

Look Inside!

West Fork Football Begins Season with Victory Over North Butler: A12



HAMPTON CHRONICLE AN IOWA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION AWARD WINNING NEWSPAPER

/hamptonchronicle

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Geneva Boy Donates More than \$5K Worth of Farm Toys to Children's Hospital

BY JENNIFER BURNHAM HAMPTON CHRONICLE

After a farm accident earlier this year, 5-year-old Nolan Toomsen of Geneva found himself at the University of Iowa Children's Hospital in Iowa City.

While looking through photos of his hospital stay several months later, he realized something: there weren't that many farm toys at the hospital for the children. And he wanted to do something about it.

So, with help from his mother, Erin, he made a sign asking for donations, which she then posted on her Facebook. Their post quickly picked up steam, and Nolan

eventually raised more than \$3,000 to buy new toys and heard from numerous toy companies who wanted to donate and give him big discounts. All in all, he was able to donate \$5,000 worth of toys, his mother said.

On Friday, Aug. 15, he made the big delivery, with help from his family.

Theisen's, Titan Machinery and CASE IH all donated toys, while Little Buster Toys, Big Country Toys and Van Wall Equipment gave Nolan significant discounts. More than 200 people donated.

His mother, Erin, thanked everyone for their generosity.



Fence sets and cows purchased from Little Buster Toys



Toys donated by Theisens and Titan Machinery.



Nolan Toomsen ready to give some farm toys away at the hospital. Photo provided by Erin Toomsen.

More photos on A8! See: Farm Toys

Serving up Smiles at the Middle School

BY JENNIFER BURNHAM HAMPTON CHRONICLE

Ever wondered who feeds the students at Hampton-Dumont Middle School? This year, that would be this team of four ladies — Abby Strickler, Diane Gronewold, Susan Bender and Michele McClenahan.

Abby is tasked with cooking breakfast. Diane whips up lunch. Susan oversees the entire operation. Michele handles the dishes. And they all serve and help the students while they eat. When asked about how they work together, they were all in agreement

that their jobs are equally important and they couldn't get through the day without one another.

"This job requires lots of teamwork," said Susan. "There is no 'I' in team. We all have our different jobs, but whenever someone needs help, we jump in."

Together, they feed around 300 students every school day.

When asked about her favorite part of the job, Susan said she enjoys seeing the children smile.

"The students are so sweet and respectful," she said. "And we make sure to show them respect, too. We like to lead by example."

Diane, who's been there the longest (15 years!), said it's about more than just serving food to the children. She wants to put a smile on their faces, as they pass through her lunch line. Every day, she asks them a different question. On Monday, it was "are you excited to make new friends?" On Tuesday, she asked "have you made any new friends?" And when Diane knows that a child needs special attention during lunchtime, she makes sure they get it. Some children need to be encouraged to eat, she said, and she's happy to do that.



Abby Strickler, Diane Gronewold, Susan Bender and Michele McClenahan in the middle school cafeteria.

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Doug Pralle Holds Annual Fundraiser for Compassion Flights

BY JENNIFER BURNHAM HAMPTON CHRONICLE

Compassion Flights Director Doug Pralle held his annual pancake fundraiser at the airport, with help from the H-D-CAL wrestling team, on Monday, Sept. 1.

Community members stopped by from 9 a.m. to noon for pancakes and plane rides.

Pancakes were four bucks for kids and eight bucks for adults. Rides were 30 bucks. All proceeds from the event will go towards compassion flights and the wrestling team.

Pralle and his wife, Robyn, started the Compassion Flights program in 2017. Their mission: to fly as many Iowa residents to medical care as possible, at no cost to the patient.

So far, they've flown five patients this year. And they're ready to help more.

"We don't want people to need our services, but we are more than happy to help," Pralle told the Chronicle.

The airport is located at 1275 B Olive Ave.



Doug Pralle ready to take flight at the fundraiser on Monday, Sept. 1.

More photos on A5! See: FLIGHTS

Deadlines

Legals Monday, 12 p.m.

News Friday, 5 p.m.

Ads, Inserts Friday, 3 p.m.

Classifieds Friday 3 p.m.

Obituaries Monday, Noon

Coverage 24 Hours

High Schoolers Reminded of Dangers of Driving

BY JENNIFER BURNHAM
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

Iowa State Patrol Trooper Arbegast stopped by H-D-CAL High School with the "Forever Seventeen" car crash display last Wednesday morning to remind students to be mindful of their speed and whereabouts when driving.

The mangled car was donated to the Iowa State Patrol by the Elskamp and Lucas families, whose daughters, Kennedy Elskamp and Chloe Lucas, were killed in a car crash in Dubuque in 2022. The car in the display had been going 150 mph at the time of the accident, according to Iowa State Patrol.

"There were other factors, but the speed was the problem here," said Trooper Arbegast. "This is to get the kids to think about driving and what they should be doing."



Hampton Police Captain Halsne, Iowa State Patrol Trooper Arbegast and Hampton Police Chief Morrison in front of the display Wednesday morning, Aug. 27. Photo by Jennifer Burnham.

Hampton Hoedown set for Sep. 8

PRESS RELEASE

The next Hampton Old Time Country Hoedown will be held on Monday, September 8th from 6-9 pm at the historic Windsor Theatre in downtown Hampton, IA. The Hoedown is a music jam open to all levels of musicians and music lovers. The theater seats are ideal for the audience to sit and enjoy some good old time country, bluegrass, and gospel songs you are sure to know and enjoy. We invite all in the area to come enjoy this always entertaining event. Admission is free with a free will donation accepted. All proceeds are given to the Windsor Theatre. Concessions are open, smell that popcorn. Feel free to check out our Facebook page for pictures, videos, and updates. Contact event organizer Don Wrolson 641-425-0909 with any questions. We hope to see you and some friends on Monday, September 8th for a fun music filled evening. THANK YOU so much for continuing to support our efforts to bring live music to our area! We appreciate each and everyone one of you!

Clarion Coin Club's First Show of Season set for Sept. 13

PRESS RELEASE
CLARION COIN CLUB

The first Iowa coin show of the fall season is Sat., Sept. 13, at the ballroom of the Heartland Museum in Clarion. Twenty-one dealers from three states will be buying and selling from 9:00 to 3:00. Expect displays of American coins and currency, sports cards, sports collectibles, stamps, gold, silver, world coins, Americana, other collectibles, coin catalogs, and collecting supplies. Dealers will offer free appraisals.

Families are welcome. No admission is charged. Coffee is served all day. The lunch counter is open at noon. Free door prize drawings are held hourly. There will be free coin magazines. There will be a U. S. gold coin raffle.

This annual bourse is sponsored by the fifty members of the Clarion Coin Club, one of the oldest numismatic associations in Iowa. The club meets the fourth Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m. The next meeting is Sept. 25 at the Pizza Ranch in Clarion. Each monthly meeting features a live auction with consignments from club members. The sale bill lists 80 to 100 items each month. For more information or a copy of the next sale bill, contact Boyd LaRue, club president, at 515-460-5682.

All Hands on Deck for Summer Flower Project

BY JENNIFER BURNHAM
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

Some would say that it takes a village to beautify a community. And that held true for the hanging flower baskets around downtown Hampton this summer.

The project was pulled together and managed by the Greater Franklin County Chamber of Commerce promotions committee, made up of Jerre Grefe, Holly Narber and Rebekah Ault. The flowers were planted by the H-D-CAL FFA Chapter, under the direction of Kyle O'Brien. The flowers were paid for by First Bank Hampton, the Wood Cellar, Janet Peterson, First and Second Vintage, Leon and Linda Keuhner, Jeff and Nancy Kramer, First Security Bank and Dusty Abbas. The City of Hampton provided the water tank and vehicle to water the flowers on a daily basis, with additional assistance from city employee Jake Walker, who helped with vehicle breakdowns and other emergencies. The



Franklin REC employees removing the baskets in front of First and Second Vintage Too Friday morning.



Chamber Promotion Committee Members Jerre Grefe, Holly Narber and Rebekah Ault with some of the baskets.

following volunteers helped water the flowers throughout the summer: Terry Carr, Liz Carr, Wally Tapp, Ruth Tapp, Brooke Tapp, Archie Tapp, Jon Ault, Rebekah Ault, Kim Price, Charlie Thielen, Sue Followwill, Dale Schirmer and children, Charleigh and Tammy, Jerre Grefe, Mark Morrison,

Jim Davies, Steve Birdsall, Jeanne Fay, Jennifer Burnham, Leon Keuhner, Lexi Chaney, Elian Trevino, Mark Robles, Justin Colt Lieth, Autumn Janssen, Arnold Guevara-Barra, Tyler Heeren, Dusty Abbas, Kent Mollenbeck and Megan Mollenbeck.

And last but not least, the

Franklin REC assisted with hanging up and taking down the baskets.

"This project would not have been possible without everyone's help," said Promotions Committee Member Jerre Grefe. "Thank you to everyone who helped make this possible!"

Kiwanis Club of Hampton Scholarship Cookout Fundraiser

PRESS RELEASE

The Kiwanis Club of Hampton will hold a scholarship cookout fundraiser on Monday, September 15 at the Fareway parking lot. The serving time is 11:00 am to 1:00 pm.

Suggested donation is \$6 for a grilled pork tenderloin sandwich, chips, cookie, and water. The cost is \$3 for an additional sandwich.

For more information contact Jim Davies at 641-425-4707 or jim@coachdavies.net.

Library Gets Facelift Ahead of 120th Birthday

BY JENNIFER BURNHAM
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

The Hampton Public Library, which will soon celebrate its 120th birthday, has had its fair share of repairs over the years, as with most buildings its age. Their latest conundrum: moisture leaking into the building.

To remedy the moisture problem, the library was advised by the city to put up a wall on the north side of the building, where most of it was leaking in. First, city employees removed the steps and landing leading to the northside door of the library, along with the hill. Then, Adam Wickwire stopped by to tuckpoint and waterseal the foundation of the building. Next, a 40-foot long wall was added alongside the north wall by All-American Landscaping. Now, Tony's Concrete has been tasked with adding a new landing and steps that will lead to the door, which will be followed by Max Alfaro, who will install a handrail.

Funding for the project came from the Hampton Public Library Foundation and a Franklin County Community Foundation Grant.

"We were ready to do whatever was needed to preserve this beautiful and historic library," said Library Director Suzy Knipfel. "We're excited to see this get done."

Construction is set to be done within the next month, with the library holding its 120th celebration on Oct. 6. The celebration will kick off at 4:30 p.m. that afternoon. Knipfel encourages community members to stop by around 5 p.m. on Oct. 6 for a recreation of a photo that was taken on the opening day of the library 120 years ago. A free community meal, sponsored by First Bank Hampton, will be held in Band Shell Park immediately after the group photo is taken, with Pete the Cat expected to make an appearance.



Tony's Concrete team and Max Alfaro checking out the space they have to work with on Friday morning.

Knights of Columbus Host Homecoming Tailgate Meal Sept. 19

PRESS RELEASE

The Knights of Columbus of St. Patrick Catholic Church, Hampton, will hold a tailgate fundraiser meal on Friday, September 19 before the Hampton-Dumont-CAL Homecoming football game versus Vinton-Shellsburg from 5 to 7 p.m.

The meal will be served outside in the church parking lot across the street east of the high school football field. Prices are \$10 for a grilled tenderloin pork tenderloin sandwich meal and \$5 for 1/4 lb. hot dog meal. Each meal includes beans, chips, beverage, and dessert.

Advance tickets are available from member Knights or St. Patrick's Church office. For more information contact Jim Davies at 641-425-4707 or jim@coachdavies.net.

City Presented with Disc Golf Course Expansion Proposal

BY JENNIFER BURNHAM
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

The Hampton City Council was presented with a proposal to expand the disc golf course in East Park last week.

During the Aug. 28 city council meeting, Steve

Huling and Jeff Winters requested to make upgrades to the disc golf course located in East Park, expanding it from 9 to 18 holes. No action was taken during the Aug. 28 city council meeting and the item was moved to the Sept. 8 workshop for further discussion. Earlier in the week, during the Aug. 25 city council work-

shop, they had proposed a plan for a 15-hole course.

"Jeff and I realized that we aren't dreaming big enough," Huling said during the Aug. 28 meeting.

Over the last year, the two have gone to 24 different towns to play.

"When we see an 18-hole course, we're going to

go there," Huling said. "If it's a nine-hole, maybe if it's on the way, we'll stop, but if it's an 18, we'll stop."

Winters told the Council that he recently learned pickleball and disc golf are the fastest growing sports in the country right now.

"If we can get ahead of

See CITY COUNCIL:
Page 8



The family of Patty Binger would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to all who offered their love, support, prayers and kindness during our time of loss. Your visits, flowers, cards, memorials, and comforting words have been a great source of strength. We are deeply thankful to our family, friends, neighbors, and community for walking with us during this difficult time.

With sincere appreciation,
The Family of Patty (Brayton) Binger

Bobbers to Hold Bake Sale for New Pool Heater

BY JENNIFER BURNHAM
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

The Franklin Wellness Center's morning water aerobics group, best known as "the Bobbers," will be raising money for the pool's newly-installed heater on Thursday, Sept. 11.

Their bake sale will be held in front of Rustic Brew from 9 a.m. to noon that morning — with all of the goodies provided by the Bobbers, of course. You can expect everything from homemade cinnamon rolls, chocolate chip and decorated cookies, fancy cupcakes and pies to homemade pickles, a variety of breads and garden produce.

The pool heater was installed at the Wellness Center Thursday afternoon, Aug. 28. And according to Director Chad Johnson, Murphy's Heating & Plumbing did a great job.

The Bobbers have informed the Chronicle that they are eager and ready to get back into the pool next week, and they hope to see everyone at their bake sale on Sept. 11.



Franklin Wellness Center Director Chad Johnson in front of the pool on Thursday, Aug. 28.



Murphy's Heating & Plumbing Co-Owner Keegan Murphy working on the pool heater on Thursday, Aug. 28.

HAMPTON CHRONICLE

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•Classified Ads: Friday, 3 p.m.
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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.

Corrections will be printed on page two 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.

Hampton Resident Presented with Outstanding Alumni Award by Tarkio College

PRESS RELEASE

Alumni Association (TCAA) during its annual "Homecoming" gathering Sept. 19 through 21. According to the TCAA, honorees are nominated by Tarkio alumni and are selected by the TCAA Board of Directors based on noteworthy achievements after attending the college.

Baltes, Class of '85, was nominated by Gloria Gibler, who said, "Ray has definitely shown this to be true with his life. While at Tarkio he was not only involved with the college and community newspaper (Tarkio Avalanche) as a photographer, but was also actively involved in music and theater."

Gibler added that Baltes's musical achievements began while in college. As part of Tarkio's music program he studied trumpet performance at Northwest Missouri State University (NMSU) in Maryville and together with two other Tarkio musicians and two NMSU music educators formed the Northwest Missouri Brass Quintet which performed at a variety of venues.

Immediately after leaving Tarkio the former Hampton High School trumpet player was hired to perform in the pit orchestra for the Mule Barn Theater's 1984 season. The Mule Barn Theater was a well known summer stock theater located just off the campus in a former mule barn that presented a series of elaborate musical productions in the round each year using professional actors from across the country and even Hollywood as well as professional and collegiate musicians to bring the shows to life. The theater was destroyed by fire in the 1989.

Baltes then returned to North Iowa where his musical career picked up where it had left off, and where his next career in newspapers began to take shape. Baltes had been a trumpet prodigy in Hampton, having earned a spot with the Hampton Municipal Band at age 10. By age 13 he was sharing the first trumpet duties with the late Ray Kreiner, and continued a few years later with Leon Keuhner. He was a frequent soloist with the band in the 1970s, and often performed in area churches.



Ray Baltes

into a full time position as a photographer and advertising consultant.

Gibler also noted that Baltes's professional achievements impressed the TCAA, including his many awards for photography and news writing for weekly and daily newspapers in Iowa and his work for the United States Golf Association's Golf Journal Magazine, Associated Press, as photographer with the Millikin University (Illinois) University Relations Office and as editor of the Hampton Chronicle from 2000 to 2009.

But according to the TCAA it was his personal accomplishments and activities that helped earn Baltes the honor. Their award announcement recounted how he had founded and served as first president of the Hampton-Dumont Tall Corn FFA Alumni Association. He also served a term as president of Main Street Hampton, and was on the Franklin County Veterans Monument committee and the Hampton-Dumont Ag Advisory Committee. Baltes also founded and built the former North Hansell Range, a public shooting sports facility that was operated from 2008 until 2023 by an all volunteer committee.

Many Hampton area residents may remember that Baltes also survived a near fatal motorcycle-pick-up crash near the country club corner on U.S. Highway 65 in April, 2010, that led to his retirement from Mid American Publishing. Although left permanently disabled, he channeled his energy into writing a book about buying and restoring a 1954 Oliver Super 88 tractor just like one his grandfather had, and that became a centerpiece story in the book, "My First Tractor" by Voyageur Press, which was a compendium of stories written by authors like Bob Artley, Jerry Apps, former Major League Baseball hall of famer Bob Feller and others.

Baltes also overcame his disabilities to continue his life long involvement with the shooting sports. In the 1990s Baltes had become involved in competitive shooting and by 2000 was a frequent competitor in vintage military and long range rifle events, and had

qualified to compete in the Pistol Masters competition at Pike Adam's Sportsman's Alliance near Quincy, Ill. During that time he had also become certified by the NRA as a handgun and rifle instructor and specialized in classes for women and for beginning shooters.

In 2002 he became certified as a 4-H Shooting Sports instructor and for several years led the Franklin County 4-H rifle program until funding for the program was cut by the State Board of Regents. He also earned his certification as a rifle merit badge counselor for the Boy Scouts of America and frequently led Rifle Merit Badge courses for that organization.

In 2013 Baltes co-founded (along with Bill and Aimee Reichenbacher) and served as the first coach of the Hampton-Dumont Birdbusters trapshooting team. Several years later he left the school team to form a new Amateur Trapshooting Association (ATA) Academics, Integrity and Marksmanship (AIM) junior team called the "North Iowa Top Guns" that competed in ATA state and national trapshooting events and earned a number of honors, including a fifth place team finish at the National Championship and numerous individual



Rankin Hall, the landmark main building on the Tarkio College campus.

awards. During this period Baltes earned the Level II rating on his ATA Coaching certificate, and today remains one of only two Iowans listed at this level on the ATA website.

Not content to just coach, Baltes regularly competed alongside his team members and in 2017 became the first Iowan to earn First Team ATA ALL American recognition in the Chairshooter Category.

Baltes is one of two recipients of the 2025 Outstanding Alumni Award. C. Thomas Carson, Class of '75 will also be honored.

Tarkio College was a four year liberal arts college founded by David Rankin in 1883 in Tarkio, Mo. It was noted for its music and education pro-

grams. The college closed in 1992. In 1994 the campus was repurposed for use as a home by juvenile offenders, but that lasted only until 2005. In 2019, ongoing efforts by the TCAA to restore the campus buildings and to find a new educational purpose for the facility paid off when the Tarkio Technology Institute, also known as Tarkio Tech, opened with certification by the Missouri Department of Higher Education to provide technical training and and skills for the state's workforce.

Famous Tarkio College alums include current U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio, Wallace Carothers who is credited with inventing nylon and neoprene, and former Chief of United States Navy Chaplains Neil M. Stevenson.

PRO RACING THIS WEEK

Racing News, Stats & Trivia

This Week's Cup Series Race: Enjoy Illinois 300

Race Details
Location: Madison, Ill.
Date: Sunday, Sept. 7, 3:00 p.m.

World Wide Technology Raceway

Shape: Quad-oval
Distance: 1.5 miles
Turn 1 & 2: 11"; Turn 3 & 4: 9"

Race Preview
The Enjoy Illinois 300 marks the fourth time the NASCAR Cup Series has visited World Wide Technology Raceway. The 1.25-mile track in Madison, just outside of St. Louis, has been hosting NASCAR-sanctioned events since 1997, first with the NASCAR Xfinity Series, then the NASCAR Camping World Truck Series. In 2014, the track became a permanent fixture on the NASCAR Camping World Truck Series schedule. The unique shape of the track poses a challenge for the Next Gen car, featuring 11 degrees of banking in turns 1 and 2, and 9 degrees in 3 and 4. The first winner for the Xfinity Series was Elliott Sadler in 1997, and in 1998 Rick Carelli won the first NASCAR Camping World Truck Series race. Last year, Austin Cindric won the first Cup Series race.

Top News Stories

NASCAR 25 Reveals Cover Stars Including 2024/2025 Daytona 500 Winner and NASCAR Cup Series Champions
Befitting of the famous Daytona International Speedway at the Coke Zero Sugar 400 race this past weekend, iRacing Studios and NASCAR unveiled NASCAR 25's cover, featuring superstar drivers William Byron (24/25 Daytona 500 Champion), Christopher Bell (25 NASCAR All-Star Race Champion), and Ryan Blaney (23 NASCAR Cup Series Champion). When asked about the honor, Byron said, "It's really special to be on the cover because it's one of those moments in your career where you feel like you've made it." Bell added, "I just remember being a kid and going every single year when the new games would come out, and I'd wait to see who was going to be on the cover. The fact that I'm on the cover is something that I never would have dreamed of in a million years." In addition to these driving demons, iRacing Studios is proud to unveil the official NASCAR 25 soundtrack. The track list features "Time Bomb" by Whiskey Myers, "Hypnotize" by System of a Down, "Liar" by Jelly Roll, "Burn It Down" by Parker McCollum, and more. Listen to the soundtrack on Spotify. NASCAR 25 will be released on October 14, 2025, for PlayStation 5 and Xbox Series X/S — with a PC Steam release to follow.

Last Weekend's Race: Chase Briscoe won at Darlington

Chase Briscoe earned his second consecutive Cook Out Southern 500 victory, holding off Tyler Reddick and Erik Jones in the closing laps for the crown jewel win. Briscoe led 309 of the race's 367 laps in a dominant showing throughout the evening in the Labor Day tradition. However, a late-race charge by fellow Toyota drivers Reddick and Jones put the win in jeopardy. Briscoe held strong, fending off Reddick for the victory. Not only does the victory add to Briscoe's tally in the crown jewel event, but it also punches his ticket into the Round of 12 in the NASCAR Cup Series Playoffs.

2025 Standings

Cup Series Top Ten			Xfinity Series Top Ten		
Drivers	Points	Top 10s	Drivers	Points	Top 10s
1) Kyle Larson	2032	16	1) Justin Allgaier	866	15
2) William Byron	2032	13	2) Connor Zilisch	863	15
3) Denny Hamlin	2029	13	3) Sam Mayer	840	15
4) Ryan Blaney	2026	14	4) Jesse Love	773	16
5) Christopher Bell	2023	14	5) Austin Hill	716	13
6) Shane van Gisbergen	2022	5	6) Carson Kvapil	687	11
7) Chase Elliott	2013	13	7) Brandon Jones	684	9
8) Chase Briscoe	2010	12	8) Sheldon Creed	651	12
9) Bubba Wallace	2008	10	9) Sammy Smith	648	13
10) Austin Cindric	2008	5	10) Taylor Gray	634	11

Racing Trivia

What year in the playoff era did Joe Gibbs Racing win its first championship?
a) 2004 c) 2006
b) 2005 d) 2007

Stewart in 2007.
Gibbs in 2005.
Stewart in 2007.
Gibbs in 2005.

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STATE of IOWA MOTTO

Our liberties we prize and our rights we will maintain.

A NATION of LAWS

Where the will of men exceeds the rule of law, there, tyranny prospers.

It's NEWS To US!

- If you're having a party.
- If you have out-of-town guests.
- If you take a trip.
- If a son or daughter leaves for college, or comes back for a visit.
- If a son or daughter enlists in the Armed Forces.
- If a son or daughter receives scholastic honors.
- If someone in your family or business receives a promotion, job change or retires.
- If a former resident passes away.
- If you entertain at a dinner or a party.
- If your club meets.
- If your class holds or plans a reunion.
- If you're celebrating a wedding anniversary.
- If you move out of town.
- If someone moves into your neighborhood.
- If someone enters a hospital.
- If a business is opening or closing.
- If something interesting is happening.

The Hampton Chronicle attempts to cover the news in Franklin county and adjoining areas as thoroughly as possible, and we appreciate it when you let us help you get the word out! We hope you'll let us know if you have news by emailing news@hampton-chronicle.com, or by calling or texting 515-988-3726.

Thanks for letting us know!

THE SENIOR SCENE

Where new friendships are made and old friendships are renewed



MONDAY-FRIDAY from 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Monday, Sept. 8

1:00 BINGO

Tuesday, Sept. 9

12:30 CRIBBAGE

Wednesday, Sept. 10

12:45 500 CARDS OR HAND & FOOT

Thursday, Sept. 11

1:00 BINGO

Friday, Sept. 12

STAY & PLAY; BIRTHDAY PARTY

Saturday, Sept. 13

12:00 PINOCLE; 12:30 HAND & FOOT

GREAT LUNCHES AT 11:30

60 & under \$7.75

Over 60 \$4.25 - \$6.75
Call 456-5191 For Reservations

Menu

Monday, Sept. 8

Breaded Chicken Patty on Whole Wheat Bun - Vegetable - Fruit

Tuesday, Sept. 9

Scalloped Potatoes w/ Ham - Vegetable - Bread Pudding

Wednesday, Sept. 10

Goulash - Bread stick - Vegetable - Fruit

Thursday, Sept. 11

Ham Loaf - Roasted Sweet Potatoes - Whole Wheat Roll - Lettuce/Spinach Salad - Fruit

Friday, Sept. 12

Herb-Rubbed Roast Beef - Mashed Potatoes with Gravy - Roll - Banana Bars

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'One, Big, Beautiful Bill' delivers for Iowa seniors



REP. RANDY FEENSTRA
COLUMNIST

In the 1930s, the Social Security Act was enacted to protect American seniors from poverty, unemployment, and other issues. Over the years, the benefits provided by this law have grown to become a crucial safety net for our seniors and retirees. Each year, approximately 57.6 million people aged 65 or older receive Social Security benefits and about 40% of older Americans rely solely on Social Security for their retirement income. Without Social Security, 37% of older adults would fall below the poverty line.

This safety net is an important investment in the future of the United States

that provides certainty to retiring workers. The average American worker making the average yearly wage in the United States will pay about \$160,000 in the Social Security system before retirement. In turn, when these workers retire, the next generation will secure their future and so on.

In Congress, I am committed to protecting this important function of our government. After a lifetime of hard work, our seniors deserve to retire with dignity and receive the Social Security benefits that they earned. Unfortunately, due to reckless government spending and congressional inaction, the Congressional Budget Office has projected that the Social Security Trust Fund will run out of sufficient funds by 2033 to pay Social Security benefits in full. This would be an unacceptable, critical failure of our government, letting down millions of retirees and seniors that paid their fair share into the system.

This is why I introduced the Save Our Seniors Act to help protect the long-term solvency of Social Security by requiring the Congressional Budget Office to include an honest and accurate projection of Social Security's financial health in its annual ten-year economic outlook. This bill ensures that our seniors receive the benefits they're entitled to—on time and in full. Additionally, this legislation demands Congress come up with real solutions to keep the Social Security Trust Fund solvent for future generations of hard-working Americans.

From my seat on the House Ways and Means Committee Social Security Subcommittee, I will always work to protect these benefits. In July, the "One, Big, Beautiful Bill" was signed into law to protect Americans—especially our seniors—from historic tax hikes. Provisions included in this legislation—like the \$6,000 deduction for individuals aged 65 and older—are a lifeline for retirees on a fixed income. The "One, Big, Beautiful Bill" also allows seniors enrolled in Medicare Part A and a high-deductible health plan (HDHP) to contribute to health savings

accounts (HSAs), which was previously restricted. This provides additional tax-advantaged savings for medical expenses, benefiting seniors who continue working or have specific health plans.

My team and I are also working directly with constituents in Iowa to ensure they're receiving the benefits they were promised. I'm glad that my office and I could work with the Social Security Administration to ensure that residents at the Iowa Veterans Home in Marshalltown could make changes to their direct deposit preferences over the phone. This fix will make it much easier for veterans to make changes to their Social Security benefits without having to leave their residences and causing needless headaches.

As I continue to represent Iowans in Congress, I encourage any of my constituents who need assistance navigating the Social Security Administration—or any other federal agency—to reach out to my office at Feenstra.House.Gov or over the phone at 202-225-4426.

Flag Burning in Perspective



THE ALTERNATIVE

FRITZ GROSZKRUGER
THE ALTERNATIVE

Donald Trump wants to make flag burning illegal and from all I can tell, it's a really popular idea. I'm not surprised. The Supreme Court ruled that it is protected free speech in 1984 (not the book, surprisingly). Politics has become more of a sports contest than a way to regulate society for our benefit.

I think I am more patriotic than to get all excited about some jerk burning his own property. The flag

burning issue is more of a property rights issue than a patriotism issue. There is way more at stake in maintaining property rights than flags.

Property rights are what incentivizes people to work. Exceptions (because it offends someone) add confusion and uncertainty. It's just simpler and more equitable to draw the line where what we have is ours.

I remember back 50 years ago seeing some people with clothes that looked like they were made out of American flags. American flag etiquette doesn't allow such desecration, yet these people thought they were showing their love of country this way. As we drive around the countryside we see more tattered flags than whole ones. We see flags flown in wet weather and

after dark by people who own the flag as a sign that they love their country.

All this hoopla over flags should be viewed relative to a much more important item, the Constitution. The Constitution guaranteed us our God-given rights. The flag has become something to wave as those rights are stolen. It's something to burn so ignorant patriots can realize their anger quota.

Real patriots would not use flag burning as an excuse to further erode our rights. They would say, "look at that obnoxious so and so," and go on.

A hundred people starve to death per day as our "greatest ally" blocks aid to Gaza. We are 224 days past "day one" when the president said he would end the war in Ukraine. And yet he signs an executive

order, which if you read it, is nothing but a bunch of nonsense. It urges local officials to circumvent constitutional guarantees to find some way to prosecute flag burners.

There is an immense disparity in importance to our country between burning a flag and violating the right to property; a right that is truly the basis of our past greatness.

But (risking sounding like the incessant Trump haters) to see a photo of Donald Trump writing on a flag with a marker and then vilifying some frustrated protester who burns his flag, is the height of hypocrisy. It's all hat and no cattle.

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

When the Kids Aren't Safe



AMANDA RINK

"146"
The Number of School Shootings so far in 2025.

I had planned to write about something "safe" this week. Hurricane Katrina, maybe, it's been twenty years now. But it's the first week of school here in Clarion, and across the country, and nothing about this week feels safe.

I'm sure most of us have heard by now what happened in Minnesota. A gunman opened fire on children, this time in a Catholic school, during the very first Mass of the year. The children were praying, eyes closed, when the attack began.

One girl described smelling smoke before she even heard the gunshot. Another child shared how his friend threw his body over him to shield him. Kids scattered, running into classrooms for cover. A girl described bolting into the pre-K room as bul-

lets shattered the church's stained glass windows.

I wrote last week about how I hoped my kids would always have a way to reach me if they needed to. This week, I can't stop thinking about the kids in Minnesota who didn't get the chance to reach anyone.

My daughter, with her certain brand of humor, shared a meme* that hit me in the gut. It said: "Vapes** are still a problem in schools, but thank God we got rid of phones." After this week, you could change it to: "Guns are still a problem in schools, but thank God we got rid of phones."

Amanda Goodman, journalist, mother, and host of *Faith and Four Letter Words*, put it this way: "We live in a country where banks are guarded like fortresses. We don't hesitate to protect money. We don't ask 'How will we pay for it?' We just do it, because it's important." Yet every day, we send our kids into schools with "little more than locked doors."

My own mom, who has worked in schools for 25 years, said some-

thing that stuck with me too: "I need Cracker Barrel-logo-change-level*** outrage about school shootings."

I said I was planning to write something "safe" this week, something less controversial, something that wouldn't make my "political leanings" plain. But I can't write about safe things when our kids don't feel safe in school.

I know Americans love their guns. But why can't we make laws that both protect children in schools and allow sane, responsible citizens to remain armed? Why did this issue become such a sharp political divide?

Why can't we all agree on this much: that the safety of children, kids we legally require to spend eight hours a day in school, should be a priority? Why can't we say, together, that this is bigger than politics?

Other countries don't face this problem at the same scale. Other countries are horrified for us. And I am horrified, too.

Because children are the most precious, most vulnerable part of our society. Their value is beyond measure, far greater than mon-

ey, greater than politics, greater than ego.

If we can't come together to protect them, then what are we even doing?

*An internet meme is a funny or clever idea, picture, video, or phrase that people share online. It usually spreads quickly because people copy it, change it a little, and pass it along.

** A vape is an electronic device that people use to inhale flavored vapor (sometimes with nicotine). Many people use it as an alternative to smoking.

*** Cracker Barrel recently tried to change its logo by removing the old man and barrel. Customers felt it erased the company's tradition, so after big backlash (and even stock losses), the company quickly brought the old logo back. The Whitehouse took credit for the change.

Amanda Rink is the Editor of *The Wright County Monitor* and a children's book author. When she isn't caring for her family, writing for the newspaper, or avoiding laundry, she can be found hiding in the woods with a cup of coffee and a romance novel.

Timothy Gibbons M. D.



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Let's Talk Absentee (or Mail-In) Voting



KATY FLINT
FRANKLIN COUNTY
AUDITOR

By now, unless you never watch the news or follow any news outlets on social media, we've all seen that President Trump is calling to end "mail in voting". Before I get into the details of how this works in Iowa, I want to begin by saying... this is not a political post for or against mail-in or absentee voting in Franklin County or Iowa. I am simply sharing the facts of how this works in Iowa (and especially Franklin County). I've seen lots of comments on social media and just want to make sure that everyone is clear how

it works HERE. Additionally, I cannot speak for how it works in other states. So, here we go.

- In Iowa, there is only Absentee voting. There are two methods to do this: by mail or in-person, ahead of the election in our office.

- In Iowa, we MUST receive a request for an absentee ballot before we mail (or issue in-person) an absentee ballot.

- We are NOT allowed to send out absentee ballot requests without you asking us to. However, third party interest groups and political parties are allowed to send the request form.

- Even if our office receives more than one request form, only ONE ballot is sent.

- As soon as a request form is received, it is entered into our statewide voter registration system. This goes for the ballot as well. As soon as one is issued, it is tracked in the state-wide voter registration system. So, if you move and try to change your voter registration,

someone in another county will be able to see that you have already been issued an absentee ballot and whether it has been received by our office.

- If you are issued an absentee ballot (whether we receive it back or not), your voter registration is flagged in our election day system as well. So, if you receive an absentee ballot and decide to vote at the polls, you will either be required to surrender your absentee ballot OR vote provisionally. Under no circumstances will more than one ballot be counted.

- Our system literally does not allow anyone in the state of Iowa to be issued more than one absentee ballot at a time. If you receive one in the mail and decide you want to vote absentee in-person, you will be required to surrender the unvoted ballot that was sent to you before a new one is issued.

- Every single day, during the absentee voting period, we balance our ballots. This means, we count

the number of ballots that was issued during the day vs those remaining in our office and they will equal the total from the end of the previous day. We also balance the request forms with the number of ballots issued each day and over the course of the 20 days to make sure it is equal.

- The minute an absentee ballot is received by our office, it is file stamped received and it is received in our state-wide system so the system is as up to date as possible.

I hope this clears up any confusion and misunderstanding about absentee (or mail-in) voting in Iowa and Franklin County. And, I hope you can see that absentee voting is very secure in Iowa. If you still have questions and want more info, I'm always available via phone (641-456-5622) as well as in person in the courthouse or via email (auditor@co.franklin.ia.us). Until next time...

Katy Flint has served as Franklin County Auditor since 2021.

SUDOKU

								8
		1		4	7		9	5
					9	3		
		5	8			2	4	
1		4	5					6
			2		1			9
2						4	8	
4				1				
7	8							

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

LEVEL: INTERMEDIATE

SUDOKU ANSWERS

8	9	1	4	2	6	8	7	5
2	5	6	8	7	1	9	6	3
7	4	5	3	9	6	2	1	8
6	8	5	1	7	2	7	9	8
9	3	7	2	7	2	7	9	8
6	9	7	8	7	1	2	4	5
1	1	4	1	1	1	1	1	1
4	7	2	3	6	9	8	5	7
5	5	6	3	4	7	7	6	1
4	9	3	6	2	7	1	8	5

THIS WEEK'S SUDOKU IS SPONSORED BY:

Koenen & Collins
Chiropractic Clinic

Why did I choose Grinnell?

ISAAC VOSBURG

As I've been around at Grinnell this past week, I've been doing a lot of introductions. Hi! What's your name? Where are you from? What's your intended major? What year are you? What classes are you taking? How are you liking Grinnell so far?

Over and over, it feels like, well, if not quite the same conversation, at least adjacent ones are being had each and every time I meet someone new. The thing is, while these interactions are structured in a very parallel manner, no two answers have been alike. I've made friends from Karachi to the suburbs of Shanghai, and California to downtown Chicago. I've run into people from Egypt and Kenya, Iraq and Kosovo, Greece and Vietnam. Grinnell truly is a global community, and so it makes inherent sense that no two people's stories would be the same.

In doing all of this meeting and greeting and introducing, listening to others has been the easiest part by far. The struggle comes about when the conversation is turned in my direction—when reflection on

what is being stated turns to introspection on what to state. I feel like it catches me off-guard at least a little bit every time. I've mastered the mundane art of answering the questions at the start of this column in a way that presents me as me, without getting too deep into the weeds. What throws off my balance and sends my train of thought hurdling down the tracks, however, are the follow-up questions that naturally arise thereafter.

It can be simple things, like "How many siblings do you have?" or the deeper ones like "Why did you choose Grinnell?" As questions come about along these lines, I find myself in a bit of a crisis, attempting to define and describe myself. I feel I've lived at least three lives, separated distinctly by the opportunities for travel and worldly experience by which I've made myself known. In that same vein, I've had a number of students come up to me at Grinnell and say they recognize me. "Aren't you the kid who's done all these things abroad?" Yes, yes I am—but what does that mean for me now? I've done as best I can,

for better or for worse, to separate these periods of my life into distinct sections. What Grinnell and the community present here have challenged me to do is to reconcile these parts of myself into a single, whole sense of being.

In embracing this new identity, I find these questions easier to answer. How many siblings do I have? Well, I have 12 I consider immediate, my one biological younger brother, William, plus the nine exchange siblings my family has hosted over the years. Add to that my two akkas (older sisters) from my host family in Malaysia, and you get the magic number. I go on to state that while in Malaysia, I also had a number of other temporary host families, meaning my sibling count is actually over 20. I use that question to forward the notion of "family" defined by the



terms I believe in, that it's not dictated by biology or blood, but is rather an active choice on the part of both individuals, accepting, and accepted. It's a long-winded answer for a rather short question, but since when have I ever been one to shy away from talking too long?

As for the latter half of these extra questions, why did I choose Grinnell? I'll be honest, over the summer, I wasn't quite sure that I had made the right choice. Was I too close to home? Was I at too small a school? Had I limited myself by not applying out of state or to any Ivies? In just a week of life on campus, I have a definitive answer to all of the above: No. I chose Grinnell



because it's the only place in the world that blends my many lives into one. I was born and raised in Iowa, learned to be an adult in Malaysia, and saw my future in India. Here, I'm still amongst the cornfields and a small town, but I'm also a member of a global community, where I take Arabic classes first thing in the morning each day, sit down for lunch with friends from all walks of life, and spend

my evenings in conversation with strangers whom I'll recognize around campus tomorrow. I am blessed by the challenge of having to define myself as one, without the segregation of memories. My experiences, just like the rest of my peers', are unique, and it's a beautiful thing to see that kind of community and camaraderie in action.

NEWS

FLIGHTS: FROM COVER



Taylor Mahler and head coach Colin Muller take a break from flipping pancakes.



As always, community members made the most of the plane rides during the annual fundraiser.



Will Varrelman, Maddon Evans, Brody Strother, Blak Burmester and Jonah Schrock at the fundraiser.



There was an impressive turnout at the annual pancake fundraiser at the airport.

Chamber-Main Street News and Knows: Main Street BOOMS

BY JIM DAVIES
MAIN STREET
HAMPTON
VOLUNTEER

One of the goals and priorities of the Hampton Main Street program is to update the building inventory including business and housing information in BOOMS Tracker.

Building Opportunities on Main Street (BOOMS) Tracker is a property inventory tool for gathering, storing, and showcasing information about buildings and lots in the main street district. To access this tool, credentials are provided by Main Street America. These credentials are only available for designated Main Street programs.

The BOOMS Tracker is built around two major components—an interface where users can enter and update individual property data, and an overview page where users can view the data they've entered. Both components are designed to be mobile and desktop friendly. Leaders of designated Main Street programs can request log-in credentials to access these password-protected components for their own district.

When logged in, local Main Street leaders can easily enter information about buildings and lots in their district by using the Inventory Tab. Here, users can click or tap on parcels to see what information has been gathered and organized so far and add or update the data via a quick series of questions. The inventory questions were written in a way that would keep the process efficient, helping Main Street leaders inventory their entire districts painlessly.

There are six different ways that this tool—and the data gathered—may impact, expand, and strengthen a Main Street



program's work. These impacts range from immediate into the long-term.

Local Main Street programs can quickly gather, store, and showcase information about properties in their districts. This is the core function of the BOOMS Tracker, and Main Street America is excited for local leaders to start trying it out.

Main Street can play a bigger part in responding to the housing crisis. Based on Main Street America's background research, survey data, and information gathered during the pilot program last summer, they believe there is potential for tens of thousands of housing units in currently vacant spaces in Main Street districts. The data collected and presented by this tool can strengthen advocacy efforts and persuade local leaders to act on housing.

Local districts can more readily move from vacancy to economic vitality via newly activated spaces. A complete inventory of properties in a local district is a critical first step toward bettering the built environment and boosting social and economic vitality. This tool will help Main Streets understand the opportunities in their districts necessary to the development of long-term plans.

More spaces in older and historic buildings can be actively used. Understanding the landscape of historic building use and historic building vacancy will help Main Street leaders create plans to protect and activate these import-

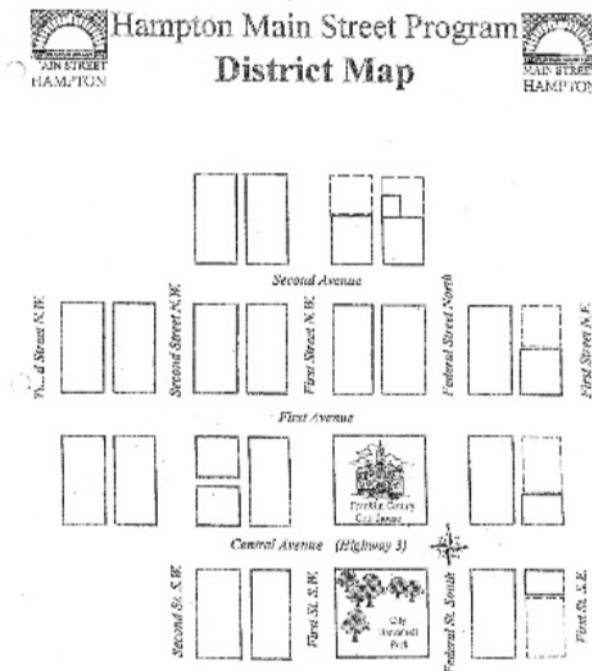
ant assets. Down the line, revenues generated from newly activated spaces can contribute to keeping buildings well maintained, aesthetically appealing, and energy efficient.

Local Main Street leaders can act as an authority on housing and land use in their downtown commercial districts. Main Street America currently does not have data on the physical and vacancies of Main Street buildings on a large scale. Using the BOOMS Tracker, leaders of local programs can become the source of valuable insights on buildings and lots in their districts, putting them in a position to influence important local and regional development conversations.

The Main Street Network can push for policy

change related to housing and the built environment. As data is entered locally, Coordinating Programs and Main Street America will see aggregated data across larger geographies. Main Street America believes this information will be incredibly valuable as we make a case for regulations that make building reuse easier and more likely, and as we push for thoughtful investment in existing buildings.

If you would like to know more about Main Street Hampton and volunteer to serve on a committee, please stop by the Greater Franklin County Chamber of Commerce office at 5 First St. SW, Hampton or call the office at 641-456-5668. You can also call or text me on my cell phone at 641-425-4707.



Code Counsel: Disc Golf at East Park

BY JIM DAVIES
MEMBER AT LARGE,
HAMPTON CITY COUNCIL

At the August 25 workshop meeting, Steve Huling and Jeff Winters presented a proposal for updating the disc golf course at East Park. The current course is 20 years old and needs to be updated. The consensus of the council was to place this item on the Thursday, August 28 agenda.

At the August 28 regular council meeting, Steve Huling and Jeff Winters had an updated request to increase the East Park disc golf courses from 9 to 18 holes. No action was taken. The item will go on the September 9, 2025, council workshop agenda.

The disc golf course at East Park, established in 2004 and funded by the Hampton Rotary Club, is named the Hampton Rotary Disc Golf Course. It is a 9-hole, easy-difficulty course located in a park with water hazards.

It's a free-to-play course, though community reviews suggest a need to check its condition, as it was rated "unplayable" on Disc Golf Course

Review in the past. The course offers a 0.9-mile loop and is a par 34. The course takes about an hour to play.

Disc golf is a sport where players throw specialized flying discs from a tee area toward a metal basket target, aiming to get the disc into the basket in the fewest possible throws, like traditional golf. Each throw counts as a stroke, and points are added for penalties like out-of-bounds throws.

The game involves navigating natural terrain, using different types of discs for various distances and trajectories, and completing each hole before moving to the next, with the player having the lowest total score at the end winning.

How to Play

- Tee Off: Players begin by throwing a disc from a designated tee area.
- Follow the Disc: The next throw is made from the spot where the previous disc landed.
- Complete the Hole: A hole is completed when the disc comes to rest within the metal basket.
- Count Strokes: Each throw, or "stroke," is counted for each player.

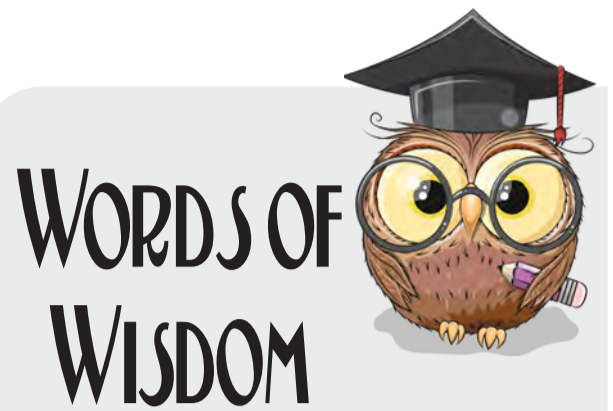
- Next Hole: After completing a hole, players advance to the next, with the person with the lowest score on the previous hole going first.

Key Elements

- Tee Pad: The starting area for a hole.
- Disc Golf Basket: The target for each hole.
- Disc: A purpose-built flying disc, with different types for different flight characteristics.
- Par: Similar to ball golf, each hole has a "par" score that represents the expected number of throws.
- Out of Bounds (OB): Areas where discs are out of play, resulting in a penalty stroke.
- Mandatory (Mando): A designated path or object that must be passed on a specific side, with a penalty for failure to do so

Hampton Hardware, 416 Central Avenue West, has a nice selection of disc golf merchandise for purchase.

City Council meetings are available to watch on youtube.com.



Last week's trivia questions: What actress has starred in movies including "Legally Blonde", "Sweet Home Alabama", and "Walk the Line"?

Answer: Reese Witherspoon.

What actress has starred in movies including "The Wedding Singer", "Charlie's Angels", and "50 First Dates"? Answer: Drew Barrymore.

This week's trivia questions:

What Swedish pop group had hit songs in the 1970s including "Dancing Queen", "Waterloo", and "Take a Chance On Me"?

What Swedish pop group had hit songs in the late 1980s and early 1990s, including "Listen to Your Heart", "It Must Have Been Love", and "Joyride"?

What Swedish pop group had hits songs in the 1990s including "Don't Turn Around", "The Sign", and "All That She Wants"?

Sept. 3 is U.S. Bowling League Day; Sept. 4 is National Wildlife Day; Sept. 5 is National Food Bank Day, and International Day of Charity; Sept. 6 is International Bacon Day, National Tailgating Day, and National Hummingbird Day; Sept. 7 is Buy a Book Day, Grandparents Day, and Acorn Squash Day; Sept. 8 is Actor's Day, and World Physical Therapy Day; Sept. 9 is Emergency Services Day, and National Teddy Bear Day.

September is Child Cancer Awareness Month, National Chicken Month, National Honey Month, National Service Dog Month, National Mushroom Month, Self-Improvement Month, World Candle Month, National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month, Classical Music Month, Baby Safety Month, Fall Hat Month, National Sewing Month, National Potato Month, and National Piano Month.

"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."

– Jeremiah 29:11

"If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved."

– Romans 10:9-10

"Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends."

– John 15:13

Why did the kid cross the playground? To get to the other slide.

What do you do if a teacher rolls their eyes at you? Pick them up and roll them back.

How did the music teacher get locked out of her classroom? Her keys were on the piano.

What is the smartest bug? A spelling bee.

Why did the teacher marry the janitor? Because he swept her off her feet.

What did the teacher say about the student's pizza? There's mushroom for improvement.

The defending Super Bowl champion Philadelphia Eagles open the season on Thursday night, Sept. 4, against the Dallas Cowboys. Eight pro football teams have won back-to-back Super Bowls.

Green Bay Packers (1966-67), Miami Dolphins (1972-73), Pittsburgh Steelers (1974-75 and 1978-79), San Francisco 49ers (1988-89), Dallas Cowboys (1992-93), Denver Broncos (1997-98), New England Patriots (2004-05), and Kansas City Chiefs (2023-24).

Four pro football teams have never been in a Super Bowl - the Detroit Lions, Cleveland Browns, Jacksonville Jaguars, and Houston Texans.

Coach Miller Ready to Tackle First Game of Season

BY JENNIFER
BURNHAM
HAMPTON
CHRONICLE

(Editor's note: This was written before the season's first game took place. See page A11 for game story.)

School is back in session. And that means one thing for many Bulldogs: football season is finally upon us.

H-D-CAL High School Head Football Coach Cole Miller said they've been preparing for months — and they are ready. Tonight, the Bulldogs will take on the Green Devils in Osage, with the freshmen and sophomore team playing at

5 p.m. and varsity playing at 7:30 p.m.

"We're excited to have a lot of kids returning again this year," he said. "We had a small senior class last year, but a lot of the juniors played a lot last year, and they have been working really hard over the spring and the summer to get ready for the season. I know they are just as excited as the coaching staff to start playing somebody else instead of scrimmaging. We have a lot of juniors who are looking to make a name for themselves this



See MILLER: Page 7

Coach Cole Miller in the high school weight room on Friday, Aug. 29.

What's At The Windsor

BY JIM DAVIES
WINDSOR THEATRE
MANAGER

Light of the World will be shown at the Windsor Theatre Friday, September 5 through Thursday, September 11. Disney is not going to let us play Hamilton.

Showtimes for Light of the World are Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 7:00 PM, with a Sunday matinee at 1:00 PM.

Light of the World follows Jesus' Life from ministry beginnings through crucifixion and resurrection, as seen through Apostle John's eyes.

John the Apostle (c. 6 AD – c. 100 AD) was one of the Twelve Apostles of Jesus according to the New Testament. Generally listed as the youngest apostle, he was the son of Zebedee and Salome. His brother James was another of the Twelve Apostles.

The Apostle John known as the "Beloved Disciple" and the "Apostle of Love" for his deep relationship with Jesus and his writings emphasizing char-

ity. He was the sole witness to Christ's crucifixion, later tasked with caring for the Virgin Mary.

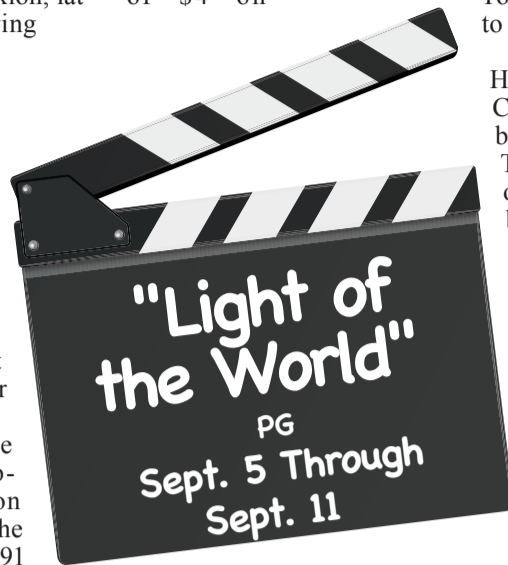
John is also recognized as the author of the Gospel of John, the three Johannine Epistles, and the Book of Revelation, and the Catholic Church celebrates his feast day on December 27.

Light of the World is distributed by Salvation Poem Project. The running time is 91 minutes.

The Salvation Poem Project is an independent, creative studio that is a non-profit ministry. This team of gifted creatives love sharing Jesus through story and song ... and it all began with a simple song that has been heard by nearly a billion people worldwide in multiple languages.

Regular movie ticket prices are \$6 for adults and \$4 for youth age 16 and under. Seniors (60 and over)

receive a discounted price of \$4 on



Sundays. All tickets are \$4 for the Thursday evening show.

Tickets are available for purchase at the door or online at www.windsortheatre.com. Credit cards are accepted. Windsor Bucks gift certificates, discount punch cards, and movie sponsorship opportunities are also available.

Upcoming movies at the Windsor Theatre include Freakier Friday, Downton Abbey: The Grand Finale,

Roofman, and Regretting You. Titles are subject to change.

The next scheduled Hampton Old Time Country Hoedown will be held at the Windsor Theatre from 6-9 pm on Monday, September 8.

The 14th annual Evening Like It Used to Be Vaudeville Show will be held Saturday, October 4 at the Windsor Theatre.

The Gray, a short film, will premiere at the Windsor Theatre on Thursday, October 30.

The Gray follows six cousins who, while camping in the woods near their grandmother's farm, encounter a mysterious creature that appears between sunset and darkness. Written, directed, and produced by Les Nelson of Marketplace Media, the suspenseful film blends mystery, wonder, and heart.

Filmed in Leland, Iowa on July 25–27 and August 1–2, local cast and crew included members of the



Hofer and Pralle families, Wendy Buseman, Bella Duran, Reed Masters, Liberty Varrelman, and my-

self. The Franklin County Arts Council helped support production costs.

MILLER: FROM PAGE 6

year, too."

Miller is going into his sixth year with the school district, serving as the head football coach for the last five. He took over as the PE teacher this year, after five years of teaching English.

Miller, who grew up in the area, was a Bulldog before joining the staff. He played football for the high school, before graduating in 2015. He then obtained an English degree from Buena Vista University in 2019, before finally returning to his old stomping grounds.

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CITY COUNCIL: FROM PAGE 2

it, and promote it, we can have leagues and we can have tournaments, and there's a lot we can do, if we have a course that people want to play," Winters said.

Huling said that if they had to do the upgrade in two phases, they would at least need the baskets first, as they could get by without the cement pads for a while, until the money was raised.

Huling added that he's willing to look for grants and that they've been in touch with the local tourism board about grant options.

"You've got two guys here that are willing to do the work," Huling said.

City Councilor Barry Lamos applauded the two for their passion to help and promote Hampton.

"This is a great idea," said Lamos.

City Councilor Patrick Palmer asked them if the standard is either nine or 18 holes for a course.

"We were thinking 15 because that's what we thought we had space for," said Winters, but they said most courses have either nine or 18.

Mayor Steve Birdsall said 18 holes makes sense.

"Why build half a court and then rebuild the rest of it?" said Birdsall. "Just look at the pickleball nets that you lobbied for. I see people there all the time now. They seem to be taking care of them. These things keep people busy and we need that."

Lamos added that both pickleball and disc golf are low-impact, making them great options for the community.

"Pretty much anybody can do it," he said.

City Manager Ron Dunt thanked Huling and Winter for sharing their vision and said they should check in with the soccer committee for their input before making any decisions.

Nobody spoke during public comment.

Reports

During his report, Hampton Police Chief Mark Morrison said Officer Brass would be starting his training with the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy on Tuesday. He also mentioned the Iowa State Patrol's Forever 17 car crash presentation that he and Captain Halsne participated in the day before, as well as the Hampton Car Show and the BBQ event that took place the previous weekend. He said all three went well, aside from a few minor parking complaints during the car show, which was to be expected.

Morrison also mentioned they've stepped up patrol at the bus stops, crosswalks and around the schools, now that school is back in session.

For his report, Public Works Director Doug Tarr said the construction on the library is near completion and that he's happy with how it's turning out.

He wanted to remind everyone that Heartland Asphalt is responsible for notifications during their 12th Avenue construction project, but that they have been in touch with Hampton Community Christian Daycare and several others around the high school to give them a heads up about the work.

"Heartland is the one that will be making the communication, because they're the only ones that know what their schedule is going to be," he said. "Instead of coming from us, it would be better to come from them."

He said the streets will not be closed for as long as they were during the water main project last year.

"It's not going to take too long," he said. "I'm hoping they're shut down for less than 10 days, but I don't want to give false hope."

The city employees have been busy working on mowing and trimming around town. Tarr mentioned they had added a couple of part-timers to help staff out, as

they lost several who went back to school.

Tarr said city employees had been working on sidewalk replacement at Band Shell Park, along with installing a dog waste station. He said they also plan on moving over to the new compost site within the next couple weeks. He thanked Mitch from KLMJ Radio for posting a notice about placement of garage sale signs. In his notice, he reminded the community that signs "need to be placed on the private property side of the sidewalk and not in the right-of-way."

For his report, City Manager Ron Dunt mentioned they closed on the \$700,000 note with First Bank Hampton for the 4 and 6th 1St NW properties that morning. The asbestos abatement portion of the project was set to begin the following Tuesday morning, which is expected to take around four weeks. Once that is completed, they plan on applying for more grants to continue with the project.

For her report, City Councilor Kristin Roode wanted to remind everyone to be mindful when passing the school buses.

"Every time someone passes a bus with the stop arm out, they put all of the children at risk," she said. "It's not just a traffic violation. It could be a life-threatening risk to the children. Since last year, there have been 15 calls for service on stopping violations for school buses, and to me, that is about 15 too many ... I think it's important to remind the community to slow down and pay attention."

City Councilor Barry Lamos had no report for the evening.

For his report, City Councilor Jim Davies spoke about the many events that took place the previous weekend.

"I just want to thank the individuals and groups that were involved," he said. "Faith Baptist Church hosted the car cruise on Friday night. Jeff and Tracy Spear worked with them and had their car show on Sunday. Charlane Pralle Janssen with

the BBQ contest. Adam Akers with the veterans events on Saturday. Shawn Dietz and KLMJ Radio had a music event at the Band Shell on Friday. So there was a lot going on, and I especially want to thank the Chamber staff and board for all of their efforts to help coordinate and make sure those happened. They all went off without a hitch."

For his report, City Councilor Patrick Palmer spoke about pool closings in nearby areas and possibly honoring their pool passes at the city pool in Hampton.

"I guess that would be my suggestion for next year," he said. "If your community closes the pool, for whatever reason, that we honor their pool certificates and bring some goodwill."

For his report, City Councilor Bill Holmstrom agreed with what Jim Davies said about the previous weekend.

"It was a great week to be in Hampton," he said. "There was something for everybody. From the young kids at the bouncy houses to the BBQ to the car show to the music venue at the Band Shell, it was just a very enjoyable weekend."

For her report, City Councilor Jerre Grefe spoke about the flower basket project that was coordinated by herself and the rest of the promotions committee at the Chamber.

"They were great this year," she said. "They were hard hit with the 90 degree weather we had, but we aren't giving up. They will be back again next year, so they're coming down tomorrow, and thank you, city, for all your help."

For his report, Mayor Steve Birdsall said he was also happy with all of the events in Hampton the previous weekend.

"Everybody was busy and having a great time," he said. "The crowd at the park for the car show was phenomenal."

FARM TOYS: FROM COVER



John Deere toys purchased from Van Wall Equipment.



Toys donated from Case IH.



Cows and fence feeder sets purchased from Big Country Toys.



John Deere toys purchased from Van Wall Equipment.

Ridgestone Senior Golf

NED BOHACH

Is it going to rain or isn't it, that's what the boys faced as they prepared to attack the battle ground.

They did their anti-rain dance and off they went, tires squealing, bellowing out, "Bring it on." Well that may be just a tad blown out of proportion but, they were not going to be denied. Franky Schnoesie bellowed out rules for the day, "Men it has been said that some, not all, have taken advantage of teeing em up in the fairway, giving nudges on lipped putts and moving from around a tree." The boys were perplexed as they all have high standards, solid morals and would never cheat, I think! Out the door like a blast from the past (whatever that means) headed for battle.

Doug Hahn, Les Hurd and Jim Allen shot a solid 66 to capture first place and \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ yup that much. They were sobbing when they finished because they missed one short-short putt. Waaaa—Waaaa boys sympathy NOT! The second unit and close but no rewards was Frank Schnoes, Ed Hert and Nick Mulford. They carded a 69 and yup they couldn't make a putt. I wish there was some other excuse that someone could come up with as missed putt should be laid to rest. The third unit and in the big \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ was Kim

Wills, Brad Mulford and Rick Schmitt with a 70 just enough to be in the money. Brad said he left his game in the bed and couldn't function on all cylinders. He did, however make one outstanding shot but we won't go there.

Tommy Severe, Larry Fanny and Del-Ray McKee shot a 71 which was good for \$50 each, minus \$50 each. DelRay still stands on the wrong side of the ball so he has an excuse but Tom and Larry well they were simply bad. The last group in and winning \$\$\$\$\$\$

was Don Greimann, Doug Erbe and Wayne Maier. They carded a (I'm embarrassed to admit it) but their score was off the chart but on the wrong end. It actually wasn't bad if you were playing table tennis.

Now that makes no sense but hey I had to write something about their LXXXVIII, because that is baaaad!! Thus ends the saga of the week.

Les told me age has it's advantages but he can't remember what they are. Brad said his wife asked him if he saw the dog bowl. He told her he didn't know the dog bowled. Doug Hahn said he has a step ladder but he never knew the real one!

Finally DelRay said his tomato turned red because it saw the salad dressing. I be gone like the monkey that sat on a keg of ice, my tale is told!



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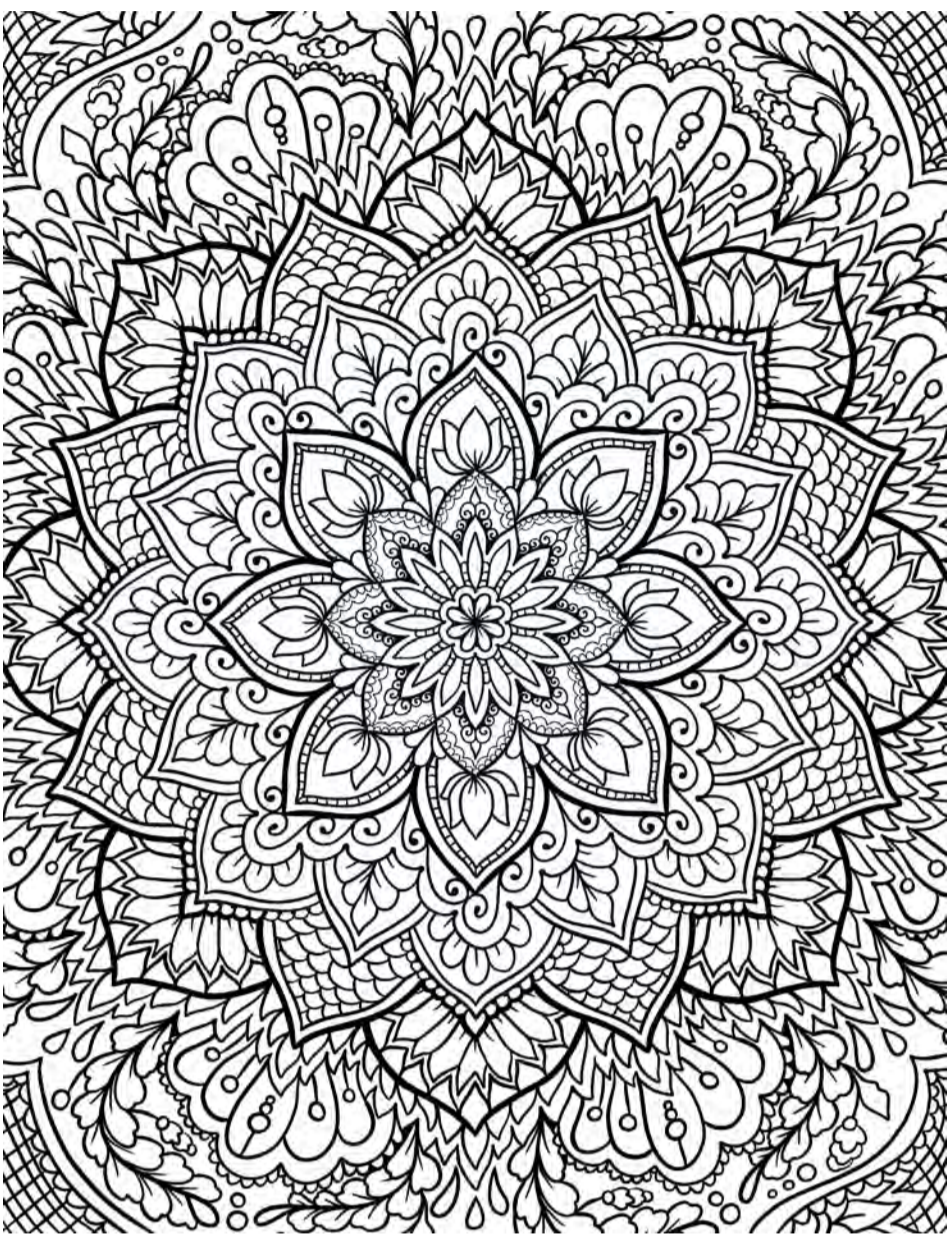
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Please do not bring your own toys.

Storytime will repeat at 6:00 p.m. that same day. (without playtime)

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

Email us at:
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CIVIC CALENDAR

FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

DETAILS:
Monday 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, 5:15 PM-6:15 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.

West Fork Volleyball Defeats Hampton in Thrilling Season Opener

BY EVAN PHARR
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

The West Fork volleyball team opened up the season with a thrilling victory over Hampton-Dumont-CAL three sets to two on Thursday, August 28. It was the first event in the brand new athletic gym for HD-CAL and it was a great game to break in the new building. The Bulldogs won the first set 25-18, but the Warhawks responded by winning the second set 25-22 and the third set 25-21. It looked like the Warhawks had taken over, as they jumped out to an 11-1 lead in the fourth set, but the Bulldogs would not go down quietly as they would come back and capture the fourth set 25-22 to force a decisive fifth set. The fifth set would be back and forth, until the Warhawks finally pulled away and won the game after a kill from senior Abby Schonig. Warhawks head coach Emily Greimann was proud of the way her team fought in what was a tough game.



Senior Madisyn Johnson getting ready to pass the ball off of a dig on Thursday, August 28. Photo by Evan Pharr.



The Warhawks huddle up during a decisive fifth set on Thursday, August 28. Photo by Evan Pharr.

"We know that they are a competitive team," Greimann said. "We always compete with them. To come here and be able to fight back was good for them. Good to build that confidence and experience. I am proud of the girls."

Sophomore Ava Huff lead the Warhawks with 17 assists, while senior Brylie Dickman lead the team with 34 attacks and Schonig lead the team with 11 kills.

Schonig was also second on the team with 12 assists and 29 attacks. On defense, senior Jennifer Rameriz recorded the Warhawks only block of the game while Huff lead the team with 19 digs. Schonig and Dickman were key contributors for the Warhawks as they began to take over the game during the middle sets. Schonig spoke on how she and Dickman have played together for many

years and how they take on the leadership roll.

"Brylie and I have been playing volleyball together since fourth grade so we really have that connection out there," Schonig said. "We both try to calm down the team when they get really excited so we can reset and get that next point."

As for the Bulldogs, junior Kenley Hansen led the team with

25 assists while junior Madison Heilskov led the team in kills with 18 and attacks with 43. Defensivley, Heilskov led the Bulldogs with 20 digs while junior Marren Subbert led the team with five blocks.

The Warhawks played in three more games in a tournament over the weekend at Garner-Hayfield-Ventura. The Warhawks went 2-1 in the tournament,

beating North Union and Northwood-Kensett each two sets to one and losing two sets to one to North Iowa. The Warhawks are now 3-1 on the year and their next game is Thursday, September 4 at 7:00 p.m. when they play at Northwood-Kensett. The Bulldogs begin the season 0-1 with their next game is also Thursday, September 4 at 7:00 p.m. when they play at Osage.

Hampton-Dumont-CAL Football Drops Season Opener to Osage

BY EVAN PHARR
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

The Hampton-Dumont-CAL football team lost their first game of the season 22-8 versus the Osage Green Devils on Friday, August 29. The Bulldogs defense would start the game strong, holding

the Green Devils scoreless in the first quarter of the game, however the Osage offense would find its footing and score three touchdowns in the second quarter to take a 22-0 lead into the half.

The Bulldogs' defense would respond in the second half, forcing two turnovers in the third quarter after a fumble recovery

by junior Joesph Powers and an interception by junior Hunter Rieken. The Bulldogs' offense would break through in the fourth quarter, when sophomore Blaek Burmester tossed a 22-yard touchdown pass to senior Brody Strother. It was Burmester's first career touchdown pass, and he threw for 55 yards in relief

of starting quarterback Ryder Strother, who had 20 passing yards.

The Bulldogs begin the season 0-1 and will host Garner-Hayfield-Ventura for the home opener next Friday, September 5 at 7:00 p.m.

Weekly Recap

Hampton-Dumont-CAL:

August 26. Girls tennis lost their match versus St. Edmond 9-0

August 28. Girls tennis lost their match versus Iowa Falls-Alden 8-1. Senior Jade Johnson and junior Yesenia Valenzuela won their doubles match 8-6.

August 28. Girls cross country finished in 11th place with a score of 276 in meet at Iowa Falls-Alden. Top five finishers: Sophomore Mackenzy Valley finished in 16th place and scored 16 with a time of 22 minutes, 45.1 seconds. Sophomore Adelee Grone-wold finished in 79th place and scored 65 with a time of 30 minutes, 2.4 seconds. Marlee Maas finished in 106th place and scored 71

with a time of 36 minutes, 36 minutes, 28.3 seconds.

August 28. Boys cross country finished in 9th place with a score of 230 in meet at Iowa-Falls Alden. Top five finishers: Senior Arnold Guevara finished in 24th place and scored 23 with a time of 20 minutes, 8.2 seconds. Sophomore William Vosburg finished in 31st place and scored 31 with a time of 20 minutes, 26.5 seconds. Senior Reed Masters finished in 81st place and scored 58 with a time of 23 minutes, 22.2 seconds. Junior Conner Miller finished in 84th place and scored 59 with a time of 23 minutes, 33.3 seconds. Sophomore Ryne Wagner finished in 91st place and scored 61 with a time of 23 minutes, 59.7 seconds.

August 28. Volleyball lost their match versus West Fork three sets to two. The Bulldogs won set one 25-18, lost set two 25-22, lost set three 25-21, won set four 25-22 and lost set five 15-12.

August 29. Football lost game at Osage 22-8. Bulldogs scored their lone touchdown in the fourth quarter on a pass touchdown from sophomore Blaek Burmester to senior Brody Strother.

West Fork:

August 28. Volleyball won their match at Hampton-Dumont-CAL three sets to two. The Warhawks lost set one 25-18, won set two 25-22, won set three 25-21, lost set four 25-22 and won set five 15-12.

August 29. Football won their game versus North Butler 21-7. Junior Zander Hansen ran for two touchdowns and senior Tyler Fessler ran for another touchdown.

August 30. Volleyball went 2-1 in tournament at Garner-Hayfield-Ventura. The Warhawks beat North Union two sets to one, beat Northwood-Kensett two sets to one and lost to North Iowa two sets to one.

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Bulldog Cross Country Runs in First Meet of Season

BY EVAN PHARR
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

The Hampton-Dumont-CAL boys and girls' teams ran in their first meet of the season hosted by Iowa Falls-Alden at Maynes Grove on Thursday, August 28. The girls' team finished in 11th place out of 12 teams that placed with a score of 276. Sophomore Mackenzy Valley was the first Bulldog to finish, as she finished in 16th place and posted a score of 16 with a time of 22 minutes, 45.1 seconds. Head coach of both the boys and girls team, Traci Moorehead, discussed Valley's strong time to begin the season. "MacKenzy is a strong runner for the girls team," Moorehead said. "She is able to get out in the front of the pack and keeps pushing. Being her second year running 5k's, she knows what to expect."

Sophomore Adelee Gronewold was the second Bulldog to finish as she finished in 79th place and posted a score of 60 with a time of 28 minutes, 39.6 seconds. Senior Emma Dietz was the third Bulldog to finish as she finished in 92nd place and posted a score of 64 with a time of 29 minutes, 58.9 seconds. Sophomore Keely Moorhead was the fourth Bulldog to finish as she finished in 93rd place and posted a score of 65 with a time of 30 minutes, 2.4 seconds. Marlee Maas was the fifth Bulldog to finish as she finished in 106th place and posted a score of 71 with a time of 36 minutes, 36 minutes, 28.3 seconds.

The boy's team finished in 9th place out of 10 teams that placed with a score of 230. Senior Arnold Guevara was the first Bulldog to finish as he finished in 24th place



Mackenzy Valley running during meet at Maynes Grove on Thursday, August 28. Photo by Evan Pharr.

and posted a score of 23 with a time of 20 minutes, 8.2 seconds. Coach Moorehead was pleased with Guerva's time.

"Arnold has really been pushing himself hard this year," she said. "He is a very talented runner and we are looking forward to see what he can do over the course of the season."

Sophomore William Vosburg was the



From left to right: Max Kofoot and Ryne Wagner running during meet at Maynes Grove on Thursday, August 28. Photo by Evan Pharr.

second Bulldog to finish as he finished in 31st place and posted a score of 31 with a time of 20 minutes, 26.5 seconds. Senior Reed Masters was the third Bulldog to finish as he finished in 81st place and posted a score of 58 with a time of 23 minutes, 22.2 seconds. Junior Conner Miller was the fourth Bulldog to finish as he finished in 84th place and posted a score of 59 with

a time of 23 minutes, 33.3 seconds. Sophomore Ryne Wagner was the fifth Bulldog to finish as he finished in 91st place and posted a score of 61 with a time of 23 minutes, 59.7 seconds.

The boys and girls' second meet of the season will be on Tuesday, September 2 for the Webster City invite at the Links Public Golf Course at 5:00 p.m.

West Fork Football Begins Season with Victory Over North Butler

BY EVAN PHARR
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

West Fork football is off to a good start, after taking down the North Butler Bearcats 21-7 at home on Friday, August 29. It was a defensive slugfest to begin the game, as neither team was able to score in the first quarter. It looked like North Butler were going to score first early in the second quarter, after a 68-yard pass play gave the Bearcats the ball inside the Warhawks' five yard line. The Warhawks would keep the Bearcats out of the end zone as junior Keeston Lambertson snagged an interception on fourth down to give the ball back to the offense. The Warhawks would score first after a 23-yard touchdown run from junior quarterback Zander Hansen. Hansen would run for 39 yards and two touchdowns on the night, while also completing three of seven pass attempts for 39 yards. Hansen explained what allowed him to cross the goal line twice.

"Their defensive line is pretty good," Hansen said. "We ran the ball well all night. I just found open gaps and hit them."

The Warhawks took a 6-0 lead into halftime and their defense would continue to dominate in the second half. Both teams were held scoreless in the



Zander Hansen carries the ball versus North Butler on Friday, August 29. Photo by Evan Pharr.

third quarter, but the Warhawks would strike again on the second rushing touchdown on the night for Hansen. The Warhawks converted the 2-point conversion to extend their lead to 15-0. After another defensive stop, the Warhawks would put the game on ice after a 48-yard touchdown run from senior Tyler Fessler, apart of his 65-yards rushing for the game. The Warhawks ran for

297 yards on the night, including a 123-yard performance by senior Dax Sutken. Junior Blaine Shultz ran for 56 yards and sophomore Connor Swenson ran for 14 yards. Senior Owen Schmidt had a big game on defense, recording 2.5 tackles for loss and two sacks.

The Warhawks snapped a four-game losing streak versus the Bearcats and start 1-0 for the



Connor Swenson carries the ball versus North Butler on Friday, August 29. Photo by Evan Pharr.

third season in a row. Warhawks head coach Daniel Westhoff spoke on the confidence his team regained from the victory.

"It's huge for us cause we know that's a good football team we just faced," Westhoff said. "It was nice to beat a good program

like that. I was 0-3 against them up to this point. It was huge for our kids."

The Warhawks will travel to BCLUW next Friday, September 5 to take on the Comets at 7:00 p.m.

Upcoming Sports Events

Hampton-Dumont-CAL:

Sept. 4: Girls Tennis versus Webster City 4:15 p.m. at Progress Park
Sept. 4: Volleyball @ St. Edmond 7:00 p.m.
Sept. 5: Football versus Clarion-Goldfield-Dows & 00 p.m.
Sept. 9: Boys and Girls Cross Country Belmont-Klemme invite 5:00 p.m.

West Fork

Sept. 4: Volleyball @ Northwood-Kensett 7:00 p.m.
Sept. 5: Football @ BCLUW 7:00 p.m.
Sept. 8: Volleyball @ Valley Lutheran 6:30 p.m.
Sept. 9: Boys and Girls Cross Country Belmont-Klemme Invite 5:00 p.m.
Sept. 9: Volleyball versus Newman Catholic 7:00 p.m.

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FISHING IN THE FOG



BY RICK JANSSEN

After my wife and I went fishing last week I decided to keep my boat hooked up so that I could go fishing alone. I don't often fish alone, but since she is still recovering from surgery, she was not interested in getting up early to fish.

When I woke up early on Saturday before Labor Day I decided to head out on my own. I ate a quick breakfast and went out to get things ready in my boat. I noticed that it was very foggy, but I thought it would burn off as the morning progressed.

When I got to the lake the first thing I noticed was the number of trucks and trailers that were in the parking area. Many were from outside of the area, but I thought with the Labor Day

weekend maybe a lot of these folks were camping. I counted 8 trailers parked as I backed my boat into the lake. It had been a long time since I had unloaded my boat by myself, so I had to re-think how to proceed with this process.

By the time I had my boat in the water and trailer parked another boat was in line to put in. I pulled away from the dock to give the new guys some space. I sat out from the dock and got all my poles ready to fish. With the fog and a calm day, I was hoping it would be a good day for plastic frog fishing. I rigged up four different poles with the lures I wanted to try today. I had lures that would cover multiple depths.

It is not often that I get to fish with a plastic frog, but when I do I get excited. The plastic frog is a top water lure and imitates a frog. You cast the frog close to the shore and then just twitch it back to the boat. The fun thing about using a frog is that when a bass hits the lure it makes a large splash. It is a very visual type of fishing and very exciting when it works.

I tried casting the frog along



the shore under the trees and twitching it back. NOTHING was happening. As I approached one of the fishing jetties, I started throwing one of my crank baits. NOTHING again. Next, I cruised out to some deeper water and tried a different lure. NOTHING! Once again, I moved closer to the shore and tried my plastic worm. NOTHING!

The morning fog had not burned off yet and in fact I think it was getting thicker. I had to pull my hood up over my head

as I was getting a bit chilled. It was a bit freaky out on the lake. I would be cruising along and suddenly a boat would appear. I think visibility was about 50 yards or so. The fog made everything seem very quiet. I could not hear a sound.

I tried different parts of the lake thinking I could get something to happen. I did manage to get two bass to swirl at my frog, but I did not get hooked up. I went back through those areas with my other lures thinking

maybe the bass would like something else. NOTHING.

I was moving around the lake trying to figure out what to do next. By now it is almost ten in the morning, and the fog had not burned off. It was right on the edge of rain. I could feel my skin getting damp and my fingers had wrinkled up. I decided to make one more move to see what would happen. I boated to another part of the lake and again a few boats appeared as I was traveling. When I got to my new spot two guys emerged from the fog as they were walking and fishing along the bank. I silently moved between the boat and the guys fishing on the bank and made a few casts. NOTHING! It was time to call it a morning and head home.

I can't remember a time that I had fished in fog that long. Normally by mid-morning the fog would be gone, and the sun would come out. I am going to use the fog as my excuse for not catching any fish. I put my four poles back in the rod holders and packed everything up and headed for the dock. Just another day of fishing.

Corn Diseases and Silage Implications: What to Look For as You Prepare for Harvest

PRESS RELEASE
ISU EXTENSION AND
OUTREACH OFFICE

AMES – This summer has been both hot and wet, with consistent rainfall across much of the state. These conditions have led to some unusual challenges in corn fields, including wrapped tassels and southern rust. Both have raised questions about their potential impacts on corn silage.



Wrapped tassels

Wrapped tassels are not a common occurrence in Iowa or the Midwest. As noted by Iowa State University Extension and Outreach cropping systems specialist Mark Licht in this recent ICM blog post, "Are you seeing wrapped tassels shedding pollen? We are, too!" he has only observed this phenomenon once in a 20-plus year career. Yet this year, wrapped tassels have been widely reported across the region.

Wrapped tassels are believed to result from a combination of high temperatures, abundant moisture and nutrient availability. These conditions can cause the tassel to emerge before the flag leaf has had time to fully unfurl, similar to rapid growth syndrome seen in early vegetative stages.

For silage production as in grain production,

the main concern lies in potential pollination problems. Starch content, a key component of silage quality, comes from the ear, so poor pollination can lower starch levels in the final feed. While other nutrient components and total yield are not expected to be significantly affected, there is limited research on its implications due to the rarity of this issue.

Southern rust

Southern rust, on the other hand, may pose a more significant risk. Since first being identified in Iowa in July, the disease has spread rapidly under warm, wet conditions. (See more information in this ICM blog post "Southern rust continues to develop across Iowa.") Southern rust itself does not produce toxins, but it weakens the plant and can open the door for other diseases such as Fusarium and Gibberella

stalk rots, which do produce mycotoxins (fumonisin and deoxynivalenol) that are harmful in feed.

These are major concerns of southern rust in silage as outlined in "Effect of Rust Infestation on Silage Quality."

• **Early dry down.** Early dry down can disrupt the ensiling process. When whole-plant moisture is too low, silage becomes more difficult to pack tightly, which prevents the formation of an ideal anaerobic environment. This increases the risk of poor fermentation, including butyric acid formation, and results in higher silage pH levels.

• **Yield loss.** While yield impacts are often most evident in grain harvest, silage yield and quality can also be reduced as disease severity increases. Disease pressure in the upper canopy is particularly concerning because it affects grain fill. Since grain contributes

most of the starch — and therefore energy — in silage, reduced grain fill can translate to lower starch content in the harvested forage.

• **Nutritive value.** There was an increase in fiber content, with an up to 13% decline in digestibility in the study above.

Ear rots and other wet-weather diseases

Beyond wrapped tassels and southern rust, the wet conditions this summer have created significant disease pressure overall. Ear rots such as Gibberella, Fusarium, and Diplodia thrive in wet conditions and are especially concerning because of their ability to produce mycotoxins that can impact livestock health.

For more information on identification and management of ear rots, the Crop Protection Network provides excellent resources, including the article "An Overview of Ear Rots."

If you are concerned about disease impacts or potential toxins, getting your silage tested is a smart step to ensure feed safety. The Iowa State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory offers mycotoxin testing. For more details on sampling and submission, see Iowa State University Vet Med – Mycotoxins.

Rebuilding Lives and Communities

ISU Extension and Outreach brings education and connections for disaster recovery

PRESS RELEASE
ISU EXTENSION AND OUTREACH

AMES – Each year, communities across Iowa are tested by nature's extremes — from flash floods and tornadoes to powerful storms and deepening droughts. These disasters not only endanger lives and property, but they also strain infrastructure, stretch emergency services and leave lasting impacts on families, farms and businesses. The road to recovery is rarely quick or easy — and it demands resilience, connection and support at every step.

That is why when natural disasters strike, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach staff respond with education — connecting affected individuals and families with trusted information, critical resources and local partners to begin recovery. Whether addressing mental health support, financial concerns, water cleanup, or crop damage and livestock issues, extension staff bring deep expertise and strong community connections to help Iowans take steps toward rebuilding their lives. For example, in 2024:

After the Greenfield tornado and flooding in northwest Iowa, extension staff offered 50 day camps, providing a safe space for youth to process their experiences.

Extension staff from Dickinson and Clay counties partnered to serve more than 1,000 people with a meal and educational resources after devastating flooding in Spencer.

With the Lyon County fairgrounds severely damaged by flooding, extension staff worked to find alternative locations for 4-H and FFA educational judging events and livestock shows.

Partnerships built on trust, shared resources and deep local knowledge create the foundation for a stronger, more effective response. When state and federal aid are paired with grassroots action, communities don't just survive, they begin to rebuild with purpose and resilience.

With staff in every Iowa county and deep roots in communities, ISU Extension and Outreach is uniquely positioned to support Iowans before, during and after disaster events.

"Extension's team, collaborations and trusted resources allow us to make a real difference when disaster occurs," said Courtney Long, program manager for Farm, Food and Enterprise Development and leader of Iowa's Extension Disaster Education Network. "In times of crisis, we need many different skill sets — people who know how to work with farmers, how to access mental health services, and most importantly, how to connect with people on a human level."

Community recovery is complex and rarely quick. Financial setbacks, emotional stress and the disruption to daily life can linger long after the immediate threat has passed. "Disasters take a long time to recover from — whether it's financial, emotional or the rebuilding of the community itself," said Tammy Jacobs, coordinator of the Iowa Concern Hotline. "Having access to timely information, education and a sense of connection can really help communities grow stronger."

While many hope for a quick return to normal, Jacobs notes that recovery is often a multi-year journey. "There's so much infrastructure — community finance, relationships, systems — that needs rebuilding. Extension is there for the long haul, helping communities move forward one step at a time."

By collaborating with agencies like FEMA, USDA and the Iowa Department of Homeland Security, ISU Extension and Outreach bridges the gap between residents and state and federal recovery programs. "Providing education after a disaster is essential," said Sonya Sellmeyer, consumer advocate for the Iowa Insurance Division. "Just knowing who to turn to can make all the difference."

Preparedness is equally vital. Iowa's Extension Disaster Education Network meets regularly to assess community needs and plan for future events. "This work doesn't start when a disaster hits — it starts long before," Long said. "We build partnerships, foster trust and plan strategically so we can respond more effectively when the time comes."

Recovery is about more than rebuilding structures — it's about rebuilding lives and communities. "Extension is that steady, trusted presence in every county," Jacobs said. "People know that even if we don't have all the answers, we'll help them find the right path forward. They're never alone."

For more information about Iowa's Extension Disaster Education Network, contact Courtney Long, court7@iastate.edu.

Surprise Lilies Are in Full Bloom across Iowa

This reliable bloomer surprises gardeners every summer

PRESS RELEASE
ISU EXTENSION AND
OUTREACH OFFICE

AMES – As we enter the last days of summer and gardens begin their transition to autumn, one common garden bulb surprises us with its beautiful and unexpected blooms: the surprise lily.

This late-season bulb is known by many names, including surprise lily, Lycoris squamigera, magic lily, resurrection lily or even naked lady. While not a true lily, it is in the closely related Amaryllidaceae family and is native to Japan.

The plant's unique life cycle has made it a beloved oddity in Midwestern gardens; long, strap-like leaves emerge in spring, only to die back by early summer. This disappearance often goes unnoticed as it aligns with the dieback of foliage for many spring bulbs like daffodils. In late summer,



a tall, leafless flower stalk emerges, with clusters of delicate pink, lily-like blooms and prominent, long stamens.

Aaron Steil, consumer horticulture specialist at Iowa State University, noted that these blooms appear "seemingly overnight," adding to their magic.

"Each stalk can produce between four and 12 flowers, standing 18 to 24 inches tall. Gardeners who inherit new landscapes are

often the most surprised as these blooms resurrect from what seems like nothing, which leads to questions about an unusual, leafless flower they never planted."

For those looking to cultivate surprise lilies, Steil recommends planting bulbs in the fall about 5 to 6 inches deep and spaced 6 to 8 inches apart. Surprise lilies thrive in well-drained soils and prefer partial shade to full sun. Because the dying

foliage is unattractive and flower stalks are relatively tall, Steil said it's best to interplant surprise lilies with other perennials in the middle or back of the garden border.

"Growing the bulbs among open or airy perennials like threadleaf coreopsis, perennial geranium or prairie dropseed can be particularly nice," he said.

Bulbs quickly multiply, forming large clumps of blooms that can be propagated and shared every four to five years. Dig clumps after the foliage dies back in early summer or after flowering in late summer. Then, separate the bulbs and share them with neighbors or tuck them in new corners of your own garden.

Steil also suggests having a little fun and secretly planting them in a friend's garden to double the surprise next year!

Parish Restructuring Plans Meetings Slated

BY MICHAEL HOHENBRINK
MID AMERICA PUBLISHING

OSSIAN - Big changes could be coming for area parishes.

Plans that could include parish restructuring were set to be released Tuesday by the Archdiocese of Dubuque.

Along with that, a series of 34 regional informational sessions is planned.

According to the timeline released by the Archdiocese, currently the second phase is in effect, called "Consult & Discern" running from August 2025 to March 2026.

Phase Three will be implementation, set for April 2026.

Information made public by the Sacred Heart Parish in Oelwein has said that what is planned is what is known as "pastorates." This would

pair multiple parishes in what could resemble a plan implemented in Allamakee County earlier this year.

Back in March, St. Ann-St. Joseph, Harpers Ferry; Immaculate Conception, Lansing; St. Joseph, New Albin, and Immaculate Conception, Wexford, were merged as Archbishop Thomas Zinkula established Holy Family of the Bluffs Parish, Lansing.

The Rev. Joseph J. Sevcik was named pastor for the newly-established parish with the Rev. Philip Agyei assigned as a sacramental priest.

According to the Aug. 3 Sacred Heart bulletin, "The Archdiocese will propose models for groupings of parishes (called pastorates) and gather parishioner feedback."

According to the July 27 bulletin, "Each storage will have one pastor

and usually one or more other priests called "Parochial Vicars" (previously called Associate Pastors)."

Sharing clergy, adjusting Mass schedules and/or places and possible mergers are all possible.

Regional Meetings Coming

The upcoming regional meetings will include information about the rationale as well as timeline.

Among the meetings planned are:
Thurs. Sept. 25 – Mason City (Holy Family) – 6:00pm – 9:00pm
Sat. Sept. 27 – Mason City (Holy Family) – 9:00am – 12:00pm
Mon. Sept. 29 – Iowa Falls (St. Mark's) – 6:00pm – 9:00pm

On the web:

<https://www.dbqjourneyinfaith.org/>

Iowa Specialty Hospital to Stop Accepting Certain Medicare Advantage Plans

AMANDA RINK
MID AMERICA PUBLISHING

Iowa Specialty Hospitals and Clinics will no longer accept certain Medicare Advantage plans. This is a move hospital leaders say is meant to protect patients and staff from a system that often delays or denies needed care.

Medicare is the federal health insurance program for people 65 and older. Medicare Advantage plans are run by private insurance companies. Funded with federal dollars, they must cover the same basic services as Medicare, but hospital leaders say they frequently add hurdles such as prior authorizations, narrow provider networks, and slow reimbursements.

The difference often becomes clear inside the hospital. "When we have patients on Medicare Advantage plans, many of the plans require pre-authorization for services," said Chief Nursing Officer Beth Carder. She noted multiple cases where doctors and nurses recommended continued care but insurers determined there was not medical necessity for the services.

"Families are confused and frustrated because their patient isn't authorized for those services. Some have ended up paying privately, which can get pricey as well."

Chief Compliance Officer Reagan Swisher said many patients don't realize how different Medicare Advantage is from traditional Medicare. "Many families think that when they have Medicare Advantage... it's Medicare, because of that Medicare Advantage name," he said.

"Health insurance is difficult to understand on a good day."

Iowa Specialty CEO Steve Simonin said the hospital is preparing to notify patients about which plans will no longer be accepted, some Advantage plans will still be accepted. "We are planning on sending a letter via MyChart to all of our patients discussing which Medicare Advantage plans we don't accept," he told The Wright County Monitor.

Hospitals nationwide are making similar moves. At least 27 health systems have stopped accepting certain Medicare Advantage plans, citing excessive prior authorization denials and slow insurer payments. On average, the federal government pays insurers about \$1,000 a month for each enrollee, but hospitals say that hasn't always translated into reliable coverage for patients.

To help patients sort through their options, leaders point to SHIIP, the Senior Health Insurance Information Program, a free, confidential service run by the Iowa Insurance Division. SHIIP volunteers are available in Belmond, Clarion, Hampton, and Garner to help seniors compare plans before they enroll.

Medicare's open enrollment period runs from September through December. Iowa Specialty leaders say they hope residents take time to review their choices carefully.

"This isn't about making life harder on patients," Simonin said. Ultimately, the hospital system wants patients to understand the coverage they are signing up for. "They're our neighbors," Simonin stated. In Iowa, we take care of our neighbors.



September Marks Suicide Prevention and Awareness Month: A Call to Action

PRESS RELEASE
FRANKLIN GENERAL
HOSPITAL

HAMPTON – September is Suicide Prevention & Awareness Month, a time dedicated to promoting actions that can help save lives. According to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP), an average of 135 suicide deaths occur each day, with an estimated 1.6 million suicide attempts in 2022 alone.

As we enter this critical month, Franklin General Hospital's Senior Life Solutions joins forces with mental health professionals nationwide to raise awareness about suicide and encourage education that could prevent future tragedies. Suicide Prevention and Awareness Month is an opportunity for everyone to assess their own mental health and that of those around them. Understanding the signs and knowing how to get help are vital steps in making a difference.

"Suicide is a public health crisis that affects people from all walks of life," says Brandi Harken, RN, Program Director at Senior Life Solutions. "By coming together to raise awareness and educate our communities, we can create a culture where it's okay to talk about mental health and seek help when needed. We all have a role to play in preventing suicide, and it starts with understanding and compassion."

So, what should you do if someone you love may be having thoughts of suicide?

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline's #BeTheTo campaign outlines five actionable steps that anyone can take to help prevent suicide:

1. Be the One to ASK.

• Asking someone directly if they are thinking about suicide can be daunting, but it is a crucial step. Direct questions like, "Are you thinking about killing yourself?" can open up a critical dialogue, allowing the person to share their feelings and providing them with



much-needed relief.

2. Be the One to BE THERE.

• Being present for someone in distress can make all the difference. Whether through physical presence, a phone call, or a text message, showing that you care and offering support without judgment can help reduce feelings of isolation and hopelessness.

3. Be the One to KEEP THEM SAFE.

• If you believe someone is at immediate risk, take steps to keep them safe. This could involve removing access to means of self-harm and staying with them until help arrives. Creating a safe environment is crucial in preventing a crisis.

4. Be the One to HELP THEM STAY CONNECTED.

• Establishing a network of support can provide ongoing encouragement and assistance. Connect them with friends, family, community resources, or professional services such as therapists and counselors. Ongoing support like the 988 Lifeline or Crisis Text Line at 741741 can also provide crucial help.

5. Be the One to FOLLOW-UP.

• After the initial crisis has passed, follow-up is vital. Regular check-ins reinforce that you care and are committed to their well-being, providing continued support and helping them feel valued and connected.

Why It Matters

Suicide prevention is a responsibility we all share. By following these five steps, anyone can play a role in supporting those who may be struggling. The #BeTheTo campaign empowers in-

dividuals to make a difference in their communities, emphasizing that small actions can have a significant impact. By starting the conversation, providing support, and directing help to those who need it, we can prevent suicides and save lives.

If you or someone you know is in an emergency, call 911 immediately. For those experiencing difficult or suicidal thoughts, help is available 24/7 by calling or texting the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline at 988.

Franklin General Hospital's Senior Life Solutions is an outpatient program designed to meet the unique needs of older adults experiencing depression and/or anxiety related to life changes that are often associated with aging or a chronic diagnosis. If you or someone you know is struggling with a decline in their mental health, our program wants you to know we are here to help. Whether through our program, or another service, our team works to identify and address the emotional needs of those in our community and provide support.

For more information or you or someone you know could benefit from this program, don't hesitate to get in touch with us. Call us today at (641)456-5935.

ABOUT Senior Life Solutions

Senior Life Solutions is managed by Psychiatric Medical Care (PMC). Founded in 2003, PMC is a leading behavioral healthcare management company focused on addressing the needs of rural and underserved communities. PMC manages inpatient behavioral health units, intensive outpatient programs, and telehealth services in more than 30 states. The company's services provide evaluation and treatment for patients suffering from depression, anxiety, mood disorders, memory problems, post-traumatic stress disorder, and other behavioral health problems. For more information, visit www.seniorlifesolutions.com.

Iowa Banks Continue to Drive Iowa's Economy in Second Quarter

Iowa's banking industry finishes second quarter with year-over-year growth

JOHNSTON — Despite continued inflationary pressures and economic uncertainty, Iowa's banking industry finished the second quarter with year-over-year growth. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. (FDIC) state-specific data released Tuesday showed loan, deposit and asset growth from the prior year.

"This quarter's results illustrate the strength of Iowa's banking system and how it benefits Iowans — with loan growth to drive the state's economy forward and a highly competitive financial marketplace," said Adam Gregg, president and CEO of the Iowa Bankers Association. "Iowa banks are proud to be a trusted financial partner Iowans can count on."

Iowa Banking Results

The 233 Iowa-domiciled banks saw an increase in loans this quarter to \$89.4 billion, an increase of 4% from a year ago and a 1% increase from the previous quarter. Deposits decreased slightly from last quarter; however, total deposits for the second quarter were \$107.5 billion, compared to \$103.5 billion the prior year.

Loan quality remains strong with average net loan charge-offs

at just 0.05%, which signifies strong loan portfolios. The non-current percentage of total loans at 0.66% for Iowa banks shows financial stability in the state, lower than the nation's 0.96%.

Total assets remain stable for Iowa banks this quarter at \$129 billion, a slight increase from \$128.9 billion in the first quarter. Second quarter total assets were 2.9% higher than the same period in 2024.

Iowa banks had \$725 million in net income through the second quarter. The competitive interest rate environment continues to have an impact on net interest margins, especially in Iowa, where there are more banks per capita than most states in the nation. The average return on assets (ROA), an overall indicator of bank performance, at Iowa banks was 1.13% in the second quarter, an increase from 0.97% in the second quarter 2024.

National Banking Results

The FDIC said Tuesday that the banking industry continued to show ongoing strength through the second quarter. The FDIC reported "the industry still faces weakness in certain loan portfolios, economic uncertainty, and elevated unrealized losses."



Total deposits in the second quarter were \$19.7 trillion, a slight increase from first quarter and a 4.4% increase from second quarter 2024. Domestic deposits increased for the fourth consecutive quarter. Community banks saw a \$1.8 billion increase in domestic deposits this quarter, with half reporting an increase in deposit balances.

The nation's banks had loan growth of 2.1% from the prior quarter to \$13.1 trillion. The FDIC reported, "The banking industry continued to have strong capital and liquidity levels, which support lending and protect against potential losses." Community banks reported broad-based loan growth again this quarter, increasing by 1.7% from the prior quarter, with the strongest growth in nonfarm, nonresidential commercial real estate loans.

Asset quality metrics remain favorable, but the industry continues to see deterioration due to

commercial real estate loans and credit card portfolios. Total assets were \$25 trillion in the second quarter, a 4.4% increase from last year's second quarter total, and a 1.8% increase from the prior quarter. Likewise, community banks saw growth in total assets from the previous year and prior quarter.

Total net income decreased from the prior quarter, largely due to an increase in provision expenses, mostly attributed to the Capital One Financial Corporation acquisition of Discover Financial Services. Outside of this provision expense increase, net income would have increased in the second quarter. Community banks reported an increase in net income to \$7.6 billion, up 12.5% from the prior quarter.

The number of banks on the FDIC's "Problem Bank List" decreased by four to 59 banks in the second quarter. Only 1.3% of total banks are considered "problem banks" which is with-

in the normal range. There was one bank failure in the second quarter.

Notably in the second quarter, the Deposit Insurance Fund (DIF) balance reached \$145.3 billion, and the DIF reserve ratio — the fund balance relative to insured deposits — increased by 5 basis points to 1.36%. The FDIC is no longer operating under a Restoration Plan as the DIF reserve ratio reached the statutory minimum of 1.35% three years before the statutory deadline.

About the Iowa Bankers Association

The Iowa Bankers Association represents Iowa banks and savings institutions. Iowa bankers are committed to the values of honesty, hard work and community service, and have been a trusted resource for Iowans for more than 135 years. Iowa banks offer FDIC insurance and lend over \$89 billion to help individuals, business owners and agriculture. Nearly 40,000 Iowans work at an Iowa bank, and bank employees volunteer more than 300,000 hours to support local communities each year. To learn more, visit www.iowabankers.com.

BAPTIST
Faith Baptist
Lead Pastor: Robert Anderstrom
Associate Pastor of Family Life: Dustin Byrnes
 Address: 1701 Central Ave E., PO Box 515, Hampton, IA 50441
 Telephone: 641-456-4887
 Website: faith-hampton.com
 Facebook: FBC-Hampton
 • Wednesday, September 3, 8:30 a.m. Men's Prayer
 • Sunday, September 7, 9:30 a.m. Worship Service with Communion; 9:45 a.m. **Kingdom Kids starts**; 11 a.m. Sunday School Class
 • Tuesday, September 9, 9:30 a.m. Women's Prayer
 • Wednesday, September 10, 8:30 a.m. Men's Prayer; 7 p.m. **Mentor Group Kick-Off at Aalbers'**

CATHOLIC
St. Mary's Catholic
 611 Sherman Ave., Ackley
Fr. Kevin Earleywine, Priest
 • Sunday, 8 a.m.

St. Patrick's Catholic
 1405 N. Federal St., Hampton
Fr. Kevin Earleywine, Priest
 Tuesdays 8:30 AM
 Thursdays 5:30 PM with Adoration at 6:00 PM
 Sunday 10:30 AM English
 5:30 PM Spanish

CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)
First Christian Church
 605 Fourth St. NE, Hampton
 • Sunday, August 24, 10:30 a.m. Worship Service; 11:30 a.m. Celebration Lunch; Last Sunday for **First Christian Church**

LATTER DAY SAINTS
The Church of Jesus Christ Of Latter Day Saints
 Hampton / Miguel Sosa Garcia, Branch President
 • Sunday, April 6, 10:30 a.m. Worship Service; Food Pantry Sunday

LUTHERAN
Our Savior's Lutheran
 121 Prospect, Ackley
 • Sundays, 9 a.m. Sunday School; 10 a.m. Divine Service (Communion 2nd, 4th, 5th); 11 a.m. Fellowship
 • Tuesdays, 4 p.m. Tuesday School

Richland Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELS/WELS)
 300 Elm St., Thornton
 952-607-1293
Pastor Caleb Helmen
 • February - July 8:30 a.m. church and 9:30 a.m. Sunday School.
 • August - January 10:30 a.m. Church and 9:30 a.m. Sunday School.
 • Bible class Tuesday 10:00 a.m. September through May.

St. John's Lutheran
 1207 Indigo Ave., Hampton
 • 11 a.m. Worship - 2nd and 4th Sundays

Zion St. John Lutheran
Sheffield
 422 Sherman St, Sheffield, IA 50475
 • Thursday, September 4, 2 p.m. West Fork Food Pantry
 • Sunday, September 7, 9 a.m.

Worship Service; 10:15 a.m. Fellowship

St. Paul Lutheran Church
 17 Second St. NE, Hampton
Caitlyn Tauro
 Sunday Worship: 9:00 am.
 Sunday School 10:15 am
 Adult Sunday School 10:15 am

St. Paul's Lutheran
 304 W Main, Latimer
Reverend Joel Peter Wagner
 • Sunday, September 7, 9 a.m. Divine Service; 10:15 a.m. 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
Vicar - Jacob Stefanec, Rev. Karl C. Bollhagen, Pastor
 • Sunday, September 7, 8:30 a.m. Worship Service with Holy Communion; 9:45 a.m. Sunday School & Adult Bible Study
 • Sunday Radio Broadcasts: 7:30 a.m. Lutheran Hour on KLMJ, 104.9 FM; 10:15 a.m. Radio Worship Broadcast on KLMJ, 104.9 FM

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church - Vilmor
Rev. Tamara J. K. Keen, Pastor
 • Sunday, September 7, 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
 • Sunday, September 7, 9 a.m. Worship Service

METHODIST
Ackley United Methodist
 416 Hardin St., Ackley
Pastor Calvin Scholte
 • Sundays, 9-9:45 a.m., Sunday School; 10 a.m. Worship Service

First United Methodist
 510 Thompson St., Sheffield
Pastor Pastor Wendy Johannessen
 • 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
Pastor Dennis Burns
 • Thursday, September 4, 9:30 a.m. BeFriends
 • Saturday, September 6, 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. **CleanUp Closet**; 5 p.m. Worship Service with Communion
 • Sunday, September 7, 9:30 a.m. Adults Bible Study; 11 a.m. Worship Service with Communion; 11:30 a.m. Radio Broadcast on KLMJ, 104.9 FM; 12 p.m. Fellowship; 12:30 p.m. Facebook Broadcast
 • Monday, September 8, 1:30 p.m. God's FLOCK
 • Tuesday, September 9, 1:30 p.m. Faithful Stitches
 • Wednesday, September 10, 5:30 p.m. Wacky Wednesday & Confirmation Class

West Fork United Methodist
 2200 Tulip Ave., Sheffield
Pastor Wendy Johannessen

New Hope United Methodist Parish: Aredale, Bristow, Dumont
Pastor Dennis Burns
 • 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
Rev. Judy Eilderts
 • 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
Pastor Brian Rihner
 www.clwhampton.org
 • Sundays, 10 a.m. Worship
 • Sunday: 9AM - Adult Sunday school
 • Wednesday: 5:30PM - PK - Grade 6 WOW! and Adult Bible Study, 6:30PM: MS & HS Youth, 7:00PM - Adult Bible Study.
 • Wee Ones Christian Preschool: Mon., Tues., Thurs.; Mary Mollenbeck, Director, 641-456-8471

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
Pastor Doug Holmes
 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
Pastor Joe Peter
 • Sundays, 9:30 a.m. Morning Café; 10:15 a.m. Worship Gathering

Sixth Street Church of Christ (Acapella)
 909 Sixth St. SW, Hampton
Minister Jim Zacharias
 • Sundays, 9:30 a.m. Sunday School; 10:30 a.m. Worship; 4:30 p.m. Worship
 • Wednesdays, 4:30 p.m. Bible Study

PRESBYTERIAN
Aplington Evangelical Presbyterian Church
 917 Howard St., Aplington
Rev. Michael McLane
 • Sundays, 9:30 a.m. Worship Service with fellowship following services

REFORMED

Dumont Reformed
 912 Third St., Dumont
Pastor Chris Meester

•Sundays, 9 a.m. Sunday School; 10 a.m. Worship (nursery care provided each week)
 • First Monday of the month, 1 p.m. Reformed Church Women (RCW)
 • Wednesdays, 7 p.m. RCYF (High School youth group from 8-12 grade)
 • All times and schedules are subject to change due to pandemic. 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
Rev. Petri van Rooyen, Pastor
 Office Hours: M,W, Th: 8-Noon * Bad Weather KLMJ*
 • Wednesday, September 3, 7 p.m. **Hope Circle**
 • Thursday, September 4, 7 p.m. **Journey Circle**
 • Sunday, September 7, 9:15 a.m. Worship Service with Justin Schulz
 • Monday, September 8, 1:30 p.m. **Vesper Circle**
 • Wednesday, September 10, 9 a.m. **Sunrise Circle**

Hampton Seventh Day Adventist Church
 605 4th St. NE, Hampton
Pastor Steven Shafer
 Phone: 641-424-3055
 Email: SDAHamptonIA@gmail.com
 • Sunday, June 1, 9:15 a.m. Sunday School; 10:30 a.m. Worship Service with Communion

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
First Congregational U.C.C.
 22 First Ave. SW, Hampton
 (641) 456-2192
Pastor Karen Koenig and Pastor Peggy Allison
 • Wednesday, September 3, **Pastor Peggy** will provide morning worship at **Leahy Grove Assisted Living**
 • Sunday, September 7, 9:15 a.m. Sunday School; 10:30 a.m. Worship Service with Communion

Immanuel U.C.C.
 204 E. South St., Latimer
Pastor Joe Dunnwald
 • Sunday, September 7, 9:30 a.m. Worship Service

St. Peter's United Church Of Christ - Geneva
 496 Raven Ave # B, Geneva, IA 50633
 • Sunday, September 7, 9:30 a.m. Worship Service

Death Notices

Russell Menning

Russell Menning, 91, of Mason City, passed away on Tuesday, August 26, 2025 at MercyOne North Iowa Medical Center in Mason City. A private family service will be held with burial in the Hampton Cemetery. Funeral arrangements are under the guidance of the Sietsema-Atkinson Funeral Home in Hampton.



34 people attended Jaws 50th Anniversary last weekend. Two more sightings planned starting at 7pm on Wednesday and Thursday.

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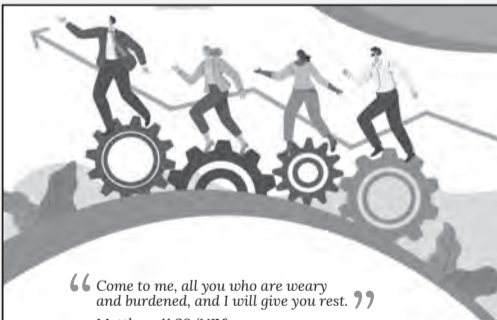
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“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.”
 Matthew 11:28 (NIV)

Behind Our Labor

As the Labor Day weekend passes and we fall into a new month's rhythm and routine, now is a great time to reflect on our work. We all may have differing feelings about our careers or current jobs, and we also may have differing qualifications for what work is suitable for us, considering our abilities. Beyond this, some may look for jobs that align with their beliefs, personally and/or spiritually. Important reflections, then, can focus on whether we are happy with our current careers, whether our current careers align with us spiritually and personally, and whether we are spending too much time worrying over various aspects of our work life. We should also put a strong focus on how we spend our time out of work. People tend to believe that their careers are something that nearly, or sometimes fully, define them. However, we must stray from this line of thinking if it is approached, as it only serves to undermine who we are. On our time off, reflections on and appreciation for our efforts throughout the work week can be beneficial. Additionally, allowing concerns related to this to escape your mind, if only for a bit, can be even more beneficial. We must rest from work at times, looking for clarity and a reconnection with ourselves. Ultimately, the result this brings is a renewed focus as we return to our work. Beyond the Labor Day weekend, celebrate those who put forth great effort in all their work and remind them to take time for rest and reflection.

-James Stone

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FROM THE LOG

Franklin County

Traffic: Marco Antonio Segura Ruiz, of Bloomington, Minnesota, no valid driver's license and speeding;

Joseph Gebeh, of Houston, Texas, speeding;

Mark Anthony Meyers, of Jewell, failure to maintain or use safety belts;

Jorden Sosa, of Latimer, failure to provide proof of financial liability;

Ryan Barton Stufflebeem, of Des Moines, speeding;

Zoey Terese Thompson, of Des Moines, operation without registration card or plate;

Angel Cesar Carro Alonso, of Des Moines, no valid driver's license;

Jose Bonifacio Zarate Jr., of Hampton, operating non-registered vehicle;

Donald James Fitzgerald, of Manson, speeding;

Sam Toga Davies, of Fargo, North Dakota, speeding;

Craig Vincent Lyons, of Dolton, Illinois, failure to comply with safety regulations rules;

Dominic Patrick Brown, of Kansas City, Kansas, speeding;

Benjamin John Albertson, of Stillwell, Kansas, speeding;

Madeline Elizabeth Hoffmann, of Golden, Colorado, speeding;

Nathan Thomas Mauer, of Cottage Grove, Minnesota, speeding;

Donald Lee Hanson, of Eldora, failure to comply with safety regulations rules;

Marcus Adam Kofoot, of Hampton, speeding;

Anthony Joseph Bogue, of Sheffield, speeding;

Jessica Marie Hoy, of Story City, speeding;

Shaun Patrick Walker, of Hampton, failure to license dog and immunizations required;

Civil: Jeffrey Scott Dole, of Hampton, versus Kimberly J Jobe, of Hampton, non jury order setting trial;

Nelsi Sarahi Vasquez Oliva, of Hampton, versus Gerson Adoni Zambrano Sanchez, petition filed;

Credit Corp Solutions INC versus Neal Johnson, non jury order setting trial;

OWI: Jayce Nickolas Reighard, of Alexander, order setting trial; order setting trial, October 9, 9 a.m.;

Jose Timoteo Hernandez Zapeta, of Osage, order setting trial; order setting trial, October 9, 9 a.m.;

Jose Raymundo Sanchez Landa, of Eldora, guilty plea;

Christopher Evan Cox, of Greene, order for arraignment; arraignment, September 15, 8:45 a.m.;

Gaspar Reyes Lopez, of Hampton, order for arraignment; arraignment, September 8, 9:30 a.m.;

Carlos Alberto Colorado, of Coulter, criminal complaint and hearing for initial appearance;

Small Claims: Midland Credit Management INC, of West Des Moines, versus Kelly Marie Carr, of Hampton, judgment default, \$617.93 fine;

Midland Credit Management INC, of West Des Moines, versus Alysa Weiss, of Hampton, order for judgment, \$644.80 fine;

Midland Credit Management INC, of West Des Moines, versus Krysta Marie Weinandy, of Hampton, judgment default, \$656.76 fine;

Midland Credit Management INC, of West Des Moines, versus Jody M Primrose, of Geneva, judgment default, \$2,611.91 fine;

Crown Asset Management LLC, of Golden Valley, Minnesota, versus Kristina Anne Marie Raisch, of Hampton, dismissed with prejudice;

LVNV Funding LLC, of Plymouth, Minnesota, versus Miranda Guerrero, of Hampton, judgment default, \$637.75 fine;

LVNV Funding LLC, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, versus Mandie Renee Pigman, of Latimer, order for judgment, \$2,508.93 fine;

LVNV Funding LLC, of Plymouth, Minnesota, versus Michelle D Myers, of Hampton, judgment default, \$1,066.14 fine and judgment default, \$1,066.81 fine;

First National Bank of Omaha, of Omaha, Nebraska, versus Trevor James Reysack, of Dumont, dismissed with prejudice;

Midland Credit Management INC, of West Des Moines, versus Lucas David Kramer, of Hansell, original notice;

Midland Credit Management INC, of West Des Moines, versus Ashley Baker, of Iowa Falls,

original notice;

Portfolio Recovery Associates LLC, of Golden Valley, Minnesota, versus Mark A Eastman, of Hampton, original notice;

Criminal: Carlos Elias Carrillo, of Iowa Falls, order setting trial; order setting trial, October 9, 9 a.m.;

Gregory Ray Eyanson, of Alexander, order of disposition; pled guilty for driving while barred, serving 30 days jail time and \$855 fine, \$855 fine suspended;

Lucino Marin Castillo, of Hampton, order of disposition; pled guilty for assault with intent to commit sexual abuse, serving 12 years prison time, \$855 fine, \$855 fine suspended, and no contact order;

Mason Eugene Oberender, of Galt, motion to dismiss;

Nicholas Franklin Passehl, of Fort Dodge, order setting trial; order setting trial, October 21, 9 a.m.;

Jerry Wilbert Passehl, of Latimer, order setting trial; order setting trial, October 21, 9 a.m.;

Sarina Jenny Burgin, of Mason City, order setting trial; order setting trial, October 21, 9 a.m.;

Jeffrey Nicholas Duane Kiefer, of Belmond, order for arraignment; arraignment, September 4, 1 p.m.;

Gregory Ray Eyanson, of Alexander, motion to dismiss;

Darell Dean Kammrad, of Sheffield, criminal complaint;

Jose Enrique Juarez Tepaz, of Dows, criminal complaint;

Blake Michael Walrod, of Hutchinson, Minnesota, order of dismissal;

Ansel Gabriel Ramirez, of Hampton, order for arraignment; arraignment, September 15, 8:45 a.m.;

Jeffrey William Hein, of Rochester, Minnesota, order for arraignment; arraignment, September 15, 8:45 a.m.;

Rafael Partida, of Coulter, search warrant;

Richard Grote, of Hampton, order for judgment, \$150 fine

Police &

Sheriff report

8-25 to 8-28

Hampton Police Reports

Monday, August 25:

• Officers received one general call.

• 7:53 a.m.: Report of a nuisance/junk ordinance violation in the 200 block of 2nd St. SE, Hampton.

• 8:46 a.m.: Report of a parking ordinance violation in the 100 block of 12th Ave NW, Hampton.

• 9:42 a.m.: Report of animals (except dogs) in the 900 block of 1st Ave SE, Hampton.

• 10:25 a.m.: Report of animals (except dogs) in the 800 block of 2nd Ave SE, Hampton.

• 3:30 p.m.: Report of a hit and run accident in the area of the Hampton-Dumont High School, Hampton.

• 3:57 p.m.: Report of a missing person in the area of the Northside School, Hampton.

• 5:11 p.m.: Report of neighborhood complaints in the 1300 block of N Federal St. , Hampton.

• 7:25 p.m.: Report of a parking ordinance violation in the 10 block of 1st St. NW, Hampton.

• 9:25 p.m.: Report of a suspicious vehicle in the area of the Hampton Middle School, Hampton.

Tuesday, August 26:

• Officers executed one traffic stop, assisted one motorist, and received two general calls.

• 2:33 a.m.: Officers responded to an alarm in the 1600 block of 4th St. NE, Hampton.

• 3:30 a.m.: Report of a parking ordinance violation in the 100 block of 2nd St. NW, Hampton.

• 8:26 a.m.: Report of animals (except dogs) in the 700 block of 7th Ave NE, Hampton.

• 10:23 a.m.: Report of found articles near the Cemetery, Hampton.

• 1:41 p.m.: Report of harass-

ment in an unknown area, Hampton.

• 9:28 p.m.: Report of traffic complaints in the 900 block of Glendale Park Dr, Hampton.

Wednesday, August 27:

• Officers executed one traffic stop and assisted with three medical calls.

• 8:14 a.m.: Report of false 911 calls in the 900 block of Glendale Park Dr, Hampton.

• 2:16 p.m.: Report of a nuisance/junk ordinance violation in the 10 block of Shar Denn Dr, Hampton.

• 3:11 p.m.: Report of dog calls in the 100 block of 7th St. NW, Hampton.

• 3:49 p.m.: Report of false pretense/swindle in the 100 block of 1st St. NW , Hampton.

• 5:30 p.m.: Report of a domestic matter in the 900 block of 4th St. NW, Hampton.

• 8:40 p.m.: Report of juveniles in the 700 block of 8th St. SW, Hampton.

• 10:00 p.m.: Report of harassment in the area of Kwik Star, Hampton.

Thursday, August 28:

• Officers executed one traffic stop and assisted with two medical calls.

• 6:54 a.m.: Report of vandalism in the 700 block of Central Ave W, Hampton.

• 9:19 a.m.: Report of a bikes/skates/skateboards issue in the 10 block of 3rd St. SW, Hampton.

• 10:02 a.m.: Report of theft/larceny in the 500 block of S Federal St. , Hampton.

• 10:31 a.m.: Report of a child abuse complaint in the 700 block of 8th Ave SW, Hampton.

• 10:36 a.m.: Report of a nuisance/junk ordinance violation in the 400 block of 7th St. SW, Hampton.

• 10:38 a.m.: Report of a nuisance/junk ordinance violation in the 200 block of S Federal St. , Hampton.

• 11:05 a.m.: Report of a parking ordinance violation in the 200 block of 4th St. SE, Hampton.

• 1:14 p.m.: Officers conducted a welfare check in the 300 block of Central Ave W, Hampton.

• 1:16 p.m.: Officers assisted with traffic control services in the 400 block of 3rd St. NW, Hampton.

Franklin County Sheriff Reports

Monday, August 25:

• Officers executed two traffic stops, received a report for two controlled burns, and received one general call.

• 12:44 p.m.: Officers executed a search warrant in an unlisted area, Coulter.

• 7:10 a.m.: Officers assisted with prisoner transport in the 1100 block of 14th Ave, Eldora.

• 7:41 a.m.: Report of debris on roadway/right of way in the area of Hwy 3 and Mallard Ave, Hampton.

• 9:35 a.m.: Report of traffic complaints in the area of I-35 northbound and mile mark 149, Williams.

• 10:17 a.m.: Report of a disabled vehicle in the area of I-35 and mile mark 160 northbound, Dows.

• 12:13 p.m.: Report of a vehicle off roadway in the area of Hwy 3 and Hwy 65, Hampton.

• 3:09 p.m.: Report of a dispatch call in the area of I-35 and mile mark 165 southbound, Latimer.

• 3:17 p.m.: Officers executed local warrants in an unlisted area, Hampton.

• 4:23 p.m.: Report of a suspicious person in the area of Wright Ave, Alexander.

• 5:37 p.m.: Report of an accident with personal injury in the area of 250th St. and I-35, Meservey.

• 6:40 p.m.: Report of traffic complaints in the area of Vine Ave, Ackley.

• 6:57 p.m.: Report of traffic complaints in the area of I-35 and mile mark 176 southbound, Meservey.

• 7:12 p.m.: Report of a suspicious person in the area of the city park, Sheffield.

• 7:54 p.m.: Report of dog calls in the area of Finch Ave, Dows.

Tuesday, August 26:

• Officers executed three traffic stops, assisted two motorists, received a report for four controlled burns, and received two general calls.

• 1:00 a.m.: Officers executed local warrants in an unlisted area of Cerro Gordo County, Mason City.

• 1:07 a.m.: Officers assisted with prisoner transport in an unlisted area of Hardin County, Eldora.

• 4:53 a.m.: Report of a dispatch call in the area of I-35 and mile mark 157 northbound, Dows.

• 10:05 a.m.: Officers assisted with prisoner transport in the 1100 block of 14th Ave, Eldora.

• 12:45 p.m.: Officers responded to an alarm in the area of 2nd St. , Sheffield.

• 1:16 p.m.: Report of theft/larceny in the area of 65th St. , Hampton.

• 2:32 p.m.: Report of false 911 calls in the area of Main St. , Coulter.

• 3:18 p.m.: Report of traffic complaints in the area of Gilman St. , Sheffield.

Wednesday, August 27:

• Officers executed three traffic stops, assisted with one medical call, assisted three motorists, received a report for one controlled burn, and received one general call.

• 12:07 p.m.: Officers conducted a welfare check in the area of Raven Ave, Sheffield.

• 3:03 p.m.: Report of a dispatch call in the area of Dows Williams Rd, Dows.

• 3:32 p.m.: Report of a no contact order violation in the area of 210th St. , Latimer.

• 5:24 p.m.: Report of a dispatch call in the area of I-35 and mile mark 169 northbound, Latimer.

• 8:01 p.m.: Report of civil disputes in the area of Grant St. , Coulter.

• 9:27 p.m.: Report of traffic complaints in the area of Vine Ave, Ackley.

Thursday, August 28:

• Officers executed two traffic stops, assisted with one medical call, assisted two motorists, received a report for three controlled burns, and received six general calls.

• 6:17 a.m.: Report of a missing person in the area of Akir St. , Latimer.

• 1:45 p.m.: Officers executed local warrants in an unlisted area, Fort Dodge.

• 2:03 p.m.: Officers assisted with prisoner transport in the area of 1st Ave S, Fort Dodge.

• 2:10 p.m.: Report of a vehicle off roadway in the area of Hwy 3, Hampton.

• 2:20 p.m.: Report of traffic complaints in the area of Hwy 3 and Wright Ave, Franklin County.

• 3:14 p.m.: Officers executed local warrants in the area of 1st Ave NW, Hampton.

• 4:01 p.m.: Report of dog calls in the area of 130th St. , Coulter.

• 7:14 p.m.: Officers assisted with booking information in the area of 5th St. SW, Hampton.

• 7:16 p.m.: Officers assisted with booking information in the area of 5th St. SW, Hampton.

• 7:31 p.m.: Report of a deer accident in the 1000 block of 190th St. , Latimer.

• 8:58 p.m.: Officers assisted with booking information in the area of 5th St. SW, Hampton.

Butler County Sheriff Reports

Monday, August 25:

Officers executed nine traffic stops, assisted with three medical calls, and assisted six motorists.

12:00 a.m.: Justus Keith Van Dyne, 29 of Mitchellville, arrested for failure to appear, jailed

3:33 a.m.: Report of a parking complaint in the 00 block of Rd St.

5:00 a.m.: Report of maintenance in the 700 block of 10th St.

5:51 a.m.: Report of a phone scam in the 200 block of N Elizabeth St.

6:50 a.m.: Report of a test in the 400 block of 6th St.

8:38 a.m.: Report of a road closed in the area of Hwy 188 and Terrace Ave.

8:42 a.m.: Report of a road closed in the area of 130th St and Ridge Ave.

9:35 a.m.: Officers conducted an arrest warrant in the 400 block of 6th St.

9:44 a.m.: Report of weapon permit issue in the 400 block of 6th St.

9:45 a.m.: Report of a weapon permit issue in the 400 block of 6th St.

9:52 a.m.: Report of a sex offender registry issue in the 400 block of 6th St.

10:03 a.m.: Report of return calls/follow-ups in the 11200 block of Hwy 3.

10:15 a.m.: Report of transport in the 300 block of Old School Rd.

10:23 a.m.: Report of a media request in the 400 block of 6th St.

11:47 a.m.: Report of jail inquiries in the 400 block of 6th St.

1:33 p.m.: Report of dog/deer/livestock in the 31400 block of Diagonal Rd.

1:57 p.m.: Report of return calls/follow-ups in the 00 block of 1st Ave NW STE 203.

2:19 p.m.: Report of jail inquiries in the 400 block of 6th St.

5:49 p.m.: Report of return calls/follow-ups in the 28300 block of 110th St.

6:19 p.m.: Report of return calls/follow-ups in the 100 block of W Adair St.

7:22 p.m.: Alex Daniel Bieneemann, 25 of Plainfield, arrested on a court ordered hold, jailed.

8:13 p.m.: Report of return calls/follow-ups in the 300 block of Colfax St.

8:48 p.m.: Officers conducted an arrest warrant in the 400 block of Coates St.

8:56 p.m.: Report of dog/deer/livestock in the 26200 block of Range Rd.

10:06 p.m.: Charles James Minch, 45 of Parkerburg, arrested for assault with bodily injury, jailed.

Tuesday, August 26:

Officers executed 11 traffic stops, assisted with two medical calls, assisted one motorist, received a report for one controlled burn, and received five general calls.

1:12 a.m.: Report of noise complaints in the 100 block of Saratoga St.

6:43 a.m.: Report of jail inquiries in the 400 block of 6th St.

7:59 a.m.: Report of a domestic/family matter in the 200 block of N 1st St.

8:42 a.m.: David Arthur Dinsdale, 78 of New Hartford, arrested on an OWI-1st offense, jailed.

9:14 a.m.: Report of a parking complaint in the 600 block of 1st St.

9:52 a.m.: Report of return calls/follow-ups in the 1100 block

of Hwy 57.

10:02 a.m.: Report of probation calls in the 400 block of 6th St.

10:04 a.m.: Officers conducted an arrest warrant in the 400 block of 6th St.

10:38 a.m.: Report of a weapon permit issue in the 200 block of N 3rd St.

10:49 a.m.: Report of a sex offender registry issue in the 25100 block of Butler Center Rd.

10:55 a.m.: April Louis Simkins, 46 of Parkersburg, arrested for sontemp-violation no contact order, jailed.

11:00 a.m.: Report of a sex offender registry issue in the 600 block of Pine St.

11:22 a.m.: Report of return calls/follow-ups in the 25200 block of Hwy 3.

11:26 a.m.: Report of transport in the 400 block of 6th St.

11:52 a.m.: Officers conducted a vehicle inspection in the 31400 block of Cedar Ave.

1:33 p.m.: Report of a fire alarm in the 900 block of 3rd St.

1:37 p.m.: Report of a weapon permit issue in the 1200 block of Parriott St.

2:37 p.m.: Report of property damage in the 1400 block of Main St.

7:54 p.m.: Report of vandalism/criminal/mischief in the 33000 block of Hwy 57.

Wednesday, August 27:

Officers executed 10 traffic stops, assisted with one medical call, assisted four motorists, received a report for one controlled burn, and received three general calls.

12:32 a.m.: Report of office personnel calls in the 400 block of 6th St.

2:46 a.m.: Officer conducted a business door check in the 600 block of N Johnson St.

7:07 a.m.: Report of maintenance in the 300 block of Packwaukee St.

FROM THE LOG

stops, assisted with four medical calls, assisted two motorists, received a report for four controlled burns, and received four general calls.

6:57 a.m.: Report of dog/deer/livestock in the 600 block of Hwy 57.

8:04 a.m.: Report of a suspicious vehicle/person/activity in the a100 block of W Grove St.

9:35 a.m.: Report of fraud/identity theft in the 1000 block of

Hwy 57.

10:30 a.m.: Report of civil department requests in the 600 block of 1st St.

10:35 a.m.: Report of civil department requests in the 500 block of Elm St.

10:40 a.m.: Report of civil department requests in the 600 block of Main St.

10:45 a.m.: Report of civil department requests in the 200 block of 1st St.

12:41 p.m.: Report of civil department requests in the 200 block of Locust St.

1:15 p.m.: Report of dog/deer/livestock in the area of Butler Center Rd and Terrace Ave.

2:45 p.m.: Report of civil department requests in the 1200 block of Florence St.

3:57 p.m.: Report of dog/deer/livestock in the 28300 block of Hwy 188.

7:03 p.m.: Report of civil de-

partment requests in the 800 block of Elm St.

7:11 p.m.: Report of civil department requests in the 500 block of Elm St.

7:13 p.m.: Report of civil department requests in the 600 block of Main St.

7:28 p.m.: Report of civil department requests in the 200 block of 1st St.

8:15 p.m.: Officers conducted an arrest warrant in the

18900 block of 140th St.

Friday, August 29:

Officers executed... traffic stops, assisted with... medical calls, assisted... motorists, received a report for... controlled burns and received... general calls.

Saturday, August 30:

Officers executed... traffic stops, assisted with... medical

calls, assisted... motorists, received a report for... controlled burns and received... general calls.

Sunday, August 31:

Officers executed... traffic stops, assisted with... medical calls, assisted... motorists, received a report for... controlled burns and received... general calls.

PROPERTY TRANSFERS

Warranty Deed: Jon Green, Renee Roiseland to Michael Toomsen; 23-91-20 W2 SE Tract, 23-91-20 SE SW Part, 23-91-20 SE Lot 8 Part, 23-91-20 SE Lot 12 Part, 23-91-20 SE Lot 13 Part

Warranty Deed: Grijalva Miguel A Gomez, Miguel A Go-

mez Grijalva, Isabel Cristina Gomez to Elizabeth Zamora Duarte; Lati Latimer Harri-

Miscellaneous Deed: Mark Reuter, Karen Reuter to Karen K Reuter Trustee, Mark A Reuter Trustee, Reuter Family Revocable Trust; 1-90-20 SE NE

Parts, 6-90-19 NW Part

Warranty Deed: Kingmin International Holdings Corporation LLC to Aman Rich Investments Corporation; 5-91-20 NE Part

Sheriff's Deed: Aaron Dodd Sheriff, Maria Alicia Abrego Merino, Maria Alicia Merino

Abrego, Franklin County Sheriff, Iowa Finance Authority to 5 Star Investments LLC; Hamp Terrace Hill Lot 23

Warranty Deed: Ryan D Tripp to Matthew Tripp, Brent Tripp; 30-91-21 E2 W2 Part

Warranty Deed: Ryan D Tripp to Tri B Farms LLC; 19-91-21

SW Parcel A & B Part

Warranty Deed: Ryan D Card, Kelsey J Card to William J Soesbe III, Tara L Soesbe; 29-92-20 Tract

Change of Title: Eugene H Jorgensen Estate to Mardell M Jorgensen; 30-92-21 NE Part, Lati Latimer Hillcrest Lot 8-9 Parts

Parts

Warranty Deed: Mardell M Jorgensen by Attorney In Fact, Darla Griffiths Attorney In Fact to Edmund C Brinkman, Jennifer J Brinkman; 30-92-21 NE Part, Lati Latimer Hillcrest Lot 8-9 Parts

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Betty Majja, 53, Hampton, to Kyle Graney, 50, Hampton. Ann Ecklor, 21, Sheffield, to Landyn Larson, 24, Sheffield.

Jackson Wohlford, 20, Geneva, to Sydney Lyman, 20, Geneva. Caleb Bartling, 26, Iowa Falls, to Gianna Giourley, 26, Iowa Falls.

Hampton v. Schoon

IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY CITY OF HAMPTON, IOWA, a municipal corporation, VS.

Petitioner, No.: EQCV502255

RONALD SCHOON; DIANE SCHOON A/K/A DIANA SCHOON; UNNAMED HEIRS OF RONALD LEE SCHOON; PARTIES IN POSSESSION; NEWLINE HOLDINGS, LLC SERIES 2; HARVEY HOLDINGS, LLC; FRANKLIN COUNTY, IOWA, TREASURER;

Respondents.

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDENTS: ORIGINAL NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

You are notified that a petition has been filed in the office of the clerk of this court naming you as the defendant in this action, which petition prays that the court award title to the real estate legally described as: LOT NINE (9), BLOCK THIRTY-ONE (31), BEED'S SECOND ADDITION TO HAMPTON, FRANKLIN COUNTY, IOWA (locally known as 416 1st Street Southwest, Hampton, Iowa) to the Plaintiff free and clear of all other parties right, title, interest, and claims in said real property. The name and address of the attorney for the Plaintiff is Taylor Nederhoff, 412 Washington Avenue, Iowa Falls, Iowa 50126. The attorney's phone number is 641-648-5083; facsimile number is 641-648-5085.

You must serve a motion or answer on or before the 24th day of September, 2025, and within a reasonable time thereafter, file your motion or answer with the Clerk of Court for Franklin County, at the county courthouse in Hampton, Iowa 50441. If you do not, judgment by default may be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the petition.

If you require the assistance of auxiliary aids or services to participate in court because of a disability, immediately call your district ADA coordinator (641) 421-0990. (If you are hearing impaired call Relay Iowa TTY (800) 735-2943).

IMPORTANT: YOU ARE ADVISED TO SEEK LEGAL ADVICE AT ONCE TO PROTECT YOUR INTERESTS.

You must file your Appearance and Answer on the Iowa Judicial Branch eFile System, unless the attached Petition and Original Notice contains a hearing date for your appearance, or unless the court has excused you from filing electronically (see Iowa Court Rule 16.302).

Register for the eFile System at www.iowacourts.state.ia.us/Efile to file and view documents in your case and to receive notices from the court.

For general rules and information on electronic filing, refer to the Iowa Rules of Electronic Procedure in chapter 16 of the Iowa Court Rules at www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/ACO/CourtRules Chapter/16.pdf.

Court filings are public documents and may contain personal information that should always be kept confidential. For the rules on protecting personal information, refer to Division VI of chapter 16 of the Iowa Court Rules and to the Iowa Judicial Branch website at www.iowacourts.gov/for-the-public/representing-yourself/protect-personal-information/.

Scheduled Hearing:

If you need assistance to participate in court due to a disability, call the disability access coordinator at (515) 576-6336. Persons who are hearing or speech impaired may call Relay Iowa TTY (1-800-735-2942). For more information, see www.iowacourts.gov/for-the-public/ada/. Disability access coordinators cannot provide legal advice.

Date Issued 08/12/2025 08:31 AM FRANKLIN COUNTY CLERK OF COURT

Published in the Hampton Chronicle on August 20, 27, September 3, 2025

Public Notice: Alliant Energy

PUBLIC NOTICE

A HEARING OF THE Franklin County Board of Adjustment will be held on Monday, September 15, 2025 at 1:00 P.M. at the Franklin County Law Enforcement Center (105 5 th St. SW in Hampton, Iowa to consider a Conditional Use Permit:

A 40 MW/1600 MWh AC-COUPLED BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM (BESS). The proposed Whispering Willow North Battery Energy Storage System would have up to 60 megawatts of battery energy storage capacity, that would be a containerized battery system. The BESS system would feature auxiliary power equipment, controls and communications equipment, and would utilize the existing wind collector substation

Sec 23 - T-92-N - R-22-W NW NW

Applicant: Amanda Kesler with Alliant Energy

Published in the Hampton Chronicle on September 3, 2025

Whipple Estate

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR FRANKLIN COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF

RONALD A. WHIPPLE, Deceased CASE NO. ESPR502050

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATOR AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of Ronald A. Whipple, Deceased, who died on or about July 2, 2025: You are hereby notified that on August 15, 2025, the undersigned was appointed administrator of the estate.

Notice is hereby given that all persons indebted to the estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned, and creditors having claims against the estate shall file them with the clerk of the above-named district court, as provided by law, duly authenticated, for allowance, and unless so filed by the later to occur four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of the mailing of this notice (unless otherwise allowed or paid) a claim is thereafter forever barred.

Dated on August 15, 2025

/s/ Sandra Kay Whipple, Administrator of the Estate 120 3rd Ave NE Hampton, IA 50441

Randy D. Johansen, ICIS#: AT003864 Attorney for the Administrator Johansen Law Firm 1608 Oak Ct. Hampton, IA 50441

Published in the Hampton Chronicle on August 27, September 3, 2025

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IF A SON OR DAUGHTER LEAVES FOR COLLEGE, OR COMES BACK FOR A VISIT.

IF YOU'RE HAVING A PARTY.

IF YOU'RE CELEBRATING A WEDDING ANNIVERSARY.

IF YOU HAVE OUT-OF-TOWN GUESTS.

IF A SON OR DAUGHTER ENLISTS IN THE ARMED FORCES.

IF SOMEONE MOVES INTO YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD.

The Hampton Chronicle attempts to cover the news in Franklin county and adjoining areas as thoroughly as possible, and we appreciate it when you let us help you get the word out! We hope you'll let us know if you have news by emailing news@hamptonchronicle.com, or by calling or texting 317-443-3582

Hampton Class of 1975 Holds 50-Year Reunion



The Hampton High School class of 1975 held their 50-year class reunion on Saturday, August 23. Seated: L-R Jeff Marquard, Dawn Dixon Marquard, Teresa Staley Fox, MaryAnn Ferris Sudmeier, Karleen Greffe Gillen, Karen Ditch Van Blair, Deb Parks Sabin, Cheryl Muhlenbruch Robson, Sherry Abbas Sweiter, Jim Davies, Larry Gilchrist. Standing L-R Glen Burmester, Ric Parades, Bob Cunningham, Dan Allen, John Coonley, Tim Windelow, Tom Dagit, Paul Benning, Mark Ferris, Vernon Meinberg, Jeff Koch, Bob Harmon, Donna Humburg Cahill, Les Henderson, Judy Tonjes Rouse, Tami Schmitt, Louise Osteen Gilchrist, Jack Koenen, Barb Benge, Bryce Claypool, Mary Ann Yaw, Kurt Tapps, Tom Evans.

Nearly half of Iowa corn at the dent stage

BY CAMI KOONS
IOWA CAPITAL DISPATCH

Forty-five percent of Iowa corn acres have reached the dent stage and soybeans are just beginning to color, with nearly all, or 90%, of the crop already setting pods, according to the latest crop progress and condition report from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Corn and soybean crops are a day or two behind the five year average schedule on several progression stages. Corn in the dough stage reached 88% which is three days behind the average for the Aug. 18 through Aug. 24 reporting period.

Corn acres rated 84% good to excellent and soybean acres rated 79% good to excellent, a slight drop from the previous reporting period for both crops.

The report also noted disease pressure continued to rise in Iowa crops. Field agronomists with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach noted continued presence of southern corn rust and sudden death syndrome, along with a slew of other diseases and pests have been present across the state.

Oat harvest is nearly finished in the state at 97% completion, and nearly 80% of alfalfa hay acres have had a third cutting.

Crop phenological stages:

- Corn in dough stage: a thick or dough-like substance is present in all kernels.
- Corn in dent stage: all the kernels have dented, ear is firm and no milk is present in the kernels.
- Soybeans setting pods: pods are developing on lower portions of the plant, with some blooming still on top of plant.
- Soybeans coloring: pods begin to reach mature color.

Farmers had nearly 6 days suitable for field work this week and enjoyed high temperatures in the upper 70s and low 80s later in the week due to a cold front that pushed in.

“Farmers across Iowa enjoyed a welcome break from the rain last week along with cooler temperatures and less humidity,” Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Mike Naig said in a statement.

Naig said the cooler temperatures are forecast to hang around for the remainder of the month.

Despite the cool temperatures through the weekend, the average temperature for the reporting period was still 1.3 degrees above normal, according to State Climatologist Justin Glisan, who said temperatures were “unseasonably warm” for most of the period.

Ames logged the highest temperature for the week, which at 97 degrees Fahrenheit was 16 degrees above the normal.

Northeastern parts of the state had “unseasonably” high precipitation totals early in the week, with some areas logging as much as 6 inches of rain.

The average precipitation across the state was 0.87 inch, just slightly below the normal of 0.93 inch.

Read more from Cami Koons online at IowaCapitalIDispach.com

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Read more from Clark Kauffman online at IowaCapitalDispatch.com

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Corn and soybeans near Lake City in August, 2022. (Photo by Jared Strong/Iowa Capital Dispatch)

Agency says it denied access to records because it ‘didn’t expect’ to have them

BY CLARK KAUFFMAN
IOWA CAPITAL DISPATCH

The state agency that denied a request for inspection reports on a Cedar Rapids home health agency now says that denial was based on an incorrect assumption that it wouldn’t have any such records.

On July 9, the Iowa Capital Dispatch asked the Iowa Department of Inspections, Appeals and Licensing for a copy of a private accreditation agency’s inspection report for the home health agency Compassion North America.

Compassion came under scrutiny earlier this year after the Iowa Board of Nursing presented evidence of falsified records, billing for services that were never delivered, and the employment of an unlicensed nurse to provide patient care.

In response to the Capital Dispatch’s request for the documents, DIAL spokesperson Diane McCool said DIAL “does not receive” such records.

After the Capital Dispatch reported DIAL’s claim that it didn’t have the requested records, the Accreditation Commission for Health Care contacted the news organization and said that it had, in fact, provided DIAL with a copy of the documents via email on Sept. 16, 2024.

The Capital Dispatch asked DIAL again for the records. DIAL then acknowledged it had the documents but refused to release them, stating that it is not the “official” custodian of such documents.

Asked why the agency initially denied having the records, McCool said Thursday that “since the accrediting organizations are not required to send the survey reports to DIAL, the department didn’t expect that it would have the report.”

Her response didn’t indicate whether, after receiving the Capital Dispatch’s request for records, anyone at DIAL actually looked for the records or made any internal inquiries as to whether someone at DIAL might have them.

Because DIAL has never conducted its own inspection of Compassion North America, and because it won’t release its copy of the accrediting commission’s findings, there is no public record of any regulatory oversight of the home health provider, which was first incorporated in June 2017.

McCool has said DIAL is not investigating Compassion North America, despite the findings of the

Board of Nursing and its investigator that the company appeared to have falsified records, billed for services that were never delivered, and employed an unlicensed nurse to provide patient care.

Those allegations surfaced at a disciplinary hearing for registered nurse M’balu Madlene Kebbie, who is married to Compassion North America’s CEO, Joseph Lemor.

A state investigator who reviewed the work schedules of Compassion employees as part of a board investigation allegedly found that the license of one of the company’s nurses had expired in January 2021 but she had continued to provide patient care in June and July 2022.

In addition, a comparison of Compassion’s billing records with the staff work schedule allegedly showed the company had submitted payment claims for services for which there was no corresponding documentation to indicate the care was provided. There were also payment claims for services provided by a registered nurse that exceeded 24 hours in a single day, the state investigator testified.

According to the board, Kebbie had no explanation for the irregularities in the nursing documentation —

including instances where it appeared Compassion had billed Medicaid twice for some services.

Citing what it called Kebbie’s “lack of previous disciplinary history,” the board ruled that she could retain her Iowa nursing license subject to two years of probation. However, the board’s own records indicate that in 2012, it disciplined Kebbie for working as a nurse while her license was inactive.

Kebbie’s attorney has filed an appeal of the board’s recent decision in Polk County District Court, arguing the sanctions against her are “unreasonable, arbitrary, and excessive.” The state has denied any wrongdoing in the matter.

Lemor has said the state is engaged in a “witch hunt” with regard to Kebbie. “We did not do anything improper,” he told the Iowa Capital Dispatch last month. “We have nothing to hide.”

Read more from Clark Kauffman online at IowaCapitalDispatch.com

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Readers 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 Lane Kulish, age 5. He is the son of Annaka Ragsdale and Michael Kulish.

Lane enjoys all the Elephant & Piggie books by Mo Willems but his favorite one is Are You Ready To Play Outside.



Facing sex abuse charges, physician assistant challenges license suspension

Cedar Falls practitioner is charged with sexually abusing patients

BY CLARK KAUFFMAN
IOWA CAPITAL DISPATCH

A physician assistant facing multiple criminal charges alleging he sexually assaulted female patients is seeking a court review of his license suspension.

Late last year, the Iowa Board of Physician Assistants issued an emergency order suspending the license of James Haag, who was practicing occupational medicine at MercyOne's Bluebell Road Family Medicine in Cedar Falls.

In its order, the board cited Haag's "predatory actions towards his patients (that) constitute a threat to public health." The board alleged Haag "sexually assaulted multiple patients in his care" and that he posed "an immediate danger to the public health, safety and welfare." In April, the board concluded Haag's conduct warranted a three-year suspension of his license.

Haag was also criminally charged in connection with the alleged assaults, and is currently facing two counts of sexual abuse, two counts of assault with intent to commit sexual abuse, and three counts of simple assault. He has pleaded not guilty to the charges, and a trial is scheduled for Sept. 30, 2025.

With the criminal case still pending, Haag is now seeking judicial review of the licensing board's decision to suspend his license. Haag alleges that after the board suspended his license, he filed a request for a rehearing. The



The Iowa Department of Inspections, Appeals and Licensing took over responsibility for many of Iowa's licensing boards in July 2023. (Photo illustration via Getty Images; logo courtesy of the Iowa Department of Inspections, Appeals and Licensing)

board, he says, unfairly denied that request in June.

In his petition for judicial review, Haag alleges the board "ignored the facts" that were presented at his disciplinary hearing, "rendering the mandated due process illusory." The petition cites "inconsistencies and falsehoods/fabrications" within the board's final decision that he claims are not supported by the evidence.

The petition seeks a court order overruling and board's decision. Attorneys for the board have denied any wrongdoing and are currently seeking a dismissal of the petition.

Board: Haag touched 'vulnerable female patients'

Board records show that as part of his work at Bluebell Road Family Medicine, Haag performed job-related physicals for individuals who worked at a local business. The licensing board alleged that in July 2024, Haag examined four patients for purposes of their employment. In each case, the patients

were allegedly instructed to disrobe and Haag conducted the initial portion of the exams without the presence of a nurse or other observer.

During the course of each examination, the board alleges, Haag removed each patient's robe and "made physical contact" with the patients' genitals. In some instances, the board alleges, he used his hands, while in others he "pressed his fully clothed pelvic area into the patient's genitals or backside."

The board alleges Haag also made "inappropriate contact with multiple patients' breasts" during the course of their examinations. "In multiple instances, where the patients attempted to cover themselves, (Haag) swatted their hands away," the board alleges.

When a board investigator asked Haag about the allegations, the board says, Haag replied with one word: "Lies." He denied all of the allegations, including touching the women's breasts,

pushing their hands away when they tried to hold their gowns closed or retie their gowns and touching the women's vaginal area.

At the February 2025 hearing on the licensing board charges, Haag testified that he always requests a chaperone be in the room during a female hernia exam for his own "protection" since the procedure involves touching a woman's lower pelvic area.

Hearing testimony indicated that while a chaperone entered the room during the four women's physicals, it was typically after Haag had already performed the portion of the exam that was most concerning to the women. The board concluded that the four women were credible and consistent in their allegations.

As for Haag, the board said that "by his own admission, Haag spent several minutes alone in an exam room with female patients" prior to requesting a chaperone's presence.

"Haag used his position of power as a medical professional to inappropriately touch vulnerable female patients, patients that were required to undergo a physical in order to maintain employment," the board stated in its ruling.

Read more from Clark Kauffman online at IowaCapitalDispatch.com

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University employees in violation of anti-DEI laws should be fired, 2 lawmakers say

BY BROOKLYN DRAISEY
IOWA CAPITAL DISPATCH

Two GOP lawmakers at the state and federal level are calling on public university leaders to fire anyone found to have violated laws banning diversity, equity and inclusion in college classrooms and beyond.

U.S. Rep. Randy Feenstra and state Rep. Taylor Collins signed and sent a letter to the Iowa Board of Regents Friday, to be distributed to University of Iowa President Barbara Wilson, Iowa State University President Wendy Wintersteen and University of Northern Iowa President Mark Nook, to make sure DEI is dead on their campuses and fire anyone who claims otherwise.

"Last May, Governor (Kim) Reynolds signed legislation eliminating the DEI bureaucracies at our Regent Universities. In January of this year, President Trump signed an Executive Order ending DEI efforts in the federal government," the letter stated. "From Des Moines to Washington, D.C., clear messages have been sent to our institutions of higher education to end these radical programs."

The letter brought up specific instances of videos appearing to show UI employees talking about changes to DEI and ways that they're working around restrictions. At the time the UI announced it was launching "an immediate and comprehensive investigation" into the incidents and would take corrective action if necessary.

A video also surfaced involving the former director of the ISU Center for LGBTQIA+ Student Success discussing compliance with the law while finding loopholes to get around them. The university said in a statement there was no timestamp on the video, and judging by the discussion and where the video was shot, it was taken before universities were required by the board of regents to come under compliance with anti-DEI legislation.

Both the LGBTQ+ center and director position were eliminated in December 2024, according to the statement.

According to the letter sent by Feenstra and Collins, "currently many of these employees are on paid administrative leave, enjoying a taxpayer funded vacation." The UI did not respond Friday afternoon to questions about the status of investigations or whether employees are on leave.

Collins said in an interview earlier this month the UI had lost a lot of his and other lawmakers' trust after they learned of the incidents, and he told Wilson in a previous letter she needed to send a strong message that DEI is no longer welcome on campus.

"Clear and decisive action from each of you is the only way we can ensure that DEI is DOA in the State of Iowa," the Friday letter stated.

Read more from Brooklyn Draisey online at IowaCapitalDispatch.com

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Henry County challenges lawsuit that claims 'wild west justice' in sheriff's office

Family accuses sheriff's office of unlawful arrest, illegal search and assault

BY CLARK KAUFFMAN
IOWA CAPITAL DISPATCH

Henry County officials, accused of waging a campaign of "wild west justice" against a family, are seeking dismissal of a lawsuit alleging false arrest and malicious prosecution.

The family of Curtis and Lori Wagler are suing Sheriff Rich McNamee, Henry County Deputy Carlos Lopez, and the county in U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Iowa. They allege Lopez's conduct was "so clearly abusive and in violation of the law that he earned his way to being the sole member of the county's Brady-Giglio list" — a reference to the list of law enforcement officers known by prosecutors to have been untruthful in the course of their police work.

The lawsuit, filed in federal court, says the Waglers own a family lumber business called Outdoor Tradition. On April 21, 2023, Lopez and seven other police officers are alleged to have arrived at the Wagler home to execute a search warrant allowing them to seize financial records related to Outdoor Tradition. The couple and their 20-year-old son, Owen Wagler, were arrested on 10 felony counts each, the lawsuit claims, and Curtis Wagler allegedly was subjected to two body-cavity searches.

The Waglers were released later that day and returned home to find "their belongings were all over the floor," with closets "ripped out" and their house ransacked by police, the lawsuit claims. It also alleges that Lopez then

"commenced a smear campaign against the Waglers" and contacted the couple's customers claiming they were being scammed and defrauded. In early November 2023, the criminal case against the Waglers was dismissed by Henry County Attorney Darin Stater, the lawsuit states.

According to the lawsuit, Stater said in a letter tied to his decision to dismiss the case that "my office was left scrambling to determine the legitimacy of 30 felony charges without a single report or any type of notification that Deputy Lopez intended to take any of these actions ... After I informed Deputy Lopez that I didn't approve the theft charges, a press release was distributed by the Henry County Sheriff's Office stating that the Waglers had been arrested and charged with ongoing criminal conduct and falsely stating that they had each been charged with nine felony thefts."

The prosecutor's letter allegedly goes on to say that "it turns out that my decision to dismiss the charges was the right thing to do. Not only did Deputy Lopez's report fail to include evidence in support of criminal charges, but there is information showing that at least one of Deputy Lopez's sworn affidavits contains a false statement. To date, my office has not been presented with any evidence to support any criminal charge on any of the Waglers."

In December 2023, Stater placed Lopez on the county's Brady-Giglio list, citing the April 21 incident. Since then, the lawsuit claims, the sheriff's office has publicly claimed the

Waglers are being "actively investigated" and has continued to imply they are engaged in criminal activity.

The lawsuit seeks unspecified damages for unlawful arrest, illegal search, assault, battery and malicious prosecution.

Court records indicate the search warrant application filled out by Lopez was tied to a criminal investigation into the Waglers that stemmed from the complaints by individuals and companies who alleged they'd each paid the Waglers \$3,000 to \$54,000 for wood products that were never delivered.

In Curtis and Lori Wagler's 2021 bankruptcy case, one bank that acted as a lender to the couple alleged the Waglers had reorganized a failed business, Wagler Manufacturing, as the newly formed Outdoor Tradition, which the bank said was owned largely by the couple's children, two of whom were minors.

The bank characterized that reorganization as an attempted "end-run" around bankruptcy laws, made in an alleged effort to shield assets "with the intent to defraud" the Waglers' creditors. The Waglers subsequently agreed to consider themselves 100% owners of Outdoor Traditions for purposes of the bankruptcy case, which remains open.

In a 2024 bankruptcy filing, the couple listed \$133,000 in assets and \$3.5 million in debts and liabilities.

In court filings, the county says that over the course of at least seven months, the sheriff's department investigated the theft and fraud allegations made by customers of Out-

door Traditions. The warrant to search of the Wagler home and business and to seize "books, records, receipts, notes, ledgers, and other papers" was approved by a judge and an assistant county attorney, lawyers for the county state, adding that the Waglers have failed to show any evidence their Fourth Amendment rights were violated.

"After seven months of investigation, on April 18, 2023, Deputy Lopez sought approval of the search warrant at issue," the county says in its motion to dismiss the case. "Finding the information Deputy Lopez included in the warrant justified probable cause, Magistrate Timothy Liechty also signed the warrant in approval."

The county also claims that with regard to the claims of malicious prosecution and assault, the family has not backed up those claims with any factual evidence of malice or assault. The county acknowledges that while the family claims Curtis Wagler was subjected to cavity searches and that another family member was handcuffed, there is no allegation of harmful or offensive contact with Lori Wagler.

A trial in the matter is currently scheduled for April 12, 2027.

Read more from Clark Kauffman online at IowaCapitalDispatch.com

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Watering The Flowers

Community members came together to water the flowers around downtown Hampton throughout the summer. Check out their photos below.



Rebekah Ault and Kim Price.



Arnold Guevara-Barra



Dale Schirmer and his daughter, Charleigh



Kent Mollenbeck and Jerre Grefe



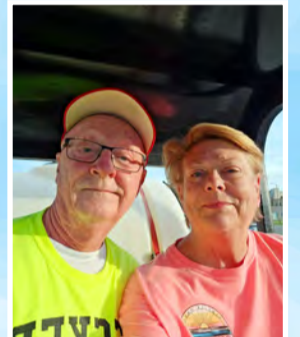
Steve Birdsall and Jerre Grefe



Leon Keuhner and Jerre Grefe



Jerre Grefe and Jeanne Fay



Terry and Liz Carr



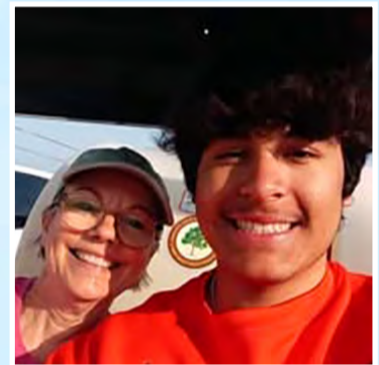
Rebekah Ault and Kim Price



Jerre Grefe and Mark Morrison



Sue Followwill and Charlie Thielen



Jerre Grefe and Elian Trevino



Jerre Grefe and Lexi Chaney



Jim Davies



Jerre Grefe and Mark Robles



Tyler Heeren



Brooke, Archie and Ruth Tapp

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Fair Results

2025

HAMPTON CHRONICLE

A CHAMPION'S SALUTE



SEPTEMBER 3, 2025



Abby Schoning Named 2025 Franklin County Fair Queen

BY JENNIFER BURNHAM
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

Abby Schoning, 17, of Sheffield was named the 2025 Franklin County Fair Queen Thursday evening, July 10.

Schoning, who will be a senior at West Fork High School in the fall, told the Chronicle that she is honored to be named this year's queen.

"This means a lot to me. I love the community and I love the people of Franklin County," she said. "I am so excited to get to serve Franklin County this year."

Involved in softball, dance, track, volleyball, FFA and the National Honor Society, Schoning was also named "Miss Outstanding Leadership." She is the daughter of Dave and Dacia Schoning.

2024 Franklin County Fair Queen Libby Trewin gave an emotional speech, before announcing Schoning as the winner.

"I am so thankful for this experience," said Trewin. "I will always carry it with me. But all good things must come to an end."

Pictured: From left to right, Libby Trewin and Abby Schoning. Photo by Jennifer Burnham.



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Congratulations to everyone who took home ribbons from the Franklin County Fair. Your hard work and dedication paid off.

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DOWS

Swine Show Results

Champion Crossbred Market Barrow – Kenley Hansen
 Champion Commercial Gilt – Denver Miller
 Champion Purebred Gilt – Maci Pralle
 Reserve Champion Purebred Gilt – Maddie Pralle
 Grand Champion Breeding Gilt – Denver Miller
 Reserve Champion Breeding Gilt – Josephine Jordahl
 Champion Pen of 3 – Sierra Showalter
 Reserve Champion Pen of 3 – Audrey Benning

Showmanship

Sr – Kenley Hansen (Champion),
 Int – Maddie Pralle (Champion), Sierra Showalter (reserve)
 Jr – Maci Pralle (Champion), Tate Pralle (reserve)



Champion Purebred Gilt Maci Pralle



Champion Junior Showmanship Maci Pralle



Champion Commercial Gilt Denver Miller



Champion Crossbred Market Barrow Kenley hansen



Champion Intermediate Showmanship



Grand Champion Breeding Gilt Denver Miller



Champion Pen of 3 Sierra Showalter

Horse Show Results

Champion at Halter

Grand Champion – Brylee Kline
Reserve Champion – Sierra Showalter

Showmanship

Sr. at Halter – Champion – Audrey Benning
Reserve – Aaron Ihrke
Int. at Halter – Champion – Hazel Menken
Reserve – Sierra Showalter
Jr. at Halter – Champion – Brylee Kline
Reserve – Jared Barnett
Champion In Hand Trail – Hazel Menken
Champion Trail Class – Jared Barnett
Champion Walk-Trot – Jared Barnett
Champion Pleasure Pony – Sierra Showalter

Champion Pleasure Horse – Audrey Benning
Champion Ranch Pleasure Horse – Jared Barnett
Champion Reining – Jared Barnett
Champion Texas Flags – Sierra Showalter
Champion Barrels – Sierra Showalter
Champion Pole Bending – Sierra Showalter
Champion Key Hole – Jared Barnett
Champion Timed Events – Sierra Showalter

Champion Horsemanship under saddle

Sr – Audrey Benning (Champion), Aaron Ihrke (Reserve)
Int- Hazel Menken (Champion)
Jr – Jared Barnett (Champion), Brylee Kline (Reserve)



Champion Jr Showmanship at Halter
Brylee Kline



Champion Jr Showmanship Under
Saddle Jared Barnett



Champion Intermediate Showmanship at Halter
Hazel Menken



Champion Key Hole Jared Barnett



Champion Pleasure Horse Aubrey
Benning

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Horse Show Results



Champion Pole Bending Sierra Showalter



Champion Trail Class Jared Barnett



Champion Sr Showmanship Under Saddle Aubrey Benning



Champion Timed Events Sierra Showalter



Champion Walk Trot Jared Barnett



Reserve Champion Halter Sierra Showalter



Champion Pole Bending Sierra Showalter



Champion Sr Showmanship at Halter Audrey Benning



Reserve Champion Sr Showmanship Under Saddle Aaron Ihrke



Champion Pleasure Pony Sierra Showalter

Dairy Show Results

Champion Heifer Calf – AnnEllen Hofmeister
 Reserve Champion Heifer Calf – Kyle England
 Champion Yearling Heifer – AnnEllen Hofmeister
 Champion 2 year old – Ryerson Luyobya
 Champion Cow – Ryerson Luyobya
 Reserve Champion Cow – AnnEllen Hofmeister
 Supreme Dairy Female – Ryerson Luyobya

Showmanship

Sr – AnnEllen Hofmeister (champion)
 Int. – Ryerson Luyobya(champion), Kyle England (reserve)



Champion Heifer Calf Annellen Hofmeister



Champion Intermediate Showmanship Ryerson Luyobya



Champion 2 year old Ryerson Luyobya



Champion Cow Ryerson Luyobya



Champion Senior Showmanship Annellen Hofmeister



Champion Yearling Heifer Annellen Hofmeister



Supreme Dairy Female Ryerson Luyobya



Reserve Champion Heifer Calf Kyle England

Rabbit Show Results

Champion Fancy Senior Buck – Emma Zoller
 Champion Fancy Senior Doe – Elliot Zoller
 Champion Fancy Junior Buck – Elliot Zoller
 Champion Fancy Junior Doe – Aaron Ihrke
 Champion Market Single Fryer – Aaron Ihrke
 Champion Market Single Roaster – Emma Ihrke

Best in Show – Elliot Zoller

Showmanship

Sr. – Aaron Ihrke (Champion), Rachel Wilkerson (Reserve)
 Int – Addyson Moellers (Champion), Emma Zoller (Reserve)
 Jr. – Elliot Zoller (Champion), Cooper Moellers (Reserve)



Champion Fancy Senior Buck Emma Zoller



Champion Fancy Senior Doe Elliot Zoller



Champion Roaster Emma Ihrke



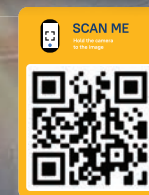
Champion Senior Showmanship Aaron Ihrke



Champion Single Fryer Aaron Ihrke

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Meat Goat Show Results

Grand Champion Meat Goat – Carli Lyon
 Reserve Champion Meat Goat – Denver Miller
 Champion Breeding Doe under 6 months – Denver Miller
 Reserve Breeding Doe under 6 months – Klayton Plagge
 Champion Breeding Doe under 12 months – Denver Miller
 Reserve Champion Breeding Doe over 12 months – Denver Miller
 Grand Champion Breeding Doe – Denver Miller
 Reserve Champion Breeding Doe – Denver Miller

Champion Breeding Buck – Nathan Witte
 Reserve Champion Breeding Buck – Brady Abbas
 Champion Senior Showmanship – Jayden Nagel
 Champion Intermediate Showmanship – Carli Lyon
 Reserve Champion Intermediate Showmanship – Nathan Witte
 Champion Junior Showmanship – Brylee Kline
 Reserve Champion Junior Showmanship – Audrey Plagge



Grand Champion Breeding Doe Denver Miller



Champion Breeding Buck Nathan Witte



Champion Senior Showmanship
Jayden Nagel



Grand Champion Market Goat Carli
Lyon



Champion Breeding Doe Under 12
Months Denver Miller



Champion Intermediate Showmanship
Carli Lyon



Champion Foundation Jana Harms



Champion Junior Showmanship
Brylee Kline

Sheep Show Results

Champion Ram Lamb – Zoey Duncan (Rachel Wilkerson showing)
 Reserve Champion Ram Lamb - Jana Harms
 Champion Ewe Lamb – Robyn Kelsey
 Reserve Champion Ewe Lamb – Jackson Thiesen
 Champion Foundation – Jana Harms
 Grand Champion Breeding Female – Robyn Kelsey
 Reserve Champion Breeding Female – Jackson Thiesen
 Champion Pen of 2 – Patrick Duncan
 Grand Champion Market Lamb – Kenley Hansen
 Reserve Champion Market Lamb – Robyn Kelsey

Showmanship

Sr. – Lily Dirksen (champion), Jackson Thiesen (reserve)
 Int. – Robyn Kelsey (champion), Ellie Harms (reserve)
 Jr. – Patrick Duncan (champion)



Grand Champion Market Lamb Kenley Hansen



Champion Pen of 2 Patrick Duncan



Grand Champion Breeding Female Robyn Kelsey



Champion Ram Lamb Zoey Duncan



Champion Intermediate Showmanship Robyn Kelsey



Champion Jr Showmanship Patrick Duncan



Champion Senior Showmanship Lily Dirksen

Poultry Show Results

Champion Market – Katelyn Witte
 Reserve Champion Market – Maggie Fahrman
 Champion Production – Justin Schulz
 Reserve Champion Production – Chase Showalter
 Champion Commercial – Aaden Keehn
 Reserve Champion Commercial – Jovanny Camarillo-Calles
 Champion Fancy – Jackson Thiesen
 Reserve Champion Fancy – Jackson Thiesen
 Grand Champion Poultry – Jackson Thiesen
 Reserve Grand Champion Poultry – Katelyn Witte

Showmanship

Sr – Rachel Wilkerson (champion), Jackson Thiesen (Reserve)
 Int. – Ellie Borcharding (Champion), Addyson Moellers (Intermediate)
 Jr – Brylee Kline (Champion), Easton Keehn (reserve)



Grand Champion Poultry Jackson Thiesen



Champion and Reserve Champion Commercial



Rachel Wilkerson Champion Senior Showmanship

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Poultry Show Results



Champion Intermediate Showmanship Ellie Borchering



Champion Market Katelyn Witte



Champion Production Justin Schulz



Easton Keehn Reserve Champion Junior Showmanship



Brylee Kline Champion Junior Showmanship

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