



# xpress

### **WEDNESDAY**

March 9, 2022 Red Oak, IA Volume 155, No. 10 redoakexpress.com

## **DEDICATED TO FREEDOM SINCE 1868**

\$1.00

# Primary and general election filing periods

**Stephanie Burke Montgomery County Auditor** 

The filing period for those interested in pursuing county office will begin on March 7. Three seats (District 1, District 2 and District 4) on the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors, as well as the offices of County Attorney, County Treasurer and County Recorder will be on the ballot.

Current office holders for Supervisors are Charla Schmid, Mark Peterson and Mike Olson; for Attorney is Drew Swanson; for Treasurer is Jackie Porter; and for Recorder is Carleen Bruning. In each candidacy, there are a specific number of signatures that are required. Only voters living in the supervisor candidate's respective district are allowed to sign the nomination papers. The offices of Attorney, Treasurer and Recorder are elected at large. All terms are four years.

Nomination papers and any accompanying affidavit of candidacy for the June 7 Primary Election must be filed with the Montgomery County Auditor's Office beginning March 7. The filing deadline is 5 p.m. on March 25. Township offices will also be on the General Election ballot. Anyone interested in running for Township Clerk or Trustee only needs to complete the affidavit of candidacy and it must be filed by the March 25 deadline.

The affidavit of candidacy and nomination papers can be found on the Secretary of State's website, https://sos.iowa.gov/, or the County's website, montgomerycountyia.gov. Papers can also be picked up at the auditor's office.

"For the General Election, things become a little more complicated. In the past, in Iowa filing for the General Election was usually in August. Now the filing deadline has changed. This will be the second election candidates will experience this," said Stephanie Burke, Auditor and Commissioner of Elections.

Like the Primary Election, filing begins on March 7. However, the filing deadline for all Non-Party Organizations and Nominated by Petition candidates who will be on the Nov. 8, General Election also ends on March 25. This deadline applies to candidates that are running by Nomination by Petition for the Board of Supervisors, Attorney, Treasurer and Recorder.

"Now to make things even more complex, the filing for County Agricultural Extension, County Hospital Trustees, and the Soil and Water Conservation has no start date, and the deadline is Aug. 31," Burke stated.

Filing and signature requirements differ in all the offices in the Primary and General Election. Please contact the Auditor's office at 623-5127 for more information. Democratic and Republican candidates must run in the June 7 Primary Election, with the winners moving on to the Nov. 8 General Election ballot.

"Supervisor districts and precincts have changed slightly due to the recent census. Maps can be located on the county's website montgomerycountyia.gov or at the auditor's office.





Kirk "Skinny" Webb, a native of Red Oak, is releasing the first song of The Skinny Webb Project tomorrow. (Photo by Toni Webb)

# Skinny Webb unleashes 'progressive rock' project

The Red Oak Express

Tomorrow is an important day for Red Oak native Skinny Webb. It is the day the first single, called "Not Our Home" is released from The Skinny Webb project, which he's been working on the past several years.

"The Skinny Webb Project is a progressive rock venture I started about four years ago when I recorded some songs where I played all the instruments and sang all the vocals, but I always wanted to take it further," Webb said. "I had to wait for the right moment to meet the right people in order for it to get to where it is today."

A harder rock project than what he's accustomed to, with music similar to that by the group 'Yes' and 'Rush,' Webb said it's music a lot of the people he normally plays with isn't accustomed to, either. Therefore, waiting to find just the right people.

"I get ideas all the time. I do a lot of using my phone, voice recorder, to record ideas.

This was my chance to write exactly what I want to write, whereas in a lot of past instances where I've worked with a country artist or someone who sings R&B, I change my writing style to fit their singing or playing ability," said Webb. "In this project I do what I love based on my experiences and my influences. It's primarily rock based. Progressive rock encompasses a lot of different styles; when you refer to progressive rock ot is an algamation of a lot of different styles put into a rock context."

Not Our Home is a hard rock song influenced by 1970s heavy rock, like Led Zeppelin, explained Webb.

Webb met and made friends with Ron Wisco, a drummer who previously worked with David Lee Roth, Cher, Foreigner and who is currently on tour with the Steve Miller Band. In addition to playing, Wisco does a lot of musical production, so Webb asked if he'd like to collaborate on a song and Wisco said yes.

"I sent him a song I had demoed out where I played all the instruments on it. It basically had a drum loop, so I asked Ron to replace the drum loop with real drums. He did and sent the track back to me with the drums done. It sounded incredible," Webb said. "The more we talked, I asked if he wanted to collaborate on the production end of it and he said sure, so we began to work together on that."

Wisco then introduced Webb to Wally Minko, a well-known keyboardist who has previously worked with Toni Braxton. Webb asked if Minko would play keyboards on the same track Wisco had played drums on. Minko did and sent the track back to Webb.

"Minko knew Matt Bissonette, who I saw on tour with David Lee Roth at the Civic Auditorium in Omaha back in 1988. He is currently on tour with Elton John and that is about as big time as you can get. We sent Matt the song, he recorded his part in his hotel room and sent it back," Webb explained.

The lead vocalist, Webb said, is Jessica Gray from

WEBB, Page 8A

## Council splits on wording of policy for development, dissemination and use of agendas

**Nick Johansen** The Red Oak Express

Members of the council were split on the final wording of a policy regarding the council

As part of the policy, any and all agenda item requests must be submitted to Red Oak City Hall no later than noon on the Thursday prior to the monday meeting, and the city clerk, with input and direction from the city administrator, will prepare and make the final decision on all agenda content and order of agenda items. City administrator

Brad Wright said it was no different than current policy.

"This changes absolutely nothing from the way we've operated for the 20 years I've been here, and the 38 years Mary Bolton has been here. It follows the city council policy and procedures that have been a part of the process. It simply clarifies the process of the noon deadline, and that we put it together. It seems that's gotten a little confursed lately, and so we thought some clarification needed to take place," Wright explained.

Wright added it was also not being done to prohibit or limit anyone's access to the council.

"When someone comes in from being on the council agenand says they want to talk to the council, as city administrator, it's always my job to ask their concerns and find out what they want to talk to the council about. If it's something I can resolve and alleviate before they come before the council, then it's my job to work with the public and resolve issues if I can," said Wright. The next step is to encourage them to talk to the councilperson for their particular ward, and if they don't find satisfaction there, and want to present before the council, then we put them on the agenda. There has never been anyone restricted

da if they want to speak before the council. It simply puts clarity to the process."

Red Oak Mayor Shawnna Silvius made a request that because of the complexities of the council rules and proceedures that the city attorney be present for the next few meetings to make sure they were following proper protocol, and requested to be part of the agenda process.

"I would very much like to be a piece of setting the agenda, and approving the agenda before it goes out, and by all means, I should see the agenda before it

goes out as a public notice," said

Councilperson Brian Bills said he had a problem with the policy declaring the clerk and the administrator had final say about what went on the agenda.

"Just add one word to the policy and it's fine. Add mayor to the list. Make it mayor, city clerk, and city administrator," said Bills.

Wright said his issue with that was timing and efficiency, and getting the information together and sent out in a timely fashion.

Councilperson Jeanice Lester felt that the deadline was the deadline, and if things were

submitted at 12:01 p.m. on Thursday, it was out. She also felt that it was forgotten how key the roles were of Bolton and Wright.

"The city is a big business, and they are the ones that actually run it. We as a council help in that process, but financially, they have to be on top of it, and sometimes I feel that we are excluding them from things, and we absolutely cannot. I think the resolution helps clarify the things they have talked about, and not everybody needs to come before the council for an

**COUNCIL, Page 7A** 





# **Mobile Food Pantry**

Wednesday, March 30th

**Location:** 

**ROCSD Football Field/Fairgrounds Parking Lot** 

free of charge!



The mobile pantry is available to you

**Distribution Time: 3:30pm** 

## Scott updates board on IT infrastructure

**Nick Johansen** The Red Oak Express

Montgomery County IT director Jim Scott met with the supervisors on March 1 to give an update on the county's IT infrastructure since taking over the position.

Scott said among the changes being implemented was a new help desk system that would allow for better tracking of issues and documenting of solutions. Also, Scott said he was able to complete a computer inventory for the county.

"With the exception of the supervisors Surface Books, we currently have 40 laptops, 60 desktops, and nine tablets. I've begun discussion with the department heads about planned replacement," said Scott. "What that means is, rather than waiting until computers get 10 or 11 years old, and have to be replaced in an emergency, instead we make some plans of how often they are replaced, so people can plan for those replacements in individual budgets, and prevent us from being in a situation where we have to panic replace them."

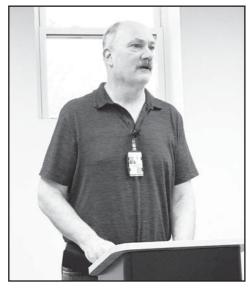
Scott said he has also been taking stock and preparing old equipment for recycling, as some of it has been stored for several

"We're taking a full inventory, so we can let the auditor's office know what we're getting ready to send out, and we'll have it recycled through a company we've used in the past. I don't believe there's a charge for that, I believe they just come in and take the stuff," commented Scott.

Also up for recycling are more than 100 old phones and some phone systems that no longer have any value. Scott said he's reaching out to phone providers to see if they will pay for it to be shipped out, again so there is no cost to the county for their disposal.

Scott was also pleased to share that the county's employees are remaining vigilant against opening potential phishing emails.

"As you know, we have a phishing secu-



County IT director Jim Scott outlines the status of the county's IT infrastructure at the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors meeting March 1 (Nick Johansen/The Red Oak Express)

rity vendor which sent out emails to test people and make sure they aren't clicking on stuff they are not supposed to. Since Jan. 1, they sent out 99 emails, and no one clicked on any of those emails. One employee actually reported one to me as a phishing email," advised Scott.

Scott added he'll be working with the company to determine other ways to test county employees to keep things fresh.

Scott also made a request to the supervisors for an additional vendor for making IT purchases. Currently the county is working with two vendors.

"I get quotes from these vendors and compare them, and the one that is least expensive and has the most availability is the one I go with. Beau Boeye's company, Boeye Tech and Design, now offers the same service to be able to sell hardware. I'd like to add him to that list of vendors, but I want to make sure there's no conflict of interest before I do that," Scott said.

County Auditor Stephanie Burke advised the supervisors she had broached the subject to the Iowa State Auditor's Office, and their recommendation was to get board approval to make purchases, as Boeye was still an independent contractor for the county.

"The State Auditor's Office has determined there is no conflict of interest as long as the supervisors give blanket board approval for his addition to the vendor list," Burke advised.

Scott said the process would remain the same. He would still be looking at cost and availability, and if Boeye was the best solution, they would purchase from him; otherwise, they would use the other vendors.

The supervisors approved the addition of Boeye Tech and Design to the county's IT vendor list.

Supervisor Donna Robinson stated she'd been having problems with her current Surface equipment, including screen freezeups, and Scott said that sometimes the hardware could get bugs.

"Sometimes, they can just be flakey, and the problem with the Surface is that there's not really much I can do. I can't put extra RAM in it, I can't replace the hard drive, because it's a sealed unit," stated Scott.

Robinson asked whether a laptop would be more expensive than a replacement Surface. Scott said the prices between both pieces of equipment were very close in pric-

Scott said they could look at a replacement laptop for Robinson, and allow the rest of the supervisors to continue to use their Surface models, as a test run. Scott felt there were benefits to the use of a laptop.

"Let's say a hard drive fails. We can go in and replace a hard drive, or we can add more RAM. There are customer replaceable parts. We can't crack the Surface open, like I said. I think a laptop is more versatile in the long run," Scott commented.

Plans were to pay for a replacement laptop with the county's American Rescue Plan Act funds.

## **FARMLAND AUCTION**

80 ACRES M/L IN PAGE COUNTY, IA

FRIDAY, MARCH 25TH, 2022 AT 10:00 AM Shenandoah Elks Lodge | 701 S. Fremont Street | Shenandoah, IA 51601

The farm consists of 77.46 FSA tillable acres carrying a CSR2 of 69.4. Primary soil types include Marshall, Colo-Judson, and Exira silty clay loams. Conservation practices have been actively applied with drainage tile and terracing. The field has great access off paved County Highway J52 / C Avenue with several competing grain marketing options located nearby. The property is located in Section 33 of Morton Township in Page

The land auction can also be viewed through our Virtual Online Auction platform with online bidding, via the Peoples Company website or you can follow along live through our Facebook page on the day of the sale. PEOPLES COMPANY | LISTING #16010

#### LAND AVAILABLE | 112 ACRES M/L IN PAGE COUNTY, IA

Farmland available in southeast Page County, Iowa! The property consists of 94.74 FSA tillable acres carrying a CSR2 of 53. Primary soil types include Gara and Colo-Judson silty clay loams. Conservation practices have been actively applied with tile, terracing, and maintained waterways. The farm is leased for the 2022 crop season.

The halance of the property includes timber draws, creating exceptional hunting opportunities for avid outdoorsmen. Invenergy has a developmental wind lease on the property, paying \$888 in 2022 with the potential for much higher payments if selected for wind turbines (Contact agent for details). This and would be a great add-on to an existing farming operation or a smart investment for the Buyer looking to diversify their portfolio. The property is located in Section 13 of Buchanan Township.

PEOPLES COMPANY | LISTING #16013 JAKE SICKELS | 515.681.2103 CHASE DUESENBERG | 641.529.0562 PEOPLES

#### MILLIONS OF AMERICANS HAVE HEPATITIS C. MANY DON'T KNOW IT.



Hepatitis C is a serious disease that can lead to liver cancer, but there is a cure. All adults should get tested for hepatitis C. Talk to your doctor - it could save your life.



We ALL have a role to play

in stopping HIV in Iowa.

Get tested, know your status, and use

STOP

HIV

IOWA

## Free storm spotter training classes available

The National Weather Service (NWS) and local county emergency managers host spotter training classes across Iowa every spring.

These in-person spotter training classes are offered across many counties across Iowa. Every county in the NWS Des Moines county warning area will have the option for an in-person spotter training class at least every other year.

In addition to in-person sessions, three virtual sessions will be offered in late March and early April.

Both in-person and virtual training sessions are entirely free and open to new and training, 1 to 2:30 p.m. Log on to seasoned spotters alike.

At least one "advanced" spotter class is offered and builds on what is taught in the regular class. It is intended for those who desire a deeper understanding of mesoscale and storm-scale meteorology as it relates to storm spotting. Spotters interested in attending this class should have attended an inperson spotter class as a prerequisite.

Spotter talks are open to the public on a first come, first serve basis. No prior registration is required.

Classes are as follows:

• March 23: Virtual spotter training, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Log on to attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4739726767372389391. After registering, a confirmation email will be sent containing information about joining the webinar.

• March 30: Virtual spotter attendee.gotowebinar.com/regis ter/3571458279465055248. After registering, a confirmation email will be sent containing information about joining the webinar.

• April 4: In-person spotter training, 6:30 to 8 p.m., Corning Fire Department, 905 Davis Ave, Corning.



## Sheriff's office warns of credit card scam

**Montgomery County Sheriff's Office** 

The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office is warning residents of a new scam targeting

Officials say this scam is different from others, as the scammers provide the victim with all the information, except the one piece they want. The callers do not ask for your card number; they already have it.

By understanding how the Visa and MasterCard telephone Credit Card Scam works, law enforcement officials believe residents will be better prepared to protect yourself. The scam works like this:

Person calling says - 'This is (name) and I'm calling from the Security and Fraud Department at Visa. My Badge number is 12460, your card has been flagged for an unusual purchase pattern, and I'm calling to verify. This would be on your Visa card which was issued by (name of bank). Did you purchase an Anti-Telemarketing Device for \$497.99 from a marketing company based in Arizona?' (or something like this) When you say 'No', the caller continues with, 'Then we will be issuing a credit to your account. This is a company we have been watching, and the charges range from

NE and Western IA

402-426-5022

712-600-2410

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\$297 to \$497, just under the \$500 purchase pattern that flags most cards. Before your next statement, the credit will be sent to (gives you your address). Is that correct?' You say 'yes'.

The caller continues - 'I will be starting a Fraud Investigation. If you have any questions, you should call the 1-800 number listed on the back of your card (1-800-VISA) and ask for Security. You will need to refer to this Control Number. The caller then gives you a 6-digit number. 'Do you need me to read it again?'

This is the important part on how the scam works - The caller then says, 'I need to verify you are in possession of your card'. He'll ask you to 'turn your card over and look for some numbers'. There are seven numbers; the first four are part of your card number, the last three are the security numbers that verify you are the possessor of the card. These are the numbers you sometimes use to make internet purchases to prove you have the card. The caller will ask you to read the last three numbers to him. After you tell the caller the three numbers, he'll say, 'That is correct, I just needed to verify that the card has not been lost or stolen, and that you still have your card. Do you have any other

questions?'

**Eastern Wisconsin** 

920-889-0960

Western Wisconsin

608-988-6338

Agricultural

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And More!

E co

After you say no, the caller then thanks you and states, 'Don't hesitate to call back if you do' and hangs up. You actually say very little, and they never ask for or tell you the card number. The real Visa Security Department says this is a scam and what happens is that once you provide them with the 3-digit security code, a new purchase of \$497.99 (or whatever they said) gets charged.

What the scammer wants is the three-digit PIN number on the back of the card. Don't give it to them. Instead, tell them you'll call Visa or Master Card directly for verification of their conversation.

The real Visa will never ask for anything on the card, as they already know the information, since they issued the card. If you give the scammer your three digit PIN number, you think you're receiving a credit. However, by the time you get your statement you'll see charges for purchases you didn't make, and by then it's more difficult to file a fraud report.

If you receive a call like this hang up, and call the number on the back of your card to







#### RODNEY WINROTH, 73

Rodney Lee Winroth, 73, passed away Feb. 28, 2022, in Lin-

Rodney Winroth was born Aug. 15, 1948, in Hammond, Ind., to Sidney and Joyce (Hawkins) Winroth. Rod grew up on the family farm and graduated from Halstad High School with the Class of 1966. After graduation, he entered the U.S. Army on Jan. 20, 1969, where he served in Vietnam. He received several medals including a Purple Heart, National Defense Service, Vietnam Service, Vietnam Campaign, Army Commendation, and Good Conduct Medal. He was honorably discharged on Jan. 19, 1971.

He later moved to Red Oak where he married Kerry Orvik, and to this union two children were born, Britt (Winroth) Otte and Ryan Winroth. He retired from BNSF Railway, where he worked as a Roadmaster, Foreman, and Track Inspector.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Sidney and Joyce Winroth; and sister, Tammy Winroth Peterson.

Rod is survived by his children, Britt (Kelly) Otte, Lincoln, Neb.; and Ryan (Janessa) Winroth, Johnston; five grandchildren, Katie Otte, Parker Otte, Brody Otte, Jacob Winroth, and Jackson Winroth; sister, Cindy Winroth; brother, Randy Winroth; brotherin-law, Roger Peterson, loving friend for many years, Linda Winroth, and numerous nieces and nephews. To this obituary we add our thoughts, prayers, and memories of a

Graveside services were held Tuesday, March 8, 2022, at the Omaha National Cemetery with Chaplain Dave Kersting officiating. Military honors were performed by the U.S. Army and Omaha American Legion Post #1

Memorial contributions may be made to the Winroth family for future designations. Bluffs. Zabka-Perdue Funeral Home of Seward, Neb., has been entrusted with the arrangements.



#### RICKIE "RICK" KIMPSON, 69

Rickie Roquel "Rick" Kimpson, 69, Emerson, formerly of Red Oak, passed away Monday, Feb. 28, 2022, at the Jennie Edmundson Hospital in Council Bluffs.

Rick was born Feb. 13, 1953, in Red Oak. He was the son of Eldora and Jimmie McClintock. He was

raised in Red Oak, where he attended school. Rick's first job was with Bon Ton Cleaners in Red Oak. Over the years, he worked for Nachurs, D & L,

and Red Oak Greenhouse for the past 20 years. Rick was united in marriage to Sandra Bissell on April 30, 2000, in Las Vegas, Nev. They made their

home in Red Oak until moving to Emerson about five years ago. Rick loved traveling, especially to Colorado. He also loved his dog, Stella.

Preceding him in death were his biological father, Raymond Kimpson; and his father, Jimmie McClintock. Survivors include his wife, Sandra Kimpson of Emerson; mother, Eldora McClintock of Red Oak; chil-

dren, Damian Kimpson and wife Sarah of Omaha, Neb.; Rachel Fussell and husband David of Red Oak; Jennifer Dukes and husband Tanor of Shenandoah; Michelle Petereit and husband Jon of Emerson; Janet Stone of Clearmont, Mo.; and Nicole Kimpson of Red Oak; 15 grandchildren; brother, Mike Kimpson and wife Terri of Griswold; sister-in-law, Patty Meek and husband Randy of Red Oak; brothers-in-law, Lonnie Bissell and wife Roxanne of Omaha, Neb.; and Dallas Morrison of Red Oak; and many other relatives and friends.

A celebration of life visitation was held Friday, March 4, 2022, at the Nelson-Boylan-LeRette Funeral Chapel. Memorials are suggested to the family

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

#### CAROLYN KING, 70

Carolyn Sue "Carrie" DeLong King, 70, Red Oak, passed away Saturday, March 5, 2022, at the Mercy Hospital in Council

Carrie Sue DeLong was born Dec. 28, 1951, in Hamburg, the daughter of Joseph "Joe" and Mabel (Mooney) DeLong. Preceding her in death were her parents.

Survivors include her children, Kattie Lewis of Emerson, and Joe Parker of Prairie Grove, Ark.; six grandchildren; and one great-grandson.

A celebration of life service will be held at 11 a.m. Monday, March 14, 2022, at Nelson-Boylan-LeRette Funeral Chapel. Burial will be in the Thurman Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to the Red Oak Eagles Lodge. Nelson-Boylan-LeRette Funeral Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

#### Law and Order



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

#### REAL ESTATE

• Priscilla Williams to Jesus and Elizabeth Zavala, Villisca Original Plat Lts 470-472.

WARRANTY DEED

- Charlene and Robert Telschow, Sabrina Strong Eberly, Sabrina Strong Eberly, and Kevin Eberly to Devyn Telschow, Red Oak Alix Addition Blk 7 Lt 9.
- Sabrina Strong Eberly, Sabrina Strong Eberly and Kevin Eberly to Kevin Eberly, Sabrina Strong Eberly and Sabrina Strong Eberly,
- Red Oak Alix Addition Blk 8 Lt 9. • Jennifer Bruce and Troy

Terry to Mark and Sheri Tierney, Lts 470-472. Red Oak Oak Addition Blk 2 Lts

- Jessica and Jose Moya to Perla Hernandez, Red Oak Northeastern Addition Blk 87 Lt 4.
- Nobis LLC, Thomas Baker, Member, and Susan Baker, Member, to JL Equity Group LLC, Red Oak Original Plat Blk 14 Lts 1-2.
- Lawrence and Martha Peterson and Carrol and Lois Peterson to Kyle Olson, 25-73-38.

#### **QUIT CLAIM DEED**

- Stephen and Constance Reichert to Stephen Reichert Revocable Trust UTA, Constance Reichert Revocable Trust, Stephen Reichert, Co-Trustee, and Constance Reichert, Co-Trustee, 4-71-36, 33-73-36 Lts 1-2.
- City of Red Oak to Howard Johnson, Red Oak Pactolus Park Addition Blk 6 Lt 9.

#### **COURT OFFICER'S** DEED

• Melvin Strong Estate, Charlene Telschow, Executor, and Charlene Telschow, to Sabrina Strong Eberly and Sabrina Strong Eberly, Red Oak Alix Addition Blk 7 Lt 9.

#### **MORTGAGE**

• Jesus and Elizabeth Zavala to Bank Iowa, Villisca Original Plat

- Darlene True to Pinnacle Bank, 21-72-37 Exc. Lt 1.
- Darlene, Kevin, and Holly True to Pinnacle Bank, 36-73-36,
- Darlene, Christopher, and Stacey True to Pinnacle Bank,
- 35-73-36. • James and Debra Helm to Greater Iowa Credit Union, Stan-
- ton Original Plat Lts 597-599. Michael and Linda Mahoney
- to Pinnacle Bank, 16-72-39. · Joshua and Heather Huddle
- to Bank Iowa, 16-72-39. • Mark and Sherri Tierney to Bank Iowa, Red Oak Oak Addi-
- tion Blk 2 Lts 1-2. • Mark and Sherri Tierney to Iowa Finance Authority, Red Oak
- Oak Addition Blk 2 Lts 1-2. Perla Hernandez to Bank of the West, Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., and MERS, Red Oak Northeastern
- Addition Blk 87 Lt 4. • JL Equity Group LLC, Larry Mulder, Member, and Jamie Mulder, Member, to Security National Bank of Omaha, Red Oak Origi-
- nal Plat Blk 14 Lts 1-2. • Richard and Susan Coder to
- Pinnacle Bank, 27-71-39. • Kyle Olson to Bank Iowa,
- Jeffrey and Kellie Reynolds to Bank Iowa, 5-72-37.

#### SMALL CLAIMS

- Credit Bureau Services of IA. Inc. vs. Darrin Fisher, Villisca, judgment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$5,018.01 with 3.13% interest from March 1, plus costs.
- General Service Bureau, Inc. vs. Shirley Kingery, Red Oak, judgment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$4,263.47 with 3.13% interest from Jan. 27, plus costs.
- LVNV Funding, LLC vs. Ronda and Timothy Wilkinson, Stanton, judgment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$2,228.24 with 3.13% interest from March 1, plus

#### ARRESTS

- Filed March 1, Brian Shaver, 44, Red Oak, theft fifth degree, \$300 bond.
- Filed March 2, Ronald Borden, 63, Red Oak, simple assault, \$300 bond.
- Christopher Mattingly, 42, Red Oak, domestic abuse assault – third or subsequent offense, held on no bond.
- Jared Meisinger, Corning, burglary third degree, \$5,000 bond.

#### CRIMINAL

• Aggravated, State of Iowa vs. Jonah Kirsch, 22, Villisca, driving while barred.

#### • Aggravated, State of Iowa vs. Donald Barrett II, 51, Red Oak, harassment first degree.

- Felony, State of Iowa vs. Jason Waters, 60, Red Oak, controlled substance violation.
  - Simple misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Ronald Borden, 63, Red Oak, assault, pled guilty, one day jail, time served, \$105 fine.
  - Simple misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Brian Shaver, 44, Red Oak, theft fifth degree, pled guilty, one day jail, time served,
  - \$105 fine. • Simple misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. David Strough, 24, Villisca, domestic abuse assault first offense.
  - Serious misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Jason Eppenbaugh, 42, Red Oak, possession of a controlled substance first offense, two counts.
  - Serious misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Victor Vukonich, Jr., 40, Red Oak, possession of a controlled substance - marijuana, first offense.

#### OWI

• State of Iowa vs. Mason White, 22, Imogene, first offense, deferred judgment, one year, \$1,250 fine, half waived if produces valid driver's license within four months, one year informal probation.

#### TRAFFIC

- Justin Love, Memphis, Neb., speeding.
- Brent Watkins, Phoenix, Ariz., speeding.
- Justin Swisher, Red Oak, failure to provide proof of financial liability insurance.
- Parrish Wright, Cumberland, registration violation.
- Christopher Morrison, Omaha, Neb., speeding.
- Erik Andrade, Des Moines, speeding.
- Steven Smith, Red Oak, failure to display registration plate.
- Troylynn Romero, Omaha, Neb., speeding. • Derek Berns, Littleton, Colo.,
- speeding. • Austin Beaverson, Red Oak,
- Fernando Lepe Garcia, Red
- Oak, speeding. • Kishen Patel, Omaha, Neb.,
- speeding.
- Richard Worl, Council Bluffs, speeding.
- John Welch II, Atlantic, speeding. • Hannah Dahlberg, Red Oak, person under 21 using tobacco/
- vapor product, first offense. Alejandro Garcia Palomares,
- Atlantic, speeding. Chavis Wise, Red Oak. speeding.

## Read Across Iowa with children of all ages: March is Celebrate Reading Month

From ISU Extension

Throughout March, Read Across Iowa will bring the joy of reading to children of all ages. Agriculturally themed Read Across Iowa events will be held across the state and will feature books and materials about agriculture that will appeal to all readers, according to Mackenzie Johnson, human sciences specialist with Iowa State University Extension and

Outreach. Read Across Iowa is a collaborative effort of the Iowa Agriculture Literacy Foundation, ISU Extension and Outreach, Iowa 4-H Youth Development and the Iowa State Education Association.

"Reading to children and having books in the home is one of the strongest predictors of school success," said Johnson, who specializes in family well-

"When you read with children, you are making an investment. Early reading and talking with children gives them a strong start and a life-long return."

"Reading to children just 20 minutes a day adds up to nearly 2 million words that they will hear per year," Johnson said. "The more words that children hear, the more words they are able to learn."

Scholastic, the long-time children's book publisher and provider of literacy curricula, has reported that children learn

4,000 to 12,000 words per year through reading. Children who read 3,000 words a day score in the top 2% on achievement tests. Researchers with the Univer-

sity of Sussex estimate reading can reduce stress up to 68%, and the Annie E. Casey Foundation reports that proficient readers are 2.5 times more likely to have a well-paying job.

Reading Is Fundamental, a nonprofit children's literacy organization in the United States, surveyed approximately 1,000 teachers, parents and caregivers to understand their concerns around the impacts of COVID-19 on children's literacy development. These survey findings support the data indicating that there is an urgent need to address early literacy. Reading Is Fundamental has reported that educators and caregivers are deeply concerned

ing skills: • 94% felt it was critical to get books in the hands of children.

about the negative impact of

COVID-19 on children's read-

• 96% are concerned or very concerned about how to motivate students to read during this time, and felt parents and educators need resources to support reading motivation.

• 96% stated it is important or highly important to get resources to help parents to engage children in reading at

"When adults read with chil-



dren, they provide an opportunity to practice word reading and interaction with printed text around letters and sounds. They also share 'book-language,' which is higher in sentence

complexity and academic content vocabulary than everyday conversations and oral storytelling," Johnson said.

## Iowa 4-H Teen Influencers for Equity and Inclusion explore future career opportunities during midyear retreat

From ISU Extension

Members of the Iowa 4-H Teen Influencers for Equity and Inclusion toured the Iowa State University campus to explore potential career opportunities, network with peers and increase their awareness of available programs. The midyear retreat, held Feb. 21, focused on creating a spark among the participants with hands-on learning activities in various educational and research centers on

the Iowa State campus. The Iowa 4-H Teen Influencers for Equity and Inclusion bring together seventh through 11th grade youth and adult mentors from across the state to promote mutual understanding, increase leadership skills and ence in their communities.

The teens visited several faculty and staff from the colleges of Engineering, Business, and Design; School of Education; and the affiliated research centers. Ehthadah Htoo enjoyed the experience, saying, "I can't believe we got to meet and talk with so many faculty!"

Teens toured the Pappajohn Center for Entrepreneurship in the ISU Research Park, where they learned about the center and created a business model. They also visited the Student Innovation Center and participated in solving a design thinking challenge around food insecurity for college students. The teens enjoyed the challenge to observe where a problem exists

prepare youth to make a differ- and generate creative solutions to help solve it.

"I never thought about food insecurity as a problem for college students," said participant Shreya Srinath. "The design thinking process helped us explore the problem.'

Teens also visited the Virtual Reality Applications Center, met with faculty and staff, and tried virtual and augmented reality headsets.

"The simulations in the VRAC lab were so fun – you could really touch and feel things with the simulated graphics!" said participant Ma Sha Hser.

The retreat ended with a tour of the makerspace in the School of Education's Center for Technology in Learning and Teaching. Teens created

their own keychain to reflect on the day and how youth could begin to bridge the interrelationships and networks in their community.

The Iowa 4-H Teen Influencers for Equity and Inclusion program helps young people discover that there is an opportunity to build capital through the different aspects of the community, said Ani Das, diversity and inclusion professional development specialist with ISU Extension and Outreach's 4-H

Youth Development program. "The midyear retreat focused on human capital. A big takeaway was that there needs to be significant investment in individual knowledge and skills along with the interrelationships and networks to build



human capital," Das explained. "The midyear retreat was planned around this opportunity of building and bridging the interrelationships and networks along with an opportunity for youth to educate themselves on career possibilities and see how research is implemented to un-

derstand and solve issues at the local level."

To learn more about the Iowa 4-H Teen Influencers for Equity and Inclusion, please contact Das at anidas@iastate.edu.

**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.

## Stronger the Press, Stronger the People

THE TIME CAPSULE | ROY MARSHALL

### A Villiscan on the moon

This Friday will be the 11th of March. 48 years I ago on that day Judd Holdren removed a semiautomatic handgun from his desk drawer. Because those with his intention almost always do so, he probably slid back the bolt to see the bullet and assure it slipped into the firing chamber.

Friday will pass and Villiscans are not likely to give a thought to Holdren, reminding me of how Virginia Christine has been treated in Stanton as compared to Judd Holdren in Villisca.

She was honored in her lifetime. Six years into a series of TV commercials in which she used a Swedish accent (turned on and off like a faucet) to convince young housewives that Folger's would assure a wedded bliss that other brands did not, Stanton's water tower was made to resemble a coffee pot. When the old tower was no longer adequate a new, larger edifice to her was erected and tens of thousands of dollars were spent to restore and display the old one. She was grand marshal in a parade down Main, and her photograph has a place of honor in the town's history center.

She was a celebrity and a fine lady and deserves her accolades. Holdren, however, didn't even make his hometown newspaper when he killed himself. This is ironic as The Review had a well-earned reputation for printing graphic and grotesque details about suicides.

What Holdren was thinking during those last few minutes of his life we do not know. He may have recalled his boyhood years, the fifth of 10

Trim and exceptionally

handsome, he was still in the service when he was offered work as a model. This led to a screen test, comedy; "Francis, the Talking Mule." A couple of "African Queen." "Casablanca" remains one-ofmore small roles followed, then he co-starred with the popular Frances Langford in "Purple Heart Diary." That movie played to a packed house in Villisca. Before the showing, the owner of the Rialto read a telegram from Holdren wishing his supporting parts in some very good films.

The war brought extreme advances in aircraft and rocketry, making space travel a more intriguing saw what Holdren might have done and grew up possibility. Movie studios tested the entertainment factor with serials: 15-20 minute "Perils of Pauline" dramas that invariably left some dire situation to be children growing up on a farm in the hills southeast resolved in the following episode, which would of Villisca. He was a teenager when the Depression also leave viewers dangling until the next chapter. fans, even the hordes of kids who adored his char-

settled in. Farming wasn't Holdren was cast as "Captain Video," "Commando acters, identified the role with the actor then that an option and he left high Cody" and others. During the early to mid-1950s actor would have leverage. Holdren wanted better school to try acting; trav- he starred in one after another; "Zombies of the scripts and no masks. He paid a price. Starring roles eling to Omaha looking Universe" with Leonard Nimoy, "Master of the became ever-smaller parts, a hopeless TV program, for parts in a playhouse. Stratosphere" and many more. I have dozens of his California tempted him, serials on VCR. Most plots were weak, actors given and he was there when scripts with unrealistic dialogue and special effects Japan attacked Pearl consisted of clips inserted from newsreels or other Harbor. He joined the movies. Sets were cheap and sometimes absurd. In Coast Guard and had easy one scene we see Holdren's character on his way to duty patrolling shorelines Mars. He is near the controls of his rocket, sitting of California and Hawaai. at a regular kitchen table on an ordinary wooden chair. Later he emerges to walk on barren landscape that has a utility pole in the background.

Kids loved them, in some cases partly because he signed a contract and landed a small role in a they were so bad. There was no way to improve a-kind. Hitchcock was leading the way with suspense, Disney with animation and no couple dominated a screen like Astaire and Rogers. But even a 10-year-old could see the flaws and the breathtaking possibilities in sci-fi outer space. They loved fellow Villiscans the best. He later co-starred Holdren and those like him because of the potential with Louis Hayward in a Three Musketeers action they represented. With outer space adventures adventure, "Lady in the Iron Mask," followed by the sky wasn't the limit, and this is why Holdren deserves recognition. From kids he inspired in the little imagination could create a great space-ship 1950s came future writers, actors and directors who to give us "Star Trek" and "Space Odyssey" and "Star Wars."

Studio bosses usually required Holdren's space news@redoakexpress.com. heroes to wear a mask, and he knew why. If enough

walk-ons in "The Lone Ranger," "Dragnet" and a few others, then nothing at all.

Donald, his brother, told me years later that Judd made a few commercials, modeled men's clothing and sold life insurance. He was frequently seen as an escort for Hollywood stars and had a string of girlfriends, but never married. The studio occasionally forwarded him bundles of letters from fans; some from foreign countries that had played his serials for the first time, others from adults who remembered him from years before. Mostly he waited for a phone call that didn't come.

George Lucas was a 10-year-old sci-fi fanatic when Holdren was churning out one after another. Lucas' first "Star Wars" film was released in 1977, and shortly thereafter Holdren put a gun to his head. We don't know what he thought of the movie, but he must have known the next generation of filmmakers had passed him by and wasn't looking

Holdren deserves something. Fins, paint and a water tower; but if not that, something.

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

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

## Ukraine

: Why should Iowans be concerned about the war in Ukraine?

A: Russian President Vladimir Putin's unprovoked invasion of a sovereign nation opens a dangerous can of worms on the European continent and around the world. His military assault unravels decades of signed peace agreements following the Cold War and puts at risk the security and stability that American sons and daughters fought and died for on the battlefields during World War II. What's more, despots around the world are watching to see how the Free World reacts. China, North Korea and Iran will take their cues, accordingly. Make no mistake. Putin is on an ego trip to resurrect the Soviet/Russian empire. His plot is killing thousands of innocent civilians and scattering hundreds of thousands of refugees across Europe. All because of his effort to assert a regime change in a freely elected government of a sovereign neighboring state. I condemn Putin and his military regime for the appalling use of indiscriminate deadly force against the people of Ukraine and am backing the investigation into war crimes and human rights abuses to hold them accountable for the brutality and aggression in Ukraine and elsewhere. His authoritarian overreach matters to America and our allies around the world who value freedom, independence and democracy. If you give tin horn dictators an inch, they will try to take a mile. Don't forget, Russia invaded and occupied parts of the Republic of Georgia in 2008. After some stern words, the world forgot and the Obama administration announced a "reset" in relations involving unilateral goodwill gestures. Then, Russia annexed Crimea in 2014 and set its sights on Ukraine that same year with the seizure of territory in eastern Ukraine using Russian soldiers without insignias and Russian-backed fighters on the ground. In addition to the humanitarian crisis, the Russian invasion exposes the clear and present jeopardy of energy dependence to the U.S. economy and national security. The United States imports close to 700,000 barrels of oil a day from Russia. Sanctions on Russian oil imports pushed prices above \$100/barrel. Putin's invasion of Ukraine is a wake-up call to the world and a sobering reminder to the United States. Energy security is national security. Higher energy prices pack a punch to the economy, hammering the pocketbooks of Iowa families filling up their gas tanks and putting food

on the table and driving up the input costs for Iowa farmers working to feed America.

#### Q: What measures are you backing to support Ukraine and stop Putin?

A: I'm working in the U.S. Senate to hammer Putin where it hurts, his pocketbook. First, I'm co-sponsoring a bill that would reverse President Biden's shutdown of the U.S. energy sector and return American energy to full production. Reclaiming America's energy independence would strengthen our foreign policy leverage in the world and help lower energy costs for American families. The Biden administration has declared a war on domestic fuel production that cost Americans at the pump and pumped up Putin's war chest in the process. America needs to stop pussyfooting around with the likes of Putin and restore U.S. energy independence. I'm also pushing a bill that would ban purchases of Russian oil. Russia's oil and gas industry is the Kremlin's bread and butter. There's no good reason we should be supporting any sector of Russia's economy. That's why I've added my support to a bill that would make American oil companies sever ties with stateowned oil and gas companies, as many already have. The crisis unfolding in Ukraine underscores how wrong President Biden's energy policies were since the day he took office. Stopping the Keystone XL pipeline, shutting down domestic oil exploration, stopping oil leases on public lands and drying up investment by U.S. fossil fuel companies not only contributed to rising gas prices, it fostered greater dependency on foreign sources of energy, including Russia. The United States must stop emboldening Putin's leadership and lining the coffers of his treasury. I've also joined the growing chorus of voices to remove Russia from the United Nations Security Council and urged U.S. Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen to block Russian access to any additional financing through the International Monetary Fund (IMF). I'm also pushing for Congress to take action that would allow year-round sales of E15 in time for the busy travel season this summer.

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

DOLECHECK'S DETAILS | IOWA REP. CECIL DOLECHECK

#### Recent events in the Iowa House

Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds recently signed a tax cut for every Iowan.

This past week, I was privileged to attend Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds signing our historic tax cut for all Iowans into law.

Thanks to the Governor's leadership and responsible budgeting, Iowa's economy remains strong - so strong that we have the opportunity to deliver the largest tax cut in Iowa history while

continuing to fund Iowans' priorities. The plan: • Reduces individual income tax for all Iowans to a fair and flat rate of 3.9%. That puts Iowa at the fourth lowest income tax rate in the country.

• Exempts retirement income from taxes and includes a new income exemption for retired farmers so we can keep more folks in Iowa after they

• Makes the corporate tax rate more competitive while reducing refundability on the state's most expensive Refundable Corporate Tax Credits

#### House passes legislation to increase access to quality, affordable child care

Addressing the workforce crisis in Iowa is one of our top priorities this session.

A big part of tackling the workforce crisis means increasing access to child care. But child care facilities have a workforce crisis of their own.

This past week, we passed two bills to help child care providers increase access to care for more families.

• HF 2127 allows parents to pay the difference between Child Care Assistance rates and the rates

charged to families to do not receive CCA.

• HF 2198 allows 16 and 17-year-olds to provide child care to school-aged children in a child care center without supervision.

Both bills came recommendations from Governor's Child Care Task Force. The Governor's child care task force includes

representatives of businesses, local elected officials, in-home and in-center providers, and nonprofit organizations.

Additionally, last year the governor signed gislation to address the cliff effect in child care assistance, double the income eligibility for the child care tax credit, increase child care assistance rates by \$13.4 million, and expand access for families through non-registered homes.

It was also my pleasure to have with me at the capitol students with Southwestern Community College.

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



#### **DEADLINES** -

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

#### CONTACT US

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

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

# COMMUNITY

## **Community Calendar**

#### 10 March

8 a.m. to noon: Leadership Red Oak, Red Oak Chamber and Industry Association

Noon: SCORE webinar, "Comparing E-Commerce Platforms - The Criteria that Matters to Your Online Store." Go to omaha.score.org/ content/take-workshop-242 for more information and registra-

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

#### 11 March

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

5 to 7 p.m., Lenten Fish Fry, St. Mary's Catholic Church, 1510 Highland Ave.

5:30 p.m., Alcoholics Anonymous, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1101 Summit St. 6 to 9 p.m., Vinyl Night, Five

One 8, 518 N. 4th St. 7 p.m., "The Wolf and the Lion," theatre #1; "Redeeming Love," theatre #2; Red Oak Grand Theatre.

#### 12 March

8 a.m., Shamrock Shuffle, Phase #1 of the Red Oak Trail.

11 a.m. to 5 p.m., The Lakin Arts, Crafts, & Vendor Fair, The Lakin Center, 61321 315th St., Malvern.

7 p.m., Organists Greg Owen and Kevin Lloyd, The Wilson Performing Arts Center, 300 Commerce Dr. Proceeds to the Tanner Foss project.

7 p.m., "The Wolf and the Lion," theatre #1; "Redeeming Love," theatre #2; Red Oak Grand Theatre.

#### 13 March

11 a.m. to 5 p.m., The Lakin Arts, Crafts, & Vendor Fair, The Lakin Center, 61321 315th St.,

2 and 7 p.m., "The Wolf and the Lion," theatre #1; "Redeeming Love," theatre #2; Red Oak Grand Theatre.

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

#### 14 March

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

5:30 p.m., Red Oak School Board meeting, Red Oak Jr./Sr. High School, or via Zoom.

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

#### 15 March

8:30 a.m., Montgomery County Supervisors, North Meeting Room in Courthouse basement, open to public, or via Zoom, if possible.

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

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

#### 16 March

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



Celebrating their anniversaries this week are:

Mansor and Diana Kia – March 10 Jim and Julie Stanley – March 12 Lanny and Ramona Sellers – March 14

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.

## Blomstedt, Shalters attend Advocacy Day at the State Capitol



Montgomery County Family YMCA Executive Director John Blomstedt and Membership Director/Customer Service Manager Carrie Shalters attended the Iowa Alliance of YMCA's State Advocacy Day on Feb. 28. State Advocacy Day allows local YMCAs the opportunity to meet with their state representatives and senators to discuss the impact YMCAs have across the state. Topics discussed included Water Safety, Child Care, Out-of-School Care, Youth Employment opportunities, Rural Infrastructure Funding, and Mental Health Care programs. Pictured are, from left: John Blomstedt, State Sen. Mark Costello, and Carrie Shalters. For more information on how one can become a member, volunteer, donor, or simply involved with the Montgomery County Family YMCA, please stop in for a visit or tour of the YMCA, call 712-623-2161, or visit the YMCA on Facebook, or the Y's website atmcymca.com. (Photo provided)

## Community input needed regarding Lion's Club branch in Red Oak

District Governor Allen Zobel is seeking the public's input on the viability of creating a Lion's Club branch in Red Oak, to assist young children through their special program to combat early vision problems through Iowa KidSight. Their program has assisted 35,000 Iowa youth

thus far. Young children often can't tell you if they don't see well. Or maybe they think that their poor vision is the norm. But permanent vision loss can occur if not caught within the first few years of life. That's why screening young children is so important.

Amblyopia (often called lazy eye), for example, can be corrected if caught early enough. The child wears a patch over the stronger eye, forcing the weaker eye to strengthen. Half of children, however, are diagnosed

- and by that point, the vision loss in the weak eye may be permanent.

screened by Iowa KidSight, a partnership between University Hospital in Iowa City and Lions Club volunteers across the state. Out of all the children screened, about 5% are referred to an eye doctor. And of those children, about 90% need some type of corrective treatment. Issues caught by the screening can include far-sightedness, near-sightedness, differences in refractive errors, astigmatism, things inside the eye (such as cataracts), and muscle imbal-

"The program has benefited thousands of kids by helping them see better, read better, and

Audubon's Lions Club with this after the age of five thrive," says Lori Short, director of Iowa KidSight.

> "The Lions Club volunteers are all trained to conduct the Children six months old to screenings for kids in their local those entering kindergarten are communities. There are 74 screening devices spread across the state, and each device costs of Iowa Stead Family Children's \$10,000. The local Lions Clubs raised the funds for each device. The device captures images of the child's eyes to see how light refracts through the eyes.

The images are then sent to KidSight for processing and analysis. Wanda Pfeifer in the UI Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences has analyzed every screen since the program's inception in 2000. She either gives them a passing grade or recommends that the parents make an appointment with an eye doctor for a full vision exam. KidSight staff members provide a list of local eye doctors for each county in Iowa, and they follow up with every family who doesn't make an appointment for an eye exam.

Since the Iowa KidSight program inception in 2000, nearly 444,000 children have been screened, and approximately 25,600 have been referred for an

A new state law that went into effect within the last year now requires all children entering kindergarten to have an eye screening done, and Iowa KidSight is the only program in the area that provides that service free of cost.

If there is an interest in bringing this program to Red Oak, contact District Governor Allen Zobel of Audubon. Five to eight volunteers would be needed to make the club happen. Call 712-304-5066 to get an application and get started now.

## Happy Birthday!

Celebrating birthdays this week are:

Rod Straw – March 10 Sally Johnson – March 10 Donna Walker – March 12 Katie Sapp – March 13 Nancy Poole – March 14 Sandra Gray – March 14 Sherry Franzen – March 15 Velma Smith – March 16

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

## Sign up for weekly crop share

Red Oak residents can take part in a weekly crop share sign up and enjoy some farm fresh

Participants will be eligible to receive 12 weeks of locally grown and organic produce, eggs, and honey.

The event is made possible through a partnership of the Scatter YR Own and Green Rabbit Farms. The crop share will begin on May 12 and run through July.

Foods included are: aparagus, rhubarb, kale, radishes, garlic, snap peas, potatoes, green beans, lettuce, beets, green onions, spinach, tomatoes, cucumbers,

summer squash, and assorted

Honey and eggs are add-on items, and other add-on items include jams and flowers.

Red Oak does have a pickup location, and delivery is available for an extra fee.

Cost to participate is \$20 per week, or \$240 for a total of 12 weeks. The size of the shares will vary throughout the season and on what crops are available, though they usually provide enough food for a couple or small family.

To participate, call 412-804-0793, or email beyondorganiccsa@gmail.com.

#### Senior Menu

Thursday, March 10: Turkey breast with turkey gravy, whipped potatoes, corn, wheat bread, birthday cake, ice cream, milk/coffee.

Friday, March 11: Breaded fish fillet, roasted parslied potatoes, stewed tomatoes, wheat hamburger bun, mandarin oranges, milk/coffee. Monday, March 14: Beef chili, baked potato, tossed salad with dressing, saltine crackers, cinnamon

roll, milk/coffee. Tuesday, March 15: Sliced ham, roasted red potatoes, steamed broc-

coli florets, wheat bread slices, oatmeal cookie, milk/coffee.

Wednesday, March. 16: Beef hamburger patty on a bun, lettuce, sliced tomatoes, sliced onions, cheese slice, oven roased potatoes, baked beans, applesauce, milk/cof-

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

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

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

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

#### **Christian**

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

#### Christian & Missionary <u>Alliance</u>

Citylight Southwest Iowa, 705 Bradford, Emerson. Co-lead pastors Matt Keller, Tyler Mass. Worship with children's church, 10 a.m. in-person gathering. Online: 10 a.m. live on Facebook.

Faith Community, 2701 N. 8th St., Red Oak, Rev. David MacDonald, Worship, 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Sunday School for kindergarten-adults, 10:45 a.m..Wednesday activities: JUMP, Pre-K grade 4, 4-5:20 p.m. or 6-7:20 p.m. SHOUT, grades 5-6, 4-5:30 p.m. EXIT, grades 7-12, 7-8:30 p.m. Online: 9 a.m. on KCSI, 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Facebook, also Youtube/Red Oak Faith Com-

#### munity Church. Church Of Christ

Church Of Christ, Elliott, Sunday

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

#### Church Of the Nazarene Red Oak, 401 E. Prospect St., Rev.

Lori Lathrop. Radio ministry, 8:30 a.m., worship with children's church at 10:30 a.m.

#### <u>Covenant</u>

Evangelical, Rev. Matt King, 308 Eastern, Stanton, Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:45 a.m. Online: 10:45 a.m. live on Facebook and later on Youtube.

Faith Covenant Church, 212 Alice St., Essex, Pastor Gordon Scott, Pastor Staci Shearer, Worship, 8:30 First Covenant, Rev. Alan Dean,

#### pastor, 3rd & Hammond, Red Oak, Worship, 9:30 a.m. <u>Jehovah's Witness</u>

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

## <u>Lutheran</u>

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

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

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, Rev. Eric Kutzli, Sunday School and Confirmation, 9:15 a.m., Worship, 10:30 a.m. Online: 9:30 a.m. FMTC Cable Channel 1, also live on Facebook. Mt. Calvary, 107 S. 5th, Villisca, Jerome Wagoner, Worship, 9:00 a.m. Tabor Lutheran, 1711 Q Ave., Stanton, Worship, 8:15 a.m., Sunday School, 9:15 a.m.

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

#### Non-Denominational

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

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

#### <u>Presbyterian</u> Center Ridge, RR 2, Red Oak, HR Dr. Keith Cook, Worship and Sunday

School 9:30 a.m. First Presbyterian, 109 S. 3rd Ave., Villisca, Rev. Sandra Wainwright, Sunday School, 9:30 a.m., Worship,

10:30 a.m. Red Oak Presbyterian, 511 E. Coolbaugh, PO Box 402, Red Oak, Caryn Pedersen, redoakpresbyterianchurch.com, Service, 10:30 a.m. Online: 10:30 a.m. live on Facebook/Red Oak Presbyterian Church

#### Reformed Evangelical Heartland Sovereign Grace Church,

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

new church plant. Bible study

contact@swiacrec.com.

**United Methodist** First United Methodist, 600 E. Hammond, Red Oak, Rev. Dr. Eric Sayonkon, Worship, Sunday, 10:30 a.m.; Youth group Wednesday 6:30-8 p.m., grades 6-12, snack is served.

Online: 10:30 a.m. fumcro.org; click

on the media tab to see previously recorded services. Wesley Chapel UMC, Rev. Carl Phillips, Worship, 8:45 a.m., Sunday

School, 9:45 a.m.

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.

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,

Elliott United Methodist, Rev. Terry

10:30 a.m. Grant United Methodist, Rev. Jenn Van Nostrand, Worship services, 9 a.m. Online: 9 a.m. live on Face-

Sunday School, 9:30 a.m., Worship,

book United Methodist, 203 S. 3rd Ave., Villisca, Rev. Jessica Jacobsen, Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship. 10:30 a.m. **Online:** 10:30 a.m. live on Facebook.

Strahan United Methodist, Hastings, Rev. David Kwangki Kim, Worship, 9:30 a.m., Sunday School, 10:30 a.m.

#### <u>United Church Of Christ</u>

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

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Students perfoming in "Yee-Haw" include, front row, from left: Makynzi Bergren, Jermaine Millsap, Allie Peterson, and Abel McClish. Back row, from left: Gabriel Valdez, Maeve McDonald, Wylee Dykes and Kemper Doty (Photos submitted)

## Stanton features two shows March 11

The public is invited to join 7 p.m. in the high school gym. Stanton's kindergarten through third grade students on Friday, March 11, for a rollicking western musical adventure entitled "Yee-Haw!" Audience members will see what it really takes to be a cowgirl and cowboy in Stanton. There is horseback riding, chores, and of course you can't forget a good old fashioned ghost story from the wild west. Their performance will begin at

That production will be followed by the fourth through sixth graders' performance of

"Rats! The Story of the Pied

Piper." The plot is as follows:

The fine town of Hamelin has been overrun with rats. The townspeople are looking to the mayor and his town council to solve the problem. They have tried setting traps and even playing loud music but still they

can not get rid of their rodent problem. When they are at their wits end, a strange man from a mystical land appears with a pipe claiming he can get rid of the rats. Will he rid Hamelin of their rats for good or is Hamelin doomed forever? Everone is invited to join Stanton's fourth through sixth grade students on March 11 and find out.

Admission is \$5 for adults and \$3 for students.



Students perfoming in "Rats! The Story of the Pied Piper" include, front row, from left: Gracelyn Mass, Dylan McCollum, and Logan Hopf. Back row, from left: Makensey Henneman, Janae Schwery, Hayden Jones, Olivia McQueen, and Cailex Williams.

#### **School Activities**

#### Thursday, March 10

- 6 a.m.-7 a.m., Griswold: Softball practice, middle school gym
- 6:30-7:45 a.m., Griswold: High school boys throwers, middle school gym
- 6:45-7:45 a.m., Southwest Valley: High school baseball practice, new high school
- 3:25-5:55 p.m., Griswold: High school track practice, middle school gym
- 3:45-5:45 p.m., Southwest Valley: Middle school AAU volleyball, new high school
- 5-6:30 p.m., Essex: Music Boosters taco/ nacho bar fundraiser, Trojan Hall
- 6 p.m., Griswold: FFA banquet, cafe/auditorium
- 6 p.m., Red Oak: Bantasia, sixth grade,
- junior high, and high school bands 6 p.m., Stanton: FFA banquet
- 6-7 p.m., Griswold: High school pitcher/
- catcher workouts, middle school gym 6:30 p.m., Essex: Middle school and high school POPS concert, Allen Stuart Gymna-
- 7 p.m., Southwest Valley: Parade of Bands, activity center

#### Friday, March 11

- 8:30 a.m., Griswold: Blood drive, high
- 3:25-5:55 p.m., Griswold: High school track practice, middle school gym
- 7 p.m., East Mills: Spring production, high
- school gym 7 p.m., Stanton: Elementary musical produc-

## Saturday, March 12

- Essex East Mills, Griswold, Southwest Valley, Stanton: State speech contest, Des
- Southwest Valley: Lenox Honor Band 7 a.m., Griswold: AAU volleyball tourna-
- ment, high school, middle school, and elementary gyms
- 9 a.m.-noon, East Mills: Republican conven-
- 10 a.m., Red Oak: JVAA volleyball
- 5 p.m., Griswold: Jazz band/fireman's sup-
- 7 p.m., Southwest Valley: High school musical, auditorium
- 7 p.m., East Mills: Spring production, high school gym

#### Sunday, March 13

- Red Oak, Griswold: State speech contest,
- 7 a.m., Griswold: AAU volleyball tournament, high school, middle school, and elementary gyms
- 2 p.m., Southwest Valley: High school musical, auditorium
- 2-4 p.m., Griswold: High school baseball practice, middle school gym

- 3-5 p.m., Southwest Valley: High school softball practice, activity center
- 5-6 p.m., Griswold: High school girls pitching practice, middle school gym

- Monday, March 14 East Mills: Late start, 90 minutes
- Griswold: No preschool
- Red Oak: Spring break, no school
- Southwest Valley: First day of high school golf practice and high school tennis practice
- Griswold: High school golf practice starts
- 3:25-5:55 p.m., Griswold: High school track
- practice, middle school gym 5:30 p.m., Essex: Booster club meeting,
- 6 p.m., Griswold: Middle school and high school AAU volleyball, middle school and high school gym
- 6:15 p.m., Southwest Valley: Y Teens father/ daughter banquet, high school commons
- 7 p.m., Stanton: All school play

#### Tuesday, March 15

- Red Oak: Spring break, no school
- Griswold: No preschool Griswold: Corner Conference Honor Band
- 6 a.m.-7 a.m., Griswold: Softball practice,
- middle school gym
- 6:30-7:45 a.m., Griswold: High school boys
- throwers, middle school gym 6:45-7:45 a.m., Southwest Valley: High school baseball practice, new high school
- 1-8 p.m., East Mills, Stanton: Corner Conference Instrument Festival
- 3:25-5:55 p.m., Griswold: High school track practice, middle school gym
- 6-8 p.m., Griswold: High school softball hitting practice, middle school gym
- 7 p.m., Southwest Valley: National Honor Society induction, auditorium

#### Wednesday, March 16

- Red Oak: Spring break, no school Stanton: No early dismissal
- 6:15-7:15 a.m., Southwest Valley: High school softball pitching, new high school
- 8 a.m., Stanton: Blood drive, Viking Center Noon to 6 p.m., Southwest Valley: Bloodmobile, Villisca Community building
- 4:30-6 p.m., Southwest Valley: High school
- science fair, activity center 5-6:15 p.m., Southwest Valley: High school
- AAU volleyball, new high school gym 6:15-9 p.m., Southwest Valley: Women's volleyball league, activity center
- Honor Bands at East Mills 3:25-5:55 p.m., Griswold: High school track

7 p.m., Essex: Junior high and high school

- practice, middle school gym
  - 5 p.m., Griswold: High school softball pitching practice, middle school gym

## Blue scholarship available for students

Iowa students the application for the 2022 Robert D. Blue Scholarship is available online at RDBlue. org. Students of any Iowa high school who plan to pursue, or are currently pursuing, higher education in the state for the 2022-2023 academic year are

"We love to see students furthering their education, and doing so in their home state is a bonus," said Fitzgerald. "Parents, grandparents and educators – please inform the students around you so they can apply."

The Iowa Centennial Memorial Foundation, of

State Treasurer Michael L. Fitzgerald reminds which Fitzgerald is a member, awards the Robert D. Blue Scholarship to multiple students. In the last five years, 25 outstanding students received the scholarship, totaling \$16,000. Recipients went to various colleges and universities across the state. "All we need is an original essay, two recommendations and the application," concluded Fitzgerald.

Robert D. Blue Scholarship applications are only accepted online and must be submitted by May 10. Winners will be announced during the summer. Visit RDBlue.org to apply and learn

#### School Lunch Menus

#### **East Mills**

Thursday, March 10: Meatball sub, broccoli florets, mini sweet potato puffs, mixed fruit.

Friday, March 11: Grilled cheese sandwich, tomato soup, french fries, diced peaches.

Monday, March 14: Crispy chicken strips or crispy popcorn chicken, cheesy broccoli florets, peas, pineapple tidbits, Goldfish crackers.

Tuesday, March 15: Pork chop, mashed potatoes, glazed carrots, sliced pears, dinner roll.

Wednesday, March 16: Turkey and cheese sandwich on a bun, baby carrots, celery sticks, watermelon chunks, Teddy Grahams.

#### Essex

Thursday, March 10: Corn dog, baby carrots with

ranch dip, peas, sliced pears. Friday, March 11: Deli hoagie sandwich on a bun,

corn chips, Sidekick, applesauce cup. Monday, March 14: Beef and bean burrito, lettuce salad with choice of dressing, tomato salsa, fresh

Tuesday, March 15: Breaded chicken patty on a bun, pasta salad, baby carrots with ranch dip, mandarin oranges.

Wednesday, March 16: Bean tostada, tomato salsa, sliced tomatoes, romaine lettuce with choice of dressing, sliced peaches.

#### Griswold

Thursday, March 10: Breaded chicken patty on a bun, french fries, peas, broccoli florets and ranch dip,

strawberries, bananas. Friday, March 11: Loaded baked potato bar, or mini corn dogs, ham, bacon bits, salsa, shredded cheese, diced onions, carrots and ranch dip, apple

Monday, March 14: Cheese stuffed bread stick, marinara sauce, garden spinach salad, green beans, mandarin oranges.

Tuesday, March 15: Deli sub sandwich on a bun, chips, carrots and ranch dip, apple slices. Wednesday, March 16: No school.

#### Red Oak Elementary/ Preschool Center

Thursday, March 10: Sloppy joe sandwich, pickles, red onions, janapenos; or taco salad, cornbread; or roasted chicken sandwich; or ham and cheese sandwich; fresh garden salad with choice of dressing, fresh fruit, black bean dip, banana/orange mix.

Friday, March 11: Mini corndogs; or chicken bacon ranch salad, pineapple muffin; or buffalo chicken pizza; or Mediterranean grain bowl; fresh arden salad with choice of dressing, broccoli florets

and ranch, fresh fruit, pineapple tidbits. Monday, March 14: Buffalo chicken grilled cheese; or cobb salad, garlic biscuit; or BBQ bacon wrapped hot dog on a bun; or BBQ grain bowl; french fries, fresh garden salad with choice of dressing, broc-

coli florets with ranch, fresh fruit, applesauce. Tuesday, March 15: Nacho pie; or macaroni and cheese, combread; or BBQ pork salad; or grilled ham and cheese sandwich; fresh garden salad with choice of dressing, cowboy beans, Italian bean salad, fresh

fruit, orange/pineapple mix. Wednesday, March 16: Glazed ham with roasted pineapple, hot roll; or strawberry chicken salad, hot roll; or pig in a blanket; or pizza munchable; mashed potatoes and gravy, fresh garden salad with choice of dressing, corn, fresh fruit, sliced pears, gingerbread

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

offered daily Thursday, March 10: Sloppy joe sandwich, pickles, red onions, janapenos; or taco salad, cornbread; or roasted chicken sandwich; or ham and cheese sandwich; fresh garden salad with choice of dressing,

fresh fruit, black bean dip, banana/orange mix. Friday, March 11: Mini corndogs; or chicken bacon ranch salad, pineapple muffin; or buffalo chicken pizza; or Mediterranean grain bowl; fresh garden salad with choice of dressing, broccoli florets

and ranch, fresh fruit, pineapple tidbits. Monday, March 14: Buffalo chicken grilled cheese; or cobb salad, garlic biscuit; or BBQ bacon wrapped hot dog on a bun; or BBQ grain bowl; french fries, fresh garden salad with choice of dressing, broc-

coli florets with ranch, fresh fruit, applesauce. Tuesday, March 15: Nacho pie; or macaroni and cheese, combread; or BBQ pork salad; or grilled ham and cheese sandwich; fresh garden salad with choice of dressing, cowboy beans, Italian bean salad, fresh

fruit, orange/pineapple mix. Wednesday, March 16: Glazed ham with roasted pineapple, hot roll; or strawberry chicken salad, hot roll; or pig in a blanket; or pizza munchable; mashed potatoes and gravy, fresh garden salad with choice of dressing, corn, fresh fruit, sliced pears, gingerbread

#### **Southwest Valley**

Thursday, March 10: Italian dippers, marinara sauce, lettuce salad with choice of dressing, chalet vegetable blend, fruit.

Friday, March 11: Crispty shrimp poppers, emoti-

con potatoes, corn nuggets, fruit. Monday, March 14: BBQ pulled pork sandwich on a bun, french fries, pork and beans, mixed fruit,

Tuesday, March 15: Crispy chicken strip wrap, shredded lettuce, shredded cheese, curly french fries,

Wednesday, March 16: Beef salisbury steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn, mixed fruit, din-

Stanton Thursday, March 10: Sausage breakfast pizza dices fruit juice hash brown potatoes tropical fruit pineapple tidbits.

Friday, March 11: Pizza crunchers, lettuce salad with choice of dressing, cauliflower, applesauce, ice

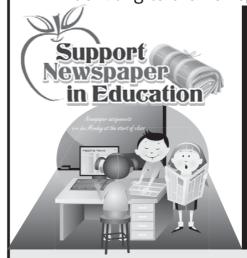
Monday, March 14: Stuffed crust pizza slices, lettuce salad with choice of dressing, celery sticks, apple slices, sliced peaches. Tuesday, March 15: Beef chili with saltine crack-

ers, shredded cheese, baby carrots and ranch, sliced pears, applesauce, cinnamon roll. Wednesday, March 16: Breaded chicken fried steak, baked beans, mashed sweet potatoes, mandarin



oranges, apricots.

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



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

contact Nanny at 712-623-2566

or circulation@redoakexpress.com.

Express



#### Kiwanis donates to music boosters

Recently, members of the Red Oak Kiwanis Club presented a \$5,000 check to the Red Oak Music Boosters. The funds are to be used to purchase a new timpani set. Pictured are, from left: Kim Truka, Kiwanis, Angie Britten, Red Oak Music Boosters, Alicia Johnson, Red Oak Music Boosters, Roger Vial, Kiwanis, Missy Torbett, Red Oak Music Boosters, Taylor Wood, instrumental music teacher, and Dawn LeRette, Red Oak Music Boosters. Photo submitted.



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#### Allensworth, Jansky purchase White Sparrow

White Sparrow will be under new ownership beginning March 15. Owner Michelle Pruss is retiring and excited to spend more time with her five grandchildren.

The new owners will be Tatum Jansky and Gayle Allensworth. Tatum has been an employee of the White Sparrow since 2020, she brings much experience and is excited for for this new opportunity.

Michelle would like to thank all the customers who have done business and have been supportive of the White Sparrow since its opening in 2018 and she wishes Tatum and Gayle much success in the future.



Whitesparrow owner Michelle Pruss, left, with Tatum Jansky and Gayle Allensworth, right. (Photo provided)



Treekeepers classes taking place virtually

Nature lovers are needed to help maintain and plant trees throughout Iowa and Illinois. Volunteers can sign up now for virtual training through Trees Forever's TreeKeepers classes by visiting TreesForever.org/TreeKeepers.

The course is designed for people who want to become more knowledgeable about urban tree planting and care and will empower attendees to become effective environmental volunteers. The next class series will be held Tuesday evenings in March.

This three-class series is on March 15, 22, and 29 from 6 to 8 p.m. An in-person field day will also be held for attendees in metro areas at a time and final location to be determined.

"Trees help our communities in so many ways, from cleaning our air, soil and water to providing beauty and a sense of home," said Molly Walkner, Trees Forever Field Coordinator. "When you take care of a tree, you're also taking care of your community, and TreeKeepers gives you the knowledge and opportunity to do just that!"

After taking the course, TreeKeepers graduates instruct others on planting and tree care at a variety of volunteer events. Hundreds of TreeKeepers have been trained since the classes first began in 2012.

Registration is \$15 and includes exclusive access to official TreeKeeper educational materials. Preregistration is required by March 14. Register at treesforever.org/TreeKeepers.

#### FREE WILL OFFERING Proceeds benefit Tanner Foss Project **DISCOVER** about our \$10,000 EveryStep **②** HIRING BONUS Seeking Nurses to Join our Hospice & Home Care Teams!

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## County railroad bridges discussed by supervisors

**Nick Johansen** The Red Oak Express

The Montgomery County Board of Supervisors has approved some additional hours for a Nishna Productions employee.

The idea was put forward by Montgomery County Auditor Stephanie Burke, who had received a request from Nishna Productions on a potential increase in hours.

"We currently have a gentleman come under the work program to shred unnecessary documents, and his hours are currently one hour a week. Nishna Productions has contacted me about offering him more hours, maybe up to four hours per week, two hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays," Burke com-

Burke felt that the county was in a good position to be able to extend the hours for the employees as requested.

"We do have shredding and work available for him to do, and so I'd have no problem with offering more hours. I just need some direction from the supervisors. It would only cost the county a couple more thousand per year, so it definitely wouldn't break our budget to do so," stated Burke.

Supervisor Donna Robinson said if there here," Cooper said. was work at the courthouse for the employee to do, she felt it was a great idea.

"I know that Nishna Productions continue to want to get their clients out into the workforce, and it's a good opportunity. I think it's a win-win for us," Robinson said.

Supervisor Charla Schmid was in agreement with Robinson about offering the additional hours.

"I think it's important to have them out in the public and having an opportunity like this to work," Schmid commented. The supervisors gave their consent to

Burke to offer the additional hours, no formal action was taken. The supervisors also received some

updated maps on the railroad bridges from county engineer Karen Albert. Supervisor Randy Cooper advised he had been out on Q Avenue, near Viking Lake, and discovered that the railroad bridge in that location was in poor shape.

"If anyone has time, they need to go look at that bridge. It's in terrible shape. The railings are broken off, there are holes in the bridge, and as it turns out, Berkshire Hathaway owns that railroad bridge out

Cooper said he was hopeful the supervisors could keep pushing until they could make something happen.

"I know you all say we can't fight them, but I think we should keep on it. I'm sure Adams County is going through the same problems, and other counties across Iowa, but I'd like to talk to Joni Ernst's office, or maybe visit with the governor and just ask what we can do," Cooper said,

Robinson said there were other avenues to discussion, including visiting some of the meetings involving the state.

"It's important to attend some of these state meetings. They did have a statewide supervisors meeting in February, and those are the times to bring up these issues, and maybe make connections with a supervisor from another county that the railroad goes through. They're good opportunities to network and find out how everyone is handling it and what they're doing," Robinson explained.

Cooper felt it was an issue worth pursuing, as the bridges in some places were getting bad, and were only going to get worse.

> Montgomery County Supervisors Mike Olson, left, and Donna Robinson listen to comments regarding railroad bridges in the county. (Nick Johansen/ The Red Oak Express)

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## COUNCIL

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A** 

issue that can be resolved ahead of time," Lester explained.

Wright said that the policy does not limit the council or the mayor from approving what was on the agenda, and if the council or mayor submit anything by noon the Thursday prior, it would be on the agenda.

"All this is saying is that when it comes to writing the agenda, and getting it out the door, that's Mary's and my job," advised Wright.

Bills clarified he had no problem with the administration of the agenda, he merely took

issue with the final statement of the policy saying the clerk and administrator had final decision on all the agenda items.

"I'm not trying to hamstring anybody or make anyone's job harder, I just have problem with that wording. I have a one-word problem with it," Bills stated.

Council Person Tim Fridolph suggested a compromise, including Bills' revision of adding the mayor to the list for final approval of the agenda, with the understanding that if no guidance was given to the city prior to the deadline, that the agenda would be sent out

as developed by Wright and Bolton. "If input is not received, by the dealine, it

goes out, and there's no additional recourse there," Fridolph said.

The council moved and seconded the policy as presented, without the revision suggested by Bills.

After discussion, the agenda proceeded to a vote, and was passed by a 3-2 margin, with Bills and Fridolph both voting no.



"Nominations for the Charles E. Lakin Outstanding Teacher Awards given annually to southwest Iowa public school teachers are now available online at www.ghaea.org and are funded by the Charles E. Lakin Foundation.

Anyone can nominate a worthy instructor for a \$10,000 award from non-urban schools within a 40-mile radius of the late philanthropist Charles Lakin's hometown of Emerson.

The deadline for nominations is March 31."

## Boost 4 Families funding, private schools topics of latest coffee

Nick Johansen The Red Oak Express

The second Montgomery County legislative coffee was held at the Montgomery County Family YMCA on March 5.

The event opened with comments from Tom Moore, who currently serves as representative for Iowa House District 21. Due to the latest redistricting map, both State Sen. Mark Costello, who serves Iowa's 12th District, and David Sieck, who represents House District 23, will no longer represent Montgomery County next year. Sieck praised Moore, saying they had worked well together over the years.

"He doesn't know much about rivers sometimes, so I try to help him, and I don't know a lot about education, and he helps me, so we do a pretty good job of circling the troops when we have issues to help everyone understand things. He's a great guy and he works hard for his district now," Sieck commented.

Moore said he appreciated all the residents of Red Oak and Montgomery County, and he was hoping to represent them in district 18 with the new redistricting.

"It will be a nice change, and I don't think it will be a big change from representing Adams and Union County, so I look forward to that. I will be putting my name in the Republican Primary, and I currently don't know if I have any opponents for the district right now," Moore said.

Moore added that issues in the legislature that had to do with education were his forte.

"I taught in Griswold for 33 years, and some of you probably know my wife, Jewel Moore, who is a reading instructor at Inman Elementary. The teaching, along with my years coaching and officiating softball and wrestling may make me familiar to some of you. I think we're doing a lot educationally to help K-12 and post secondary education in Iowa," Moore stated.

District 18 will also include a large portion of Page County, in addition to Montgomery County.

Costello shared an update on the latest happenings in the Iowa

Senate, saying the biggest piece of legislation was the passing of the bipartisan tax bill, which was signed into law by Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds. The new tax bill lowers the individual income tax rate for all Iowans to a flat and fair 3.9% rate by 2026, eliminates income tax on all retirement income starting in 2023, and overhauls Iowa's corporate tax system.

"It took a lot of work to get there, and it took a lot of careful spending over the years to get there. We're happy to get to that flat rate of income tax. It will take us four years to get there. We are happy to have that done and happy the governor has signed that," Costello explained.

Sieck also gave an update on the current happenings in the Iowa House. Sieck agreed that the passing of the new tax bill was a huge deal for Iowa.

"Being in that flat tax rate in four years will make us fourth lowest in the nation, and that will be a big benefit for Iowans, and allow you to keep more money in your pocket," said Sieck.

Costello and Sieck opened the legislative coffee for questions. Montgomery County Supervisor Mike Olson, who also serves on the Montgomery County Boost 4 Families Board, an organization that helps finance daycares and preschools through scholarships and grants, said the organization was really huring for funding in recent years.

"In the last 15 years, our budget has gone from over \$1.5 million to just over \$400,000 now. I'm wondering if there is any way we can start booting that up a bit," Olson explained. "We have real issues, just as every county does, with our youth and our kids, and we need some help. Everything takes money, and we have a really hard time getting money through private sources. As you look through the budgets this year and next year, I urge you not to forget Boost 4 Families, because it does a lot of good for a lot of people in Montgomery County and other counties.'

Neither Costello nor Sieck were familiar with the funding source for Boost 4 Families. Olson said he would research



State Sen. Mark Costello, right, introduces State Rep. Tom Moore during the latest legislative coffee at the Montgomery County Family YMCA. Due to redistricting, Costello and Rep. David Sieck will no longer represent Montgomery County next year. Moore plans to run to represent the county in the new House District 18 next year. (Nick Johansen/Red Oak Express)

and contact them with the infor-sider passing that legislation," mation. Costello offered one Lorenz commented. possible explanation.

"There were several years where we made some cuts, and it might not have gotten brought back up in recent years," Costello said.

Costello said he would also do some research in the Senate to track down which entity provided the funding for Boost 4 Families and keep in contact with Olson to determine a way to recover some of that lost annual funding.

Superintendent Ron Lorenz also spoke during the event and praised the legislation that would eliminate the practice test as a condition of teacher licensure.

"I understand that passed unanimously out of the Iowa House and is now in the Senate Education Committee. That's a really big deal, so I'm really optimistic about its passing," said Lorenz.

Lorenz also urged Sieck and the Iowa House to pass Senate file 2202, which expanded Teach Iowa scholarships and allowed districts to use management funds to provide incentives for prospective teachers, or early retirement offerings.

"That legislation is very positive, and I appreciate the senate passing that. In the Iowa House, I know it might be a heavier lift, but I urge you to strongly con-

Moore said he would talk with the education chair, and make a push for the legislation. He also said he didn't feel there was any opposition to passing the bill.

Red Oak School Board Member Kathy Walker brought up the subject of school vouchers. Costello said it was legislation being pushed by Gov. Kim Reynolds.

Walker had a few questions regarding the legislation, chiefly, what sort of oversight would be put in place.

"When you take taxpayer dollars and direct them towards private schools, will you also require private schools to list the books in the library, and require teachers to list what they plan to teach like you do for public schools? Will you watch what the private schools are spending their money on?" asked Walker.

Costello said no legislation had passed, or what part of it would pass, if any, but he said what made private schools different from public schools was that they didn't have the things public schools had.

"If you put the requirements of a public school on a private school, well then, you've got another public school. And there have been some problems with some of the books that shouldn't

because it's the governor's priority. To your point, there is some autonomy between the public school and the private school if the money is diverted," Moore explained. "That autonomy means the government will stay out of the private school's business. Well guess what? I don't trust the government, and it won't happen. It may happen for a couple of years, but sooner or later, the government is going to stick their nose into private schools.'

Moore also said he is adamantly opposed to education savings accounts, allow parents to withdraw their children from public district or charter schools and receive a deposit of public funds into government-authorized savings accounts with restricted, but multiple, uses, and Moore said he always would be.

Sieck said that the bill doesn't have the necessary support in the Iowa House, and that was why the bill kept being moved around.

"I've always supported my public schools, and I always will, so that's where I'm at on it," Sieck advised.

The final briefing will be at 10 a.m. April 9 at the junior/ senior high school auditorium, during the Buy Local Expo.

#### Case of highly pathogenic Avian Influenza in Pottawattamie County

be out there in regards to public

schools, which is why we want

some of that transparency with

public schools," stated Costello.

"I'm not too worried about pri-

vate schools having books that

said the legislation has not come

out of the House Education

Committee, as there was a lot of

appropriations to keep it going,

Moore also commented, and

'The bill was transferred to

are inappropriate.'

opposition to the bill.

The Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) have confirmed a positive case of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in Pottawattamie County. The virus was found in a non-commercial, backyard poultry flock.

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the recent HPAI detections in birds do not present an immediate public health concern. No human cases of these avian influenza viruses have been detected in the United States. It remains safe to eat poultry products. As a reminder, the proper handling and cooking of poultry and eggs to an internal temperature of 165 °F kills bacteria and

"We recognize the threat HPAI and other foreign animal diseases pose to Iowa agriculture," said Secretary Naig. "We have been working with USDA, livestock producers and other stakeholders to develop, test and strengthen our foreign animal disease preparedness and response plans since the 2015 HPAI outbreak. While a case like this is not unexpected, we are working with USDA and other partners to implement our plans and protect the health of poultry flocks in Iowa."

All bird owners, whether commercial producers or backyard flock owners, should practice good biosecurity, prevent contact between their birds and wild birds and report sick birds or unusual deaths to state/federal officials. Practicing good on-farm biosecurity is the best way to keep livestock healthy. Biosecurity resources and best practices are available at iowaagriculture.gov/biosecurity.

## **WEBB**

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A** 

Kansas City and part of a band called Into the

"She is about the best singer I've ever worked with. I asked her if she wanted to sign on. I sent her the song and she actually put lyrics to it and hit it out of the park," Webb said. Wisco and Webb finished mixing the song and

then started on the correlating video.

"I can't thank Ron enough for getting me in touch with the other musicians," said Webb. "The video is all the musicians in their respective studios recording themselves playing."

Over time Webb said he will release singles instead of an album, as it is the way people consume music nowadays. He's also working on another couple songs with Gray, and they will use the same workflow as they did with the first song. New songs will be released every few months, Webb said.

**MOVIES** MARCH 11-13 THEATRE #1 capacity is 182 THE WOLF AND

THE LION

Alma goes back to her

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wolf and a lion, both cubs. The cubs have to reunite with Alma

after being taken away. PG

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"The great thing about modern recording is everything is digital," Webb explained. "I have a home studio where I can put together the song using drum loops and drum machines to start out; then play bass over top of that, then record over top using the computer. I can put the whole song together start to finish and when I'm done, it almost sounds like a finished song.'

"You don't need a large studio like you did 30 years ago," said Webb, who serves as the guitar player, executive producer and writer for the project. "I'd like to continue working with the same musicians I did this time, especially Ron, who is co-producing with me."

To find out more about The Skinny Webb Project, go to https://www.facebook.com/skinnywebb/, https://skinnywebb.com/, or https://music. amazon.com/artists/B09SKR4DDS/the-skinnywebb-project





