



HAMPTON

CHRONICLE

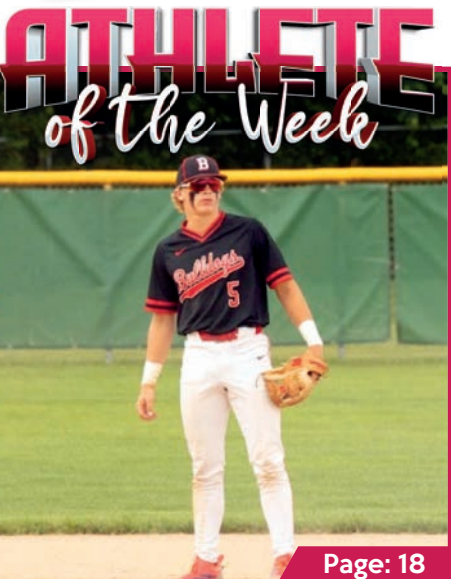
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INSIDE!
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PRE-FAIR SPECIAL



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Noe Flores

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88

WEDNESDAY

55% HUMID WITH T-STORM

THURS	FRI	SAT
88% 82 63 SHOWER AND T-STORM	19% 83 65 MOSTLY SUNNY AND HUMID	13% 85 65 MOSTLY SUNNY AND HUMID

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Bulldogs Lead By Serving Community

BY ELIAN TREVINO
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

HAMPTON – Hampton-Dumont-CAL High School students spent part of their summer giving back to the community by volunteering their time to assist the Church of the Living Word with a cleanup project.

According to Hampton-Dumont-CAL High School Principal Matt Trosky, the opportunity came after the church reached out to coaches Cole Miller and Colin Muller seeking help with summer cleaning projects. Students answered the call by assisting with moving old furniture and removing various

materials from the church.

Approximately 15 to 20 students participated in the service project. The group included students entering high school as freshmen as well as upperclassmen, representing multiple grade levels and athletic programs.

Trosky said community service is an important part of the school's culture and reflects the district's commitment to developing students beyond academics and athletics.

"One area of pride in our high school is giving back to the community," Trosky said.

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Hampton-Dumont-CAL High School students gather outside the Church of the Living Word after volunteering their time to assist with summer cleanup efforts. The project was led by coaches Cole Miller and Colin Muller as part of the Bulldogs' commitment to serving the community.

Former Rick's Pharmacy Project Moves Forward Downtown

BY ELIAN TREVINO
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

HAMPTON – Work is under way at the former Rick's Pharmacy property in downtown Hampton as the city begins removing the deteriorated rear portions of the long-vacant buildings while preserving and securing the historic two-story structures facing First Street NW.

According to Hampton City Manager Ron Dunt, the back portions of the buildings had deteriorated beyond repair, prompting the demolition work.

"The back portions were deteriorated beyond repair," Dunt said.

The project marks another step in a years-long effort by the city to address a property that has sat vacant since Rick's Pharmacy closed at the end of 2016.

Owned by Richard Grote, Rick's Pharmacy served Hampton for 34 years before closing Dec. 31, 2016. At the time, Grote



Demolition has begun in the alley behind 4 and 6 First St. NW, the former Rick's Pharmacy building.

said shrinking business and increasing federal regulations made it impossible to continue operating. He had previously stopped accepting insurance after reimbursement rates no longer covered

ered prescription costs, leaving too few customers paying out of pocket to sustain the business.

Although Grote had considered

See **PHARMACY:**
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Two Hampton men arrested on meth charges following traffic stop

BY MITCH WILLIAMS
RADIOONTHEGO NEWS

Two Hampton men were arrested on drug charges following a traffic stop and the execution of a search warrant in Hampton late Tuesday and early Wednesday.

According to Franklin County Sheriff Aaron Dodd, a deputy stopped a 1994 Mazda in the 400 block of 12th Avenue in Hampton late Tuesday. The driver, 45-year-old Andrew Buttshaw of Hampton, and passenger, 24-year-old Vicente D. Guevara of Hampton, were taken into custody after a Franklin County K-9 alerted to the presence of narcotics. Deputies say methamphetamine was found in the vehicle.

Buttshaw and Guevara were each charged with possession of drug paraphernalia and possession with intent to deliver more than five grams of methamphetamine.

Following the traffic stop, deputies obtained a search warrant for a residence at 115 10th St. N.W. in Hampton. The Franklin County Sheriff's Office was assisted by the Hampton Police Department and the Hardin and Butler County sheriff's offices in executing the warrant. Authorities say illegal items were seized during the search.



Photo courtesy of Sheriff Aaron Dodd of Andrew Buttshaw (left) and Vicente Guevara (right)

Buttshaw was additionally charged with three counts of unlawful possession of prescription drugs. Emily Buttshaw of Hampton was cited and released for possession of drug paraphernalia.

Following an initial court appearance, Buttshaw and Guevara were each held on a \$25,000 cash-only bond before being transported to the Hardin County Jail.

Franklin Co. Attorney Attends FBI Law Enforcement Meeting

BY ELIAN TREVINO
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

DES MOINES – Franklin County Attorney Andrea Miller joined more than 130 Iowa law enforcement officials Monday, June 29, for a meeting with FBI Director Kash Patel to discuss issues affecting communities across the state.

The meeting brought together law enforcement leaders from across Iowa, including representatives from small and large communities, to discuss ways agencies can work together on challenges such as online scams, human trafficking and drug-related cases.

Iowa Attorney General Brenna Bird said the meeting was an opportunity for law enforcement officials from different levels to come together and discuss solutions.

"I think this is the first time that I know of, in my memory, that we've had the FBI director here in Iowa meeting with all levels of law enforcement leadership," Bird said. "We had people from small departments to big departments, big counties, small counties, county attorneys... talking about how we can work together."

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Photo courtesy of the Iowa Attorney General's Office. Iowa Attorney General Brenna Bird and FBI Director Kash Patel participate in a meeting with Iowa law enforcement officials. The discussion focused on collaboration between agencies and issues affecting communities across the state.

YFC Breakfast Raises Support for Summer Camp

BY ELIAN TREVINO
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

HAMPTON – Community members gathered Friday morning for the Youth for Christ (YFC) Breakfast, helping raise funds to send local middle and high school students to summer camp. The fundraiser, held at the YFC building in Hampton, featured pancakes, sausage, coffee and juice. Freewill donations from the breakfast will help offset camp costs, making it possible for more students to attend this summer.

Ryne Reyes, who joined YFC in September, said the breakfast was about more than raising money. It also gave community members the opportunity to learn more about YFC and the students it serves. "We're mainly here for the students, but we also want to be here for our community as well," Reyes said.

Reyes first became involved with YFC in 2022, working with incarcerated youth before returning to the organization last fall. He said his favorite part of the ministry is building relationships with young people. "My favorite part is getting to know their stories," Reyes said. "I believe everyone has a story and deserves to be heard."

Reyes added that YFC strives to provide students with encouragement, mentorship and a place where they know they are valued. Proceeds from the breakfast will help reduce the cost of attending YFC camps. Middle school students will attend Wildwood Hills Ranch in Madison County, while high school students will travel to Lake Geneva, Wisconsin.

Student volunteers also assisted with serving the breakfast.

See **SUMMER CAMP:**
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Try Disc Golf Event Planned at East Park

BY ELIAN TREVINO
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

HAMPTON – Fresh air, exercise and a little friendly competition are all part of what keeps people coming back to disc golf. Now, the community will have the opportunity to see what the sport is all about during a free “Try Disc Golf” event on Saturday, July 11, at the Hampton Rotary Disc Golf Course in East Park.

Organizers Steve Huling and Jeff Winters hope the event introduces more children and adults to the sport, which continues to grow in popularity because of its accessibility and low cost.

“We want to provide children through adults with an introduction to the sport,” Huling said. “The first nine holes of our course are very beginner friendly and can be played even if soccer is going on. We’d love to see more people out enjoying this free activity and hopefully some will start playing on a regular basis.”

The event is designed for beginners and experienced players alike, with organizers offering age-specific sessions throughout the day. Children ages 12 and younger will participate from 9 to 10 a.m., followed by ages 13 to 17 from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.



Organizers Jeff Winters and Steve Huling at the disc golf course.

Adults ages 18 and older are invited from 1 to 2 p.m.

Participants do not need to bring any equipment. Discs will be provided during the event, giving newcomers an opportunity to learn the game before purchasing their own. Used discs will be available for \$5 after the event, and new discs are available

through Hampton Hardware.

For Huling, the sport offers more than just a chance to throw a disc.

“I enjoy disc golf because you get a lot of walking in,” Huling said. “I can play with my family members. My grandkids enjoy it, and my son and son-in-law are very good at it. With practice, you can get proficient fairly quickly, especially compared to regular golf, which I played for years. It’s been rewarding to see the improvement that I’ve made in just three years.”

The sport is played similarly to traditional golf, with players throwing a flying disc toward a series of metal baskets while attempting to complete each hole in the fewest throws possible. Whether played casually with friends or competitively in tournaments, Winters and Huling say the game appeals to players of nearly every age and skill level.

The July 11 event is intended to introduce more community members to the Hampton Rotary Disc Golf Course while encouraging residents to take advantage of one of Hampton’s outdoor recreational amenities.

For more information, contact Jeff Winters at jwinters5878@gmail.com or Steve Huling at hulingsteve@gmail.com.

Hampton Public Library Earns Top State Accreditation

BY ELIAN TREVINO
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

HAMPTON – The Hampton Public Library has earned Tier 3 accreditation from the State Library of Iowa, marking another milestone for the local library and the services it provides to residents throughout Hampton and Franklin County.

For Library Director Suzy Knipfel, the recognition reflects the dedication of the library’s staff and Board of Trustees to serving the community while being responsible stewards of taxpayer dollars.

“The accreditation acknowledges that Hampton Public Library continues to strive for excellence in providing exceptional service and resources to our community,” Knipfel said. “It serves as a great benchmark to how we serve our patrons and how the Board of Trustees as well as myself continue to be fiscally responsible when it comes to taxpayer’s dollars.”

Receiving the accreditation also brings a sense of accomplishment to those who work behind the scenes to keep the library operating each day.

“It’s wonderful to know we are doing our best here and it certainly gives us a real sense of pride that we are succeeding in our primary mission,” Knipfel said.

While patrons may simply see shelves of books, children’s programs and community events, earning Tier 3 accreditation involves months of preparation and extensive documentation.

Knipfel said completing the accreditation application is a time-consuming process that requires submitting numerous documents, including the library’s strategic plan, mission statement, bylaws, library history, the City of Hampton’s code of ordinance, Americans with Disabilities Act



compliance information and policy updates approved by the Board of Trustees during its monthly meetings.

Other requirements include maintaining an acceptable book budget for the size of the community, ensuring staffing levels meet the library’s operating hours and documenting circulation statistics based on the city’s population.

“Filing an accreditation application is very time consuming,” Knipfel said. “Many documents need to be submitted.”

The accreditation also carries benefits for the community. Knipfel said the library’s Tier 3 status allows it to receive the highest percentage of state funding available through the accreditation program.

“Anytime we receive more funding, it is passed on to our patrons and community through increases in book buying, more programs and increasing more children’s activities,” she said.

As the library looks toward the future, Knipfel said she is equally proud of its past.

“I am most proud of the fact that 120 years after the City of Hampton agreed to build a library, that we are still going strong!” Knipfel said. “This would not be possible without a strong community continuing to support us. The City Council also continues to support us. I am also very proud of the impact our library has had over the years with the thousands of patrons who have walked through our doors.”

Although the accreditation is a significant achievement, Knipfel sees it as motivation to continue building on the library’s success.

“The accreditation process will continue to set the standard here at the library,” she said. “We will continue to offer exceptional service to our customers as well as to our community. Our hope is to continue to grow and adapt to the needs of the citizens of Hampton as well as Franklin County.”

The achievement highlights the library’s continued dedication to providing exceptional service for the Hampton community.

West Fork Sophomore Places Third With GENREad

BY ELIAN TREVINO
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

SHEFFIELD – While many teenagers are still exploring future career possibilities, West Fork High School rising sophomore Keifer Huling is already developing a business designed to help people discover their next favorite book.

The 16-year-old recently earned third place in the 2026 Youth Entrepreneurial Academy (YEA) Student Pitch Competition with his business concept, GENREad, an AI-powered reading platform that combines personalized book recommendations with an unlimited digital library and interactive reading features. His presentation earned him a \$500 seed prize after competing against fellow North Iowa high school students.

Hosted by the NIACC John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center, the Youth Entrepreneurial Academy was held June 15-26 and concluded with a student pitch competition on June 30. The free two-week program gives North Iowa high school students the opportunity to explore entrepreneurship through hands-on learning, mentorship and business development. Every participant receives a \$500 NIACC scholarship while also having the chance to compete for startup funding.

For Huling, the inspiration behind GENREad came from a problem he noticed among readers of all ages.

“I created GENREad because I noticed that many people want to read more but don’t know where to start,” Huling said. “With thousands of books available, finding one that matches your interests can be overwhelming. I wanted to create a platform that makes discovering books simple, personalized and enjoyable.”

Rather than offering the same recommendations to every reader, GENREad would use artificial intelligence to learn each user’s reading preferences. As readers continue rating books, the recommendations would become more personalized over time, helping users discover titles they may have otherwise overlooked.

Huling said he also hopes the platform will encourage people to build stronger reading habits by creating a more interactive experience.

“My goal is to continue de-



Keifer Huling accepts a check recognizing his third-place finish for his business idea, GENREad, during the Youth Entrepreneurial Academy competition.

veloping GENREad into a complete reading platform,” he said. “I envision it offering personalized book recommendations, unlimited reading, book clubs with reading progress tracking and features that learn from users’ ratings to provide even better recommendations over time.”

The app’s built-in book clubs would allow friends and fellow readers to follow each other’s progress through a book, creating opportunities for discussion while keeping everyone on the same page.

Although Huling was confident in his idea, presenting it to a panel of experienced business leaders was still a challenge.

“Presenting at the Youth Entrepreneurial Academy was an exciting and rewarding experience,” Huling said. “It challenged me to communicate my idea clearly and confidently. Earning third place was something I was proud of because it showed that the judges believed in the potential of GENREad.”

Huling said the academy changed the way he views entrepreneurship.

“YEA taught me that entrepreneurship is about solving real problems, listening to customers and continuously improving your idea,” he said. “It also showed me the importance of planning, teamwork and presenting a clear business vision.”

The final recognition provid-

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SUMMER CAMP: FROM COVER



From left, LeAnn Strother, Alejandro Reyes, Jeanette Reyes and Ryne Reyes help the Youth for Christ fundraising breakfast Friday morning.

ing breakfast, giving community members the opportunity to meet some of the youth who will directly benefit from the fundraiser. Reyes said camp provides students with opportunities to build friendships, strengthen their faith and grow in a positive environment. He added that many students are

excited to attend but are concerned about the cost, making community support especially meaningful.

“It’s about showing students that they’re seen, they’re heard and they’re loved,” Reyes said. “Not only by Jesus, but by people in this community who want to invest in them.”

Hampton Municipal Band Celebrates 105 Years of Music

BY ELIAN TREVINO
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

HAMPTON – After 105 years of bringing live music to the community, the Hampton Municipal Band wrapped up another summer season of Tuesday on the Town concerts, continuing a tradition that has connected generations of residents through music.

Band Director Chris Sauke, who is in his 17th year leading the group, said the longevity of the band is one of the things that makes it special.

“For 105 years, people in Hampton have been gathering together and celebrating music during the summer,” Sauke said. “I think that’s just really cool to think about.”

Each season, Sauke researches which musicals, popular songs, or music groups are celebrating major milestones to help build his weekly programs. The concerts typically include a vibrant mix of marches, medleys, and popular music.

“I try to pull out every year when I start thinking about this and do some research as to what musicals, what music groups, what popular songs are celebrating an anniversary,” Sauke said.

Preparing for each weekly performance takes dedication from the musicians. The band rehearses once a week for about an hour and a half before performing the next evening,



Chris Sauke leads the Hampton Municipal Band during its final Tuesday on the Town concert of the season, marking the conclusion of the band’s 105th year of performances in Hampton.

meaning members must come prepared to learn and perform new music each week.

The band has continued to change throughout the years as new musicians join and longtime members step away. Sauke said seeing younger players grow alongside experienced musicians has been one of the highlights of the group.

The season also marked a special milestone for longtime clarinet player Donna Dorsey, who celebrated 67 years as a member of the Hampton Municipal Band.

Dorsey said her love for music and performing for the

crowd are what have kept her involved for more than six decades.

“I like the clarinet. I like the music. I like pleasing the crowd,” Dorsey said. “And it’s just fun.”

Over the years, Donna has seen the band go through multiple directors and many changes, but the purpose has remained the same — bringing people together through music.

“It just fills in, and some people leave, and some of them pass on, and we just keep going,” Dorsey said.

For Sauke, the Tuesday on the Town concerts represent

more than just a performance. The setting in Bandshell Park, with residents gathering in lawn chairs and enjoying live music together, creates a sense of community that continues the tradition started more than a century ago.

“It’s not pre-recorded music, it’s actually live musicians working hard, playing music for the enjoyment of the community,” Sauke said.

As the Hampton Municipal Band looks ahead to its next season, the group continues a tradition that has made music a part of summer evenings in Hampton for generations.



FROM YOUR NEIGHBORS

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Paddle Cross Organizer Challenges State Politicians to Iowa River Race

BY SHAWN DIETZ
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

Riverbend Rally in Iowa Falls took place over the weekend, and one of the event organizers used some of his airtime during a remote broadcast promoting the event to throw down a nautical challenge to two prominent state politicians. Michael Krogh organized the Paddle Cross canoe and kayak races, and publicly invited gubernatorial candidates Zach Lahn and Rob Sand to go head-to-head on the Iowa River. Krogh says it is a perfect opportunity for the politicians to step out of their comfort zones.

“It would go a long way to show what they—if they actually care about the water that they say they do, you know. I’m not trying to be provocative at all, but, you know, the water’s

in the—in the news a lot. And let’s come—come out, what better way to show that you care about it than to come play in it. And, I kind of want to see what they look like doing the elementary backstroke [laughs]. So, yeah, it’s—it’s, you know, it’s all in good—good fun. But I think something that’s outside of the—the usual debate or, you know, rally type of situation would be a—a great thing to show that who we should vote for in our future leadership.”

There is no word yet on whether either campaign responded to the challenge. In all seriousness, looking ahead to the November election, both the Lahn and Sand campaigns say they welcome a chance to debate this fall, though no official schedule or locations have been finalized.

First Bank Hampton Promotes Eisentrager to Latimer Branch Manager

BY SHAWN DIETZ
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

First Bank Hampton has promoted a familiar face to lead its Latimer branch. The bank announced Friday, July 3rd, the promotion of Janae Eisentrager to Latimer Branch Manager. Eisentrager, a Latimer native, brings a quarter-century of banking experience to her new role, including five years with First Bank Hampton, where she most recently served in the bookkeeping department.

Bank officials say her extensive knowledge of bank operations and deep community roots make her the perfect fit. In her new leadership position, Eisentrager will oversee daily operations, lead customer service initiatives, and support local business development. First Bank Hampton President



Janae Eisentrager

and CEO Tyler Heeren praised Eisentrager’s professionalism, work ethic, and genuine passion for helping clients, stating that the bank is excited to see her step into this vital role.

Eisentrager says she looks forward to strengthening relationships and helping local customers achieve their financial goals.

Mason City Man Arrested On Terrorism Charges At Clear Lake Carnival

BY SHAWN DIETZ
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

A Mason City man faces multiple charges, including terrorism, after allegedly pulling a gun during a fight at the Clear Lake Independence Day celebration Saturday night.

According to Clear Lake Police, officers working security at the downtown park were flagged down just before 10:30 p.m. regarding an altercation. Witnesses reported that a man had displayed a firearm during the fight. Within minutes, foot patrol officers located and detained 25-year-old Darrius Rayshawn Bolden, who matched the suspect’s description. Bolden was found in possession of a handgun matching the weapon reported in the fight.

Investigators confirmed that no shots were fired and no injuries were reported. More than a dozen law enforcement officers responded to assist. Clear Lake Police were aided on the scene by the Iowa State Patrol, Mason City Police, and the Cerro Gordo County Sheriff’s Office.

Bolden was arrested and faces charges of terrorism, possession of a weapon while intoxicated, disorderly conduct, interference with official acts, and public intoxication.

In a press release, Clear Lake Police Chief Michael Colby noted that extra officers would remain downtown through the end of the weekend festivities. Investigators are asking anyone who witnessed or recorded the altercation to contact the Clear Lake Police Department at (641) 357-2186.

Butler County Relay for Life to hold final annual event

BY MITCH WILLIAMS
RADIOONTHEGO NEWS

After 25 years of bringing the community together in the fight against cancer, the Butler County Relay for Life will hold its final annual event next week.

This year’s Relay carries the theme “Bee the Hope,” with participants encouraged to dress as bees, butterflies, fairies or other nature-inspired characters while enjoying an evening of activities and community support.

Relay for Life Chair Jamie Thompson says the event will celebrate the Relay’s 25-year legacy while honoring cancer survivors, remembering those lost to the disease and raising money for the American Cancer Society.

“Our committee is about 15 of us and then we have volunteers that come in and go throughout the years that help us continually,” Thompson says. “So there’s probably about 20 of us, 25 of us that are always helping. It’s always a great time. We have obviously our luminaria ceremony, which is always important with our names being



read for our in memory and in honor of survivors and those that we remember.”

While this year’s Relay marks the end of an era, Thompson says the decision to discontinue the annual event reflects changes in how the American Cancer Society supports local fundraisers, along with declining attendance as summer schedules have become increasingly busy with community

celebrations and athletic events.

“Our new corporate person is out of North Carolina, so we do everything virtually with her, which has made it very difficult,” Thompson says. “It is hard for us in rural communities, because we are community first, and we know everybody and anybody that is on our committees. We know everybody and anybody that is on our survivor lists. So I think that makes us more special, and that’s what Relay, for us, has always stood for, because we know everybody that’s there. So we are more willing to put the money towards it and to be helpful, because we know someone that has been affected by it. Going more virtual has been difficult because in the rural communities they don’t have the access to the better internet to be able to do that, to be online, (and) to donate as well.”

The 25th and final Butler County Relay for Life will be held Friday, July 10, at the Butler County Fairgrounds in Allison. Activities begin at 5 p.m. and include a silent auction, games and activities, food vendors and the annual luminaria ceremony honoring those affected by cancer.

Correction

In the article "Dows Man Headed to Trial Following Waverly Assault Charge" in last week’s edition of the Hampton Chronicle we wrote Elian Angel Trevino’s age as 21. Trevino is 18 years old.

For up to date news about neighboring communities, visit radioonthego.com

One Dead, Four Injured Following Clear Lake Watercraft Crash

BY SHAWN DIETZ
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

A 14-year-old Dyersville girl has died from injuries suffered during a two-boat collision on Clear Lake over the Independence Day weekend. The teenager, who was riding as a passenger on one of the watercraft, later succumbed to her injuries. Her identity has not yet been released.

According to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, two personal watercraft carrying five people collided around 5:30

p.m. Saturday (7/4/26) near the MacIntosh Woods State Park boat ramp. Passengers on a nearby pontoon boat immediately rushed to render aid before multiple emergency agencies arrived.

All five individuals were transported to MercyOne Medical Center in Mason City.

35-year-old Chelsea Maxwell, an 11-year-old female, and a 12-year-old male, all from Greenwood, South Carolina, were treated and released Saturday.

A 15-year-old female from Mason City was transferred to the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, where she remained in serious condition on Sunday (7/5/26).

The Iowa DNR is leading the investigation into the cause of the collision. Officers have officially ruled out alcohol or other impairments as contributing factors. The full press release from the Department of Natural Resources can be found attached to this news story at RadioOnTheGo.com.

Marshall County UTV Crash Leaves Two Seriously Injured

BY SHAWN DIETZ
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

Two people were hospitalized with serious injuries following a utility terrain vehicle (UTV) rollover crash near Rhodes on the Fourth of July.

According to the Marshall County Sheriff’s Office, emergency crews responded to private property southwest of Rhodes at approximately 6:27 p.m. Saturday (7/4/26). First responders located the scene with the help of bystanders

who witnessed the crash. Both occupants of the side-by-side UTV suffered serious injuries and were transported via air ambulances to Des Moines area hospitals. The names of those involved have not been released.

The cause of the crash remains under investigation. The Marshall County Sheriff’s Office was assisted at the scene by Life Flight helicopters, Melbourne Fire, Melbourne/Rhodes EMS, State Center EMS, State Center Police, and UnityPoint Health Ambulance.

SUMMER FUN WITH DEXTER



BY RICK JANSSEN

Once summer comes my wife and I get to spend more time with our grandkids since they are not in school. Of course, they are busier now that they are older, so we don’t get as much time as we once did. Whenever we get a chance to be with one of them, we take it.

A week ago was one of the times that Dexter was available for some “play time” with Nana and Papa. My wife and I had just come home from a trip to Mason City and we found Dexter and his mom at our house dropping off stuff for a future garage sale. I mentioned to Dexter that we were going fishing and he should

come along. He agreed to join us.

We loaded up the boat and headed out to Beeds Lake. We put the boat in and got our poles ready for some bluegills. As we were preparing our poles, I looked over to the bank, and I could see some bluegills making nests. I knew this would be a good place to start. It was! Before I had even gotten my pole set, Dexter had two fish in the boat. It was a great start to the day. We all caught several more from that spot before we moved on. Just a bit further up the bank he caught another fish. This one was nice sized, and he asked if we could keep some to eat for supper. I had not considered this, but I agreed that if we caught enough, I would clean them for supper.

We moved on to spot number three, and my wife caught the next fish to add to the live well. It seemed that wherever I could find the nests, we could catch a fish or two before they turned off. We kept moving down the



bank, but we were not finding any more fish.

By this time, it was getting very warm and we were ready to head home, but we did not have enough for supper yet. Dexter suggested that we head back to some of our earlier spots and maybe we could catch enough for supper. I asked him how many we had in the live well and he said six. I told him we would need nine for supper.

We stopped by the same spots



on the way back to the dock and I managed to catch three more to add to our catch. It was just enough so we headed home. I cleaned the fish and we ate them together for supper.

The next day I told Dexter I was going golfing with a friend and invited him along. Again, he agreed. He said he likes driving the cart the best. We picked up my friend and headed to the golf course.

I have some youth clubs that



Dexter uses, and he was anxious to give them a try. I don’t really know how to teach someone to golf, so I just let him swing away for the first few shots. He was not having much success to begin with. I then gave him some basic pointers, and he started smacking the ball. Of course, there were several missed swings in between, but he got better with each hole.

On a few occasions either my friend or I would “duff” one off

the tee and he would hit his further than us. He thought it was great fun to tease us about who hit the ball furthest. How soon did the trash talk start? I did not know if he would want to play 18, but when we finished the first nine, he was excited to keep going.

By the time we played all 18 he was doing well. When we finished the round, he said he could not wait to play again. When I got him home he told his mom that NOW his favorite part of golf was hitting the ball and his second favorite thing was driving the cart.

These summer days of fun will always be cherished memories to me, as we know that time will fly by and soon time with Nana and Papa will be left behind. Enjoy while you can.

Enjoy the column?

Now enjoy the podcast.

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Veterans Gather for Evening of Appreciation at Hampton Senior Center

BY ELIAN TREVINO
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

HAMPTON – The Hampton Senior Citizen Center brought local veterans and their spouses together for an evening of appreciation and fellowship during its annual Veterans Supper on July 6.

The event featured live music at 5 p.m., followed by a meal for veterans from across Franklin County and their guests. The evening was organized to recognize the service and contributions of local veterans while providing an opportunity for them to connect with others in the community.

According to Hampton Senior Citizen Center Vice President Michael Bridwell, the Veterans Supper was launched last year after a member suggested the idea. This year marked the second time the event has been held.

The evening was made possible through personal donations from community members, including anonymous contributions that helped fund the meal and activities.

“We have a lot of veterans in Franklin County,” Bridwell said. “I’m a veteran my-

self. We have quite a few here at the senior center who are either veterans or widows of veterans, and so it means a lot to the people in our community.”

The evening included volunteer entertainment, with Dawn Groszkruger playing piano alongside local singers. Attendees enjoyed a meal of barbecue pulled pork, coleslaw, baked beans, and drinks.

Bridwell noted that the ultimate goal of the event was to give service members and their families an opportunity to feel connected with the center and the wider community.

“We’re here for them,” Bridwell said. “We’d be happy to have any of them become full-time members or to see this as a group that they could be a part of.”

Organizers expressed gratitude for the strong turnout, noting that this year’s supper successfully built upon the foundations laid during last year’s inaugural event. The Veterans Supper remains one of the premier ways the Hampton Senior Citizen Center continues to celebrate those who have made a lasting impact through their service.



Ranay Hunst, Krysta Weinandy, Lynn Collins and Raquel Uribe gather before welcoming veterans and their spouses to the Hampton Senior Citizen Center’s annual Veterans Supper on July 6.



BY ELIAN TREVINO
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

HAMPTON – This week, Center Stage shines on Hampton-Dumont-CAL senior Noe Flores, a student whose passion for art, creativity and storytelling has helped shape his high school experience. Whether he’s behind a camera, on stage or creating his next piece of artwork, Flores is always looking for ways to express himself while encouraging others to do the same.

Flores stays busy throughout the school year, participating in drama, speech, choir, chamber choir, tennis and Art Club. While each activity has played an important role in his high school career, he says art has become the biggest part of his life.

One of his favorite classes has been Publications, where students design the school yearbook and produce the school newspaper each quarter. The class allows Flores to photograph students, staff and school events while helping preserve memories for the school community.

“I get to take pictures of the students, staff and all the events,” Flores said. “We also do the school newspaper every quarter, and it’s just a fun class.”

Another class that had a lasting impact was 2-D Art during his first semester. Flores said the class helped him discover his own artistic style while giving him the opportunity to spend time doing what he loves most.



Outside the classroom, Flores enjoys creating artwork of all kinds. When he’s not making art, he likes to relax after school or catch up on sleep. During drama and speech season, however, much of his free time is spent in rehearsals as he works to perfect every performance.

“When it’s drama or speech season, I usually go to practices and work hard to make the things I’m doing perfect,” he said.

Flores credits Hampton-Dumont-CAL art teacher Nicole Nelson as one of his biggest influences. He said Nelson has taught him that every piece of art is a process and that patience is just as important as talent.

“She has always told me you need to look six feet away from your piece and you can see what you need to fix,” Flores said. “She taught me to never give up on what I love.”

One of Flores’ proudest accomplishments came during his sophomore year when one of his photographs was selected for the NCC Art Show. Despite competing against many talented photographers, he earned Best of Photography.

“I was doubting myself that I wouldn’t win,” he said. “When they announced the awards, I was thrilled. I was in a state of shock.”

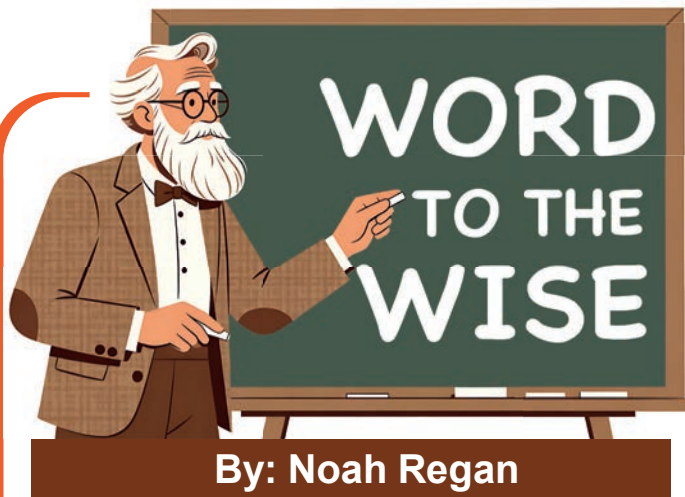
One of his favorite memories from high school came during an Art Club trip to Des Moines. The group visited the Des Moines Art Center, Pappajohn Sculpture Park and Mainframe Studios, where they explored multiple floors filled with working artists and creative spaces.

“That was one of the most inspiring trips I’ve been on,” Flores said. “We all wanted more time to meet the artists because time flew by.”

After graduating, Flores plans to attend Iowa State University, where he hopes to major in interior design or graphic design. While he’s still deciding exactly where his career will take him, he knows creativity will remain at the center of it.

Flores also hopes to encourage other artists to continue improving and believing in their own work. He enjoys offering honest feedback to fellow artists because he wants everyone to reach their full potential.

“My motto is every artist has their own perfect vision in their mind,” Flores said. “Even though another person doesn’t think so, always stand for your art.”



By: Noah Regan

This Week's Trivia: (Answers are printed at the bottom)

Comic Book Edition:

- #1:** Which two comic books hold the record for most valuable? One is from 1938 and the other is from 1939.
- #2:** What is the pen name of the artist born Jacob Kurtzberg in 1917, who is widely regarded as one of the the most prolific and influential creators?

This Week in History:

Courtesy: Britannica.com

July 5, 1946: A French designer unveiled a new swimsuit and named it the bikini, after Bikini atoll in the Marshall Islands, the site of recent U.S. nuclear testing. **Born:** Chuck Close, American artist (1940)

July 6, 1942: Anne Frank and her family went into hiding in Amsterdam and lived in a secret annex—an experience documented in her diary, which became a classic of war literature—until their capture on August 4, 1944. **Born:** George W. Bush, 43rd president of the United States (1946)

July 7, 1898: The U.S. Congress annexed Hawaii through a joint resolution signed by President William McKinley paving the way for the islands to become a territory in 1900 and later a U.S. state in 1959. **Born:** Ringo Starr, English singer, songwriter, actor and musician (1940)

July 8, 1497: Vasco da Gama sailed from Lisbon with a fleet of four vessels, and he ultimately opened a sea route from western Europe to Asia by way of the Cape of Good Hope, ushering in a new era in world history. **Born:** Beck (Beck David Hansen), American singer/songwriter (1970)

July 9, 2011: South Sudan declared its independence after a referendum to secede from Sudan passed overwhelmingly. **Born:** Tom Hanks, American actor (1956)

July 10, 2019: German automaker Volkswagen ended production of the Beetle, the first model of which had been introduced in 1938. **Born:** Arlo Guthrie, American Folk singer-songwriter (1947)

July 11, 1804: Outraged over disparaging remarks that Alexander Hamilton had allegedly made at a dinner party, Aaron Burr challenged his longtime rival to a duel and fatally shot Hamilton in Weehawken, New Jersey. **Born:** Andrew Bird, American musician (1973)

Fascinating Facts:

Comic Book Edition:

- The Hulk wasn’t always green: The famous green monster was originally drawn gray. However, the printers struggled to keep the gray color consistent across the pages, so the creators simply changed him to green starting in issue #2.
- The 1991 release of X-Men #1 holds the Guinness World Record for the best-selling American single-issue comic of all time, selling nearly 8.2 million copies

- The world’s largest publicly available comic book collection belongs to the Library of Congress. They currently hold over 100,000 individual issues. Among those are some very rare comics; includes color microfiche of selected early comic book titles like Superman, More Fun, Action Comics and special reprints.

Quality Quotes:

Comic Book Wisdom:

- "Dreams save us. Dreams lift us up and transform us. And on my soul, I swear... until my dream of a world where dignity, honor, and justice becomes the reality we all share... I won't stop fighting. Ever."
— Superman
- "We're not just our failures. As much as what we've done, we're what we've done next."
— Spiderman
- "Endurance is more than the ability to bear a hard thing, but to turn it into glory."
— Alfred Pennyworth (to Batman)
- "With great power comes great responsibility."
— Uncle Ben (to Peter Parker)
- "The person who helps others simply because it should or must be done, and because it is the right thing to do, is indeed without a doubt, a real superhero."
— Stan Lee

Trivia Answers:

Answer #1: Action Comics #1 from 1938 which features the first appearance of Superman sold for a record \$15 million. And, Superman #1 from 1939 sold for \$9.12 million. It was found tucked away in a California attic.

Answer #2: Jack Kirby

Reader of the Week

at the Hampton Public Library

BY BRENDA VAN WERT
CHILDREN'S LIBRARIAN

Reader of the Week at the Hampton Public Library is Luci Mollenbeck, age 9.

Luci will be in 4th grade this Fall. She is the daughter of Megan and Jesse Mollenbeck. Her favorite books are the American Girl series.



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Franklin County Showmanship Workshop Success

LAELA RAGSDALE
IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION AND OUTREACH

Franklin County – Iowa State University Extension and Outreach and Tall Corn FFA hosted a showmanship workshop for youth in grades K-6th in partnership with the Franklin County Cattlemen's, Alliant Energy and the Franklin County 4-H Foundation on Saturday, June 27, 2026. Seventeen youth from Franklin County attended and learned all about the different areas of livestock that are shown at the Franklin County Fair. Youth from Tall Corn FFA and Franklin County 4-H taught youth about the basic care of livestock, showmanship techniques, how to prepare for the fair and more.

Kenley Hansen and Maddie Pralle with Tall Corn FFA, organized this workshop in partnership with Franklin County Extension & Outreach Franklin County. The girls wanted to provide an opportunity for older 4-H and FFA members to share their knowledge with youth who are just beginning to show or are interested in starting. To do this, they found other FFA and 4-H youth to bring their livestock projects to fair and talk to the youth about them. They found



Hazel Menken teaches youth, Addi Swieter, AJ Borcherding and Lydia Varrelmann about the type of brush that she uses on her horse's face.



Austin Miller, practices leading, Maddie Pralle's pig around while other youth watch.

other youth to bring a goat, horse, cattle, Kenley Hansen brought her sheep and showed



Group picture of the youth who attended, the FFA members who were group leaders, and the FFA and 4-H youth who led each station.

swine, sheep, and a rabbit.

Youth in attendance were split into groups of three to four and visited every station. The youth presenting at those stations spoke with them for fifteen minutes about the animal's diet, grooming techniques, how showing works, and showmanship tips and tricks. Many of the youth brought feed samples, tack, supplies and other items to use for demonstration. Many of the youth in each station had the opportunity to interact with the animals and ask questions to the youth presenting.

Klayton Plagge brought his meat goat and taught kids how to train their goats to lead. Hazel Menken brought her horse, Willow, a saddle and other tack. She taught youth about grooming, showing, safety, and more. Sydney Lyman, an AGWSR FFA alumni, brought her cattle project, and shared her knowledge of showing and fitting. Maddie Pralle brought her swine project, brought feed samples to share, and youth were able to brush her pig. Ken-



Kenley Hansen, explains and demonstrates how to set up sheep to stand during a show.

youth how to show, groom and more! All youth did an amazing job teaching youth about their projects.

After youth went through all the stations, prizes were given out to each attendee. These prizes were sponsored by the Franklin County Cattlemen and Alliant Energy. Youth received feed scoops, water buckets, and manure scoops. Lunch was provided by the Franklin County 4-H Foundation. The sponsors of this program are greatly appreciated and allowed all youth to attend at no cost.

At the end of the program, sixteen out of seventeen of the youth who attended said they had learned a new skill, new information about livestock, or felt better prepared to show their livestock project. The 4-H and FFA youth who helped set-up, lead groups and teach youth about their livestock learned important leadership skills and gained experience in sharing about the importance of livestock in the agricultural industry.



Sydney Lyman, an AGWSR FFA alumni, shows youth how she grooms her cattle.

Feds pull Iowa's 'healthy food' SNAP waiver

BY CAMI KOONS
IOWA CAPITAL DISPATCH

A federal waiver allowing Iowa to restrict the types of food that can be purchased with federal nutrition assistance has been vacated, according to the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services. The action follows a federal court ruling that the waivers, aimed at restricting the purchase of sugary drinks and sweets, violated the federal definition of food.

Iowa HHS wrote in a news release Thursday afternoon that it had directed Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program retailers to update their systems to allow SNAP participants to again use their funds to purchase foods within the federal guidelines.

Iowa's waiver request was approved by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in May 2025 and implemented Jan. 1, 2026. SNAP recipients, under the waiver, could not use their benefits on foods that are eligible for sales tax. This excluded things like candy and soft drinks, but also had some gray



A sign at a grocery store shows certain items cannot be purchased using the federal nutrition assistance program. (Photo by Cami Koons/Iowa Capital Dispatch)

areas around items like granola bars and prepared foods, which led some groups to argue the waiver was confusing to retailers and program participants.

Gov. Kim Reynolds pushed back on the court ruling against the waivers and said the Iowa waiver helped to promote better health and nutrition.

Reynolds also signed "Make America Healthy Again" legislation in May that tasked HHS with implementing waivers that specified foods purchased with SNAP benefits were "healthy foods." These waivers are contingent on USDA approval.

The HHS news release said the federal changes will also impact the SUN Bucks program – a federal nutrition program that distributes electronic benefit transfer, or EBT, funds to SNAP participating households with children during the summer months.

Iowa opted out of the program the past two summers, in favor of its own pilot program that focused on giving eligible households boxes of healthy food. Reynolds chose to participate in the federal program this summer, under the condition that the benefits would also have to adhere to the healthy foods waiver.

HHS said in the news release that because SUN Bucks was underway when the updated rules took effect, "foods that were previously eligible before the waiver will be allowed under SUN Bucks."

Report: Iowa lost 17% of USDA staff in 2025, impact felt at farmer-facing offices

Analysis of federal data shows impact of cuts to county USDA offices

BY CAMI KOONS
IOWA CAPITAL DISPATCH

U.S. Department of Agriculture staffing cuts in 2025 have left county-level service offices understaffed, according to an analysis of federal data from the National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition.

The report found that Iowa lost nearly 19% of its Natural Resources Conservation Service, or NRCS, staff and 8% of its Farm Service Agency staff between January 2025 and January 2026. Both agencies staff local USDA offices and help farmers with federal programs and loans.

Coalition staff and a co-author at Prospect Partners, LLC, used data from the U.S. Office of Personnel Management website and a Freedom of Information Act request of FSA county staff changes for the analysis. Nationally, USDA had a 23%

decline of NRCS staff and 8% of FSA employees in 2025. The report said these agencies were among those "hardest hit" by the Department of Government Efficiency led cuts.

The "steepest" losses among FSA county staff, according to the report, were county program analysts. The report said these are the staff that producers "rely on most" to help them with programs and paperwork. Nationally, more than 600 county program analysts left the department between January 2025 and December 2025.

According to the report, 34% of counties across the country had a net staffing decrease in FSA county staff and 38 counties, 2%, started the year with FSA county staff and ended the year with none. The coalition found that net FSA staffing fell in 47 Iowa counties in 2025 and the state lost a total of 52 FSA



A report shows that the nation lost 8% of Farm Service Agency county staff and 23% of Natural Resources Conservation Service staff in 2025. These staff, pictured here at a Carroll County Maryland office, work directly with farmers. (Photo by Preston Keres/USDA)

staff. The majority of staff left USDA through the Deferred Resignation Program, which allowed employees to voluntarily

resign with several months paid, as part of an initiative under the Department of Government Efficiency, or DOGE. A recent report from Public Citizen esti-

mates the "fork in the road" program cost the nation more than \$11 billion.

A USDA spokesperson said the department is "committed to providing the quality service and customer experience" that producers "expect and deserve."

"Secretary (Brooke) Rollins understands the array of mission critical positions and programs at the Department, and she will ensure that those areas, including FSA and NRCS have the resources and personnel they need to continue serving the American people," the spokesperson said in a statement.

Lack of staff adds to farmer stress
Iowa-specific data obtained by National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition showed that four Iowa counties — Appanoose, Decatur, Polk and Union

— had no federal or county-level Farm Service Agency staff in January 2026.

Aaron Lehman, a Polk County farmer and president of Iowa Farmers Union, said his county office is now open only one day a week with an FSA officer.

Lehman said this means the process of applying for crop insurance, farm loans and other programs with the agency "hasn't been nearly as straightforward" as it used to be.

With 30 years of farming and navigating USDA programs under his belt, Lehman said he's been able to get things done, but he said newer farmers, or those applying to programs outside of the traditional corn and soybean commodity programs, are likely feeling the staff shortages more. "When you have less people at your local office, less hours at

Iowa Women in Agriculture Conference Celebrates 20 Years on August 6

"Resilience, Innovation, and Heart in Every Field" is the theme of the 2026 Iowa Women in Agriculture Conference set for August 6 at the FFA Enrichment Center in Ankeny.

A powerhouse combo of keynote sessions and concurrent workshops led by a select cadre of speakers will address ag challenges, offering timely advice about:

- Commodity market scenarios
- Soil and water quality initiatives
- Lender's outlook on credit challenges
- Prospects for a new farm bill, tariffs, and taxes
- Latest on land values and transition planning tips
- Dynamic role of women in the ag industry

The Conference kicks off at 8:15 a.m., and concludes at 4:30 p.m.

Opening Keynote Panel: An energetic and insightful team of ag legislative and business experts will jumpstart the conference with What You Need to Know: State and Federal Legislation, Land Values, and Taxes: Kelli Klink, Iowa Cattlemen's Association director of government relations and public policy; Carrie Seidel and Chloe Van Etten, Hertz Farm Management real estate sales and Erin Herbold-Swalwell, legal counsel at Iowa Farm Bureau Federation and Farm Bureau Financial Services.

Chad Hart, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach economist, will deliver the current wisdom on commodity markets and global trade, as well as agricultural policies. After two decades Hart, also a long-time advocate for women in agriculture, will be stepping down from his official role.

Have you heard the Good News? Agriculture's Sweet Spots will tap the collective experience of:

- Erin Good, Iowa Beef Industry Council, who will share good news about spiking consumer demand for protein and dairy;
- Shea-Lynn Ramthun, Land Stewardship Project soil organizer and Cannon Falls, Minnesota sixth-generation farmer, who will discuss the potential of food grade oats and the opening of farmer-owned Green Acres Milling in Albert Lea; and
- Aimee Bissell, Iowa Soybean Association director from Bedford, who will spread the good news about biofuels and biodiesel, high oleic soybeans for dairy herd rations, and other new uses for soy, including fire-fighting foam and concrete.

During the luncheon, Iowa Women in Agriculture will shine a spotlight on the recipients of the 2026 IWIA Lifetime Achievement in Agriculture and Winds of Change Up and Comer Awards, and celebrate IWIA's 20th anniversary year, as well as the United Nations International Year of Farm Woman.

The afternoon's choice of breakout sessions will feature:

Alex Slagle, Iowa Soybean Association conservation agronomist will share progress underway on the North Raccoon Farm to River Project, and moderate a panel with hands-on highlights from beginning farmer Paige Gunn near Scranton, as well as seasoned landowner and conservation farmer Chris Henning, near Jefferson.

Angie Treptow, Farm Credit Services of America will offer her experienced financial perspective, including interest rate trends and the current business climate, as well as key risk-management strategies for borrowers.

Erin Herbold-Swalwell and Amanda Van Steenwyk, Iowa Farm Bureau Federation farm business manager, will team up to present From One Generation to the Next: Transition Planning for Success.

Finally, prepare to be challenged and entertained by capstone speaker Tyler Schuster. The Texas native is a multi-generation rancher who enjoys leveraging her talents as a storyteller, professional, and advocate to create opportunities for others while building a life uniquely her own.

This year's Welcome & Networking event features a luncheon in lieu of an evening reception. It begins Wednesday, August 5 at 10:30 a.m. with a tour of the historic Wallace House at 756 16th Street in Des Moines where participants will learn about Nancy Wallace, the accomplished wife of Henry Wallace and author of the Hearts and Homes column for Wallaces Farmer. The luncheon follows at HoQ Restaurant, where local foods are combined to create global flavors. There we'll enjoy a private event with guest speaker, Shae-Lynn Ramthun, a sixth generation livestock producer from Cannon Falls. The pre-conference tour continues to The World Food Prize Hall of Laureates at 100 Locust Street with a focus on the global contributions of women in agriculture, followed by a tailor-made tour of the Iowa State Capitol, including a trip to the top of the Golden Dome!

Route maps will be provided to help participants locate tour sites. The tour will include a \$40 fee.

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OPINION

DO YOU HAVE AN
OPINION TO SHARE?
EMAIL US AT
NEWS@HAMPTONCHRONICLE.COM

Celebrating Independence Day by Giving Independents a Voice



ROB SAND
STATE AUDITOR

Saturday marked America’s 250th anniversary, celebrating when we declared our indepen-

dence as a nation. Our Founding Fathers stood up to British tyrants who tried to deny Americans from having a voice in our government, and it’s time that we take inspiration from their example and fix our broken political system by giving independent voters an equal voice in our elections, and ending the forced choice between the lesser of two evils.

Our current election system forces you to join a private club in order to exercise your constitutional right to vote, which disenfranchises independent voters. That’s wrong, undemocratic, and should be brought to an end. We celebrate Independence Day every year in this

country, so let’s celebrate true independence by making sure Iowa independent voters have the same rights as other voters.

Our current system also enables rampant corruption and dysfunction, rewarding politicians who build a career attacking the other side without actually solving any of our problems. That’s wrong, and we should all be disgusted by it. We need to eliminate the system that favors two private clubs, pits neighbor against neighbor, and forces Iowans to choose the lesser of two evils.

My proposal: we should have a single public primary for candidates of all political parties, in which all voters can vote for

their favorite. From that primary, the top three or four candidates advance to the general election, regardless of party. In the general election, Iowans can use approval voting, where you vote for as many of the candidates that have earned your support. Then, whoever has the most support overall wins.

This system will incentivize candidates to be more civil and honest rather than spending their time just attacking the other side as worse, because that way more of the voters who most prefer that opponent will find them acceptable as well. And it will push elected officials to actually get stuff done for the people who elected them

in the first place, because they can win approval for it, even from voters in the opposite party. Plus, it puts power back in the hands of voters, not private clubs with their own interests. Balance can help unite Iowans, repair our broken political system, and solve some of our state’s toughest challenges.

I’ve been sounding the alarm about the dangers of the two-choice system for years because I’ve watched government insiders prioritize their own bottom lines or special interests ahead of doing what’s right for Iowans. I’ve seen politicians fail to do anything to fix our problems – and in many cases make them worse. An echo chamber

can’t produce results, no matter which party is in power. It’s time to fix that.

Political parties aren’t a protected class and they shouldn’t be. We should stop acting like our current system is the only possible system – especially after it’s proven to be broken. There’s a better way forward, and that’s by prioritizing the people and putting public service over political affiliation. I plan to be a governor for all, not just those who vote for me. Because this campaign isn’t about right versus left, but right versus wrong.

Democrats Revive FDR Court-Packing Scheme to Rig the Supreme Court

“Democrats clearly need a history lesson: Court packing was a bad idea in 1937 and it’s a bad idea in 2026.”



SEN. CHUCK GRASSLEY
U.S. SENATOR

With the 2026 midterms approaching and the 2028 presidential election right behind them, Democrats are raising a discredited ruse to pack the Supreme Court with additional justices.

Just last month, Democrats’

2024 presidential nominee Kamala Harris floated the idea of Democrats packing the Supreme Court as part of a “no bad idea brainstorm.” Meanwhile, Democrats in Virginia recently threatened to pack their state Supreme Court to circumvent a ruling they didn’t like.

Democrats have lit the match for this partisan firestorm and liberal elites are fanning the flames. This week The Hill published an opinion article claiming, “Expanding the Supreme Court isn’t court-packing.”

“Adding four seats under the next Democratic trifecta would actually be unpacking the court,” the author argued.

Democrats clearly need a history lesson: Court packing was a bad idea in 1937 and it’s a bad idea in 2026. Nine decades ago, the nation’s 32nd president unleashed a sweeping expansion of the federal government with his New Deal program.

Amid the Great Depression, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt (FDR) sought to address high unemployment, a collapsed banking system, and an agricultural crisis in rural America with micromanagement of the U.S. economy.

Congress passed more than a dozen major laws in FDR’s first 100 days. Many of those bumped into our constitutional system of checks and balances, which aims to prevent any one of the federal government’s three branches from gaining too much power.

During FDR’s first term, the Supreme Court ruled that several New Deal laws usurped states’ sovereignty, improperly delegated legislative power to the executive branch, violated constitutional authority by executive overreach, and unconstitutionally restricted individual liberties. The bloc of conservative justices reining in the president’s authority was known as the “Four Horsemen.”

FDR cooked up a plan to secure his agenda by reshaping the court, packing it with judges of his choosing to outflank the Constitution. In cahoots with Attorney General Homer Cummings, they hatched a plan called the Judicial Procedures Reform Act of 1937. This would have allowed the president to appoint one additional justice for every sitting justice older than 70, enabling FDR to in-

crease the number of Supreme Court Justices from nine to as many as 15, as well as add up to 44 judges to lower federal courts.

Yet the Constitution gives Congress the sole authority to determine the size of the federal judiciary. In 1789, when the Judiciary Act was first signed establishing the Supreme Court, Congress set the number at six. It increased the number as the country expanded, but that number has been set at nine since 1869.

For a brief time, justices worked double duty and spent part of the year traveling a judicial circuit to hear cases; however, the practice of justices “riding circuit” ended more than a century ago. Thus, the present-day argument to match the number of Supreme Court justices to the number of federal circuits is pure partisan poppycock, much like FDR’s failed power grab in 1937.

FDR’s duplicitous effort to pack the court not only breached the separation of powers, it also insulted the justices with the disingenuous assertion they couldn’t handle the workload. FDR told Congress the justices were “slow and infirm.” That raised the ire of Chief Justice Charles Evan Hughes. In a letter presented to the Senate Judiciary Committee, he bashed the court-packing plan, writing it would “impair” the efficien-

cy of the court, creating “more judges to hear, more judges to confer, more judges to discuss, more judges to be convinced and to decide.”

FDR used his “Fireside Chat” on March 9, 1937, to try and win the court of public opinion. He described the three branches of government as a three-horse team: “Two of the horses are pulling in unison today; the third is not.”

But the American people weren’t buying it, and neither were their elected representatives, including a Democrat-controlled Congress. Iowa’s own former President Hoover exposed the outrageous effort to reduce “the sword of the people” to “a tool of the executive.” In speeches across the country, he warned against the reckless precedent it would set: “[B]y adding members of the Court, any succeeding President can do it.”

On June 14, 1937, the Senate Judiciary Committee issued a scathing report on FDR’s judicial reforms, calling it “needless, futile, and utterly dangerous.” The committee urged the Senate to reject the plan “so emphatically ... that its parallel will never again be so presented to the free representatives of the free people of America.” The Senate defeated FDR’s court-packing plan a month later, preserving the Supreme Court’s institutional

integrity.

FDR’s power grab is a teachable moment for 21st-century déjà vu Democrats. Since they can’t bulldoze their policies through the democratic process, they want to pack the court to ensure they never lose.

Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer warned that Justices Neil Gorsuch and Brett Kavanaugh would “pay the price” for adhering to the Constitution, while House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries has called the Supreme Court a “disgrace” and a “corrupt MAGA majority.” That rhetoric is reckless and harmful to our republic. These orchestrated attacks on the judiciary undermine public trust in the institution tasked with upholding the rule of law, protecting individual rights and our system of checks and balances.

As chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee and a lifelong Iowa farmer, I understand the futility of shutting the barn door after the horse has bolted. That’s why I support a constitutional amendment to keep nine Supreme Court justices on the bench at a time. As our nation celebrates the 250th birthday of America, we must safeguard the independence of the federal judiciary to protect our constitutional freedoms and way of life for generations to come

Letter to the Editor Policy

The Hampton Chronicle welcomes the opinions of our readers in the form of letters to the editor, as long as the submissions are not in bad taste and refrain from attacking individuals without supporting documentation or a rational and legally defensible justification. In any event the newspaper reserves the sole discretion to decide whether or not a reader submission will be published. If your letter is selected it will be run on a single occasion and you agree to give us the right to publish it in print and digital form. The Hampton Chronicle will not accept letters that are duplicated, reprinted, copied, or otherwise reproduced. Letters should be original, typewritten or neatly handwritten. Letters should not exceed 300 words. Letters exceeding this length could be subject to editing and may not be published in their entirety.

The Hampton Chronicle does not as a general rule print form letters or letters which are also submitted to other newspapers. We are most interested in sincere personal views as opposed to canned publicity releases or talking points for an individual or a cause, therefore if a writer cannot assure us that their submission is individual and personal, it may be rejected.

Your Letter to the Editor must include:

- Your full name with signature
- Your complete address
- Your telephone number

Your address and telephone number will not be printed in the newspaper, but will be used for verification by newspaper editorial staff.

Unsigned letters and letters containing personal attacks the newspaper deems to be of a libelous nature will not be published. The Hampton Chronicle reserves the right to end debate on a topic after both sides have had ample chance to express their views. The Hampton Chronicle reserves the right to edit or refuse all letters. All columns and letters on the opinion page are the views of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Hampton Chronicle.

Correction and Retraction Policy

The Hampton Chronicle strives for accurate and complete news reporting but occasionally we get it wrong. In cases where an error has been made we will run a correction, clarification, retraction or editor’s note in the next edition. Our goal in any event is to inform readers of corrections clearly and quickly, citing the incorrect information and updating with the correct information.

All corrections will be printed on page 2A in the next issue published. The correction will denote the issue, article and incorrect information along with the correction. Digital corrections will also be made and an editor’s note will be added to the bottom of the article in question noting what was inaccurate and noting when the article was amended. If the article was posted on Facebook, Twitter or any other online medium controlled by The Hampton Chronicle, a post will be made linking to the corrected article, noting the correction.



The Alternative
FRITZ GROSZKRUGER
COLUMNIST

I’m at war; war against the wild cucumbers. It’s not like the wars my taxes pay for. It’s defense.

When we moved here in 1981 we planted a windbreak. Now our grandson is going to UC Davis to learn landscape architecture. How about that? We’ve done that for 40 years, planting seedlings from the soil conservation office fundraiser each year. We protected them from rabbits and deer. What was once a prairie is now patches of jungle and meadow.

Our land rises gently out of the river bottom of the West Fork of the Cedar River. It slopes to the north and we selected plants for the windbreak that thrive in the predominantly wet soil. It was a wet period when we planted the windbreak. We walked on boards placed on the mud so we could plant the trees and bushes.

We planted green ash, arbor vitae (white cedar), and dogwood bushes. I’ve constantly overestimated what I could get done. Bob, the expert, said we have to manage the weeds to

I’m a War Monger Too

get the seedlings going. Iowa is a place against which all other places are judged when it comes to growing weeds. A weedeater and a push-type fenceline mower left me wiped out and not done. But somehow those seedlings grew into a forest.

In 2012 it didn’t rain. The arbor vitae are shallow-rooted and didn’t need to go deep where we planted them anyway. After growing to 30 feet most of them died in the soil that was drier than talcum powder on a crackler. They make good fence posts just like red cedar.

The wild cucumbers caught us by surprise. All of a sudden (it seemed) some trees were being smothered by wild cucumbers. Thus started my obsession. I pull the vines down out of the trees and follow them meticulously to the ground to pull them out by the roots. Finally this year I decided to start early. The dead ash trees. . .

Oh I forgot. The emerald ash borer killed all the 30 to 40 foot tall ash trees a couple of years ago. That let in light for the younger generations. We knew ahead about the borer so we’ve been planting mostly swamp white oak for a few years to replace them. Some are now over 30 feet tall.

All of the understory loved the newly found sunshine. The wild cucumbers like to meander back and forth through the canary grass, stinging nettles, and iron weeds (which is giant ragweed here). My bare forearms tingle for two days after my search and destroy missions through the nettles. I Googled wild cucumbers (I figured they’d give accurate results on a benign topic like that) and found that we can eat them if picked at one to two inches.



Sometimes they intertwine with field bindweed and then they are much harder to follow through the weeds to pull the root.

I walk, or try to walk, through five feet of foliage searching, searching, sweating, and trying to resist swearing when I stumble over a fallen branch that I couldn’t see through the exploding undergrowth.

To be in a place like this and rarely see a mosquito is probably one of the weirdest things I’ve ever experienced. I’m not complaining. It’s delightful. But frightening if taken into perspective. There are fewer swallows as well. When we moved onto the farm, swallows would line two powerlines for two stretches between poles shoulder to shoulder. It’s nothing like that today.

The dwindling swallow numbers look like a canary in the mine shaft.

Statistics regarding the use of neonicotinoids (neonics) as a translocated insecticide have been proven inaccurate because seed treatments are often excluded in the tally. In the 1990s they were used in foliar sprays. Starting in 2004 widespread use on seeds became “insurance” against any possible

insect threat to corn and soybeans. That began our decline in swallow numbers.

It’s interesting to note that insects are a predator to slugs. We found our fall planted spinach seedlings were disappearing. I sprayed insecticide to no avail. Then I looped copper wire around the plants and they survived. Slugs are deterred by a slight electrical charge produced by the copper on moist soil. We kill the insects to benefit the slugs, another unintended consequence.

There are a lot of causation versus correlation questions here but the lazy shotgun approach of “insurance” insecticide treatments is looking pretty creepy to me. Insects are a necessary part of our world. Dawn has found 34 birds listed on her bird song identifier app in one morning. They are not vegetarians. We see just a fraction of that but we hear them in the morning and it’s enough to make a musician wonder why he bothers.

Some insects can be annoying if they are in the wrong place but they are necessary. A plant out of place is called a weed. It’s a matter of proximity. If I’m successful in stopping wild cucumber seed production here it will preserve our jungle and the wildlife with whom we share it. The searching and sweat, tingling and time will not be wasted.

To get the bird call identifier app search Merlin app.

Please comment on my column with a letter to the editor or directly to me at 4selfgovernment@gmail.com

What's At The Windsor

BY JIM DAVIES
WINDSOR THEATRE
MANAGER

Minions & Monsters continues to run at the Windsor Theatre through Thursday, July 16.

Minions & Monsters is an animated horror/comedy film that follows a rogue tribe of Minions in 1920s Hollywood who try to make their own monster movie, but accidentally unleash real, globe-threatening monsters and must band together to save the planet.

The film is rated PG for violence/action, language, and rude/macabre humor. It earns its rating due to the frantic, creature-feature nature of the film, as the Minions face off against literal monsters in a loud, action-packed save-the-world battle. Running time is 90 minutes.

Common Sense Media says parents need to know that Minions & Monsters—the third Despicable Me prequel focusing on Gru's beloved yellow sidekicks—mixes the usual minion mayhem with an homage to Old Hollywood, as the chaos-loving crew gets into showbiz in the 1920s.

As with the other films in the franchise, it's packed with (mostly) comic peril, slapstick pranks, breakneck chases, and cartoon violence:

- Giant monsters roar loudly and wreak massive destruction; some can blast fire, and there are ominous clouds/lightning flashes when they're summoned.

• A very large, very toothy shark attacks main characters, and various villains are shown—and frequently dispatched in non-gory ways (although one is abruptly beheaded by an axe).

• Minions and others wield weapons such as spears, maces, hammers, swords, dynamite, futuristic cannons, and guns.

• There's also fighting and bullying, and an adult character threatens a child.

• Expect occasional insult language ("stupid," "weirdo," etc.) and one use of the phrase "handsome bastard" in an exaggerated film noir scene.

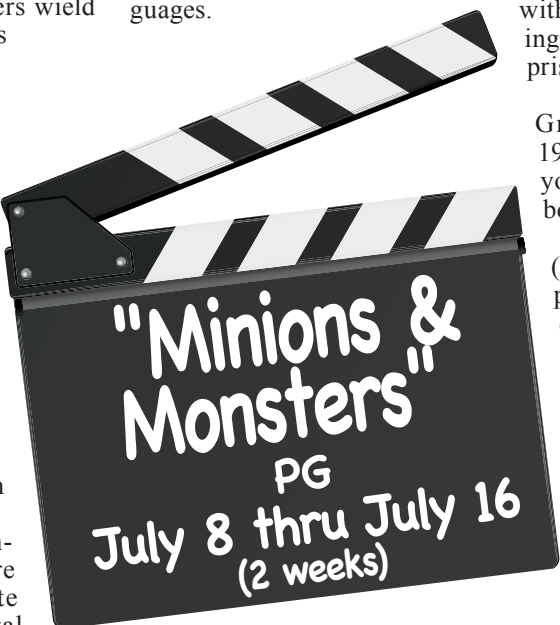
• A few bare minion/monster butts are seen, characters date and flirt, and several scenes show celebratory drinking.

But, as always for this series, it's ultimately more about laughter than anything else, and the plot emphasizes the importance of true friendship and the power of storytelling.

Conception and Design

Originally conceived by directors Pierre Coffin and Chris Renaud, the characters went through several design phases. Before landing on their iconic yellow, overall-wearing look, they were conceptualized as

human factory workers, muscular mechanics, and even robots. They are known for their distinct language, "Minionese," which was created by Pierre Coffin by blending gibberish and sounds from various languages.



Theatrical Film Lineup

The franchise's narrative spans a massive timeline, tracking the single-celled Minions as they evolve to serve the most despicable masters in history:

- Despicable Me (2010): The film that started it all, following the supervillain Gru and his loyal army of Minions.
- Despicable Me 2 (2013): Gru is recruited by the Anti-Villain League, while his Minions are targeted by an evil plot.
- Minions (2015): The first

standalone prequel, following Minions Kevin, Stuart, and Bob in 1968 as they search for a new supervillain boss.

• Despicable Me 3 (2017): Focuses on Gru meeting his long-lost twin brother, Dru, with the Minions briefly going rogue and getting sent to prison.

• Minions: The Rise of Gru (2022): Details the 1970s origin story of a young Gru and how he bonded with his Minions.

• Despicable Me 4 (2024): Follows Gru's expanding family and introduces "Mega Minions" with special superhero powers.

Expansion and Media Beyond the core theatrical films, the franchise includes numerous short films, a holiday special, video games, comic books, and major theme park attractions.

Showtimes and Ticket Prices

Regular movie admission is \$6 for adults and \$4 for youth ages 16 and under. Seniors aged 60 and older receive discounted admission of \$4 on Sundays. All tickets are just \$4 for the Wednesday matinee and Thursday evening show.

Regular showtimes are Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. Matinees are offered on Sundays at 1:00 p.m. and Wednesdays at 2:00 p.m. Tickets may be purchased



at the door or online at www.windsortheatre.com. Credit cards are accepted.

Upcoming Movies (Subject to Change)

- July 17 – Moana (2 weeks)
- July 31 – Spider-Man: Brand New Day (3 weeks)
- August 21 – Young Wash-

ington: A Founders Story
• August 28 – Coyote vs. Acme (2 weeks)

Gift Ideas and Theatre Rentals

The Windsor Theatre offers

See WINDSOR: Page 9

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PG

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Wednesday matinee \$4
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Credit and debit cards are now accepted.

UPCOMING MOVIES:

Visit www.windsortheatre.com for details.

Tentative schedule for upcoming movies, FYI. Schedule may change.

July 17 - Moana (2 weeks)

July 31 - Spider-Man: Brand New Day (3 weeks)

Aug. 21 - Young Washington: A Founder's Story

Aug. 28 - Coyote vs. Acme

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News Editor: Jennifer Burnham
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USDA: FROM PAGE 5

your local office ... you may not get the same person who understands your farm and that you're familiar with — it's causing a lot of stress," Lehman said.

Lehman said the loss of farmer-facing staff is compounding the stress that farmers have from several years of downturned markets, a rise in bankruptcies and uncertainty of USDA programs following other cuts from the Trump administration.

He said "everyone is a little bit confused" about the programs that are available and if USDA staffing will be restored at any of these offices, or continue to decline.

"The situation on the ground seems to be much worse than (the report) because of the transition that we're in," Lehman said. "These cuts are happening at the exact wrong time to help farmers through really challenging times."

Lehman said the cuts also mean that staff at USDA service offices are "working extremely



Iowa Farmers Union President Aaron Lehman at the union's annual conference Dec. 7, 2024 in Ames. (Photo by Cami Koons/Iowa Capital Dispatch)

hard" to fill in the gaps created by the loss of co-workers.

Iowa among top 10 states in loss of NRCS staff

While Farm Service Agency staff help farmers apply for programs like USDA crop insurance, which is often considered a vital part of a farmer's operation, Natural Resources Conser-

vation Service staff work with farmers to apply for conservation programs. These programs can help farmers take better care of their land, and sometimes garner some additional cash when they enroll acres in conservation programs.

According to the report, 141 counties across the country ended 2025 with no NRCS staff, even though they started the year with staff members.

Forty-five Iowa counties had a net NRCS staffing decline, according to the coalition.

"This means that farmers and landowners in those counties lost staff with local relationships and local knowledge and that the remaining NRCS staff are now stretched thin over larger geographic areas," the report said.

Soil conservationists accounted for the greatest loss from the department nationally, with more than 700 staff members leaving in 2025.

Iowa lost a total of 89 NRCS staff members, about 18.5%, which placed Iowa among the 10 states with the greatest loss of NRCS staff by numbers. Texas, Kansas, Missouri and Wisconsin topped the list with staff losses between 144 and

100. States with smaller NRCS staff to begin with saw a greater percentage decline in staffing. Rhode Island led the list with a 44% loss, followed by New York, Colorado and Maine, where losses were between 38% and 35%.

Every USDA office lost staff in 2025, according to the report, except for the Immediate Office of the Secretary, where staff increased 18% during the year.

In total, the report shows Iowa had a decline of about 17% of total USDA staff in 2025. Maryland and Rhode Island, which showed the greatest percentage decline in staff, both lost 41%. Virginia, Maine, Alaska, Kansas, Massachusetts, Vermont, New York and Florida rounded out the 10 states with the highest percentage decline.

While the report mainly focused on losses within NRCS and FSA, it also noted that other agencies lost significant portions of their workforce. The National Agricultural Statistics Service lost 36% of its workforce, National Institute of Food and Agriculture lost 40% and the Agricultural Research Service lost 31% of its staff.

The National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition report also said staff losses in USDA are expected to continue as the department implements its reorganization plan to move employees to five regional hubs.

A union representing federal employees reported that a majority of its members do not intend to relocate with the reorganization plans and would instead leave their roles with USDA.

The USDA spokesperson said the proposed reorganization is "focused on ensuring we have the county level staff needed to assist farmers and ranchers with a wide array of programs."

OBITUARIES

In loving memory of Charles Theodore "Ted" Nolte 1946-2026



Charles Theodore "Ted" Nolte, age 79, passed away in his sleep at Harmony Rehabilitation Center in Cedar Rapids on Friday night March 6, 2026. He was born at Hampton, May 1, 1946, son of David J. and Mary Zoe (Ellsworth) Nolte. He was one of the University of Iowa Hospital's "Polio kids" – diagnosed at age 3 in 1949, leaving him with a paralyzed leg and a lifetime wearing a "brace".

Inurnment services will be held at 12 noon, Saturday, July 11, 2026 at the Maplewood Cemetery in Vinton, Iowa, followed by a reception at the Wesley Methodist Church in Vinton. For a complete obituary please visit Gay & Ciha Funeral and Cremation Service website @ www.gayandciha.com

CONFERENCE: FROM PAGE 5

Early bird registration will be \$75 until August 3, and \$100 following that date and at the door. Registration will include the conference, continental breakfast and lunch, and snacks.

Registration opens soon online on the IWIA web site, by mail, or from 7:15 a.m.- 8:00 a.m. on the day of the conference. A room block for August 5 has been set up at the Courtyard at Marriott-Ankeny, 2405 SE Creekview Drive; register by July 13, 2026 for the conference rate.

Early bird registration is required for those attending the Pre-Conference Tour and luncheon. For questions about the

tour, contact Madeline Schultz at 515-294-0588.

For conference information, contact IWIA president Cheryl Tevis at 515-240-1785 or visit www.iowawomeninag.org for a full Conference agenda and registration details—coming soon!

The premier sponsor of the 2026 Iowa Women in Agriculture Conference is Farm Credit Services of America. Additional key sponsors include: Iowa Farm Bureau Federation, Iowa Bankers Association, Iowa Pork Producers Association, Heartland Cooperative, Iowa Soybean Association, and Iowa Cattle-men's Association.

FRANKLIN COUNTY COURTHOUSE NEWS

Scheduled Traffic Lee, Nicole Fae of Polk City, IA, Speeding 55 Or Und Zone (6 Thru 10 Over)

Galdamez, Jeffrey of Omaha, NE, Speeding Ovr 55 Zone (6 Thru 10 Over)

Thomas, Taylor Janet of Spring Hill, KS, Speeding Ovr 55 Zone (21 Or Over)

Koch, Blake Nathaniel of Iowa Falls, IA, Maximum Gross Weight Violation - 12,001 To 13

Bouman, Sarahjayne of Omaha, MN, Speeding Ovr 55 Zone (1 Thru 5 Over)

Wiegmann, Jill Ranae of Dumont, IA, Speeding 55 Or Und Zone (6 Thru 10 Over)

Langston Jr, Alan Jay of Statesville, NC, Speeding Ovr 55 Zone (16 Thru 20 Over)

Pleshaw, David Scott of Vail, CO, Speeding Ovr 55 Zone (6 Thru 10 Over)

Hudlik, Dane Compton of Mendota Heights, MN, Speeding Ovr 55 Zone (11 Thru 15 Over)

Patterson, Jason Thomas of Newark, AR, Speeding Ovr 55 Zone (1 Thru 5 Over)

Price, Travis Allen of Edina, MN, Speeding Ovr 55 Zone (6 Thru 10 Over)

Greaton, Dylan Thomas of Coulter, IA, Speeding Ovr 55 Zone (11 Thru 15 Over)

Porter, Jessica of Lincoln, NE, Speeding Ovr 55 Zone (11 Thru 15 Over)

Martinez, Antonio Cruz of Hampton, IA, Fishing And Hunt-

ing - No License Ovr \$20 Strey, Kathleen E of Waco, TX, Speeding Ovr 55 Zone (11 Thru 15 Over)

Rodriguez Ochoa, Rodolfo of Omaha, NE, Speeding Ovr 55 Zone (11 Thru 15 Over)

Nitcher, Zachary Eugene of Topeka, KS, Speeding 55 Or Und Zone (6 Thru 10 Over)

Ramirez Rivera, Melvin Omar of Hampton, IA, Use Electronic Communication Device

Civil

Brood, Danielle Marie of Miller, ND, Petitioner, and Marshall, Jason Colby of Latimer, IA, Respondent, Order Setting Trial

Anderson II, Timothy James, Defendant, Anderson, Kaitlynn May, Defendant, Possession, Parties In, Defendant, Petition Filed, Plaintiff New American Funding Ilc Fka Broker Solutions, Petition Filed

State Of Iowa, Defendant, Trammell, Edith Lanene, Plaintiff, Dismissed W/ Prejudice

Wells Fargo Bank, Na, Counter Defendant / Plaintiff, Dohlgan, Becky, Counter Plaintiff / Dohlgan, Becky Defendant, Wells Fargo Bank, Na Plaintiff, Dismissed W/O Prejudice,

Heitland, Amy, Defendant, Vaughan, Shane, Defendant, Hill, Lorri Halsne, Plaintiff, Order Setting Trial / Motion For Continuance

Dickson, Scott, Defendant, Onemain Financial Group Llc, Plaintiff, Order Setting Trial Deberg, Michael J, Defendant, Mcdowell & Sons Contractors Inc, Plaintiff, Petition Filed

Criminal

Shiflett, Bobby Joe of Hampton, IA, Defendant, Franklin County Treasurer of Hampton, IA, Payee, State Of Iowa, Plaintiff, Hearing For Initial Appeal

Quintanilla, Mario Alberto of Latimer, IA, State Of Iowa, Plaintiff, Sterling, Tina Marie of Alexander, IA, Defendant, Order For Arraignment State Of Iowa, Plaintiff, Order For Arraignment / Trial Information

Arthey Petit, Emma Louise of Hampton, IA, Defendant, State Of Iowa, Plaintiff, Order For Arraignment / Trial Information

Koenig, Matthew Joseph of Eldora, IA, Defendant, Hardin County Sheriff of Eldora, IA, Jimenez Martinez, Jessica Lynn of Eldora, IA, Defendant / Self-Represented D eft, Probation Revocation

Zuniga Bonilla, Jefreson Abimael of Hampton, IA, State Of Iowa, Plaintiff, Probation Revocation

Wood, Joshua D of Sheffield, IA, Defendant, State Of Iowa, Plaintiff, Order Of Disposition

Sierra, Mauricio of Hampton, IA, Defendant, State Of Iowa, Plaintiff, Order For Arraignment / Trial Information

Weinandy, Krysta Marie of Hampton, IA, State Of Iowa, Plaintiff, Motion For Continuance

Plaintiff, Motion For Continuance

Piersol, Ashton Ray of Eldora, IA, Franklin County Treasurer of Hampton, IA, Payee, Motion To Dismiss

State Of Iowa, Plaintiff, Motion To Dismiss

Montecillos Vasquez, Yester of Hampton, IA, State Of Iowa, Plaintiff, Order Of Disposition

Valles, Jesus Alberto of Hampton, IA, Defendant, Zamorano Orduna, Victor H of Hampton, IA, Payor, State Of Iowa, Plaintiff, Written Plea Of Guilty

Vincent, Nickolai Robert of Arvada, CO, Defendant, State Of Iowa, Plaintiff, Order For Arraignment / Trial Information

Jimenez Martinez, Hubestein of Hampton, IA, Defendant, Franklin County Treasurer of Hampton, IA, Payee, State Of Iowa, Plaintiff, Order Of Arraignment

Schriber, Curtis Aaron of Eldora, IA, Defendant, Franklin County Treasurer of Hampton, IA, Payee, State Of Iowa, Plaintiff, Hearing For Initial Appeal

Schriber, Curtis Aaron of Eldora, IA, Defendant, State Of Iowa, Plaintiff, Criminal Complaint

Small Claims Lieth, Justin Colt of Dumont, IA, Defendant / Self-Represented Deft, Mm Finance Llc D/B/A/ Ez Money Check Cashing of Bellevue, NE, Plaintiff, Motion For Continuance

Blau, Adam Todd of Waverly,

IA, Defendant, State Of Iowa, Plaintiff, Probation Revocation

Miller, Aaron Michael of Hampton, IA, Defendant, Franklin County Treasurer of Hampton, IA, Payee, Hearing For Initial Appeal

Olmstead, Samantha Elizabeth of Hampton, IA, Payor, State Of Iowa, Plaintiff, Hearing For Initial Appeal

Samuelaye, Lehhtoo of Maplewood, IA, Defendant / Self-Represented Deft, Franklin County Treasurer of Hampton, IA, Payee, Order For Arraignment / Trial Information

Vang, Wahwah Aye of Maplewood, MN, Payor, State Of Iowa, Plaintiff, Order For Arraignment / Trial Information

Montecillos Vasquez, Yester of Hampton, IA, State Treasurer Receipts And Witness Fee Reim, Payee, State Of Iowa, Plaintiff, Order Of Disposition

Hernandez Espino, Jose Lazaro of Eagle Grove, IA, Defendant, State Of Iowa, Plaintiff, Motion To Dismiss

Christiansen, John Lee of Coulter, IA, Defendant, State Of Iowa, Plaintiff, Criminal Complaint

Small Claims Lieth, Justin Colt of Dumont, IA, Defendant / Self-Represented Deft, Mm Finance Llc D/B/A/ Ez Money Check Cashing of Bellevue, NE, Plaintiff, Motion For Continuance

Luther, Destini Shantell of Hampton, IA, Defendant / Self-Represented Deft, Portfolio Recovery Associates, Llc of Des Moines, IA, Plaintiff, Motion For Continuance

Wickwire, Nicole of Hansell, IA, Defendant / Self-Represented Deft, Redeker Furniture Company of West Des Moines, IA, Plaintiff, Small Claims Original Not

Luther, Nolan Duane of Hansell, IA, Defendant / Self-Represented Deft, Agvantage Fs, A Division Of Growmark, Inc of Waverly, IA, Plaintiff, Small Claims Original Not

Wilson, Brittney of Hampton, IA, Defendant / Self-Represented Deft, Franklin Holdings, Llc of Mason City, IA, Plaintiff, Small Claims Original Not

Garcia Martinez, Virginia of Hampton, IA, Defendant / Self-Represented Deft, Franklin Holdings, Llc of Mason City, IA, Plaintiff, Small Claims Original Not

Myers, Jessica of Hampton, IA, Defendant / Self-Represented Deft, Franklin Holdings, Llc of Mason City, IA, Plaintiff, Small Claims Original Not

Wood, Carol of Alden, IA, Defendant / Self-Represented Deft, Roll, Dawn of Iowa Falls, IA, Plaintiff, Small Claims Original Not

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St. John’s Lutheran 1207 Indigo Ave., Hampton • 11 a.m. Worship - 2nd and 4th Sundays Zion St. John Lutheran <i>Sheffield</i> 422 Sherman St, Sheffield, IA 50475 • Sunday 9:00 am Worship with Holy Communion St. Paul’s Lutheran 17 2nd St NE, Hampton <i>Vicar Caitlin Tauro</i> • Sunday service, 9 a.m. • Quilting, Wednesday at 9 a.m. • Sunday radio broadcast, 8 p.m. on KLMJ 104.9 St. Paul’s Lutheran 304 W Main, Latimer <i>Reverend Joel Peter Wagner</i> • Sunday, 9 a.m. Divine Service; 10:30 a.m. Family Bible Study & Sunday School; St. Paul’s Church 400 Larch St., Thornton St. Peter Lutheran Church 502 2nd St. S, Rockwell Trinity Lutheran Church 16 12th Ave. NE, Hampton www.trinityhampton.com <i>Rev. Karl C. Bollhagen, Vicar - Tyler Linneman,</i> • Sunday, July 12: 8:30 AM Worship Service with Holy Communion, 9:45 AM Sunday School and Adult Bible Study. 6:00 PM Bishop Serge Macschewski from Ukraine, Guest Speaker zSunday Radio Broadcasts: 7:30 AM Lutheran Hour on KLMJ, 104.9 FM. 10:15 AM Radio Worship Broadcast on KLMJ, 104.9 FM St. John’s Evangelical Lutheran Church – Vilmar <i>Rev. Tamara J. K. Keen, Pastor</i> • Sunday, 8:45 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. Sunday School; 9:15 a.m. Choir Practice; 10 a.m. Worship Service; 11 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship First Lutheran Church - Dows 206 W Ellsworth St, Dows • Wednesday, July 1: 6:00 First Council • Sunday, July 5: 10:00 worship • Sunday, July 29: 10:00 worship	• Sunday, July 5: 10:00 worship • Wednesday, July 22: 5:30-6:30 FREE Community meal • Sunday, July 26: 9:00 worship. 1:00-5:30 VBS for 8th-12 graders METHODIST Ackley United Methodist 416 Hardin St., Ackley <i>Pastor Calvin Scholte</i> • Sundays, 9-9:45 a.m., Sunday School; 10 a.m. Worship Service First United Methodist 510 Thompson St., Sheffield <i>Pastor Pastor Wendy Johannessen</i> • Sundays, 9 a.m. Worship Service Geneva United Methodist 603 Front St., Geneva • Sundays, 9:30 a.m. Sunday School; 10:30 a.m. Worship Hampton United Methodist 100 Central Ave. E, Hampton <i>Pastor Dennis Burns</i> • Wednesday, July 8: 6:30pm Leadership Council • Thursday, July 9: 9:30am BeFrienders 10:30am Chapel @ Franklin General • Saturday, July 11: 9am - 10am Cans/Bottles Redemption 9am Men's Fellowship Breakfast 5pm Worship Service • Sunday, July 12: 9:30am Women's Bible Study 11am Worship Service 11:30am Radio Broadcast- KLMJ 104.9 FM 12pm Fellowship 12:30pm Facebook Broadcast • Monday, July 13: 1:30pm God's FLOCK • Tuesday, July 14: 1:30pm Faithful Stitchers • Wednesday, July 15: 5pm LEAH Church West Fork United Methodist 2200 Tulip Ave., Sheffield <i>Pastor Wendy Johannessen</i> New Hope United Methodist Parish: Aredale, Bristow, Dumont <i>Pastor Dennis Burns</i> • Aredale: Worship, 8:15 a.m. • Dumont: Worship, 9:30 a.m. United Methodist Church Morgan/Bradford, 569 100th St., Dows Lee Center, 393 Ironwood Ave., Alden <i>Rev. Judy Eilderts</i> • Sundays, 10 a.m. Worship	service with fellowship time following (Lee Center, odd months; Morgan/Bradford, even months) United Methodist Dows • Lay Speaker Richard Echelberger • Discipleship class - Sunday @8:30am • Worship Service @ 10:00am NON-DENOMINATIONAL Church of the Living Word 420 First Ave. NE, Hampton 641-456-8175 <i>Pastor Brian Rihner</i> www.clwhampton.org • Sundays, 9 a.m. Worship • Wee Ones Christian Preschool: Mon., Tues., Thurs.; Living Well Fellowship 917 Howard St. (First Presbyterian Church), Aplington • 319-247-5569 • Mondays, 7 p.m., Contemporary Worship Exploring Redemption and Healing. Come early for hot chocolate or cappuccino. Sovereign Grace Church 109 N Eskridge St., Dows <i>Pastor Doug Holmes</i> www.sgcdows.com • Sundays, 10:15 a.m. Sunday School; 11:15 a.m. Worship at First Presbyterian in Dows Hampton Church of Christ 811 4th St. NE, Hampton, IA. hamptonchurchofchrist.com <i>Pastor Joe Peter</i> • Sundays, 9:30 a.m. Morning Café; 10:15 a.m. Worship Gathering Sixth Street Church of Christ (Acapella) 909 Sixth St. SW, Hampton <i>Minister Jim Zacharias</i> • Sundays, 9:30 a.m. Sunday School; 10:30 a.m. Worship; 4:30 p.m. Worship •Wednesdays, 4:30 p.m. Bible Study	• Wednesdays, 7 p.m. RCYF (High School youth group from 8-12 grade) • You can join us online Youtube and Facebook: Dumont Reformed Church, website: dumontreformed.com, and Dumont Cable 1000 First Reformed 214 Brown St., Alexander • Sunday, 9:15 a.m. Worship Service; 10:30 a.m. Kids Choir & PreK-HS Sunday School; Sunday School Children Sing during Worship Service Zion Reformed Church 2029 Jonquil Ave., Sheffield <i>Rev. Petri van Rooyen, Pastor</i> Office Hours: M,W, Th: 8-Noon * Bad Weather KLMJ* • Thursday, June 4, 10am Hope Circle • Sunday, June 7, *Food Pantry* 8:30 am Men’s Bible Study, Holy Communion, 9:15am Worship, WOZ Meeting @10:30am • Monday, June 8, 1:30pm Vesper Circle • Wednesday, June 10, 9am Sunrise Circle • Thursday, June 11, 7pm Consistory • Sunday, June 14, Flag Day! Outside Service Potluck to follow service-dedication to the new playground, 7pm Joy Circle • Wednesday, June 16, Latimer Over 60’s • Wenesday, June 17, 6:30pm Family Ministry • Sunday, June 21, *Happy Father's Day* • Monday, June 22, VBS WEEK • Thursday, June 25, 7pm Faith Circle • Sunday, June 28, 9:15am Worship 9:15 am service, VBS Program/10:30am RCYF serving Beef burgers/ice cream, Freewill offering • Tuesday, June 30, Latimer Over 60’s	(641) 456-2192 <i>Pastor Karen Koenig and Pastor Peggy Allison</i> Summer Hours – 10am Church Services July 1 : Wednesday, Pastor Peggy will provide worship at Leahy Grove Assisted Living. July 5: Sunday Worship with Communion (10am) July 9: Thursday, Prayer Breakfast at the Rustic Brew (8am), and worship at the two Hampton Nursing Homes will be provided by Pastor Karen in the afternoon. July 12: Sunday Worship (10am), Coffee Fellowship (11am) July 15: Wednesday, Trustees Meeting (6pm), Cabinet Meeting (6:45pm) July 16: Thursday, Prayer Breakfast at the Rustic Brew (8am), and worship at the two Hampton Nursing Homes will be provided by Pastor Peggy in the afternoon. July 19: Sunday Worship (10am) July 26: Sunday Worship (10am) July 27: Monday - Newsletter deadline July 28: Tuesday - Sewing Circle will meet at 9:30am. All are welcome. Immanuel U.C.C. 204 E. South St., Latimer <i>Pastor Joe Dunnwald</i> Sunday, July 5: Worship/ Communion- 9:30am Sunday, July 12: Lawn Chair Liturgy - Trailside Park- 9:30am Sunday, July 19: Worship at the Franklin County Fair- 10:00am Sunday, July 26: Worship/ Noisy Offering 9:30am St. Peter's United Church Of Christ – Geneva 496 Raven Ave # B, Geneva, IA 50633 Summer Services are at 9:00 AM in the chapel unless otherwise noted • July 11 - Dale Akkerman - Saturday 5:00 PM service - No service on Sunday, July 12 • July 19 - No service - You may worship at the 10:00 AM worship service at the Franklin County Fair in the Van Wall Tent • July 26 - Erran Miller • August 2 - James Koop • August 8 - Jeff Janssen - Saturday 5:00 PM service - No service on Sunday, August 9 • August 16 - Sheryl Arends • August 23 - Gary Hemphill • August 30 - James Koop
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NEWS

Applications Now Being Accepted for 2026 Grant Cycle

NEW RELEASE

The Foster and Evelyn Barkema Charitable Trust is now accepting applications for grants to be awarded later this year. This will be the fourteenth year the Barkema Charitable Trust has awarded grants to non-profit organizations. Applications will be accepted through September 30, 2026. Forms may be obtained by contacting

This message is brought to you by these fine sponsors.

God’s Garden

Read: Genesis 2:4-17

The LORD God planted a garden in Eden. (v. 8)

My wife and I enjoy gardening. It’s hard work, but the end result can be so satisfying: blooming flowers, shading trees, delicious vegetables. Even those who don’t garden enjoy spending time in a beautiful garden. Genesis 2 tells us gardeners are in good company because God himself is a gardener—he planted a garden in Eden. It’s hard to imagine the beauty of a garden designed by God! God placed Adam in the garden “to work it and keep it” (v. 15). Eve soon joined him in that work. It was the ideal gardening job. Why? There were no “thorns and thistles” in Eden (3:18)! And no wrestling with hoses or sprinkler systems—Eden was watered by streams that came up from the earth to water the ground. Adam and Eve enjoyed the best parts of gardening and didn’t have to deal with the worst. Indeed, they lived in a world without sin—a world that was like heaven on earth. But Adam and Eve eventually chose to sin against God and were banned from the garden (vv. 22-24). Which leads to a question: Can we ever experience the kind of sin-free world Adam and Eve enjoyed in the garden of Eden? Can we experience heaven on earth? The Bible assures us that we will when it tells us about a new heaven and earth (see Isa. 65:17; Rev. 21:1). Journey with me over the coming days as we explore God’s promise of the new heaven and new earth.

— Rich Bawinkel, from the series A New Heaven and a New Earth

Death Notices

Marjorie Hanson

Marjorie Hanson passed away peacefully at the Franklin Country View where she had resided for the last six years. There will be a private family burial in the Hampton Cemetery. A Celebration of Life will be held at Kari and Jay Behn’s, 1181 Highway 65, Hampton, Iowa on Saturday, July 25, 2026, from 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to Franklin Country View. Funeral arrangements are under the guidance of the Sietsema-Atkinson Funeral Home in Hampton.

Auto Plus Auto Parts, Inc. Hwy 65 South, Hampton 641-456-2594 Mon.-Fri. 7:30 - 5:30 • Sat. 7:30 - 12:00	Deerfield Place Assisted Living 505 E. Gilman St., Sheffield, IA 50475 Phone: 641-892-8080
B&C KITCHEN Chef Jeffrey Ho Chinese Cuisine DINE IN • TAKE OUT • CATERING 641-456-2788 7 1st AVE. NW • HAMPTON	COVEREDD 112 1st Ave NW Hampton, IA 50441 <i>Stitch It - Print It - Weave It</i> Phone & Fax: 641-456-4124 info@got-you-covered.biz
This space is reserved for you! Call 641-456-5656	GLEANER Dumont Implement Highway 3, Dumont, IA 641-857-3216 www.dumontimplement.com
BERINGER MONUMENT COMPANY <i>Serving All of Central Iowa From Hampton!</i> Dean Endriss - Manager Call 641-456-2303	Krukow Real Estate Visit our website @ www.krukowrealestate.com Hwy 3 W., Hampton, IA 641- 456-3883
CHRISTENSEN JEWELRY <i>Your Direct Diamond Source</i> 120 1st Street NW, Hampton 641- 456-3473	Linn's FUNERAL HOME AND MONUMENT SALES Iowa Falls, 641-648-2569 Toll Free 1-800-464-2569
Corn Belt Power Cooperative <i>A "Touchstone Energy" Cooperative</i> <i>"The Power of Human Connections"</i> Humboldt • Hampton Emmetsburg • Spencer	This space is reserved for you! Call 641-456-5656

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Mini Storage Units. Including sales tax, \$53.50 per month or \$144.45 per quarter. Call 641-456-5636 or 641-512-8975

FOR SALE

Building lot at corner of Third and Gilman, Sheffield. Formerly The Peppermint Inn. Phone 1-909-659-6521. Chuck Towle. 4290 F. St, San Bernadino, California 92407

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Does your basement or crawl space need some attention? Call Thrasher Foundation Repair! A permanent solution for waterproofing, failing foundations, sinking concrete and nasty crawl spaces. FREE Inspection & Same Day Estimate. \$250 off ANY project with code GET250. Call 1-866-554-1730

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Safe Step. North America's #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-844-376-4154

GARAGE SALE

1011 Glendale Park Drive in Hampton, IA
Saturday, July 11th 9-3
Victoria Secret, Pink & Fabletics clothing, household items, full set All-Clad cookware, Girls sizes 4-10, lemonade & more.

SPORTING GOODS

GUN SHOW: July 24-26, Centre Hall, Waverly IA Fri 4-9pm, Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. \$10 (under 14 FREE) . More info: 563-608-4401
www.marvkrauspromotions.net

GARAGE SALE

Neighborhood Garage Sale at 307 Oakhill Drive in Hampton
July 10th 8-4
July 11th 8-11
Toaster Oven, Fryer, computer items, wedding items, books, bikes, and more
No early Sales

HELP WANTED

Driver or loader Class B CDL required for driver. Pre-employment drug screen required. Call D&L Sanitation 641-982-4483

HELP WANTED

Local CDL A Feed Delivery Driver

Opal Foods – Iowa Falls, IA

\$30 per hour

Day Shift - Monday through Friday

Apply at: opal-foods.com/careers

Questions? Call 417-455-5017



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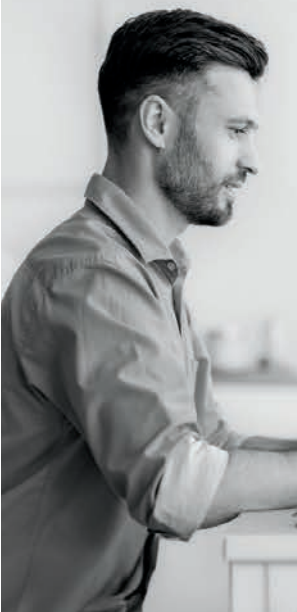
Sealed Bid Sale

116.50 Acres, M/L - Franklin County, IA
1364 80th St, Hampton (house/building site 3.09 acres)
97.16 Crop acres with 81.70 CSR2
One-Chance Sealed Bid
Deadline: 2:00 PM, CST, July 28, 2026

To Request a Bid Packet with Complete Details, Contact our Mason City Office Below

Mason City Office • 641-423-9531
www.Hertz.ag

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Drop Off at: OnTheGoMedia 1509 4th St NE, Hampton, Monday - Friday 8:00 AM - 5 PM



July Events Program



FUTURE VISIONS FOR THE LIVESTOCK PAVILLION ON THE FRANKLIN COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS, There will be a public meeting discussing the Future Visions for the Livestock Pavillion on the Franklin County Fairgrounds. The meeting will be held on July 8th at 7 pm in the Convention Center Conference room.



FRANKLIN COUNTY FAIR PARADE, 3PM parade line-up, 5PM parade starts

Franklin County Fair, July 15-19!



FRANKLIN COUNTY VETERANS AFFAIRS 250TH FREEDOM MOTORCYCLE RIDE, Franklin County Fair Grounds East Entrance. Registration at 8AM, Driver Meeting at 9AM, Kick stands up at 9:15 AM.



LATIMER FUN DAY



Got an event you'd like listed in our weekly Calendar?

Email us at: news@hamptonchronicle.com

Did you know it is the law that your dog is registered in the state of Iowa?

The City of Hampton is offering **FREE** registration for one year (9-25-25 thru 9-24-26)
Registration forms available at City Hall, Center One, Post Office and Library.



UPCOMING

WELCOME BACK TO STORYTIME!

Storytime is for children 12 months of age through kindergarten. There will be books read, songs, rhymes, movement activities and more. Storytime will be held on Wednesday mornings at 10:30 a.m. Families are welcome to stay afterwards for playtime. There will be different toys, games, and activities provided each week for informal play. Please do not bring your own toys. Storytime will repeat at 6:00 p.m. that same day. (without playtime)

—Marilyn Moser



CIVIC CALENDAR

FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS: DETAILS:

Tuesday 8:30 AM
Franklin County Courthouse

ACKLEY CITY COUNCIL MEETING: DETAILS:

Second Tuesday

GENEVA CITY COUNCIL: DETAILS:

Second Tuesday of every month
6:30 PM

ALEXANDER LIBRARY BOARD: DETAILS:

Third Wednesday of every month

CAL SCHOOL BOARD: DETAILS:

2nd Thursday of the month
at 5:30 PM

FRANKLIN COUNTY TOURISM BOARD: DETAILS:

Second Thursday,
4:30 PM,
Center 1

ALEXANDER CITY COUNCIL: DETAILS:

Alexander Library, 409 Harriman St
City Council meetings on the First Tuesday of every month

HANSELL CITY COUNCIL: DETAILS:

Second Wednesday every month,
Community Center 7:00 PM

HAMPTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD: DETAILS:

Board meets every 3rd Wednesday of the month, 5:30 PM
Library board meets to discuss library business, budgeting, funding and happenings.

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT: DETAILS:

5:30 PM
City Council Chambers

FRANKLIN COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD: DETAILS:

Second Monday of month,
6:30 PM
Maynes Grove Shelter

COULTER CITY COUNCIL: DETAILS:

Second Wednesday of the month,
6:30 PM

LATIMER CITY COUNCIL: DETAILS:

Second Wednesday,
6:30 PM

DUMONT LIBRARY BOARD: DETAILS:

Dumont Public Library
Second Wednesday of every month

HAMPTON CITY COUNCIL: DETAILS:

Hampton City Council meets in Regular Session on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month at 6:00 PM, in the City Council Chambers.

Workshops are held on the Mondays preceding the 2nd and 4th Thursday Regular Sessions at 6:00 PM, in the City Council Chambers.

FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH DETAILS:

Second Monday every other month
(usually) February 13th 4:00 PM

DOWS CITY COUNCIL: DETAILS:

First Monday of every month 6:00 PM

SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL: DETAILS:

Every second Monday
of the month at 6 PM

HAMPTON DUMONT SCHOOL BOARD: DETAILS:

Fourth Monday of the month
6:00 PM

FRANKLIN COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMISSION: DETAILS:

First Wednesday of month,
7:00 PM
Franklin County Law Enforcement Center

GREATER FRANKLIN COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: DETAILS:

3rd Monday of the month at noon at Center 1.

DUMONT CITY COUNCIL: DETAILS:

Second Thursday
7:00 PM
At EMS Center Dumont

FRANKLIN COUNTY VETERANS AFFAIRS: DETAILS:

First Tuesday of the Month
4:00 PM,
Franklin County Veterans Affairs Office

WEST FORK SCHOOL BOARD: DETAILS:

Third Monday of the Month,
5:00 PM,
West Fork High School Sheffield

FRANKLIN COUNTY EXTENSION COUNCIL: DETAILS:

Franklin County Extension Council ISU Extension & Outreach 6 2nd St. NW, Hampton 50441

Council members help determine local priorities for agricultural, youth (4-H), health and human science, and community/economic development program areas.

Cerro Gordo County Probate No.: TRPR029750

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Beth E. Reinhart Charitable Trust will be accepting Applications for grants during the period of July 1 to August 31. Charitable purposes for the benefit of children shall include educational activities, youth programs, delivery of health care services and any other charitable purpose benefitting children and acceptable to the Trustees within a fifty (50) mile radius of Maes n City, Iowa. For complete procedure details please contact:

Beth E. Reinhart Charitable Trust

c/o Sandy Bens n

P.O. Box 894

Maes n City, Iowa 50401

Phone: 641-430-4563

Email: bethcharitabletrus @outlook.com

Applicants must be a "public charity" within the meaning of Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3) or Internal Revenue Section 170(c)(1).

Published in the Hampton Chronicle on June 24, July 1, 8, and 15, 2026

Notice: Proposal Solicitation (NIRHA)

The North Iowa Regional Housing Authority (NIRHA) is soliciting proposals from qualified contractors to provide general maintenance, unit turnover, rehabilitation, repair, and exterior improvement services for public housing properties owned and operated by NIRHA. NIRHA owns and manages 121 public housing units across 10 properties located throughout its service area. This includes the cities of Algona, Britt, Forest City, Clear Lake, Northwood, Manly, Osage, Rockford, Sheffield and Hampton and seeks to establish relationships with one or more qualified contractors capable of performing a variety of projects on an as-needed basis. Services will be utilized to prepare vacant units for occupancy, maintain existing housing stock and improve exterior property conditions. NIRHA reserves the right to award contracts to multiple contractors based upon qualifications, pricing, responsiveness and availability. For more information please contact Rick Toney at rtoney@NIRHA.com or www.nirha.com/rfq

Published in the Hampton Chronicle on July 1, 8, 15, and 22, 2026

Waddingham Estate Notice

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF Thomas D. Waddingham, Deceased CASE No. ESPR502122

NOTICE OF PROBATE OF WILL, OF APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTOR, AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of Thomas D. Waddingham, Deceased, who died on or about May 14, 2026: You are hereby notified that on June 19, 2026, the Last Will and Testament of Thomas D. Waddingham, deceased, bearing date of July 31, 2013, was admitted to probate in the above-named court and that Kendra A. Pottebaum was appointed Executor of the estate. Any action to set aside the will must be brought in the district court of said county within the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice (unless otherwise allowed or paid) a claim is thereafter forever barred.

Dated June 24, 2026.

Kendra A. Pottebaum, Executor of Estate
300 NE 72nd Street
Pleasant Hill, IA 50327

Christine F. Halbrook, ICIS#: AT0009836
Attorney for Executor
Halbrook Law, PLC
3900 Ingersoll Avenue, Suite 203
Des Moines, IA 50312

Property exemption: Certain money or property may be exempt. Contact your attorney promptly to review specific provisions of the law and file appropriate notice, if applicable.
Judgment Amt: \$210,531.53
Costs: \$3,545.15
Accruing Costs PLUS
Interest: \$64.26 per day for 77 days from 05/06/2026 [= \$4,948.02 AND 5% of \$3,244.75 from 05/06/2026 = \$34.23
Attorney: John L. Duffy, Mason City, IA (641)423-5154
Date: 06/19/2026
Sheriff: Aaron Dodd
Deputy: Heidi Hilton, Clerk

Published in the Hampton Chronicle on July 1, and 8, 2026

Franklin Co BOS Minutes, 6/30/2026

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS June 30th, 2026

A recording of the meeting can be found at www.youtube.com/@FranklinCountyBoard

The Board of Supervisors met at 8:30AM on Tuesday, June 30th, 2026, at the Franklin County Courthouse for a regular session with Board members Luke Neyer, McVicker, and Vanness present.

Motion by Luke Neyer, seconded by McVicker to approve the agenda as presented. All agreed. Motion carried.

Motion by McVicker, seconded by Lukensmeyer to approve the minutes from the 6/23/2026 Regular Session. All agreed. Motion carried.

Board Committee Updates & Public Comment: Ned Parker, Conservation Director, was present to let the Supervisors know he has resigned and his last day is July 26th. Luke Neyer attended Together 4 Families & CICS. McVicker attended Northeast Iowa Workforce Development Finance Committee and Central Iowa Juvenile Detention Center.

No action was taken on an application to perform work within Franklin County Highway Right of Way for Roger Farms to clean the north ditch along 140th Street at the intersection of Kildeer Avenue and 140th Street until more information is gathered due to this ditch being in a drainage district and tiles in the right of way.

Jay Waddingham, Secondary Roads Engineer, provided an update on his department to the Supervisors.

The Supervisors recessed at 9:15AM for a drainage meeting and reconvened at 9:23. Drainage minutes may be obtained from the Auditor's office or on the County website.

Elisa VanWert from the Greater Franklin County Chamber of Commerce was present to update the Supervisors on the plan for fireworks this year.

Disussion - Battery Storage Facilities: All three Supervisors attended the Board of Adjustment meeting on Monday the 29th.

Motion by Lukensmeyer, seconded by McVicker to approve a resolution designating the place at which notice of meetings of the Franklin County Board of Supervisors shall be posted. The resolution reads in full:

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-49

A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE PLACE AT WHICH NOTICE OF MEETINGS OF THE FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS SHALL BE POSTED

WHEREAS, the Iowa Legislature has amended Iowa's Open Meetings statute to require every governmental body to designate annually a prominent and conspicuous place for posting notice of its meetings; WHEREAS, beginning on July 1, 2026, each notice must be visible at all times for at least twenty-four hours prior to the meeting for which notice is being given; and NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY, IOWA: Section 1. At least one full business day prior to the commencement of each meeting of the Franklin County Board of Supervisors from July 7th, 2026, through and including January 4, 2027, the Franklin County Auditor shall post a meeting agenda, including the time, date, and place of the meeting, facing outward, on the glass exterior door on the website of the Franklin County Courthouse.

Section 2. At its January 4, 2027, organizational meeting, and at every annual organizational meeting thereafter, the Franklin County Board of Supervisors shall designate the place at which notice of its meetings shall be posted for the following year.

Published in the Hampton Chronicle on July 8, 2026

CIJDC Meeting Minutes 6.26.26

Central Iowa Detention Commission Meeting Minutes June 26th, 2026 CIJDC Iowa Room

2317 Rick Collins Way, Eldora IA

The meeting was called to order by the Chair Kyle Steckert at 10:01 a.m.

Delegates In Person: Scott Longhorn, Dave George, Gloria Carr, Gary McVicker, Dan Benitz, Mary Clausen, Lance Granzow, Bruce Reimers, Brandon Talsma, Kyle Steckert, Latifah Faia, David Turner, David Turner, Bob Thode and Bill Jensen.

Delegates By Zoom: Gary Rayhons, Carl Hibbs and Rick Ramussen.

Others in Person: Ron Tippett, Kassie Ruth, Travis Walker, Justin Cornish, Christine Gueara and Jak Samuels.

Others by Zoom: John Kurtz and Vic Vandehaar.

Agenda: Turner motioned to approve, Benitz 2 nd MCU.

Minutes: Reimers motioned to approve, Talsma 2 nd MCU.

Public Forum: None.

Thode motioned to go into closed session pursuant to Iowa Code 21.5 (1) (c) to discuss strategy with legal counsel, where litigation is imminent and its disclosure would be likely to prejudice the governmental body's position. Clause 2 nd Roll call vote:

Counties Voting Yes: Calhoun, Crawford, Dubuque, Emmet, Fayette, Floyd, Franklin, Greene, Hamilton, Hancock, Hardin, Humboldt, Jasper, Kossuth, Marshall, Story, Tama, Webster, Winnebago, Wright. Motion passed: Yes 16, No=0 Abstentions 0.

Entered Closed Session 10:09 and came back into Open Session at 10:36 a.m. No action was taken during closed session.

Committee Reports: Updates were given.

Evaluation Program Update: Updates were given by the Clinical Director.

28E: Benitz motioned to approve, Clause 2 nd Roll call vote:

Counties Voting Yes: Boone, Calhoun, Crawford, Dubuque, Emmet, Fayette, Floyd, Franklin, Greene, Hamilton, Hancock, Hardin, Humboldt, Jasper, Kossuth, Marshall, Story, Tama, Webster, Winnebago, Wright. Motion passed: Yes 17, No=0 Abstentions 0.

By-Laws: Thode motioned to approve, Benitz 2 nd MCU.

Exempt Employees PTO Policy: Granzow motioned to approve, Thode 2 nd MCU.

Rates: Thode motioned to approve detention rates effective 07/01/2026, Clause 2 nd MCU.

Rates: George motioned to approve evaluation rates effective 07/01/2026, Longhorn 2 nd MCU.

Published in the Hampton Chronicle on July 8, 2026

CIJDC Meeting Minutes 7.1.26

Central Iowa Detention Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

07/01/26

CIJDC Iowa Room

2317 Rick Collins Way, Eldora IA

The meeting was called to order by Scott Longhorn at 3:36 p.m.

Delegates by Zoom: Bob Thode & Scott Longhorn

Delegates by Phone: Kyle Steckert

Others in Person: Kassie Ruth & Justin Cornish

Others by Zoom: Latifah Faia

Agenda: Thode motioned to approve, Longhorn 2 nd MCU.

New Business

Line of Credit: Thode motioned to increase the line of credit to \$2,000,000, Longhorn 2 nd MCU.

Meeting Adjournment: Thode moved to adjourn at 3:50 p.m. 2 nd Steckert MCU.

Respectfully Submitted by: Justin Cornish

Published in the Hampton Chronicle on July 8, 2026

Roll call vote was as follows, Ayes: Luke Neyer, McVicker, Vanness; Nays: None. Motion carried and resolution duly adopted.

Motion by McVicker, seconded by Lukensmeyer to approve a resolution approving FY2027 Appropriations. The resolution reads in full:

RESOLUTION 2026-50

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATIONS TO COUNTY OFFICERS & DEPARTMENTS FOR FY2026/2027 WHEREAS, it is desired to make supplemental appropriations in accordance with Section 331.434 (6) of the Code of Iowa; and, WHEREAS appropriations on Budgetary Funds Departments for FY26/27 are based on the Notice of Public Hearing Proposed Budget published on April 1st, 2026, NOW THEREFORE, Be It Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Franklin County, as follows: Section 1. The amounts itemized by account number on the attached schedule are hereby appropriated from the resources of each fund as itemized. (The following amounts are for FY 2027).

Section 2. Subject to the provisions of other county procedures and regulations and applicable state law, the appropriations authorized under Section 1 shall constitute authorization for the department or officer listed to make expenditures or incur obligations from the itemized fund, effective July 1, 2026.

Section 3. In accordance with Section 331.437, Code of Iowa, no department or officer shall enter into or contract to expend any money or incur any liability or enter into any contract which by its terms involves the expenditure of money for any purpose in excess of the amounts appropriated pursuant to this resolution. For purposes of this section, the use of holding accounts shall be deemed an appropriate mechanism for the allocation of expenses.

Appropriations made to each accounts shall be deemed as sufficient authority for department heads to expend such resources and will be allocated to expenditure accounts in the same manner as the related expenditures are allocated.

Section 4. If at any time during the 2026-2027 budget year the auditor shall ascertain that the available resources of a fund for that year will be less than the identified fund's total appropriations, the Auditor shall immediately inform the board and recommend appropriate corrective action.

Section 5. The auditor shall establish separate accounts for the appropriations authorized in Section 1, each of which account shall indicate the amount of the appropriation, the amounts charged thereto, and the unencumbered balance. The auditor shall report the status of each accounts to the applicable departments and officers monthly during the 2026-2027 budget year.

WHEREAS the Franklin County Board of Supervisors agree to appropriate 100% of the budgeted amounts for expenditures for all remaining budgetary departments. Roll call vote was as follows, Ayes: Lukensmeyer, McVicker, Vanness; Nays: None. Motion carried and resolution duly adopted.

Motion by McVicker, seconded by Lukensmeyer to approve FY2027 wages and salaries as presented. All agreed. Motion carried.

Board Comments: The Auditor updated the Supervisors on insurance payment from the April 2025 Hail & Winds storm. She also updated the Supervisors on the city's water main break impact on the Courthouse.

Chairman Vanness adjourned the meeting at 9:43AM until Tuesday July 7th, 2026, at 8:30AM at the Franklin County Courthouse for a regular session.

Chris Vanness, Chairman

ATTEST:

Katy A. Flint, Auditor & Clerk to the Board

Public Notice Franklin County Board of Adjustment:

There will be a meeting on Monday, July 20, 2026, at 1:00 P.M.

We are meeting at the Law Enforcement Center located at 105 5th St. SW in Hampton.

The agenda is as follows:

A) Meeting Called to Order by Chair B) Roll Call C) Approval of agenda D) Approval of the minutes of the Previous meeting (6/29/2026) E) Old Business none F) New business

1: designating the place at which Notice of Meeting of the Franklin County Board of Adjustment shall be posted

2: consider two Variances pertaining to the setback distance required for 2 substations in a Commercial Wind Energy Conversion System (CWCECS)

0611100003..... 92N-21W-35

0635200002..... 92N-21W-11

G) Approval or denial of the 2 Variances H) 3: consider the approval of 77 Conditional Use Permits, 75 for commercial wind turbines and 2 for the substations attach the CWCECS IPL Wild Rose Wind Energy Project

Franklin County, Iowa

Project Component	Parcel Identification No.	Town/ Range/ Section	Latitude (decimal degrees)	Longitude (decimal degrees)
501.....	0101100003	93N - 22W - 1	42.9022105	-93.3960707
502.....	0101100002	93N - 22W - 1	42.9041480	-93.3899588
503.....	0101200002	93N - 22W - 1	42.9053872	-93.3834114
504.....	0203400013	93N - 21W - 3	42.8981334	-93.3079537
505 alt.....	0203400013	93N - 21W - 3	42.8967462	-93.3020771
506.....	0202300005	93N - 21W - 2	42.8962748	-93.2947811
507.....	0211300003	93N - 21W - 11	42.8790866	-93.2988011
508.....	0221140004	93N - 21W - 11	42.8794515	-93.2864051
509.....	0116300004	93N - 22W - 16	42.8666897	-93.4525346
510.....	0115300003	93N - 22W - 15	42.8659276	-93.4345207
511.....	0122300009	93N - 22W - 22	42.8526874	-93.4293448
512.....	0127100001	93N - 22W - 27	42.8461925	-93.4356796
513.....	0218100010	93N - 21W - 18	42.8715024	-93.3751172
514.....	0113400003	93N - 22W - 13	42.8651175	-93.3863921
515 alt.....	0218300007	93N - 21W - 18	42.8656592	-93.3718213
516.....	0218400005	93N - 21W - 18	42.8668129	-93.3648555
517.....	0219100004	93N - 21W - 19	42.8578305	-93.3701552
518.....	0124400003	93N - 22W - 24	42.8518812	-93.3877540
519.....	0220300011	93N - 21W - 20	42.8502936	-93.3547475
520.....	0230200004	93N - 21W - 30	42.8432641	-93.3693721
521.....	0222100002	93N - 21W - 22	42.8601411	-93.3154780
522 alt.....	0222200005	93N - 21W - 22	42.8590159	-93.3081970
523.....	0319400003	93N - 20W - 19	42.8502652	-93.2478153
524.....	0225100004	93N - 21W - 25	42.8421340	-93.2749371
525.....	0225200003	93N - 21W - 25	42.8411166	-93.2674806
526.....	0232200002	93N - 21W - 32	42.8296452	-93.3458547
527.....	0209300002	93N - 21W - 9	42.8814437	-93.3338869
528.....	0228200003	93N - 21W - 28	42.8422790	-93.3277231
529.....	0234200011	93N - 21W - 34	42.8281510	-93.3079883
530.....	0602400001	92N - 21W - 2	42.8091789	-93.2879765
532.....	0611400001	92N - 21W - 11	42.7941014	-93.2880186
533.....	0609100004	92N - 21W - 9	42.7984457	-93.3340292
534.....	0609200003	92N - 21W - 9	42.7986801	-93.3259171

535.....	0617400007	92N - 21W - 17	42.7798898	-93.3467571
536.....	0616100004	92N - 21W - 16	42.7841160	-93.3316170
537.....	0612300001	92N - 21W - 12	42.7938763	-93.2779992
538.....	0612400001	92N - 21W - 12	42.7937946	-93.2670077
Substation.....	0611100003	92N - 21W - 11	42.7969190	-93.2990720

IPL Whispering Willow South Wind Energy Project

Franklin County, Iowa

Project Component	Parcel Identification No.	Town/ Range/ Section	Latitude (decimal degrees)	Longitude (decimal degrees)
601 alt.....	0929300002	91N - 22W - 29	42.6650041	-93.4694946
602.....	0932200002	91N - 22W - 32	42.6566234	-93.4620012
603.....	1305200003	90N - 22W - 5	42.6386902	-93.4664615
604.....	1304100003	90N - 22W - 4	42.6395448	-93.4562273
605.....	1304200004	90N - 22W - 4	42.6388495	-93.4444667
606.....	1303100003	90N - 22W - 3	42.6382558	-93.4367535
607 alt.....	1316300002	90N - 22W - 16	42.6081043	-93.4541886
608.....	1310400001	90N - 22W - 10	42.6201695	-93.4293570
609.....	1309200004	90N - 22W - 9	42.6250130	-93.4467044
610.....	1310200005	90N - 22W - 10	42.6246922	-93.4240102
611.....	0934300001	91N - 22W - 34	42.6485665	-93.4359081
612.....	0934100002	91N - 22W - 34	42.6568721	-93.4305245
613.....	0927400001	91N - 22W - 27	42.6634795	-93.4264213
614 alt.....	0926100002	91N - 22W - 26	42.6670534	-93.4194656
615.....	0926100005	91N - 22W - 26	42.6684285	-93.4127875
616.....	0936100001	91N - 22W - 36	42.6565468	-93.3973003
617.....	0936200004	91N - 22W - 36	42.6547412	-93.3839524
618.....	0925200005	91N - 22W - 25	42.6689319	-93.3872736
619.....	0924400001	91N - 22W - 24	42.6780919	-93.3871401
620.....	0922100005	91N - 22W - 22	42.6830044	-93.4334146
621.....	0923100004	91N - 22W - 23	42.6831968	-93.4110299
622 alt.....	0903200003	91N - 22W - 3	42.7248728	-93.4257667
623.....	0911300002	91N - 22W - 11	42.7090207	-93.4116399
624.....	0911200001	91N - 22W - 11	42.7149960	-93.4078325
625.....	0913300004	91N - 22W - 13	42.6904139	-93.3914600
626.....	0913100005	91N - 22W - 13	42.7004093	-93.3943309
627.....	0912400005	91N - 22W - 12	42.7081323	-93.3821444
628.....	1007100005	91N - 21W - 7	42.7098097	-93.3732160
629.....	1018400001	91N - 21W - 18	42.6939075	-93.3671631
630.....	1020300004	91N - 21W - 20	42.6755344	-93.3533979
631.....	1020200003	91N - 21W - 20	42.6827904	-93.3483247
632.....	1017300002	91N - 21W - 17	42.6930228	-93.3535337
633.....	1008300004	91N - 21W - 8	42.7047503	-93.3527943
634.....	1008300002	91N - 21W - 8	42.7092838	-93.3515867
635.....	1004100003	91N - 21W - 4	42.7265840	-93.3361103
636.....	0633200003	92N - 21W - 33	42.7404181	-93.3302380
637.....	0633200002	92N - 21W - 33	42.7418477	-93.3241099
638.....	1010200003	91N - 21W - 10	42.7115221	-93.3092980
Substation.....	0635200002	92N - 21W - 35	42.7429087	-93.2886659

Approve or deny Conditional 1. I) Adjournment

Published in the Hampton Chronicle on July 8, 2026

Got a Legal Notice to Submit?

Deadline for legal notice submissions is Sunday at noon

POLICE & SHERIFF REPORT

Monday, June 29
Hampton Police Department
3:52 AM: Parking Ord., 10 Blk 2nd Ave NW, in Hampton
4:37 AM: Misc/, 0 Blk 2nd St SW, in Hampton
6:04 AM: Theft From Building, 100 Blk 6th St NW, in Hampton
8:47 AM: Animals (Except Dogs), 700 Blk E Central Ave, in Hampton
1:49 PM: Phone Call To Return, 0 Blk 2 St NW, in Hampton
3:42 PM: Animals (Except Dogs), Heritage Place, in Hampton
4:10 PM: Telephone Call, 1200 Blk Central Ave East, in Hampton
7:33 PM: Misc/, 100 Blk 4th Ave SE, in Hampton
7:49 PM: Phone Call To Return, 0 Blk 2 St NW, in Hampton
10:08 PM: Dog Calls, 300 Blk 4th St SE, in Hampton
11:41 PM: Harassment, 100 Blk 6th St NW, in Hampton
11:50 PM: Phone Call To Return, 100 Blk 6th St NW, in Hampton

Franklin County Sheriff's Office
7:20 AM: Prisoner transport - 14th Ave, Eldora
10:56 AM: Suspicious person - 40th St, Iowa Falls
11:24 AM: Garbage complaint - Mallard Ave/Bailey Creek, Sheffield
11:43 AM: Debris on roadway/ right-of-way - 2400 block Hwy 3, Dumont
12:00 PM: Information - 190th & Nettle Crossing, Hampton
12:22 PM: Welfare check - Highway 65, Hampton
1:58 PM: Motorist assist - 1200 block 40th St, Iowa Falls
3:15 PM: Traffic complaints - I-35 MM 156 NB, Dows
3:56 PM: Telephone call - 255th St, Sheffield
4:14 PM: Misc/ - 190th St, Chapin
4:36 PM: 10-50 Property damage - 190th St, Hampton
4:52 PM: Welfare check - Clock St, Geneva
5:02 PM: Traffic complaints - Beeds Lake Dr, Hampton
6:02 PM: Civil disputes - Hampton
6:36 PM: Traffic stop - Hwy 65, Hampton
7:31 PM: Traffic stop - Main and 1st Street, Coulter

Tuesday, June 30
Hampton Police Department
12:46 AM: Misc/ 500 block 4th St SE, in Hampton
9:41 AM: Misc/ 1st St NE & Hwy 3, in Hampton
10:00 AM: Welfare Check 1300 block N Federal, in Hampton

10:19 AM: Parking Ord. 300 block 2nd St SE, in Hampton
12:20 PM: Misc/ 100 block 2nd St NE, in Hampton
12:35 PM: Misc/ 100 block 1st St NW, in Hampton
3:00 PM: Domestic Matter 0 block 10th St NW, in Hampton
3:29 PM: 10-57 Hit & Run 0 block 2nd St SW, in Hampton
5:45 PM: Ambulance Call 100 block 1st St SW, in Hampton
8:41 PM: Misc/ North End of Town, in Hampton
9:30 PM: Alarm - 800 block 4th St SE, in Hampton
10:38 PM: Misc/ 3rd St NE, in Hampton
10:56 PM: Harassment Main St, in Hampton
11:56 PM: Traffic Complaints Sherwood, in Hampton

Franklin County Sheriff's Office
12:45 AM: Motorist Assist Mallard/Hwy 3 Hampton
1:51 AM: Traffic Complaints I-35nb 156mm Dows
6:20 AM: Misc/ 1st St NW&Hwy 3 Hampton
9:13 AM: Phone Call To Return Dogwood Ave Alexander
9:42 AM: Dispatch Interstate 35 NB MM175 Sheffield
2:13 PM: Dog Calls 160th St Hampton
2:45 PM: Telephone Call Jonquil And 160th Latimer
3:11 PM: Simple Assault Mallard And 80th Bradford
4:56 PM: Welfare Check 50th St Alden
6:03 PM: Misc/ Grant St Coulter
9:57 PM: Traffic Stop 1000 Block Of Hwy 3 Coulter
10:04 PM: 10-50 Car - Deer I-35 SB MM 159 Dows
10:51 PM: Traffic Stop 1400 Of Gull Latimer
11:08 PM: Traffic Stop Hwy 3/ Mallard Hampton
11:32 PM: Drug/Narcotic Violation 400 Block 12 Ave NW Hampton

Wednesday, July 1
Hampton Police Department
1:56 AM: Assist County Department, 100 Blk 10th St NW, in Hampton
2:55 AM: Open Door, Lantern Apartments, in Hampton
6:13 AM: Dog Calls, 700 Blk Central Ave W, in Hampton
8:26 AM: Misc/, 200 Blk 1st St NW, in Hampton
10:30 AM: Harassment, 1st Ave/3rd St NE, in Hampton
11:08 AM: Misc/, N Side Hwy 3

RR Right Of Way, in Hampton
11:34 AM: 10-57 Hit & Run, 100 Blk 1st St NW, in Hampton
11:53 AM: Medical Assist, 1700 Blk Central Ave E, in Hampton
2:07 PM: Services/Traffic Ctrl, 1700 Blk Central Ave E, in Hampton
2:17 PM: Misc/, Federal St and 12 Ave NW, in Hampton
3:10 PM: Misc/, Heritage Place, in Hampton
5:46 PM: Family Dispute, 300 Blk 5th Ave SE, in Hampton
8:52 PM: Weather/, 800 Blk 6th St SW, in Hampton

Franklin County Sheriff's Office
12:13 AM: Booking Information, 5th St SW, Hampton
12:14 AM: Booking Information, 5th St SW, Hampton
1:27 AM: Dog Calls, 160th/ Spruce, Hansell
1:55 AM: Search Warrant, 10th St NW, Hampton
4:04 AM: Traffic Stop, Olive Ave, Hampton
9:45 AM: Dog Calls, I-35 159 SB, Dows
10:26 AM: Controlled Burn, Vine and 75th St, Ackley
11:09 AM: Prisoner Transport, 14th Ave, Eldora
2:14 PM: Misc/, 160th and Cardinal, Latimer
3:33 PM: Dog Calls, 100th St, Dows
3:44 PM: False Pretense/Swindle, 10th Street NW, Hampton
3:47 PM: Arrest, 5th St SW, Hampton
4:59 PM: Welfare Check, 1700 Blk Hwy 3, Hampton
5:14 PM: Disabled Vehicle, I-35 MM 175 NB, Sheffield
5:22 PM: 10-50 Car - Deer, Thrush Ave, Hansell
7:07 PM: Misc/, Franklin County, Franklin
8:21 PM: Misc/, Highway, Hampton
8:53 PM: Misc/, Heather Ave, Coulter
9:34 PM: Phone Call To Return, 5th St SW, Hampton
11:46 PM: Traffic Stop, 1100 Block Hwy 3, Hampton

Thursday, July 2
Hampton Police Department
No report available

Franklin County Sheriff's Office
12:01 AM: Animal On Roadway - 190th/Mallard, Hampton
12:56 AM: Traffic Stop - Lemon/ Hwy 3, Hampton

6:48 AM: Welfare Check - Grant St, Coulter
9:12 AM: Misc/ - Hwy 3, Hampton
9:31 AM: False 911 Calls - I-35 MM 159 NB, Dows
2:00 PM: Traffic Stop - 1100 Blk Hwy 3, Hampton
2:16 PM: Traffic Stop - 800 Blk Mallard Ave NB, Bradford
2:29 PM: Found Articles - Nettle Ave, Hampton
3:01 PM: Motorist Assist - 1-35 MM 159 NB, Dows
3:02 PM: Information - 5th St SW, Hampton
3:05 PM: Vehicle Off Roadway - 100th St/Jonquil Ave, Sheffield
3:13 PM: Found Articles - Olive Ave and Hwy 3, Hampton
3:42 PM: Telephone Call - Interstate 35 MM176, Sheffield
6:17 PM: Animals (Except Dogs) - I-35 MM 170 SB, Latimer
7:11 PM: Information - I-35 MM 151, Dows
7:53 PM: Controlled Burn - 130th St, Hampton
8:47 PM: Controlled Burn - 130th St, Hampton
9:12 PM: Traffic Complaints - Hampton
9:24 PM: Controlled Burn - Indigo Ave, Coulter
9:28 PM: Ambulance Call - 200th St, Aredale

Friday, July 3
Hampton Police Department
7:02 AM: Medical Assist, 100 Block of 3rd Ave NE, in Hampton
11:50 AM: False 911 Calls, 100 Block of 3rd St NE, in Hampton
12:23 PM: Animals (Except Dogs), 700 Block of 8th St SW, in Hampton
2:25 PM: Phone Call To Return, 800 Block of Central Ave East, in Hampton
2:43 PM: 10-50 Property Damage, 300 Block of Central Ave E, in Hampton
3:56 PM: Misc/, 200 Block of 2nd Ave NW, in Hampton
5:20 PM: Phone Call To Return, 100 Block of 1st NW, in Hampton
8:32 PM: Traffic Stop, NE 19 Av, in Hampton
8:58 PM: Misc/, 1300 Block of Olive Ave, in Hampton
9:45 PM: Traffic Stop, W Ball Fields, in Hampton
9:58 PM: Misc/, Kwik Star, in Hampton
10:56 PM: Fireworks, 1000 Block of 2nd St NW, in Hampton
11:42 PM: Misc/, 1600 Block of N Federal St, in Hampton

Franklin County Sheriff's Office
12:23 AM: Traffic Stop - Ellsworth St/E RR St, Dows
12:33 AM: Owi - Quail Ave, Hampton
1:22 AM: Booking Information - 5th St SW, Hampton
2:28 AM: Ambulance Call - Main St, Chapin
7:08 AM: Controlled Burn - 30th St, Ackley
8:44 AM: Controlled Burn - Finch Ave, Latimer
9:28 AM: Phone Call To Return - Juniper Ave, Iowa Falls
9:29 AM: Dispatch - I-35 MM SB, Dows

9:52 AM: Weather/ - 1500 Blk 50th St, Bradford
10:35 AM: Dispatch - I-35 NB MM 162, Franklin Co
11:50 AM: Welfare Check - Walnut Dr, Geneva
2:45 PM: Controlled Burn - Simes St, Dows
2:49 PM: Misc/ - S Federal St, Hampton
3:00 PM: Telephone Call - Highway 65/70th St, Bradford
5:47 PM: Controlled Burn - Spruce Ave, Geneva
6:19 PM: Warrants-Local - Hancock
7:21 PM: Controlled Burn - 130th St, Hampton
7:38 PM: Traffic Complaints - NB Timber, Hampton
8:04 PM: 10-50 Property Damage - 255th/Ravens, Sheffield
9:13 PM: Booking Information - 5th St SW, Hampton
9:15 PM: Booking Information - 5th St SW, Hampton
9:49 PM: Fireworks - 2nd St, Bradford

Saturday, July 4
Hampton Police Department
4:08 AM: Assist County Department, Hwy 3/Rolling Prairie Trail, in Hampton
8:34 AM: Ambulance Call, 700 Block 2nd St SE, in Hampton
8:42 AM: Parking Ord., 100 Block Central Ave West, in Hampton
9:02 AM: Ambulance Call, 600 Block 7th St SW, in Hampton
11:03 AM: Animals (Except Dogs), 200 Block 1st St NE, in Hampton
11:25 AM: Misc/, 0 Block 1st St NW, in Hampton
12:08 PM: Traffic Stop, 10 Block 7th St SW, in Hampton
1:37 PM: Dog Calls, Highway 3/ Mallard Ave, in Hampton
2:03 PM: Traffic Complaints, Olive Ave S of 170th, in Hampton
2:19 PM: Parking Ord., Behind Peace Plaza, in Hampton
2:22 PM: Booking Information, 100 Block 5th St SW, in Hampton
3:10 PM: Phone Call To Return, 300 Block Central Ave W, in Hampton
5:24 PM: Traffic Stop, Nettle/Hwy 3, in Hampton
6:28 PM: Dog Calls, 500 Block 9th Ave SW, in Hampton
9:51 PM: Fireworks, 200 Block 2nd St SW, in Hampton
9:45 PM: Fireworks, 100 Block 5th St SW, in Hampton
10:22 PM: Fireworks, 2nd St and 7th Ave SW, in Hampton

Franklin County Sheriff's Office
1:13 AM: Suspicious Vehicle, Beeds Lake Spillway, Hampton
3:00 AM: Welfare Check, Hwy 3/ Rolling Prairie Trail, Franklin
10:25 AM: Information, 250th St/ Nettle, Sheffield
11:12 AM: Welfare Check, Unknown, Geneva
12:33 PM: Dispatch, Interstate 35 NB, Dows
1:10 PM: Telephone Call, Interstate 35, Wright Co
1:23 PM: Suspicious Activity, Wright Ave, Alexander
2:01 PM: Phone Call To Return, Hampton, Hampton

2:01 PM: Neighborhood Complaints, 2nd St, Bradford
2:13 PM: Motorist Assist, 1500 Blk Olive Ave, Hampton
4:30 PM: Misc/, Franklin County, Unknown
6:04 PM: Telephone Call, 255th St, Sheffield
8:14 PM: Telephone Call, I-35 NB, Latimer
9:09 PM: Ambulance Call, Hwy 3, Hampton
10:50 PM: Assist Other Agencies, 305th And Dows Williams Road, Dows

Sunday, July 5
Hampton Police Department
10:55 AM: Debris On Roadway/ Right-Of-Way, 1300 Blk Quail Ave, in Hampton
11:17 AM: Dog Calls, 300 Blk 4th St SE, in Hampton
12:33 PM: Dog Calls, 1000 Blk North Federal St, in Hampton
6:15 PM: False 911 Calls, 600 Blk 7th St SW, in Hampton
6:38 PM: Phone Call To Return, Location Not Specified, in Hampton
7:10 PM: Fireworks, 1000 Blk 1st St NW, in Hampton
7:17 PM: Alarm, 400 Blk Central Ave W, in Hampton
8:34 PM: Juveniles, 600 Blk 1st St NW, in Hampton
9:53 PM: Telephone Call, 200 Blk Oak Hill Drive, in Hampton

Franklin County Sheriff's Office
12:25 AM: Misc/, Mallard and Hwy 65, Iowa Falls
1:11 AM: Traffic Stop, 1400 Blk Hwy 3, Hampton
1:16 AM: Traffic Stop, Olive Ave and Hwy 3, Hampton
7:30 AM: Theft From Building, 200 Blk 140th St, Alexander
8:02 AM: Traffic Stop, 700 Blk Hwy 3, Latimer
8:57 AM: Controlled Burn, 900 Blk 110th St, Hampton
10:24 AM: Dog Calls, 130th St Nettle/Olive in Cerro Gordo, Cerro Gordo
10:39 AM: Controlled Burn, 1300 Blk Hardin Rd, Iowa Falls
1:23 PM: Suspicious Activity, 900 Blk Cardinal Ave, Dows
2:20 PM: 10-50 Property Damage, 900 Blk Cardinal Ave, Dows
3:23 PM: Traffic Stop, 700 Blk 250th, Sheffield
3:23 PM: Traffic Stop, 700 Blk 250th, Sheffield
3:41 PM: False 911 Calls, 1300 Blk Beeds Lake Dr, Hampton
4:03 PM: Traffic Complaints, I35 MM 166 N, Coulter
5:07 PM: OWI, Warbler and Sherman, Ackley
5:58 PM: Booking Information, 100 Blk 5th St SW, Hampton
7:03 PM: Controlled Burn, 2000 Blk Heather Ave, Latimer
8:00 PM: Suspicious Vehicle, 120th and 130th on Heather, Coulter
9:06 PM: Phone Call To Return, 900 Blk Water St, Alden
9:41 PM: Phone Call To Return, 110th and Finch, Dows
11:02 PM: Phone Call To Return, 100 Blk 5th St SW, Hampton

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ATTEND A MEETING:

MASON CITY, IA
July 15 at 11 AM
Mason City Chamber of Commerce
9 N. Federal Avenue

CLEAR LAKE, IA
July 15 at 1 PM
Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce
205 Main Avenue

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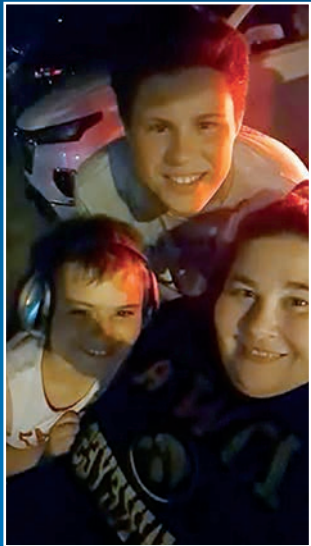
Medicare has awarded our Iowa/Illinois plan with 5 out of five (5) Stars for 2026 and our Wisconsin plan with 4.5 out of 5 Stars for 2026. Every year, Medicare evaluates plans based on a 5-Star system. How does your plan rate? Visit www.medicare.gov to compare plans. You must continue to pay your Medicare Part B premium. For accommodations of persons with special needs at sales meetings, call the phone number above. Open to all Medicare beneficiaries eligible by age or disability. Medical Associates Health Plans (MAHP) is a Cost plan with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in MAHP depends on contract renewal. Y0045_MAHF 2065_M CMS Accepted 01262026

Minions & Monsters opened nationally last weekend, with 99 people enjoying the film at the Windsor Theatre. Minions & Monsters will continue playing at the Windsor Theatre through Thursday, July 16. Showtimes are on Wednesday at 2:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m., Thursday through Sunday at 7:00 p.m., with a Sunday matinee at 1:00 p.m.

Get all your local news and events at
HamptonChronicle.com 24/7!

Fourth of July Fun!

Families and friends gathered at the Franklin County Fairgrounds to enjoy a warm summer evening before the annual Fourth of July fireworks display. As the sun set, blankets and lawn chairs filled the grounds while the community waited for the show to begin. Check out photos from the celebration below. Photos by Elian Trevino



Henry, Samuel, and Samantha Mitterer get ready for the fireworks display at the Franklin County Fairgrounds.



The Helmke family poses beneath a beautiful sunset in their matching USA 250 shirts.



The Schirmer family enjoys time together as they wait for the fireworks to light up the sky.



The Hofer family enjoys sparklers as they celebrate Hampton's fireworks.



The Plagge family sets out blankets and chairs as they get ready for the fireworks.



The Abid family patiently wait in their USA-themed lawn chairs as they wait for the fireworks to begin.



The Chestnut family found the perfect spot to kick back and enjoy an evening of firework fun.



The Garcia family eagerly waits for the first fireworks to light up the night sky.



The Schmidt and Popp families gather together while waiting for the fireworks to take place.



Jody Hovenga, Karen Hintch and Dan Schipper wait for the fireworks to begin.



The Ungs and File families show off their glow accessories and sparklers as they celebrate before the fireworks.



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***Rebate requires purchase of qualifying items between July 6, 2026 and August 14, 2026 from a participating Lennox® dealer. Contact your local participating Lennox® dealer for promotion details. Qualifying items must be installed by August 21, 2026. This offer applies to residential installations only. Rebate claims must be submitted (with the Dealer's invoice to the homeowner listing all models and serial numbers) to www.lennoxconsumerrebates.com no later than September 20, 2026 11:59:59 p.m. ET. Rebate is paid in the form of a Lennox Prepaid Mastercard®. Use your card anywhere Mastercard is accepted. This card is issued by The Bancorp Bank N.A., pursuant to license by Mastercard International. Mastercard and the circles design are registered trademarks of Mastercard International Incorporated. The Bancorp Bank, N.A.; Member FDIC. This is not a gift card. This card is issued for loyalty, award or promotional purposes. Please note that prepaid cards are subject to expiration, so pay close attention to the expiration date of the card. Conditions apply. See www.lennox.com/terms-and-conditions for complete terms and conditions. ©2026 Lennox Dealers are independently owned and operated businesses.



The Flores family smiles for a photo before the fireworks. Pictured is Noé Flores, this week's Center Stage feature in the Hampton Chronicle.



The Foster-Thomas family gathers together to celebrate before the Hampton fireworks.



The Kinney family enjoys a chocolate dessert while waiting for the fireworks.



The Kolb and Magner families excitedly gather together to celebrate the fireworks at the Franklin County Fairgrounds.

News From Around Iowa

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For 15 Years Iowa’s Prisons Have Asked for Air Conditioning, This Year Something is Different.

Advisers fear farmland sales proceeds will be used for prison expansion instead

BY ERIN JORDAN
IOWA CAPITAL DISPATCH

As summer temperatures rise into the 90s, more than 1,000 Iowa prisoners and correctional officers are sweating it out without air conditioning.

Prolonged heat waves behind bars can cause heat stroke and exacerbate chronic conditions like asthma, heart ailments and arthritis. Studies also show prisons without air conditioning are more violent.

For years, the Iowa Department of Corrections has been asking lawmakers for funding to install air conditioning at the Anamosa State Penitentiary and the Mount Pleasant Correctional Facility – prisons that regularly house more than 1,000 men each.

The Iowa Legislature adjourned in May without approving the \$8.1 million for the projects.

But something is different this year.

The Corrections Department has been selling farmland around state prisons and has nearly \$8 million left after other repairs and renovations. Agency leaders won’t say whether they intend to spend the windfall on air conditioning, but advisers

think they should.

“I think the most important thing is to make sure the staff and inmates’ health is the priority with the air conditioning,” said Trent Keller, of Waterloo, chair of the Iowa Board of Corrections. “I wouldn’t want to be in a place that is 80 to 90 degrees and all I’ve got is a small box fan to cool me down.”

Hot and bothered

Stifling cells, condensation puddles, poor sleep, trouble breathing – these are complaints from men who have been incarcerated at Anamosa and Mount Pleasant during periods like this week, when heat indices are over 100 degrees.

“It’s been a persistent complaint we’ve gotten for years,” said Bert Dalmer, senior deputy ombudsman for the Iowa Office of Ombudsman.

In 2025 alone, the office fielded six complaints – four from prisoners at Anamosa and two from Mount Pleasant – about lack of air conditioning. Mount Pleasant, with more than 1,000 prisoners June 30, does not have AC in most housing units. In Anamosa, one wing has air conditioning, but the bulk of the 1,200 prisoners there do not.

Climate change is causing



Exterior of Anamosa State Penitentiary, a maximum-security prison where one wing has air conditioning in cells and one does not. (Photo courtesy of Iowa Department of Corrections)

more extreme weather in Iowa, including more heat waves. While Iowa’s average summer daytime high temperatures haven’t changed much in recent decades, nighttime temperatures are hotter, likely linked to humidity, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration reported.

Heat stress increases prison dangers

Heat stress contributed to the 2024 death of a man held at an Illinois prison without air conditioning. When a prison nurse found Michael Broadway, 51, unresponsive at the Stateville Correctional Center June 19, 2024, she called 911, WTTW News reported. The dispatcher mistakenly thought Broadway had been outside.

“No, he’s been in his cell, but it’s like 100 and something degrees in here,” the nurse said in the call recording obtained by the TV station.

The Stateville prison was closed in 2025.

Correctional officers not only have to endure the heat themselves, but they may face risks of increased assaults or other violence among offenders.

In a study published in 2021, researchers found days with average temperatures of 80 degrees raised violent interactions among Mississippi inmates by

20%. To reach an 80-degree daily average, the daytime temperature often is over 90 degrees and nighttime temperature above 70 degrees.

“There are people who say ‘Those inmates are in prison. They don’t deserve to have AC,’” said Todd Copley, president of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Council 61, which represents Iowa correctional officers. “But walk a mile in their shoes and see how you feel. Their attitudes, their demeanor affects how the day in the life of a correctional officer goes.”

Fifteen years of requests denied

The Anamosa State Penitentiary was built in phases from 1875 to 1899 from limestone quarried at the nearby Stone City. The first offenders came to the prison well before Willis Carrier invented the first electrical air conditioning unit in 1902.

Even today, only a handful of states have air conditioning for all incarcerated individuals, USA Today reported.

The Iowa Department of Corrections has been asking lawmakers to fund air conditioning upgrades in the prisons for at least 15 years, according to a 2020 story in the Iowa Capital Dispatch.

Gov. Kim Reynolds echoed

the need this year by including \$8.1 million in her budget for prison AC projects. The money would have come from the Re-build Iowa Infrastructure Fund (RIIF).

Lawmakers again did not approve the projects.

Rep. Jacob Bossman, a Sioux City Republican who chairs the RIIF budget subcommittee, said his party has invested in prison projects that improve public safety and capacity.

“So long as Iowa House Republicans remain in the majority, the comfort of convicted criminals will never take priority over the safety of law-abiding Iowans,” he said in a statement. “While funds to add AC are worth evaluating, funding decisions are ultimately about prioritizing the most urgent public safety and infrastructure needs.”

Farmland sales provide funds

State appropriations supply the vast majority of Iowa’s prison funding. But in 2023, a consultant suggested another source of one-time money. The Guidehouse Government Alignment Project recommended the Corrections Department and other state agencies sell farmland around their facilities.

One of many limestone outbuildings on a farm owned by the Iowa Department of Corrections near the Anamosa State Penitentiary. One of these farms is on the National Register of Historic Places for the architecture of the buildings, which would not be sold under plans to sell the farmland. (Photo is part of the National Register application)

For more than a century, prison farms in Iowa and other states supplied food for incarcerated people and taught inmates how to work the land.

But as the average Iowa farm has ballooned in size and farm work has become more automated, prison labor is no longer

used. So far, the Corrections Department has sold more than half of the 3,446 total farmland acres for about \$18 million. Another 1,300 acres near Anamosa is expected to bring in another \$10 million, the agency reported.

The Corrections Department has spent \$10.3 million so far on the following:

- \$7.4 million to complete a kitchen and laundry project at Clarinda Correctional Facility
- \$2.9 million to build or renovate offices for 4th Judicial District and 5th Judicial District corrections staff

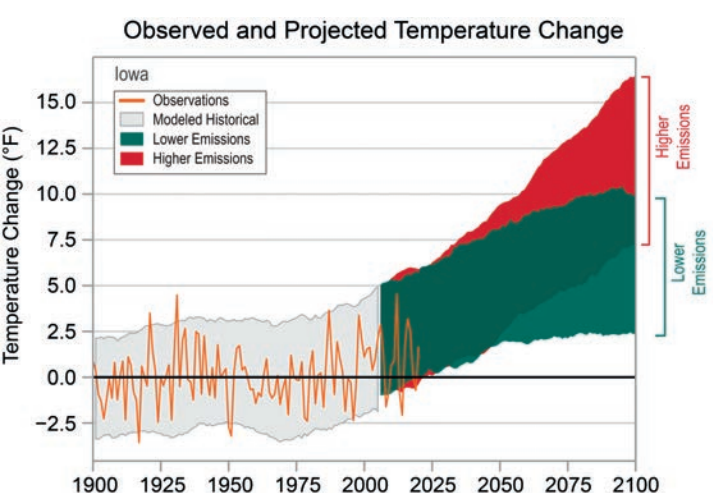
That leaves \$7.7 million.

When the Iowa Capital Dispatch asked Corrections Department officials whether that money could be spent on air conditioning, they replied in a June 3 email: “Infrastructure needs are determined and approved by Director (Beth) Skinner and Steve Dick, DOC Financial Manager, based on most imminent needs of the Department.”

A new wrinkle in the prison funding picture is House File 2542, which requires some three-time felony offenders to spend at least seven years in prison. The “three strikes” bill is expected to increase Iowa’s prison population by 50% and require building three more prisons and expanding others at a total cost of \$1.9 billion, the Legislative Services Agency reported.

Larry Smith, a board member with Iowa Citizens for the Rehabilitation of Errants (CURE), speaks frequently at Board of Corrections meetings about air conditioning needs. He fears HF 2542 will push the cooling projects back down the priorities list, leaving inmates to continue to suffer sweltering conditions.

“Common sense tells me they are going to use it for new prisons rather than upgrading old prisons,” he said.



Graphic showing observed and projected temperature change in Iowa from 1900 through 2100. Source: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Tick Bites Are Surging in the US This Year. Here’s What to Know.

BY AMELIA TWYMAN
IOWA CAPITAL DISPATCH

The prime time for ticks is here in the United States, and after an especially active start to the season, experts are urging the public to stay alert and take preventive measures.

Monthly emergency department visits for tick bites in April spiked to their highest level since 2017 and continued to remain high throughout May and June, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s tick bite tracker.

Though it’s hard to predict what the rest of the season will look like, given that tick activity depends on a number of different factors, there has definitely been a recent geographic expansion of the area ticks inhabit, said Pilar Fernandez, a disease ecologist and assistant professor at Washington State University.

The tiny blood-suckers, which tend to thrive in warmer climates, are spreading to places that used to be too cold for their existence, she said during a July 1 SciLine media briefing, as temperatures rise in the United States and around the world.

With more ticks comes a greater risk of individuals developing tick-borne diseases such as Lyme disease, Alpha-gal syndrome and anaplasmosis. That’s why researchers are encouraging people to know their facts and learn how to protect themselves from bites as they venture outdoors.

Global warming is certainly one reason behind this recent surge in tick activity, though Fernandez said the whole picture is much more complicated.

Because ticks can live for up to two to three years, it’s difficult to understand the delayed seasonal effects of increased temperatures or precipitation on their population, she said.

Other factors including local environmental conditions and how much time people spend outside can have an impact on annual tick encounters, she added.

Every spring and summer, she said, people ask her if it’s going to be a “big year” for ticks, which is “a really hard question to answer, because it’s not equal across all locations.”

Most tick cases are recorded in the Northeast and Midwest, but different species of ticks are found in every region of the country. And as the population expands into areas where people are unaware of how to protect themselves and unaccustomed to checking for bites, the threat of contracting a tick-borne infection grows, Fernandez said.



A lone star tick, which is a very aggressive tick that bites humans. A circular rash sometimes follows the bite. (Photo courtesy Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)

dez said.

Tick-borne diseases

Ticks carry pathogens that they then pass on to humans by biting into their skin and feeding on their blood. An untreated tick bite can lead to the development of one of nearly 20 different human diseases in the U.S., the most common of which is Lyme disease — about 476,000 patients are treated annually, according to the CDC.

Another tick-borne infection that has been on the rise is Alpha-gal syndrome, which causes people to experience a

serious allergic reaction after they eat red meat or other animal products that contain the sugar molecule alpha-gal. It is most commonly associated with the lone star species of tick distributed throughout the Northeastern, Southern and Midwestern United States.

Initial symptoms of tick-borne illnesses are unspecific and often the same as those that come with regular sickness, such as a fever, headache, muscle aches and joint pain, according to Alvaro Toledo, an associate professor in the

Department of Entomology at Rutgers who also spoke at the July 1 media briefing.

“Physicians need to be vigilant and aware if they receive a patient with symptoms that are compatible with a tick-borne disease,” he said.

What if you find a tick?

If one discovers a tick on the skin, Toledo said the proper response is to first quickly remove the tick with tweezers by pinching and pulling it up in a vertical motion, then disinfecting the area and monitoring for signs of sickness.

People should not, on the other hand, deal with a tick by burning it off or applying petroleum jelly to the bite, said University of Wisconsin-Madison Assistant Professor Adela Oliva Chavez, a tick researcher, at the briefing.

“Those are myths,” she warned.

Ticks typically do not transmit infection until after they have been attached to the skin for 24 hours, which is why the CDC recommends people aim

to remove the pests as soon as possible within the first day.

However, experts say the most effective way to prevent tickborne disease in humans is by limiting exposure to ticks in the first place.

Toledo said people should use chemical sprays such as permethrin on their clothing and classic bug repellents on their skin to keep ticks away. It’s also a good idea to wear long, light-colored clothing when spending time in forests and other highly vegetated areas where ticks are abundant.

But, he added as a reminder to the public, there is “no zero-risk zone anywhere when you go out ... even in your backyard, risk is not zero.”

Individuals can further reduce their chance of acquiring a tick bite by checking their pets just as often themselves, according to Oliva Chavez. Dogs and cats can easily bring ticks into the house from outside, and if they aren’t yet attached to the animal’s flesh, they can make their way onto humans, she said.

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Franklin General Hospital

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Providing care you can trust, close to home.

ATHLETE of the Week

BY ELIAN TREVINO
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

William Vosburg has continued to make an impact for the Hampton-Dumont-CAL baseball team this season both at the plate and on the mound.

Vosburg, 16, is a sophomore heading into his junior year and has taken on multiple roles for the Bulldogs, playing catcher, pitcher and occasionally infield. After starting pitcher duties during the season, Vosburg has shown his ability to contribute in several areas of the game.

Through the season, Vosburg has continued to develop as a pitcher, recording 26 strikeouts while allowing just two earned runs in his first four starts. He also holds one of the team's top batting averages and leads the team in RBIs and extra base hits.

Vosburg said one of the biggest highlights of the season has been the team's strong start and his performance both offensively and defensively.

"My favorite moment this year was in the first game of the year," Vosburg said. "I hit a two-RBI double, and it was an awesome moment."

A typical practice for Vosburg includes throwing to help prepare his arm, defensive work and hitting drills. With playing multiple positions, he said balancing everything can sometimes be challenging.

"With playing lots of positions, it can be difficult at times to cover everything," Vosburg said.

Along with baseball, Vosburg is involved in cross country, track, wrestling and student council. He said his goal of playing collegiate baseball continues to motivate him to keep improving.

"I have lots of hard goals, including playing collegiate baseball, so that's a big motivator for me," Vosburg said.

Vosburg credits his mom and grandpa for helping him along the way, whether it was attending offseason tournaments, spending time hitting or helping him grow as a player or person.

Through baseball, Vosburg said he has learned the importance of continuing to move forward, even when things do not go as planned.

"Sometimes in life you can do everything right and still have a bad outcome, and you've just got to keep moving forward through that," Vosburg said.

As the season continues, Vosburg hopes to keep hitting the ball hard, throwing strikes on the mound and enjoying time with his teammates.



SPORTS

Marlins Win Kirby Puckett Championship

BY ELIAN TREVINO
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

HAMPTON – The Marlins finished their 2026 season on a high note, winning the Kirby Puckett Championship after a season full of growth, teamwork and fun.

Tanner Miller coached the Marlins this season, with help from Justin Hesnard, Mike Halsne, Jess Harlan, Blake Walker and Trevor Reysack. While this was Miller's first season coaching this group, he previously spent two years coaching t-ball.

"This season was different as my boy went up a league and it was all new to him and I," Miller said.

Throughout the season, Miller watched the players become more comfortable with the game and gain confidence. Many players started the year nervous at the plate, but by the end of the season, they were swinging, making contact and enjoying their time on the field.

"We had a lot of kids that were scared to bat at first. By the end of the season, a lot were swinging and hitting the ball,"



The Marlins celebrate their Kirby Puckett Championship victory with medals and rings.

Miller said.

The Marlins' championship season was built around playing together and supporting each other. Miller said there was not one specific moment that changed the season, but instead the team continued improving throughout the year.

"We played well all year and

they all played as a team," Miller said.

The season was meaningful for Miller as he watched his son grow in the sport while also coaching many players he had known from previous years.

Tanner hopes the players continue playing baseball, but more importantly, remember to

enjoy the game and have fun.

"It's just a game and remember MLB players strike out too," Miller said.

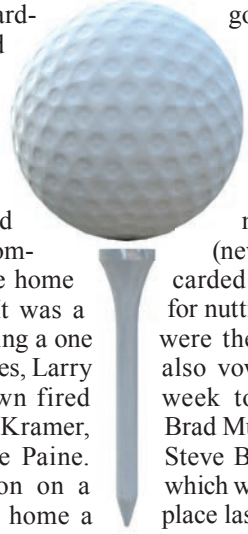
With the season complete, Miller hopes the players continue to enjoy baseball and keep building on what they learned this year.

Ridgestone Senior Golf

how neat the guys dressed for the day in their red/white/blue outfits. He rewarded those who dressed accordingly with an extra mulligan. They all looked like fluttering flags zooming down the fairways. Dougy Hahn, Les Hurd and Don Greimann combined for a 68 to take home the golden trophy. It was a picture of Frank missing a one foot putt. Frank Schnoes, Larry Fanny and Dick Brown fired 70 shots as did Mark Kramer, Tom Severe and Mike Paine. The latter group won on a tie-breaker and took home a

carton of fresh pineapple. Only stickler is they have to go to Hawaii to get it. Frank, Dick & Larry had excuses as long as a telephone wire. I think we still have those don't we? Dave O'Connor, Brian Johnson (newbee) and Jim Allen carded 73, which was good for nuttin' honey. If, if and if were their excuses, but they also vowed to be back next week to avenge their loss. Brad Mulford, Leon Root and Steve Birdsall notched a 75, which was good enough to not place last. They did each win

a free cruise at Beeds Lake on the excursion ship, "Pars Only!" Limping in with nothing to brag about except they finished uninjured were Darryl Peter, Nick-Mulford and Jerry Nelson with a score so high it would be embarrassing to print, thus it was LX-IXVIII but don't tell anybody!! One more chapter is filed in the archives somewhere I guess. Mike told me that cows spy on other cows by using steak out measures. Les told me his barber won a race by taking a shortcut! Nick told me a cow eating grass is a lawn moooooer! Okay, I got fired once from a calendar factory and all was did was skip a day! See ya on the flip-flop!



FBI: FROM COVER

One of the main topics discussed during the meeting was the growing issue of online scams and the challenges law enforcement faces when trying to recover money stolen from victims.

Bird said the FBI has made progress in identifying international groups involved in scams, but recovering money remains difficult when funds are transferred outside the country.

"Many times this is in a foreign cryptowallet, sometimes in Southeast Asia, for example," Bird said. "But today we were talking about ways we could work together, follow those cases, follow those threads and try to get the money back from the person it was taken from."

Iowa Public Safety Commissioner Stephen Bayens said local law enforcement agencies often work together by sharing information during investigations, but some cases require help from federal partners.

"Each individual investigation might have a sliver of evidence, but not enough to

identify who is responsible," Bayens said. "Once it leaves kind of our jurisdictional authority is really where we lean on our federal partnerships because they have that kind of jurisdictional reach both nationally and internationally."

Andrea Miller said the meeting was valuable for smaller counties like Franklin County because it allowed officials to connect with others dealing with similar challenges.

"Coming from a small rural county, I really feel that something like today is very helpful to make connections and to see other people who are dealing with the same issues we are," Miller said.

Miller said issues such as scams, human trafficking and methamphetamine impact communities throughout Iowa, regardless of their size.

"Even though Franklin County is a small county, we deal with these issues like the scams for sure, human trafficking and methamphetamine touch all of our counties, whether it's a big place

like Polk County or a small one like Franklin," Miller said. "So I really appreciate General Bird for putting this together and Director Patel for being here."

The meeting also focused on regional efforts to combat human trafficking and strengthen drug investigations across Iowa.

Officials said continued cooperation between local, state and federal agencies will remain important as law enforcement works to address crimes that often extend beyond individual communities.

Patel did not speak with Iowa reporters following the meeting.

The meeting provided law enforcement leaders with an opportunity to strengthen partnerships and share strategies for addressing issues that continue to impact Iowa communities.



HAMPTON, IOWA

JULY 15-19, 2026

WEDNESDAY



ROGUE RODEO

THURSDAY



★ Anne Wilson ★

FRIDAY



GET THE LED OUT

SATURDAY



CRAIG MORGAN

SUNDAY



MUDDY MAYHEM



GOLDSTAR CARNIVAL

Wednesday to Friday:
3 PM - 10 PM

Saturday: 1 PM- 10 PM

Sunday: 12 PM- 5 PM



LUMBERJACK SHOW

Wednesday to Friday:
12 PM & 6 PM

Saturday & Sunday:
12 PM, 3 PM & 6 PM



HAPPY 250TH BIRTHDAY AMERICA

SATURDAY

Veteran's Motorcycle Ride & Quilts of Valor

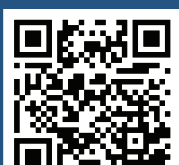


Ice Cream Stand

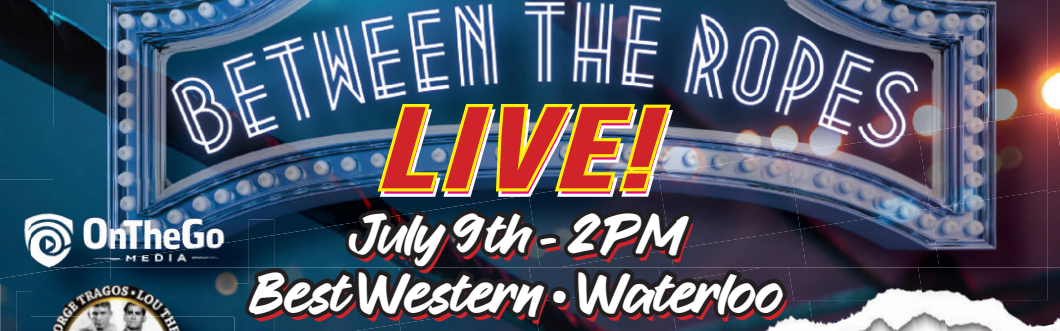
Tuesday: 6 PM- 8 PM

Wednesday to Saturday: 10 AM- 8 PM

Sunday: 10 AM- Sold Out



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HALL OF FAME



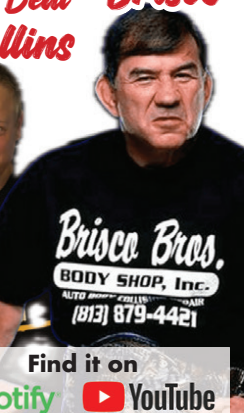
Tony Richards



The Real Deal Mr. Collins



Gerald Brisco



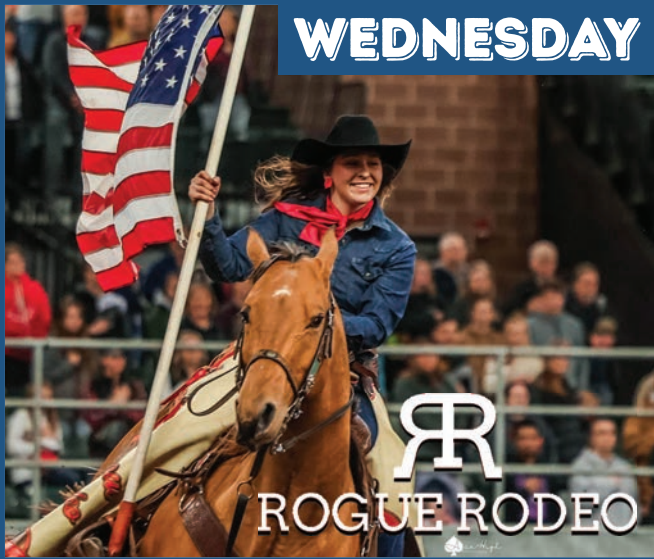
Brisco Bros.
BODY SHOP, Inc.
(813) 879-4421



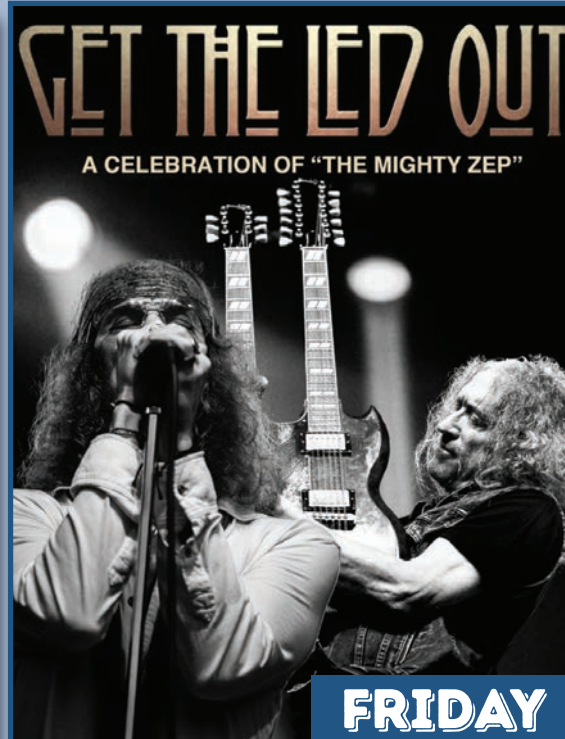
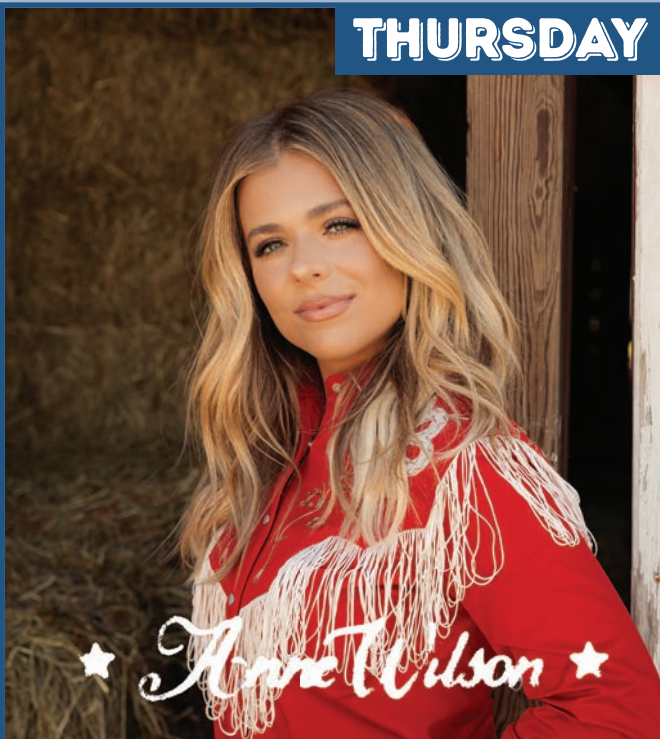
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A Hampton Chronicle Special Section

WEDNESDAY



THURSDAY



SATURDAY



Lumberjack Show

Wed to Fri: 12pm & 6pm

Sat & Sun: 12pm, 3pm & 6pm

FREE SHOWS!



Tues: 6pm-8pm

Wed to Sat: 1pm-10pm

Sun: 12pm-5pm



Goldstar Carnival

Wed to Fri: 3pm -10pm

Sat: 1pm-10pm Sun: 12pm-5pm

WRISTBANDS AVAILABLE!

JULY 15-19, 2026

2026 Franklin County Fair Grand Marshal

The North Central Iowa Model Railroad Club

The North Central Iowa Model Railroad Club's first year on the fair grounds was 2011.

They moved in the neglected depot basement in April, which needed a lot of work. By fair time, they had half of the track operating, but with very little scenery. Fifteen years later they are still doing remodeling and adding new features.

The North Central Iowa Model Railroad Club has seventeen active members. Their members range in age from 15

to over 80.

The members are skilled in various talents: scenery, track laying, electronics, and structure building. They meet each Thursday night, with a business meeting held on the 3rd Thursday of each month.

The club also hosts a train show in October. The 2026 train show will be their 14th annual event. They draw train enthusiasts from a wide area: Southern Iowa almost to central Minnesota.



The North Central Iowa Model Railroad Club



Attention Franklin County Veterans!

Here's a little thank-you just for you! The Franklin County Veterans Affairs Office is giving away **\$10 meal tickets or ice cream tickets to the first 100 veterans at the Franklin County Fair!**

To claim yours, simply stop by the Franklin County Veterans Affairs Office before the fair, or find Adam Akers at the fairgrounds. It's

our way of saying thank you for your service and sacrifice. Don't wait—once the first 100 tickets are gone, they're gone! Courtesy of the Franklin County Veterans Affairs Office, proudly serving those who served us.

Check out the Freedom Ride Ad found on the next page in this fair tabloid!

Open Class

Join the fun and share your talent by exhibiting in the open class at the fair July 15-19. Open to persons of all ages, even if you live outside the county you can be an exhibitor.

You can get a copy of the rules and classes at www.franklincountyfair.com or at

the fair office.

Open Class exhibitors can enter their projects in the exhibits building (convention center) on Monday, July 13 from 4-7 pm and on Tuesday from 7:30 am- 11 am.

For more information, go to the website or call the office at 641- 456-2049

Ribeye Roundup

5pm - 7pm

Saturday July 18th

Don't miss it!

RIBEYE STEAK SANDWICH - \$20

with Texas Toast, Cheesey Potatoes, Mac Salad & Drink

HAMBURGER - \$12

with Cheesey Potatoes, Mac Salad & Drink

VAN WALL TENT

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Franklin County



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Grandpa's Farm July 15-19

There are plenty of things to do at grandpa's farm! Come experience some old time farming! There are daily demonstrations of steam engines, sawmill, gang plow, threshing, and so much more!

Grandpa's Farm Events

Tractor Ride

Sign-up at Grandpa's Farm on Tuesday, July 14 at 10:30 AM. Ride returns to Hampton for Fair Parade Lineup at 4:00 PM.

Garden Tractor Pull

Friday, July 17 at 5:00 PM.

Tractor and Pickup Pull

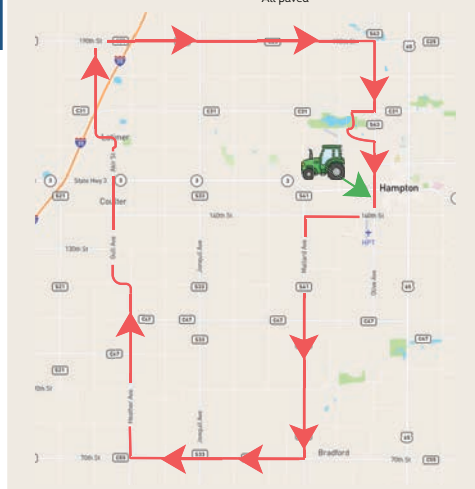
Saturday, July 18 at 9:30 AM at Grandpa's Farm. Weigh-in for tractors & trucks starts at 8:30 AM. Details below.

2026 GRANDPA'S FARM TRACTOR RIDE

TUESDAY, JULY 14 AT THE FRANKLIN COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

Schedule
Registration - 10:30
Lunch - 11:30
Depart Fairgrounds - 4:00

Details
\$25 per driver (\$10 per buddy seat rider)
Includes lunch & snacks
43 miles throughout Franklin County
All paved



Horse Power Threshing Machine Shows
Saturday & Sunday, July 18 & 19.

Iowa Draft Horse Pullers & Overload Pull
Sunday, July 19 at 1:00 PM.

Competitions

All manner of contests on the grounds at the fair... we have it all!

- Pie Eating Contest: Fri. 2 pm
- FC Farm Bureau Cook-out Contest: Sat. 3 pm
- Cutest Baby Contest: Sat. 4 pm
- Parent Look Alike Contest: Wed. 5 pm
- Rubber Chicken Throwing Contest: Fri. 1 pm

Entertainment at the Mort's Water Gazebo

Wednesday 1-4 Dawn Grosz ruger
Thursday 1-4 Bill Hendren & Friends
Friday 12-3 Tim Collins & Denny Campbell
Saturday 12-3 Sleepy Bones Allison
Sunday 1-4 Jack Jensen

SAVE THE DATE

Sukup
presents



Saturday, August 29th, 2026



PEOPLE. PROGRESS. PRIDE.®

FRANKLIN COUNTY FARM BUREAU

Proud Sponsor of the Franklin County Fair

Thursday, July 16



AG ADVENTURE SCAVENGER HUNT
KIDS' GAMES & MORE

Calling all
backyard chefs!



SATURDAY, JULY 18

Register now

\$200 Grand Prize
Winner competes
at Iowa State Fair



★ FRANKLIN COUNTY VETERANS AFFAIRS ★ AT THE FRANKLIN COUNTY FAIR THE FRANKLIN COUNTY "250 FREEDOM RIDE"

SATURDAY, JULY 18TH ★ FRANKLIN COUNTY FAIR GROUNDS



EAST ENTRANCE -
REGISTRATION STARTS AT
8:00 AM
ALL RIDERS MUST REGISTER



DRIVER MEETING AT
9:00 AM



KICK STANDS UP
9:15 AM



Ride around Franklin County
with FCVA as we celebrate
250 years of Freedom and
Independence! Round trip
back to the Fair to enjoy
the day.



ALL MOTORCYCLE RIDERS WELCOME.

Franklin County Veterans Affairs sends a special invitation out to all Veteran motorcycle riders.

Franklin County Fair Queen Welcome

Words from the 2025 Fair Queen Abby Schoning

Wow, it has been quite the year! I remember when I was a little girl, I would always see the fair queen at the fair and think how amazing it would be to become that someday. I am so grateful to have been blessed with that opportunity this year, and it truly has been an unforgettable experience. I have made so many memories and gained so many friendships that will last me a lifetime, thanks to this amazing fair.

Although there have been many moments that have impacted me during my reign as Franklin County Fair Queen,



2025 Fair Queen Abby Schoning

I have been most blessed by those around me being so welcoming and becoming a second family at the fair. Every person at the Franklin County Fair, whether it be a board member making sure everything goes smoothly or a regular fairgoer enjoying this place,

makes the fair so much more than just a fair; they make it a home. The fair is not just a home for me, but it is also a place where everyone can feel welcome.

The thing that I have loved most about being the Franklin County Fair Queen is the connections that I have built through this wonderful opportunity within our community. During candidate events, I had the pleasure of getting to know ten other amazing and powerful women who were all passionate about not only the fair but also about agriculture. I have also been able to see work behind the scenes and how much goes into keeping this amazing fair going, specifically the hard work of the fair board members. Their dedication to the fair and the people who attend is truly inspiring.

At the state fair, I was also able to meet so many wonderful people and discuss the different experiences we have had, and I learned so much about other county fairs. Hearing about other fairs made me even more grateful than I already was that I was serving as Franklin County's fair queen. Being surrounded by over 100 strong, creative, and empowering young women was an unforgettable experience that I wish everyone could have.

See **QUEEN:**
Page 12

Fair Princess & Prince, Little Miss & Mister Coronation

Thursday, July 16, 3:00 pm at the Van Wall Tent

The Queen Committee is hosting this event. We will again be accepting nominations for both boys and girls. There are two categories for both. 5-7 year olds (Little Miss and Mister), and 8-9 year olds (Little Prince and Princess). The committee wants all girls and boys to have fun with this contest. It is a great way to feel included and aspire to doing more with the fair in the future. Whether it is Fair Queen or even showing animals..

All contestants who reside in Franklin County or have most of their activities in Franklin County are eligible to participate.

Each registered candidate will ride in the fair parade on Tuesday July 14, and compete Thursday July 16, at 3:00 PM in

the VanWall tent on the Franklin County Fairgrounds.

Each candidate will be judged on personality, appearance, cuteness, and how they answer a variety of questions.

We are hoping to have a large group of young men and ladies participate.

The winners of each age group (both boys and girls) will spend a delightful afternoon on the fairgrounds with the Queen.

The Little Princess and Little Miss will receive a tiara from the Franklin County Fair Board, a necklace from Christensen Jewelry, as well as a bouquet of roses.

Everyone is encouraged to come out to the fair and enjoy the competition.



2025 Little Mister
Pierson Dirksen



2025 Little Princess
Hannah Swieter



2025 Little Miss
Jiada Sochit

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on the Franklin County Fair Grounds.

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Paul Bunyan Lumberjack Show

If you want great old-fashioned fun and family entertainment, the Paul Bunyan Lumberjack Show is what you would want. The show is filled with action packed

competition, and plenty of laughter. The Paul Bunyan Lumberjack Show features only quality lumberjack competitors known throughout the world.

The Paul Bunyan Lumberjack Show has been performing at fairs, sports shows, festivals, theme parks, and both private and corporate events for over 33 years. The

Show has performed all over the world including Japan, Bermuda, Europe, China, Australia and Africa. Events presented during a show include log rolling, underhand

chopping, springboard chopping, standing block chopping, crosscut sawing, axe throwing, and dragster chainsaw competition, just to name a few.





See You AT THE FAIR!

Stop by & Grab Some Goodies

We're excited to be part of the
Franklin County Fair!

 **WEDNESDAY**
Find Us at Both
Fair Entrances

- Giveaways
- Fun handouts
- Stop and say hi!

 **SUNDAY**
Pleasant Hill Bank

- Visit us inside
- Giveaways & handouts
- Register to win a **gift basket!**

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on Sunday at Pleasant Hill Bank

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Let's
share a snack

Watermelon Feed

Friday, July 17

3:00 pm - until gone

Near the gazebo

Franklin County Fairgrounds

Join us by the gazebo near Pleasant Hill for a healthy snack and visit with FGH colleagues.
We can't wait to see you!

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Rogue Rodeo

Wednesday, July 15

This year, the Franklin County Fair is proud to partner with Rogue Rodeo Productions to bring you a fast-paced, exciting, and family-friendly rodeo like no other!

Based in Albia, Iowa, Rogue Rodeo Productions has been delivering top-quality rodeo entertainment across Iowa and the Midwest since 2017. Founded by Jerry Beaumont and Stephanie Allgood, Rogue Rodeo is known for their professionalism, quality bucking stock, and electric atmosphere that keeps fans on



the edge of their seats from start to finish.

Their accolades speak for themselves — Rogue Rodeo has earned multiple awards from the Iowa Ro-

deo Cowboys Association, including IRCA Rodeo of the Year, and their bull 442 Twinkie has been named URA Bucking Bull of the Year multiple years running. When Rogue Rodeo comes to town, you know you're getting championship-caliber action.

Whether you're a lifelong rodeo fan or bringing the kids for the first time, this is one event you won't want to miss. Come out and cheer on the cowboys and cowgirls as Rogue Rodeo Productions puts on a show worthy of Franklin County!



Muddy Mayhem

Sunday, July 19

Strap in and hold on — Muddy Mayhem is bringing the dirt, the noise, and the heart-pounding excitement of Figure 8 racing to the Franklin County Fair grandstand!

Figure 8 racing is one of the most uniquely thrilling forms of motorsport you'll ever witness. Cars blast around a track that literally crosses itself at the center, meaning drivers aren't just racing the clock — they're racing each other through the intersection, trading paint

and nerves every single lap. There's nothing else like it.

The people behind this event have lived and breathed

this sport for decades. From watching their first Figure 8 race as a kid to wrenching on cars in the garage, to building

and driving their own machines on North Iowa dirt tracks, this is more than a job — it's a lifelong passion. And

now they're bringing all of that experience, energy, and love for the sport straight to the Franklin County Fair.

Whether you're a die-hard racing fan or just looking for something that'll get the whole family out of their seats, Muddy Mayhem delivers the kind of raw, wheel-to-wheel action you won't forget. Come out Sunday, July 19 and see what the buzz is all about.

We are Good and Getting Better.



Anne Wilson

Thursday, July 16

One of Nashville's most inspiring young trailblazers, Anne Wilson is a revolution in modern music. The Lexington, Ky. native, known for her transcendent vocal and down-to-earth storytelling, recently released her new single, "God Story." Her last album,



REBEL, featured her hopeful, healing debut Country single "Rain In The Rearview" as well as her chart-topping Christian radio ballad "Strong." The genre-bending album followed her GRAMMY-nominated 2022 debut "My Jesus," with the title track becoming a PLATINUM-certified No. 1 hit on Billboard's Christian Airplay chart. Since then, Wilson has tallied over 1 Billion global streams, made her Grand Ole Opry debut, and wrapped her entirely sold-out headlining My Jesus Tour. Already named a Spotify Hot Country Artist to Watch, one of CMT's Next Women of Country, and a 2024 Opry Next Stage Artist, she has made high-profile appearances on TODAY and ACM Honors, while earning her first-ever CMT Music Awards nomination, as well as a Billboard Music Award. Unapologetically real, Wilson approaches her craft with a purpose and conviction that sets her apart, declaring, "I am who I am — I'm Anne Wilson. I love God and that's my everything, but I love Country music, too, and I can have a beautiful mix of both."



BRING THE FAMILY!

Hours: May 27 - Sept 5
Wed - Sat 10 am - 4 pm
Last admission 2 pm

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Parade

*Pleasant
Hill*

THURSDAY, JULY 16TH 10 AM - 6 PM

See us for a chance to win a prize and receive a
coupon for \$1 off ice cream (while supplies last).

SUNDAY, JULY 19TH 9 AM - 12 PM

Find us on the grounds for free
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Grandstand

SUNDAY, JULY 19TH AT 4:30 PM

First 200 to arrive will get a
free poncho keychain!

No purchase or account required to enter or win. Odds of winning dependent on number of entries. Need not be present to win. Ice cream coupons limited to one per person.

Get the Led Out

Friday, July 17

Experience the raw power and mystique of Led Zeppelin like never before! Get The Led Out is bringing their world-renowned tribute to the 2026 Franklin County Fair for one unforgettable night.



From the thundering drums of "When the Levee Breaks" to the haunting beauty of "Stairway to Heaven," this six-piece powerhouse delivers note-for-note recreations that will transport you straight to the golden age of



rock. Expect deep cuts for the die-hard fans, intimate acoustic moments like "Tangerine" and "Going to California," and arena-shaking anthems including "Kashmir," "Whole Lotta Love," and "Rock and Roll."



Whether you grew up on Zeppelin or you're discovering their genius for the first time, this is your chance to witness the magic of one of rock's greatest bands—live at the fair. Don't miss it!

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Join us

AT THE FAIR

Tuesday, July 14Watch for our **Blue Crew** in the Parade
Friday, July 17United Bank & Trust Company Day at the Fair

Stop by Pleasant Hill Bank on Friday, July 17th for freebies and a chance to win a smoker grill, meat bundle, or Adventureland tickets.

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Craig Morgan

Saturday, July 18

Some people just know instantly who they are and what they stand for. Within a few minutes of any interaction with Craig Morgan, it's readily apparent God, family and country are his foundation. The veteran hitmaker continues to celebrate those pillars on his new EP, American Soundtrack.

"I try to celebrate God, family and country in my music and in everything I do," the Tennessee native says. "That's what I have always done and I've come to realize it's my platform. I don't stress about things as much as I used to. I just try to write, sing, produce and play the

best music that we can and go where I think God wants me to be."

Morgan is making a difference and is known almost as much for his philanthropy as his music. He's been a long-time ambassador for Operation Finally Home, which provides mortgage-free, custom-built homes and home modifications for veterans, first responders and their families. He's done nearly 20 overseas tours for our troops where he has entertained more than 45,000 service members and military families in 15 countries.

Giving back and making the world a better place is per-

petually on Morgan's agenda, and he's hoping the songs on American Soundtrack will not only entertain but make a difference. "I hope these songs create positive energy," Morgan says. "I want people to feel inspired. I want people to laugh and enjoy what we do, but I also hope it makes them feel motivated to do good, to live a good life and to be kind. I believe we should live our lives in accordance with God's truth; in honesty, fairness, kindness, love, and generosity. When you are doing all those things everything else will just fall into place."



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FAIR WEEK 2026

Sunday, July 12

8:00 AM-9:15AM-Warm-Up & Horse Exhibitor Check-in Horse Arena Livestock
9:30AM Open Horse/Pony Show Horse Arena Livestock
Following Open Horse/Pony Show Horse Show Horse Arena Livestock

Monday, July 13

9:00 AM-11:00 AM-Youth Exhibit Judging Exhibits Building 4-H
12:00 PM 3:00 PM Youth Exhibit Judging Exhibits Building 4-H
4:00 PM 7:00 PM Open Class Entry (EXCEPT Horticulture & Floriculture) Exhibits Building Open Class (Deb Lukensmeyer)
5:00 PM Tack may be set up Livestock

Tuesday, July 14

7:00 AM-1:00 PM Livestock Arrive (Must be in by 1:00 PM) Livestock
7:30AM-11:00 AM-Open Class Entry (EXCEPT Horticulture & Floriculture) Exhibits Building Open Class (Deb Lukensmeyer)
10:30AM-11:30AM-Tractor Ride Registration, Line-Up, & Meal Grandpa's Farm
12:00 PM 4:00 PM Tractor Ride Grandpa's Farm Grandpa's Farm
1:00 PM Open Class Judging Exhibits Building Open Class (Deb Lukensmeyer)
1:15 PM Exhibitor Meeting (All exhibitors EXCEPT horse) Show Arena Livestock
1:30 PM Beef Cattle Weigh-In Livestock
2:15 PM Poultry Pollarium Testing Livestock
3:00 PM Parade Line-Up Greater Franklin County Chamber of Commerce
3:00 PM Swine Weigh-In Livestock
5:00 PM Fair Parade Greater Franklin County Chamber of Commerce
6:00 PM 8:00 PM Ice Cream Stand Open (Toppings) Ice Cream Stand/On Grounds
6:30 PM Dairy Cattle & Goat Check-In Livestock
7:00 PM Sheep (Plus Meat & Fancy Goat) Weigh-In Livestock

Wednesday, July 15

8:00 AM Sheep Show (Show Arena) Livestock

9:00 AM-11:00 AM-Clover Kids Exhibits Judging Exhibits Building 4-H
9:00 AM-9:00 PM Exhibits Building Open Exhibits Building Open Class (Deb Lukensmeyer)
10:00 AM Opening Ceremony North County Landscaping Pergola Board President (Jacob) Hampton Legion
10:00 AM-9:00 PM Commercial Exhibits Open Commercial & Marketplace Buildings Commercial
10:00 AM-8:00 PM Ice Cream Stand Open (peach) Ice Cream Stand/On Grounds
10:00 AM-8:00 PM North Central Model Railroad Club Open Railroad Club Railroad Club
11:00 AM Read & Roam Pleasant Hill Office
12:00 PM Paul Bunyan Lumberjack Show North Fairground On Grounds
1:00 PM 4-H Clothing Event Style Show Van Wall Tent 4-H
1:00 PM 4:00 PM Live Music by Dawn Groszkruger Mort's Water Gazebo On Grounds
3:00 PM 10:00 PM Carnival (Gold Star Amusements) Commercial (Alan)
3:00 PM Rabbit/Poultry Tent Livestock
3:00 PM 7:00 PM Ag Learning Center Pleasant Hill Rodney & Lacey (Farm Bureau help)
5:00 PM 9:00 PM Knights Of Columbus BINGO Marketplace Building Knights Of Columbus (Jim Davies)
5:00 PM Mother/Daughter & Father/Son Look Alike Contest Van Wall Tent On Grounds
6:00 PM 11:00 PM Grandstand Gates & Beer Garden Open Entertainment
6:00 PM Paul Bunyan Lumberjack Show North Fairground On Grounds
7:00 PM Rogue Rodeo Entertainment
Following Sheep Show Meat & Fancy Goat Show (Show Arena) Livestock
Following Style Show 4-H Share the Fun Van Wall Tent 4-H

Thursday, July 16

7:30AM-11:00 AM-Open Class Horticulture & Floriculture Entry Exhibits Building Open Class (Deb Lukensmeyer)
8:00 AM Swine Show (Show Arena) Livestock

9:00 AM-9:00 PM Exhibits Building Open Exhibits Building Open Class (Deb Lukensmeyer)
10:00 AM-9:00 PM Commercial Exhibits Open Commercial & Marketplace Buildings Commercial
10:00 AM-8:00 PM Ice Cream Stand Open (strawberry) Ice Cream Stand/On Grounds
10:00 AM Premier Exhibitor Educational Displays Livestock
10:00 AM-8:00 PM North Central Model Railroad Club Open Railroad Club Railroad Club
11:00 AM Read & Roam Pleasant Hill Office
11:00 AM-7:00 PM Ag Learning Center Pleasant Hill Rodney & Lacey (Farm Bureau Help)
11:00 AM-7:00 PM Franklin County Farm Bureau Scavenger Hunt Ag Learning Center
12:00 PM Sponsor of the Day (Burger Feed - Farm Bureau) Office
12:00 PM Paul Bunyan Lumberjack Show North Fairground On Grounds
12:30 PM Musical Chairs Van Wall Tent On Grounds
1:00 PM Old Fashioned Farming Grandpa's Farm Grandpa's Farm
1:00 PM 4:00 PM Harriman Nielson House Open Historical Society
1:00 PM Dairy Cattle Show (Show Arena) Livestock
1:00 PM 4:00 PM Live Music by Bill Hendren + Friends Mort's Water Gazebo On Grounds
1:00 PM Open Class Horticulture & Floriculture Judging Exhibits Building Open Class (Deb Lukensmeyer)
1:30 PM 2:30 PM Lego Day Youth Exhibits Building 4-H
2:30 PM Blacksmith Demo Pleasant Hill On Grounds
3:00 PM 10:00 PM Carnival (Gold Star Amusements) Commercial (Alan)
3:00 PM Fair Princess & Prince, Little Miss & Mister Coronation Van Wall Tent Queen Committee
5:00 PM 9:00 PM Knights Of Columbus BINGO Marketplace Building Knights Of Columbus (Jim Davies)
5:00 PM Fair Queen Coronation Van Wall Tent Queen Committee
6:00 PM Paul Bunyan Lumberjack Show North Fairground On Grounds

7:00 PM 12:00 AM-Grandstand Gates & Beer Garden Open Entertainment
8:30 PM Anne Wilson Entertainment
Following Dairy Cattle Show Dairy Goat Show (Show Arena) Livestock

Friday, July 17

8:00 AM Beef Cattle Show (Show Arena) Livestock
9:00 AM-9:00 PM Exhibits Building Open Exhibits Building Open Class (Deb Lukensmeyer)
9:30AM Old Fashioned Farming Grandpa's Farm Grandpa's Farm
10:00 AM-9:00 PM Commercial Exhibits Open Commercial & Marketplace Buildings Commercial
10:00 AM-8:00 PM North Central Model Railroad Club Open Railroad Club Railroad Club
10:00 AM-8:00 PM Ice Cream Stand Open (butterfinger) Ice Cream Stand/On Grounds
11:00 AM-4:30 PM Franklin Farmhands Grandpa's Farm FFA Chapter
11:00 AM Read & Roam Pleasant Hill Office
11:00 AM-7:00 PM Ag Learning Center Pleasant Hill Rodney & Lacey (Farm Bureau help)
12:00 PM 3:00 PM Live Music by Tim Collins + Denny Campbell Mort's Water Gazebo On Grounds
12:00 PM Paul Bunyan Lumberjack Show North Fairground On Grounds
12:00 PM Water balloon Toss Pleasant Hill Street On Grounds
12:30 PM 4-H Educational Presentations/Extemporaneous Speaking Youth Exhibits Building 4-H
12:30 PM 6:30 PM Knockerball Pleasant Hill Street On Grounds
1:00 PM 4:00 PM Tractor Auto Steer Demo Grandpa's Farm Grandpa's Farm
1:00 PM 4:00 PM Harriman Nielson House Open Historical Society
1:00 PM Rubber Chicken Throwing Contest Pleasant Hill Street On Grounds
2:00 PM Pie Eating Contest Van Wall Tent On Grounds
2:30 PM Blacksmith Demo Pleasant Hill On Grounds
3:00 PM 10:00 PM Carnival (Gold Star Amusements)

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FAIR WEEK 2026 SCHEDULE CONTINUED

Commercial (Alan)
 3:00 PM Poultry Show (Rabbit/Poultry barn) Livestock
 3:00 PM Paul Bunyan Lumberjack Show North Fairground On Grounds
 4:00 PM 5:00 PM Monster Arm Wrestling Weigh-In Marketplace Building Commercial
 4:00 PM 4-H Working Exhibits Youth Exhibits Building 4-H
 5:00 PM Monster Arm Wrestling Marketplace Building Commercial
 5:00 PM Prairie Pullers Garden Tractor Pull Grandpa's Farm Grandpa's Farm
 5:00 PM 9:00 PM Knights Of Columbus BINGO Marketplace Building Knights Of Columbus (Jim Davies)
 6:00 PM Paul Bunyan Lumberjack Show North Fairground On Grounds
 7:00 PM 12:00 AM-Grandstand Gates & Beer Garden Open Entertainment
 8:30 PM Get The LED Out Entertainment
 Between Market & Breeding Show 4-H Bucket Calf Show (Show Arena) Livestock

Saturday, July 18

8:00 AM Open Bucket Calf Show (Show Arena) Livestock
 9:30AM Tractor & Pickup Pull Grandpa's Farm Grandpa's Farm
 9:00 AM-9:00 PM Exhibits Building Open Exhibits Building Open Class (Deb Lukensmeyer)
 9:30AM Old Fashioned Farming Grandpa's Farm Grandpa's Farm
 10:00 AM-12:00 PM Bedazzling in the Exhibits Building Youth Exhibits Building 4-H
 10:00 AM-9:00 PM Comercial Exhibits Open Commercial & Marketplace Buildings Commercial
 10:00 AM Horse Powered Threshing Demo Grandpa's Farm Grandpa's Farm
 10:00 AM-8:00 PM Ice Cream Stand Open (Raspberry) Ice Cream Stand/On Grounds
 10:00 AM-8:00 PM North Central Model Railroad Club Open Railroad Club Railroad Club
 10:30AM Pedal Pull Weigh-In Van Wall Tent On Grounds
 11:00 AM-4:30 PM Franklin Farmhands Grandpa's Farm FFA Chapter
 11:00 AM-11:30AM Livestock Judging Contest Registration (Show Arena) Livestock
 11:00 AM Read & Roam Pleasant Hill Office

11:00 AM Pedal Pull Conntest Van Wall Tent On Grounds
 11:00 AM-7:00 PM Ag Learning Center Pleasant Hill Rodney & Lacey (Farm Bureau help)
 11:30AM Livestock Judging Contest (Swine Barn) Livestock
 12:00 PM 3:00 PM Live Music by Sleepy Bones Allison Mort's Water Gazebo On Grounds
 12:00 PM Paul Bunyan Lumberjack Show North Fairground On Grounds
 1:00 PM 1:30 PM Veggie 500 Decorating Youth Exhibits Building 4-H
 1:00 PM 10:00 PM Carnival (Gold Star Amusements) Commercial (Alan)
 1:00 PM 4:00 PM Tractor Auto Steer Demo Grandpa's Farm Grandpa's Farm
 1:00 PM 4:00 PM Harriman Nielson House Open Historical Society
 1:00 PM 9:00 PM Knights Of Columbus BINGO Marketplace Building Knights Of Columbus (Jim Davies)
 1:30 PM Veggie 500 Races Youth Exhibits Building 4-H
 2:00 PM Horse Powered Threshing Demo Grandpa's Farm Grandpa's Farm
 2:30 PM Blacksmith Demo Pleasant Hill On Grounds
 3:00 PM BBQ Contest Judging Pleasant Hill Street On Grounds
 3:00 PM Paul Bunyan Lumberjack Show North Fairground On Grounds
 4:00 PM 4-H Press Day Youth Exhibits Building 4-H
 4:00 PM Cutest Baby Contest Van Wall Tent On Grounds
 6:00 PM Paul Bunyan Lumberjack Show North Fairground On Grounds
 7:00 PM 12:00 AM-Grandstand Gates & Beer Garden Open Entertainment
 8:30 PM Craig Morgan Entertainment
 Following Feeder Pig Show Bottle Lamb/Goat Show (Show Arena) Livestock
 Following Open Bucket Calf Show Feeder Pig Show (Show Arena) Livestock

Sunday, July 19

9:00 AM Tack May be Removed Livestock
 9:00 AM Horse Show Rain Date (Horse Arena) Livestock
 9:00 AM-12:00 PM First Security Day - Free Water & Swag Office
 9:00 AM-5:30 PM Exhibits Building Open Exhibits Building Open Class (Deb Lukensmeyer)

9:30AM Old Fashioned Farming Grandpa's Farm Grandpa's Farm
 10:00 AM-9:00 PM Comercial Exhibits Open Commercial & Marketplace Buildings Commercial
 10:00 AM Sold Out Ice Cream Stand Open (Toppings) Ice Cream Stand/On Grounds
 10:00 AM Farm Chore Relays (Show Arena) Livestock
 10:00 AM Worship Service Van Wall Tent On Grounds
 10:00 AM-8:00 PM North Central Model Railroad Club Open Railroad Club Railroad Club
 11:00 AM Read & Roam Pleasant Hill Office
 12:00 PM Bucket of Junk Silent Auction Bidding Closes 4-H
 12:00 PM 5:00 PM Carnival (Gold Star Amusements) Commercial (Alan)
 12:00 PM-4:00 PM Franklin Farmhands Grandpa's Farm FFA Chapter
 12:00 PM Paul Bunyan Lumberjack Show North Fairground On Grounds
 12:00 PM-4:00 PM Ag Learning Center Pleasant Hill Rodney & Lacey (Farm Bureau help)
 1:00 PM Iowa Draft Horse Overload Pull Grandpa's Farm Grandpa's Farm

1:00 PM-7:00 PM Knights Of Columbus BINGO Marketplace Building Knights Of Columbus (Jim Davies)
 1:00 PM-4:00 PM Live Music by Jack Jensen Mort's Water Gazebo On Grounds
 2:00 PM 3:00 PM Science Fair at the Fair Exhibits Building 4-H
 2:30 PM Horse Powered Threshing Demo Grandpa's Farm Grandpa's Farm
 2:30 PM Blacksmith Demo Pleasant Hill On Grounds
 3:00 PM Paul Bunyan Lumberjack Show North Fairground On Grounds
 4:00 PM Chainsaw Sculpture Auction East of Commercial Building On Grounds
 4:30 PM Grandstand Gates & Beer Garden Open Entertainment
 5:30 PM 6:30 PM Youth Exhibits Released 4-H
 5:30 PM Muddy Mayhem (Figure 8 Races) Entertainment
 5:30 PM Open Class Exhibits Released Exhibits Building Open Class (Deb Lukensmeyer)
 6:00 PM Paul Bunyan Lumberjack Show North Fairground On Grounds
 Before 9:00 AM All Blocking Chutes MUST be Removed Livestock

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See you at the
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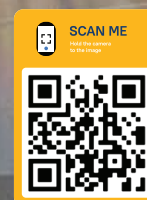
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**NORTH IOWA AREA
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Franklin County Fair Parade

Tuesday, July 14 at 5 p.m.

Plan now to have an entry in the county's biggest parade of the year, the annual Franklin County Fair Parade. The Parade is sponsored by the Greater Franklin County Chamber of Commerce and will officially open the 2026 Fair. The parade will be held in Hampton on the eve of the fair, Tuesday, July 14 at 5 p.m. This year's fair runs from July 15-19.

There is no entry fee and no pre-registration required. There is a limit of 2 entries per organization.

Floats are judged, and ribbons award for: Best Chamber Members, Best Overall, and the Best of Franklin County.

Candy is etiquette: Candy is allowed, however, safety is a concern.

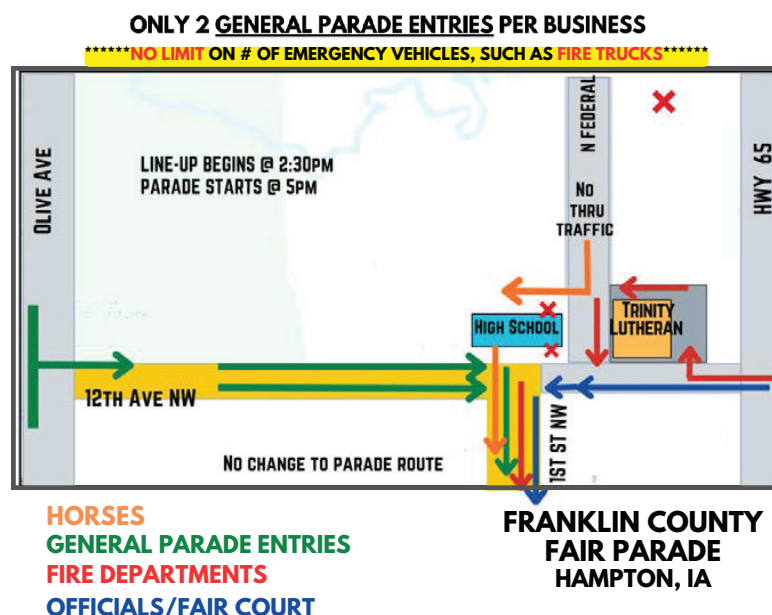
* Candy should not be thrown from moving vehicles

* We encourage only those who are walking to hand out candy

* Please pick up wrappers and other items when finished

Entries will be judged at 4:30 p.m. and prizes awarded at 4:45 p.m.

For more information on the parade contact the Greater Franklin County Chamber.



QUEEN: FROM PAGE 4

The bonds made through this crown are some that I cherish deeply. I would not be where I am today if it were not for the guidance and support of last year's fair queen, Libby Trewin. The past summer was a very special time for us as she not only passed on the crown to me, but we also were the pitcher and catcher for West Fork's softball team and made it to the state tournament. It was truly an honor to grow with her and to learn from her.

Prior to being crowned as queen, the fair always held a special place in my heart and was something I could look forward to every year. Whether it be attending the grandstand events, working in Little Hands on the Farm for FFA, helping in the 4-H food, or grabbing some delicious homemade ice cream, there was always something to do at our amazing fair. This fair is more than just entertainment—it's a showcase of dedication and hard work. This week allows exhibitors to "show" off their countless hours spent caring for their animals and time spent on

projects. It is amazing to see the heart and future of our agricultural community reap the rewards of their dedication.

I am so incredibly grateful for the opportunity to be the Franklin County Fair Queen, as it has allowed me to grow so much as a person, develop leadership skills, and make many new connections at the fair and beyond. This place is more than just a fair; it is a family, and the people really do make the place.

I am so thankful for every moment that I have spent as the Franklin County Fair Queen, and as I pass on the crown to the next queen, I will carry forward the memories, friendships, and lessons that will stay with me forever. I am so excited about the great things the next queen will accomplish and the impact she will leave on Franklin County!

Thank you to every person who has supported me on this journey, and no matter where the next journey takes me, I will always know where home is.

KENT MORTON, OWNER

See you at the fair!



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