa Health Care Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health recently completed a fidelity review of Plains Area Mental Health Center's Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Team. Fidelity reviews measure how closely ACT teams follow the evidence-based model using specific observational criteria. The Dartmouth Assertive Community Treatment Scale (DACTS) Protocol is a 28-item scale that assesses the degree of fidelity to the ACT model along 3 dimensions: Human Resources, Organizational Boundaries and the Nature of Services.

Nancy Williams MD, conducted the fidelity review and had this to say about PAMHC's ACT Team, "In summary, the review team left PAMHC deeply impressed by the exceptional work being done. We are incredibly grateful for the dedication, care, and compassion your staff shows to clients and families, which brings tremendous value to the community."

Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) services are high-intensity community mental health services provided by a multi-disciplinary team with cultural competence and trauma-informed care. Individuals served in ACT are often able to decrease reliance on emergency services and institutional placement as a direct result of the attentive care given by the ACT team. ACT is truly a wrap-around approach to treatment with ACT clients being provided all of the ACT services within their own residence and or community-based setting.



PAMHC's ACT team received a score of 123/140, the highest tier of score that reflects good fidelity to the model. We would like to recognize our ACT Team: Team Lead Dr. Jacob Jackson, LMHC, CADC, Molly Meyer, RN, Samantha Baier, Kellie Grause, RN, Jacki McLaughlin, and psychiatric services by Charles Tilley, MSAP, PA-C. The outstanding score is a testament to their tremendous dedication in delivering exemplary quality services.



BINGO WINNERS ANNOUNCED!

We have winners! Congratulations to Patrick Traynor (Omaha, NE), Rebecca Rouse (Milford), Sharma Brockmeyer (Spirit Lake) and Kristine Zylstra (Jackson, MN). Patrick was the second one to submit a BINGO card obtaining the letter "X", and is the winner of \$50. Rebecca was the first one to submit a BINGO card obtaining the letter "O", and is the winner of \$100. Sharma was the second one to submit a BINGO card obtaining the letter "O", and is the winner of \$50. Kristine was the third one to submit a BINGO card obtaining the letter "N", and is the winner of a gift card.

A special thanks to our sponsors: Lakes Auto Care/Milford Auto Care, Natural Family Chiropractic, Farmers Savings Bank, Interior Sewing by Lisa, Iron Horse Land Company, Katy Lynn Boutique, Keelson Harbour, Los Pueblos, Milford/Premier Communications, Milford Kiwanis, Shoreline Threads and The Tobacco Shop.

There are still many more chances to win. The promotion will run until April 14th, 2026, or until all prizes are claimed. Prizes will total over \$1,000. The complete set of rules are published on our website: LakesNews-Shopper.com.

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Obituary

A Celebration of Life Service for **Ardith Westergard**, age 88, of Lakefield, was held at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Lakefield on Sunday, March 8, at 2:00 PM, with a time of visitation and gathering for one hour prior to the service. A private family burial was held at Immanuel Lutheran Cemetery in Lakefield.



Ardith Fern (Furrow) Westergard was born on March 20, 1937, in Otis, Colorado, to Lloyd and Thelma (Dwiggins) Furrow. Ardie liked to tell people that she was "part gypsy" when asked about her family history and where she came from. "Gypsy" is generally defined as a group of people who are free-spirited and like to wander. Most who knew Ardie would certainly agree with this description of her. Her gypsy tendencies are what led her to Minnesota from Colorado with her first husband, Wilmer, who worked as a road builder. Her gypsy ways definitely played a role in her landing in Iowa on the farm with Lyle, her second husband. Her gypsy ways had to be what inspired her early morning singing of "Roll Out the Barrel" to her slumbering grandchildren, or the hundreds of calls to one of her many loved ones to sing "Happy Birthday" on their special day. It was, without a doubt, her gypsy ways that fueled her love of dancing, Cracker Barrel sweatshirts, and racing Toro co-workers through Windom in her Oldsmobile.

A true gypsy doesn't wander alone, however; a gypsy needs a whole band. Ardie was always the glue and the center of hers. She loved her family more than anything, especially her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She often reflected on how blessed she was to have her family so involved in her life.

On Sunday, March 1, 2026, Ardie passed away peacefully at her home in Lakefield.

Left to cherish her memory are her children, Monette (Jim) Berkevech, Ranell (Brett) Williams, and Keven Hage; ten grandchildren, Jamie, Jayd, Jacob, Jacey, Darmey, Chad, Hollie, Bryan, Chase, and Laura; seventeen great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild; also five siblings, Bernard Furrow, Dale Furrow, Lorna Knapp, Janice Cline, and Joyce (Gene) Larson.

Ardie was preceded in death by her husband, Lyle Westergard; parents, Lloyd and Thelma Furrow; and siblings, Norva, Milton, Darlene, and Shirley.

Blessed be the memory of our sweet, loving, gypsy leader, Ardie.

HSNWIA Seeks Volunteers and Donations for Feral Cat Program

The Humane Society of Northwest Iowa (HSNWIA) will be conducting another Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) program this spring to help address the growing feral cat population across Dickinson County, Iowa. Local estimates suggest there may be between 3,000 and 5,000 feral cats living in the county alone, many of which face hunger, disease, harsh weather, and injury.



Through the TNR program, cats are humanely trapped, spayed or neutered, vaccinated, and returned to their outdoor colonies—helping stabilize populations while reducing the spread of disease and other issues associated with unmanaged feral cat communities. In one weekend alone last fall, HSNWIA successfully spayed or neutered around 300 cats through this program.

"This is one of the most effective and humane ways to address feral cat populations while reducing long-term suffering," said Melanie Becker, Chairman of Shelter Improvements and Finance for HSNWIA. "Our team and volunteers are working hard to make a meaningful difference for animals and our community."

Those interested in supporting the program can learn more or want to make a donation are encouraged. To help, visit the Humane Society of Northwest Iowa website, www.humanesocietyofnwia.com. The Humane Society will also have volunteering opportunities for individuals interested in helping with the program. HSNWIA will provide more information once a firm date for the TNR program is established.

Obituary

Karen Kay Kardell, age 88, passed away on Feb. 26, 2026.

Karen Kay Kauffman was born on January 15, 1938, in Carroll, Iowa, to Bill and Nettie Kauffman. She was raised in Audubon, Iowa, where she attended school and graduated from high school in 1956. On June 17, 1956, she married Ben Kardell, and together they raised four children.



Karen was devoted to her family and took great pride in caring for them. She enjoyed sewing, playing cards, and Mah Jong with all her buddies; she also loved singing in the church choirs at both Bethany Lutheran in Spencer, IA, and Broadway Chapel at Carriage Manor in Mesa, AZ.

In 1962, Karen and Ben purchased her father's trucking business, where she served as the bookkeeper for many years. In 1973, they relocated to Spencer, Iowa, continuing their work in the trucking industry. While living in Spencer, Karen pursued her love of music by joining the Clef Club and remained actively involved at Bethany Lutheran Church.

Professionally, Karen worked for ten years at Northwest Federal Bank and later for three years as a finance manager at Don Pierson Ford. She and Ben retired in 1993 and spent their winters in Mesa, Arizona, at Carriage Manor Resort. Over the 32 years they wintered there, they made many long-lasting friendships. In 2003, they sold their home in Spencer and moved to Okoboji, Iowa, where they lived for part of each year. In 2008, they made Arizona their permanent residence.

Karen was preceded in death by her husband, Ben; both parents; and her sisters, Dorothy Schmidt and Charlene McLaughlin.

She is survived by her four children: Benna Lea (Curt) Schnell of Omaha, NE; Bruce (Gwen) Kardell of Spencer, IA; Brian (Ann) Kardell of Bettendorf, IA; and Brent (Reiko) Kardell of Pleasant Hill, CA. She is also survived by her grandchildren: Brady (Jenn) Schnell, Jaime (Josh) Schnell-Poore, Liz (Jake) Kluver, Bill (Katie) Kardell, Kody (Megan) Kardell, BJ (Kara) Kardell, Gabby (Shawn Barnett) Kardell, Michael (Jess Leno) Kardell, Steven (Gezelle) Kardell, Jeffrey (Katie) Kardell, Naomi Kardell, and Kalena Kardell; plus 18 cherished great-grandchildren.

Karen will be cremated and laid to rest in Lakeview Gardens Cemetery in Spirit Lake, Iowa, later this summer in a private family service. Memorials may be made to Harbor of Joy Lutheran Church, 1204 L Avenue, Milford, Iowa 51331. Arrangements are under the direction of the Robinson Funeral Home in Spirit Lake. Online condolences may be left at www.spiritlakefuneralhome.com.

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- Lowering Property Taxes
- Priority-Based Budgeting
- Stronger Fiscal Oversight and Transparency
- Responsible Growth
- Protecting Our Lakes & Water Quality

Paid for by Curtis Rouse for Supervisor

My wife Jodi and I chose to make Spirit Lake our home because we value faith, family, and the natural beauty of the Lakes area. As year-round residents, we are deeply invested in preserving what makes Dickinson County special — while ensuring government lives within its means.

Public office is not about power. It is about service.

I respectfully ask for your vote.

Curtis Rouse
Republican Candidate for Dickinson County Supervisor – District 2
(515) 505-0099
curtisrousesupervisor@gmail.com



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**Empowering Students & Funding the Future,
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Established in 1996, the Okoboji Community School Foundation is dedicated to enhancing the facilities, services, and educational opportunities of the Okoboji Community School District.

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We are proud of our past accomplishments, but much more remains to be done.

How the Foundation Makes an Impact

Scholarships

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Special Projects & Academic Enrichment

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Angel Fund - Student Support & Basic Needs

Providing assistance to ensure students have access to essentials such as clothing, food, and other necessities—because students learn best when their basic needs are met.

WAYS TO SUPPORT

- **Make a direct, tax-deductible donation** via check or venmo and designate which area(s) you would like to support.
- **Leave a lasting legacy** by purchasing a brick through the Victory Bell Brick Campaign. For more information, please email okobojicommschoolfoundation@gmail.com.



THANK YOU for your tax-deductible support of **PIONEERING PATHWAYS.**

Important Clarification: The Okoboji Community School Foundation is a separate organization from the Okoboji Foundation.



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Yes, I would like to support the Okoboji Community School Foundation!

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ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE/EMAIL: _____

My Contribution of \$ _____ is designated for (please check one or more):

- Scholarships Special Projects Angel Fund Greatest Need

Please direct questions to okobojicommschoolfoundation@gmail.com

- Please contact me with additional information
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Lucky 7's SALE!

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SUNNY DEAL!

Best Choice Russet Potatoes
 5 lb.

97¢

SUNNY DEAL!

St. Pat's Green Cabbage
 Per lb.

49¢

SUNNY DEAL!

Cleveland Kitchen Sauerkraut
 1 lb.

\$4.99

DIGITAL DEAL!

Dole Classic Romaine Salad
 7 oz.

~~\$2.99~~
-1.00
\$1.99

SUNNY DIGITAL DEAL!

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SUNNY DEAL!

Sunshine's Own 85% Lean Ground Beef
 Family Pack, Per lb.

\$4.77

2 DAYS ONLY

SUNNY DEAL!

Red Seedless Grapes
 Per lb.

\$1.87

2 DAYS ONLY

SUNNY DEAL!

Grade 'A' Chicken Drumsticks or Thighs
 Grade A, Family Pack, Per lb.

\$1.49

SUNNY DEAL!

Suja Shots
 2 oz.

\$1.99

SUNNY DEAL!

Tropical Kiwi Fruit
 8 pk.

\$3.89

SUNNY DEAL!

Greenhouse Seedless Cucumbers
 8 pk.

88¢

SUNNY DEAL!

Best Choice Cake Mix
 15.25 oz.

97¢

2 DAYS ONLY

SUNNY DEAL!

Best Choice Pasta
 16 oz. Var., Excludes Lasagna

77¢

2 DAYS ONLY

SUNNY DEAL!

Ribeye Steaks
 USDA Choice, Beef, Boneless, Per lb.

\$14.99

SUNNY DEAL!

Arm Roast
 USDA Choice, Beef, Boneless, Per lb.

\$5.99

SUNNY DEAL!

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

Pulled Smoked Pork... **\$6.99** Per lb.
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Smoked Brisket... **\$9.99** Per lb.
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Okoboji Original
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SUNNY DEAL!

Best Choice Premium Canned Fruit
 15-15.25 oz., Pears, Peaches or Mixed Fruit

\$1.77

2 DAYS ONLY

DIGITAL DEAL!

Mr. Dell's Hashbrowns
 30-32 oz. Var.

~~\$3.47~~
-50¢
\$2.97

2 DAYS ONLY

Must use digital app to get digital coupons. Limit 4 coupon uses per customer.

SUNNY DEAL!

Best Choice Salmon Fillets
 32 oz. Family Size

\$13.99

SUNNY DEAL!

Corned Beef Brisket
 USDA Inspected, POINTS ONLY, Per lb.

\$4.99

SUNNY DEAL!

Pork Back Ribs
 USDA Inspected, Per lb.

\$3.99

SUNNY DEAL!

Pork Butts
 USDA Inspected, Bone-In, Per lb.

\$1.99

DIGITAL DEAL!

Best Choice Frozen Vegetables
 16 oz. Var.

2/\$2.07
-1.00
2/\$1.07

2 DAYS ONLY

MUST BUY 2 | **DIGITAL COUPON** | **LIMIT OF 1 COUPON USE**

Must use digital app to get digital coupons. Limit 1 coupon use per customer.

DIGITAL DEAL!

Best Choice Shredded or Chunk Cheese
 8 oz. Var.

2/\$3.97
-1.00
2/\$2.97

2 DAYS ONLY

MUST BUY 2 | **DIGITAL COUPON** | **LIMIT OF 1 COUPON USE**

Must use digital app to get digital coupons. Limit 1 coupon use per customer.

SUNNY DEAL!

Cod Loin Fillets
 Per lb.

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SUNNY DEAL!

Starkist Chunk Light Tuna
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SUNNY DEAL!

Jimmy Dean Pork Sausage Rolls
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\$5.49

SUNNY DEAL!

Jimmy Dean Bacon
 12 oz.

\$3.99

SUNNY DEAL!

Prairie Farms Sour Cream or Dips
 8 oz. Mix or Match

2/\$3

SUNNY DEAL!

Better Butter
 3-3.7 oz. Var.

\$2.49

SUNNY DEAL!

Kerrygold Butter
 8 oz.

\$4.99

DIGITAL DEAL!

Best Choice Grade AA Premium Butter
 Salted or Unsalted, 1 lb. Sticks

2/\$6
-1.00
2/\$5

MUST BUY 2 | **DIGITAL COUPON** | **LIMIT OF 1 COUPON USE**

Must use digital app to get digital coupons. Limit 1 coupon use per customer.

SUNNY DEAL!

Yo Quiero Queso
 12 oz.

\$4.49

SUNNY DEAL!

Farmland Roll Sausage or Links
 8-12 oz.

2/\$5

SUNNY DEAL!

Old Dutch Crunch Potato Chips
 \$4.99 Var.

2/\$7

SUNNY DEAL!

Old Dutch Potato Stick Canisters
 \$3.99 Var.

2/\$7

DIGITAL DEAL!

Snack Factory Pretzel Crisps
 14 oz.

~~\$4.99~~
-50
\$4.49

DIGITAL COUPON | **LIMIT OF 2 COUPON USES**

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SUNNY DEAL!

Village Hearth Cottage White Bread 24 oz. or **English Muffin Bread** 16 oz.

\$3.49

SUNNY DEAL!

Best Choice Cocktail Sauce
 12 oz. Compare to Kraft

\$1.99

ADDITIONAL DIGITAL COUPON ON APP!

SUNNY DEAL!

Cameron's Ground Coffee or K-Cups
 10-12 oz. or 12 Ct.

\$8.49

DIGITAL DEAL!

Roma Original Bellatoria Pizza
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4/\$11
-1.00
4/\$10

MUST BUY 4 | **DIGITAL COUPON** | **LIMIT OF 2 COUPON USES**

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DIGITAL DEAL!

Best Choice Frozen Ravioli or Tortellini
 19-20 oz. Var.

\$4.49
-1.00
\$3.49

DIGITAL COUPON | **LIMIT OF 1 COUPON USE**

Must use digital app to get digital coupons. Limit 1 coupon use per customer.

SUNNY DEAL!

Ragu Pasta Sauce
 16-24 oz.

\$1.88

SUNNY DEAL!

Sparkling Ice with Caffeine Energy Drinks
 16 oz. Cans

4/\$5

SUNNY DEAL!

Powerade 8-Pack 20 oz. or **Body Armor** 6-Pack 16 oz.

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SUNNY DEAL!

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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

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. TFC

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NOTICES

NOTICES

CITY OF MILFORD: BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT MEMBER NEEDED
The City of Milford has two openings to serve on the Board of Adjustment (5-year term 7/1/2024-6/30/2029 and 7/1/25-6/30/2030). The Board of Adjustment is not a policy making board, but rather a quasi-judicial board responsible for the following: (1) Administrative review where it is alleged that there is error in any order, requirement, decision, or determination made by the Zoning Administrator; (2) Hear and decide special exception use applications; and (3) Authorize in specific cases a variance from the terms of the Zoning Ordinance when the variance is not contrary to the public interest and, due to special conditions, a literal enforcement would result in unnecessary hardship, and so that the spirit of the ordinance is observed and substantial justice is done. A small stipend is also paid to board members. Position will remain open until filled.
If interested please contact:
City Clerk's Office @ 712-338-2741 or visit
www.milford.ia.us for a board member application.

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SERVICES CONTINUED ON PAGE 4B

Fun Event for Local TNR Program & People For Pets on March 21st

by Jay Schoning
You may have heard the expression 'nature abhors a vacuum.' It refers to the phenomenon that when a space is emptied, nature will fill it. Once you understand this reality, you'll know why killing cats (or otherwise removing them) from a given location is doomed to fail. The idea that removing cats will not lead to a decrease in cat populations across time may feel counter-intuitive, but it is grounded in a well-documented concept in biology known as the vacuum effect – and understanding it is vital to save lives. Trap Neuter Return (TNR) is the only evidence-based, humane, and effective approach to cats outdoors – and Barbie Garst and Lisa Markley are offering you a fun way to help them out with the local TNR program.
People For Pets in Spencer and the Northwest Iowa Humane Society in Milford are both involved in the TNR program. Spaying or neutering means fewer kittens born outdoors and the reduction of behaviors associated with mating, including yowling, spraying, fighting and roaming. Additionally, vaccinations provided during TNR improve the cats' health and addresses community health concerns – though it's critical to note that cats are extremely unlikely to spread rabies, toxoplasmosis, or any other diseases. The success of community TNR programs is studied and documented.
TNR programs obviously take money to operate. Locally, Dr. Schneider and the Emmetsburg Veterinary Clinic has been a huge asset to the program offering the TNR program at a special rate for vaccinations and neutering. How the local TNR program works is simple; volunteers are given a live trap and they trap feral cats. The cats are then taken to the Emmetsburg Veterinary Clinic to be neutered and given shots. After a night's stay, the cats are taken back to their 'home' outdoors and released.
On Saturday, March 21st, Lisa Markley and Barbie Garst of Ruthven are sponsoring a goodwill offering lunch, with a variety of soups and rolls, and Treasure Sale at Occasions in Spencer. There will be many nice items, gently used and new, on the sale – as well as a bake sale and the 'paint pour sale' – with beautiful abstract paintings by Barbie! They are also selling raffle tickets for prizes at a cost of one for \$5 or five for \$20. This fun event for the entire family will be held from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on March 21st with all funds raised going to People For Pets towards continuing the TNR program. If you can't attend, or even if you can – consider 'sponsoring a cat' for \$100.
The TNR program locally got a big kickstart when a local Ruthven woman, Lucy Fitzgerald, who was very fond of cats and all animals, left a sizable amount of money to People For Pets and to the Northwest Iowa Humane Society solely for the TNR program upon her passing. It was Lucy's desire that every feral cat be given a chance for survival without reproducing. This wonderful program in the surrounding area really would appreciate all you can do to help also – by giving money or by volunteering at the shelter or with the program. Volunteers are very special and they make this all come together.
Lisa Markley of Ruthven says the TNR program works well. She and others were involved in sponsoring the TNR program in Ruthven this past fall. "We Need Your Help!

Last Fall we were able to trap, neuter/spay and return 62 feral cats and rescued and found homes for 28 kittens in Ruthven. We worked with People for Pets in Spencer, Emmetsburg Veterinary Clinic and Northwest Iowa Humane Society in Milford. Without these three businesses we wouldn't have been able to offer TNR in our community."
Lisa says "People For Pets relies on donations to care for and pay for TNR services for communities like Ruthven. Please consider helping them with this fundraiser by attending, volunteering to bake for the sale or buying raffle tickets for a chance to win a gift basket. If you aren't able to attend and would like to make a cash donation, feel free to get hold of me and I can make arrangements for that." Lisa can be contacted by text or calling at 515-450-2683. Again, money raised will go to People for Pets in Spencer so they can continue to offer TNR services. If you live out of the area and wish to contribute, please write a check in care of People For Pets and send to Lisa Markley: 34451 Fairview Beach; Ruthven, Iowa 51358.
Community cats are bonded to their outdoor homes and to their feline families, and they are not generally candidates for adoption. TNR acknowledges their nature, their biology, and their inherent value as beings deserving of respect and protection by allowing these cats to continue their lives in familiar surroundings while ensuring their population stabilizes. Please consider helping this wonderful TNR program anyway you can; by attending their event on March 21st, by volunteering, or by sending a donation for the TNR program.

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MMU

Water Operator:
Full Time Position Available At Milford Municipal Utilities

Milford Municipal Utilities (MMU) is seeking a Water Operator. This is a full time position that oversees the water operations of MMU. MMU is located in Milford, Iowa, the Gateway to the Iowa Great Lakes. MMU provides the citizens of Milford with electric and water service. The Milford community has reaped the benefits of having municipal water utilities since 1909 and municipal electric utilities since 1934.

MMU operates a Grade 3 surface water treatment facility and a Grade 2 water distribution system. Successful applicants must have basic experience in all facets of water treatment and distribution work associated with traditional utility construction and maintenance activities. Qualifications include a high school diploma and a Grade 1 distribution license, possession of a Class A CDL with air brakes or ability to obtain within 6 months, on call schedule, and residency requirements within 30 minutes of Milford. Wage negotiable. Benefits include Vacation, Sick, and Holiday pay. IPERS, Life insurance, Health insurance (100% employee, 80% family) and Long-term disability.

Send resume/application to:
Milford Municipal Utilities
Attn. Brad Willemssen
806 N Ave. Suite III, P.O. Box 124
Milford, IA 51351

Or Email to: bwillemssen@mmuia.us
Resumes and applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

EOE
Pre-employment drug screen required.

2-24c

IOWA LAKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE
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on the Estherville Campus.

High School diploma or willingness to obtain equivalency required. Experience as a custodian or housekeeper preferred. Primary duties are to perform routine custodial/housekeeping duties. \$16.20/hr. plus \$.35 differential after 5 p.m. Paid sick leave, vacation, and holidays. Employee retirement package. Review of applications will begin March 23, 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

3-2c

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EMPLOYMENT

IOWA LAKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE
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HUMAN RESOURCES/PAYROLL COORDINATOR

located at the Administration Building in Estherville. Primary responsibilities include ensuring accurate and timely compensation for employees and students through the use of an online entry system, contracts, and time sheets. Process payroll, manage deductions, maintain records, and ensure compliance with tax laws and regulations. Associate degree in related area and two years of experience or a combination of related postsecondary training and related work experience equivalent to five years required. Computer experience required with knowledge of spreadsheets desired. Basic accounting skills required. \$22.61 per hour. Paid sick leave, vacation, and holidays. Employee health, dental, and vision insurance. Partially funded family insurance available. Employee life and disability insurance. Employee retirement plan. Review of applications will begin March 23, 2026.

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

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Human Resources, 19 South 7th Street, Estherville, IA 51334
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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 licence 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 16, 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
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EMPLOYMENT CONTINUED ON PAGE 5B

Spencer Hospital Training Center Recognized as American Heart Association All-Star

Spencer Hospital's Training Center has been recognized by the American Heart Association as part of the very first group of Training Centers nationwide to earn the prestigious American Heart Association All-Star Recognition.

This distinction is no small achievement. The Spencer Hospital Training Center demonstrates exceptional dedication to the Heart Association's mission by consistently delivering high-quality CPR education, following Emergency Cardiovascular Care (ECC) Guidelines, and elevating the standard of lifesaving training throughout the region. This commitment to excellence directly strengthens what the American Heart Association calls a Nation of Lifesavers.

By meeting or exceeding all program criteria, including outstanding eCard performance metrics, strict adherence to training quality measures, and maintaining top-tier program compliance, the Spencer Hospital Training Center has set the benchmark for what it means to operate an exemplary American Heart Association Training Center.



"The recognition symbolizes the real-world impact the Training Center team makes every day," said Chris Meyer, Spencer Hospital Training Center Coordinator. "Through comprehensive and high-quality instruction, instructors affiliated with Spencer Hospital's Training Center, enhance confidence, improve emergency readiness, and empower learners with the lifesaving skills needed to respond in critical moments."

"Earning this inaugural All-Star recognition is a tremendous honor for our team," said Brenda Tiefenthaler, Spencer Hospital President and CEO. "It reflects the dedication of our instructors and staff who are deeply committed to providing exceptional education and strengthening the chain of survival in our region."

About the Spencer Hospital Training Center

The Spencer Hospital Training Center is a trusted regional training center serving over 250 instructors throughout Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, and Wisconsin. Established in 2009 to promote high-quality Emergency Cardiac Care (ECC) programming, the Training Center plays a vital role in strengthening the chain of survival across the communities the hospital serves.

Through its affiliation with the American Heart Association and steadfast commitment to national training standards, the Spencer Hospital Training Center equips health care professionals, first responders, and community members with lifesaving skills such as CPR, AED use, Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS), and Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS). By advancing education and preparedness, the Training Center extends Spencer Hospital's mission beyond patient care and into the community, empowering individuals to respond confidently in emergencies and save lives.

Spencer Hospital provides patient-centered care through its full-service hospital and an expansive network of specialty services. These 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, Spencer Hospital remains committed to improving the health and well-being of the region it proudly serves.

For more information about courses offered through the Spencer Hospital Training Center, visit SpencerHospital.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.

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Questions: 712-336-9062

Electric Line Repairer Apprentice

Spencer Municipal Utilities (SMU) is a municipal utility, serving the city of Spencer, Iowa since 1942. Spencer Municipal Utilities (SMU) is known for high proficiency in reliability, safety, workforce development, and system improvement. Today we serve approximately 6,300 electric customers.

SMU is seeking applicants for a full-time **Electric Line Repairer Apprentice**. The ideal candidate would be a self-motivated individual responsible for care & maintenance of the electric system and service to residential and business customers in the city of Spencer, Iowa.

The **Electric Line Repairer Apprentice** performs advanced and skilled electrical work in the maintenance, repair and construction of mostly underground and some overhead transmission and distribution lines and equipment. Frequently works with energized high voltage lines, sometimes under unfavorable weather conditions.

The following typical tasks and responsibilities are representative of this position. They are descriptive, not limiting.

Duties/Responsibilities:

Applicants are to be familiar working with the different types of machinery involved in this line of work such as: Aerial Lift Device (Bucket Truck), Digger Derrick Truck, Mini Excavator, Trencher, Skidsteer, & Hydro Vac. Knowledge of how underground & overhead systems operate and how to safely work on them is key in this line of work. Applicants can expect to work on new construction projects as well as upgrading current work sites. Applicants will be asked to assist in the setting & removal of transformers, electrical cabinets, & meters. Installing & terminating underground cable is also an essential part of the job. Will be required to be on a standby scheduling rotation for trouble calls outside of normal working hours. Must be available to respond immediately following storm events and other emergencies impacting the electric system. Position supports other utility departments as needed.

Our Requirements:

Qualified candidates must be 18 years of age and have a High School Diploma or GED. Must be a graduate of an accredited power line technical school. This is an entry level position requiring enrollment into the IAMU Electric Line Repairer Apprenticeship Program which is approximately three to four years in length. Required to meet FMSCA driver qualification requirements including the possession of a valid Iowa Commercial Driver's License (CDL) Class "A" with Air Brakes and meet SMU's insurability requirements. This position will be subject to SMU and Department of Transportation Drug and Alcohol testing. Residency requirement of 30 minutes response time to Spencer Municipal Utilities.

Note: Must successfully complete each step of the outlined apprentice training program in order to advance through each level of the apprenticeship to attain Journeyman Lineworker status. Must satisfy the Department of Labor requirements for on-the-job training (OJT) hours and must meet the required hours for formal classroom training.

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' tab) or applicants may complete an online application utilizing SMU's computer by appointment located in our lobby during regular business hours at 520 2nd Avenue East, Suite 1, Spencer, IA. Please keep in mind that 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/long term disability/group life insurance, IPERS, 457(b) retirement plan, clothing allowance along with paid time off for vacations and holidays. Pre-employment background check and post-offer drug screening is required. Applications accepted through 3/20/2026. This recruitment will be open until filled.

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.

Downtown Sioux City to Host "RE/MAX Madness" NAIA Fan Zone During Women's Basketball National Championship

Sioux City, IA — Basketball fans will have a new place to gather during the NAIA Women's Basketball National Championship as RE/MAX City Centre hosts the "RE/MAX Madness: NAIA Fan Zone" March 19-21 at 712 4th Street in downtown Sioux City.

The free fan event, also open to the public, will run daily from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM, offering visitors and locals a place to watch college basketball on big screens, enjoy local flavor, and experience a lively downtown atmosphere during the national tournament.

Fans can watch all their favorite college basketball teams on massive big screens throughout the day while enjoying Iowa BBQ, Scoop's Ice Cream, City Centre Coffee, craft brews from Marto Brewing, themed drinks, and popcorn. Discounts will be available for NAIA athletes and ticket holders.

"We wanted to create a place where fans could gather, celebrate the tournament, and experience the energy of downtown Sioux City," said Jeff Carlson, Broker/Owner of RE/MAX Experience and the City Centre. "The NAIA tournament brings incredible excitement to our community each year, and this fan zone is our way of welcoming athletes, families, visitors, and the general public while showcasing local brands and what the City Centre is all about."

In addition to the massive viewing areas within the City Centre, Big Picture Entertainment will be showcasing a 16x9 foot mobile screen to further enhance the experience. Scoops ice cream will also be creating new "Championship" flavors specifically crafted for the tourney.

"For us, our product goes beyond just scooping amazing ice cream. Being able to provide a space where communities beyond even our own can come together and create sweet memories, friendships, and unforgettable experiences is truly our vision." — Kelton Shiffer, Owner, Scoop's Ice Cream.

This is the 45th annual NAIA Women's National Tournament and Sioux City has been the host city for 29 years.

"We are very excited to have this fan experience. It will give fans in town for the NAIA tournament, as well as area folks, a chance to enjoy some great food while watching basketball. This is another great opportunity to showcase our city to out-of-town visitors." — Mike Skaggs, Co-Tournament Directo

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7/21 | The Electric Light Orchestra Experience
 Featuring... Evil Woman - The American ELO | 7:30 PM
 \$40/\$50 MEMBERS ONLY PRESALE 3/17-3/23

7/28 | Heart by Heart
 with Steve Fossen & Michael Derosier of Heart | 7:30 PM
 \$40/\$50 | MEMBERS ONLY PRESALE 3/24-3/30

Call 712-332-7029 or visit lakesart.org to purchase presale tickets.

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Sales begin at 10am- please have credit card information ready.

EDUCATION CLASSES Register online or call 712-332-7029

HELLO STITCHES! With Sandie Smith
 Saturday, March 28 | 9:30am-4pm | \$45/\$55
 Intermediate, 18+ | Register by 3/21

In this session, you'll complete two practical kitchen projects including a Casserole Carrier and Hanging Kitchen Hand Towel. Whether you're brand new to sewing or want a refresher, this workshop will build your confidence and leave you with two useful items. Participants can bring their own sewing machine or reserve one of our limited sewing machines- first come, first serve. All fabric provided, we ask that you bring an iron, ironing pad, fabric scissors or rotary cutter.

STILL LIFE THURSDAYS- FLORALS
 Open Studio
 Mar. 19, Apr. 9 & May 21
 10am-9pm, Come and Go | \$10/\$15

Each month, florist, April Junge, of Hometown Florals, will curate a unique arrangement featuring distinctive blooms and unusual vases—perfect for artists of all styles. Bring your own supplies and work in any medium you choose. Drop-ins welcome. This is an open studio, self lead class. All Levels, 16+



CULINARY CLASSES Register online or call 712-332-7029

Create & Savor Cooking Class
 With Marisa Sidles of Rissy's Dry Rubs and Seasonings

Saturday, March 14 | 6pm | \$80/\$90
 A Night In Naples

In this hands-on class, Marisa will guide you in cooking a flavor packed Neapolitan Ragù inspired by a recent trip to Italy. You will make tagliatelle pasta together from scratch to serve with the rich ragù. Glass of wine included. Register by March 12.

Date Night Cooking Class
 With Marisa Sidles of Rissy's Dry Rubs and Seasonings

6pm | \$160/\$170 per Couple
 Must register 3 days prior to each class.

A little flour, a little wine and a lot of love, the perfect date night with Marisa!

Friday, Mar. 13: A Night In Naples

Friday, Apr. 24: Summer Grilled Tri-Tip with Salsa Verde

Spring Cupcake Decorating
 With Janet Steinbach of Lakes Cakes Boji Custom Cakery

Tuesday, Mar. 31 | 4pm-5:15pm
 \$40/\$50 per Group, add additional child for \$10
 Register by Mar. 26

Designed for kids ages 7-12 years and an adult to work together as a group. Decorate your own Spring theme Cupcakes! Learn about decorating techniques and designs, practice with fondant, then create your own decorated cupcake masterpieces! Take away your 6 cupcakes in a bakery box.

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- **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 25th

Publication Date: *March 31st
 * Weather permitting we could push back to April

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