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THE RED OAK Express

WEDNESDAY

April 13, 2022
Red Oak, IA
Volume 155, No. 15
redoakexpress.com

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Mystery solved behind old Red Oak football photo discovered in local attic

Editor's Note: This is the second and last of a series on how four photographs found in a local attic tell the history of football in Red Oak. The first installment appeared in the April 6 edition of The Red Oak Express.

Charm Carpenter
The Red Oak Express

I have reached the logical conclusion that the photos belonged, at one time, to Charles I. Miller. He was the brother of Evalyn Samantha Miller who married Albert Monroe Selser and purchased an 80-acre farm in 1880 in the Pilot Grove Township. He would be Mary Gohlinghorst's great-great-uncle.

As mentioned in the last article, Mary said none of her ancestors played football, and as far as I have found, she is correct. So how would Charles end up with a picture frame containing the Red Oak High School's first football team photos?

The house Mary currently lives in was built in 1959 on the same land as the house her great-grandfather, Albert M. Selser, owned. The "new" house was built less than 20 feet away from the "old" house, which was not torn down until the new house was completed. I am guessing the photo was moved to the attic of the "new" house to be dealt with at a later time and then forgotten.

According to archives, and research by the Red Oak Public Library, the extended families of Selser and Miller were close. There are many articles in the personal sections that used to be printed about the families visiting one another and staying with one another when a member was ill or recuperating from an operation.

Samuel P. and Samantha Miller had six children, with A.W. being the oldest and Clarence I. Miller being the baby of the family. Evalyn had married Albert by the time Clarence was five years old. If I were going to try to connect the family in some way to the photos, Clarence was my best shot.

He was born in 1875 and was listed as a non-resident student of the Red Oak High School beginning in 1892. He graduated in 1896. In

October 1897, he was one of 33 Red Oak men to take the Civil Service exam to be a postal carrier. In November he was one of three appointed to that position, becoming one of the first mail carriers in Red Oak.

Clarence was a member of the Red Oak concert band during high school and after. He is mentioned several times in the paper as "blowing the tuba" in the Emerson band during the soldiers' reunion activities; being a member of the Company M band; and in 1938, "Clarence I. Miller is especially clever on the marimbaphone."

This piece of information was exciting because Mary had found another treasure in the attic since the football team photos: a saxophone, which was probably moved to the new attic at the same time as the photo. I really felt at this point that Clarence had to be our connection.

As I continued to read, I found that Clarence resigned from the postal route in December 1902 to engage in newspaper work. He had been assisting with the advertising and news departments of the Red Oak Express and gave up his mail route to pursue that full time. He married Lulu Smith in April of 1903, and according to real estate transfers printed in the paper, he bought, leased, and sold properties as early as 1902. He was active in the Red Oak community, serving as toastmaster for Company M reunions as well as Red Oak alumni reunions, and in 1918 he ran for county recorder.

Miller lost the election, and in October of that year he began working for an advertising firm in Des Moines. A year later, he and his wife moved to Milwaukee, Wisconsin where Clarence continued working in advertising. In the April 3, 1919 edition, "Clarence I. Miller sold residence at 104 W. Reed to N. E. Vance, but possession will not be given for a couple of weeks. Mrs. Miller expects to sell the household goods."

Here is my theory:

There were at least six photographers in Red Oak from 1894 to 1898, but the only one there the entire time was C. O. Nickols. I have looked at the photos front and back and did not find any names

PHOTO, Page 8A



Montgomery County Community Foundation board members, from left: Kevin Britten, Donna Robinson, Jenna Ramsey, Kim Robinson and Brian LeRette with a check of the funds recently awarded to 15 county nonprofits. (Photo provided)

MCCF awards \$133,500 in funds

Tess Nelson
The Red Oak Express

The Montgomery County Family YMCA will be replacing its rooftop HVAC unit after receiving \$30,000 from the Montgomery County Community Foundation, in conjunction with the Red Oak Heritage Foundation.

In all, 15 Montgomery County non-profit organizations received \$133,550 as part of its spring 2022 grant cycle. All those awarded grants are nonprofit organizations with charitable missions supporting community needs in the areas of health, education, social services, culture and civic engagement. Only organizations in Montgomery County were allowed to apply.

The Red Oak Grand Theatre was awarded \$17,750 for tuck-pointing and the repair of the facility.

"The board has a commitment to maintain what we have so the theatre is there for generations to come. Tuck-pointing is an essential part in accomplishing our commitment," said Red Oak Grand Theatre board member Jeanice Lester. "The Red Oak Grand Theatre is a wonderful asset for our community and beyond and we thank everyone for their support."

A permanent sound system will be purchased with the \$13,250 the Stanton Viking Center received. Stanton Viking Center Board Member Mickey Anderson said the new sound system will be utilized by the Stanton Community and surrounding area for events such as social gatherings, wedding receptions, meetings and sporting events.

"At this time, when the Viking Center has a major event, it has to borrow or rent a sound

system," said Anderson. "Being able to provide a quality sound system will not only help the current events but will be able to attract many other events that are looking for an event type center with quality type sound and seating within Southwest Iowa."

The Red Oak Music Boosters will purchase a four-piece timpani set with the \$9,050 they received, while the Southwest Valley Early Childhood Education Center will use the \$9,000 they were awarded for an outdoor classroom project.

Computer and network upgrades are in store for the Wilson Performing Arts Center (WPAC) with the \$8,000 they were awarded.

The Stanton Historical Society will utilize the \$5,000 they received for an upstairs air-conditioning project; Project Porchlight will use the \$3,000 they were allotted for their backpack project; Feed the Pack West will use the \$3,000 they were granted for an outdoor eating area; and the Elliott Community Club will purchase a utility shed with the \$5,000 they were given.

A pool and park upgrade for the City of Villisa will take place with the \$6,000 they were allotted; campground play equipment will be installed at Viking Lake with the \$7,000 received by the Friends of Viking Lake Park, Inc.; new folding chairs will be purchased by the Montgomery County Agricultural Society with the \$5,490 they were awarded; and lastly, with the \$7,500 awarded to the Restored Burlington Northern Depot & World War II Museum, damaged windows will be replaced and the chimney restored.

Jolene Crawford, board member of the

MCCF, Page 2A

Board approves new uniform purchase, additional activities supervisors

Nick Johansen
The Red Oak Express

The Red Oak School Board has approved the purchase of updated uniforms for the football team.

At the regular meeting April 11, superintendent Ron Lorenz said the current rotation is for new football uniforms. Also, football numbers are up. Before, there were no more than 40 kids participating in high school football. Currently, the district has 62 students signed up for next year.

"This is a good time for us to purchase more uniforms. We received a quote from Dancco, Inc. of Centerville, in the amount of \$25,308. There are three separate jersey and pant color combinations. A black jersey and white pant combination, white jersey and black pant combination, and a graphite

jersey and black pant combination," said Lorenz.

The current varsity jerseys run really small, and are in nice shape, so they will be passed down to the junior high students. The reason for the three sets of colors was thanks to the fact they were not an expensive brand but were still high quality, allowing for more jerseys to be purchased for the same money as one set of the name brand.

The board approved the quote from Dancco, Inc. for the new uniforms.

Also discussed and approved by the board was to hire up to three seasonal activities supervisors for the 2022-23 school year, at a salary of \$3,780 each. Lorenz stated that due to the increased participation in extracurriculars, such as the increase in football players, it also creates some logistical challenges.

"What we're looking at is making these posi-

tions for the fall, winter, and spring, and they would assist the activities director in preparing for, and supervising, events," Lorenz explained. "That includes scheduling, preparing events, meeting officials, paying officials, coordinating volunteers, all of those little things that people don't think about that go into those games. We just want to get some additional hands on deck and compensate them for that. The salary is comparable to a soccer or golf coach, and we feel it's reasonable based on the time allocation."

The positions would be open to all certified staff, but not to hourly staff, as the district would be subject to overtime requirements. The board approved the hiring of three seasonal activities supervisors.

The board also approved a fixed price agreement with OPAA for school lunch for the 2022-

23 school year. While saying there have been struggles with supplies and staffing issues, overall, Lorenz believed it has been a good program for the district, and OPAA has been very responsive to the issues, although they said there might continue to be some supply chain issues as the district moves into the 2022-23 school year.

In other business, the board:

- Approved a back to school celebration for Friday, Aug. 19, hosted at Roger Carlson's house for all of the district's staff, including new hires.

- Approved the issuing of supplemental contracts for 2022-23.

- Approved the use of Esser III funds to provide summer school, certified personnel service incentives, and to pay para professionals and other staff.

- Approved the West Central Community Action preschool agreement for the 2022-23 school year.



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Five year roads plan approved by supervisors

Nick Johansen
The Red Oak Express

The Montgomery County Secondary Roads Department is finalizing projects for its latest five year roads plan.

The plan was unveiled at the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors meeting on April 4. County engineer Karen Albert, and assistant to the engineer Barry Byers, who was present at the meeting, both said that the following road projects were hopefully to be let in the next fiscal year, but the plans were subject to change based on funding, design schedule and revised cost due to the increase in cost for materials and labor.

Projects slated for bidletting in 2023 include:

- Montgomery-Page Road – road located in the southeast portion of the county along the Montgomery/Page county lines. This project will be a joint construction project with Page County. It is a regrading of the road and seal coat.
- H34 East Overlay – Asphalt overlay of H34 from Red Oak east 2.5 miles
- H34 Widening Phase 111- Widening and asphalt overlay from the bridge west of Nature Avenue going east 2.8 miles
- FF1403, a new box culvert on 180th Street over Little Tarkio Creek.

Supervisor Mike Olson also discussed some potential projects to keep under consideration for addition to the county's five-year roads plan, or move up. One of the roads Olson said needed to be worked on quickly was the bridge on 250th Street.

"I see that we've moved 250th Street to 2024, and that's becoming a problem. I know it's a huge problem for the county. About half of the population is screaming about that bridge, and I'm curious as to whether the engineer's office has researched other avenues, such as bonding, or Iowa Department of Transportation loans to get that project underway," Olson said.

One of the issues, Byers said, was that because the project was no longer covered by FEMA, who would pay 75 percent of the project, they were limited in funding options.

"If we pursue federal funding, it has additional clearances that have to be done for construction projects, and that's what the hold-up is. A number of things have to be approved prior to them moving



A county road repair plan for the next several years was approved by the board of supervisors at the April 4 meeting. (Tess Nelson/Red Oak Express)

forward with plan development. It wasn't required under FEMA. We had a portion of the clearances, but not as many. Since we have to look for federal funding, it's slowing the process down," Byers explained.

Albert said the 250th Street bridge project would hopefully be let in Fiscal Year 2024, but will be based on obtaining the approximately \$3 million needed to replace the bridge.

Byers said the bidletting plans for 2024 would also be the best option to avoid weather delays once the project was underway.

"This allows us to bid let towards the end of the year, in November or December, so they can have winter work, and then be finished by 2024, without being charged working days. It would also likely be fully federally-funded," commented Byers.

Olson said if that time frame was accurate, it would be a huge step forward. Byers felt confident that the project would begin on the described timeline.

Olson also suggested the bridge on L Avenue south of 230th Street. The county was looking to have a road that traveled from Highway 34 to the Coburg Road that was not embargoed, and currently the bridge was not listed on the five-year plan.

Byers said if the bridge was small, it was likely just earmarked for repairs, and once repaired, it would no longer be embargoed.

Gov. Reynolds announces \$100M investment in Iowa's quality of life and tourism

Gov. Reynolds today announced a \$100 million investment to bolster the quality of life in Iowa's communities and attract visitors and new residents to the state. The new effort, called Destination Iowa, will provide grants to help communities move forward on transformational, shovel-ready attractions. Cities, counties, nonprofits and other organizations can apply for Destination Iowa grants from four separate funds: Economically Significant Development, Outdoor Recreation, Tourism Attraction, and Creative Placemaking.

"Communities in all corners of the state are creating unique destinations that give visitors a reason to explore and residents a reason to stay," said Gov. Reynolds. Destination Iowa will help more communities across

the state move forward in their efforts to boost tourism and economic growth while enhancing the quality of life for Iowans."

While Iowa saw a record number of Iowans and out-of-state travelers utilizing outdoor amenities such as state and county parks and recreational bike trails over the last two years, the hospitality industry in the State of Iowa experienced a 46.1% decrease in employment and there was an overall 29% decline in visitor spending as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Destination Iowa will provide new opportunities to create and invest in attractions that will raise Iowa's profile, welcome out-of-state travelers, and increase visitor spending while accelerating tourism's recovery. It will also spur local economies and contribute to efforts to



recruit new members of Iowa's workforce. inspire the kinds of attractions that Iowans take pride in and that

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Hemp license applications due April 15

The Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship is encouraging Iowans to apply for or renew their hemp licenses for the 2022 growing season. Applications are available online through the hemp licensing portal. The deadline to apply for the outdoor growing season is April 15.

Individuals who are interested in growing hemp must obtain an annual license. The commercial hemp production program does not license cannabidiol (CBD) products for human consumption, extraction or processing in Iowa. The Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals regulates Consumable Hemp Products. Additional information for retailers and processors is available at dia.iowa.gov. Hemp is not legal as animal feed.

Growers are advised to do their research and confirm there is a viable, profitable market for commercial hemp production before they make an investment in seed and equipment. For more information about the state's hemp program, see <https://iowaagriculture.gov/hemp> or contact the program administrator Robin Pruisner at Robin.Pruisner@iowaagriculture.gov.

MCCF

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

Restored Burlington Northern Depot & World War II Museum, said they are thrilled to receive the funds in order to make "some very much needed repairs to maintain the integrity of a beautiful, historic building."

The Montgomery County Community Foundation is an affiliate of the Omaha Community Foundation, which meets National Standards for Community Foundations, and is one of nine county members of the Community Foundations of Southwest Iowa. It receives funds annually from the State of Iowa County Endowment Fund Program for endowment building and grant making throughout the county. This cycle of grants was made possible through the County Endowment Fund Program and is funded by a percentage of the state's commercial gaming tax revenue, which is distributed annually to participating community foundations associated with counties without a state-issued gaming license.

The Montgomery County Community Foundation Advisory Board Members are Chair, James Norris of Red Oak; Vice Chair, Bruce Swanson, Esq. of Red Oak; Secretary/Treasurer, Kevin Britten of Red Oak; Dennis D. Bloom, Esq. of Red Oak; Brian LaRette of Red Oak; Jenna Ramsey of Stanton; Donna Robinson of Villisca; Kim Robinson of Red Oak; and John Tischer of Elliott.

For information about donating or establishing an individual foundation/fund, please contact Stacey Goodman, Iowa Foundations Director, at 800-794-3458 or stacey@omahafoundation.org.

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DONALD HAYES, SR., 74

Donald J. Hayes, Sr., 74, formerly of Oakland, passed away Tuesday, April 5, 2022, at Glen Haven in Glenwood.
Donald James Hayes, Sr., the son of Harry and Della (Haines) Hayes, was born March 17, 1948, in Council Bluffs.
Donald is survived by his children, Elizabeth Christensen of Harlan; Donald Hayes, Jr. of Hancock; John Hayes, Sr. of Emerson; Misty (Jordan) Springer of Lincoln, Neb.; and Harold Seberger of Council Bluffs; 18 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; and other relatives and friends.
May God bless his memory and give strength to those who mourn.
Memorial Graveside Service will be held at a later date at Fairview Pioneer Cemetery, Pottawattamie County.
Remembrances and condolences may be shared with the family at sldfuneralhome.com.
Selligren-Lindell-DeMarce Funeral Home is assisting the family with Donald's arrangements.

SUSAN PETERSEN, 74

Susan Petersen, 74, Lawrence, Kan., passed away April 1, 2022, at the University of Kansas Medical Center at Kansas City, Kan.
Celebration of Life Service is pending at Selligren-Lindell-DeMarce Funeral Home.

JOHN "DELAINE" MAXELL, 86

John Delaine Maxell, 86, Houston, Texas, passed away Monday, March 7, 2022, at the West Houston Medical Center.
Delaine was born Dec. 10, 1935, in Red Oak. He was the son of John Roger Maxell and Mary Lucille Maxell.
He was preceded in death by his parents.
Survivors include his son, John Trent Maxell of Omaha, Neb., daughter, Teri Lighthart of Council Bluffs; three grandchildren; and eight grandchildren.
A graveside service was held Tuesday, April 12, 2022, at the Mamre Cemetery at Stanton. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to the Red Oak Public Library at 400 N. 2nd St., Red Oak, Iowa 51566.
Nelson-Boylan-LeRette Funeral Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

JAMES BOND, 85

James Bond, 85, Red Oak, passed away Sunday, April 10, 2022, at Montgomery County Memorial Hospital, Red Oak.
Services are pending with Nelson-Boylan-LeRette Funeral Chapel, Red Oak.



Law and Order



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

REAL ESTATE

WARRANTY DEED

- Lincoln and Marlena Morse to Nathan and Jennifer Ward, Red Oak Original Plat Blk 69 Lt 10.
- Robert and Nancy Gardner to Kimberly and Richard Tadd, 28-72-38 Lt 3.
- Alan and Nancy Schnormeier to Jason Gilleland, Red Oak Quinby Addition Blk 3 Lt 4.
- Paula Burns and Paula Forward to Mark Snyder and Walker Apartments LLC, Red Oak Victory Park Addition Blk 8 Lt 11.
- Marilyn Tye to Friends of the Red Oak Trail #200 MO Trust, Red Oak Original Plat Blk 11 Lts 5-6.

- Mark and Carol Watkins to Mark Watkins, Trustee; Carol Watkins, Trustee; Mark Watkins Revocable Trust; and Carol Watkins Revocable Trust; Red Oak A Shanks Addition Blk 1 Lts 1-6.

COURT OFFICER'S DEED

- Velma Hey and Helen Gutschenritter to Nicholas and Bobbie Depuy, Red Oak Original Plat Blk 13 Lt 7.
- Larry Snyder Estate and Roy Snyder, Executor, to Laura and Howard Ward, Red Oak Engquist SD Lt 7.

MORTGAGE

- Nathan and Jennifer Ward to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems Inc., MERS, and Castle & Cooke Mortgage LLC, Red Oak Original Plat Blk 69 Lt 10.
- Nathan and Jennifer Ward to Southwest Iowa Housing Trust Fund, Red Oak Original Plat Blk 69 Lt 10.
- Kimberly and Richard Tadd to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems Inc., Rocket Mortgage, LLC, and MERS, 28-72-38 Lt 3.
- Audie Rainey to Bank Iowa, Red Oak Thompson's Addition Lts 54, 56.
- Mark and Sherri Tierney to Bank Iowa, Red Oak Oak Addition Blk 2 Lts 1-2.
- Mark and Sherri Tierney to Iowa Finance Authority, Red Oak

- Oak Addition Blk 2 Lts 1-2.
- Truefood LLC and Brian Barkman, Member to Farm Credit Leasing Services Corporation, 33-72-37.
- Thomas and Jayne Nelson to Iowa Finance Authority, Red Oak Johnson Lt 6.
- Douglas Maher Revocable Trust, Douglas Maher, Trustee, Douglas Maher, Settlor, Debra Maher Revocable Trust, Debra Maher, Trustee, and Debra Maher, Settlor, to Bank Iowa, 2-71-37 Parcel A.
- Brad Shain, President, Scorpion 4 Inc., and Fit 4 Life, to Glenwood State Bank, Red Oak Quinby Addition Blk 8 Lt 8.
- Timothy and Courtney Myers to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems Inc., MERS, and Bank Iowa, Villisca N. Villisca Lt 30.
- Michael and Holly Carlson to Houghton State Bank, 29-73-39.

- Angelina Kaimann, Kenard and Kennard Kucker to Bank Iowa, 28-72-38 Lt 3.

MOD/AMENDMENT OF MORTGAGE

- Angelina Kaimann, Kenard and Kennard Kucker to Bank Iowa, 28-72-38 Lt 3.

SMALL CLAIMS

- Clear Recovery Inc. vs. Sage Clark, Red Oak, judgment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$985.22 with 3.13% interest from April 5, plus costs.
- LVNV Funding LLC. vs. Kimberly Durbin, Red Oak, judgment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$1,332.07 with 3.13% interest from April 5, plus costs.

ment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$1,332.07 with 3.13% interest from April 5, plus costs.

- Midland Credit Management, Inc. vs. Shawn Dunkeson, Elliott, judgment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$803.41 with 3.13% interest from April 5, plus costs.
- Midland Credit Management, Inc. vs. Natacia Houston, Red Oak, judgment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$643.02 with 3.13% interest from April 5, plus costs.
- Montgomery County Sheriff vs. Eric Vannausdle, Red Oak, judgment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$175 with 3.13% interest from April 7, plus costs.

ARRESTS

- Filed April 9, Elysia White, 39, Red Oak, possession of marijuana first offense, possession of drug paraphernalia, interference with official acts, \$1,000 bond.

DISMISSED

- State of Iowa vs. David Crawford, 75, Villisca, enticing a minor under 13 - sexual abuse or exploitation, dismissed; sexual abuse second degree, dismissed.

CRIMINAL

- Felony, State of Iowa vs. David Crawford, 75, Villisca, lascivious acts with a child, 10 years prison, suspended, concurrent with Adams County charge, two years probation, requirement

to complete sex offender treatment program at residential treatment center until benefits expire, required to register as sex offender for life, DNA requirement, \$1,370 fine.

- Felony, State of Iowa vs. Cody Copeland, 28, Graham, Mo., controlled substance violation, possession of a controlled substance - cannabidiol, third or subsequent offense.
- Simple misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Levi Klenda, 21, Harlan, public intoxication, pled guilty, \$105 fine.
- Simple misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Kristen Hughes, 52, Red Oak, disorderly conduct, loud or raucous noise, pled guilty, \$105 fine, time served.
- Simple misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Daisy Walker, Red Oak, theft fifth degree.
- Simple misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Michael Ellis, abandonment of cats and dogs - no injury.
- Simple misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Cody Copeland, 28, Graham, Mo., driving while license denied, suspended, cancelled, or revoked.
- Serious misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Victor Vukonich, Jr., 50, Red Oak, possession of a controlled substance - marijuana first offense, \$100 fine.

TRAFFIC

- Parrish Wright, Cumberland,

no valid driver's license.

- Kaleb Wagaman, Bedford, operating non registered vehicle, failure to provide proof of financial liability insurance, no valid driver's license.
- Jolene Studey, Red Oak, speeding.
- Charles Nelson, Omaha, Neb., speeding.
- Cloey Luft, Red Oak, operation without registration card or plate.
- Anthony Rush, Jr., Omaha, Neb., speeding.
- Sheena Winchel, Red Oak, registration violation.
- Guadalupe Ontiveros De Gomez, Shenandoah, speeding.
- Rachel Meehan, Council Bluffs, speeding.
- Kaylynn Tucker, Omaha, Neb., speeding.
- Alberto Monarrez, Omaha, speeding.
- Matthew Tomkinson, New Market, operation without registration card or plate.
- Amy Strover, Papillion, Neb., speeding.
- Martha Freeman, Villisca, speeding.
- Brett Rea, Red Oak, failure to comply with safety regulations or rules.
- Mark Trively, Sidney, speeding.
- Hector Tercero Suazo, Omaha, Neb., speeding.
- Dallan Smith, Villisca, driving while license denied, suspended, canceled, or revoked.

2022 Buy Local Expo



The annual Buy Local Expo took place in the Red Oak High School Gymnasium Saturday, April 9. Many businesses and organizations participated in the event. Clockwise: Chris Dovel of Dovel Refrigeration speaks to a couple of potential customers. Red Oak Mayor Shawna Silvius had a booth where constituents could ask questions. Pudgy Pumpkin Patch Gift Shop, Valley Antiques, Montgomery County Memorial Hospital, the Red Oak Police Department, and Chat Mobility, below, were also among the businesses that participated in the event. (Tess Nelson/Red Oak Express)



SUDOKU

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

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

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

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

ANSWER:

Stronger the Press, Stronger the People

THE TIME CAPSULE | ROY MARSHALL

Grace under pressure

Donald C. Blaisdell, U.S. Representative for Organizational Affairs to the U.N., was attending a high-level meeting in Geneva, Switzerland.

He was waiting anxiously for a woman from Red Oak. She was almost late and time was passing.

This was an important moment and he was fretful and growing moreso. Blaisdell, born in New York, was educated in eastern colleges and taught at one for several years before accepting a position with the federal government during FDR's presidency.

He rose to the position of Division Chief in the U.S. Dept. of State (1941-1947). President Truman appointed him Special Assistant to the Bureau of U.N. Affairs, where he served from 1947-1951.

Blaisdell's knowledge and proficiency in international affairs was such that Eisenhower asked him to retain a prominent position in the Department of State.

The fall of 1953 was a tense and volatile time. The Korean War hung in an uneasy truce. Russia was completing tests of a hydrogen bomb, causing the Cold War to grow more intense.

Communism was spreading, and as it did hundreds of thousands of refugees fled. Most of them had no place to go, many needed medical attention and all required food and shelter.

The International Relief Organization, formed



at the close of World War II, was replaced by the International Committee for European Migration (ICEM).

To represent the U.S. on this committee, Eisenhower appointed Dorothy Deemer Houghton.

She was to be in Geneva for the first meeting on this U.N. initiative.

Houghton flew to Paris, where she met with French officials. The driver who was to take her to the airport for her flight to Geneva was late.

Traffic was snarled. She missed her plane. She found there was no other flight to get her there on time. Deciding late was better than a no-show, she rented a car. The distance from Paris to Geneva is about 550 km.

Roads are better now than then, they were strange to her and she had a language barrier. European drivers are notoriously fast. She apparently could motor right along with the best of them.

Blaisdell was beside himself. He was a life-long easterner and a Democrat. She was a Republican political appointee from somewhere in Iowa, for God's sake.

He needed time to meet with her beforehand, to impress on her the fact that representatives of the 22 nations she would be addressing were looking to her, the US representative, for leadership.

He wanted to offer advice on areas she should address and others she should avoid. Now there was no time. She walked in, took off her coat, was ushered to the podium.

In an interview years later, Blaisdell said her presentation demonstrated tact, diplomacy, compassion.

She answered questions with candor and an understanding of the problems they faced. Taken altogether, he said hers was the finest performance of its kind he had seen, and in his years as a diplomat he'd seen a good many.

Numerous dignitaries approached her after the speech, so more time passed before Blaisdell reached her and introduced his wife.

Mrs. Houghton grasped Mrs. Blaisdell's hand and said she was extremely pleased to make her acquaintance. Perhaps Mrs. Blaisdell could show her, quickly, to the ladies room.

It's a long drive from Paris to Geneva. Some people perform well under pressure; some do not. Dorothy Deemer Houghton was among the former.

She was born in Red Oak in March of 1890 and died in March of 1972.

Her father was a lawyer and Iowa Supreme

Court Justice. She graduated from Wellesley in 1912 and married Hiram Houghton, of the prominent Red Oak banking family.

The Houghtons raised four children. She was active in women's clubs and politics. In 1921 she became the first woman to serve on the State Conservation Board.

A position on the State Board of Education came next, and she served on the Board of Curators of the Iowa Historical Society.

She was elected president of the National Federation of Women's Clubs, campaigned for Eisenhower and Ike's appointment sent her to Geneva.

Some accounts say Eleanor Roosevelt presented her with an award for her work with refugees; others say Roosevelt did not make the presentation but was there to extend congratulations.

A broader account of Deemer's life is found in "Reflections," a memoir that can be read at the Red Oak Public Library.

March, the month of Houghton's birth and death, is also National Women's History month. I'm a couple of weeks late, but Dorothy Deemer Houghton deserves to be remembered.

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

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

Inflation guzzles up gas and grocery budgets

Q: What concerns are you most hearing about from Iowans?

A: Without a doubt soaring inflation is uppermost in the minds of Iowans. Every time Iowans fill up their gas tanks and check out at the grocery store, family budgets are taking a big hit. Estimates show the average U.S. household will spend an extra \$5,200 this year compared to last year for the same basket of goods. Consumer prices are driving the conversation around kitchen tables across America and policymaking tables in Washington. Today's 40-year high inflation is a stark reminder of the Carter administration when inflation chewed through wages and savings. Back then, America faced an energy crisis, too. Cars lined up around the block to fuel up at the pump. U.S. households, small businesses and family farmers remember what happened when inflation went through the roof. The Federal Reserve started cranking up interest rates to tap the brakes on inflation. As we saw in the 1970s and early '80s, the Fed is in a delicate situation to tap down on inflation without tipping our economy into recession. In the 1970s, the combination of allowing inflation to go unchecked for too long followed by aggressive Fed interest rate hikes, eventually led to double digit home mortgage rates, a steep drop in the value of farmland and a recession. Sky-high interest rates caused borrowers and job creators to pull back and economic activity languished, leading to high unemployment amidst the energy crisis and high oil prices. Stagflation drove a stake through the heart of America's economy. Fast forward to 2022. The Biden administration last year insisted inflation was nothing to worry about and pushed ahead with a \$2 trillion spending spree that I opposed and no Republican supported. That was on top of \$4 trillion in pandemic relief Congress had already passed. The big spenders insisted inflation was merely "transitory" and blamed bottlenecks in the supply chain. Now that 40-year-high inflation has taken a foothold, I'm concerned failed Carter-era policies will come back from the dead to haunt us again. Liberals are already starting to whisper about government price controls and higher taxes that would steer us back to the "malaise" and stagnant economy of the Carter years. The Federal Reserve is signaling interest rate hikes in the coming months. It will have its work cut out for it to tame inflation without stalling the economy. I know what it took to get us out of the fiscal mess when Iowans first elected me to Congress. I'll continue working to rein in reckless government

spending sprees that would add more fuel to the fires of inflation and make it harder than ever for families to make ends meet.

Q: What's your proposal to help lower gas prices?

A: I've been a leading voice with a bipartisan coalition of lawmakers to champion U.S. energy independence. The volatility in oil prices underscores what I've said for years. Energy security is national security is economic security. The U.S. economy should not be held hostage to geopolitical affairs dominated by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and autocratic regimes, such as China, Russia, Iran and Venezuela. All told, OPEC and 10 non-OPEC members who coordinate with OPEC control 90 percent of proven oil reserves. OPEC's stated mission is to "coordinate and unify petroleum policies of its Member Countries." That's the definition of anticompetitive conduct and collusion. I'm spearheading the effort in Congress to pass the No Oil Producing and Exporting Cartels (NOPEC) Act. My bill would empower the Department of Justice to sue oil producing cartel members for antitrust violations. Once and for all, it would create an effective tool to ensure U.S. companies are no longer beholden to artificially inflated gas prices that hold American consumers hostage to higher prices at the pump. Notably, President Biden supported this measure during the Clinton and Bush administrations.

We must restore U.S. energy independence. That means we also need an all-of-the-above energy strategy. That includes drilling, fracking and mining to produce energy below the ground and capturing energy above ground with wind, solar and home-grown biofuels. Most recently, I'm pushing the Biden administration to unleash higher blend biofuels into the fuel supply. If the Biden administration would allow E-15 to be sold year-round, consumers would get relief at the pump during the busy summer driving season. Greenlighting higher biofuel blends would lower gas prices for Americans and displace foreign oil. The Home Front Energy Independence Act, which Sen. Joni Ernst and I are leading, would make E-15 available all 12 months of the year.

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

MOORE ON THE ISSUES | IOWA REP TOM MOORE

Recent events in the Iowa House

House File 2575 is an appropriations bill that appropriates \$1,004,141,874 in FY23 in General Fund dollars for the Department for the Blind, the College Student Aid Commission, the Department of Education, Community Colleges, Vocational Rehabilitation, Iowa Public Television, and the Board of Regents. Some of the major increases were:

- Rural Primary Care Loan Repayment Program: \$2.3 million.
- Iowa Tuition Grant: \$1.2 million.
- Mental Health Practitioner Loan Repayment Program: \$1.5 million.
- Iowa Workforce Grant and Incentive Program, for regent universities: \$12 million.
- Early Childhood Iowa: \$200,000.
- iJAG, Jobs for America's Graduates: \$3.5 million.
- Community Colleges: \$6.5 million.
- ISU Cybersecurity Simulator: \$905,000.

The bill passed by a vote of 58-35.

School District Transparency and Social Studies Instruction

House File 2577 requires school districts and charter schools to post the syllabus or written summary, how the classes meet or exceed educational standards, and all the instructional materials used in the classroom. Schools will satisfy the requirement by granting parental access to the classroom management platform. It also requires districts to make a list of all school library books available. Schools will satisfy the requirement by posting their catalogues online on the district's website. Schools must have protocols in place for

the review of instructional materials and school library books. School districts must post teacher professional development and trainings on their website. If schools don't comply, the Department of Education can withhold or place restrictions on school funding. School districts may also be fined between \$500 and \$5,000. The bill also adds that the Civics portion of the U.S. Citizenship test be included in the curriculum of U.S. Government. The bill passed by a vote of 60-35.

Bottle Bill Improvements

The Senate passed their version (SF 2378) on Tuesday and sent it to us in the House. On Wednesday, we were to act by replacing their version with our version (HF 2571) and send it back to them. Due to negotiations we didn't vote on it as I believe a compromise is in the works. I believe our version is better than the Senate's version because it doesn't give all retailers an opt-out and it requires the distributors to provide information on unredeemed cans and bottles. Our bill modifies the convenience standard and increases the handling fee. It also allows retailers to opt out of handling empty containers if they meet certain conditions. The DNR must keep a list of redemption centers and participating dealers throughout the state. Lastly, it increases enforcement penalties and requires a review prior to 2025 legislative session. More to come later on what looks to be a new Bottle Bill for Iowa!

Tom Moore has served as Iowa's District 21 State Representative since 2015. Contact Rep. Tom Moore at tom.moore@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.

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Phone: 712-623-2566. Fax: 712-623-2568.
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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.

WHO WE ARE

Employees in order of continuous service: Doug Tye, Mail; Paul Dumler, Production Manager; Trish Deitchler, Graphic Design; Peggy Boeye, Office Manager, News; Ann Watt, Mail; Nick Johansen, News Reporter; Charm Carpenter, Sports Reporter; Tracy Schooling, Driver; Tess Nelson, General Manager/Editor; Shawn Parker, Press; Advertising/Sales; Nanny Crowe, Circulation; Joshua Byers, Regional Publisher; Shellie Welbon, Mail.

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



Community Calendar

14 April

8 a.m. to noon: Leadership Red Oak, Red Oak Chamber and Industry Association
Noon: SCORE webinar, "Ask an Expert - Smart Money Moves for Your Business." Go to omaha.score.org/content/take-workshop-242 for more information.
12:30 p.m. Bingo, Red Oak Senior Center, 2700 N. 4th St. Call 712-623-3497 or Carolyn 402-926-8683 for more information.
4 p.m., Community Prayer Time, Fountain Square Park. Call Bonnie at 623-4759.
7 p.m., Alcoholics Anonymous, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1101 Summit St.

15 April

10:15 a.m., Storytime, Red Oak Public Library, "Eggs." Also an Easter egg hunt. 400 N. 2nd St.
5:30 p.m., Alcoholics Anonymous, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1101 Summit St.
7 p.m., "Risen," theatre #1; "Death on the Nile," theatre #2; Red Oak Grand Theatre.
5 to 9 p.m., Montgomery County YMCA lifeguard class one.

16 April

8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m., Breakfast with the Easter Bunny, Five One 8, 518 N. 4th St.
10 a.m., Rotary Club Easter egg hunt, Fountain Square Park.
7 p.m., "Risen," theatre #1; "Death on the Nile," theatre #2; Red Oak Grand Theatre.

17 April

2 and 7 p.m., "Risen," theatre #1; "Death on the Nile," theatre #2; Red Oak Grand Theatre.

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

18 April

Noon: SCORE webinar, "How to Create a Product Pitch that Sells." Go to omaha.score.org/content/take-workshop-242 for more information.
12:30 p.m. Bingo, Red Oak Senior Center, 2700 N. 4th St. Call 712-623-3497 or Carolyn 402-926-8683 for more information.
5:30 p.m., Red Oak Council meeting, Red Oak fire station or via Zoom.
7 p.m., Alcoholics Anonymous, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1101 Summit St.

19 April

Noon: SCORE webinar, "Social Media Strategies that Generate Results." Go to omaha.score.org/content/take-workshop-242 for more information.
8:30 a.m., Montgomery County Supervisors, North Meeting Room in Courthouse basement, open to public.
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.

20 April

1:30-5 p.m., Christ's Cupboard Food Pantry and Clothing Cupboard, 206 E. Coolbaugh St. Donations accepted 1-5 p.m. at back door.

Happy Birthday!

Celebrating birthdays this week are:

- Claudia Pilecki - April 14
- Lucas Swanson - April 16
- Kim Plambeck - April 17
- Barb Burkhisier - April 17
- Kaleb Tillman - April 17
- Jacob Mueller - April 19
- Sara White - April 19
- Dolores Fort - April 20
- Ron Bartles - April 20
- Eleanor Hallquist - April 20
- Janet Spicer - April 20
- Julie Stanley - April 20

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.

Area churches share service times for Easter Sunday

Numerous area churches have services for Easter Sundays.

Advent Christian Church: Communion services at 7 p.m. April 14, Good Friday services at 7 p.m. April 15, and Easter service is at 10:30 a.m. April 17.

Grace Baptist Church: Sunrise service at 7:30 a.m. at the Evergreen Cemetery, and a service at 11 a.m. on April 17.

Crossroads Community Church: Easter services at 9:23 a.m. April 17.

First Christian Church: Sunrise services at 7 a.m., and regular services at 10:30 a.m. April 17.

Citylight Southwest Iowa: Services at 9 and 11 a.m. The 11 a.m. service offers a children's program.

Faith Community Church: Services at 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. April 17.

The Elliott Church of Christ and Elliott Methodist Church: Special services for Easter. Services will be at 7 p.m. April 14 at the Elliott Church of Christ, and 7 p.m. April 15 at the Elliott Methodist Church. A sunrise service will be held at around 6:20 a.m. on April 17 at Elliott City Park, and the Elliott Church of Christ will hold a service at 10

a.m. April 17.

First Covenant Church: Services at 9:30 a.m. April 17. Also, there will be a joint sunrise mass at 7 a.m. on April 17 with the Red Oak Presbyterian Church.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church: Services at 11 a.m. on April 17, fellowship and rolls will be offered at 10 a.m.

First Presbyterian Church: Easter services at 10 a.m. April 17, Villisca.

Red Oak Presbyterian Church: A 7 a.m. sunrise service April 17, and services at 10:30 a.m.

Wesley Chapel UMC: Easter services at 8:30 a.m. April 17. Sunrise service will be at 6 a.m. at the Malvern Cemetery.

Strahan United Methodist Church: Easter services at 9:45 a.m. April 17.

Malvern Church: Easter services at 11 a.m. April 17.

The United Methodist Church: And other Villisca churches in a sunrise service at 6:45 a.m. April 17 at Viking Lake. Services will also be held at 10:30 a.m.

First Congregational Church, UCC: Easter services at noon April 17.

Red Oak Boy Scouts participate in Scouting For Food on April 9



Cub Scout Pack 80 of Red Oak, participated in "Scouting For Food". Along with scouts across Nebraska and Western Iowa, Red Oak collected food items for those in need. The food collected here in Red Oak on April 9 will be directly donated to the local food pantry. The troop collected 225 items and \$275. (Photo submitted)

New pastor joins First Christian Church



The First Christian Church in Red Oak hosted a meet and greet to introduce their new pastor, AJ Baratta, to the community. Baratta and his wife Michela live in Omaha currently. Baratta has been in lay ministry at the First Christian Church since January, and was involved in youth ministry before coming to the Red Oak church. Pictured from left: Elder Carol Glassel, AJ Baratta, and Elder Jeanette Christiansen. (Charm Carpenter/The Red Oak Express)

Happy Anniversary!

Celebrating their anniversaries this week are:

- Jerry and Diane Bates - April 14
- Marlin and Velma Smith - April 16
- Don and Kathy Myers - April 19
- David and Shelley Bergren - April 20

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.

Card Shower

MEGGISON 90th BIRTHDAY

Norma Meggison will celebrate her 90th birthday on Sunday, April 24.

In honor of the occasion, a card shower has been requested by her friends.

Send cards to her at 700 N. Linn St. Rm. 113, Glenwood, IA 51534.



Easter events in Red Oak on April 16

The Red Oak Police Department and Red Oak Fire Department are hosting a special Breakfast with the Easter Bunny from 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. April 16 at the Five One 8. Pancakes, sausage, and juice will be served for a free will donation. After the breakfast, the Red

Oak Rotary Club is hosting its annual Easter egg hunt at 10 a.m. at Fountain Square Park.

Eggs, candy, and numerous surprises will be available for free. The event is open to kids up to 10 years of age in four categories: 0-3, 4-5, 6-7, and 8-10.

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.

Catholic
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 Alliance
Citylight Southwest Iowa, 705 Bradford, Emerson. Co-lead pastors Matt Keller, Tyler Mass. Worship with children's church, 10 a.m. in-person gathering. Online: 10 a.m. live on Facebook.
Faith Community, 2701 N. 8th St., Red Oak, Rev. David MacDonald, Worship, 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Sunday School for kindergarten-adults, 10:45 a.m. Wednesday activities: JUMP, Pre-K grade 4, 4-5:20 p.m. or 6-7:20 p.m. SHOUT, grades 5-6, 4-5:30 p.m. EXIT, grades 7-12, 7-8:30 p.m. Online: 9 a.m. on KCSI, 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Facebook, also Youtube/Red Oak Faith Community Church.

Church Of Christ
Church Of Christ, Elliott, Sunday

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

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

Covenant
Evangelical, Rev. Matt King, 308 Eastern, Stanton, Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:45 a.m. Online: 10:45 a.m. live on Facebook and later on Youtube.
Faith Covenant Church, 212 Alice St., Essex, Pastor Gordon Scott, Pastor Staci Shearer, Worship, 8:30 a.m.
First Covenant, Rev. Alan Dean, pastor, 3rd & Hammond, Red Oak, Worship, 9:30 a.m.

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

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

Bethlehem Lutheran, 1101 Summit St., Red Oak, Rev. Jennifer Yeske-Drown, Sunday worship, 11 a.m., 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.

Oaks Community Church, 4131 Ellington Rd., Emerson, Rev. Ron Perry, 712-824-7218, Sunday School, 10 a.m., Worship, 11 a.m.

Presbyterian
Center Ridge, 1546 N. 110th St., Red Oak, Caryn Pedersen, Worship 1 p.m., two times a month. Call 623-9023 for more information.
First Presbyterian, 109 S. 3rd Ave., Villisca, Rev. Sandra Wainwright, Sunday School, 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:30 a.m.
Red Oak Presbyterian, 511 E. Coolbaugh, PO Box 402, Red Oak, Caryn Pedersen, redoakpresbyterianchurch.com, Service, 10:30 a.m. Online: 10:30 a.m. live on Facebook/Red Oak Presbyterian Church

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

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

School, 9:45 a.m.
Red Oak Circuit, Linda Westerhold; Hawthorne, 1248 210th St., Red Oak, Worship, 10 a.m.; Stratton, 1695 150th St., Red Oak, Worship, 11:15 a.m. Online: 11:15 a.m. live on Facebook.
Elliott United Methodist, Rev. Terry McClain, Sunday School, 9 a.m., Worship, 10 a.m. Online: 10 a.m. live on Facebook.
Emerson United Methodist Church, Rev. Denise Stevens, 801 Bradford Ave., Emerson, (712) 824-7368, Sunday School, 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:30 a.m.
Grant United Methodist, Rev. Jenn Van Nostrand, Worship services, 9 a.m. Online: 9 a.m. live on Facebook
United Methodist, 203 S. 3rd Ave., Villisca, Rev. Jessica Jacobsen, Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:30 a.m. Online: 10:30 a.m. live on Facebook.
Strahan United Methodist, Hastings, Rev. David Kwangki Kim, Worship, 9:30 a.m., Sunday School, 10:30 a.m.

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

Sponsored by:

- Belt Auto Center & Trailer Sales 623-2538
- Nelson-Boylan-LeRette Funeral Chapel - 623-2525
- Houghton State Bank 623-4823
- Sellergren•Lindell•DeMarce Funeral Home - 623-2796

SWV students learn about savings from TS Bank



This week Kyle Osborne from TS Bank came to visit the kindergarten and third grade classes at both Enarson Elementary and Corning Elementary. They read a book about savings and the students made a goal sheet for something they would like to save for. They also received a piggy bank to take home with them. (Photo submitted)

Choose Iowa calendar contest announced



Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Mike Naig is encouraging school-age students to participate in the 2022 Choose Iowa Calendar Contest hosted by the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship. Artwork submitted should feature at least one aspect of Iowa agriculture — food, livestock, crops or renewable fuels, for example. Submissions will be judged on both creativity and the ability to connect agriculture to everyday life. “Today’s students are tomorrow’s leaders,” said Secretary Naig. “No matter their experiences or background, all Iowa students are impacted by the agriculture community. This process provides them the opportunity to learn about the diversity of Iowa agriculture and the new opportunities it creates for Iowa’s communities, economy and workforce.”

Secretary Naig will honor the winning artists during an awards ceremony on Tuesday, Aug. 16, during the 2022 Iowa State Fair. Winning submissions will also be included in the 2022 Choose Iowa calendar distributed online at ChooseIowa.com and at the Department’s booth in the Varied Industries Building.

Students 18 years old or younger are invited to participate in the contest. Pictures should be drawn in a horizontal orientation using only black lines on plain white, 8.5 by 11-inch paper; pictures should not be colored in. Entries can be emailed

to media@iowaagriculture.gov or mailed to the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, Coloring Calendar, 502 E 9th St., Des Moines, Iowa, 50319. Each submission should include basic information about the artist, including the artist’s name, age, school, hometown, and the name, email and phone of a parent or guardian. For consideration, entries must be postmarked or emailed to the Department by June 1.

For inspiration, the student artists are urged to look at prior editions of the Choose Iowa calendar at hooseiowa.com/calendar-contest

College graduations

MISSOURI WESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY

The following area students were fall, 2021 graduates of Missouri Western State University:

- MaKayla Lynn Gladman, Villisca, Associate of Applied Science in physical therapist assistant.
- Paige Ann Sunderman, Clarinda, Bachelor of Science in Nursing

WESTERN IOWA TECH

The following area student was a fall 2021 graduate of Western Iowa Tech

- Trent DeWitt, Red Oak

Honor Rolls

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

The following area student was ranked among the top 2% of students in their college at Iowa State University:

- Ashley McCoy, Coin, senior, College of Human Sciences

MISSOURI UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The following area student was named to the honor list for the fall semester at the Missouri University of Science and Technology, with a grade point average of 3.2 and above and 12 hours of course work:

- Xavier Ross, Red Oak

Stanton kindergarten round up in May

Stanton Elementary School will conduct kindergarten assessments on Friday, May 6, for any child who will be five years of age on or before Sept. 15, 2022. On Thursday, May 5, parents of incoming kindergarten students will meet at 5:30 p.m. in the elementary concourse.

Kindergarten teacher, Ms. Henneman and the principal, Mrs. Elwood will present information about the kindergarten curriculum, school policies, etc. Melissa Mixan, the school nurse, will also be present to go over health requirements and paperwork needed for incoming kindergarten students. At this time, parents will sign up for a time to return the following day, May 6, with their child for the kindergarten screening.

The screening process and follow-up with parents should take approximately 20-25 minutes on

this date. Registration forms will be sent home with pre-school students the week before the assessment date. They ask that the paperwork in the packets be returned on the screening date of May 6. They also require that a current record of immunizations and a copy of the student’s birth certificate be provided on May 6.

Call Jody at the elementary office at 829-2171 as soon as possible to sign up the child for kindergarten round up and to answer any questions you might have regarding the schedule for the above dates.

If the child will begin kindergarten in the fall and does not currently attend the local pre-school, parents should call the above number prior to April 29 so that the child can be added to the student list.

School Activities

Thursday, April 14

- Griswold: No preschool
- East Mills: Spring break, no school
- 6-7 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 gym
- 8:15 a.m.-2:45 p.m., Griswold: Larsen first grade class field trip to Anderson Conservation Area
- 3:25-5:55 p.m., Griswold: High school track practice, middle school gym
- 5-8 p.m., Griswold: weightlifting, weight room

Friday, April 15

- East Mills, Essex, Griswold, Red Oak, Southwest Valley Stanton: Spring break, no school
- 1-3 p.m., Griswold: Baseball practice, middle school gym
- 3:25-5:55 p.m., Griswold: High school track practice, middle school gym
- 5-8 p.m., Griswold: Weightlifting, weight room

Saturday, April 16

- 9 a.m., Southwest Valley: Middle school student council 5K run/walk, middle school

Sunday, April 17

- 6-8 a.m., Griswold: Community sunrise service breakfast, football field/middle school gym
- 5-6 p.m., Griswold: High school girls pitching practice, middle school gym
- 5:30-7:30 p.m., Griswold: High school basketball open gym, high school gym

Monday, April 18

- East Mills, Essex, Red Oak, Stanton: Spring break, no school
- 3:25-5:55 p.m., Griswold: High school track practice, middle school gym
- 5-8 p.m., Griswold: Weightlifting, weight

- room
- 6-7 p.m., Griswold: Preschool parents meeting

Tuesday, April 19

- East Mills, Stanton: Spring break, no school
- 6-7 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 gym
- 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Southwest Valley: Second grade field trip to Anderson Conservation Area
- 3:25-5:55 p.m., Griswold: High school track practice, middle school gym
- 5-6 p.m., Griswold: High school softball pitcher/catcher workouts, middle school gym
- 5-7 p.m., Griswold: Junior high music rehearsal
- 5-8 p.m., Griswold: Weightlifting, weight room
- 6-8 p.m., Griswold: High school softball hitting practice, middle school gym

Wednesday, April 20

- Stanton: Spring break, no school
- Southwest Valley: Y Teens conference in Des Moines
- Griswold: One hour early release, work time
- 6:15-7:15 a.m., Southwest Valley: High school softball pitching, new high school gym
- 5-6:15 p.m., Southwest Valley: High school AAU volleyball, new high school gym
- 3:25-5:55 p.m., Griswold: High school track practice, middle school gym
- 5 p.m., Griswold: High school softball pitching practice, middle school gym
- 5-8 p.m., Griswold: Weightlifting, weight room
- 6-7:30 p.m., Griswold: Weichman practice, middle school gym
- 6 p.m., Red Oak: School improvement advisory committee meeting, auditorium

School Lunch Menus

East Mills

Thursday, April 14: Spring break, no school.
Friday, April 15: Spring break, no school.
Monday, April 18: Spring break, no school.
Tuesday, April 19: Spring break, no school.
Wednesday, April 20: Italian grilled chicken sandwich on a bun, cherry tomatoes, cucumber slices, fresh grapes, animal crackers.

Essex

Thursday, April 14: Meatball sub sandwich on a bun, corn, sliced peaches, cookie.
Friday, April 15: Spring break, no school.
Monday, April 18: Spring break, no school.
Tuesday, April 19: Hamburger on a bun, sliced tomatoes, sliced onions, tater tots, mandarin oranges, graham crackers.
Wednesday, April 20: Sliced turkey, green bean casserole, mashed potatoes and gravy, sliced peaches.

Griswold

Thursday, April 14: Crispy popcorn chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn, biscuit, Sidekick fruit slushie.
Friday, April 15: Spring break, no school.
Monday, April 18: Hamburger on a bun, lettuce, sliced tomatoes, sliced onions, cheese, hamburger dill slices, chips, baked beans, rosy applesauce.
Tuesday, April 19: Mini corn dogs, tater tots, garden spinach salad, mandarin oranges.
Wednesday, April 20: Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn, dinner roll, fruit cup.

Red Oak Elementary/ Preschool Center

Thursday, April 14: 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, April 15: Spring break, no school.
Monday, April 18: Spring break, no school.
Tuesday, April 19: Nacho pie; or macaroni and cheese, cornbread; 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, April 20: 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 cookie.

Red Oak Jr./Sr. High School

Chicken patty, cheeseburger, and pizza are offered daily

Thursday, April 14: 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, April 15: Spring break, no school.
Monday, April 18: Spring break, no school.
Tuesday, April 19: Nacho pie; or macaroni and cheese, cornbread; 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, April 20: 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 cookie.

Southwest Valley

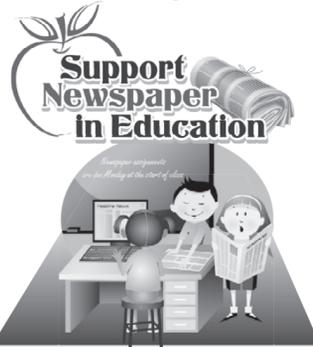
Thursday, April 14: Meatball sub sandwich on a bun, lettuce salad with dressing, glazed carrots, fruit.
Friday, April 15: Spring break, no school.
Monday, April 11: Corn dog, french fries, coleslaw, fruit.
Tuesday, April 12: Walking taco, shredded lettuce, shredded cheese, diced onions, refried beans, corn casserole, fruit.
Wednesday, April 13: Meatloaf, oved baked ranch potatoes, broccoli florets with cheese sauce, fruit, dinner roll.

Stanton

Thursday, April 14: Breaded beef fritter, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, applesauce cup, mixed berries.
Friday, April 15: Spring break, no school.
Monday, April 18: Spring break, no school.
Tuesday, April 19: Spring break, no school.
Wednesday, April 20: Spring break, no school.



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



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In Memory of Curtis Swanson
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In Memory of Karlette Hultman
In Memory of James Miller
In Memory of Linda Porter

Your donations help to enrich the education of students at the following schools:

Red Oak Jr./Sr. High School Stanton School
Red Oak Inman Primary School Southwest Valley High School
Essex School Southwest Valley Middle School

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.



Foote recognized for outstanding service

The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office is praising telecommunicator Shari Foote for receiving a certificate of outstanding service to the profession of public safety communications from the Iowa Chapter of Associated Public Safety Communications Office at the spring conference in Des Moines. Foote was nominated after receiving a 911 call where she was instrumental in directing an expectant mother through child birth. Pictured, Iowa APCO President Angie Dobyns, left, presents the award to Shari Foote. (Photo provided by Jackie Laire)

Drought conditions improve with March rainfall

Precipitation for March averaged 2.67 inches, almost a half inch above normal. This above-normal rainfall helped to improve drought conditions across many areas of the state, especially in the southern and eastern parts of Iowa, according to the latest Water Summary Update.

However, at the start of April, about 60 percent of Iowa remains in some form of dryness or drought. Concern continues for water resources in parts of northwest Iowa.

"Precipitation totals in March were above normal, which is just what was needed across the state," said Tim Hall, DNR's coordinator of hydrology resources. "We are now into what is normally the wettest three month period in the state, and if

we continue to get above normal rainfall through June we should see a reduction in drought conditions moving into the growing season."

Streamflow levels are normal across much of the state, with lower flows in northern and western Iowa.

For a thorough review of Iowa's water resource trends, go to iowadnr.gov/watersummaryupdate.

The report is prepared by technical staff from Iowa DNR, the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, IIHR—Hydroscience and Engineering, and the U.S. Geological Survey, in collaboration with Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Department.

Upgrades to county IT infrastructure,

Nick Johansen
The Red Oak Express

Montgomery County's IT director Jim Scott is continuing to make upgrades to the county's IT infrastructure.

Scott was in attendance at the regular Montgomery County Board of Supervisors meeting April 5. Scott gave an update on some of the projects he's been working on to streamline and improve the county's IT, including a new helpdesk system, which is being used by a majority of the county's employees.

"The helpdesk system does a lot of things, such as keeping us accountable for outstanding issues, allows us to provide statistics for what we're doing, and breaks down the tickets per department in March, we had 110 help desk tickets created, and closed 99 of those tickets by the end of March," Scott said.

Also, Scott informed the supervisors he's been working to implement new computers in a variety of the county's departments.

"We purchased new computers for the auditor's office, recorder's office, treasurer's office, sheriff's office, the emergency management office, the sanitarian's office, and for the board of supervisors, and so far have placed them with the auditor, recorder, emergency management, and one of two for the treasurer," explained Scott. "One of the things we're working on is a process for replacing computers, as there hadn't been a set process before. We've created a set of forms and are working through the process. Some of the department heads have been great in helping us out with some of the things we've missed."

Scott anticipated all the new computers would be rolled out by the end of April. The process was delayed, Scott said, as some of the offices had unique software.

Other projects include creating two conference room setups at the secondary roads office, one in the main office, and one in the annex. Some of the equipment, such as televisions, have been received, and other pieces are yet to be ordered.

"We're currently doing specs for the audio system and the camera equipment, and internet access for the annex has been ordered. Installation may take up to 90 days. Once we get the main office set up at secondary roads, we may look at temporary internet for the annex, but I'm not sure right now how well it's going to work," commented Scott.

Also, Scott said he is working on upgrades to the courthouse IT network. Scott said currently, there



Scott

were two unmanaged network switches that run the network from the basement to several points on the first floor. Scott was looking to change that.

"Once we clean out a storage room, we're going to put a network endpoint there, with an enterprise switch and battery back-up, so the things that are driven off that will be driven like the rest of the network, as

opposed to these consumer-grade switches. We're still in the design phase of that, and we will proceed further once the basement store room is cleared up. The costs of the project will be submitted to Stephanie [Burke] for consideration for American Rescue Plan Act funds," advised Scott.

Another phase was completion of a network endpoint that was started while Ryan Ernst was the county's IT director, and has been sitting.

"The way the courthouse is set up, we have endpoints on each floor, the network comes to that endpoint, and then the connection runs back to the main IT room for an even distribution, and is better than trying to run wires from the third floor back to the first floor," Scott said.

Scott was quick to point out that the network was still very stable, and these two phases were the points he had the most concerns on. Once completed, they would proceed with additional phases.

Projects outside the courthouse included replacing the network switch and firewall at the Montgomery County Public Health office, as well as relocating the hardware to a more secure area in the building. Scott said the project has become a bit of a priority, as the funding for the changes expires June 30.

Scott also shared that there was no way to install high speed internet at the county conservation office through Farmers Mutual Telephone Company until the company had its central office moved to Red Oak.

"It's looking like it will be late summer or mid fall before they can do that project. The problem they are having is getting the equipment, which is very common. Everything electronic is constrained now," Scott stated.



Members of the Montgomery County Memorial Hospital + Clinics Board of Trustees are, from left, top row: Jill Bergstrom, James Norris and Ann Carder. From left, front row: Jim Robinson, Kevin Cabbage, Lorin Petersen, and Roger Ehmke. (Photo provided)

MCMH board receives award

The Iowa Hospital Association has awarded the Montgomery County Memorial Hospital + Clinics (MCMH) Board of Trustees the prestigious three-star award for having 100% of trustees certified in their Hospital Board Certification Program. This is the highest honor given to a board certified in the program.

The IHA Hospital Board Certification Program is designed to promote governance best practices and encourage the coordination of care and best use of resources. The program requires new and returning trustees to complete a certification form and 12 hours of continuing board education over a period of two years.

"This is excellent news," said MCMH CEO, Ron Kloewer, "The certification program is a big time commitment and shows true dedication to their office."

Trustees who participate in the program demonstrate to community members that they understand and embrace the need for governance accountability, govern according to standards of excellence, are committed to coordination of resources in our community, embrace community accountability and transparency, and utilize quality and patient safety performance data to identify opportunities for improvement.

The MCMH Board of Trustees include: Kevin Cabbage, Chairman; Lorin Petersen, Vice Chairman; Jim Robinson, Treasurer; Roger Ehmke, Secretary; Jill Bergstrom, Trustee; Ann Carder, Trustee; and James Norris, Trustee.

The Board will be honored at the IHA Governance Forum in Des Moines on April 22.

12.6 million acres of Iowa corn to be planted in 2022

Iowa farmers intend to plant 12.6 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2022 according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service - Prospective Plantings report. This is down 300,000 acres from 2021.

Producers intend to plant 10.4 million acres of soybeans in Iowa this year. This is 300,000 acres higher than 2021.

Iowa farmers intend to plant 150,000 acres of oats for all purposes. This is up 20,000 acres from last year.

Farmers in Iowa expect to harvest 1.26 million acres of all dry hay for the 2022 crop year. This is unchanged from last year.

The Prospective Plantings report provides the first official, survey-based estimates of U.S. farmers' 2022 planting intentions. NASS's acreage

estimates are based primarily on surveys conducted during the first two weeks of March from a sample of approximately 73,000 farm operators across the United States with more than 2,700 from Iowa.

Actual plantings will depend upon weather, economic conditions, and the availability of production inputs at the time producers make their final planting decisions.

Come join us for a **Pork Chop Dinner** Drive Thru

Thursday, April 21
4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Dinner is \$12
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Children 2 and under Free

For additional information or to get advanced tickets contact 623-2897 or message the First Christian Church Red Oak, Iowa Facebook page

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All ads must be brought into the office and be prepaid.

DUR board discusses permanent file storage options

Nick Johansen
The Red Oak Express

The Red Oak Downtown Urban Renewal Board tackled a light agenda at the regular monthly meeting April 6.

The DUR Board had no grant requests up for first round approval. DUR Chairman Roger Vial said based on the board's current budget status, a hiatus in grant requests wasn't necessarily a bad situation for the moment.

"We're kind of low on funding until we get our next bit of funding for the 2022-23 Fiscal Year in June, so it's okay if we're in a bit of a lull right now. Based on the applications we've already received, we're at a negative funding balance of about \$2,500 until June," Vial said.

Two projects were awaiting final approval, the first project being 317 E. Reed St., Mark Jackson's Red Oak Hardware Hank and Hallmark Gold Crown Store. The grant request was for the replacement of multiple sin-

gle-pane windows. At the time of the meeting, no new information had been received. DUR Board member Mark Jackson said the project was on hold awaiting materials.

"We're still waiting for the windows to become available. He's going to be replacing the windows on the front and the back of the building," Jackson explained.

The other project awaiting final approval was 410 E. Coolbaugh St., the Red Oak Grand Theatre, a project to tuck-point the north elevation and inside parapet wall. The project was estimated at \$28,744, and the grant request was for \$7,186. No new information on that project was received either.

DUR Board Member Marty Barnett said she believed the theatre had applied through the community foundation for that project.

"I believe they were allowed that full amount from the foundation, so I would think that request outdated and is off the

table, and they probably aren't aware it's still being considered by the DUR Board," Barnett said.

Barnett said she would research to confirm that the project had been paid for out of the community foundation, and they could discuss the funding request at the May DUR meeting.

The DUR Board also discussed a permanent location for file storage for the DUR Board. Vial said he had hard copies of all the files, and information on a personal laptop, but he felt it wasn't enough.

"To me, more than one of us, possibly two of us, need to have a meeting with Red Oak city administrator Brad Wright, and have a discussion about where we're going to put this stuff," commented Vial.

DUR Board member Ann Carder said that in conversations with former Red Oak Mayor Bill Billings, he indicated there was plenty of storage space in the lower level of the Red Oak City Hall. Vial said he felt a need to

have the documents both saved as a hard copy, and scanned.

"I have a whole box of files, which would mean we'd probably need a day to remove staples and scan documents and save them to a folder. It's something we need to do anyway, and it would be beneficial to have access to a high-speed scanner," Vial advised.

Scanning the documents to a shared drive or the Cloud, Vial said, would allow him to have easier access to the files from any location. He also felt it would be a good idea to have a scan of the files kept in possession of Red Oak City Clerk Mary Bolton.

"I can scan them and email them to Mary, then once I get a new file, I can scan it completely, and then send it to Mary and she can add it to the records at city hall. The pain right now is that there's a whole box of them. That's the way we've done it for 20 years, and that was largely because we didn't have access to this technology 20 years ago,"

Vial said.

Carder felt that it was a good idea to have everything saved electronically as files that could be shared would be a big benefit to the DUR Board.

"The city would have them, but they wouldn't have to do much work themselves to have them, and if, heaven forbid, you lost your laptop, you'd have a backup of the files saved with the City of Red Oak," stated Carder.

Additionally, Vial said that the documents did not have any sensitive information on them, and all that was on the application was information that could be found publicly anyway.

Vial was hopeful that by the next DUR meeting, he would have all the paper files scanned electronically.

The next question to be raised was a set location for receiving DUR applications. Barnett said she believed the Red Oak Chamber and Industry Association had the applications. DUR Board Member Pete

Crawford said another logical location would be Red Oak City Hall.

Vial said having the applications at city hall was a good location, however, the information was outdated. Carder agreed that the online information on the city's website was very old.

"The city's website does have the application and a letter explaining the function of the DUR, but it goes back to your predecessor, Jan Norris. The application also may be dated from the one we use. If we meet with the city, it would be a good opportunity for us to discuss the outdated information on the website," advised Carder.

Plans were made to discuss the file storage and website information at a future date with the City of Red Oak.

PHOTO

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

of photograph galleries on them. The 1896 and '97 backdrops are the exact same, where the other two are a bit different. Maybe the 1894 and 1897 team photos are from a different place, but I feel they were all taken by one gallery and gifted to the Red Oak Express. The Red Oak Express was in a different building at that time, and the photos could have been on display in the front window. Knowing that Clarence went to school with these boys, was neighbors to a few, and had access to the photo through his job, I'm guessing that is how it ended up in the Selser attic. When he moved to Milwaukee, and the last of the household possessions were sold, I am thinking that his wife sent the leftover "junk" to Clarence's sister's house for storage. Clarence had already gone to Milwaukee to begin his job while his wife stayed in Red Oak to finalize the move.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence I. Miller traveled back to Red Oak to visit relatives two to three times each year they lived in Milwaukee. In each instance, the articles refer to him as a former Red Oak Express editor, and mention



that he stayed with his sister, Mrs. A.M. Selser.

In January 1930, his wife Lulu passed away and in February a year later, he was "recuperating from an operation and sickness at the home of his sister, Mrs. A. M. Selser."

He continued to visit two to three times a year, including a July trip in 1932 for a surprise birthday party for his sister. In 1933 he married Blanche Seaman, and the couple is mentioned visiting the Red Oak area and moving to Elliott in 1936. Once again, he became quite active in the community and with the purchasing, leasing, and

selling of property. Beginning in 1959 until his death in 1962, he actively showed missionary films "from his private collection" to the Methodist Church of Elliott, area Vacation Bible schools, and the Elliott WCSC.

Reading about the family trips home, it becomes apparent that Evalyn and Clarence were close. It makes sense that a younger brother stored his memorabilia at his sister's "big" house. As Clarence never had children, it is easy to believe that he forgot, or didn't know, what was in his sister's attic.

The great mystery has been solved. Mary now has at least two relics from Red Oak's past: the photos and the saxophone. Her family was an important part of the town's history with her great-great-uncle being a pioneer in the postal service in Red Oak, an editor of The Red Oak Express, a great musician, and a collector of items from the earliest days of football in Red Oak High School history.

This exciting adventure has me wondering, do you know what's in your attic?

RED OAK
GRAND
THEATRE

THIS WEEK'S
MOVIES

APRIL 15-17

THEATRE #1 capacity is 182

RISEN

Clavius investigates the mystery of what happened to Jesus following the crucifixion. His journey takes him to places he never dreamed of. PG-13

THEATRE #2 capacity is 107

DEATH ON THE
NILE

A vacation aboard a glamorous river steamer turns into a terrifying search when a couple's perfect honeymoon is tragically cut short. PG-13

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Syphilis is on the rise in Iowa.

Syphilis is a sexually transmitted infection. Early numbers show a **75% increase** in syphilis cases in Iowa from 2020 to 2021.

It's more common and easier to get than you might think.

Syphilis is curable but can cause serious health problems without treatment. Talk to your doctor about whether you are at risk.

Find a testing location near you:
gettested.cdc.gov

Free & low cost options available

Learn more about syphilis at
ashsexualhealth.org/syphilis