





WEDNESDAY

March 29, 2023 Red Oak, IA Volume 156, No.13 redoakexpress.com

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Kenny Hamman of Red Oak poses with a UPS truck for the final time. He spent 45 years driving for the Red Oak UPS facility. (Photo submitted)

Hamman ends 46 year career with United Parcel Service

Nick Johansen The Red Oak Express

After 46 years driving for UPS and 45 years of safe driving, Red Oak's Kenny Hamman parked his truck for the final time on Feb. 28 to begin his

Hamman said he was drawn to the job after his father, who ran a wholesale candy business that Hamman worked for, fell ill and sold the business.

"I was drawn to the job because it looked like it was a good one, and the pay was good. I clocked in, talked to the supervisor that day, Dick Hansen, and he hired me on the spot," said Hamman.

Hamman started his career as a part-time driver in September of 1976 and later made the transition to a full-time driver the following year.

"I worked through the peak, which is Christmastime, that's what we call it at UPS. Shortly after Christmas, on Feb. 28, 1977, I made my seniority and have been driving ever since," commented Hamman. "The benefits have been very good, and helped me raise a family with three kids. It's been a good company to work for."

Hamman added that the process of delivering packages has led to a number of changes in delivery from when he first started.

"Back when I started, everything was all on paper, and it was only 50 pounds per package we can haul, because we were governed by interstate tariffs and freight systems. Now it's 150 pounds per package, and an unlimited amount," stated Hamman. "The air system has really changed a lot from when I started. We had no air freight when I started. Over the years,

it went to second day air, then next day air, and then Saturday deliveries. We've got all new computers, everything is electronic, and they know every step we make nowadays."

Nowadays, in severe inclement weather days, some businesses will close and/pr allow their workers to work from home. However, Hamman said weather didn't prevent many regular deliveries for UPS drivers.

"I can probably count on one hand the number of days that we were off for a whole day due to a weather event. We were out in all kinds of weather. In the winter, we dressed for it, took extra clothes in case we broke down, went slow, and took it one stop at a time," Hamman commented.

Hamman was also pleased that he was able to go into retirement with 45 years of safe driving under his belt, as safety is a big concern at UPS.

"Every day at our pre-communication meetings they pushed for safety, and we did follow-ups on our safety training, and took classes on the computer on an annual basis. The PCMs also allowed us to talk about accidents on the routes, and reiterated our safety protocols. With as many vehicles that they have out daily, safety is probably the biggest thing on their minds," Hamman said.

Hamman said there were a number of factors that led him to decide to put in his retirement this year.

"I've worked 47 years of peak season driving for UPS, and this retirement date is the exact date which I was hired all those years ago. My wife and I are wanting to do something with family, and I've lost some family members last year that kind of expe-

HAMMAN, Page 2A

Alfstad joins local podcast about Iowa's natural hidden gems

Nick Johansen The Red Oak Express

A special naturemade podcast for every walk of life to enjoy, cohosted by a very familiar name to Montgomery County residents, is currently available for listeners on iHeart radio and other platforms.

The podcast, known as "Crossing Streams," features Montgomery County Conservation naturalist Cassandra Alfstad, under the name "Critter Cass" and Tony Vorwald, under the name "Tallgrass Tony," Vorwald is a naturalist forms. (Photo submitted) at Hurstville Interpretive Center in Maquoketa in

Jackson County. The podcast, which started with a pilot on Feb. 2, was conceived in part from an idea from Alfstad.

Montgomery County Conservation naturalist Cassandra

Alfstad at her recording set-up for the "Crossing Streams"

podcast. The show airs twice monthly on most major plat-

"Tony and I met at an Iowa Association of Naturalists summer conference in Minnesota, and we were sitting around the campfire and I mentioned the idea. At the end of the night, when we were all sort of going our separate ways, Tony stuck around and was asking me more questions about it and offered to help me get started and said he'd be willing to talk with me if I wanted. At that point, that was what I really needed: a co-host," Alfstad said.

Vorwald said he was a fan of podcasts, and being able to co-host "Crossing Streams" was a ulmination of his own goal, starting a podcast himself.

"While I thought of doing my own podcast of my own over the years, but I never did it. When Cassandra started talking about it, it clicked. It's more her idea than mine, but it sounded fun and I definitely glommed onto it," Vorwald said.

Being able to have Vorwald as a co-host, Alfstad said, made putting the podcast together a much more attainable goal.

"The reason I didn't do anything sooner was because I felt just me talking, with inconsistent guests, wouldn't be as grasping to an audience as a podcast with two hosts who can talk to each other as well as guests. Tony and I use Zoom, so we can see each other on camera and talk to each other, and when we welcome guests on, it just helps keep the flow going," advised Alfstad.

Another thing that makes the process trickier is the fact that Alfstad and Vorwald are in different counties and aren't physically in the same room when recording.

"Zoom is super helpful in allowing us to have these conversations. When it comes to putting everything together, my father, Dave Alfstad, has been a major help. Growing up, he had a recording studio in his basement, and he is a musician, and he is fantastic with audio editing and recording, and has become our producer and audio editor," Alfstad explained. "My dad helps bridge the gap between our respective distances and helps figure out good audio quality and recording quality, and we're having Zoom sessions with him to figure out how to streamline the audio quality even more so it sounds like we're truly recording in person together. Dad was also able to equip me with some pretty nice recording equipment, so in my at-home set-up, I'm

ALFSTAD, Page 7A

OrthoNebraska adds foot and ankle services in Red Oak

Submitted by OrthoNebraska

Patients with foot or ankle pain are often faced with a conundrum: where do I start? It is this uncertainty that has led OrthoNebraska to adding podiatry services, making for a more comprehensive and complete foot and ankle care team.

Podiatrists Dr. Jeffrey Kiley and Dr. Andrew Stanislav will join OrthoNebraska's foot and ankle team in April. Based out of Council Bluffs and Southwest Iowa for more than 20 years, they round out OrthoNebraska's ability to help patients with nearly any foot or ankle problem.

"Joining OrthoNebraska will help us really focus on what we do best: caring for people with foot and ankle problems," said Dr. Kiley. "OrthoNebraska has a tremendous reputation, and we share their vision for high quality, patient-driven care."

to recovery within a single organization – whether it's handled in our offices or requires physical therapy or surgery - is a differentiator in this community," Dr. Stanislav added.

The addition of Drs. Kiley and Stanislav expands the foot and ankle services within OrthoNebraska to now include diabetic foot complications, advanced wound care, custom braces/orthotics, and treatment of ingrown toenails and many more conditions affecting the foot and ankle.

"As we contemplated bringing Drs. Stanislav and Kiley on board, we really found that podiatry services are a natural fit at OrthoNebraska," said Dr. Kevin Grosshans, foot and ankle orthopedic surgeon. "While podiatrists have historically generally practiced on their own, more and more are choosing to join orthopedic practices in order to provide well-rounded care to their patients.

"For our patients, the opportunity to have a clear, seamless path Instead of being referred back and forth as their conditions change and evolve, patients can get complete foot and ankle care in one familiar place."

Drs. Kiley and Stanislav both grew up in the Midwest, obtained their doctorate degrees and trained in podiatry in Iowa. They are members of the Iowa Podiatric Medical Society and American Podiatric Medical Association, Fellows of the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons and board certified by the American Board of Podiatric Surgery.

In addition to practicing at OrthoNebraska's Council Bluffs clinic, podiatry services are available at Oakview at 144th and West Center as well as in the communities of Atlantic, Red Oak and Shenandoah in Iowa, and Nebraska City. Appointments can be made by visiting OrthoNebraska.com, calling (402) 609-3000 or texting (844) 399-8240.





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Park and Tree Board approves adult pool manager salary

Nick Johansen
The Red Oak Express

The Red Oak Park and Tree Board has finalized a job description for the new position of an adult pool manager.

The board reviewed the job description at the regular meeting March 8. Board member Amy Strebe asked if the position would be in charge of coordinating pool chemical levels. Park Superintendent Adam Van Der Vliet said they would be responsible for some tasks, but not all.

"They won't do the complete chemical side of things, but they will do the testing. Typically, they test the levels about once an hour, so during the season, the manager will run the chlorine levels and the PH levels once per hour," Van Der Vliet said.

Van Der Vliet added the job description was based off of a number of similar postings for pool managers and similar positions.

"We tried to cherry-pick some of the things we liked, some of the things we already have at our pool, and some of the things that are required of other jobs that we'd like to have handled by the manager of our pool," commented Van Der Vliet.

Board member Alex McFarland asked if the job description listed a specific start time and end time for each day. Van Der Vliet said they settled on a schedule of a 40 hour week, with some flexibility.

"If you look at our pool being typically open seven days a week. The manager usually gets to city hall around 11:30 a.m. to get the money. I don't think saying 40 hours a week is a necessity, as long as they're there to cover shifts or certain events. If they need to run out a couple hours during the afternoon, and then come back before closing, I think that's fine, and with what they're working, they'll probably be close to 40 hours, anyway," advised Van Der Vliet.

The adult pool manager job description was approved, as presented, by the park and tree board.

The board also discussed setting the wage for the pool manager. Van Der Vliet said they determined a salary based on similar wages around the area.

"The higher end was in the \$16 or \$17 range, but with those higher ranges, they were usually able to certify lifeguards. We settled on a salary of \$15 per hour. That gives us a starting point for this year, it's higher than the assistant managers, and a step up from what we've paid in the past," Van Der Vliet stated.

The board approved setting the salary of the assistant pool manager as presented.

The board also discussed a request from the Red Oak Farmers Market for use of Fountain Square Park for the 2023 farmers market, and Lettuce Entertain U family fun night events.

Spokesperson Maggie McQuown said in addition to the listed requests, they were also interested in usage on July 7.

"We have the Union County Trio booked on July 7, and we'd knd of like to make that an extension of the July 4 celebration with a bring your own beverage celebration in the park, such as alcohol. I'd

get the alcohol permit through Red Oak City Hall. The Union County Trio are all members of the Iowa Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and recently performed at the Wilson. We also have insurance lined up through Davis-Taylor Insurance," McQuown explained.

The board approved the requests from the Red Oak Farmers Market as presented.

In other business, the board:

Approved the lifeguard manual for the Red Oak Municipal Pool.
 Van Der Vliet said there were no changes.

• Approved a request from Brett Eubank, representing the Jordan Vannausdle Athletic Association, for use of the sports complex fields and Chautauqua fields for baseball and softball usage, pending proof of liability insurance.

• Approved a bid for a new lawnmower, at a cost of \$12,500, from AgriVision.



Smoke testing on sewer system

On March 30 and 31, the City of Red Oak will be smoke testing the sewer system west of Broadway on 3rd and 4th avenues, as well as Valley and Prospect between 1st and 8th streets.

Please make sure your drain traps and floor drains are full of liquid. Broken toilet seals, dry drain traps, or incorrect plumbing may let the testing smoke into your homes. The smoke is not associated with fire and it does not smell like smoke. The smoke test will find broken pipes and cracks in the city's sewer system.

Thank you for your cooperation. For any questions, please call Red Oak City Hall at 623-6510.

HAMMAN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

dited my decision. I had two brothers- in-law pass away, and one of them didn't even get a whole year off to enjoy retirement. Things were at a good place for us, so both my wife and I went ahead and decided to retire," explained Hamman.

Hamman said having family at his retirement party made a bittersweet moment into an event with more closure.

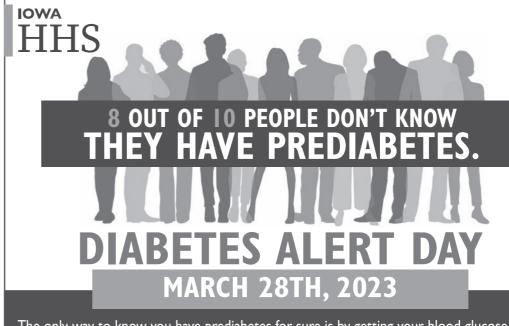
"All of the kids and the grandkids made it, so that was special. A lot of the UPS retirees were there as well, so it gave us a nice bit of time to enjoy the moment and put the icing on the cake."

Still, while he's been off the clock for a couple of weeks, Hamman said there are still some old habits from his working days he's trying to break.

"I've got to get used to not waking up at 4:30 or 5 in the morning. Like any business, we had health issues, and since I was the senior guy, I was getting called in pretty regularly every morning from before to after Thanksgiving, and so I got used to getting up at that time, so that's been a hard habit to break," explained Hamman.



Kenny Hamman's family attended his retirement party, held Feb. 28, at the UPS facility in Red Oak. Pictured are, front row, from left: Beckett Hamman, Noah Hamman, and Wyatt Hamman. Back row, from left: Brynlee Hamman, Bev Hamman, Jackson Hamman, Kenny Hamman, Brooks Hamman, and Collin McCoy. (Photo submitted)

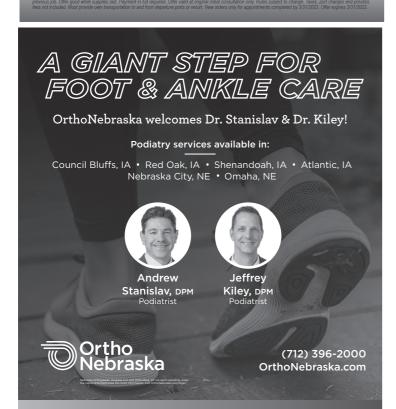


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OBITUARIES

BERNARD BRUCE, 91

Bernard Paul Bruce, 91, passed away March 24, 2023. Bernard was born Nov. 8, 1931.

Bernard was preceded in death by his parents; his first wife Velda and son Kevin, his second wife Mae, step-son Terry, and step-daughter Nancy Schroetlin.

He is survived by his two daughters, Paula Bruce Jackson and Karla Bruce Greenfield of Villisca; step-daughters, Coleen Ligotke of Loveland, Colo.; and Sharianne Daily of Windsor, Colo.; 12 grandchildren, and 19 great grandchildren.

Services have been entrusted to Veigut Funeral Home in Loveland, Colo. Services will be held at the funeral home at 10:30 a.m. Friday, March 31, 2023. Visitation will begin one hour prior to services. Luncheon will be provided at the funeral home following interment at Loveland Cemetery.

Bernard had requested that in lieu of flowers donations be made to Wounded Warrior Project. These can be sent to Wounded Warrior Project; c/o Veigut Funeral Home; 1616 N. Lincoln Ave., Loveland, CO 80538. Noting that the donation is in honor of or in memory of Bernard Bruce would be appreciated, but not required.

KENNETH "KENNY" GAGE, 70

Kenneth Edwin "Kenny" Gage, 70, of Red Oak, passed away Thursday, March 23, 2023, at the University of Nebraska Medical Čenter in

Kenny was born Nov. 11, 1952, in Clarinda, the son of Lyall and Nickie (Larson) Gage.

Preceding him in death were his parents; wife, Carolyn Gage; and stepson, Kyle Crawford.

Survivors include his wife, Kitty Gage of Red Oak; step-children, Kim Combs and husband Don of Oskaloosa, and Kevin Crawford of Promise City; and three grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, March 29, 2023, at Nelson-Boylan-LeRette Funeral Chapel. Burial will be in the Villisca Cemetery, with fellowship to follow at the Villisca Community Building. Memorials are suggested to the family.

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

CHARLOTTE LEE, 88

Charlotte Ann Lee, 88, Red Oak, formerly of Emerson, passed away Tuesday, March 21, 2023, at the Good Samaritan Society.

Charlotte was born Oct. 15, 1934, in Centerville, the daughter of Charlie and Erma (Frazee) Phillips. She was raised in

She was united in marriage to Donald Lee on Jan. 6, 1951, in Unionville, Mo. Three children were born to this union, Donald Craig "Donnie," Connie Sue, and Michael

Scott. They lived many places throughout Iowa during Don's education career including Neola and Emerson.

Charlotte was a homemaker who was very involved in community activities. She was a longtime member of the American Legion Auxiliary, serving in many capacities at the local, regional, and state level. She was an active volunteer with the Special Olympics, Special Arts Festival, and the Glenwood Resource Center, where her son, Mike resides. Charlotte was a volunteer for the schools and was a member of the Emerson Library Board for many years. Charlotte won the Governor's Volunteer Award more than once. Her hobbies included gardening, tending her flowers, crocheting, sewing, quilting, baking, cooking, cake decorating, doing crafts, collecting sports cards with her grandchildren, and doing genealogy.

Preceding her in death were her parents; her husband, Don Lee on Oct. 14, 2018; son, Donnie Lee; and all of her siblings.

Survivors include her daughter, Connie Bowen of Emerson; son, Michael Lee of Glenwood; grandchildren, Joshua Bowen and wife Laura of Imogene; Nathan Bowen and wife Bailey of Hastings; Bryan Bowen and wife Kylie of Red Oak; Craig Lee and wife Cyndy of Omaha, Neb.; and Heather Brown of Clarinda; great-grandchildren, Molly, Emma, Zane, Boyd, and Nole Bowen and Payton and Devin Brown; and many other relatives

A celebration of life service was held Saturday, March 25, 2023, at Nelson-Boylan-LeRette Funeral Chapel in Red Oak, with burial in the Emerson Cemetery at Emerson.

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

GLENN ANDERSON, 89

Glenn Lee Anderson, 89, Adair, passed away Friday, March 24, 2023, at the Community Care Center in Stuart.

Glenn was preceded in death by his parents; his sister, Marlys; his brother, Wesley; his brothers-in-law, Dale Larson, Richard Topp, and H.D. "Fritz" Froehling; his father- and mother-in-law, Garland and Ruby Lewis; and his brother- and sister-in-law, Stephen and Jean

He is survived by Sharon, his loving wife of more than 47 years; children, Kim Nelson of Sanford, Fla.;

Lane Anderson of Steamboat Springs, Colo.; Wade (Michelle) Anderson of Adel; and Jeff (Brittany) Anderson of Prior Lake, Minn.; grandchildren, Cole, Brittany, Taylor, Tanner, Caden, Colin, Claire, Ruby, and Isabelle; sisters, Gloria Topp, Margie Larson, and Wanda (Delman) Larson; brother, Keith (Cathy) Anderson; sister-in-law, Shirley Anderson; several nieces and nephews; and many dear family friends.

Glenn will be buried at North Page Cemetery, located south of Stanton. A Celebration of Life will be held Saturday, April 1, at 3 p.m., in the Adair-Casey gymnasium. Immediately following the service will be the opportunity to enjoy food and beverages while visiting with the family and old acquain-

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to the Glenn Anderson family for later designation and may be mailed to the Schmidt Family Funeral Home P.O. Box 523, Atlantic, IA 50022.

The Schmidt Family Funeral Home of Adair is handling the arrangements for the Anderson Family.

LINDA PETERSEN, 75

Linda Kay Petersen, 75, died suddenly at her home in Scottsdale, Ariz., on Tuesday, March 14, 2023.

She was born March 1, 1948, in Red Oak, the daughter of Paul and Mildred Gammell.

She was preceded in death by her father, Paul Gammell. Linda is survived by her husband, Jerry, of Scottsdale, Ariz.; her children, April, of Jersey City, N.J.; and James, of Phoenix, Ariz.; two grandchildren; and, her mother Mildred Gammell, of Scottsdale, Ariz.

Linda will be cremated, and a Celebration of Life Service will take place in June.

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

- Tony and Michelle Johnson to Canden and Lizabeth Johnson,
- Michael and Lydia Strait to Daniel and Tabatha Larsen, Villisca N. Villisca Lts 26-27, Lt 3, Lt 26, Ingmans SD.
- Lucas and Julie Orme to William and Kayla Gay, 28-72-38.
- Beryl Dobbs, Brent Dobbs, Attorney in Fact, and Brent Dobbs to Brenda Sullivan, Red Oak Hillcrest Addition Lts 1-2.
- Brent and Rebecca Dobbs and Brenda and Jerald Sullivan to Joseph and Samantha Giangreco, Red Oak Hillcrest Addition Lts
- Jered Reed, Administrator, and Joyce Wake Estate to Quinn Hall, Red Oak Northeastern Addition Blk 93 Lts 2-3 SLT 1-2.
- James and Vicky Carlson and Scott and Kimberly Balfanz to Montgomery County Commission on Sustainability #804 MO LAN, Red Oak Original Plat Blk 15 Lts 7-9.

QUIT CLAIM DEED

- Scott Wilson to Cody Snyder, Red Oak Western Addition Blk
- Shawnna Silvius, Mayor, and City of Red Oak to Timothy Pafford, Red Oak Railroad Addition Blk 5 Lt 4.
- Terry Walton and Terry E. Walton to Elizabeth Walton, Vil-

lisca Original Plat Lts 293-294.

MORTGAGE

- Tyler and Annie Fisher to United States Department of Agriculture, 30-71-36, 19-71-36.
- James Garbez to Patrick Noland, Red Oak Willard's Addi-
- Kelly and Patrick Maynes to Bank Iowa, 30-72-37 Parcel A.
- Marshall and Adelai Dolch to Farm Credit Services of America FCLA, 10-71-36.
- Marshall and Adelai Dolch to United States Department of Agriculture and Farm Service Agency, 10-71-36.
- Gary Clark to Southwest Iowa Housing Trust Fund, Elliott Whitney Addition Blk 4 Lts 7-8.
- Edward Oster Trust, Edward Oster, Trustee, Donna Oster Trust, and Donna Oster, Trustee, to Farm Credit Services of America FCLA, 16-73-39.
- PRKS Properties LLC, Kody Stowell, Member, and Patrick Rigg, Member, to Liquid Lending Solutions LLC, Red Oak Original
- Plat Blk 45 Lt 6. • William Mascher to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., MERS, and Iowa Bankers Mortgage Corporation, Villisca Redmon's Addition Lts
- Trinity Oakleaf to New American Funding LLC, Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., and MERS, Elliott
- Whitney Addition Blk 4 Lts 5-8. • Trinity Oakleaf to Iowa Finance Authority, Elliott Whitney Addition Blk 4 Lts 5-8.
- Kayla Bell and Aaron Burris to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., Flanagan State Bank, and MERS, Red Oak Victory Park Addition Blk 8 Lts 22, 25.
- Ryan and Tammy Ernst to Bank Iowa, Red Oak Eastern Slopes Addition Lts 83-84. Daniel and Tabatha Larsen to
- Four Points Federal Credit Union, Villisca N. Villisca Lts 26-27, Lt 3, Ingmans SD.
- Kathleen Goines to Bank Iowa, Villisca West Side Addition Lt 25.
- William and Kayla Gay to to Mortgage Electronic Registra-

- tion Systems Inc., MERS, and LoanDepot Com LLC, 28-72-38 SLT 3 Lt 1.
- Quinn Hall to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., MERS, and Iowa Bankers Mortgage Corporation, Red Oak Northeastern Addition Blk 93 Lts 2-3, SLT 1-2.

MOD/AMENDMENT OF **MORTGAGE**

• George, Jr. and Mary White to Cornerstone Bank, 28-72-36

SMALL CLAIMS

- · Credit Bureau Services of IA Inc. vs. Sterling Embree, Red Oak, dismissed without prejudice.
- Credit Bureau Services of IA Inc. vs. Sean and Tiffany Kinsley, Red Oak, judgment in favor of the plaintiff, \$1,243.86 with 7.22% interest from March 21,
- plus costs. • Accredited Collection Service vs. Anita Moore, Red Oak, judgment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$290 with 7.22% interest
- from March 21, plus costs. LVNV Funding LLC vs. Christopher Philpott, Villisca, judgment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$1,254.67 with 7.22% interest from March 21, plus costs.
- General Collection Co. vs. Connie and Donald Sexton, Villisca, dismissed without prejudice.

ARRESTS

- Filed March 19, Prince Shaw, 35, Red Oak, contempt - violation of no contact order, held on no bond.
- Filed March 19, Casaundra Bookout, 28, Red Oak, contempt violation of no contact order, held on no bond.
- Filed March 21, Joseph Nelson, 40, Red Oak, domestic assault - bodily injury first offense, held on no bond.
- Filed March 22, Zachary Miller, 23, Shenandoah, child endangerment three counts, domestic abuse assault second offense, held on no bond.
- Filed March 22, Athea Hamilton, 23, Red Oak, child endangerment three counts, \$2,000

- Filed March 22, Noah Groves, 22, Red Oak, Platte County, Neb. warrant, held on no bond.
- Filed March 23, Mandy Knapp, 40 Red Oak, Adams County warrants for trespass first offense, open container - driver 21+, burglary third degree, held on \$300 bond.
- Filed March 23, Austin Thompson, 24, possession of controlled substance – marijuana first offense, possession of drug paraphernalia, \$1,000 bond.
- Filed March 26, Claire Thalken, 36, Emerson, OWI first offense, \$1,000 bond.

DISMISSED

• Felony, State of Iowa vs. Mark Coomer, 55, Oak Grove, Mo., operating while under the influence, first offense, dismissed.

CRIMINAL

- Aggravated, State of Iowa vs. Zachary Miller, 23, Red Oak, child endangerment, three counts, domestic abuse assault - second offense.
- Aggravated, State of Iowa vs. Athea Hamilton, 23, Coin, child endangerment, three counts.
- Simple misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Steven Keleher, 42, Cumberland, possession of drug paraphernalia, pled guilty, \$150 fine.
- Simple misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Richard Jenkins, 52, Red Oak, possession of drug paraphernalia.
- Serious misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Mark Coomer, 55, Oak Grove, Mo., possession of controlled substance - marijuana, first offense.
- Serious misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Richard Jenkins, 52, Red Oak, unlawful possession of prescription drugs.
- Serious misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Joseph Nelson, 42, Red Oak, domestic abuse assault - injury or mental illness, first

TRAFFIC

· Richard Jenkins, Red Oak, failure to provide proof of financial liability insurance, speeding. • Mark Coomer, Oak Grove,

- Mo., speeding. William McCormick, Elliott,
- no valid driver's license. • Horatio Rodriguez, Aurora,
- Colo., speeding. · Carla John, Bedford, registration violation.
- Matthew Black, Omaha, Neb., no valid driver's license.
- Bradley Savage, Stanberry, Mo., operation by unqualified driver, maximum width of vehicle, failure to comply with safety
- regulations rules, two counts. • Robert Leslie, Atlantic, speeding.
- Phillip McCullough, Thurman, speeding.
- Jennifer Brewer, Kearney, Mo., speeding.
- Maria Granillo Cruz, Omaha, Neb., no valid driver's license. • Natalie Stegall, Clarinda,
- speeding. • Spencer Wilcoxon, Red Oak,
- registration violation. • Tylar Welch, Red Oak, speeding.
- Jonathon Free, Omaha, Neb., speeding.
- Kevin Toews, Red Oak,

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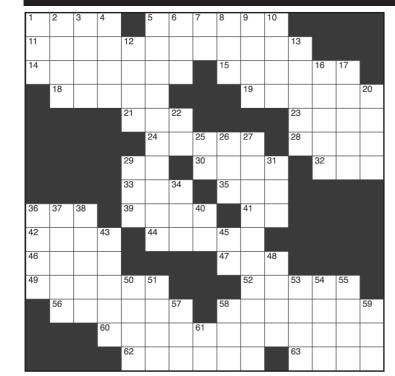
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- Maria Andrade, Storm Lake, speeding.
- Ryan Urkoski, Coin, speed-
- Nancy Nelson, Elliott, speed-

ACCIDENT

• On March 21, at 3:57 p.m., Red Oak Police officers investigated a two-vehicle accident at the intersection of 2nd and Corning streets. Rebecca Sands, 55, Red Oak, driving a 2004 Chevrolet Silverado pick up, was traveling west on Corning Street. Hailey Rydberg, 16, Essex, driving a 2006 Chevrolet Silverado pick up, was traveling north on 2nd Street, failed to stop at the stop sign, and broadsided the Sands vehicle. Damage to the Sands vehicle was about \$9,000, and damage to the Rydberg vehicle was about \$5,000. No injuries were reported, and Rydberg was cited for failure to obey stop sign and yield right of way. Both vehicles were towed from the scene.

CROSSWORD - ANSWER ON PAGE



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Millisecond
- 5. Narcotic drug 11. Accident
- 14. Formal submissions 15. Popular 70s rock band
- 18. Discourage from do-

19. More socially elite

- 21. Arid 23. A way to look
- 24. Heroes
- 28. A surfer rides it 29. Potato state
- 30. Insect repellent 32. Cool! 33. Have already done
- fraternity 36. To the __ degree 39. Gasteyer and de Ar-

- mas are two
- 41. Blood type 42. Looked over
- 44. Language of Cameroon and Chad 46. Species of armadillo
- 47. Touch softly 49. Part of your upper body
- 52. Large, stocky lizards 56. Lack of social or ethical standards
- 58. Congressman 60. Unofficial force 62. As a result of this ut- 20. Tall, slender-leaved terance

63. A main branch of Is-

35. Collegiate women's **CLUES DOWN**

lam

1. Woman (French) 2. Province of Pakistan

- 3. This (Spanish)
- 4. Transportation device 5. Greater in importance or priority
- 6. The human foot 7. Within
- 8. Consumed 9. Respectful Malaysian
- term 10. Therefore 12. Ceased to exist 13. Type of macaroni
- 16. English composer 17. Wooded tract
- plant 22. 36 inches
- 26. Allow
- 31. Bar bill
- 27. Individually 29. Journalist Tarbell

34. Hong Kong food stall:__ pai dong

Ξ

- 37. Species that includes reedmace
- 38. Former MLB catcher Ed 40. Northern U.S. state
- 43. Wilt 45. Commercial 48. Bolivian river 50. Nursemaid
- 51. A car needs four 53. Guns (slang) 54. American state 55. Clusters of fern fronds
- 57. Body part 25. Take too much (abbr.) 58. A person's brother or sister 59. Breed of sheep native
 - to Sweden 61. Of I



Altrussa donates to Red Oak Child Development



The Red Oak Child Development Center received a donation of 35 indestructible books from Altrusa International of Red Oak. The ROCDC appreciated the donation from the organization. (Photo submitted)

Griswold FFA celebrates FFA Week with cookies



Farm Credit Services of America surprised the Griswold FFA by donating cookies to the Griswold FFA members. The donation was part of a recognition of National Ag week. (Photo submitted)

Letters to the Editor The Red Oak Express supports healthy community discourse and encourages readers to submit a letter to the editor. Letters must be signed and include a phone number for verification purposes. They can be submitted by mail or dropped off at 2012 Commerce Drive, Red Oak, Iowa, 51566, or emailed to news@redoakexpress.com, or

entered through our website at redoakexpress.com. Letters should be concise and centered on a single topic. All letters are subject to editing for length, taste, accuracy, liability, or other reasons. The Express is under no obligation to print any letter. If you have questions, contact the Express office at 712-623-2566 or news@redoakexpress.com.

VIEWPOINTS

Stronger the Press, Stronger the People

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Pat Shipley comments on Iowa House legislation

To the Editor:
The Iowa

The Iowa Legislature in 2023 has fast-tracked legislation focused on issues that weren't campaign topics in 2022. Even recent KMA polls indicate that Southwest Iowa residents aren't thrilled with the performance of Governor Reynolds or the Legislature. As an active observer of the legislative process, the changes are regressive and detrimental to the economic well-being of Iowa and Iowans. We should try to attract and retain citizens not create reasons to leave.

Iowa took pride in public education and education has taken a big hit. Even though 70% of

legislature passed it anyway and sent public money to private schools. Legislators have supported book banning by passing it off as a "book removal policy" and a "parental rights" issue. Parents have the right to determine reading content of their own child, but a small group of parents should not determine the materials available to all students. By the way-parents have always had the right to object to course content or reading materials and request alternative work for their student.

Iowa has a teacher shortage. to decrease teacher licensure all students and parents are not

Iowans opposed vouchers, the requirements, allow 19-yearolds to be fully licensed teachers, provide minimal financial support for public schools, and change the make-up of the Board of Educational Examiners. In the name of transparency, public schools may be required to post all curriculum, library materials, and lesson plans, most of which can currently be accessed upon request. Course content proposals eliminate information regarding health threats like HIV and HPV viruses, and family structure.

"Parental rights" legislation will impact schools and The legislature proposed bills LGBTQ students. Apparently,

equal. Twenty-nine bills have choice or health care? been introduced focusing on knew there was such concern? course content, restrictions on discussion of family structure or gender identity, and access to gender affirming health care. "Parents' rights" mattered about book choices, but weren't important when parents seek access to gender affirming health care for their own child? Would you want the Legislature to decide about your child's book

1600-page Iowa's LGBTQ community or reorganization bill expanding 3.6% of Iowa's population. Who the governor and attorney general's power passed with Legislators focused on school little discussion and no public libraries, access to bathrooms, input. Another bill proposes parental notification about a restriction of the state auditor's child's name or pronoun choice, authority regarding investigation and oversight of agencies.

> Sweeping changes restricting SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) eligibility to low-income families passed through the Senate but actually increases administrative costs instead of saving money. FYI

- SNAP is funded by federal resources except for administra-

Which legislators campaigned on these changes? None of them. What's driving the changes? Answers includes no specific supportive data other than "we've heard" and vague response if any. So much for "small government." Please start asking questions and showing up at forums to get answers. This shouldn't be about an agenda generated outside Iowa. All Iowans are legislative constituents, not a privileged minority.

> Pat Shipley Nodaway

THE TIME CAPSULE | ROY MARSHALL

A Shot in the Dark

William Thomas (1858-1920), Carl Oliver (1877-1947) and Harry Harris; AKA Harry Barker (??-1906), are all buried in Evergreen Cemetery.

Thomas was Montgomery County Sheriff from 1900-1909, served two terms as mayor, and has an appropriate headstone.

Carl Oliver, 51 years a Red Oak tailor, shares a simple granite monument with his wife, Nell.

Harry Harris, habitual criminal, was buried under the name Harry Barker and interred without a marker at plot number ROJ2124 in a remote part of the cemetery.

The three lives intersected on the night March 12, 1906; this being the night Harry Barker was shot dead.

Carl Oliver, born in Sweden, came to this country at age 19 to go into the clothing business.

He became a tailor and in 1912 was renting a room in the Houghton Building at 400 East Coolbaugh. An industrious worker, he frequently walked to his home at 800 Coolbaugh, had supper with his wife, then returned to work a few more hours.

At about 9:30 p.m. on March 12, 1906, two men entered his shop. Both had red bandanas covering the lower half of their faces and both showed revolvers.

Oliver was struck in the head with a pistol butt and fell to the floor, where he was kicked and pummeled. Two men in a nearby restaurant heard his calls for help. They responded and the assailants fled.

oped likely suspects, and couldn't locate them that evening so Sheriff Thomas retired to his apartment at the jail.

livery barn. Shortly after 1 a.m. an employee who watched the barn man they knew as Harry Barker, and they knew him well.



at night noticed a light in the office window of George Brown's blacksmith shop, which was across the street and a bit east.

A light at that hour was unusual, there Sheriff Thomas was summoned. Packing his revolver, he walked to Brown's.

The shop was a rambling building with space for machinery awaiting repair, a work area with tools, and a small office. A shade on the office window was drawn, leaving a partially consumed bottle of liquor and a railroad switch key. gap of about an inch.

our paper, peered through this gap and saw a man on his knees. He appeared to be drilling the lock on Brown's safe.

Thomas thought this was probably one of the men who had assaulted Oliver four hours earlier, so it seemed likely the other suswere armed.

Sheriff Thomas could have looked for the place of entry, gone in and tried to effect the arrest—a risky option. He also considered going to the PD and soliciting back-up. This took time during which the safe could have been opened, emptied, and an escape made.

He took a third option, aimed as well as he could in the darkness, giving the county and Sheriff Thomas issues to deal with. Red Oak Police and Sheriff Thomas interviewed Oliver, devel- and fired through the window. The safecracker lurched and disap-

Thomas made a dash to the police station, returning with assis-On the north side of Coolbaugh west of the courthouse was a tance a few minutes later. Upon entry officers found the body of a

Suspected of numerous prior crimes, he was arrested by federal authorities in 1901 and charged with tax evasion associated with a bootlegging ring centered in Red Oak.

After serving 13 months at Ft. Madison he could have faced state had been numerous burglaries of late, and liquor charges as well, but the state elected not to proceed. He was suspected of assorted crimes since, including burglaries and assault.

> The bullet, fired from behind Barker, was traveling at a downward angle. A bit low for a head shot, the round instead passed just below the left ear and severed the jugular.

In Barker's pockets were found two skeleton keys, a revolver, a

Switch keys, required to unlock the mechanism that switched Thomas, according to his statement to trains from one track to another, were closely monitored by the railroad because they could be used to cause derailment. How Barker got it, and what he intended to do, was not determined.

Follow-up investigation established that Barker and a friend had bought red bandana handkerchiefs shortly before the Oliver assault. pect was somewhere in the building. Both men, according to Oliver, The same two also purchased handguns, and one of the guns—or one identical to it—was in Barker's pocket.

> A porter in the lobby of the Johnson Hotel, which was just east of the blacksmith shop, heard the shot, stepped out and saw what was believed to be Barker's accomplice running south.

> In today's law enforcement the shooting would be scrutinized,

But this was 1906; a community felt safer without Barker, and back then violent criminals were treated harshly.

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

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Dedicated to Freedom Since 1868

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

Community

Community Calendar

30 March

8 a.m.-noon, Leadership Red

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 infor-

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.

31 March

Red Oak Public Library, Pop-

corn 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."

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

7 p.m., "Champions," theatre #1; "65," theatre #2; Red Oak Grand Theatre.

1 April

8 a.m., Legislative briefing at the Montgomery County Family YMCA, 101 E. Cherry St.

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

7 p.m., "Champions," theatre #1; "65," theatre #2; Red Oak Grand Theatre.

2 April

2 and 7 p.m., "Champions," theatre #1; "65," theatre #2; Red Oak Grand Theatre.

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

3 April

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., Red Oak City Council meeting, Red Oak Fire Station or via Zoom.

7 p.m., Alcoholics Anonymous, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1101 Summit St.

4 April

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.

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.

5 April

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.

Easter service times

A number of area churches are holding Easter services this

week. Red Oak First United Methodist Church: Easter Cantata at 9 a.m. April 2, joint Maundy/Thursday services at 5:30 p.m. April 6 with a baked potato bar.

Villisca United Methodist Church: Joint Good Friday service at 7 p.m. April 7, Easter services with communion at 9 a.m. April 9.

The chapel will also be open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. for prayer and meditation.

Strahan United Methodist Church: Good Friday service at 7 p.m. April 7, Easter service at 9:45 a.m., with an Easter egg hunt for children following the service.

Malvern United Methodist **Church:** Easter services at 6 a.m. April 9 at the Malvern Cemetery, or 11 a.m. April 9 at the Malvern United Methodist Church.

Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church, Hastings: Easter services at 8:30 a.m. April

First Covenant Church, Red Oak: Maundy Thursday service at 7 p.m. April 6, Easter service at 9:30 a.m. April 9.

Faith Covenant Church, Essex: Good Friday service at 7 p.m. April 6, Easter Sunday Red Oak Presbyterian Church: Sunrise service at 7 a.m. April 9, Easter service at 10:30 a.m. April 9.

Citylight Southwest Iowa: Easter services at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. April 9.

Faith Community Church, **Red Oak:** Good Friday service at 6 p.m. April 7, Easter service at 9:30 a.m. April 9.

Crossroads Community Church, Red Oak: Celebration services with kid's church at 9:23 a.m. April 9.

St. Mary's Catholic Church, **Red Oak:** Easter vigil at 8 p.m.



April 8, Easter mass at 10:30 a.m. April 9.

First Congregational United Church of Christ, Red Oak: Fellowship hour at 10:30 a.m. April 9, Easter service to follow at 11:30 a.m. April 9.

First Christian Church, Red Oak: Sunrise service at 7 a.m. April 9 outside of the church, weather permitting. Easter service at 10:30 a.m. April 9 in the

Evangelical Covenant Church, Stanton: Maundy service at 7 p.m. April 6, Easter service at 10:45 a.m. April 9.

Elliott Methodist Church: Maundy service at 7 p.m. April 6.

Elliott Church of Christ: Good Friday service at 7 p.m., Sunday sunrise service at 6:30 a.m. April 9 outside of the church, weather permitting, with breakfast to follow. Easter service at 10 a.m. April 9.

Villisca Advent Christian Church: 7 p.m. Maunday Thursday service at 7 p.m. April 6 with communion. Easter resurrection service at 10:30 a.m. April 9.

Grant United Methodist Church: Easter service at 8:30 a.m. April 9 with breakfast to follow.

River of Life Church, Red Oak: Sunrise service at 7:30 a.m.

The Red Oak Express will publish any remaining Easter service times it receives in the *April 5 edition.*

Card Showers

BENGSTON AND YOUNGGREN 90TH BIRTHDAYS



John Bengston and Norman Younggren will be celebrate their 90th birthdays next month. Bengtson's birthday is April 9 and Younggren's birthday is April 11.

In honor of the occasion, their families are requesting a card

Cards may be sent to John at 908 South Ave., Essex, IA 51638. Cards may be sent to Norman at P.O. Box 427, Essex, IA, 51638.

WILLIAMS 55TH ANNIVERSARY



Bob and Sue Williams of Red Oak will celebrate their 55th vedding aniversary March 29.

In honor of the occasion, the family is hosting a card shower. Send cards to the couple at P.O. Box 223, Red Oak, Iowa 51566.

Happy Birthday!

Celebrating birthdays are:

Nick Zimmer – March 31 Sarah Johnson - March 31 Phyllis Stebbins – April 1 Don Rydberg – April 1 Jennifer French – April 2 Trinity Peterson – April 2 Morgan Schrader – April 2 Tiffany Swartz – April 3 Carolyn Lombard – April 3 Ann Watt – April 4 Larry Ratcliff – April 4 April Tye – April 4 Donald Morgan - April 5 Delaina Olson – April 5 Hadley Stanley – April 5



Good Friday Breakfast at the YMCA

CHURCH DIRECTORY

The Montgomery County Family YMCA is hosting the 9th Annual Good Friday Breakfast on Friday, April 7, from 6:30 to 7:45 a.m. in

the YMCA's multi-purpose room. Community Church of Red Oak will be the featured speaker.

Sue Kearn from Red Oak will

perform musical numbers The event will also feature a breakfast buffet for the attendees.

Reservations can be made in person at the YMCA with event pay-Pastor Dan Wetzel of Faith ment or over the phone. The registration deadline is Tuesday, April 4 at noon.

Happy Auniversary!

Celebrating their anniversaries this week are:

Andrew and Nanny Crowe - March 31 David and Linda Clark - April 4

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, mail to P.O. Box 377, Red Oak, IA 51566, or drop by our office at 2012 Commerce Dr.

Senior Menu

Thursday, March 30: Liver and onions or hamburger patty, onion gravy, whipped potatoes, mixed vegetables, bread slice, fruit gelatin,

Friday, March 31: Tuna noodle casserole, peas, bread slice, hot pineapple tidbits, milk/coffee. Monday, April 3: Salisbury

gravy, lima beans, cookie, beverage mix, milk/coffee.

Tuesday, April 4: Chicken salad sandwich on white bread, pea salad,

steak, whipped potatoes, brown

pasta salad, fresh seasonal fruit, beverage mix, milk/coffee.

April 5: Spaghetti casserole, Italcoli florets, lemon bar, beverage mix, milk/coffee.

For more information, call the

Senior Center at 623-3497 or Carolyn at 402-926-8683.

Please call for reservations by ian vegetable blend, steamed broc- 9:30 a.m. the day before you plan to eat lunch.

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. Online: 9:45 a.m. approx. live on Facebook.

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, Interin Minister

Worship, 10 a.m. **Church Of the Nazarene** Red Oak, 401 E. Prospect St., Rev.

Kevin Berry, Sunday School 9 a.m.,

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 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,

Non-Denominational

6:30 p.m.

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

<u>Presbyterian</u>

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, Service, 10:30 a.m. Online: 10:30 a.m. live on Face-

book/Red Oak Presbyterian Church Reformed Evangelical

new church plant. Bible study

Heartland Sovereign Grace Church,

Sunday, 5 p.m., www.swiacrec.com,

contact@swiacrec.com. <u>United Methodist</u> First United Methodist, 600 E. Hammond, Red Oak, Rev. Jennifer Van Nostrand, Worship, Sunday, 9 a.m.; Youth group Wednesday 6:30-8

recorded services. Wesley Chapel UMC, Rev. Joni Hickey, M16 north off Hwy. 34 then west on Epperson. 624-8320. strahaniowachurch.org Worship, 8:30 a.m., Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.

p.m., grades 6-12, snack is served.

on the media tab to see previously

Online: 9 a.m. fumcro.org; click

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

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.

McClain, Sunday School, 9 a.m.,

Worship, 10 a.m. Online: 10 a.m.

live on Facebook.

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, Rev. Joni Hickey, Sunday Worship service 9:45 a.m., Adult and childr en'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.

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The Heart of Southwest Lowa RED OA

Here's what is new at the Red Oak Chamber



Flaine Carlson Director of Membership & Finance What's going on at the Chamber, you ask? Oh boy, did we have a great turn out and a great time at our 5th Annual Ag Appreciation Dinner on Wednesday night!

Thanks to all who came and enjoyed great food by Brenda Vrba and the Montgomery County Cattlemen, awesome entertainment from Greg Peterson from the Peterson Farm Brothers and wonderful fellowship.

the renovation of the Board Room has begun. The project is going really well and should be wrapping up in about three weeks. We're looking forward to revealing the finished project by hosting a Business After Hours so that ROCIA Members will see the expanded space that they can utilize for their own meetings.

Leadership Red Oak So far this year's class has

The Red Oak Ambassadors held ribbon cutting events at the Neighborhood

Bakehouse, pictured above, and M & C Resales, pictured below.

visited the Restored Burlington Northern Depot & World War II Museum and enjoyed learning from Lynn Adams about the railroad and Red Oak during the war.

Tina Bakehouse facilitated a Keirsey Temperament We've been a little torn up Assessment with the class. It was in the Chamber office while a morning of fun conversations while learning about how our personalities determine how we lead.

The second week we visited the wonderful Montgomery County History Center and learned so much from Dave McFarland. Next was a tour of the Red Oak Express and the YMCA.

The third week, we met at the Red Oak Grand Theatre and heard from our local service groups; Altrusa, Kiwanis,



Greg Peterson speaks during the ROCIA Ag Appreciation Dinner March 21. (Photo

Monday Club, Optimists, Rotary, class learned about the history of each club and their mission and what they do for our community. Next stop was Nishna Productions, where they toured the day facility and heard about all the programs and services that Nishna provides to their clients and our community.

The fourth week was National Ag Week, so it was appropriate to visit AgriVision Equipment Group, United Farmers Cooperative, and Bunge to learn how each of them support, provide, and rely on our ag producers. The Leadership Program is almost half way great sessions to come.

Thanks once again to our Diamond Sponsor: Red Oak Greenhouse.

Gold sponsors: Building Crafts, Inc., Carrick & Associates, LLP, and Clarios.

Mutual Telephone Company, and Milestone Financial Group.

Bronze Sponsors: Bank Iowa, Michael J. Portz, O.D., P.C., Montgomery County Family YMCA, and Montgomery County Memorial Hospital.

Sponsors of the week include: The Kiwanis Club of Red Oak, Larry and Faye Brandstetter, are downtown. Milestone Financial Group, Montgomery County Farm Bureau, Nishna Productions, Red Oak Community School District, and United Group Insurance.

Welcome New Members Droppett – located at Nishna

Productions M&C Resales - 222 E. Coolbaugh St.

Control - Clarinda Uplift Family Dentistry, LLC - 1700 E. Summit St. – Dr.Carla

Kucirek.

Membership Golf Tournament and Red Oak Ambassadors. The and help us celebrate the 30th year of this event.

> The date is Thursday, May 18. Shotgun start is at 12:30 p.m. at the Red Oak Country Club. Entry fee for a team of four is \$250, so get yours together and join us. More details to come.

Ribbon Cuttings

The Red Oak Chamber and the Red Oak Ambassadors welcomed M&C Resales as our newest downtown business. You are going to want to stop in on a regular basis to check out what's new in their store. There truly is something for everyone.

We also celebrated the through the schedule with more Neighborhood Bakehouse's grand opening and ribbon cutting with a full house. If you haven't had a taste of their amazing bread, you need to soon. Matt does an amazing job of offering different kinds of breads with unique flavors and textures Silver Sponsors: Farmers while Adri's creative marketing of Matt's creations makes your mouth water as you can almost smell the deliciousness! The St. Lezins have done a very nice job on the renovations of their space and even added a special touch with a beautiful mural painted by local artist Jim Hoskinson. Stop by and say hi next time you

Legislative Briefings

The final 2023 Legislative Briefing will be on Saturday, April 1, at 8 a.m. at the Montgomery County Family YMCA. This is your opportunity to find out more about what they have been working on, what issues they have tackled, and ask the legislators your questions.

For more information about ResCom Services Pest our members, promotions, and events within and around our community, please visit our website at redoakiowa.com.

If you have questions about becoming a member of the ROCIA or are interested in volunteering opportunities, please contact me at 623-4821.

> Warm wishes, Elaine Carlson



www.redoakexpress.com

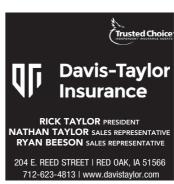
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• Saturday, April 1 at 8 a.m. at the Montgomery County Family YMCA, 101 E. Cherry St.





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Members of the 2023 Leadership Red Oak class pose for a photo during their tour of Red



FAREWAY







Supervisors re-learn about Hungry Canyons Alliance

Nick Johansen The Red Oak Express

The Hungry Canyons Alliance is continuing in its efforts to give solutions for erosion in a multicounty area.

At the regular supervisors meeting March 21, the supervisors met with John Thomas, representing the Hungry Canyons Alliance, which was formed locally to research and implement solutions to the problem of stream channel erosion and degradation in a 23 county area of the deep loess soils region of western Iowa, including Montgomery County. County engineer Karen Albert and Supervisor Mark Peterson were representatives on the Hungry Canyons Alliance Committee.

Due to recent turnover in supervisors all across the area, Thomas said he was making a stop in Montgomery County for educational purposes and to give an overview of what the alliance has to offer.

"When we started in 1992, we received federal funding from then until 2010, and beginning in 1996, we were funded by the state. We receive a \$500,000 appropriation, and pretty much all that money goes into construction projects in the counties we serve, with a cost share," Thomas said. "The counties also pay dues of \$5,000 per year, and we've already requested that in the county. You usually pay that in July."

Thomas said Montgomery County had been a part of the alliance for quite some time, and had received a number of financial benefits.

"Over the past 28 years or so, Montgomery County has received \$1.8 million from us, through the normal program. Also, as part of the emergency marshland protection program, if the county is declared a natural disaster area, the NRCS provides funding, and Hungry Canyons also chips in additional funding. Over the years, the county has received around \$243,000," Thomas said.

Thomas said recently, the Hungry Canyons Alliance has been working to assist the counties they serve in repairing cul-

"Pretty much all of the main streams have been stabilized, and so now it's just the side stream areas needing stabilization, and we're providing resources for that. We currently have one active project in the county, the box culvert project on 180th

street," Thomas explained.

Supervisor Donna Robinson asked about how the Hungry Canyons Alliance took on its

"Do all of the projects have to be recommended by a county secondary roads department, or is it a situation where a private landowner sees an issue they can contact Hungry Canyons Alliance?" Robinson asked.

Thomas said those types of issues were handled under a small structure program offered through Hungry Canyons.

"Typically, a landowner will identify a gully in a field, and go to their local NRCS office. Then myself, an NRCS representative, and the landowner will go out to the site. We have \$8,500 available for landowners," Thomas explained. "The reasoning behind that is that the NRCS typically offers a 50% cost share, and we'll add the additional \$8,500 on to make sure the project is actually completed, because often it's a financial decision for the landowner to proceed.'

No further action was taken by the supervisors.

Also under discussion was a resolution authorizing Montgomery County to enter into settlement agreements with Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd., Allergan Finance, LLC, Walgreen Co., Walmart, Inc., CVS Health Corporation and CVS Pharmacy, Inc., directed to the opioid epidemic.

"This was addressed at the recent meeting of the Iowa State Association of Counties. National opioid settlements have been reached with these companies previously mentioned, and this will allow us to seek funding from that settlement," Robinson said. "The complete resolution, if the public wishes to read it, will be available for viewing at the auditor's office.'

The final item on the agenda was approval for a Cott Systems credential change from auditor to recorder for the digitizing of public historical records to be available online for the public and according to Iowa Code and Statute guidelines.

County Auditor Jill Ozuna explained that there were certain documents that needed to be accessed by the recorder's office that did not need to be accessed by the auditor's office, and thus they were requesting credentials be changed, and digitized.

The supervisors approved the request for a credential change as

You are invited to Red Oak First United

Methodist Church Holy Week services. **April 2** - Easter Cantata at 9am

April 7 - Good Friday Service at 7pm at Villisca UMC.

April 9 - Easter Services with communion at 9am.

The Chapel will be open Monday - Friday during Holy Week from 10am to 1pm for prayer. Open to the community!

Supervisors make final decision on insurance coverage for employees

Nick Johansen The Red Oak Express

After several weeks of discussion and planning, the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors has finalized insurance coverage for its county employees.

The supervisors had been examining options for coverage after it was determined the county's current provider was expecting a premium increase of 19% for the upcoming renewal, prompting the supervisors to approve a merger with their current insurance trust and the Iowa Governmental Health Care Plan Trust, which uses Wellmark Blue Cross/Blue Shield.

At the regular meeting March 21, the supervisors once again met with Alera Group representative Tom Schuetz, who highlighted some differences the county could expect as it prepared to enter into insurance through the IGHCP Trust.

"Obviously, when you change from one carrier to another, it's never completely identical, so I wanted to highlight where the county's employees might experience some differences, as well as what will remain the same, and some of the things that will be improving as well," said Schuetz.

Under the new insurance plan through IGHCP, the county budgeted for a 6% increase in its insurance premiums, as opposed to the predicted 19% from United Health Care.

Schuetz said under the new plan, the deductible and out-ofpocket maximums for the employees would remain the same. Also, insurance usage between now and the new insurance taking effect would transfer over.

"Any deductible and out-of-pocket maximums that employees meet from January 1 through June 30 with United Health Care will transfer over, and they will get credit for that through the IGHCP plan. They won't be losing anything they've met so far," stated Schuetz.

Schuetz did say that administratively, it may take some time for the update to occur following the transfer.

"Typically, what happens is claims will be incurred right up until June 30. Those will have to go through the system and be processed. Normally, what happens is that Wellmark will look at claims around the end of June, and it may take 30 to 45 days after the transfer for all of the credits to be given, and there may be a period of time where members will need to be guided on where they're at, and whether they're getting the right credit. But the good news is, they'll get the credit and not lose anything," Schuetz

One of the improvements, Schuetz said, had to do with an employee who had to make a trip to urgent care.

"If someone needs treatment at an urgent care clinic, today, under the current plan, they'll have to pay a \$75 copay. With the new plan, it's \$10. I'm not advocating urgent care over a primary care provider, because that can be more expensive. We do like to see people have a primary care physician," stated Schuetz.

Also, if an employee goes to the emergency room, the employee will pay \$100 and the plan pays the rest, which will go to deductible and coinsurance. Cost for prescriptions will also reduce.

'With the current plan, it's \$15 for generic prescriptions; that will drop to \$10. For a brand prescription with no generic alternative, currently they are \$30 and that will drop to \$25. If the brand does have a generic alternative, the current plan charges \$50 and under the new plan the payment is \$40. There is also a separate category for specialty drugs, and that cost is \$85," Schuetz said. "All those costs go to an out-of-pocket maximum, which for your group is \$1,000. Once that is met, all covered expenses are paid at 100% for the balance of the year.'

Outside of the health insurance premiums, Schuetz said he did not have the new rates for the dental insurance coverage, but expected it to be a low dollar amount. The renewal for vision coverage was not until October, so Schuetz expected the numbers in July, and also expected the renewal costs to be low.

Schuetz said he would be able to provide the differences in a written form that could be sent to the supervisors. Supervisor Donna Robinson urged Schuetz to provide the information in a

"In that format, the information can be shared with department heads who can then give it to their employees and communicate the differences," said Robinson.

Schuetz confirmed that he would work with County Auditor Jill Ozuna to get the information in a shareable format.

Schuetz also said he had reached out to the The Iowa Communities Assurance Pool for numbers, as had been requested by the supervisors, and had never received them. Schuetz felt that was because they felt that they didn't believe they would be competitive.

The final action for the supervisors was to approve the IGHCP health insurance rates. The rates were approved as presented.

Phone and Internet Discounts Available to CenturyLink Customers

The Iowa Utilities Board designated CenturyLink as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier within its service area for universal service purposes. CenturyLink's basic local service rates for residential voice lines are \$29.50 per month and business services are \$42.00 per month. Specific rates will be provided upon request.

CenturyLink participates in the Lifeline program, which makes residential telephone or qualifying broadband service more affordable to eligible lowincome individuals and families. Eligible customers may qualify for Lifeline discounts of \$5.25/month for voice or bundled voice service or \$9.25/month for qualifying broadband or broadband bundles. Residents who live on federally recognized Tribal Lands may qualify for additional Tribal benefits if they participate in certain additional federal eligibility programs. The Lifeline discount is available for only one telephone or qualifying broadband service per household, which can be either a wireline or wireless service. Broadband speeds must be at least 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload to qualify.

CenturyLink also participates in the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), which provides eligible households with a discount on broadband serv The ACP provides a discount of up to \$30 per month toward broadband service for eligible households and up to \$75 per month for households on qualifying Tribal lands.

For both programs, a household is defined as any individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses. Services are not transferable, and only eligible consumers may enroll in these programs. Consumers who willfully make false statements to obtain these discounts can be punished by fine or imprisonment and can be barred from these programs.

If you live in a CenturyLink service area, visit https://www.centurylink.com/aboutus/community/ community-development/lifeline.html for additional information about applying for these programs or call 1-800-201-4099 with questions.



Advertising Sales/Marketing Consultant

The Red Oak Express and Glenwood Opinion-Tribune newspapers is looking for an enthusiastic, motivated sales/marketing consultant to create custom advertising packages that will help clients gain desired business results. We are looking for someone who understands small business owners and can connect with customers and help them achieve their business objectives through effective advertising campaigns. You'll have a unique opportunity to sell our paid advertising base with effective digital strategies and should easily earn more than

In this position, you will:

- Generate revenue for the newspaper and meet monthly goals through effective outside sales techniques
- Develop new business and create results for clients through creative and effective targeted campaigns · Research and build campaign solutions, including overall branding and creative approaches; ensure
- campaign execution meets client expectation · Establish trusting relationships with clients,
- · Support collection of receivables
- Develop capabilities to produce creative and effective campaigns

The ideal candidate will have the following skills:

- Passion for contributing to a sales team with a positive mindset · Driven by practical results
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- Ability to handle constructive criticism
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Iowa has a new school safety reporting system

lowa Department of Education

A free anonymous K-12 school safety reporting system is now available to help prevent violence, unlawful possession of weapons, self-harm and other forms of victimization and threatening behaviors in schools across the state.

The Governor's School Safety Bureau is making Safe+Sound Iowa available to students, school staff, parents and concerned community members to help identify and provide intervention for students in crisis before they hurt themselves or others.

Reports of safety concerns can be made securely and anonymously three ways:

• Downloading and using the free

Safe+Sound Iowa app

vided to the student in crisis.

Going to SafeandSoundIowa.gov, or

• Calling 800-224-6018 Trained dispatchers monitor reports made through Safe+Sound Iowa 24/7 and immediately engage in two-way communication with those raising concerns to ensure the information is vetted. Dispatchers then share information with the appropriate local school safety contact, law enforcement or other community partners so outreach and support can be pro-

Safe+Sound Iowa is a valuable resource in supporting schools, local law enforcement and other community partners in working together to prevent and protect against acts of violence. Schools may opt-in at any time.

SCF to use visualization tools to recruit tech companies

On Tuesday, March ness development for the new 14, members from FMTC-Stanton, the Stanton Community Foundation are embarking on an initia-(SCF), and the Iowa Area tive to use these tools to help Development Group met in recruit tech companies to the Stanton to present a \$3,000 check to SCF.

The funds, granted through Effect program, will go towards marketing visualiza-

Stanton Technology Park. SCF and other local leaders Tech Park, which offers stateof-the-art, fiber internet.

An engineering firm is Iowa Area Development developing 3D renderings, Group and Aureon's Ripple images, and aerial video to showcase the Tech Park and its capabilities. In addition tools to assist with busi- tion to Ripple Effect funds,

Southwest Iowa REC donated \$2,500 towards the project, matching FMTC - Stanton's donation of \$3,000.

The visualization tools will help Stanton market the Tech Park, a new community trail, and local amenities. The images and video will play a role in the community's entire marketing effort and will have an impact on prospective companies considering Stanton to do business.



Pictured from left: Kevin Cabbage, Justin Miller, Ethan Pitt, and Jenna Ramsey. (Photo provided)



Vial reappointed to Red Oak DUR board

Nick Johansen

The Red Oak Express

After a month of hiatus the Red Oak Downtown Urban Renewal Board resumed its regular monthly meetings March 15.

DUR Chairman Roger Vial, who was recently reappointed to the board by the Red Oak City Council, stated there were multiple projects seeking first round eligibility for funding,

The first request was from the Red Oak Presbyterian Church at 511 E. Coolbaugh St., for new carpet and flooring.

"This project is for most of the church. It was a huge project for them, costing \$39,966, which would max out the grant request from them at the \$7,500 amount. So far, all I have is the invoice and application, so first round eligibility is as far as we can go,"

After reviewing the available documentation, the DUR board granted first round eligibility for the Presbyterian Church.

Vial and the board then discussed the second grant request of \$7,500, from Hip Clips & Nails at 617 N. 3rd St. The request was slightly different from the

"They had a small fire, if there is such a thing, This involves renovating the entire building. Their total scope, as of right now, is \$180,000. I have invoices, checks paid, a description of what's going on there, and documentation of cancelled checks,' Vial explained.

Board member Marty Barnett said her only concern would be over insurance, as the DUR Board didn't provide grants to projects that were paid from insurance claims.

Board member Audie Rainey said he would consider approving the project with a contingency that they only paid towards the owner's out of pocket expenses. Vial agreed.

"They haven't disclosed to us yet how much insurance has paid, and what is out of pocket, and I sense their frustration over the situation. However, two or three instances in the past, we've had them verify what the out of pocket expenses were and

reimbursed on that," stated Vial. "At the end of the day, I believe she's going to have \$30,000 out of pocket, which would make them eligible for the maximum grant."

Rainey added that the owners were valuable to the Red Oak downtown, and absolutely felt the DUR Board could approve a grant for what expenses were proved to be out of pocket.

"We've done this in the past, and we've set that bar and example. We just need that proof," Rainey commented.

The DUR Board agreed to first-round

approval for the Hip Clips & Nails grant request.

Third on the list was a grant request from 500 E. Reed St., Junction Rental, for a roof repair project. The grant request was \$7,480, with a project total of \$29,800. However, the invoice for the project was dated June, 2022, prior to the new grant cycle of the DUR Board. Also, the invoice listed only labor charges, which were supposed to be pre-approved expenses by the DUR Board.

Vial said all he had for the project was the invoice, and he asked for the board's opinion on approval. Due to the guidelines, Barnett said she felt the rules about labor, and have been pre-approved by the

Another issue with the request, Vial reminded the board, was that the invoice was dated during the board's prior fiscal funding year.

Rainey proposed the request be tabled until the board could receive further information. The board was in unanimous agreement.

The final new funding request was from 400 E. Coolbaugh St., a grant of \$5,326 for a boiler replacement. Cost of the project was \$21,294, and documentation had been received, along with a copy of a cashier's check.

The board approved the eligibility of the grant request as presented.

The 400 E. Coolbaugh project was also eligible for final approval, and was also approved by the board. The board then also approved the final request for funding.

The only other project eligible was at 401 E. Reed St. A grant request of \$689 for partial reimbursement of expenses for repairing the north wall on the west corner of the building. The project's total cost was

"After our last meeting, I received proof of payment, and I feel we have all the documentation we need to fund that project," Vial said.

The funding request was approved by the board. Vial also advised the board it was time to review the guidelines and make some additional alterations, as the current guidelines were, he felt, overly long, and it was difficult to get things accomplished.

Further discussion on the updated guidelines is expected at a future meeting of the DUR Board.



Bring lawn chairs; weather permitting we will be outside. Breakfast will follow.

Regular morning worship will be at 10 a.m. 1880 Highway 48, Red Oak

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

MARCH 31 - APRIL 2

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