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# THE RED OAK Express

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 March 22, 2023  
 Red Oak, IA  
 Volume 156, No.12  
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Sunshine 'N' Rainbows board member Tammy Wingad, left, and Alex McFarland, director, stand next to the Sunshine 'N' Rainbows signage at 1201 Highland Ave., in Red Oak. The center has closed after 44 years in business. (Nick Johansen/Red Oak Express)

## After more than 40 years, Sunshine 'N' Rainbows close

**Nick Johansen**  
 The Red Oak Express

The City of Red Oak, and the surrounding area, has lost one of its key childcare providers.

On March 17, Sunshine 'N' Rainbows Child Resource Center & Lil' Tigers Preschool closed its doors. Director Alex McFarland, who had been serving in the position since 2017, said the closure marked the end of a 44-year history of Sunshine 'N' Rainbows serving the community.

"It started in October 1979 in the basement of the first Christian Church at 7th and Coolbaugh streets. It was eventually relocated to its current location at 1201 Highland Ave. in July of 1994," McFarland said.

Sunshine 'N' Rainbows Board Member Tammy Wingad added that the current location was the former location of the hospital. The building was expanded to accommodate the child care center.

McFarland said monetary issues and the COVID-19 pandemic were the primary reasons behind the center's recent closure. Another reason for the center closing was a lack of community support.

"Before COVID hit, we were doing amazing. We had almost full capacity with enrollments, and once COVID hit, we lost a lot of enrollments. We started out having to do a partial shutdown to help with the need for social distancing, and then ended up shutting down for two full weeks for quarantine, before we were able to reopen," explained McFarland. "After that, enrollments just seemed to fluctuate, and never returned to where they were supposed

to be."

Another complication, McFarland said, was that all of the available state funding that had been issued during the COVID-19 pandemic ended.

"That funding had been helping make up our difference from our reduced enrollment and was allowing us to hang on and keep going. With the funding ceased, the costs of our overhead versus our income was vastly different. The only way to make up that difference was to be at capacity again. We've advertised, but we could never gain ground. We'd gain enrollments, then lose enrollments. There was never any consistency. We pushed this as far as we could. We were completely done when we shut down," advised McFarland. "We thought we might be able to make some changes to survive, like raising our rates, but in the end it was just too little, too late. There were a lot of factors, and it was not a decision that was taken lightly at all. We've been fighting to save this place for quite some time."

McFarland said that attempts to reach out for assistance also failed to pan out and prevent the closure.

"We have been to community meetings to state the need we had, and we went to the state capitol, and tried to plead our case. We applied for multiple grants, and we really did work as hard as we could. We made so many improvements, and it's sad to watch all of it go away," McFarland commented.

In addition to causing closures, Wingad felt that the COVID-19 pandemic also had an effect on the need for childcare in general.

RAINBOWS, Page 2A

## Eastern Avenue water main project begins

**Nick Johansen**  
 The Red Oak Express

Residents of Eastern Avenue can expect construction on the new water and storm sewer project to begin this week.

At the regular council meeting March 20, the council heard from street superintendent Chris Baird, who stated the project will proceed on Eastern Avenue, starting at the intersection of Summit Street, and go to Forest Avenue, replacing the water main and installing six inch water mains and new hydrants.

Baird said the reason the council was being informed about the project was because after a tentative start date was planned in May, the project was now beginning this week.

"The road was shut to through traffic March 21. March 22-23, crews are going to saw the street and remove concrete on the north end, taking the east side out all the way through, and put in the new water main, which they estimate will take around five weeks," advised Baird. "When they get the water main done on the east side, they're going to do services to the west side, by cutting strips rather than doing a total removal. The west side will remain open for local traffic."

Baird said the main concern he and others had was keeping access to the resident's driveways.

"They're saying that most of the time, the residents will be able to reach them, but we've also been arranging to have some parking on Birchwood Drive and Forest Avenue. That's about the only place for people to park, because there are no alleys. It's probably one of the toughest street areas in town to have totally torn out," explained Baird.

The project is estimated to require 50 to 60 working days, although Baird said they're estimating the project will take a total of three months to complete, factoring in rainy days.

"They plan on working from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and very few Saturdays. Also, we've worked with them on mailboxes. The contractor will be installing a cluster of mailboxes on each end," Baird said.

Also, Baird said the contractor will assist with garbage collection.

"If residents put their trash out in their yards by noon, the contractors said they will take the garbage to the ends of the street for collection," Baird commented.

Council person Brian Bills said he was pleased that at least part of the roadway would



A large water and storm sewer project is beginning on Eastern Avenue in Red Oak. (Tess Nelson/Red Oak Express)

remain open to local traffic.

As for water being shut off during the project, Baird said residents would only be without water for up to an hour as they hook up each service.

Baird said letters had been distributed to Eastern Avenue residents and they had also gone door to door, telling everyone in person that they could, and would provide further updates as the project went on.

"There will be some frustrations, but it will be well worth it when we're done. No one likes the bumps, and we've had a lot of water main breaks down that street over the years," stated Baird.

The council also discussed a resolution approving and adopting a revenue purpose statement for the use of revenue from electric and natural gas franchise fees.

Red Oak Mayor Shawwna Silvius said the agreements the city had for electric and natural gas were ordinances and were approved as such, and action needed to be taken.

"Regardless of what we do, because these are expiring, we have to renew the ordinances, which will require a public hearing, and a first, second, and third reading, whether we include franchise fees or not," Silvius said.

Silvius also stated that she assumed the council would want to have all three potential readings of the ordinance prior to approval. Council person Jeanice Lester said it depended on the public.

"The first and second readings are definite, but if we don't have huge groups, we could potentially waive the third reading. It depends on the number in the groups," commented Lester.

COUNCIL, Page 8A

## Mother - daughter duo bringing Patsy Cline back to the Wilson PAC

**Nick Johansen**  
 The Red Oak Express

The musical stylings of Patsy Cline will be making its way to the Wilson Performing Arts Center's main stage this weekend.

The musical "Always...Patsy Cline," will show at 7:30 p.m. on March 24 and 25, and a matinee is slated for 2:30 p.m. March 26, at the Wilson. The show is the brainchild of the mother-daughter team of Wendy and Kristi Hardwick. Kristi served as the director of the Wilson's previous show "Boeing Boeing," while Wendy was assistant director of the show right before that one, "Jekyll & Hyde."

Wendy said she and her daughter were working on costumes for "Jekyll & Hyde" when they were approached about directing the Patsy Cline show after it was delayed in 2020 due to COVID-19.

"They asked us if we were interested in directing. The show was chosen several years ago, before the COVID delay. The WPAC had been trying to work some of the old shows that had been planned into the schedule. At that time, Kristi hadn't directed at all, and I had just assistant directed, so now we've both got some experi-



From left, Kristi Hardwick, Wendy Hardsick, Babe Stephens-Proctor, and Ciera Schierkolk are bringing Patsy Cline back to life at the WPAC. (Nick Johansen/Red Oak Express)

ence under our belt," explained Wendy. "It's been very beneficial to direct the show with Kristi. What I forget, she remembers, and what she forgets, I remember."

While the experience has been wonderful, Kristi said she was initially hesitant to direct the show at first, as she didn't know what

she was getting into.

"Even though my mom and I have sung and performed in musicals, the musical direction aspect of the show was worrying. Thankfully, we were able to get Tim Marsden as music director, and we have a live band on stage. They've been playing their whole lives, and it's really like you're listening to the songs in a club when they perform. It's almost just like playing another gig for them," stated Kristi.

Wendy said she also had hesitation, as she was assistant directing "Jekyll & Hyde," as well as serving in a variety of other hats for the show, such as costuming, props, and acting. However, she couldn't pass up the opportunity.

"Directing was something I've always wanted to do, and I'm getting to the point where it's harder for me to memorize long monologues. I was nervous, but with Tim Marsden there and saying they would help if we had questions, and support from others, it's made it fun. There's a lot of support here," explained Wendy.

As the show is a musical, rather than a comedy farce like

CLINE, Page 7A



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# Supervisors moving forward on maximum property tax levy for '24

Nick Johansen  
The Red Oak Express

The Montgomery County Board of Supervisors has taken the first steps on setting the maximum property tax levy for the 2023-24 budget year.

At the meeting March 14, the supervisors held a public hearing on the resolution. Under the resolution, the maximum property tax levy for the general fund would be \$3.50 per \$1,000 valuation, general supplemental would be \$3.20 per \$1,000 valuation, rural basic, \$3.95 per \$1,000 valuation, and 70 cents per \$1,000 valuation on supplemental basic.

During the public comment period, the supervisors heard from Red Oak resident Ray Simmons, pastor of Ascension Reformed Church, who voiced his concerns about the raise in the property tax levy.

"We chose Montgomery County to settle down, and while there are many positives, one of the negatives was property taxes. We have had five families move in from out of state, and they are looking for freedom and low taxes," Simmons said. "I know you're in a difficult situation, but I think you're in a situation where you need to cut some programs. As you do that, we will be praying for you, because I know that's a difficult thing to do."

The supervisors also heard comments from Caleb Kull, who moved last fall from Wyoming, a state with no income taxes and low property taxes. Kull also expressed dissatisfaction with the property taxes.

"I like it here, but I probably should have done more homework on the tax side of things. Since I moved here, I've paid for license plates and vehicle taxes, which are high. The sales tax is quite high, and the state income tax is quite a bit as well," Kull stated. "The property taxes are really high. I couldn't believe it when I bought a little place and I was paying so much. We have the 10th highest property tax rate in the country in the state of Iowa, and when I looked into it, Montgomery County had the sixth highest property tax rate."

Kull said he's looking to build a new home, but as he determines a design, much of his calculation is based on what he will be taxed at.

"I want to build a nice house, but I don't know what they're going to assess me at. When you do a little research, you find you can't afford to build too big, or you'll be up to \$6,000 a year in taxes easily. Our labor force isn't that great, we have the highest inflation in a generation, and now isn't the time to be raising taxes," commented Kull.

Supervisor Donna Robinson advised the audience that the supervisors were aware of the property tax rates and were also affected by the high rates.

"Everybody sitting at this table pays property tax of some form;



Ray Simmons, pastor of Ascension Reformed Church, addressed members of the Montgomery County Supervisors about a high property tax levy. Nick Johansen/Red Oak Express)

it makes things for this board very hard."

Robinson also stated that as they went through the budget process, they have budgeted against compensation board recommendations on raises for elected officials and departments.

"We rarely over the past few years have given a significant raise. We're trying to do our best to compensate and reward our employees within reason, and allow them to feel appreciated," Robinson said.

County Auditor Jill Ozuna closed out the discussion that while the supervisors were voting on the maximum property tax levy that could be collected, in all likelihood, the true rate would be less, and it usually was.

The supervisors approved the resolution for the maximum property tax levy as presented.

## CIG grants available

The USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has announced the availability of funding to support Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) in Iowa to support the development of innovative approaches and technologies. Grant proposals are due May 7.

CIG generally funds pilot projects, field demonstrations, and on-farm conservation research. Project proposals

must be more than \$25,000 but not exceed \$200,000 and run 1 to 3 years. The CIG requires applicants to supply at least a 50-50 match.

Applications must be submitted electronically through grants.gov. To register in the grants.gov system, go to www.grants.gov, click on "Applicants", then click on "Get Registered." All non-Federal entities and individuals are invited to apply.

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## RAINBOWS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

"Parents started working from home during the pandemic, and some still do, so I feel that changed the need for child care, which ended up having an effect on us. We've heard many times that we're very much needed, but without the enrollments, we were simply unable to continue," Wingad said.

Wingad felt a lot of good things had been done to and for the facility, and the decision to close March 17 was made for a reason.

"We wanted to end on a good note. We didn't want to end up upside down. The closing down date was selected to prevent us from going into the red," stated Wingad. "We've got a lot of memories, we've done a lot of good, and we appreciate all the families and the parents that have supported us. We needed it to just be a little bit more widespread in order to keep us going, but we're proud of being open for 44 years, and we're happy to end it on a positive note."

McFarland said she was approached by a number of people before and after the closure for ideas on how to save the center. McFarland said at this point, a benefactor would be the center's only hope to re-open.

"A benefactor would have to continue basically splitting the difference of our expenses vs. our income. If we could get our enrollments back up to where we could sustain ourselves, we could keep going, but we'd still need that helping hand until we were back to where we needed to be. At the time of our closure we were at 35 enrollments. Our capacity for enrollments is 90," advised McFarland.

McFarland said if that person would step forward, they would look at reopening, as no one at the center wanted to leave, but the window for that opportunity is quickly closing.

"I feel like this center serves an important area in the community. We serve a lot of low-income families that have nowhere else to go, and provide a safe and happy place for kids during the day. We're a huge family here. One of our staff has been here for 31 years. I've been here for 13 years altogether. If we were to pull a Hail Mary and have someone willing to make up the difference until we're back on our feet, we would definitely look at reopening," advised McFarland. "Also, we'd really need the community to back us 100%. I'm not sure what happened, but sometimes it feels like the community has simply forgotten about us."

Wingad agreed with McFarland, while also express-



ing some confusion as the center is a community-owned, non-profit child care center run by a board of directors.

"We've often asked ourselves if the community realizes we belong to them. And we do our best to put ourselves out there in the parades, and the public eye, and being involved in the Red Oak Chamber and Industry Association," Wingad said.

While not giving an exact time frame for someone to step forward, McFarland did say that the building was put on the market for sale after the closure of its doors on March 17, and there had been multiple people expressing an interest in purchasing the building.

Head Start also operates out of the building, and Head Start officials have stated they are interested in keeping their location and renting if the building is sold. McFarland also said they are trying to work into the potential sales clause that Head Start would be able to operate until the end of its session in May.

McFarland said if the center is truly closed after March 17, she's uncertain as to

what the future holds for her.

"I have no idea how long I'm going to be here after it's closed, but I'll be here taking care of things after the closure until the building is potentially sold. I haven't really thought about my future, I'm just looking forward to spending some extra time with my own kids for a bit," commented McFarland.

As for Wingad, she plans to spend more time focusing on caring for animals on land she and her husband share located between Oakland and Council Bluffs.

McFarland said she felt that Sunshine 'N' Rainbows was a positive influence in the community, and now that they are closed, she hopes the community can see what they have done over their 44-year history in Red Oak. She also reiterated her gratitude for the support the center has received from parents and families, as well as the support from area businesses that provided the center donations.

"We have had support, and we appreciate every little bit that we had. It just wasn't quite enough here at the end," McFarland said.

Anyone with questions can call McFarland at 623-2285, or email sunshinenrainbows.com.

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DOROTHY ELARTON, 90

Dorothy E. Elarton, 90, Red Oak, passed away on Friday, March 7, 2023, in Red Oak.

Dorothy Evelyn Elarton, the daughter of Alfred and Pearl (Kingsbury) Davisson, was born Nov. 17, 1932, at Wenatchee, Wash. Dorothy was raised in the Omak, Wash., area and graduated from Omak High School in 1950. She enlisted in the U.S. Air Force on Nov. 15, 1951, earning the National Defense Service Medal and Good Conduct Medal. On Nov. 1, 1954, she was honorably discharged from her service.

Dorothy was united in marriage to Duane Elarton on Oct. 6, 1956, in Omak, Wash. Duane and Dorothy lived in San Francisco, Calif.; Centerville, Omak, Wash.; Grinnell; and Waukee before settling in Red Oak in 1969. After moving to Red Oak, Dorothy worked many years for the Red Oak Community School District. She worked in the high school library and at multiple elementary schools before retiring.

Dorothy was a huge fan of tennis and enjoyed watching it on TV and in person. She and Duane even went to the US Open in New York to watch some of her favorite players. Dorothy liked cooking, sewing, quilting and was talented in painting and ceramics. She dedicated more than 10 years to the Montgomery County Veterans Affairs board, serving as secretary and treasurer. After Dorothy and Duane retired, they spent much of their time travelling the United States as well as enjoying trips to Europe and Australia. Dorothy was a member of the First United Methodist Church, Red Oak.

Dorothy was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Duane on June 14, 2019; and two sisters, Audrey Johnston and Helen Garinger.

Dorothy is survived by three children: Larry (Amy) Elarton of Savannah, Ga.; Pam Elarton of Thornton, Colo.; and Randall Elarton of Red Oak; five grandchildren, Jake Elarton, Sydney (Jim) Jones, Andrea Elarton, Margo Elarton and Olivia Elarton; two great-grandchildren, Owen Rhamy and Andy Jones; sister, Mildred Leslie of Chesaw, Wash.; and brother, Dale Davisson of Hillsboro, Ore.; numerous nieces, nephews and other relatives and friends.


May God bless her memory and give strength to those who mourn.

Celebration of Life Service will be held on Saturday, March 25, 2023, at 10:30 a.m., at the First United Methodist Church, Red Oak. Burial with Military Rites will be in Evergreen Cemetery, Red Oak.

A memorial is being established in Dorothy's name.

Remembrances and condolences may be shared with the family at [sldfuneralhome.com](#).

Sellergren-Lindell-DeMarce Funeral Home is in charge of Dorothy's arrangements and serving her family.



DONALD "DON" PAUL, 81

Donald Dean "Don" Paul, 81, of LaVista, Neb., formerly of Red Oak, passed away Monday, March 13, 2023, at Homestead Assisted Living in LaVista.

Don was born Feb. 22, 1942, in Cedar Falls, the son of Donald Theodore and Thelma Alice (Gorman) Paul. Donald's father died during World War II when Don was 16 months old. He was raised by his stepfather, Robert Whorton and his mother in Waterloo. He attended the Iowa Braille and Sight Saving School in Vinton, graduating in 1960. He worked for two years in Waterloo and attended Upper Iowa University at Fayetteville receiving a Bachelor of Science degree in education. He spent many years in education, teaching at Cumberland Massena, Nashua, UNI, Clearfield, Camanche, all in Iowa, then Ogallala, Neb., before Red Oak Community School District in Red Oak from 1978 until retiring in 2002, but continued to substitute teach.


Don was united in marriage to Sue Cox on July 10, 1976, in Nashua. Two children were born to this union, Kara and Kristin. Don's greatest joy came from his family. He loved to spend time with his daughters and grandchildren, having back yard barbecues, and especially enjoyed their sporting events. He was very witty and had a great sense of humor. Don was a longtime member of the Red Oak Elks Lodge and enjoyed going to the casinos.

Preceding him in death were his parents; step-father, Robert Whorton; sisters, Mary Anne Whorton and Margaret "Peggy" Whorton; granddaughter, Mikyla; and son-in-law, Neville Pillay.

Survivors include his daughters, Kara Pillay of Papillion, Neb.; and Kristin Paul (Nick Guhde) of Papillion, Neb.; grandchildren, Lilly, Jaya, and Brendan Pillay and Sophia and N.J. Guhde; siblings, Roger Whorton and wife Fran of Spearfish, S.D.; Rebecca Richardson and husband Tom of Richmond, Va.; Robert Whorton of Bellevue, Neb.; and Julie Spaight and husband Rob of Bettendorf; sister-in-law, Beth Barnhill of Des Moines; and many other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were held Monday, March 20, 2023, at the Nelson-Boylan-LeRette Funeral Chapel in Red Oak. Burial was in the Evergreen Cemetery.

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



WILLIAM "BILL" DOUGLAS, 86

William Arthur "Bill" Douglas, 86, Emerson, passed away Monday, March 13, 2023, at Glen Haven Cottages in Glenwood.

Bill was born May 30, 1936, in Montgomery County, the son of William Henry and Jessie Lanore (Smith) Douglas. He was raised in Mills County and graduated from Emerson High School in 1953. He then served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. Upon his return from service, he attended school at the University of Iowa.

Bill was united in marriage to Barbara Durbin on June 3, 1956, in Emerson. They lived the majority of their lives in Emerson. For the past two years, Bill was a resident of Glen Haven Cottages in Glenwood. Over the years, Bill worked for Huntsman Grocery where he was a butcher, drove a milk truck for Roberts Dairy in Omaha, and managed Skelgas in Emerson for 30 years, retiring in 1992. After retiring from Skelgas, he began farming the Ivan Durbin land from 1992 to 1994.


He was raised in the United Methodist Church and was later a member of the Emerson Baptist Church. Bill was also a longtime member of the Emerson American Legion Post #575, the Emerson Masonic Lodge, and was a volunteer on the Emerson Fire Department. His hobbies included gardening, fishing, camping, and wood-working.

Preceding him in death were his parents; wife, Barbara Douglas; sisters, Peggy Jean Green, Marjorie Ann Bass, B. Joan Moore and Barbara Carol Douglas; and brother, George Henry Douglas.

Survivors include his children, Cathleen Bruce and husband Matt of Emerson; Christopher Douglas and wife Lynda of Bedford, Texas; William Douglas II and wife Gena of Red Oak; and Bob Douglas and wife Ellen of Elkhorn, Neb.; grandchildren, Jessica "Floy" Ripplinger and husband Andrew of Malvern, and Sara Gale Bruce of Red Oak; great-grandchildren, Aubrey Mae, Renae Christine, Madison Kate, and Camryn Elizabeth Ripplinger; sister-in-law, Christine Durbin of Independence, Mo.; and many other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, March 21, 2023, at the Nelson-Boylan-LeRette Funeral Chapel in Red Oak. Burial with military honors was in the Emerson Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to the Emerson Volunteer Fire Department or the Emerson American Legion Post #575.

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



HELEN MURPHEY, 97

Helen M. Murphey, 97, Red Oak, passed away on March 13, 2023, at Ankeny.

Helen Marie Murphey, the daughter of Harry and Ocie Drummond, was born on Aug. 29, 1925, at Jamesport, Mo. During her early years, Helen grew up on a farm west of Jamesport and later in Coffey, Mo. She graduated from Coffey High School in 1943 and shortly afterwards eloped and married Donald L. Murphey on June 8, 1943, in Gallatin, Mo.

Helen worked in various places while Don was in World War II service. They moved to Red Oak when the Union Carbide plant opened, and she worked there for a brief time. Helen was then employed by Hunt's Super Valu and retired after 31 years. It was here that she got to know so many of her good friends.

Over the years, Helen was a member of the First United Methodist Church and Sarah Circle. She was active in the Red Oak Bowling League by holding several offices and honored to be inducted into the Bowling League Hall of Fame in 1985. Helen and Don loved to golf. They played couples golf every Friday night at the Red Oak Country Club and traveled to different tournaments. The grandkids loved the golf cart, which they got frequent rides in. Helen served on the Women's Board at the Red Oak Country Club for three years. She was a special lady who always had a smile on her face and shared her love with her family and close friends every day. After Helen moved to Ankeny, she missed her friends and their adventures very much. If you can remember something Helen did that made you feel good, then she would say she lived a good life.

Preceding Helen in death were her parents; husband, Donald, on Jan. 31, 2004; six brothers; and grandchild, Corina Murphey.


Helen is survived by her daughter, Donna and Herk Key of Ankeny; and her son, Rick and Angie Murphey of Murphy, Texas. There are four grandchildren, Andrea Dingerson of Frisco, Colo.; Colin Burds of Ankeny; Ryan Murphey of Austin, Texas; and Derek Murphey of Dallas, Texas. Helen has five great-grandchildren, Annika, Maya, Calleigh and Nicholas Burds; and Fiona and Theo Dingerson. Also, a wonderful prior daughter-in-law, Caryl Murphey of Frisco, Colo.; other relatives and many friends.

May God bless her memory and give strength to those who mourn.

Celebration of Life Service was held Saturday, March 18, 2023, at Sellergren-Lindell-DeMarce Funeral Home, Red Oak. Inurnment was in Evergreen Cemetery, Red Oak.

Remembrances and condolences may be shared with the family at [sldfuneralhome.com](#).

Sellergren-Lindell-DeMarce Funeral Home is in charge of Helen's arrangements and serving her family.



CURTIS FRANZEN, 68

Curtis Lynn Franzen, 68, of Elliott, passed away Sunday, March 12, 2023, at the Red Oak Rehab and Care Center in Red Oak.

Curtis was born Nov. 9, 1954, in Clarinda, the son of Dean and Wilma (Chubbick) Franzen. He was raised in Wales and Stanton and graduated from Stanton High School in 1973. Curtis was united in marriage to Sherry Miller on June 24, 1978, in Elliott. They made their home in Stanton and later moved to Elliott. After graduating, Curtis worked for a pig farmer, Wistrom Oil, Parker Hannifin, and retired from Oakview Construction after 25 years of service. After retirement, he worked for Montgomery County Memorial Hospital.


He was a member of the Elliott United Methodist Church and the IOOF Lodge. Curtis was known to be a master carpenter. He enjoyed gardening, fishing, hunting, trapping, canoeing and construction projects.

Preceding him in death were his parents; brother, Larry Franzen; brother-in-law, Butch Miller; and father- and mother-in-law, Jake and Jan Miller.

Survivors include his wife, Sherry Franzen of Elliott; children, Jennifer Sherman and husband Jeff of Fleming Island, Fla.; Josh Franzen of Elliott; Joel Franzen and wife Laura of Kathleen, Ga.; Jacque Howell and husband Eric of Elliott; and Jesse Franzen and wife Emma of Oskaloosa, Kan.; 13 grandchildren; sister, Cheryl McArdle and husband Mark of Des Moines; many nieces, nephews, and other relatives and friends.

A celebration of life service was held Friday, March 17, 2023, at the Nelson-Boylan-LeRette Funeral Chapel in Red Oak. Memorials are suggested to the Alzheimer's Association.

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



JEANNETTE GILLESPIE, 96

Jeannette A. Gillespie, 96, Red Oak, passed away Monday, March 13, 2023, at Arlington Place, Red Oak.

Jeannette Ann Gillespie, the daughter of Carl and Verna (Martinsen) Smith, was born on Jan. 14, 1927, at Northboro, the oldest of three children. Jeannette attended school at Coin.

On June 16, 1946, Jeannette was united in marriage to Charles R. Gillespie in Shenandoah. Two daughters were born to this union, Marcia and Charlotte.

Over the years, Jeannette worked for The Murphy Calendar Company, Eveready Battery Company, and Spurgeon's.

She was a 50-plus year member of the First Baptist Church in Red Oak and later joined the First United Methodist Church, Red Oak. Jeannette was a past member of the Order of Eastern Star, VFW Auxiliary, POW Auxiliary, Iowa Power & Light Coffee Club and Red Oak Monday Club. She loved reading the Bible, involvement in church circles and spending time with her grandchildren.

Jeannette was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Charles on April 8, 2000; brothers, Virgil Smith and wife, Ramona and Max Smith; and son-in-law, Bill James.

Jeannette is survived by her two daughters, Marcia Gillespie of Red Oak, and Charlotte (Joe) Morris of Red Oak; five grandchildren, Jaime Mahmood of Red Oak, Michael Herbert (Kim Smelser) of Stanton, Kenna Herbert of Clarinda, Aaron (Brandi) James of Grimes, and Josh (Andrea) James of Urbandale; 12 great-grandchildren, Miranda (John) Palmer, Jordan Quick, Courtney Herbert, Christopher Herbert, Logan Herbert, Kenneth Herbert, CharLeigh Herbert and fiancé, Jared, Rhyn Walters, Ian Dalbey, Caylie James, Trevor James and Natalie James; eight great-great-grandchildren, Chevelle, Hudson, Dominic, Reed, Riley, Esther, Evelyn and Jamison; and sister-in-law, Mabel Smith of St. Joseph, Mo.; nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.


May God bless her memory and give strength to those who mourn.

Funeral Service was held Monday, March 20, 2023, at First United Methodist Church, Red Oak. Burial was in Evergreen Cemetery, Red Oak.


Memorials may be designated to the First United Methodist Church.

Remembrances and condolences may be shared with the family at [sldfuneralhome.com](#).

Sellergren-Lindell-DeMarce Funeral Home is in charge of Jeannette's arrangements and serving her family.



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

- Darren and Lila Lassen, Kelly and Scott Oakleaf, Tess Lassen, and Mike Wortinger to Charles Lassen, 14-71-39.
- Janet Kahnk to Janet Kahnk Revocable Trust, and Janet Kahnk, Trustee, 16-71-37.
- Randall Bloom, Secretary Treasurer, and B Bar B LTD to Marshall and Adelai Dolch, 10-71-36.
- Richard and Brenda Williams to Edward Oster, Trustee, Edward Oster Trust, Donna Oster, Trustee, and Donna Oster Trust, 16-73-39.
- Kent Swanson, Kent D. Swanson, Kent David Swanson, Margaret Swanson, Margaret M. Swanson, and Margaret Marie Swanson to Jeffrey Fastenau, 25-71-38.
- Andas Properties LLC, Nicholas Seltzer, Member, and Thaddeus Seltzer, Member, to PRKS Proper-

MOD/AMENDMENT OF MORTGAGE

- Joshua and Jenifre Wilcoxson to Bank Iowa, modification.
- David Thompson to First Interstate Bank, Red Oak Northeastern Addition Blk 77 Lts 3-4, modification.
- Robert Woods to Bank Iowa, modification.

SMALL CLAIMS

- LVNV Funding LLC vs. Jason Waters, Red Oak, judgment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$1,289.04, plus costs.
- LVNV Funding LLC vs. Kaleigh Briggs, Red Oak, judgment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$986.84 with 6.79% interest from March 16, plus costs.
- Credit Bureau Services of IA Inc. vs. Kyla Smith, Red Oak, judgment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$992.23 with 6.79% interest from March 14, plus costs.
- Credit Bureau Services of IA

ARRESTS

- Filed March 14, Alana Johnson, 36, Red Oak, theft third degree, forgery four counts, \$5,000 cash bond.
- Filed March 17, Anthony Smith, 40, Red Oak, two bench warrants for violation of probation, \$40,000 bond.

DISMISSED

- Felony, State of Iowa vs. Richard Jenkins, 52, Red Oak, possession of a controlled substance, marijuana, third or subsequent offense,

CRIMINAL

- Felony, State of Iowa vs. Richard Jenkins, 52, Red Oak, burglary third degree, dismissed, assault with intent to inflict serious injury, dismissed.
- Serious misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Carrie Ross, 44, Red Oak, possession of a controlled substance - marijuana, first offense, dismissed.
- Felony, State of Iowa vs. Richard Jenkins, 52, Red Oak, assault with intent to inflict serious injury, pled guilty, 30 days jail, time served, \$855 fine, suspended, DNA requirement, concurrent with other charge.
- Felony, State of Iowa vs. Alana Johnson, 36, Red Oak, forgery, three counts, theft third degree.
- Simple misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Chloe Coburn, 32, Red Oak, violation of no contact/protective order - contempt, pled guilty, seven days jail, time served, \$105 fine.
- Simple misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Leanna Miner, 58, Red Oak, public intoxication, pled guilty, \$105 fine.
- Simple misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Madison Bowling, 33, Red Oak, interference with official acts, pled guilty, \$105 fine.
- Simple misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Leanna Miner, 58, Red

OWI

- State of Iowa vs. Cody Hudson, 34, Red Oak, first offense, pled guilty, two days jail, credit for completed OWI program, \$1,250 fine.

TRAFFIC

- Matthew Garcia, Creston, speeding.
- Anderson Ruhl, Red Oak, fail to obey stop sign and yield right of way.
- Brandi Dearth, Papillion, Neb., speeding.
- Cody Bowers, Oakland, registration violation.
- Mandy Knapp, Red Oak, failure to maintain or use safety belts.
- JB Magbanua, Bellevue, Neb., speeding.
- Chauncey Riley, Red Oak, no valid driver's license.

ACCIDENT

- On March 13, at 12:30 p.m., Red Oak Police officers investigated a two-vehicle accident at the intersection of Walnut and Broadway streets. Annette Johnson, 66, Red Oak, driving a 2020 Ford Edge Titanium, was traveling north on Broadway and turning in to the McDonald's parking lot. Ethan Davids, 17, Red Oak, driving a 2012 Ford F250 pick up, was pulling out of the McDonald's parking lot onto Broadway and broadsided the Johnson vehicle. Damage to the Johnson vehicle was about \$10,000, and damage to the Davids vehicle was about \$3,000. There were no injuries, and Davids was cited for failure to yield.

ties LLC, Red Oak Original Plat Blk 45 Lt 6.

- Charlene Newberg and Charlene M. Newberg to William Mascher, Villisca Redmon's Addition Lts 22-24.
- Jacqueline Grayson, Jacqueline K. Grayson, and Jacqueline Kay Grayson to Trinity Oakleaf, Elliott Whitney Addition Blk 4 Lts 5-8.
- Seth and Kerriann Goertzen to Eugene Hardy, Red Oak Clements Addition Lt 15.
- Crew Homes LLC, Hugo Tapia, Manager, and Hugo Tapia, Manager, to Aaron Burris and Kayla Bell, Red Oak Victory Park Addition Blk 8 Lts 22, 25.

Inc. vs. Cory Anglen, Red Oak, judgment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$3,371 with 6.79% interest from March 14, plus costs.

- Credit Bureau Services of IA Inc. vs. Deborah and Scott Barry, Red Oak, judgment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$5,969.56 with 6.79% interest from March 14, plus costs.
- Credit Bureau Services of IA Inc. vs. Brent Blume, Red Oak, judgment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$2,089.42 with 6.79% interest from March 14, plus costs.
- Credit Bureau Services of IA Inc. vs. Andrew Kling, Red Oak, judgment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$6,479.40 with 6.79% interest from March 14, plus costs.
- Nebraska Furniture Mart vs. Kelly Drake, Red Oak, judgment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$2,002.56 with 6.79% interest from March 14, plus costs.
- United Farmers Cooperative vs. Christina Silk, Red Oak, judgment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$108.22 with 6.79% interest from March 16, plus costs.

Oak, theft fifth degree, pled guilty, \$105 fine.

- Simple misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Hannah Dahlberg, 18, Red Oak, possession of drug paraphernalia.
- Serious misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Sheyenne Eilers, 28, Red Oak, possession of a controlled substance - methamphetamine, first offense, pled guilty, \$430 fine.
- Serious misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Carrie Ross, 44, Red Oak, possession of a controlled substance - methamphetamine, first offense, deferred judgment, nine months, \$430 fine, suspended, informal probation.
- Serious misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Nikolus Schooling, 27, Red Oak, possession of a controlled substance - methamphetamine, first offense, pled guilty, time served.

• Joseph Veraldi, West Des Moines, speeding.

- Nathan Decker, Council Bluffs, operating non-registered vehicle, speeding.
- Robert Harvilicz, Jefferson, operation without registration card or plate.
- Christopher Philpott, Villisca, operation without registration card or plate.
- Kristen Cooper, Des Moines, speeding.
- Jason McClure, Burlington, dark window or windshield.
- Mark Farris, Papillion, Neb., speeding.
- John Murren, Red Oak, registration violation.
- David Parkhurst, Omaha, Neb., speeding.
- Justin Smith, Villisca, driving while license denied, suspended, cancelled, or revoked.



## Carpenter, King perform at state speech

The Stanton High School speech students traveled to Ames High School for the state speech contest on Saturday, March 12.

Preston Carpenter competed in radio news announcing and received a 1, 2, 2, with an overall rating of 2.

Axel King competed in spontaneous speaking and received a 1,2,2, with an overall rating of 2.

The student performers received great support during the contest from parents. The Stanton School District offered praise to Carpenter and King for their performances.

## Dean, Rengstorf receive All State nominations

Individual All State Speech nominations have been announced, and feature two performers from the Red Oak Community School District.

Lauren Dean was nominated for after dinner speaking, and Josie Rengstorf was nominated under expository address.

Additionally, Dean and Rengstorf wrote their own performance pieces, and practiced and performed them at the district and state competition.

All State competition is March 27 at the University of Iowa.

## VIEWPOINTS

*Stronger the Press, Stronger the People*

SUSAN PATTERSON PLANK | IOWA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

## INA speaks out on legislation promoting online legal notices

Some members of the Iowa Senate do not think that public notices published in newspapers remain relevant and necessary. A bill filed in the newly formed Technology Committee moved through committee in two days and last week moved through the Ways & Means Committee in one day. Senate File 546 would result in removing a major component of government transparency. This legislation would require legal notices to be posted on a website controlled by the very government legal notices are designed to oversee, and notices would not be required to be published in a local newspaper.

This is the wrong move today, tomorrow and for the future. Government transparency is more important than ever. In truth it is critical.

While The Red Oak Express and other Iowa newspapers have an economic interest in seeing that the public notice publishing requirement remains, the issue goes far beyond a few dollars. Maintaining the legal requirement to publish government actions and meetings in local newspapers is crucial for ensuring accountability and keeping the public informed of important information that affects people's lives. And it is the job of our local newspapers to serve as a check on government, not the government to check itself.

The proposed savings under the guise of modernization would come at a very high cost to Iowa's communities.

While many people now browse digital platforms for information — including The Red Oak Express — not everyone has access to the internet or the technological know-how to navigate online platforms. And the staggering amount of information available online, representing every viewpoint, degree of accuracy, hidden agendas and motivations from every philosophy and side of the political spectrum, makes it more and more likely public notices posted online would be lost among the chaff. Worse, they may be vulnerable

to manipulation or not easily accessible through search algorithms.

By publishing public notices in newspapers, government bodies can ensure that critical information is available to everyone in a format that has stood the test of time for accuracy and accessibility. It requires governments provide timely information for citizens to participate in their government. The notices are appearing in the communities in or very near where the decisions are made. Public notices cover a range of activities — bids and leads for public projects, minutes from government meetings, foreclosures, petitions, election information, water quality reports and other information that is important to citizens and vibrant communities.

The basis for public notices published in newspapers remains as important as ever:

- Requiring an independent, third-party to publish the notices in accordance with the law helps prevent government officials from hiding information they prefer the public not to see. The government cannot be in charge of holding itself responsible. A public notice must be published in a forum independent of the government. As an independent and neutral third party, a newspaper has an economic and civic interest in ensuring that the notice delivery requirements are followed.
- Publishing the notice in a newspaper ensures that the information is widely accessible to the public. Unlike social media or other online platforms, newspapers are trusted sources of information that are available to everyone, regardless of whether or not they have access to the internet or social media accounts. This helps to ensure that all members of the public have an equal opportunity to be informed and involved in government decision-making.
- A public notice must be archived in a secure and publicly available format. Newspapers have

always fulfilled this requirement because a public notice published in a newspaper is already archivable and accessible. This is particularly important for notices that contain information about government decisions and actions that impact individuals and communities for years to come. Requiring governmental bodies to publish legal notices in newspapers ensures that this information is always accessible.

- The public must be able to verify that a legal notice is not altered after being published. In a newspaper notice, an affidavit is provided by the publisher, which can be used in an evidentiary proceeding to demonstrate that a true copy was published as well as the exact wording that was used. Legal notices published in newspapers are subject to public scrutiny and can be easily monitored by journalists or concerned citizens. This guarantees that governmental bodies are held accountable and acting in the best interests of their constituents.

- Community newspapers have established relationships with readers and have a deep understanding of the issues and concerns that matter most to them. When public notices appear in newspapers, government bodies can tap into these relationships.

- Newspapers have a long history of serving as watchdogs for their communities, holding local officials accountable and shining light on issues that might otherwise go unnoticed. By requiring government bodies to publish public notices in newspapers, we are ensuring that these important watchdog functions are preserved and that the public has access to information that might otherwise be hidden from view.

- Many newspapers also publish the public notices on their websites and nearly all public notices across the state are also uploaded to a centralized website at [iowanotices.org](http://iowanotices.org), a site run by newspapers at no additional cost to government or taxpayers. It is available for those who prefer

accessing an electronic version.

There may be parts of the country where newspaper readership is receding, but not in Iowa. Iowa has 241 community newspapers with one or more newspapers in every county. Market research conducted in 2022 showed 84% of Iowa adults read local print or digital newspapers. And newspaper readers are more engaged in their community. Newspapers reach 93% of Iowans who report, "I feel that I have a responsibility to help share the future of my community."

It is true that newspapers charge a nominal fee, set by Iowa law, for publishing legal notices. This is a very small price for freedom, as it is typically under 1% of any government body's spending. All Iowans should demand more scrutiny of government affairs, never less.

While the bill does not prohibit local government bodies from publishing public notices in newspapers, it removes the current requirement for doing so. Removing the legal requirement would most certainly result in local governments discontinuing all public notice publications in their local newspapers. But the long-term costs communities and citizens would pay far exceed the price paid by government bodies to publish legal notices in newspapers.

We believe that requiring governmental bodies to continue publishing legal notices in local newspapers is crucial for ensuring transparency, accountability, and accessibility in government decision-making. Newspapers — especially Iowa newspapers — remain a trusted source of information that is widely accessible and easily searchable.

As a newspaper, we strongly urge Iowa's senators to vote "no" on this short-sighted bill.

As should all Iowans.

## THE TIME CAPSULE | ROY MARSHALL

## Faunce's legacy

When Bertha Faunce died in 1978, a front-page news item referred to her as "the dean of Red Oak's business community."

She earned the title by owning and managing a women's apparel store in Red Oak for 57 consecutive years.

Bertha Faunce was an active woman. She had several millinery shops in Missouri. While living in that state she was secretly married to the day shift desk clerk at Red Oak's Hotel Johnson.

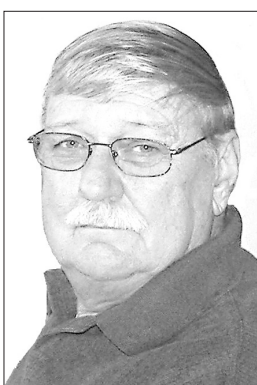
She told a newspaper reporter she was wealthy by age 30. She owned every home in Faunceville (which she named after herself), accumulated at least a thousand acres of farmland, spent 30 years a widow, lived in a small, one-bedroom apartment over her store, and Steve Norton (his father rented land from her) remembers an elderly Bertha Faunce ruling her domain while seated at a throne-like vantage point from which she could view all of Faunce's while indulging a Pomeranian lap-dog that spent its days in a wicker basket on the counter, yapping incessantly at all who approached.

She was an original, and she designed an unusual store front unveiled in 1934: an entrance that remains a distinctive feature of Red Oak's downtown.

Born Bertha Stevenson in Broken Bow, Nebraska, she came of age at a time when well-dressed women wore hats.

Styles constantly changed; stylish women bought a lot of hats. A good millinery shop offered a wide and ever-changing selection and employed a professional "trimmer," an artist who knew how to shape, shear and adorn a hat to match accessories, gowns, events and customers.

Bertha Stevenson went from Broken Bow to central Missouri; a "trimmer" and stylist who wasn't content working for someone else. She bought and managed millinery boutiques in Kirksville, Moberly,



Chillicothe, Brookfield and perhaps others I'm unaware of.

Those towns are 200 to 250 miles from Red Oak. We don't know how she met Harry Faunce, long-time desk clerk at the Johnson Hotel.

Records show they were married in Chicago in the summer of 1919, but kept their relationship secret until months later when she came to Red Oak to manage the millinery department of a store operated by J.A. Robinson and Son.

She didn't work for Robinson long. A news item from June of 1921 reported that Mrs. Faunce had bought his millinery business and stock and would continue to operate in the second story of the Robinson Building.

She later purchased what had been the Farmer's National Bank at 601 N. 3rd St. and undertook a project she'd envisioned for years. A news article from January of 1934 describes renovations that included a corner entry with a "canopy of slate" and a "modernistic show front of glass and stainless steel" with a sidewalk "composed of two shades of green, three shades of red and black terrazzo, blended colors divided by brass plates leading to the front door."

Faunce was quoted as saying she had been in business since she was 22 years old and owned a lot of stores. She often wanted to "fix one over" to suit her personal taste, and the remodeled bank building "fills the bill."

Harry Faunce died in 1948. Bertha, by that time, was seeing the women's apparel business change.

She adapted, putting less emphasis on hats and expanding to sell "ready-to-wear" women's clothing of all kinds. She sold her stores in Missouri and invested in southwest Iowa real estate.

She bought farms, owned livestock, and she purchased a tract of land along Highway 48 just south of what is now Highway 34. There she offered rental houses, apartments and building lots in "Faunceville."

In the 1970s her health failed and she was hospitalized multiple times. She suffered an apparent heart attack at about noon on April 27, 1978, and was not responsive when EMTs arrived at her store.

News items on her death struck me as odd because her age was not disclosed.

Curious, I checked Evergreen Cemetery. The Faunces' headstone shows Harry born in 1879 and passing in 1948. On Bertha's side the date of birth space is blank.

I called the Nelson-Boylan-LeRette Funeral Home. Paperwork associated with Bertha Faunce's services are conspicuously marked with instructions—her age was not to be disclosed.

Harry had no close relatives at the time of his death, and Bertha's closest living kin were two out-of-state sisters. Her houses, farms and businesses were sold and Faunceville is long gone.

I expect, though, she'd be pleased to know her domed, wrap-around awning—ostentatious as the wide-brimmed, ostrich-plumed Victorian hats of her youth—remains an enduring reminder of her life and times.

*Roy Marshall is a local historian and columnist for the Red Oak Express. He can be contacted at [news@redoakexpress.com](mailto:news@redoakexpress.com).*

## 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. Wednesdays.  
Classified Line Ads/Garage Sale Ads: 10 a.m. Thursdays.  
Obituaries: 9 a.m. Mondays.

## CONTACT US

Office: 2012 Commerce Dr., 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday.  
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Express

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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.

## WHO WE ARE

Employees in order of continuous service: Trish Deitchler, Graphic Design; Peggy Boeye, Office Manager, News; Ann Watt, Mail; Nick Johansen, News Reporter; Charm Carpenter, Sports Reporter; Tracy Schooling, Driver; Tess Nelson, General Manager/Editor; Nanny Crowe, Circulation; Joshua Byers, Regional Publisher.

The Red Oak Express is owned by Red Oak Publications in Red Oak, IA. It is a member of the Iowa Newspaper Association and the National Newspaper Association.





Community Calendar

23 March

8 a.m.-noon, Leadership Red Oak.  
12:30 p.m., Bingo, Red Oak Senior Center, 2700 N. 4th St. Call 712-623-3497 or Carolyn at 402-926-8683 for more information.  
4 p.m., Community Prayer Time, Fountain Square Park. Call Bonnie at 623-4759.  
7 p.m., Alcoholics Anonymous, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1101 Summit St.

24 March

Red Oak Public Library, Popcorn Friday, all day.  
10-11 a.m., Core 52 Bible study at the Red Oak Presbyterian Church, 511 E. Coolbaugh St.  
10:15 a.m., Storytime at the Red Oak Public Library, 400 N. 2nd St., theme: "Animal Friends."  
3:30 p.m., Free movie at the Essex Public Library, 508 Iowa Ave Essex.  
5-6:30 p.m., Lenten Fish Fry at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 1510 Highland Ave.  
5 p.m., American Legion 7th District spring conference, Shenandoah Golf Course, 1800 S. Elm St., Shenandoah. For more information, visit [owaala.org/events/](http://owaala.org/events/).  
5:30 p.m., Alcoholics Anonymous, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1101 Summit St.  
7 p.m., "Peter Rabbit," theatre #1; "65," theatre #2; Red Oak Grand Theatre.  
7:30 p.m., "Always...Patsy Cline" at the Wilson Performing Arts Center, 300 Commerce Dr. Tickets \$30 for adults, \$20 for students.

25 March

10-10:45 a.m., Parent-Tot swim lessons for kids ages 6 months to 3 years at the Montgomery County Family YMCA, 101 E. Cherry St. \$35 for members, \$50 for potential members.  
10-11 a.m., Family Play Session - Retro Restaurant, The Wilson Performing Arts Center, 300 Commerce Dr.  
10 a.m., Free cartoons at the Essex Public Library, 508 Iowa Ave., Essex.  
5-8 p.m., Essex Fire and Rescue and Essex Firefighters Association annual fish and chicken fry at the Essex Fire Station, 410 Iowa Ave., Essex. Free will donation.  
7 p.m., "Peter Rabbit," theatre #1; "65," theatre #2; Red Oak Grand Theatre.  
7:30 p.m., "Always...Patsy Cline" at the Wilson Performing Arts Center, 300 Commerce Dr. Tickets \$30 for adults, \$20 for students.

26 March

2 and 7 p.m., "Peter Rabbit," theatre #1; "65," theatre #2; Red Oak Grand Theatre.  
2:30 p.m., "Always...Patsy Cline" at the Wilson Performing Arts Center, 300 Commerce Dr. Tickets \$30 for adults, \$20 for

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

27 March

12:30 p.m. Bingo, Red Oak Senior Center, 2700 N. 4th St. Call 712-623-3497 or Carolyn at 402-926-8683 for more information.  
5:30 p.m., Spring soccer for kids ages 9-14. Kelly Park soccer field, South 2nd Street. Cost is \$40 for the program, \$15 for a new jersey. Registration deadline March 17. To register, visit [montgomeryco.recliquecore.com/programs/110031/soccer/?locations=13&fbclid=IwAR0GonOGagJVPOJk5C9213EtQFaA3ECsYGjnNDcYtwZ1qeAIR-8mzrsXwQBs](http://montgomeryco.recliquecore.com/programs/110031/soccer/?locations=13&fbclid=IwAR0GonOGagJVPOJk5C9213EtQFaA3ECsYGjnNDcYtwZ1qeAIR-8mzrsXwQBs). Volunteers are also needed, contact the YMCA at 623-2161 for more information or to volunteer.  
7 p.m., Alcoholics Anonymous, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1101 Summit St.

28 March

8:30 a.m., Montgomery County Supervisors, North Meeting Room in courthouse basement, open to public.  
9-11 a.m., Intro to pickleball at the Montgomery County Family YMCA, 101 E. Cherry St. Equipment provided. Free for members, \$5 fee for non-members. Call 623-2161 for more information.  
Noon, Rotary Club meeting. For location, go to [rotarydistrict5650.org/clubinfo/red-oak](http://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 at 402-926-8683 for more information.  
2-3:30 p.m., Journeys Grief Support Group, Faith Community Church, 2701 N. 8th St.  
2-4 p.m., Adult program at the Red Oak Public Library, 400 N. 2nd St., "Making a Bookmark," refreshments will be served.  
5-5:45 p.m., Sports academy at the Montgomery County Family YMCA, 101 E. Cherry St., for pre-kindergarten and kindergarten.  
6-9 p.m., Winter Session I Singles Tennis League, Montgomery County Family YMCA, 101 E. Cherry St. Register at: [https://montgomeryco.recliquecore.com/programs/110014/high-school-adult-tennis-leagues/?location=s=13&fbclid=IwAR3kvAaAaBRHmw7\\_OffBP2VG7Uykjy9TnHbuOah5cAL3-0lW6HC-6QZvmAUK](https://montgomeryco.recliquecore.com/programs/110014/high-school-adult-tennis-leagues/?location=s=13&fbclid=IwAR3kvAaAaBRHmw7_OffBP2VG7Uykjy9TnHbuOah5cAL3-0lW6HC-6QZvmAUK)

29 March

1:30-5 p.m., Christ's Cupboard Food Pantry and Clothing Cupboard, 206 E. Coolbaugh St. Donations accepted 1-5 p.m. at back door.  
3:30 p.m., Storytime at the Essex Public Library, 508 Iowa Ave, Essex.

Elks announces newest Fly the Flag honorees



Red Oak Elks Lodge # 1304 presented Grand Lodge Certificates of Honor to two Red Oak entities, Montgomery County Memorial Hospital and MidAmerican Energy. The certificates were awarded for their proper display of the United States Flag, 24 hours a day, while properly respecting the flag and protocols. Pictured left, from left, MCMH CEO Ron Kloewer accepts the certificate from Elks Exalted Ruler Brad Baker. Pictured right, from left: MidAmerican Energy operations supervisor Wes Royal accepts a certificate from Past Exalted Ruler Drew Swanson. The Red Oak Elks Lodge encourages all area businesses and merchants to check their flags for replacement and to make sure illumination of flag is appropriate during the overnight hours. (Photo submitted)



Veterans coffee in Villica March 30

A veterans coffee social, hosted by Montgomery County Veterans Affairs director Curtis White is slated for 8:30 to 10 a.m. at TJ's Café at 307 E. 4th St. in Villisca.  
Coffee will be provided by White, who will also be available to answer questions.

Groundbreaking ceremony Saturday

A groundbreaking ceremony for the Griswold Child Development Center is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. March 25, at 20 Madison St., Griswold.  
A brief presentation will follow at the Griswold Elementary Gym. Refreshments will be provided.

*Happy Anniversary!*

Celebrating their anniversaries this week are:

Stan and Joan Sibley – March 23  
Cecil and Katie Gresham – March 24  
Doug and Shelle Cashatt – March 26  
Don and Carolyn Lantz – March 26

Congratulations and happy anniversary to you!

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

Card Shower

LEMONS 90TH BIRTHDAY

Carol Lemons is celebrating her 90th birthday March 22.  
In honor of the occasion, her family is hosting a card shower.

Send cards to Carol at 1801 Highland Ave., Red Oak, IA 51566.

*Happy Birthday!*

Celebrating birthdays are:

Kathy Harris – March 23  
Bob Lee – March 23  
Taylor Straw – March 24  
Robert Betts – March 24  
Mansor Kia – March 24  
Fern Platt – March 25  
Darrel Cary – March 26  
Jim Jones – March 27  
Carrie Owen – March 28  
Clete Johnson – March 29

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

Senior Menu

Thursday, March 23: Salisbury steak with brown gravy, whipped potatoes, corn, dinner roll, pineapple tidbits, milk/coffee.  
Friday, March 24: Cheese omelette, hash brown potatoes, spiced applesauce, wheat bread  
Tuesday, March 28: Taco salad

with tortilla chips, shredded cheese, shredded lettuce, diced tomatoes, pinto beans, brownie, milk/coffee.  
Wednesday, March 29: Chicken stuffing casserole, whipped potatoes and gravy, green beans, bread slice, cookie, milk/coffee.

For more information, call the Senior Center at 623-3497 or Carolyn at 402-926-8683.  
Please call for reservations by 9:30 a.m. the day before you plan to eat lunch.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

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.

Assembly Of God

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](http://crossroadsredoak.com). **Online:** 9:45 a.m. approx. live on Facebook.

Catholic

St. Joseph's, 131 W. High, Villisca, Father Sylvester Okoh, 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.

Christian

First Christian, 1909 Summit St., Red Oak, Pastor AJ Baratta, 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, Pastor Dan Wetzel, Associate Pastor Stephen Beaulier, Worship, 9:30 a.m. Connection Classes for pre-kindergarten-adults, 11 a.m. Wednesday activities: Faith Kids, Pre-K grade 4, 6-7:30 p.m. Faith Midpoint, grades 5-6, 6-7:30 p.m. Faith Youth, grades 7-12, 7-8:30 p.m. **Online:** 9:30 a.m. on KCSI, 9:30 a.m. on Facebook.

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.  
River of Life Church, Hwy. 48 North, Red Oak, Interim Minister Kevin Berry, Sunday School 9 a.m., Worship, 10 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.

Covenant

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.  
Strand Evangelical, Rural Villisca, Rev. Marietta Nelson-Bittle, Worship, 9:45 a.m.  
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. Worship, 10:30 a.m. Sunday School, 9:15 a.m. **Online:** 10:30 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., 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

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, 1546 N. 110th St., Red Oak, Caryn Pedersen, Worship 1 p.m., two times a month. Call 623-9023 for more information.  
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](http://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](http://www.swiacrec.com), [contact@swiacrec.com](mailto:contact@swiacrec.com).

United Methodist

First United Methodist, 600 E. Hammond, Red Oak, Rev. Jennifer Van Nostrand, Worship, Sunday, 9 a.m.; Youth group Wednesday 6:30-8 p.m., grades 6-12, snack is served. **Online:** 9 a.m. [fumcro.org](http://fumcro.org); click on the media tab to see previously recorded services.  
Wesley Chapel UMC, Rev. Joni Hickey, M16 north off Hwy. 34 then west on Epperson. 624-8320. [strahaniowachurch.org](http://strahaniowachurch.org) Worship, 8:30 a.m., Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.

Red Oak Circuit, Linda Westerhold; 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, Rev. Denise Stevens, 801 Bradford Ave., Emerson, (712) 824-7368, Sunday School, 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:30 a.m.  
Grant United Methodist, Pastor Casey Pelzer, Worship services, 8:30 a.m. **Online:** 8:30 a.m. live on Facebook  
United Methodist, 203 S. 3rd Ave., Villisca, Pastor Jennifer Van Nostrand, Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:45 a.m. **Online:** 10:45 a.m. live on Facebook.  
Strahan United Methodist, Five miles south of Hastings on M16., [strahaniowachurch.org](http://strahaniowachurch.org), Rev. Joni Hickey, Sunday Worship service 9:45 a.m. Adult and children's Sunday School 10:45 a.m.  
**United Church Of Christ**  
First Congregational, 608 Reed St., Red Oak, Sunday Worship, 11:30 a.m. in the sanctuary with fellowship prior to the service at 10:30 a.m.. Rev. Holly Scherff, interim pastor.

Sponsored by:

Belt Auto Center & Trailer Sales  
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Nelson-Boylan-LeRette  
Funeral Chapel - 623-2525

Houghton State Bank  
623-4823

Sellergren•Lindell•DeMarce  
Funeral Home - 623-2796



Cable Companies				THURSDAY EVENING MARCH 23, 2023							
A	B	C	D	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30
3	3	3	3	KMTV (3)	NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament	2023 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament: Bulldogs vs Bruins					
4	4	4	4	KPTM (42)	Next Level Chef (N)	Animal	Animal	News at Nine	ICRIME	ICRIME	
6	6	6	6	WOWT (6)	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	WOWT 6	J. Fallon		
7	7	7	7	KETV (7)	Station 19 (N) (In Stereo)	Grey's Anatomy (N)	Alaska Daily (N)	News	J. Kimmel		
8			8	KCCI (8)	NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament	2023 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament: Bulldogs vs Bruins					
15	5	15	9	KXVO (15)	Fear Factor	Fear Factor "Ex Factor"	Fear Factor	Dumbest	Dumbest		
10	11	10	11	IPTV	Father Brown	Hamish Macbeth	Midsomer Murders	Sister Boniface Mysteries			
17			12	KDSM (17)	Next Level Chef (N)	Animal	Animal	13 News at 9 on Fox 17	National	National	
9	9	9	16	NWSN	Cuomo (N)	Dan Abrams Live (N)	Banfield (N)	Cuomo			
			19	ION	Chicago P.D. "Bad Boys"	Chicago P.D. (In Stereo)	Chicago P.D. (In Stereo)	Chicago P.D. (In Stereo)			
		28	21	CSPAN	U.S. House	Public Affairs Events (In Stereo)					
25			5	WOI (5)	Station 19 (N) (In Stereo)	Grey's Anatomy (N)	Alaska Daily (N)	5 News	J. Kimmel		
12	2	12	24	ESPN	NHL Hockey	NHL Hockey: Pittsburgh Penguins at Dallas Stars. (N) (Live)		SportsC.			
11	28	13	25	ESPN2	Bad Beats	PFL 2023	College Hockey: Golden Griffins vs Golden Gophers	Top Rank			
36			26	FX	Movie: "Fantastic Four: Rise of the Silver Surfer" (V)		Movie: *** "Logan" (2017)	Hugh Jackman			
	10	16	27	PARMT	Movie: *** "Wedding Crashers" (2005) Owen Wilson. (In Stereo)		Movie: "Old School" (V)				
40	36	28		LIFE	Married at First Sight (N)	Married at First Sight UK	Season 7, Episodes 5 & 6"	Married at First Sight			
29	20	19	29	FREE	The Office	The Office	The Office	Good Trouble (N)	The 700 Club		
18	13	11	30	USA	John Wick	Movie: *** "John Wick: Chapter 2" (2017) Keanu Reeves. (V)		"John Wick: Chapter 3"			
	8	8	31	TBS	NCAA	2023 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament: Ovals vs Volunteers		Inside			
23	14	18	32	TNT	Movie: *** "Beauty and the Beast" (2017) Emma Watson. (V)		Movie: *** "Beauty and the Beast"				
25	22	33		AMC	Movie: **** "Goodfellas" (1990) Robert De Niro, Ray Liotta. (V)			Movie: "The Negotiator"			
29	25	34		HGTV	Married to Real Estate (N)	Married to Real Estate (N)	Hunters	Hunters Int'l	Mexico Life	Mexico Life	
33	24	30	36	HIST	Swamp People "Gator Lightning" (N)	Swamp People: Serpent	Swamp People		(DVS)		
19	15	26	37	A&E	The First 48		City Confidential	The First 48			
34	18		38	DISC	BattleBots "Violent Night" (In Stereo)		BattleBots "Mirror, Mirror" (In Stereo)				
35	31	31	39	TLC	My 600-Lb. Life "Supersized: Chris P's Journey" (N)		My 600-Lb. Life "Doug's Story" (In Stereo)				
	39	27	40	A/P	Insane Pools: Deep End	Insane Pools: Deep End	Insane Pools: Deep End	Insane Pools: Deep End			
30	26	23	41	NICK	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	
31	21	24	43	DISN	Big City	Marvel's Mo	Raven	Raven	Big City	Hamster &	Ladybug
21	16	20	45	CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (N)	CNN Primetime (N)	CNN Tonight (N)	CNN Tonight (N)			
37	34	35	65	HALL	Movie: "A Winning Team" (2023) Nadia Hatt.		Golden Girls	Golden Girls	Golden Girls	Golden Girls	
		21	72	SYFY	(6:00) "Trolls World Tour"	Movie: *½ "Dolittle" (2020)	Robert Downey Jr. (V)	Movie: *** "Warcraft"			
39	36		73	TVL	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	King	King	
			74	WE	Grown & Gospel	Grown & Gospel (N)	Omega: Gift & Curse	Grown & Gospel			
				A-Elliott	B-Stanton	C-Emerson	D-Red Oak, Villisca, Glenwood				

Cable Companies				SATURDAY EVENING MARCH 25, 2023							
A	B	C	D	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30
3	3	3	3	KMTV (3)	FBI: International	NCIS: Hawai'i "Nurture"	48 Hours	3 News Now Live at 10			
4	4	4	4	KPTM (42)	Next Level Chef	Farmer Wants a Wife	Access Hollywood (N)	Next Level Chef			
6	6	6	6	WOWT (6)	Figure Skating: World Championships. (N)		Saturday Night Live (N)	News	SNL		
7	7	7	7	KETV (7)	NHL Hockey: Washington Capitals at Pittsburgh Penguins. (N)			News	The Rookie		
8			8	KCCI (8)	FBI: International	NCIS: Hawai'i "Nurture"	48 Hours	News	Matter		
15	5	15	9	KXVO (15)	Fear Factor	Fear Factor	Fear Factor	Dumbest	Dumbest		
10	11	10	11	IPTV	As Time ...	Keep Up	Sister Boniface Mysteries	Hope Street	Traces (In Stereo)		
17			12	KDSM (17)	Next Level Chef	Farmer Wants a Wife	News	Paid Prog.	Next Level Chef		
9	9	9	16	NWSN	NewsNation Prime (N)	NewsNation Prime (N)	NewsNation Prime (N)	NewsNation Prime			
			19	ION	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU			
		28	21	CSPAN	Washington This Week	Public Affairs Events (In Stereo)					
25			5	WOI (5)	NHL Hockey: Washington Capitals at Pittsburgh Penguins. (N)			5 News	9-1-		
12	2	12	24	ESPN	(6:00) UFC Fight Night: Vera vs. Sandhagen (N) (Live)	Boxing: Ramirez vs. Commy (Main Card). (N)					
11	28	13	25	ESPN2	NCAA	Bad Beats	College Softball: Florida at Arkansas. (N) (Live)	SportsCenter (N)			
36			26	FX	XFL Football: St. Louis BattleHawks at Vegas Vipers.		Movie: *** "Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom" (V)				
	10	16	27	PARMT	Yellowstone		Yellowstone "No Such Thing as Fair"	Yellowstone (In Stereo)			
40	36	28		LIFE	Movie: "Every Breath She Takes" (2023) Premiere.		Movie: "Single Black Female" (2022) Amber Riley.				
29	20	19	29	FREE	(6:10) "Despicable Me 3"	Movie: *** "Sing" (2016, Children's) Voices of Matthew McConaughey.					
18	13	11	30	USA	Movie: *** "Jurassic World" (2015) Chris Pratt. Premiere. (DVS) (V)			Movie: "Jurassic World"			
	8	8	31	TBS	NCAA	2023 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament		Inside	All Elite		
23	14	18	32	TNT	(6:15) Movie: *** "Thor: Ragnarok" (2017, Action)		All Elite Wrestling	Movie: "Thor: Ragnarok"			
	25	22	33	AMC	(6:00) Movie: *** "True Lies" (1994, Action)		Movie: *** "The Fugitive" (1993, Action)				
29	25	34		HGTV	Hunters	Hunters	House Hunters Reno	House Hunters	Hunters	Hunters Int'l	
33	24	30	36	HIST	The UnXplained	The UnXplained	The UnXplained	The UnXplained			
19	15	26	37	A&E	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48			
34	18		38	DISC	Homestead Rescue "Black Hills Hope" (In Stereo)		Homestead Rescue "Subarctic S.O.S." (V)				
35	31	31	39	TLC	Say Yes to the Dress (N)	Extreme Sisters	Extreme Sisters	Extreme Sisters			
	39	27	40	A/P	Dr. Jeff: RMV	My Pack Life	My Pack Life	My Pack Life			
30	26	23	41	NICK	(6:00) "Despicable Me 2"	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends		
31	21	24	43	DISN	The Proud	The Proud	Marvel's Mo	Big City	Kiff	Ladybug	Ladybug
21	16	20	45	CNN	The History of Comedy	The History of Comedy	The History of Comedy	The History of Comedy			
37	34	35	65	HALL	Movie: "A Picture of Her" (2023) Rhianonn Fish.		Movie: "A Valentine's Match" (2020) (DVS)				
		21	72	SYFY	Transform	Movie: **½ "2012" (2009, Action) John Cusack, Chwetel Ejiofor. (V)					
39	36		73	TVL	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two and a Half Men		
			74	WE	NCIS "Bikini Wax"	NCIS (In Stereo)	NCIS "Red Cell"	NCIS "Hometown Hero"			
				A-Elliott	B-Stanton	C-Emerson	D-Red Oak, Villisca, Glenwood				

Cable Companies				MONDAY EVENING MARCH 27, 2023							
A	B	C	D	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30
3	3	3	3	KMTV (3)	Young-Restless	NCIS "Turkey Trot"	NCIS: Hawai'i (In Stereo)	3 News Now	Late-Colbert		
4	4	4	4	KPTM (42)	The 2023 iHeartRadio Music Awards (N)		News at Nine	ICRIME	ICRIME		
6	6	6	6	WOWT (6)	The Voice "The Battles Premiere" (N)		Quantum Leap (N)	WOWT 6	J. Fallon		
7	7	7	7	KETV (7)	The Bachelor "Finale and After the Final Rose" (Season Finale) (N) (In Stereo)		News	J. Kimmel			
8			8	KCCI (8)	Young-Restless	NCIS "Turkey Trot"	NCIS: Hawai'i (In Stereo)	News	Late-Colbert		
15	5	15	9	KXVO (15)	Fear Factor	Fear Factor	Fear Factor	World's Dumbest ...			
10	11	10	11	IPTV	Antiques Roadshow (N)	Antiques Roadshow	More Than a Game	Independent Lens (N)			
17			12	KDSM (17)	The 2023 iHeartRadio Music Awards (N)		13 News at 9 on Fox 17	National	National		
9	9	9	16	NWSN	Cuomo (N)	Dan Abrams Live (N)	Banfield (N)	Cuomo			
			19	ION	FBI (In Stereo)	FBI "Fostered"	FBI "Grief"	FBI "Under Pressure"			
		28	21	CSPAN	U.S. House	Public Affairs Events (In Stereo)					
25			5	WOI (5)	The Bachelor "Finale and After the Final Rose" (Season Finale) (N) (In Stereo)			5 News	J. Kimmel		
12	2	12	24	ESPN	NCAA W. Tournament	2023 NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament		SportsCenter (N)			
11	28	13	25	ESPN2	XFL Football: Roughnecks at Defenders		Boy's High School Basketball	NFL Live			
36			26	FX	(6:00) Movie: *** "Fight Club" (1999) Brad Pitt.		Movie: *** "Fight Club" (1999) Brad Pitt.				
	10	16	27	PARMT	Movie: *** "Top Gun" (1986) Tom Cruise. (In Stereo)		Movie: *** "Top Gun" (1986)				
40	36	28		LIFE	Castle (In Stereo)	Castle "Last Call"	Castle "Nikki Heat"	Castle "Countdown"			
29	20	19	29	FREE	(6:30) Movie: ** "Sweet Home Alabama" (2002) (V)		The Watchful Eye	The 700 Club			
18	13	11	30	USA	WWE Monday Night RAW (N) (In Stereo Live)			Chrisley	Chrisley		
	8	8	31	TBS	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	American	American	American
23	14	18	32	TNT	CONCACAF Nations League Soccer	U.S. Soccer		Movie: *** "Pacific Rim" (2013) Charlie Hunnam.			
	25	22	33	AMC	Movie: *½ "Rambo: Last Blood" (2019) (V)		Movie: *** "Under Siege" (1992) Steven Seagal.				
29	25	34		HGTV	Rock the Block	Rock the Block (N)	Hunters	Hunters	Island Life	Island Life	
33	24	30	36	HIST	History's s-Mysteries	History's s-Mysteries	History's s-Mysteries	History's s-Mysteries			
19	15	26	37	A&E	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48			
34	18		38	DISC	Street Outlaws: Fastest in America "Cali Nate's Secret Weapon" (N) (In Stereo)		Street Outlaws: Red Line				
35	31	31	39	TLC	Darcey & Stacey (DVS)	Darcey & Stacey (N)	Extreme Sisters (N)	Extreme Sisters (N)			
	39	27	40	A/P	Alaska: The Last Frontier	Alaska: The Last Frontier	Alaska: The Last Frontier	Alaska: The Last Frontier			
30	26	23	41	NICK	"Cloudy With Meatballs"	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends		
31	21	24	43	DISN	Movie: *** "Cinderella" (2015) Cate Blanchett. (V)		Big City	Kiff	Ladybug	Ladybug	
21	16	20	45	CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (N)	Erin Burnett OutFront (N)	CNN Tonight (N)	CNN Tonight (N)			
37	34	35	65	HALL	Movie: "A Tail of Love" (2022) Brittany Bristow.		Golden Girls	Golden Girls	Golden Girls	Golden Girls	
		21	72	SYFY	ZombieLand	Movie: **½ "The Wolverine" (2013) Hugh Jackman, Hiroyuki Sanada. (V)					
39	36		73	TVL	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	King	King	
			74	WE	Bones (In Stereo)	Bones (In Stereo)	Bones (In Stereo)	Bones (In Stereo)			
				A-Elliott	B-Stanton	C-Emerson	D-Red Oak, Villisca, Glenwood				

Cable Companies				WEDNESDAY EVENING MARCH 29, 2023							
A	B	C	D	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30
3	3	3	3	KMTV (3)	Survivor "The Third Turd"	FBI "Into the Fire"	True Lies (N) (S)	3 News Now	Late-Colbert		
4	4	4	4	KPTM (42)	The Masked Singer (N)	Farmer Wants a Wife (N)	News at Nine	ICRIME	ICRIME		
6	6	6	6	WOWT (6)	Chicago Med (N)	Chicago Fire (N)	Chicago P.D. (N)	WOWT 6	J. Fallon		
7	7	7	7	KETV (7)	Conners	Conners	Abbott Elem	Not Dead	A Million Little Things (N)	News	J. Kimmel
8			8	KCCI (8)	Survivor "The Third Turd"	FBI "Into the Fire"	True Lies (N) (S)	News	Late-Colbert		
15	5	15	9	KXVO (15)	Fear Factor "Semifinals"	Fear Factor	Fear Factor	World's Dumbest ...			
10	11	10	11	IPTV	Nature (S) (DVS)	NOVA (In Stereo)	Secrets of the Dead	Ireland's Wild Coast			
17			12	KDSM (17)	The Masked Singer (N)	Farmer Wants a Wife (N)	13 News at 9 on Fox 17	National	National		
9	9	9	16	NWSN	Cuomo (N) (S)	Dan Abrams Live (N)	Banfield (N) (S)	Cuomo (S)			
			19	ION	Blue Bloods (S)	Blue Bloods	Blue Bloods	Blue Bloods			
		28	21	CSPAN	U.S. House	Public Affairs Events (In Stereo)					
25			5	WOI (5)	Conners	Conners	Abbott Elem	Not Dead	A Million Little Things (N)	5 News	J. Kimmel
12	2	12	24	ESPN	NBA Basketball: Mavericks at 76ers		NBA Basketball: Timberwolves at Suns		SportsCenter (N) (S)		
11	28	13	25	ESPN2	Basketball	Baseball Tonight (N) (Live)	ESPN Films		SportsCenter (N) (S)		
36			26	FX	(6:00) Movie: *** Iron Man 3 (2013) (In Stereo)		Snowfall "Charmel House"		Snowfall "Charmel House"		
	10	16	27	PARMT	Movie: *** Bad Boys (1995) Martin Lawrence, Will Smith. (In Stereo)			Movie (In Stereo) (S)			
40	36	28		LIFE	Married at First Sight (N) (S)		Married at First Sight UK		Married at First Sight UK		
29	20	19	29	FREE	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The 700 Club (S)
18	13	11	30	USA	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	
	8	8	31	TBS	All Elite Wrestling: Dynamite (N) (Live)	(N) (Live)	All Elite Wrestling: All	All Elite Wrestling: All	All Elite Wrestling: All	All Elite Wrestling: All	
23	14	18	32	TNT	NHL Hockey: Islanders at Capitals		NHL Hockey: Minnesota Wild at Colorado Avalanche.				
	25	22	33	AMC	Movie: *** The Fugitive (1993) Harrison Ford, Tommy Lee Jones. (S)		The Perfect Storm (S)				
	29	25	34	HGTV	Property Brothers	Nate & Jeremiah	Hunters	Hunters	Beach	Beach	
33	24	30	36	HIST	Pawn Stars (In Stereo)	Pawn Stars (N) (In Stereo)	Pawn Stars (In Stereo)	Pawn Stars	Pawn Stars (In Stereo)		
19	15	26	37	A&E	The First 48 "Road Rage"	The First 48 (S)	The First 48 (S)	The First 48 (S)	The First 48 (S)		
34	18		38	DISC	Moonshiners "Disappearing Act" (N) (DVS)		Master Distiller		Master Distiller		
35	31	31	39	TLC	The 685-Lb. Teen	World's Fattest Man	600 Pound Mom	My Legs Won't			
	39	27	40	A/P	River Monsters (In Stereo)	River Monsters (In Stereo)	River Monsters (In Stereo)		River Monsters (In Stereo)		
30	26	23	41	NICK	"Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs 2" (S)	SpongeBob	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	
31	21	24	43	DISN	Movie: "Zombies 2" (2020) (In Stereo)	Kiff (S)	Big City Hamster &	Ladybug	Ladybug		
21	16	20	45	CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (N) (CNN Primetime) (N) (S)	CNN Tonight (N) (S)	CNN Tonight (N) (S)	CNN Tonight (N) (S)			
37	34	35	65	HALL	Movie: "One Perfect Wedding" (2021) Taylor Cole		Golden Girls	Golden Girls	Golden Girls	Golden Girls	
		21	72	SYFY	(5:45) Movie: *** X-Men: Apocalypse (S) (2016)		The Ark (N)		The Twilight Zone (N)		
39	36		73	TVL	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	King	King	
			74	WE	NCIS "Probie" (S)	NCIS "Model Behavior"	NCIS "Boxed In"	NCIS "Deception"			
				A-Elliott	B-Stanton	C-Emerson	D-Red Oak, Villisca, Glenwood				





Members of the cast and crew of “Always...Patsy Cline” are, front row, from left: Director Kristi Hardwick, Director Wendy Hardwick, Ciara Schierkolk, and Bonnie “Babe” Stephens-Proctor. Back row, from left: Tim Marsden, Terra Marsden, Bonnie Stephens, and “Gator” Stephens. (Nick Johansen/The Red Oak Express)

CLINE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

“Boeing Boeing,” Kristi said it is a different experience than the one she had with her previous show.

“It hasn’t been as stressful. There’s still some stress of getting pieces to fall into place, and organizing all the costumes, and so there’s still some craziness, but not the same as it was with “Boeing Boeing.” It’s still a funny show itself, and the Louise character is a very out-loud, big type of person, and Ciara Schierkolk is amazing at playing that,” advised Kristi. “She is very interactive with the audience, which brings them into the story a lot more, and make them feel the emotions that she is experiencing.”

Wendy also heaped praise onto Babe Stephens-Proctor, who is embodying the role of Patsy Cline.

“I don’t think there could have been a better person to portray her. She’s got an amazing voice, she has literally listened to Patsy Cline since she was a little girl, listening to Patsy’s songs as she would go to sleep. She’s been wonderful. We’ve been very lucky,” said Wendy.

While the show features a wide variety of the songs that made Patsy Cline a star, the heart of the show examines Cline’s friendship with one of her loyal fans, Louise Seger.

“It shows the story of Patsy and Louise, and how Patsy affected her life, and how they met each other. It goes all the way from the beginning of Patsy’s career, when Louise first saw and heard her, and follows the relationship all the way up through Patsy’s death, and how it changed Louise’s life,” Kristi said.

Wendy said the show reflects two different time periods. The character of Louise shares her story with the audience, and then Patsy arrives on stage in period costumes to perform the songs from that period.

“It goes forwards with them both basically in two different worlds, until the point that they meet, and then they interact. After they meet, they separate again, because the friendship was all correspondence. They wrote letters to each other. Patsy illustrates her career after she and Louise meet, and Louise goes back to telling her story. Louise is talking to the audience

much of the time. It’s very interactive,” commented Wendy.

The circumstances of the Louise character, Kristi said, helped her connect with the show on a deeper level.

“Louise was a single mom with two kids. My own mom was a single mom with two kids, and I’m a single mom with two kids. A lot of my and my mom’s lives we have depended on each other and looked out for each other. Directing this show has been totally natural for us to be doing together too,” Kristi stated.

For Wendy, her favorite experience out of doing the show is that it has brought her back into country music.

“I used to sing at a club a long time ago. I was a rock girl, and it was a country bar. I enjoyed it, and listened to country for years. A few years back, I went back into classic rock again. This show brings back a lot of good memories and to be able to listen to Babe sing and Ciara make me laugh has been a blast,” Wendy explained.

As for Kristi, she’s enjoying the opportunity to expand her directing knowledge and know she can be a success, especially since she started rehearsals for “Always...Patsy Cline,” while she was still doing “Boeing Boeing.”

“This show has seemed a lot less stressful because I got to cut back to three rehearsals a week for a while. I’ve been happy to realize that I can do it, especially since we need more directors around here. I knew I could perform, and now I know I can put together a show and make it come to life,” Kristi said.

Wendy said she’s also glad to see the show’s leads, Schierkolk and Stephens-Proctor, get their opportunities to shine for the audience.

“Ciara’s role is a huge part with a lot of monologues, and it’s been wonderful to see her step to the forefront. Babe has also been in the ensembles a lot, but having the lead is new to her. Most of the crew is new in their roles as well, and everyone is really taking the opportunity to shine and learn together. I think we’ve done really well,” Wendy commented.

You can order tickets for “Always...Patsy Cline” at 623-3183, or online at wilsonartscenter.org.

Stanton Trail Project receives \$85,000 boost

Gov. Kim Reynolds and the Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) announced \$26.88 million in grant funding through the final round of Destination Iowa, a \$100 million investment in quality of life and tourism attractions. In recognition of the high interest in the program, Gov. Reynolds also announced an additional investment of \$15 million to fund Destination Iowa applications from rural communities that did not receive grants in previous rounds.

In all, Destination Iowa awards were granted to 46 projects totaling \$115 million that activated \$480,265,783 in total investment.

“Destination Iowa has inspired communities in all corners of the state to dream big about projects that will bolster quality of life and attract newcomers,” Gov. Reynolds said.

IEDA opened the Destination Iowa program in May 2022 and accepted applications through Dec. 31. Applications were scored based on eligibility, completeness, and the project’s ability to meet the program goal of creating transformational tourism attractions. Destination Iowa grants have been open to cities, counties, non-profits and other organizations through four separate funds: Economically Significant Development, Outdoor Recreation, Tourism Attraction, and Creative Placemaking.

The seventh round of Destination Iowa funded the following 10 projects. For the additional \$15 million, IEDA reviewed applications already submitted by rural communities, defined as 30,000 residents or fewer that are not adjacent to communities of 30,000 or more residents.

Final awards made from the original \$100 million allocation: The Stanton Community Foundation and Montgomery County were awarded \$850,000 for the Stanton Area Trail Project. The award represents 35% of the total project investment of \$2,456,110.

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# Supervisors agree to withdraw from workforce development consortium

Nick Johansen  
The Red Oak Express

The Montgomery County Board of Supervisors has agreed to withdraw from the articles of agreement forming the workforce development chief elected official consortium for the workforce innovation and opportunity act of 2014.

Supervisor Charla Schmid said Montgomery County was in a shared consortium including Adair, Adams, Union, Taylor, Clarke, Ringgold, and Decatur counties, and there had been many changes involving money coming down from the federal to state level, and state to local level.

“Each local workforce development had to make a decision on whether they were going to stay viable or not, because they’re just not serving the people. A representative from workforce development, in our local workforce development region, we only served 14 people,” Schmid explained. “I asked if there was a breakdown for Montgomery County, and she did not have that information. She did have the 2022 numbers for the region, and we only served 13 people in 2022.”

Schmid says the county is facing an issue as there is funding coming in from the state, but it’s not being used.

“The money they’re giving us is not being spent on serving people. When that happens, the local workforce development group has to refund that at the end of the fiscal year,” Schmid said.

At a recent meeting, Schmid, representing Montgomery County, as well as a representative from Adair, Adams, Union, Taylor, Clarke, Ringgold, and Decatur counties all were in agreement to dissolve the existing 28-E agreement and refuse federal funding.

“If we’re not serving people in the county through the organization, if we do not dissolve the agreement, the funding will need to be repaid, and at this point, it was felt by the group that there wasn’t enough money available to repay that funding,” explained Schmid.

The resolution before the supervisors allowed for the dissolution of the agreement. The dissolution would begin July 1. On July 1, the state would then take over the workforce development office at the local Montgomery County level.

# Red Oak board of education talks long range facilities planning with O’Neal

Nick Johansen  
The Red Oak Express

The Red Oak School Board is weighing its options when it comes to the district’s long-range strategic facilities plan.

At the regular school board meeting March 15, the board heard from Alley Poyner Macchietto architect Daric O’Neal, who shared further recommendations with the board.

“We’ve taken information from the walkthroughs of the facilities in 2022, and put some 2023 budget numbers on them. The item numbers are listed by priority. Priority one is immediate, needing to be addressed in the next 12 months. Priority two is three to five years, priority three is six to 10 years, and priority four is long-term, around 10 to 15 years,” O’Neal explained.

O’Neal outlined some of the necessary projects at Inman Primary, stating that because of the age of the building, the district was starting to reach a number of things that were reaching their end of life.

“Replacing the roof on the original Inman building has a budget median of \$275,000. That needs to be a high-priority item within the next year. It’s the six-classroom section of the building. We did bring down a roofing consultant. On the portions of the building constructed in 1999 and after, you have a lifespan of about 10 more years,” O’Neal commented. “If you haven’t considered a roofing maintenance contract, that’s something you could consider in the future with a roofing company, and do inspections and make recommendations.”

O’Neal estimated that it would take less than two weeks for the entire roof replacement to be completed. Estimated cost of replacing the roof over the portions of the building constructed after 1999 was estimated at over \$1 million, but as noted, wasn’t an immediate priority if it was maintained.

Other items included caulking and sealing on the ballasted roof,

and redistributing the ballast. Also on the building’s exterior, it was noted that the building control joints needed replacement within the next five years. The hollow metal doors were noted to have developed a significant amount of rust, and O’Neal said they would continue to deteriorate in the future, needing replacement in the next six to 10 years.

O’Neal also noted the building’s fire alarm system in the next six to 10 years, as eventually, the cost of components to make repairs would overshadow the cost of a new system. The estimated cost was around between \$250,000 and \$300,000. Also, the recommendations noted new HVAC control, and a new HVAC system for the Inman building, though that item was not a high priority.

“The HVAC system you have now is, by the book, at the end of its lifespan. However, the engineer’s report states it’s very well-maintained, and operating as efficiently as it was designed 20 years ago. With continued maintenance, you should be able to continue to get additional years of service, and individual units can be replaced,” O’Neal said.

At the junior/senior high school, O’Neal said there were a couple of roofing related suggestions, though they were not as prioritized as the roof at Inman.

“A number of walk-pads have popped loose. Those walk pads allow you to walk to the equipment to service it. Water is getting underneath those due to being popped loose. Also, the roof could use a good maintenance and repair of all the roof drains. Also, like Inman, the building control joints will also need eventual replacement, and the hollow metal doors are showing rust at this building as well,” O’Neal stated.

Also, O’Neal said within the next one to five years, crack seal and seal coating work would be needed on the high school’s parking lots and circle drives.

Among the athletic facilities, O’Neal said within the next five

years, something would need to be done with the track.

“The structural coat on the track will get you an additional five years. At the end of that time frame, you will want to have budgeted for a complete track resurface, and potentially the sub grades. Worst case scenario, the district will have to do a complete track and sub grade replacement,” explained O’Neal.

At the football and baseball fields, O’Neal noted there were some drainage issues that would need to be examined and potential paving to thoroughly a third of the gravel parking lot. Also it was noted that the sidewalk should be extended from the north parking lot to the outfield of the high school softball field, and extended to the bleachers and restrooms.

Board Member Kathy Walker said space issues were noted to the Inman Elementary cafeteria, and asked if an estimate could given for additional square footage. At the low end, O’Neal estimated the costs would be about \$3.50 on the low end to \$4.20 on the high end per square foot to add space to the cafeteria.

Board President Bret Blackman said that some of the projects on the list could be handled internally, rather than have to bid out for the projects.

“I think it makes sense to have Superintendent Lorenz and the maintenance team identify what could be done in-house, as opposed to work that will have to be bid out to other contractors,” Blackman said.

Lorenz advised he had already been in discussions with director of maintenance Adam Wenberg to outline those priorities. Shortening the period of summer school will help.

“This summer, we’re going to have a window to be able to get some painting and other projects done. We’re also going to schedule a meeting with the administrative team for their input on facility needs,” Lorenz advised.

No further action was taken by the board at the meeting.

## COUNCIL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

Lester praised the changes being made in the revenue purpose statement that was brought up at the prior meeting, and the council approved the resolution approving and adopting the revenue purpose statement for the use of revenue from electric and natural gas franchise fees.

The second item was to set a public hearing on the ordinance establishing a franchise fee on electric and natural gas energy providers operating within the city of Red Oak. The public hearing was proposed for April 17.

“That gives us plenty of time to continue discussing it, but to also get it published as we need to,” stated Silvius. “It also allows us to

have further conversations and get input from the citizens. This is the opportunity to get that.”

The council approved setting a public hearing on the ordinance for April 17.

Lester asked for the ordinances to be provided for review at the next council meeting.

Silvius said the ordinances could be approved without percent-

ages, for discussion and approval later.

Lester pushed for discussion on the franchise fees to continue up until the hearing date.

“I think we should keep discussion on the agenda and keep discussing it prior to the public hearing to familiarize ourselves with it even more. People are out there asking,” Lester said.

No further action was taken

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