

Express

WEDNESDAY

February 9, 2022 Red Oak, IA Volume 155, No. 6 redoakexpress.com

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\$1.00

'No secrets' is key to successful marriage, says Greshams

Tess Nelson The Red Oak Express

"Everybody said we were too young to get married. I remember the minister's wife even saying we were too young, and our marriage wouldn't last. We are still sticking together, and it'll be 65 years next month," said Katie (Yates) Gresham of Red Oak, reminiscing about her marriage to husband, Cecil more than six decades ago.

The two met when they were both involved in the Red Oak Civil Air Patrol as teens. She wasn't more than 14 and he, a Farragut native, had just learned to drive. Neither of them recalled their first meeting; just that they liked to be around one another.

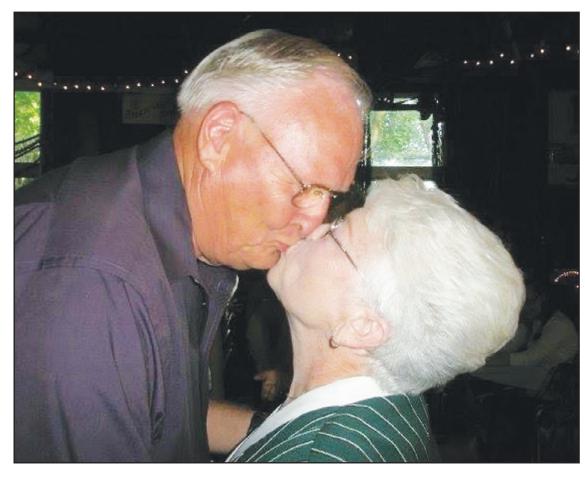
"He and his friend from Shenandoah would come to Red Oak. A friend of mine, Shirley, and I would go out with them; we weren't supposed to," Katie recalled. "One time Shirley and I were supposed to be at church, but we went riding around with the guys. I got home and my dad asked me where I had been. I told him, church. I have two little sisters who went to church. They came home and told my dad I wasn't at church. That was the only time I really ever remember getting in trouble. I never missed church anymore."

After a couple years of dating, Cecil proposed to Katie in his car on Thanksgiving Day, prior to going inside her grandmother's house. The proposal was a surprise, she said, but her answer came quickly. "I said yes."



Cecil and Katie Gresham have been married for 64 years. They are pictured above on their wedding day. (Photo provided)

"We had a huge snowstorm the day of our wedding. It rained in the morning and



Bud and Bev Goddard share a kiss. The couple has been married 63 years. (Photo provided)

The story of us: Bud and Bev Goddard

Nick Johansen The Red Oak Express

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She doesn't recall how much their wedding cost but added she often wonders about that, just out of curiosity.

"We had a nice, church wedding. I'm sure we didn't spend a lot on our wedding; my folks didn't have a lot of money," Katie said.

On March 24, the two wed at the Presbyterian Church in Red Oak. Katie was 17 and Cecil was 19.

was snowing a little in the afternoon. By the time we came out of the church, all the roads were closed," Katie said. "Sixty-five years ago, they couldn't clear off roads like they can now. All the relatives that had come to town for the wedding couldn't go anywhere. My mom ended up having a house full; we

couldn't go anywhere. It was awful." Cecil took a job at the Murphy Calendar Company for 75 cents per hour. He would remain employed there for 44 years, pret-

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Cecil and Katie Gresham have been married for 64 years. They are pictured with a Murphy Calendar Company calendar from the year they were married. (Tess Nelson/Red Oak Express)

County will be celebrating Valentine's Day Feb. 14. Among those Valentine's Day celebrants are a number of couples who have been married for more than 50 years, including John "Bud" and Bev Goddard, who have been married for more that 63 years, and will celebrate their 64th anniversary in June.

One of the special things about the Goddard's decades of marriage, Bud said, is the fact that the couple met in school.

"I first met Bev while we were in high school in Fulton, South Dakota, so I guess you could say we were high school sweethearts. The thing that stood out to me most about about Bev was that she was very confident," said Bud.

As for Bev, she said there were several things about Bud that made him stand out to her and made her fall in love with him as they were dating.

"Bud was tall, dark, and handsome, but most of all, he was very polite," Bev commented.

After graduating, Bud said it wasn't long before he popped the question and they became husband and wife.

"While Bev didn't go to college, I did go to South Dakota State University in Brookings for a year, and then Bev and I got married," commented Bud.

The Goddards were married June 2, 1958. The ceremony was a smaller affair, with few guests.

"It was a very small ceremony, just a justice of the peace and both of our parents. We didn't have the funds for a big wedding. My dad was a baker by trade, and a farmer. He made our wedding cake, and we had our wedding reception on the farm for immediate family," Bud explained.

Bev added that due to the size of the ceremony, there were some comments made about the potential longevity of their marriage.

"We were told it would never last, and here we are, still together 63 years later. The comments were made mainly because we weren't having a big wedding. But as Bud said, we just didn't have the money for a large wedding, and neither did our parents," Bev stated.

The Goddards lived in Montgomery County for a number of years, then moved to Florida for 14 years before returning to the Southwest Iowa area to be nearer to family. The couple currently resides

The Goddards enjoy a dance together. (Photo provided)

in Villisca, with a winter home in Punta Gorda, Florida, and overall, have lived in the area quite awhile.

"We moved from South Dakota on Thanksgiving Day in 1971. I was transferred here with Nachurs Plant Food Company to build and manage the fertilizer plant here in Red Oak. I was with Nachurs for about six years in Red Oak before we started our own fertilizer plant," Bud explained.

There are a number of things, Bud said, that have helped the couple grow and stay together for all these years.

"We have worked through all of our trials and tribulations, but also it comes down to us actually respecting each other," Bud said.

Bev agreed with Bud's comments, and said the couple has thrived through respect and patience.

Bud turned over the fertilizer business to his son in 1996, while still farming, and then he retired from

GODDARD, Page 2A





Journeys is a support group for anyone who has lost a loved one and provides a safe, supportive atmosphere to learn about and understand the grief process.

Sessions held:
Feb. 24th - March 31st
3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Call Judi at (712) 623-7288 or email at juderi@mcmh.org.



Blomstedt announces Family YMCA retirement

Staff Report

Montgomery County Family YMCA Executive Director John Blomstedt will retire from the YMCA and conclude his 22-year career at the YMCA, effective April 1. Blomstedt has served as executive director the past four and one half years.

"I am extremely grateful for the opportunity that Nick Zimmer, my predecessor, and the YMCA's Program Committee gave me in February 2000 to become the full-time program director," Blomstedt said. "The



Blomstedt

past 22 years have seemed to fly by, and I cannot thank the

YMCA staff, members, volunteers, donors, and program participants enough for their support over that time. I especially want to thank the YMCA's board of directors for their guidance in my role as executive director. It reminds me of what my son, J.C., said after I'd had the job for about six months - 'Dad, you've found your calling."

Blomstedt said he is most proud of seeing the YMCA through the COVID-19 pandemic, from the facility being forced to close to the gradual reopening of the facility, as one of his biggest accomplishments.

"Second, I would say is the involvement with Live Well Montgomery County in looking for better ways to serve the Montgomery County communities, such as the Mobile Food Pantry. The final thing I would say is still being called "Coach John" by youth that I coached during the various programs I oversaw as a program director/operations manager," said Blomstedt.

Upon retirement, John and



Shalters

his wife, Debra, who is retiring after 35 years as a Red Oak High School science teacher this spring, plan to remain in Red Oak. "We're looking forward to

doing some traveling and visiting relatives and friends across the United States. Maybe I'll be able to get to the 15 major league ball parks I haven't seen yet. Also, I'm sure we'll stay involved with the YMCA in some aspect while also continuing to volunteer with other community organizations," Blomstedt said.

Carrie Shalters will serve as the new Executive Director, effective April 2.

Shalters currently serves

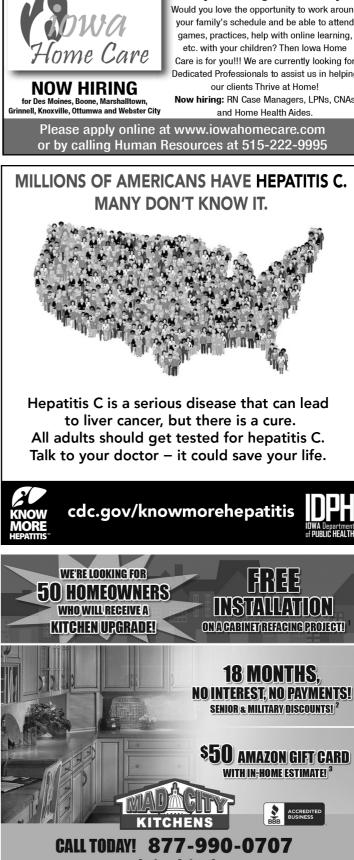
as Membership Director and teers and donors and to lead the Customer Service Manager at the Montgomery County Family YMCA, a position she has held since August 2017. She has more than 15 years of experience in small business management prior to signing on as Membership Director at the Montgomery County Family YMCA.

"I am grateful for the opportunity the Montgomery County Family YMCA Board of Directors has given me to lead an organization that is so important to Red Oak and Montgomery County. I am thankful for John Blomstedt giving me the opportunity as Membership Director and for mentoring me through the process of becoming Executive Director," said Carrie Shalters. "The Montgomery County Family YMCA has been an important part of my life for the last 15 years, beginning as a fitness instructor and lifeguard and most recently in my role as the Membership Director for the past four-and-a-half years. I am excited to continue working with the wonderful staff, board of directors, members, volun-

YMCA into the future." Shalters received her

Bachelor of Science degree from Bellevue University in 2013. She has also run her own medical transcription business for the past three years and prior to that worked with her husband in running his heating and air conditioning business. Carrie graduated from Griswold Community High School and lives in Red Oak with her husband, Larry. The couple has two children, Hannah and Andrew.

Are you looking for flexibility?



Courthouse bell rings once again

Nick Johansen The Red Oak Express

The Montgomery County courthouse clock tower has been given new life.

For several years, the clock tower remained silent, as the cost for repairs to the bell striker to make it functional were outside of the county's budget. In September of 2021, Lois Pratt with the Monday Club made the offer to the supervisors to pay for the entire cost of the repairs through their organization.

Also in September, the supervisors approved a bid from Americlock, Inc. of St. Louis, Mo., for the replacement of the hardware at \$4,200, and \$2,700 for labor.

Maintenance supervisor Dan Wright met with the supervisors at its Feb. 1, meeting and advised them that the work on the bell striker had finally been completed.

"The clock now strikes on the hour from seven in the morning to seven in the evening, but the times can be adjusted," Wright said. While that portion of the project was in the books, Wright said

Americlock was intending to get him new quotes for other work. "While they were up there, they told me that the clock that we have up there is kind of on its last legs. They are going to get me some prices on restoring it, and a quote on a centralized automatic

master clock," commented Wright. The centralized automatic master, Wright explained, would make rtain things easier in the long run.



"We could do everything from the ground level. We wouldn't even have to go up there and change the clock, it would all be run from the computer," Wright stated.

Supervisor Randy Cooper, who coordinated the initial Monday Club investment for replacing the bell striker, said there might be more funding available.

"I talked with Lois Pratt about the clock, and they said if anything else came up, she said to contact them, so I think they would be willing to further help us out," Cooper advised.

Cooper also said he'd heard praise for Wright's ability to find a new motor for the clock, as the company that did the repairs had been unable to locate one themselves.

Supervisor Donna Robinson confirmed that the clock striking between 7 a.m. and p.m. was the way it was set, and could be reprogrammed. Wright said it could be, if needed.

"Inside, there's a little mini-computer. You can change it to strike

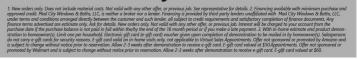
After several years of silence, the bell at the Montgomery County Courthouse is sounding again. (File photo)

if there was a funeral, and there are all sorts of different settings for it. I also demonstrated the settings for our IT director, Jim Scott, so Jim also knows how to program it," Wright explained.

Due to the wintertime being darker, Robinson said she understood the need for the clock to cease chiming at 7 p.m., but felt that maybe in the warmer months the clock could be reprogrammed to strike from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Wright said all the supervisors needed to do was let him know the different time for the clock to chime, and it could be changed at any time.

www.madcitykitchens.com





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GRESHAM

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

ty much until the doors closed. He then worked at Pamida and Shopko for an additional 18 years. The couple had three boys, Dennis, Gary, and Roger, who died in a car accident when he was 17.

"We grew up with our kids," Katie said. "We did a lot of camping and fishing."

When it comes to marriage advice, the Greshams agree communication is key.

"Be honest. No secrets. You also have to work together," Katie said. "There will be good and there will be bad, but you go through it, together."

The duo has done quite a bit of traveling of their lifetime together. They have been to 48 states, with the exception of North Dakota and Michigan. Their favorite place to have visited was Alaska.

"We are spontaneous. We aren't planners," Katie said. "Looking back, we are so thankful we traveled when we could."

In addition to two sons, the couple has nine grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

aspects of their marriage might

be surprising to some. "There are a lot of happy memories, but hunting, camping, and dancing are probably the things that we've most enjoyed," Bud explained.

After being married for 63 years, Bud had some advice for new couples who are just starting out. "My advice to them would

be to work hard and do your Bud and Bev's favorite best; it's that simple," Bud commented.

Bev also had some advice for couples who are just beginning their marital journey.

"Always put your cards on the table, the good, and the bad, and see what falls halfway inbetween, right or wrong," Bev advised.

After being together for so many years, Bud said he and Bev are looking forward to many more.



Bud and Bev Goddard will celebrate 64 years of marriage this summer. (Photo provided)

GODDARD

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

he turned 80. The couple has three children, Randy, who is married to Denise, who live in Red Oak; Deb and her husband Mike Hover, who live west of Fort Dodge; and Pam, who married Todd Hansen and who lives west of Minneapolis, Minn. The Goddards also have 11 grandchildren, and 22 greatgrandchildren, with another on the way.

OBITUARIES

KENNETH MARSDEN, 80

Kenneth Glen Marsden, 80, Red Oak, passed away Friday, Feb. 4, 2022, at the Montgomery County Memorial Hospital. Kenneth was born Oct. 7, 1941, in Red Oak, the son of Lester and Evelyn (Reilly) Marsden. He graduated from Wales-Lincoln High School in 1959 and served in the U.S. Air Force. Upon his return from service, Ken attended AIB Business School and received his education in accounting.

He moved to Des Moines, where he met Carolyn Knapp. They were united in marriage on Sept. 10, 1967 in Prescott. They moved to LeMars, where Ken was the business manager for Pew's car dealership before moving to Red Oak in 1972. He worked for McAlpin Motors in sales and later was co-owner of K & K Auto in Red Oak. He also worked at Union Carbide before going to work for Ted Sparr Accounting and ABC Realty, retiring in 2006.

Ken enjoyed golfing, playing bridge, and spending time with his grandkids. He was a longtime member of the First United Methodist Church and a 50-year member of Red Oak Masonic Lodge

Preceding him in death were his parents; and brothers, Joe and Jim Marsden.

Survivors include his wife, Carolyn Marsden of Red Oak; sons, Scott Marsden and wife Cheryl of Papillion, Neb.; and Tim Marsden and wife Terra of Red Oak; grandchildren, Daniel Marsden and wife Morgan of Omaha, Neb.; Emily Marsden of Papillion, Neb.; Kyle Marsden of Papillion, Neb.; and Lily Marsden of Red Oak; sistersin-law, Patsy Knapp of Omaha, Neb.; Marilyn Marsden of Red Oak: and Donnie Marsden of Greenberg, Ind.; his beloved cat, Angel; and many other relatives and friends.

A celebration of life service will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 9, 2022, at the First United Methodist Church. Burial of the cremated remains will be at a later date at the Evergreen Cemetery. Memorial are suggested to Christ's Cupboard Food Pantry.

Nelson-Boylan-LeRette Funeral Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

RICHARD MORGAN, 87

Richard Lee Morgan, 87, Emerson, passed away Tuesday, Feb. 1, 2022, at his home.

Richard was born May 10, 1934, in Garden Grove, the son of Carl and Zella (Smith) Morgan. He graduated from Garden Grove High School and served in the U.S. Army for two years in Germany as a radio operator.

He attended Northwest Missouri State College, receiving his Bachelors Degree in Education. Richard was united in marriage to Margaret Rowland in April of 1960. Richard

taught at Stanton Community Schools for one year and then started a long career with Nishna Valley School. He retired in 1995 after 34 years of service. Richard taught biology, physiology, and ag classes. He was a longtime member of the American Legion and the Masonic Lodge. Richard enjoyed gardening and taking care of his house and yard. He was an avid sports fan who never missed an athletic event at Nishna Valley and East Mills School. He loved his family very much and spent many hours with his grandchildren. He was always very involved in the community of Emerson and even served as mayor for a term.

Preceding him in death were his parents; and 14 siblings.

Survivors include his wife, Margaret Morgan of Emerson; children, Angela Morgan of Coralville; David Morgan and wife Susan of Bellevue, Neb.; and Kurt Morgan and wife Stephanie of Ash-land, Mo.; grandchildren, Monique Visocky and husband Brian of Omaha, Neb.; Dalton Morgan and wife Allison of Yakima, Wash.; and Ashley James of Ashland, Mo.; great-grandchildren, Kayden, Mira, Calla, Remi, Kaysen, and Layne; sisters-in-law, Jeannie Siekman of Mound City, Mo.; and Betty Morgan Beatty of Corydon; and many other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were held Monday, Feb. 7, 2022, at the Nelson-Boylan-LeRette Funeral Chapel. Burial was in the Emerson Cemetery

Memorials are suggested to the East Mills Boosters.

Nelson-Boylan-LeRette Funeral Chapel is in charge of arrangements



NEVA ANDERSON, 92

Neva Louise Anderson, 92, passed away Jan. 31, 2022, at the Montgomery County Memorial Hospital in Red Oak.

Neva Anderson, the daughter of Clyde Edward and Leota Mildred (Reichardt) Kempton, was born July 9, 1929, in rural Adams County, south of Brooks. Neva was the second oldest child in a family of five. Her parents were married in rural Corning. Her parents were saved when she was five years old and she had them read God's Word

to her and take her to a Bible-believing church. She graduated from Corning High School in 1948 and attended Omaha Bible Institute for one semester.

Neva was married to Carl "Hugo" Anderson of Villisca at her par-ents' farmhouse on Oct. 15, 1948. They enjoyed each other's company for 63 years. To this union, four sons were born, Clifton, Kenneth, Carl and Keith.

Neva was a lifetime homemaker helping her husband on the family farm in rural Villisca and worked as a nurse's aide at the Stanton Care Center for multiple years.

She was an active member of Grace Baptist Church in Red Oak. She attended faithfully and served as a Sunday school teacher. She loved to serve others, and she would always serve coffee to all that visited her home. Neva would pray for each of her grandchildren and great-grandchildren daily by name. She wanted each one to be living for the Lord. Neva's favorite verse is Psalm 27:14, "Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord."

Neva was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Hugo; brothers, Marvin and Myron. She is survived by siblings, Lola (Eldon) Pals of Ankeny; and Vernita (Lynn) Krull of Omaha, Neb.; sons, Clifton (Carol, Robert and Sara) of Urbandale; Kenneth of Villisca; Carl (Brenda, Bridget, Danielle, Jenna and Rachel) of Shawnee, Kan.; and Keith (Debbie, Kyle and Michelle) of Villisca; and five great-grandsons and three great-granddaughters; as well as many other relatives and friends.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, Feb. 11, 2022, at Grace Baptist Church with Pastor Gary Walters officiating. Burial will be in the Evergreen Cemetery. Visitation with family will be held at 9:30 a.m. until service time on Friday. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Grace Baptist Church in Red Oak, IA.

Nelson-Boylan-LeRette Funeral Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

ANNA MAY GOULD, 79

Anna May Gould, 79, Red Oak, passed away Saturday, Feb. 5, 2022, at her home in Red Oak.

Anna May Gould, the daughter of Alonzo "Lonnie" and Doris (Mertz) Roof, was born Dec. 11, 1942, at Red Oak.

Anna was preceded in death by her parents; infant son, Daniel; two sons, Mark Gould and Richard Gould III; and one granddaughter.

Anna is survived by three children, Jules Gould of Mt Pleasant, Roxann Schooling of Red Oak, and Hope Ross of Worthington; 10 grandchildren; and several great-grandchildren.

May God bless her memory and give strength to those who mourn. Graveside Memorial Service will be held on Friday, Feb. 11, 2022, at 11 a.m. at Evergreen Cemetery, Red Oak.

Family and friends will meet at the cemetery for the service. Remembrances and condolences may be shared with the family at www.sldfuneralhome.com

Sellergren-Lindell-DeMarce Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

GLADYS MAINS-GILMORE, 91

Gladys Mains-Gilmore, 91, Excelsior Springs, Mo., passed away Friday, Jan. 28, 2022

She was preceded in death by her second husband, James Gilmore. Gladys is survived by four children and three stepchildren. Her daughters are Pamela Hall, Starr Harris, Sue Carman, and her son, John Mains. Surviving stepchildren are James Gilmore Jr., Johnny Gilmore,

and Mike Gilmore. She is also survived by numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Graveside service was held Monday, Feb. 7, 2022, at Evergreen

Cemetery, Red Oak.

Sellergren-Lindell-DeMarce Funeral Home is in charge of local arrangements.



Norman Hale, 58, Red Oak, passed away Wednesday, Feb. 2, 2022, at the Good Samaritan Society, Red Oak.

Norman Eugene Hale, the son of Mervin and Dorothy Hale, was born May 5, 1963, in Red Oak.

Norman was preceded in death by his parents, Mervin and Dorothy Hale

Norman is survived by his two daughters, Jennifer Wright of Red Oak, and Mandy Knapp of Red Oak; and six grandchildren.

Cremation has taken place.

Celebration of Life Gathering was held Sunday, Feb. 6, 2022, at his brother's home. Remembrances and condolences may be shared with the family at sld-

funeralhome.com. Sellergren-Lindell-DeMarce Funeral Home is assisting the family.

LARRY BRUCE, 84

Larry Dean Bruce, 84, of Red Oak, passed away beacefully surrounded by his family on Jan. 31, 2022, at Prairie Gate Care Center in Council Bluffs, Iowa.

Born in Red Oak on Feb. 7, 1937, to Henry and Margaret (Binns) Bruce, Larry was raised on the family farm southwest of Red Oak and graduated from Coburg High School in 1954. Following high school, Larry studied at Northwest Missouri State College prior to working for the Iowa Department of

Transportation as a Construction Tech 2. He also served in the Iowa Army National Guard. Larry and Joan Delehant were married on Sept. 29, 1962 enjoying 59 1/2 years of marriage. Larry was a dedicated family man and was a wonderful husband and father to his four children, Deb, Fred, Diane and Cindy.

In the early 1970s, Larry and Joan moved to a family farm south of Red Oak where they lived until 2018, when they built a new home in Red Oak. Larry enjoyed many hobbies throughout his life including growing the family favorites of cantaloupe and watermelon in his melon patch; woodworking and making toys for his grandchildren; raising miniature donkeys and also supporting Red Oak Tiger activities for his kids and grandkids. After a long and celebrated career for the Iowa DOT, Larry retired in 1999. After retirement, Larry was able to spend time fishing and traveling with Joan. Highlights of their travels were a once in a lifetime trip to Alaska, their annual trip to Blue Haven Resort in Branson and wintering in Texas. Larry was a long-time member of St. Mary's Catholic Church.

Larry was one of a kind! He has taught his family and all those around him the value of good character and a fantastic sense of humor. He has faced a lot of adversity over the last few years and has tackled that with grace and a positive attitude. We will treasure these memories and lessons always.

Larry is survived by his wife, Joan Bruce of Red Oak, his children, Deb Bruce of Pleasant Hill; Fred Bruce and his wife Lori of Red Oak; Diane Bruce of Bellevue, Neb.; and Cindy Akin and husband Ben of Nine Mile Falls, Wash.; five grandchildren, Sara (Luke) Dailey, Beth (Caleb) Rehbein, and Charlie "Nattie Jo", Sam and Riley Akin; five great-grand-children, Max and Maevery Dailey, and Jaycee, Easton and Maddox Rehbein; sisters, Carolyn (Ron) Ossian of Lincoln, Neb.; and Sharon (Perry) Smith of Red Oak; along with many nieces, nephews and other relatives and friends.

Larry was preceded in death by his parents, Henry and Margaret Bruce and son-in-law, Jerry Charvat.

A celebration of Larry's life will be held on Saturday Feb. 5, 2022, at St. Mary's Catholic Church Fellowship Hall downstairs. Please use the south parking lot entrance. A prayer service will start at 11 a.m. with luncheon and visitation to follow until 1 p.m. Memorials are suggested to the Red Oak Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association.

Banana Fruitcake!

Nelson-Boylan-LeRette Funeral Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

MARGARET MILLER, 86

Margaret JoAnn Miller, 86, Council Bluffs, passed away Tuesday, Feb. 1, 2022, in Council Bluffs.

Margaret JoAnn Miller, the daughter of William and Violet (Johannes) Miller, was born June 25, 1935, in Montgomery County.

May God bless her memory and give strength to those who mourn. No services will be held. Burial will be in Victoria Cemetery, Massena Remembrances and condolences may be shared with the family at sld-

funeralhome.com. Sellergren-Lindell-DeMarce Funeral Home is in charge of Margaret's arrangements



Law and Order



The following events were filed with the Red Oak, Montgomery County, State of Iowa, or other government offices. In regard to law enforcement and judicial activities, all parties are presumed innocent until proven guilty, and other details may be available at iowacourts.state.ia.us.

REAL ESTATE

WARRANTY DEED

• Heritage Lodge LLC, Pete Peterson, Managing Member, and Teresa Peterson, Managing member, to Fred Muhr, 20-72-38 Parcel A Lts 1-6.

· Scott Schwarz, Member Manager, Karey Anderson, Member Manager, and Ruff Ridge LLC, to Daniel and Michelle Anderson, 22-72-37 Parcel A.

• Kristine and David McAninch, Carol and Patrick Barnes, and Karl, Shelley, and Barbara Lundgren, to Jolene Muldowney, 27-72-38 Lt 2.

· Chad Wilson to David and Dana Lensch, Elliott Original Plat Blk 3 Lts 7-9.

• Richard and Marsha Sowers to Thomas and Jayme Nelson,

Red Oak Johnson SD Lt 6. • Danny and Joyce Abbott to Patricia Silva, Red Oak Original Plat Blk 5 Lts 1-2.

• Cheryl Miller, Sole Member, and Cherbet Properties, LLC, to Terry Stevenson, Red Oak Centennial Blk 1 Lts 2-3.

QUIT CLAIM DEED

• Florence Bloomquist-Brown and Florence Brown to Florence Brown Family Trust, 15-71-39.

• Harley Nigh to Jordan Nigh, Red Oak Victory Park Addition Blk 10 Lts 3-4.

• Danny and Jolene Muldowney to Jolene Muldowney, Blk 4 Lts 5-8. 22-72-38 Lt 2.

TRUSTEE'S DEED

• Michael Wood, Co-Trustee, Steven Wood, Co-Trustee, and William Wood Family Trust to Michael and Linda Mahoney, 16-72-39.

• Steven Wood, Co-Trustee, Joseph Wood, Co-Trustee, James Wood, Co-Trustee, Michael Wood, Co-Trustee, and William Wood Revocable Trust to TC Accommodator 256, LLC, 16-72-39 Excluding Parcel A.

• Steven Wood, Co-Trustee, Michael Wood, Co-Trustee, Joseph Wood, Co-Trustee, James Wood, Co-Trustee, and Mary L. Wood Revocable Trust to TC Accommodator 256, LLC, 16-72-39.

COURT OFFICER'S DEED

• Helen Grove Estate, and Den-

nis Grove, Personal Representative to Dennis Grove, Red Oak Thompsons Addition Lt 5.

• James Geer Estate, Carolyn Smith, Executor, and Bette Bruning. Executor, to Scorpion 4, LLC, Red Oak Quinby Addition Blk 8 Lt 8

MOD/AMENDMENT OF MORTGAGE

• Myron and Chervl Koehn to Bank Iowa, 24-71-38 Parcel A. · Jeremy Clark to Great West-

ern Bank, 4-71-38. • Jacqueline Grayson to Bank

Iowa, Elliott Whitney Addition

MORTGAGE

· Dustin and Tracy Bozwell to Great Western Bank, 22-73-39 Parcel A.

• Darcel and Jeffrey Richards to Houghton State Bank, 20-72-38 Parcel A Lts 1-6.

• Brad Shain, President, Scorpion 4, ING, and Fit 4 Life to Glenwood State Bank, Red Oak Quinby Addition Blk 8 Lt 8. • TC Accomodator 256, LLC, and Samuel Cooper Authorized Signatary to Rodney Rhoden, Trustee, and Rodney D. Rhoden Trust, 16-72-39 Parcel A.

• Jordan and Chelsie Vrba to Houghton State Bank, 1-72-39 Parcel A.

· Daniel and Michelle Anderson to Bank Iowa, 22-72-37 Parcel A.

• Rudee and Jessica DeMarce to Bank Iowa, 4-71-38.

• Thomas and Jayme Nelson to Broker Solutions, Inc., Mortgage

Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., MERS, and New American Funding, Red Oak Johnson SD Lt 6

• Thomas and Jayme Nelson to Iowa Finance Authority, Red Oak Johnson SD Lt 6.

SMALL CLAIMS

• MM Finance LLC, DBA, EZ Money Check Cashing vs. Michael Winchester, Red Oak, judgment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$430 with 2.46% interest from Feb. 3, plus costs.

· Portfolio Recovery Associates, LLC vs. Rickey Weaver, Villisca, judgment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$1,855.67 plus costs.

ARRESTS

• Filed Feb. 2, Damian Barr, 27, Red Oak, theft fifth degree,

DISMISSED

· State of Iowa vs. Elton Chandler, 59, Denison, possession of a controlled substance - marijuana, first offense, dismissed; possession of a controlled substance methamphetamine, first offense, dismissed.

CRIMINAL

· Aggravated, State of Iowa vs. Elton Chandler, 59, Denison, driving while barred, \$855 fine, unlawful possession of prescription drugs, \$430 fine.

• Felony, State of Iowa vs. Joshua Mohn, 43, Red Oak, eluding - speed over 25 MPH

over limit, second or subsequent offense, driving while barred.

• Felony, State of Iowa vs. Kenneth Huber, 64, Lenox, possession of a controlled substance. third or subsequent offense.

• Simple misdemeanor. State of Iowa vs. Sally Petersen, 50, Red Oak, trespass, first offense, pled guilty, \$260 fine.

• Simple misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Sally Petersen, 50, Red Oak, interference with official acts, pled guilty, 11 days jail, time served.

• Simple misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Joshua Mohn, 43, Red Oak, driving while license under suspension, reckless driving.

• Simple misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Parrish Wright, 22, Cumberland, driving while license denied, suspended, cancelled, or revoked, \$250 fine.

• Simple misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Carrie Rosburg, 51, Fort Dodge, disorderly conduct loud or raucous noise.

• Simple misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Kelli Perkins, 23, Council Bluffs, possession of drug paraphernalia, pled guilty, \$150 tine.

• Simple misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Damian Barr, 27, Red Oak, theft fifth degree.

OWI

• State of Iowa vs. Marshall Adams, 46, Stanton, first offense.

TRAFFIC

• Tracey Kimmet, Essex, failure to provide proof of financial

liability insurance.

• Heather Stutzman, Atlantic, speeding.

• Roger Stoneking, Grant, trespass violations while deer hunting, first offense.

• Kent Stoneking, Missouri Valley, trespass violations while deer hunting, first offense.

• Robert Brandt III, Griswold, speeding

• Chris Nippert, Villisca, stopped on traveled part of unpaved highway.

• Martin McCullough, Aurora, Mo., speeding.

• Fernando Huerta Becerra, Houston, Texas, no valid driver's license.

• Chad Hill, Red Oak, failure to provide proof of financial liability insurance, no valid driver's license, operation without registration card or plate.

• James Carty, Mulberry, Ark., speeding.

• Amy Yegge, St. Joseph, Mo., speeding.

• Rita Anderson, Lake City, speeding.

• Patrick Carr, Bellevue, Neb., speeding.

• Brenna Baier, Red Oak, speeding.

• Jonatha Seagren, Omaha, Neb., speeding.

· Joseph Kirsch, Clarinda, failure to maintain registration plate.

• David Craig, Omaha, Neb., registration violation.

• Ashley Greene, Clarinda, speeding.

• Kaleb Cobb, Red Oak, speed-

ing.

Anything you'd like to see in the newspaper? Let us know! Call 712-623-2566.

\$300 bond.

VIEWPOINTS

Letters to the Editor

The Red Oak Express supports healthy community discourse and encourages readers to submit a letter to the editor. Letters must be signed and include a phone number for verification purposes. They can be submitted by mail or dropped off at 2012 Commerce Drive, Red Oak, Iowa, 51566, or emailed to news@redoakexpress.com, or entered through our website at redoakexpress.com. Letters should be concise and centered on a single topic. All letters are subject to editing for length, taste, accuracy, liability, or other reasons. The Express is under no obligation to print any letter. If you have questions, contact the Express office at 712-623-2566 or news@redoakexpress.com.

THE TIME CAPSULE | ROY MARSHALL

No score

Donald Kahl was a Des Moines Register col-umnist who wrote often about Iowa girls basketball, especially at tournament time. Chuck Offenburger did not, but as that time of year approaches he comes to mind.

This is because five or six years ago I was doing a magazine article on a 1979 district tournament game that ended regulation with the score tied at 0-0, as did the first overtime.

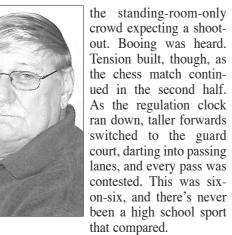
The contest matched county seat Sibley against tiny Melvin (pop. just under 200) played at a neutral site (Sheldon). Melvin was facing reorganization and the subsequent loss of identity, but their team was not to be taken lightly. Their gunner, Deb Mouw, averaged 40 and the girls badly wanted to give their town a tournament run to remember.

In the second OT each team scored a last-minute bucket to make the score 2-2 entering the third extra period, another scoreless standoff.

The crowd was almost as emotionally exhausted after seeing repeated last-second countdowns as were girls who, time after time, had two seconds to pass the ball, knowing that if even one was picked off that precious last shot would go to an opposing player. Shooters wanted the chance but feared it.

They'd played an entire game without scoring; most without shooting, and for seniors a loss ended their playing days.

Basics of the 1979 game were in newspapers. Described was the early chagrin of a few in



I needed more to do the article; specifically an interview with someone who was there, preferably a player. Deb Mouw would have been ideal. When that got no response I checked with Offenburger. Melvin got the steal with less than a minute in regulation the crowd, and Sibley guards, expected her to slash for the bucket or fake, step back and rainbow the shot she hit with deadly accuracy.

If not Mouw, any player on either team would have been fine. I'd have settled for a reserve; one especially western Iowa. He traveled the area comof those girls from either bench who spent the final minutes of regulation and most of four OTs on their knees, clutching towels and, like many in the balcony, turning away because they couldn't watch, then peeking because neither could they not.

I'd have settled for the news photographer who the game from a coach's perspective.

the standing-room-only was quoted as saying the intensity was so pervasive crowd expecting a shoot- that, although he badly wanted a photo of Mouw at halftime. He stayed, witnessed the intensity of a out. Booing was heard. putting one up as the clock hit zero, his hands were pressure cooker that amounted to a staredown; a shaking too badly.

He was gone, though, as had 40 years and both ued in the second half. coaches. Players would have been in their 50s; perhaps grandmothers, but surely I could find one or two.

High school glory and fame is fleeting. Most graduates don't find a lot of opportunities in rural small towns. Library staff and town clerks didn't know the girls; thought they'd probably moved elsewhere, and if any were still in the area they were using married names.

Clerks said they'd make a few calls and get back to me if they found anything. They did not. I tried an ad in an Osceola County newspaper, and when

I didn't expect he had anything to do with the game, but for 21 years he was "The Iowa Boy," the most popular Des Moines Register columnist and probably the best-known in the state.

Offenburger focused on the bright side of Iowa; paring cinnamon rolls, describing good kids, solid families, helpful neighbors.

Offenburger remembered the game, gave me the name of a hall-of-fame coach who attended to scout a team he might face at state. Now retired, he saw

He said his wife, upset with the stall, went home game of chicken with a ticking clock. Nerves of one against the other as both gambled that the other would crack. There was no shot clock, but players had two seconds to pass and even one turnover could mean doom.

The gamble paid off for tiny Melvin, and they edged Sibley 4-2 in four overtimes.

Six-on-six was being challenged even then by girls wanting to play the boys game. They got their way in 1993. Five on the floor per team meant fewer girls could play, and the number was reduced even more because the new game was a fast break, run and shoot contest.

Players with other skills found a role in six-onsix, but that opportunity was no longer available. Much of the broad fan appeal ended. Audiences shrank as small-town Iowa lost something special. Blocks of seats were unfilled during the girls state tournament, but at the end of each season a handful of the fastest and best are offered an athletic scholarship. And that, of course, was the purpose of the lawsuit that ended six-on-six.

Softball, fortunately, has not been challenged.

Roy Marshall is a local historian and columnist for the Red Oak Express. He can be contacted at news@redoakexpress.com.

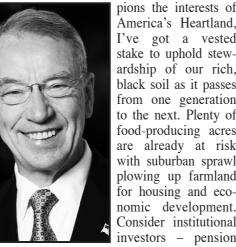
GRASSLEY Q/A U.S. SEN. CHARLES GRASSLEYY

Foreign ownership of U.S. farmland

Stronger the Press, Stronger the People

Q: What are your concerns regarding for-eign ownership of U.S. food companies and farmland?

A: Food security is national security. If foreign buyers, especially those backed by government regimes, are buying up prime farmland in America as a strategy to dominate food production, there's obvious concerns about protecting our ability to feed our own people. Let's start with China. For the past two decades in particular, the Chinese communist government has systematically sought to undermine the United States to become the world's greatest superpower, using any means necessary, including espionage. From infiltrating American campuses that pose threats to U.S. research to stealing trade secrets from an Iowa corn field, smart public policy and robust enforcement of our laws are crucial to thwart China from cheating its way to the top. More recently, fall-out from the pandemic exposed America's reliance on China and its grip on supply chains essential to the



I've got a vested stake to uphold stewardship of our rich, black soil as it passes from one generation to the next. Plenty of food-producing acres are already at risk with suburban sprawl plowing up farmland for housing and economic development. Consider institutional investors - pension

funds, endowments and other organizations - are diversifying portfolios with farmland. This is driving up the cost of food production and land prices.

We also need to be concerned about foreign investments, particularly China. At the turn of this century, Chinese owners owned about 192,000 acres of farmland in the U.S., according to the USDA. By 2019, the USDA says foreign ownership of U.S. acres exceeded 35.2 million acres, a 60 percent increase from the decade prior. As a member of the Senate Agriculture Committee. I've long led the crusade to uphold the integrity of federal farm payments. A few years ago, I raised Cain to prevent foreign-owned Smithfield from feeding at the taxpayer trough with bailout programs intended to mitigate harm caused by China's trade tariffs. The average age of a farmer in Iowa is 58, and roughly four times more farmers are older than age 65 than under age 35. There's an entire generation of ownership waiting in the wings. If deep-pocketed investors come in, foreign or not, it drives up prices and makes it harder for new and beginning farmers to get started. I've worked to enact reasonable reforms to the Conservation Reserve Program so the federal government isn't distorting the marketplace. When CRP rental acres are higher than cash rent in the county, that drives up the cost of food production and may drive the next generation out.

DOLECHECK'S DETAILS | IOWA REP. CECIL DOLECHECK

Recent weekly events in the lowa House

The Governor has been working with state legislators and industry leaders for over a year on a plan to increase access to higher-ethanol blends at the pump. In the first debate of the 2022 Legislative Session, the Iowa House passed this bill to support Iowa biofuels with bipartisan support.

E-15 fuel is cheaper, cleaner, and made right here in Iowa. We want Iowans to have access to this fuel option at the pump. This bill is a win for Iowa agriculture and Iowa consumers.

• This bill increases Iowans' access to E-15 by ensuring all gas stations who are compatible, offer E-15 as an option to consumers.

• If a station's equipment is not compatible, and upgrading their infrastructure would come at a great cost to the business, they can apply for a waiver from this requirement.

• This bill also increases and expands the timeline of fuel retailer tax credits who offer higherethanol blends.

We are also facing a workforce shortage in our

state and nowhere is that truer than in our schools. There's no one solution to this issue, we need to tackle it from multiple angles. Increasing SSA funding, (HSB 568) will likely be a big topic next week.

• HSB 632 and HF 2085 create new, alternative licensures for teachers. Both bills are aimed at making it easier for Iowans who have spent some time working in another field to become teachers.

• HF 2081 eliminates exams teachers have to take between graduation and certification.

• HF 2083 expands the Iowa Scholar Program to expand eligibility for teachers who apply for the grants.

• HF 2158 allows student teachers to also serve as substitute teachers.

Cecil Dolecheck is currently serving as District 24 representative in the Iowa House of Representatives. Contact Dolecheck at cecil.dolecheck@legis.iowa.gov.

U.S. economy.

Nearly a decade ago, I called upon the U.S. Committee on Foreign Investment (CFIUS) and the Department of Justice to scrutinize the Shuanghui International purchase of Smithfield Foods for risk of vertical integration and adverse impact on the independent producer and national security. Since then, I've continued my oversight work, pressing the USDA and DOJ to beef up enforcement of antitrust laws to protect the U.S. economy. As foreign investors look to gobble up U.S. food and agriculture businesses, the federal government has a responsibility to prioritize American sovereignty. CFIUS is tasked with reviewing proposed mergers and acquisitions of U.S. companies by foreign entities. Weighing the merits of proposed mergers must also uphold the integrity and resiliency of the nation's food supply and the prosperity of Americans who produce the food that feeds us.

Q: What needs to happen to protect U.S. farmland?

A: I've had this issue on my radar for more than four decades, and I'm not about to stop now. We have roughly 900 million acres of American farmland in the United States. Iowa has 30.6 million acres in farmland. There's a finite number of farmable acres on God's green Earth. As a lifelong family farmer and senior U.S. Senator who cham-

Charles Grassley has served as one of Iowa's U.S. Senators since 1981. Contact Sen. Chuck *Grassley at grassley.senate.gov/contact.*

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Miner: Tell legislators to save our schools

To the Editor: For years, GOP legislators have convinced local voters that unfunded education mandates and incremental budget cuts represent parental interests and adequate funding. Their standard answer is, "Education is the largest part of Iowa's budget."

This response disguises their underhanded movement to destroy public education. School district residents routinely support their teachers and schools and look to them as community centers. Yet most don't understand how school funding works, or even who's setting the agenda. They think the local school board has control.

Not so. Iowa's schools are governed under Dillon's Rule, which means school districts can take no action unless it is written into Iowa Code. In other words, no local control exists. Iowa's Republican leadership has used this rule to gut Iowa's school funding via a whole range of unfunded mandates and funding gimmickry. They have also limited teachers' collective bargaining rights and continue to attack the profession with legislation to ban books and file a full year's lesson plans, thus exacerbating Iowa's teacher shortage.

The Republican answer to the system they've broken is to fund private education with public tax dollars. Our governor calls this "School Choice." What kind of choice does that leave families in rural districts? Will online schools or home schooling be our only option? Haven't we just witnessed all the problems with that during the pandemic?

And what about the economic impact of gutting public schools in rural communities? In many places, schools are the largest employer. What happens when school jobs disappear? How does that help build Iowa's future?

If you have not paid attention before, you better pay attention now. Because Statehouse Republicans plan for you to go it alone, while they send your tax dollars to a fraction of Iowa's students. Instead of rebuilding our schools, this plan will break them.

Let our Southwest Iowa representatives know you support public schools. Tell them public money is for public schools.

> Cherie Miner Elliott

DEADLINES

Newspaper Inserts: Noon Wednesdays. Submitted News Items and Letters: 4 p.m. Thursdays. Public Notices: 4 p.m. Thursdays. Display & Classified Display Advertising: 4 p.m. Thursdays. Classified Line Ads/Garage Sale Ads: 10 a.m. Fridays. Obituaries: 9 a.m. Mondays.

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WHO WE ARE

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BUY A SINGLE COPY -Single copies are \$1.00 each and available at (in Red Oak unless specified): Red Oak Express; Casey's (Red Oak, Stanton,

Villisca, Griswold); Cubby's; Dollar General; E-Stop (Emerson); Fareway; Hy-Vee; Hy-Vee Wine & Spirits; United Farmers Cooperative; Walmart (Shenandoah). Single copy sales are

also available from a coin rack in front of the Red Oak Express.

COMMUNITY

Community Calendar

10 February

"The Seven Secrets to Mastering Your Sales Pitch." Go to omaha.score.org/content/ take-workshop-242 for more information and registration.

Noon: SCORE webinar,

12:30 p.m. Bingo, Red Oak Senior Center, 2700 N. 4th St. Call 712-623-3497 or Carolyn 402-926-8683 for more information.

4 p.m., Community Prayer Time, Fountain Square Park. Call Bonnie at 623-4759.

5 p.m., Red Oak Park & Tree Board meeting, Red Oak City Hall.

7 p.m., Alcoholics Anonymous, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1101 Summit St. 7 p.m., "The Locket," free showing at the Red Oak Grand Theatre, sponsored by Mark Jackson's Hardware Hank & Gold Crown Store.

1 February

10:15 a.m., Storytime, Red Oak Public Library, "Hugs," 400 N. 2nd St.

11 a.m., Scooters ribbon cutting event, 1509 N. Broad-

5:30 p.m., Alcoholics Anonymous, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1101 Summit St.

6 to 9 p.m., Katie Largent, Five One 8, 518 N. 4th St.,

7 p.m., "Sing 2," theatre #1; "American Underdog," theatre #2; Red Oak Grand Theatre.

9 p.m., The Beer Olympics, Stadium 34, 1200 Senate Ave.

12 February

Noon to 3 p.m., Sprout Up Seed Collaboration, Five One 8, 518 N. Coolbaugh St. 7 p.m., "Sing 2," theatre #1; "American Underdog," theatre #2; Red Oak Grand Theatre.

13 February 4:30 p.m., Special showing

of the Super Bowl, no regular movie showing on Feb. 13; Red Oak Grand Theatre. 5:30 p.m., Alcoholics Anonymous, Bethlehem Lutheran

Church, 1101 Summit St.

14 February

12:30 p.m. Bingo, Red Oak Senior Center, 2700 N. 4th St. Call 712-623-3497 or Carolyn 402-926-8683 for more information.

5:30 p.m., Red Oak School Board meeting, Jr./Sr. high school or via Zoom. 7 p.m., Alcoholics Anony-

mous, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1101 Summit St.

15 February

8:30 a.m., Montgomery County Supervisors, North Meeting Room in Courthouse basement, open to public, but public encouraged to attend via Zoom, if possible. Noon: SCORE webinar,

"Grow Your Business Brand by Becoming a Self-Published Author." Go to omaha. score.org/content/take-workshop-242 for more information and registration.

Noon, Rotary Club meeting. For location, go to https:// rotarydistrict5650.org/clubinfo/ red-oak.

1 p.m., Card games (pitch and/or cribbage) Red Oak Senior Center, 2700 N. 4th St. Call 712-623-3497 or Carolyn 402-926-8683 for more information.

16 February

2-5 p.m., Christ's Cupboard Food Pantry and Clothing Cupboard, 206 E. Coolbaugh St. Donations accepted 1-5 p.m. at back door.

Red Oak Grand Theatre hosting Big Game | Benefit fundraiser planned for Superbowl fundraiser next Sunday

at 410 E. Coolbaugh Street will be doing something special next weekend.

Rather than the traditional movie showings, the theater is hosting a Big Game fundraiser, with a party beginning at 4:30 p.m. and a chance to watch Super Bowl LVI on the big screen starting at 5 p.m.

Admission is free. Free will offerings will be accepted, and

The Red Oak Grand Theatre will get patrons unlimited food soda, and popcorn. Attendees are also invited to bring a cooler with their favorite beverage along with them.

Also taking place during the event is a raffle and silent auction, featuring an autographed Green Bay Packers football, Creighton University game passes, and a signed photo of Pittsburgh Steeler Cameron Heyward.

Rush joins American Angus Association

Macy Rush, Red Oak, is sponsored shows and other a new junior member of the national and regional events. American Angus Association.

Junior members of the Association are eligible to register cattle in the American Angus and take part in Association-

The American Angus

Association is the largest beef breed association in the world, with more than 25,000 active adult and junior members. Visit NJAA.info for more information about the National Junior Angus Association.

YMCA hosting Love Thy Neighbor food drive until Feb. 28

The Montgomery County Family YMCA at 101 E. Cherry St. is hosting a "Love Thy

Neighbor" food drive through the month of February. The event, which was organized by the YMCA's Togetherhood committee, will be distributing the items to local food pantries, so all of the food collected will be kept in the Red

Oak community. For every three items that are donated, the donor will receive one free YMCA guest pass. Most needed items include soups, canned fruit, peanut but-

ter, tuna, meat helpers, such as Hamburger Helper, canned pasta sauce, toilet paper, and laundry soap. Anyone with questions can call 623-2161

Happy Birthday!

Celebrating birthdays this week are:

Jerry Stanley – Feb. 10 Jody Adams - Feb. 11 Shawn Parker - Feb. 11 Jason Moore - Feb. 15 Cole Finnell – Feb. 15 Raymond Laird - Feb. 15 Ruth Jamison - Feb. 16 Lily Mace – Feb. 16

To be included on the free "Happy Birthday" list, e-mail your birthday (and those of your friends and family) to news@redoakexpress.com, mail to P.O. Box 377, Red Oak, IA 51566, or drop by our office at 2012 Commerce Dr.

Perkins family on Feb. 19

The Red Oak Class of 1986 has established a fund at Bank Iowa in Red Oak to assist the Perkins family in updating their vehicle.

Stacy's father passed away Sept. 6, 2021, and his mother passed away a few years prior, leaving Stacy as the sole provider for himself and his sister, Paula. He currently works fulltime at Nachurs in Red Oak.

A benefit supper is planned from 5 to 8 p.,m, at the Gold Fair Building at 1809 N. 4th Street. The meal will feature pulled pork, baked beans, cole slaw, chips, and dessert.

Free will donations will be accepted at the meal, and donations can be deposited at Bank Iowa under the Stacy Perkins Benefit/Memorial Fund.

Daddy/Daughter Dance in Red Oak



The Red Oak Rotary Club's 12th Annual Daddy/Daughter Dance at the White Fair Building was a rousing success Feb. 5. Around 200 girls attended, with more than 100 fathers, grandfathers and friends, including Jed Westhover and his daughter, Harlow, pictured above. (Photo courtesy of Kara Sherman)



Delbert and Kathy King – Feb. 9 Wayne and Connie Bailey – Feb. 14

Association, participate in programs conducted by the National Junior Angus Association

Congratulations and happy anniversary to you!

Celebrating their anniversaries this week are:

To become a member of the free "Anniversary Club," e-mail your anniversary (and those of your friends and family) to news@redoakexpress.com, mail to P.O. Box 377, Red Oak, IA 51566, or drop by our office at 2012 Commerce Dr.

Happy Anniversary!

Senior Menu

Thursday, Feb 10: Pineapple chicken breast, scalloped potatoes, peas, wheat bread slices, fresh seasonal fruit, milk/coffee.

Friday, Feb. 11: Meatloaf, baked sweet potatoes, seasoned green beans, wheat roll, chocolate chip

cookie, milk/coffee. Monday, Feb. 14: Oven fried chicken, whipped potatoes, Calicookie, milk/coffee. fornia vegetable blend, wheat roll, strawberry cheesecake pudding, chicken breast, chicken gravy, milk/coffee. Tuesday, Feb. 15 Sliced ham, bread slices, rocky road pudding,

roasted red potatoes, broccoli flomilk/coffee. rets, wheat bread slices, oatmeal

Wednesday, Feb. 16: Baked

For more information, call the Senior Center at 623-3497 or Carolvn at 402-926-8683.

Please call for reservations by 9:30 a.m. the day before you plan mashed sweet potatoes, peas, wheat to eat lunch.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

9:45 a.m.

Advent Christian

300 S. 2nd Ave., Villisca, Rev. Jeff Eason, Sunday School, 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:30 a.m., Celebrate Recovery, Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.

<u>Assembly Of God</u>

1005 Senate, Red Oak, 623-2174, Services, 10:30 a.m.

Baptist

The Bridge (First Baptist Church), 406 N. 3rd St., Red Oak, Rev. Len Taylor, Worship, 11 a.m. Grace Baptist, 1510 N. 6th St., Red Oak, Gary D. Walters, Bible class, 10 a.m., Worship, 11 a.m., Worship, 6 p.m.; Wednesday, Prayer, 7 p.m. Grace Baptist, 525 Main St., Griswold, Victor Maxson, Bible study, 10 a.m., Worship, 11 a.m. Online: 11 a.m. livestream

Southern Baptist

Crossroads Community Church, 303 E. Oak St., use the alley entrance, Rev. Ricky Rohrig, Sr., Celebration Services with Kids' Church, 9:23 a.m., Wednesdays in the Word, live on Facebook, 6:30 p.m. 712-357-1060, crossroadsredoak.com. Online: 9:45 a.m. approx. live on Facebook.

<u>Catholic</u>

St. Joseph's, 131 W. High, Villisca, Father Eze Venantius Umunnakwe,

Sunday Mass, 8:30 a.m. St. Mary's, 1510 Highland Ave., Red Oak. Father Lazarus Kirigia. Saturdays, 5 p.m. (1st, 3rd, 5th Saturday); Sunday, 10:30 a.m., in Spanish, 1 p.m.

<u>Christian</u>

First Christian, 1909 Summit St., Red Oak, PreKindergarten - Sunday School, 9:30-10:15 a.m., Fellowship, 10 a.m., Worship, 10:30 a.m. Online: 10:30 a.m. live on Facebook.

Christian & Missionary Alliance

Citylight Southwest Iowa, 705 Bradford, Emerson. Co-lead pastors Matt Keller, Tyler Mass. Worship with children's church, 10 a.m. in-person gathering. Online: 10 a.m. live on Facebook. Faith Community, 2701 N. 8th St., Red Oak, Rev. David MacDonald,

Worship, 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Sunday School for kindergarten-adults, 10:45 a.m..Wednesday activities: JUMP, Pre-K grade 4, 4-5:20 p.m. or 6-7:20 p.m. SHOUT, grades 5-6, 4-5:30 p.m. EXIT, grades 7-12, 7-8:30 p.m. Online: 9 a.m. on KCSI, 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Facebook, also Youtube/Red Oak Faith Community Church.

Church Of Christ Church Of Christ, Elliott, Sunday

Bible School, 9 a.m., Worship, 10 a.m., Men's and Women's Bible study and breakfast, first Sunday of the month at 7:30 a.m. Nishna Church Of Christ, Hwy. 48 North, Red Oak, Teaching Pastor: Kelvin Jones, Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:30 a.m.

Church Of the Nazarene

Red Oak, 401 E. Prospect St., Rev. Lori Lathrop. Radio ministry, 8:30 a.m., worship with children's church at 10:30 a.m.

<u>Covenant</u>

Evangelical, Rev. Matt King, 308 Eastern, Stanton, Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:45 a.m. Online: 10:45 a.m. live on Facebook and later on Youtube. Faith Covenant Church, 212 Alice St., Essex, Pastor Gordon Scott, Pastor Staci Shearer, Worship, 8:30 a.m.

First Covenant, Rev. Alan Dean, pastor, 3rd & Hammond, Red Oak, Worship, 9:30 a.m.

Jehovah's Witness

210 Argus Road, Shenandoah, Thursday, 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m., public Bible discourse.

Lutheran

Bethesda Lutheran, Rural Clarinda. Worship 9:30 a.m. Worship, Sunday School 10:30 a.m

Bethlehem Lutheran, 1101 Summit St., Red Oak, Rev. Jennifer Yeske-Drown, Sunday worship, 11 a.m., evening service 4 p.m. Strand Evangelical, Rural Villisca,

Rev. Marietta Nelson-Bittle, Worship,

Fremont Lutheran (Nyman), 1147 Ironwood Ave, Red Oak, Pastor Ann Albert, Worship, 9:30 a.m., Sunday School, 10:30 a.m. Mamrelund Lutheran, 410 Eastern Ave., Stanton, Rev. Eric Kutzli, Sunday School and Confirmation, 9:15 a.m., Worship, 10:30

Stanton, Worship, 8:15 a.m., Sunday School, 9:15 a.m. Peace Lutheran, (A WELS Congregation), 411 Church St., Shenandoah, Saturday Worship, 5:30 p.m.; Bible and Sunday School, 6:30 p.m.

Non-Denominational

Hope For Life Christian Church, 300 Oak St., 623-6072, Bill Frey, Pastor, Sunday School, children and adults, 9 a.m., Worship, 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Monday, Daytime - Ladies Bible Study, 10:30 a.m., Night - Bible Study, 7 p.m.; Wednesday, Bible Study, 7 p.m.

Oaks Community Church, 41310 Ellington Rd., Emerson, Rev. Ron Perry, 712-824-7218, Sunday School, 10 a.m., Worship, 11 a.m.

Presbyterian

Center Ridge, RR 2, Red Oak, HR Dr. Keith Cook, Worship and Sunday School 9:30 a.m. First Presbyterian, 109 S. 3rd Ave., Villisca, Rev. Sandra Wainwright, Sunday School, 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:30 a.m. Red Oak Presbyterian, 511 E. Coolbaugh, PO Box 402, Red Oak, Caryn Pedersen, redoakpresbyterianchurch.com, Service, 10:30 a.m. Online: 10:30 a.m. live on Facebook/Red Oak Presbyterian Church

Reformed Evangelical

Heartland Sovereign Grace Church, new church plant. Bible study Sunday, 5 p.m., www.swiacrec.com, contact@swiacrec.com.

United Methodist

First United Methodist, 600 E. Hammond, Red Oak, Rev. Dr. Eric Sayonkon, Worship, Sunday, 10:30 a.m.; Youth group Wednesday 6:30-8 p.m., grades 6-12, snack is served. Online: 10:30 a.m. fumcro.org; click on the media tab to see previously recorded services. Wesley Chapel UMC, Rev. Carl Phillips, Worship, 8:45 a.m., Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.

Hawthorne, 1248 210th St., Red Oak, Worship, 10 a.m.: Stratton, 1695 150th St., Red Oak, Worship. 11:15 a.m. Online: 11:15 a.m. live on Facebook. Elliott United Methodist, Rev. Terry McClain, Sunday School, 9 a.m., Worship, 10 a.m. Online: 10 a.m. live on Facebook. Emerson United Methodist Church

Red Oak Circuit, Linda Westerhold;

Rev. Denise Stevens, 801 Bradford Ave., Emerson, (712) 824-7368, Sunday School, 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:30 a.m.

Grant United Methodist, Rev. Jenn Van Nostrand, Worship services, 9 a.m. Online: 9 a.m. live on Facebook

United Methodist, 203 S. 3rd Ave., Villisca, Rev. Jessica Jacobsen, Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship. 10:30 a.m. Online: 10:30 a.m. live on Facebook. Strahan United Methodist, Hastings, Rev. David Kwangki Kim, Worship, 9:30 a.m., Sunday School, 10:30 a.m.

United Church Of Christ

First Congregational, 608 Reed St., Red Oak, Pastor Jenny Folmar, Sunday Worship, noon., Outdoors if weather permits, otherwise in the chapel. If outdoors, bring your own lawn chair.

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a.m. Online: 9:30 a.m. FMTC Cable Channel 1, also live on Facebook. Mt. Calvary, 107 S. 5th, Villisca, Jerome Wagoner, Worship, 9:00 a.m. Tabor Lutheran, 1711 Q Ave.,

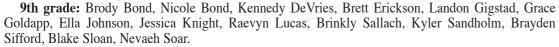
EDUCATION

Red Oak Honor Rolls

FIRST SEMESTER HIGH HONOR ROLL

7th grade: Kenadee Beacham, Caitlin Britten, Sawyer Bruce, Pace Chaillie, Weston Couse, Iyla Fine, Emmanuel Grass, Gillian Heim, Cathryn Horn, Natalie Johnson, Keely Jones, Elaina Kuipers, Vivian Lucas, Jaileigh Lundquist, Reese Montgomery, Jackson Perdue, Marlee Perrien, Mariel Ramirez, Amber Rea, Rowyn Rigby, Ethan Strunk, Sergio Villanueva, Haylee Wallace, Mhylee Wallace.

8th grade: Chloe Devito, Masen Fisher, Ethan Fouts, Josie Goldapp, Cale Hall, Karley Jenkins, Ellison Johnson, Sianna Klepinger, Sarah Knight, Jocelyn O'Neal, Megan Page, Jacob Patterson, Mareli Ramos, Zoie Rohrig, Emily Sebeniecher, Alyssa Strebe, Anna Wenberg, Bryce Williams.



10th grade: Brenna Baier, Tyler Beeson, Bryton Bergren, Jakson Biggerstaff, Olivia Bozwell, Cloie Bruce, Max DeVries, Lucia Domenech Garcia, Ty Jenkins, Abigail Johnson, Elaine Klepinger, Joshua LeRette, Jaydin Lindsay, Joselyn McCunn, Cyrus Mensen, Blayke Mirts, Merced Ramirez, Hailey Rydberg, Bryce Shirley, Annabelle Squires, Grace Wingfield, Kayden Wingfield.

11th grade: Dawson Bond, Aiden Bruce, Logan Conn, Landon Couse, Lainey DeVries, Sam Fields, Riley Fouts, Isabella Glassel, Michelle Grass, Josie Rengstorf, Tessa Rolenc, Fateen Sealy, Hannah Smith.

12th grade: Allie Allison, Camryn Bass, Alecia Baumfalk, Taylor Bennett, Ashlyn Blackman, Nolan Blackman, Elizabeth Carbaugh, Jordan Carlson, Mirissa Deitering, Aedynn Graham, Delaney Hall, Shelby Heitman, Grayson Hewett, Alyssa Hogberg, Reese Jackson, Abby Johnson, Ryan Johnson, Trinity LaMar, Julie Loftesness, Lennon O'Neal, Delaina Olson, Lindsey Porter, Stephany Ramos, Gannon Sallach, Bradley Sifford, Mattie Stephens, Payten Stilen, Anna Vandrey, Jaylyn VanHouten, Alexis Vera.

FIRST SEMESTER HONOR ROLL

7th grade: Owen Blystone, Elliott Cartwright, Elliana Freshour, Brooklyn Gilleland, Brody Hughes, Audrina Johnson, Mason Kinsley, Gavin Lindsay, Rylan Mirts, Osiel Pedersen, Rikki Pierce, Guadalupe Ramos, Carson Roeder, Dillan Rydberg, Jared Scriver, Gabrielle Smith, Jesika Smith, Sophie Snyder, Ryan Soar, Carson VanScoy, Leya Walker.

8th grade: Jesika Aldrich, Nellie Blaine, Sophie Devito, Jayda Edie, Jasmine Grizzard, Dayton Gusman, Ryelan Kruse, Mykinzie Magill, Lily Marsden, Madilynn Parker, Mariella Richards-Hernandez, Kendall Ruhl, Louisa Stickland, Ace Wilkins.

9th grade: Jacob Brower, Lillian Cobb, Chloe Conn, Weston Gettler, Marley Gray, Ilana Johnson, Miranda Johnson, Faith Ketelhut, Brynn Knaus, Jaide Larson, Lilly Lewis, Yael Morales Valdez, Iris Ogden, Abigail Pedersen, Nolan Perrien, Kadyn Riibe, Hope Schmadeke, Ashley Schmid, Lena Torbett, Cassandra Vera, Pablo Villanueva, Alexis Wallace, Victoria Wendt, Marissa Williams.

10th grade: Izabella Beam, Prashna Bell, Macartnie Boeye, Hayden Brenner, Sebastian Clear, Kiah Cooper, Griffin Eubank, Andy Franco Zamarron, Hunter Gilleland, Heath Jackson, Hunter Jarrett, Bennett Johnson, Kaysie Kells, Connor Knight, Cade Lovell, Ashtin McDowell, Kyler Mirts, Gracie Redd, Kiley Riibe, Anderson Ruhl, Luke Sayonkon, Brayden Sego.

11th grade: Bridgett Archer, Dante Baucom, Joanna Bloomer, Haley Branam, Madison Doyle, Jacob Eggerss, Theresa Flick, James Gass, Tanner Kinsley, Chloie Lane, Mauritz Malchiin, Lexi Meier, Zephyr Richardson, Chase Roeder, Josie Vanderhoof, Jonah Wemhoff, Ethan Wenberg, Ashley Wilkins, Braden Woods

12th grade: Payten Bass, Olivia Beam, Baylor Bergren, Tory Carrick, Kate Edie, Jasmine Elwood, Novalea Fink, Nicholas Fouts, Anna Grizzard, Audrey Hill, Haley Jackson, Alexis Johnson, Kaila Larson, Jessica Lukehart, Emily Parkhurst, Karley Rensch, Chase Sandholm, Alredo Torres Lopez, Breckin Weston.

Essex awarded BELIEF Grant

of Education awarded 16 competitive planning grants, up to \$10,000 each, to public school districts to explore the development of blending child care and quality early learning programs in their communities. Local districts that received funding were Essex, Hamburg, and Shenandoah.

The Blended Early Learning in Educational

Gov. Kim Reynolds and the Iowa Department developing plans to start evidence-based, customized early child care and preschool programs for children under the age of five. The grants can be used to cover costs associated with training and planning, such as travel expenses, communication and outreach services, transportation costs associated with multiple service locations as well as the cost of substitute teachers, so team members can

Area thespians show off skills at State

Nick Johansen

The Red Oak Express Multiple schools took part in the State Large Group Speech contest at West Des Moines Valley Feb. 5. Results are as follows:

Red Oak

• Ensemble Acting: Michelle Grass, Griffin Eubank, and Connor Knight, straight II.

• Short Film: Gannon Sallach, Stef Medina, Lindsey Porter, Tessa Rolenc, Griffin Eubank, Connor Knight, Aedynn Graham, Jonah Wemhoff,

and Grayson Hewett, mixed I. Radio Broadcasting: Maddie Doyle and Logan Conn, mixed I.

• Group Improv: Aedynn Graham, Grayson Hewett, Jonah Wemhoff, Josie Rengstorf, and Stef Medina, mixed I.

• Ensemble Acting: Tessa Rolenc and Josie Rengstorf, straight I.

Stanton

 Radio Broadcasting: Abby Burke, Addison Olson, Allie Sandin, April Vanderholm, Brooklyn Silva, Carli Smith, Jenna Stephens, and Leah Sandin, mixed I

Radio Broadcasting: Amanda Benson, Ashley Henneman, Axel King, Dacey Henneman, Elly McDonald, Evan Hopf, Preston Carpenter, and Slade Graham, straight I

Radio Broadcasting: Ella Peterson, Emma Sallach, Hannah Olson, Kiela Franzen, Kyla Hart, Lauren Johnson, and Riley Burke. mixed I Griswold

· Ensemble Acting: Mike Kunze, Zander Luft,

School Lunch Menus

East Mills

Thursday, Feb. 10: Chicken and noodles or pizza, carrot slices, mashed potatoes, sliced pears. Friday, Feb. 11: Philly cheesesteak or pizza,

potato smiles, cooked peppers and onions, celery sticks, apricot halves.

Monday, Feb. 14: Chicken nuggets or pizza, glazed carrots, broccoli florets, tropical fruit cup, Rice Krispie treat.

Tuesday, Feb. 15: Teriyaki beef dippers or pizza, baked beans, mashed potatoes, pineapple tidbits, roll. Wednesday, Feb. 16: Sausage, egg, and cheese croissant, green peppers, hash brown, applesauce.

Essex

Thursday, Feb. 10: Biscuits and gravy, sausage patty, snap peas, hash brown patty, mandarin oranges.

Friday, Feb. 11 Uncrustable peanut butter and jelly sandwich, string cheese Sidekick, mixed fruit. Monday, Feb. 14: Grilled cheese sandwich, toma-

to soup, fresh vegetables, bananas. Tuesday, Feb. 15: Chicken patty on a bun, tater

tots, spinach salad, sliced pears. Wednesday, Feb. 16: Chicken crispito, Spanish

rice, lettuce salad with dressing, pineapple tidbits.

Griswold

Thursday, Feb. 10: Walking taco, lettuce, cheese, sour cream, salsa, fresh vegetables, apple slices.

Friday, Feb. 11 Pork patty on a bun, tater tots, beanie weenies, sliced pears.

Monday, Feb. 14: Chicken fried steak, mashed

potatoes and gravy, corn, dinner roll, sliced peaches. Tuesday, Feb. 15: Super nachos, cheese, onions,



Grant Rogers, and Grant Adams, straight I

• Readers Theatre: Paris Sorensen, Mike Kunze, Zander Luft, Jayson Davis, Jeremy Sheeder, Madie Tischer, Emma Petersen, Grant Rogers, Brie Ross, Paige Luft, Alynah Hern Alvarado, Grant Adams, and Camden Rossell, mixed I

• Ensemble Acting:Paris Sorensen, Paige Luft, and Alynah Hern Alvarado, mixed I

Essex

• Radio Broadcasting: Johnny Resh, Brianne Johnson, Olivia Baker, Ashley Brooks, and Nic Givens, straight I

Mime: Johnny Resh, Brianne Johnson, Olivia Baker, Ashley Brooks, and Nic Givens, mixed II. Resh filled in for district qualifier Preston

Driskell, who was ill. **East Mills**

• Radio Broadcasting: Grace Escritt, Madilynn Marburger, and Megan Wells, straight II. • Group Improv: Madilynn Marburger, Lilly Proctor, and Kaylee Vandenberg, straight II.

pintos, black bean dip, fresh fruit, mandarin oranges. Wednesday, Feb. 16: Fish patty; hot roll; or chef salad, hot roll; or roasted chicken sandwich; or club sandwich; tater tots, glazed carrots, baby carrots, fresh garden salad with dressing, fresh fruit, peaches.

Red Oak Jr./Sr. High School Chicken patty, cheeseburger, and pizza are offered daily

Thursday, Feb. 10: Super nachos; or white chicken chili, Italian bread; or chicken Caesar salad, Italian bread; or pizza munchables; fresh garden salad with dressing, BBQ bacon baked beans, fresh fruit, pears. Friday, Feb. 11: Taco joe sandwich; or Italian

pizza; or BLTE salad, pineapple muffin; or Thai chili noodle salad; fresh garden salad with dressing, baby carrots, fresh fruit, tomato soup, tropical fruit.

Monday, Feb. 14: Chicken nuggets, Italian bread; or meatball sub; or sweet and sour chicken salad, Italian bread; or ham and cheese sadwich; fresh garden salad with dressing, corn, fresh fruit, applesauce.

Tuesday, Feb. 15: Cheeseburger; or chicken tortilla soup, focaccia bread; or chicken bacon ranch salad, focaccia bread; or cottage cheese with fruit and a muffin; fresh garden salad with dressing, Texas pintos, black bean dip, fresh fruit, mandarin oranges.

Wednesday, Feb. 16: Fish patty; hot roll; or chef salad, hot roll; or roasted chicken sandwich; or club sandwich; tater tots, glazed carrots, baby carrots, fresh garden salad with dressing, fresh fruit, peaches.

Southwest Vallev

Thursday, Feb. 10: Cheesy penne pasta, lettuce salad, sugar snap peas, garlic bread, fruit.



Foundations (BELIEF) grants will support school attend training and planning sessions. districts working with community partners in

School Activities

Thursday, Feb. 10

- 6:30-7:45 a.m., Griswold: High school boys throwers, middle school gym
- 6:45-7:45 a.m., Southwest Valley: High school baseball open gym, new high school gym
- 3:30-5 p.m., Red Oak: Sixth grade boys basketball practice, Inman Elementary gym
- 5-6 p.m., Southwest Valley: Corning youth basketball practice, third grade boys, Corning Elementary gym
- 6-7:15 p.m., Southwest Valley: Corning youth basketball practice, fourth/fifth grade boys, Corning Elementary gym
- 6:15-7:30 p.m., Southwest Valley: Corning youth baseball practice, sixth grade girls, new high school gym
- 6:15-7:30 p.m., Southwest Valley: Corning youth baseball practice, sixth grade boys, activity center

Friday, Feb. 11

- 1:30 p.m., Essex: Early dismissal
- 3:45-5 p.m., Southwest Valley: Corning youth basketball practice, fifth grade girls, Corning Elementary gym
- 5:30-6:15 p.m., Griswold: Kindergartensecond grade wrestling practice, elementary
- 6:30-7:30 p.m., Griswold: Third-eighth grade wrestling club, elementary gym

Saturday, Feb. 12

- 9-10 a.m., Southwest Valley: Corning youth basketball practice, new high school gym
- 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Southwest Valley: Corning youth basketball practice, junior kindergarten-second grade, new high school gym
- 8 p.m., Red Oak: YMCA boys basketball, Inman Elementary gym

Sunday, Feb. 13

- 1 p.m-5 p.m., Southwest Valley: AAU volleyball, practice, activity center
- 2-4 p.m., Griswold: High school baseball practice, middle school gym
- 4-5:30 p.m., Griswold: Sixth grade girls basketball practice, high school gym
- 4:15-5:45 p.m., Southwest Valley: High school girls basketball open gym, new high school gym
- 5-6 p.m., Griswold: High school girls pitching practice, middle school gym

5:45-7:30 p.m., Southwest Valley: High school softball, new high school gym

Monday, Feb. 14

- East Mills: Late Start, 90 minutes 3:30-5:30 p.m., Red Oak: Sixth grade boys
- basketball practice, Inman Elementary gym 3:45-5 p.m., Southwest Valley: Corning
- youth basketball practice, fifth grade girls, Corning Elementary gym
- 4-6 p.m., Southwest Valley: Dance team practice, Villisca Wellness Center
- 5:30-6:15 p.m., Griswold: Kindergartensecond grade wrestling practice, elementary gym
- 6:30-7:30 p.m., Griswold: Third-eighth grade wrestling club practice, elementary gym
- 7:30 p.m., Griswold: High school AAU volleyball practice

Tuesday, Feb. 15

- 6:15-7:10 a.m., Southwest Valley: Dance team practice, activity center
- 6:30-7:45 a.m., Griswold: High school boys throwers, middle school gym
- 6:45-7:45 a.m., Southwest Valley: High school baseball open gym, new high school
- 6-7:15 p.m., Southwest Valley: Corning youth basketball practice, fourth/fifth grade boys, Corning Elementary gym, sixth grade boys, activity center
- 6 p.m., Griswold: Middle school AAU volleyball
- 6-7:30 p.m., Southwest Valley: Corning youth basketball practice, sixth grade girls, new high school gym

Wednesday, Feb. 16

- Griswold: One hour early release
- 6:15-7:10 a.m., Southwest Valley: Dance team practice, activity center
- 6:15-7:15 a.m., Southwest Valley: High school softball pitching, new high school gym
- 1:05/1:15 p.m., Stanton: Early dismissal
- 5 p.m., Griswold: High School girls pitching practice, middle school gym 6:15-8:15 p.m., Southwest Valley: AAU volleyball practice, new high school gym
- 6:30-9 p.m., Southwest Valley: Men's volleyball league, activity center

olives, sour cream, carrots and ranch dip, pears. Wednesday, Feb. 16: Grilled cheese, little smokies, peas, mixed fruit.

Red Oak Elementary/ Preschool Center

Thursday, Feb. 10: Super nachos; or white chicken chili, Italian bread; or chicken Caesar salad, Italian bread; or pizza munchables; fresh garden salad with dressing, BBQ bacon baked beans, fresh fruit, pears.

Friday, Feb. 11: Taco joe sandwich; or Italian pizza; or BLTE salad, pineapple muffin; or Thai chili noodle salad; fresh garden salad with dressing, baby carrots, fresh fruit, tomato soup, tropical fruit.

Monday, Feb. 14: Chicken nuggets, Italian bread; or meatball sub; or sweet and sour chicken salad, Italian bread; or ham and cheese sandwich; fresh garden salad with dressing, corn, fresh fruit, applesauce.

Tuesday, Feb. 15: Cheeseburger; or chicken tortilla soup, focaccia bread; or chicken bacon ranch salad, focaccia bread; or cottage cheese with fruit and a muffin; fresh garden salad with dressing, Texas

Friday, Feb. 11 BBQ pork on a bun, baked beans, sweet potatoes, fruit.

Monday, Feb. 14: Little smokie macaroni and cheese, potato stars, country trio vegetables, fruit.

Tuesday, Feb. 15: Mexican tater tot casserole, peas, yogurt, fruit.

Wednesday, Feb. 16: Crispy ranch chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn, dinner roll, fruit.

Stanton

Thursday, Feb. 10: Lasagna roll-up, lettuce salad with dressing, carrots, pears, applesauce, bread stick. Friday, Feb. 11 Grilled cheese sandwich, tomato soup, tri-tater, applesauce, mixed fruit.

Monday, Feb. 14: Pork chopette on a bun, baked beans, ranch potatoes, apple slices, mixed fruit.

Tuesday, Feb. 15: Pizza slices, lettuce salad with dressing, carrots, applesauce, pears.

Wednesday, Feb. 16: Ham and cheese sandwich, peas, green beans, peaches, strawberries, rice.

Thank You to area businesses and individuals for donating to the newspapers in education program.



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Your donation of \$13.32 will buy newspapers for one student for the entire school year, because the Red Oak Express matches each and every donation! If you would like to contribute to Newspapers in Education, or if you are a teacher who would like to use the Red Oak Express in your classroom,

contact Nanny at 712-623-2566 or circulation@redoakexpress.com.





Adams updates supervisors on MCDC happenings

Nick Johansen The Red Oak Express

The Montgomery County Development Corporation is sharing some of the big things happening in the county. At a recent meeting of the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors, MCDC Board President Ann Carder and MCDC executive director Steve Adams expressed their appreciation to the supervisors for allowing two supervisors to also serve on the MCDC Board, stating it was important to have their input. Carder said she was also grateful for the financial support.

Carder said the reason for the visit was to give the supervisors an update on what what recently been going on in the county.

"I know you get quick summaries from Randy Cooper and Mike Olson, who serve on our board, but we felt you might like something more detailed, as we have some great things going on," Carder said.

Adams said he had conversed with Carder about his optimism going forward, and Adams said he expected great things. "I told her I'm not just blowing smoke, I really think that 2022 is

going to be a really big year for us. Since I took over in late April, and officially started in July, we've had seven small business consults, and we've had two new businesses start, one new business acquisition, and two business relocations, though I don't take the credit for all of that," Adams explained.

Adams also shared an update on the vacant K-Mart building, which has remained unoccupied for quite some time.

"We did have four business leads, and they were all willing to take a look at the building and engage in multiple tours. The building's owner has also made several improvements to the building, waterline work, and work to the parking lot," Adams advised. "We still have one very active prospect on that building, and I am hoping to know in

the next few weeks whether they want to move forward. They don't want to use the whole building, just the back portion of it."

If that proceeds, Adams said the retail frontage would still be available, and they had a prospect for that as well.

"We had actually been recruiting one retailer who was very interested in the space, but they said, quite honestly, it was too big, and they only wanted half of it also. So depending on what happens with this prospect, we may go back and revisit that other retail prospect to see if they wish to use the retail frontage," commented Adams.

Adams also said there were two new housing developers that had been invited to Red Oak, and had toured the town. Also, MCDC recently was approved to receive a Rural Housing Readiness Assessment grant, which would provide \$10,000 towards a housing assessment in the community.

Interest had also been expressed in the purchase of the vacant Bancroft and Webster buildings.

"We've had six meetings, lots of tours of the building, and a DNR representative came down to talk to us about asbestos abatement, removal, and remediation, and the DNR will be working with us moving forward on those two properties. We've had developers tour the buildings, and we've got some real good opportunities. I think in 2022 we'll see some very significant progress there," said Adams.

Adams also said there were two industries that were looking at possible expansions, which he said was very good news.

"Both these businesses came to me a few weeks after I started, and after having done this for more than 30 years, the normal average is one every two to three years. The fact that I had two approach me in a matter of a few weeks is unheard of," Adams stated. "These expansions will start in 2022 and run into 2024, so they won't happen immediately, but we're looking at 80,000 square feet in new construction between both businesses, and the total of the projects



Adams

will be \$10 million to \$12 million, with the potential of up to \$30 million in reinvestment, and it will also create 50 new jobs.'

Adams also shared the results of the latest business retention and expansion surveys, and said all shared similar priorities.

"Their top priorities are labor, which we can't find, supply chain issues, a lack of available and affordable housing, which is preventing employees from coming into the county. Three of the manufacturers said they are also looking at continuous shift manufacturing this year, and they are concerned about having overnight child care available. That's just more or less a heads-up, but I

feel we need to be on the front side of it, rather than the back side,' Adams said.

Adams said so far he's been involved in 1,300 calls, emails, and text messages since he started the job, and doesn't seem to run out of people to talk to.

"I'm super optimistic about where we are moving forward, and I think there are some wonderful opportunities with business expansions and housing," Adams commented.

Carder closed the presentation with her appreciation for being allowed to speak before the supervisors, and said that she and Adams were always available if the supervisors had further questions.

Supervisors begin steps to finalize 2022-23 fiscal year budget

Nick Johansen The Red Oak Express

The Montgomery County Board of Supervisors is preparing to finalize the upcoming 2022-23 fiscal year budget.

At the regular Montgomery County Board of Supervisors meeting Feb. 1, one of the action items on the agenda was overall budget discussions with all departments, and to set additional budget work sessions, if necessary.

County Auditor Stephanie Burke said the overall budget worked up thus far had been submitted for approval by the supervisors.

"I made the suggested changes and I have submitted everything for your review, and so it's in your hands now. If you want to schedule any additional budget work sessions, you'll need to do it soon," Burke advised.

However, Burke said that if the supervisors were satisfied with the levy rates, and department expenses and revenue, she simply needed the green light to move forward.

Supervisor Donna Robinson asked Supervisor's Chair Mark Peterson and Supervisor Mike Olson, who were attending the meeting through Zoom, whether they had any issues with the current budget as proposed. Olson said he had no complaints.

"I have looked at the proposal. I don't think



Montgomery County Supervisors Randy Cooper and Charla Schmid at the Feb. 1 meeting. (Nick Johansen/Red Oak Express)

posal.

time to look at the proposal completely, but she do with salary increases.

included, and Burke confirmed that all the changes Supervisor Charla Schmid said she hadn't had had been made. The majority of the changes had to

with.

"Basically, I would go into the Department of Management and plug in everything. And we have some time. If something were to drastically change, it can be changed. A public hearing will be set to approve the maximum property tax dollars levied, and then we would set another public hearing for the budget itself in March.

Robinson explained the maximum property tax dollars levied was simply the maximum the county could spend, it did not mean the county would.

"We didn't use to have this step, but a few years ago, in some of the larger counties, their levy saw a 10% or even a 14% increase with very little input from the public on those changes." Robinson explained. "The Iowa Legislature came back and said all the counties needed to do this extra step so the public could review the changes, and voice their opinions, before finalizing their budgets."

Based on the comments, Robinson said it appeared that no further work sessions were necesssary, and that the supervisors were comfortable with the budget where it was at.

"I feel we put a lot of time into this, and putting it together, and reviewed all the numbers submitted by all the different departments," stated Robinson.

The supervisors agreed that no further budget work sessions were needed at this time.

The final action item was to set the public hearing date of Feb. 22 at 8:45 a.m. for the FY 2022-23 total maximum property tax dollars levied. The supervisors approved that public hearing date and time.

Ask

there's anything else we can change; if there is, I haven't seen anything," Olson said.

Supervisors Chair Mark Peterson was in agreement that he saw no issues with the budget prowould agree with what the majority decided, and would finish reviewing the proposal.

Robinson asked if all of the proposed changes discussed at the final work session had been

Schmid asked if they did not schedule another budget meeting, if it meant the proposal was being accepted. Burke said if the supervisors were satisfied, there were additional steps she would proceed

BBB warns of fake COVID tests and face masks

As the U.S. government begins distributing COVID tests and face masks, Americans can be assured of the return of an old scammer trick: crooks masking themselves as official websites.

They've done it repeatedly with other government agencies and programs, from Social Security to Medicare to the IRS. Your Better Business Bureau (BBB) warns new initiatives such as the recently announced programs to give out free COVID tests and facemasks will bring masquerading scammers out yet again. Their goal is the acquisition of your private information to steal your identity and

your money. "It's disgusting that these bad actors continue to leverage this worldwide crisis for their own economic gain," said BBB President and CEO Jim Hegarty. "Unfortunately, scams have grown in frequency throughout the pandemic, so we're doing our utmost to urge consumers to be cautious."

When you do an online search or respond to an ad regarding free tests or facemasks, you could find yourself directed to a website that looks official. Scammers may have duplicated the look-complete with graphics and logos-of a real government website. There will be a link that you are urged to click on to request your own test or facemask.

Clicking on the link could take you to a form that requests a Social Security number or Medicare ID. It may also want you to submit a credit card num-



ber to "pay for shipping." The real page, however, will not ask for such information. This is a sign of a scam.

The operational details of the distribution of the N95 facemasks are still being developed. Early reporting indicates the masks will be available threeto-a-person at pharmacies and community health centers. There is not yet an indication of dis-

tribution through the mail. The program is expected to be in operation by early February.

Tests, however, will be mailed out to those who go to covidtest. gov, or to special.usps.com/test kits, and request them. The current plan is four free tests per household. If a household needs more than four and has private insurance, they can either have the insurance provider pay for them at the time of purchase or get reimbursed by submitting a claim to the insurer. You may get up to eight tests per covered individual per month from pri-

vate insurers. Here are BBB's tips for checking the legitimacy of a website:

• Domain name—Scammers choose domain names as close to the real thing as possible. They may swap two letters or use a slight misspelling. So read carefully for the exact, correct spelling.

• Tricky subdomains-Look at the spelling of the subdomain name. A favorite trick of scammers is to use a different one (from the legitimate one) in hopes you will not notice.

• Only your name and address are requested by the real websites. The government program is free and requires no payment from you, even for shipping. No insurance details or Social Security numbers are required.

Take advantage of the new free test and mask programs from the government but be smart about the process. Don't fall into the traps that are certainly going to be set by scammers trying to rip you off. For more answers to questions, you may about the free test and mask initiatives, call BBB at (800) 856-2417 or visit the website at

BBB.org





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Education a key focus of discussion of first legislative coffee of 2022

Nick Johansen The Red Oak Express

Around 25 area residents attended the first legislative coffee event of the year at the Montgomery County Family YMCA Saturday, Feb. 5.

State Sen. Mark Costello and State Rep. David Sieck were both in attendance, and announced this year would be their last for legislative coffees in Montgomery County, as both would no longer serve the county in 2023, due to redistricting.

The event included a lengthy question and answer session, which focused heavily on education. In his opening remarks, Costello said supplemental state aid was being considered at either 2.5% or 3% for the upcoming year.

Red Oak Superintendent Ron Lorenz questioned whether that number was accurate, as the information he had been presented was different.

"The governor did indeed propose a 2.5% increase, the Iowa Senate proposed a 2.25% increase, and the Iowa House proposed a 2.5% increase. So I'm trying to find where 3% is in this, because it sounds more like its going to be between 2.25% and 2.5%," Lorenz said.

Costello said he was going by information from last week, and wasn't aware the House had proposed a 2.5% increase.

Lorenz further stated he was looking for help from the two lawmakers, because 2.5% wasn't enough.

"A few years ago, the legislature changed collective bargaining, so our settlements for our teachers [have] to be the lesser of the Consumer Price Index, or 3%. This year, the CPI is moving towards 7%, so we are going to have to settle at 3% with our teachers, by law," advised Lorenz. "You're going to give us, at best, 2.5% in supplemen-

tal state aid. That's been the trend, and I can't do that math. And that's just for this year, that doesn't cover the lowball numbers we've gotten from the years before. I just don't understand how that's sustainable."

Sieck said part of the reasoning for the 2.5% number was due to COVID-19 relief funds.

"Iowa schools, right now, are sitting on \$786 million. And while the uses are limited, it can be used in certain instances which would allow schools to shift the money around. Also, we're proposing an extra \$20 million that will be available as part of supplemental state aid, but it won't be built into the aid every year. It's to supplement for some of the extra costs this year due to inflation," Sieck explained.

Lorenz said the Omnibus Education bill, and vouchers were among the things that were adding to the stress of teachers, and the district itself, and was driving teachers to leave the education field.

"There are all sorts of requirements being imposed that I have no idea how I can possibly input

if they're passed," Lorenz stated. Costello wasn't clear how vouchers were affecting local schools. Lorenz said it had to do with the shifting of public school money to private schools.

"You're taking the big pot of money and telling the taxpayers that you're giving money to private schools that don't have the same requirements or rules as public schools," commented Lorenz.

Costello replied that so far, that funding hadn't been taken yet, and the public schools were getting funding alternatives.

"You're going to get extra money from the Rural School Fund, and not all districts are going to lose money for private schools," Costello advised. Lorenz disagreed, and said

the Rural School fund only applied to districts that were 500 students or less.

"We talk about these programs, and try to say they're innocuous things, but when you start getting into the details, that's going to hurt Red Oak, and Shenandoah, and Clarinda, because you're taking the money allocated for public schools and decreasing that by sending it to private schools," Lorenz said

Costello countered that districts that had no students moving to private schools would not be affected. Lorenz disagreed.

"If you have \$100 million dollars divided by 100 schools, just to do easy math, and then you add 50 private schools and start dividing that amount by 150 schools, that decreases the amount," Lorenz commented.

Sieck said his understanding was that the private school funding would be split in bigger towns that don't have education opportunities, and in his district, there were no parochial schools at all.

"My understanding is, if the pot of money that the Iowa gives the school is \$5,000 per student, \$2,200 would follow that kid wherever he goes, but the school will get the rest of that \$5,000, even though the kid is no longer going to the school. This is just a rough number, and we're not gutting the community schools,

we were awarded the grant, and

the bids came over at 5%, would

the city help us with the overage

amount so we can keep the proj-

we're seeking now, and hope-

it's always been our goal to get

this accomplished without seek-

ing money from anywhere else,"

Even if awarded, construction

No action was taken by the

and would not begin until at least

council at the meeting, and

Cabbage's presentation was for

I O W A

Cabbage stated.

2023.

fully that is not the case, because

New fiber possibility for the City of Red Oak

Nick Johansen The Red Oak Express

Farmers Mutual Telephone Company CEO Kevin Cabbage





State Sen. Mark Costello, left, and State Rep. David Sieck listen to comments from Red Oak superintendent Ron Lorenz during the legislative coffee Feb. 5. (Nick Johansen/The Red Oak Express)

> it's not going to hurt our public causing stress. schools," Sieck explained. Lorenz said there was one

important thing he wanted both Sieck and Costello to do before they signed the bill over vouchers.

"Look at this bill critically, before you sign off on party lines. Talk to your collegaues about this, and the devil's in the details," stated Lorenz.

Lorenz added he would also welcome the opportunity to sit down with Costello and review the bill and discuss it with him. Costello asked for clarifica-

tion about what restrictions were

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comes years of setbacks to bec

2

and I'll only support the bill if being put on districts that were

Lorenz brought up legislation involving "transparency and state standards.'

"Districts must post all curriculum and syllabus on the district's website, materials sorted by grade, the titles of all textbooks, books, and other instructional materials, cameras in the classrooms, and I'm not even talking about Sen. Jake Chapman

mouthing off about a sinister consipracy, and that teachers are intentionally promoting pornography," Lorenz said. 'You're talking about a couple of districts in Des Moines that may have a problem, so deal with those districts, don't task these ridiculous things that apply to every district. Why don't we trust boards to implement policies that are right for their community, rather than the legislature dictating these have a lot of representatives in Des Moines that don't have a clue what goes on here."

Sieck made it clear that there has to be a threshold vote to get things through.

"All these things being proposed have not been vetted or gone through both chambers, and will probably never happen," said Sieck.

The next legislative coffee will be at 8 a.m. on March 5, at the YMCA in Red Oak.



now believes there's a strong chance to bring high speed fiber optic broadband service from FMTC to the Red Oak community at no cost to the city.

Speaking before the Red Oak City Council during its regular meeting Monday night, Cabbage said the business plan was to bring fiber to the premises, with a goal of consumer broadband sometimes long turnaround in fibr investment recovery, FMTC seeks funding opportunities from the local, state, or federal level.

To date, FMTC has applied for, and been the recipient of, two USDA Reconnect awards.

"In round one, there was \$650 million available, and to be eligible you had to be in an area that had worse than 10 mg down and one mg up internet connection. If anyone had more than that, they were considered served, and ineligible for funding," explained Cabbage.

Cabbage said rural areas of Red Oak were deemed eligible, and they received a \$6.5 million award that was 50% grant and 50% loan.

The second round was a \$4.8 million award for rural Clarinda and Bedford that FMTC received, and work was underway in those communities for fiber optic internet as well.

Cabbage said the reason for his Red Oak Council visit was that the community was now a potential candidate to receive USDA Reconnect funding.

"Applications are due Feb. 22, and what's different with this round is that there is a scoring mechanism against other applications," Cabbage said. "Among the scoring mechanisms are rurality, affordability, net neutrality, and wholesale services. We think that we will score very highly in those areas. Also, the criteria now is 100 mg down and 20 mg up, which does make

affordability, and due to the FMTC CEO Kevin Cabbage discusses new potential for fiber in Red Oak during the regular city council meeting Feb. 7. (Nick Johansen/ The Red Oak Express)

> the City of Red Oak eligible for to the council to consider is, if the program. We feel we have a good opporunity to receive this funding.

Cabbage outlined the amount of funding they'd be seeking for ect going. That's not an answer the Red Oak Community for fiber optics.

"We've outlined 2,894 houses and business that we could connect up to, and about 54 miles of fiber is what we'd be putting in the ground, and we'd be looking at a cost of \$14.7 million," Cabbage explained.

The application was limited to one, at a total of \$50 million, and they were also applying for funding for projects in Clarinda, Bedford, and Gravity, at a total

cost of nearly \$37 million.

"The risk here is that there is only \$250 million available, and our application is nearly 15% of that. But we feel we have a good opportunity of securing that, and I'm not sure when the next time will be for us to apply for this amount of funding. But I'm making it clear, we are taking a risk," commented Cabbage.

Another reason for Cabbage's visit was to determine whether the city would assist in overages.

"By the time we get the funding and get these things out for bid, we're looking at a cost increase of 10% to 15%, and while we could build that into the application, we're putting further risk on the acceptance of the application, so my question **Essex Community School**

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