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8A

THE RED OAK Express

WEDNESDAY
May 10, 2023
Red Oak, IA
Volume 156, No.19
redoakexpress.com

DEDICATED TO FREEDOM SINCE 1868 \$1.50



Staff at Hip Clips & Nails are getting back into the swing of things at the newly-renovated location. Pictured are, from left: Denise Wilson, Linda Blackburn, Carmen Archer, Adriana Andre, and Radonna Kindall. (Nick Johansen/The Red Oak Express)

Hip Clips thriving again following fire

Nick Johansen
The Red Oak Express

After months of renovations, Red Oak's Hip Clips & Nails at 617 N. 3rd St. is back at its location near Red Oak's downtown square - and thriving.

It was a different story last year. Owner Carmen Archer said that on July 24, she got the call that no business or homeowner ever wants to hear: that a fire had broken out at the Hip Clips & Nails location. Archer's initial reaction to the news was that the fire would be something small and easily dealt with, but that wasn't the case. "I knew the fire was in one of the apartments upstairs. I got there, and I went into the salon to get a fire extinguisher and go upstairs, and my sister told me not to go up there, and it wasn't safe. She lived upstairs in the apartment where the fire started, and she had stepped out for about 10 minutes when she was told that the apartment was on fire," Archer said. "She went upstairs to try and rescue her two cats and when she opened up the doors, she described it as the most horrific thing she'd ever seen. There was black smoke, and the fire had come up the wall, around the ceiling, and down the other wall."

In order to get the fire out, Archer said fire crews had to break out all of the windows, and all of the water used to put out the fire traveled down into the salon area. Even though the fire damage itself was concentrated upstairs, Archer said the salon ended up in worse shape than she expected.

"The salon had old tin ceilings on the main floor, so water seeped through the ceiling tiles and also ran down the walls and on the floor. When everything was done, I thought the salon would be okay. There was water damage and a little bit of smoke damage, but I felt we'd be able to work around it," commented Archer. "However, the next day, the adjuster came, looked at everything and told us we had to move out. The tin ceiling had to all be ripped out because it was holding water and it could get mold. I was devastated. This is my livelihood and the livelihood of the girls who chair rent from me, so I had to figure out what I was going to do."

Archer said she started calling friends, as well as realtor Audie Rainey, about a temporary location to set up shop. Also, Archer said the outpouring of community

While I like it all, I don't know if I'd go through all of it again just to have it. I loved the salon before, and it's a situation where you don't know what you've got until it's gone. When you get it back and it's better than before, it's a bonus."

- Carmen Archer, owner of Hip Clips & Nails

support was tremendous. "I had other salons here in town reach out to me and offer space. Revive Salon offered me storage space in their garage, and that's what I love. I don't look at the other salons as competition. There's enough people in this town to support us all. To have other salons reach out and offer help like that was very touching, and I'm grateful I had that kind of rapport with the other salons that made them feel like they could do that for me."

In order to keep the Hip Clips & Nails family of stylists together, Archer set up a temporary shop at the former "Salonique" location at 1403 N. 3rd St., with many volunteers helping move equipment into the new building. After that, all she could do was wait, though that was also longer than expected.

"It took almost nine months to get the Hip Clips & Nails location renovated. I initially thought it would take six weeks, and rented the former Salonique for that time. That six weeks grew and grew. I thought we'd be able to move by the end of the year, but that didn't happen, and we didn't get to move out until the end of March," stated Archer.

She added that while the temporary location was functional, there were some tough times they had to deal with.

"We were sharing one sink, one bathroom, and we had one retail shelf. And we got creative with the arrangement to make it work. It was great in the beginning, but it became hard, and the business was quite

HIP CLIPS, Page 2A

Council approves budget for annual RO fireworks display

Nick Johansen
The Red Oak Express

The Red Oak City Council has finalized a budget for its July 4 fireworks display.

Red Oak Fire Chief John Bruce said he'd recently met with Red Oak City Clerk Christie Vanderholm to discuss the city's fireworks budget, which was less than the amount of last year's display.

"At the end of the day, the budget amount was \$6,000. The show last year was around \$8,000. There's been about a 7% increase. The company that puts together the fireworks show, J & M Displays out of Yarmouth, builds the show over the dollar amount. We need to know what that dollar amount is so I can get it to J & M and they can build it," said Bruce.

Part of the reason for the early discussion, Bruce said, was to make sure the show would be locked in for July 4.

"We pushed very hard to have it on July 4, and we spent a lot of years to get it to there. I don't want to miss any of the deadlines for them to be able to put the stuff together for us.

Factoring in the 7% increase, you'd need about \$8,600 to have a show equal to the one in 2022," stated Bruce.

Bruce said the show lasted around 10 minutes, and was operated by people that lived locally.

"We have some J & M individuals in the area that shoot it; that's how we were able to get it for the Fourth of July. We just need to determine how much we're going to spend on it," commented Bruce.

While the show was only budgeted for \$6,000, Councilperson Jeanice Lester felt the show was a community service, and she would not be opposed to providing additional funding for the show.

Councilperson Pete Wemhoff proposed \$9,000 in funding. The council unanimously approved the amount.

The council also held the third reading of an ordinance granting to MidAmerican Energy Company, its successors and assigns, the right and non-exclusive franchise to acquire, construct, erect, maintain, and operate in the City of Red Oak, a natural gas system and to furnish and sell natural gas to the city and its inhab-



itants and authorizing the city to collect franchise fees for a period of 25 years. The third reading was approved.

The council then held the third and final reading of an ordinance granting MidAmerican Energy Company, its successors and assigns, the right and non-exclusive franchise to acquire, construct, erect, maintain, and operate in the City of Red Oak, an electric system, and

FIREWORKS, Page 2A

Dietering suggests Red Oak start sidewalk repair program

Nick Johansen
The Red Oak Express

Red Oak nuisance and animal control officer Bill Dietering is looking beyond nuisance buildings with the hopes of dealing with another eyesore around Red Oak.

Dietering is proposing the city consider putting together a sidewalk repair program, citing the need.

"Red Oak has a sidewalk problem, and everyone knows it, and concrete work is expensive, everyone also knows that. There are a few towns, including Davenport, I've reached out to for information. Some towns have someone that goes around inspecting sidewalks and sending out notices, then they do the repairs and the homeowner pays half in the form of a lien. Some towns do work based on the family's income. I'm considering all ideas," Dietering said.

Under Dietering's current idea, there are a number of key components of the proposed sidewalk repair



The sidewalk program being spearheaded by nuisance and animal control officer Bill Dietering would provide funding to Red Oak residents to repair damaged sidewalks such as these in the area of Reed Street. (Nick Johansen/The Red Oak Express)

program.

- Only sidewalk slabs that have been determined as hazardous and requiring repair or replacement would be eligible.

- Damage would include sidewalks buckling due to tree root growth; settling, with the sidewalk dipping two inches or more; tipped, tilted, or sloped more than one inch per foot; or are spalled, missing surface, have more than three cracks per square, and show signs of distress.

- Work would need to be performed by a city contractor to be eligible for cost sharing.

At this point, Dietering said he was proposing an initial budget for the program of \$100,000.

"I'm looking for grants, the mayor is looking for grants, we're looking at things from the Iowa Department of Transportation. Next year, I want to get the ball rolling so we can get some of these sidewalks repaired or replaced," commented Dietering.

Dietering added he had researched whether or not a tree on the parking caused the sidewalk to buckle, if the homeowner or the city was responsible, and discovered that according to Iowa Code, it would be the property owner's responsibility. However, Dietering felt that shouldn't be set in stone.

"We'll cross that bridge when we come to it. And we'll keep the program limited to residential areas and single-family homes," stated Dietering.

According to Dietering, sidewalks hadn't been a focus for him as of late due to so many other things, such as tree trimming and nuisance property clean-up. Dietering felt the time to implement the program was soon.

"The sooner we start, the better. We can keep it in discussion when we plan for next year's budget. We definitely need to do something," Dietering said.

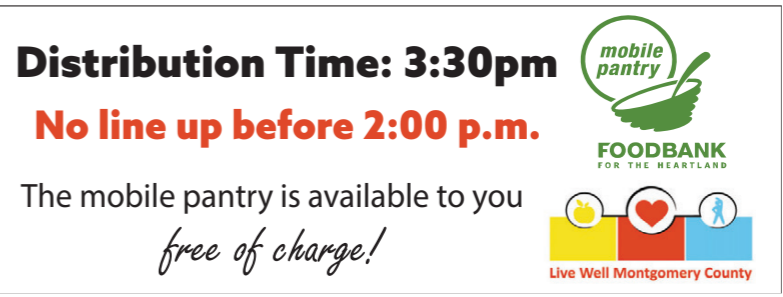
Dietering outlined his proposal to the Red Oak City Council at its meeting May 1. Efforts to bring the program to fruition remain ongoing.




Mobile Food Pantry
Wednesday, May 24th
Location:
ROCSD Football Field/Fairgrounds Parking Lot

Distribution Time: 3:30pm
No line up before 2:00 p.m.

The mobile pantry is available to you
free of charge!





Cheers to 40 years!

Mark Jackson's Hardware Hank celebrated 40 years in business with a community coffee event Wednesday, May 3 and a business after hours event Friday, May 5. Pictured are Mark Jackson and his wife, Ann Carder, at the May 3 coffee. (Tess Nelson/Red Oak Express)

IDNR urges to leave wildlife babies where they belong --- in the wild

Iowa Department of Natural Resources

It's as predictable as May flowers - from border to border, the Wildlife Baby Season has arrived in Iowa. From now until at least mid-June, DNR field offices across the state will be inundated with hundreds of phone calls and scores of deliveries regarding "orphaned wildlife."

Most calls begin with something like, "We were walking in the park when ..." or "I looked out my window and saw ..." In nearly every instance, the scenario ends with something [or several somethings] being rescued from their mother.

During a typical season, the species will range all the way from baby robins and squirrels to spindly-legged white-tailed fawns. At this time of the year it is not at all uncommon for biologists to discover that complete litters of baby raccoons, foxes, or even skunks have mysteriously appeared on their doorsteps.

Why this happens is no real mystery. From fuzzy yellow ducklings to tiny baby bunnies, nothing appears more cute and cuddly than a wildlife baby. But in reality, most of the wildlife reported to DNR field offices is not really orphaned at all. And while the people who attempt to "rescue" these babies have the best of intentions, they are in fact dooming the very creatures they intend to help.

The babies of most wildlife species leave their nests or dens well in advance of being able to care for themselves. Although broods or litters may become widely scattered during this fledgling period, they still remain under the direct care and feeding of their parents.

For many songbirds, the transition to independence comes quickly and may take as little as four or five days. For other species such as Canada geese, kestrels, or great horned owls, the young and parents may stay in contact for weeks - even months.

At the beginning of the fledgling period, young birds appear

clumsy, dull-witted, and vulnerable. The reason for this is because they really are clumsy, dull-witted, and vulnerable. But as the education process continues, the survivors smarten up fast, while slow learners quickly fade from the scene. Most birds have less than a 20 percent chance of surviving their first year. While this seems unfortunate or cruel, this is a normal occurrence in nature. In the real out-of-doors, it's just the way things are.

Most mammals employ a slightly different strategy when it comes to caring for their adolescents. Since most mammals are largely nocturnal, the mother usually finds a safe daytime hideout for her young while she sleeps or looks for food. Consequently, it is perfectly normal for the young to be alone or unattended during the daylight hours.

Nevertheless, whenever a newborn fawn or a nest full of baby cottontails or raccoons is discovered by a human, it quite often is assumed that the animals are orphaned. The youngster's fate is usually sealed when it is promptly "rescued from the wild."

Many wildlife babies die soon after capture from the stress of being handled, talked to, and placed into the unfamiliar surroundings of a slick sided cardboard box. Should the animal have the misfortune of surviving this trauma, they often succumb more slowly to starvation from improper nourishment, pneumonia, or other human caused sicknesses.

Whether they are adults or young, all species of wildlife have highly specific needs for survival. "Rescuing a baby from its mother" not only shows bad judgment, it also is illegal.

Observing wildlife in its natural habitat is always a unique privilege. Taking a good photo or two provides an even more lasting memory. But once you've done that, let well enough alone. Leave wildlife babies where they belong -- in the wild.

A list of wildlife rehabilitators is available online at <http://www.iowadnr.gov/Conservation/Iowas-Wildlife>.

Rainfall in Iowa for April was below normal

Rainfall in April was just over two inches, but 1.5 inches below normal for the month. This comes after a drier-than-normal March.

As a result, streamflows are down across much of the state, and conditions are generally deteriorating in the eastern two-thirds of Iowa. While all of the Drought Regions of Iowa are rated as "normal," downward trends are shown in the state's central, northeastern, and southeastern parts.

The US Drought Monitor introduced a small area of moderate drought in southeast Iowa, reflecting the drying trend in that part of the state.

May should provide nearly five inches of rainfall, so conditions could improve with normal precipitation.

"It is discouraging to see below-normal rainfall as we enter the normally wet spring months. Normal rainfall in May and June will help to alleviate drought conditions in much of the state. Still, the dry April was not helpful," said Tim Hall, Iowa Department of Natural Resources coordinator of hydrology resources. "The Iowa Drought Plan notes a downward trend in Drought Regions 2, 3, and 5, which are currently shown as 'Normal,' but could get worse in the months ahead if normal rainfall amounts don't occur."

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

EM, Stanton receive funding for farm to school program

The community school districts in Carroll, Fremont-Mills, Logan-Magnolia, East Mills, and Stanton have been chosen to begin and/or reinvigorate agriculture education in their communities as part of a new farm to school program offered by the Center for Rural Affairs.

The schools were selected from applicants in Monona, Crawford, Harrison, Shelby, Pottawattamie, Cass, Mills, Montgomery, Fremont, Carroll, Audubon, and Page counties.

"We can't wait to begin working on farm to school education activities with these districts, the students, and teachers," said Cait Caughey, beginning farmer and market associate with the Center. "Our goals for this program are to increase access to agriculture and gardening skills for food production and to promote access to healthy, delicious locally grown foods for students and their families."

The Southwest Iowa Farm to School Program will provide technical assistance and support on food production through December 2023. In addition, the schools will receive farm to school curriculum resources; assistance with accessing

Iowa local foods procurement programs; and grant writing assistance on school garden or greenhouse grants.

Monetary awards include:
\$2,000 mini grant for food production, garden, greenhouse, aqua/hydroponics.
\$200 for garden tools.

\$150 stipend for one teacher to attend the Iowa Farm to School Conference in June 2023.

\$150 stipend for one teacher to attend the Southwest Iowa Local Foods Summit in fall 2023.

\$200 for one farmer speaker who grows fruits, vegetables, herbs, and/or livestock to visit the school and give a presentation.

The Center began accepting applications for the farm to school program in March. Applications were evaluated on school demographics and plan for food production, student involvement, community involvement, sustainability, teacher engagement, food service director collaboration, and creativity.

For more information about the program, visit cra.org/sw-iowa-farm-to-school.

FIREWORKS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

communications facilities and to furnish and sell electric energy to the city and its inhabitants and authorizing the city to collect franchise fees for a period of 25 years. The third reading was approved.

Lester advised the public that the ordinances were approved with a 0% franchise fee rate. Further discussions on franchise fees are expected at a later council meeting.

In other business, the council:

- Approved a request from the Family Vision Center at 514 N. 4th St. to block off two parking spaces in front of the business from 2 to 6 p.m. June 16 for an open house.

- Approved setting the salary of city employee Bruce Gruber at \$15.14 per hour.

- Approved the renewal of a Class E retail alcohol license for Casey's General Store # 1496 and #1728.

HIP CLIPS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

a bit slower since we were off the beaten path. We didn't have the same walk-in business, and we had less to offer for retail products. It was hard. But now we're back, and we're thriving, business is booming, we love coming into work every day, and we're happy to be back," Archer said.

While not under the greatest of circumstances, Archer said they've been able to build back better.

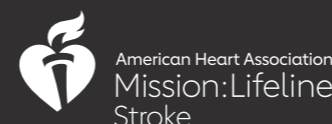
"The tin was replaced with drywall and we have a new drop ceiling with modern ceiling tiles, and we also installed LED lighting, which is great. The lights are adjustable as well, and they might be my favorite feature. We've also got new floors, new walls, pretty much everything is new. On the tanning side, we're going to be adding some more retail items for ladies and guys," explained Archer. "We're not quite done with the upstairs apartment renovations but we're getting there. While I like it all, I don't know if I'd go through all of it again

just to have it. I loved the salon before, and it's a situation where you don't know what you've got until it's gone. When you get it back and it's better than before, it's a bonus."

Archer reiterated her appreciation for all the support she received from people she asked, or in many cases, didn't have to ask, and to everyone who helped.

"We are forever grateful, and it goes into the positive energy we feel back in the new space. It's not just about looking in the mirror and feeling good, it's about your surroundings as well, and that helps us with the feeling good," Archer stated.

Hip Clips & Nails celebrated a grand re-opening March 30. Numerous members of the community sent flowers to mark the occasion. To schedule an appointment, call 623-2572, or visit the Facebook page, facebook.com/hipclipsandnails.



If you're having a stroke
DON'T TOUGH IT OUT.

If you see a stroke
CALL IT OUT.

Know the signs of a stroke at strokeiowa.org.

Act F.A.S.T. to save a life.

F.A.S.T.

Face Drooping | Arm Weakness | Speech Difficulty | Time to Call 911

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We can stop HIV, Iowa.
HIV treatment has come a long way, and it's extremely effective.

- If you're living with HIV, getting medical care & taking your HIV medication will help you live a long, healthy life.
- Staying on your HIV treatment almost eliminates the chance of transmitting HIV to your partners.
- There are programs to support you and your family and help pay for your care and treatment.

STOP HIV IOWA

Learn more at stophiviowa.org

Rest-easy savings

9-month CD

4.80% APY*

\$1,000 MIN. BALANCE

Open a CD today.
veridiancu.org/CD

Veridian CREDIT UNION

*APY = Annual Percentage Yield. APY is accurate as of 5/10/2023 and is subject to change. Interest on CDs is compounded quarterly. APY is subject to change after account is opened. Interest rate locked when account is opened except for bump-up CDs, which can be converted to a higher rate once during their term. Penalty may be imposed for early withdrawal, and fees could reduce earnings on account. Other rates and terms available. Withdrawal of earnings could reduce APY. Membership required to open a CD and is subject to qualifications and a minimum 55-hour deposit. Federally insured by NCUA.

GLADYS CLARK, 83

Gladys Ellen Clark, 83, Red Oak, passed away Monday, May 1, 2023, at Montgomery County Memorial Hospital.
Gladys was born Sept. 5, 1939, in Red Oak, the daughter of Clifford Chester and Rose Ellen (Houser) Page.
Preceding her in death were her parents; husband, Virgil Clark; and one grandson.
Survivors include her children, Joseph Virgil Clark of Red Oak; Curtis Clark of Stanton; and Sheryl Clark of Red Oak; eight grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.
Funeral services were held Friday, May 5, 2023, at the First Covenant Church. Burial was in the Evergreen Cemetery.
Memorials are suggested to the First Covenant Church.
Nelson-Boylan-LeRette Funeral Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

WANDA WOODS, 82

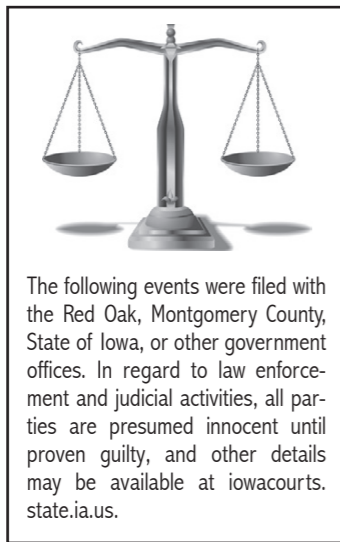
Wanda Woods, 82, Red Oak, passed away Friday, May 5, 2023, at Good Samaritan Society in Red Oak. Funeral services are pending at the Nelson-Boylan-LeRette Funeral Chapel.

Gerald Raymond Norcross, 87, Carmi, Ill., passed away on Tuesday, April 4, 2023.
A celebration of life service will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, May 19, 2023, at Nelson-Boylan-LeRette Funeral Chapel with military honors.
Nelson-Boylan-LeRette Funeral Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

GERALD NORCROSS, 87



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

- Nicholas and Susan Gray to Stanley and Barbara Shipley, 28-72-36.
- Delbert and Judith Schroeder to Delbert and Timothy Schroeder, Villisca Wallace Addition Lt 6.
- Brian and Sherlie Magaret to Kbeme LLC, Red Oak Gustafson's Addition Lt 7-8.
- Phyllis Harold to Michell and Jimmie Workman, 22-72-38 SLT 6-8 Lt 1, SLT 3,1 Lt 1.
- Jon and Tracy Spunaugle to Lewcrew LLC, Villisca Original

Plat Lt 145-146.

- Jon and Tracy Spunaugle to Lewcrew LLC, Villisca Original Plat Lt 145-146.
- Cody and Sarah Lewis to Kbeme LLC, Red Oak Eastern Slopes III Lt 24.

COURT OFFICERS DEED

- Patricia Kasha Estate and Henry Kasha, Executor to James Kasha, Co-Trustee, Henry Kasha, Co-Trustee, and James Kasha Revocable Trust, 36-72-36.
- Patricia Kasha Estate and Henry Kasha, Executor to Patrick Kasha and Frieda Leasia, 36-72-36.

MORTGAGE

- Stanley and Barbara Shipley to Farm Credit Services of America FLCA, 28-72-36.
- Bryce and Jennifer Johnson and Kbeme LLC to Bank Iowa, Red Oak Gustafson's Addition Lt 7-8.
- Michell and Jimmie Workman to Castle & Cooke Mortgage LLC, Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems Inc. and MERS, 22-72-38.
- Morgan Lewellen, Member Manager, Cameron Lewellen, Member Manager, and Lewcrew LLC to Houghton State Bank,

Villisca Original Plat Lt 145-146.

- Kbeme LLC, Bryce Johnson, Member, and Jennifer Johnson, Member to Bank Iowa, Red Oak Eastern Slopes III Lt 24.
- Pamela Gray to Bank Iowa, 28-71-36 Parcel A Lt 17 S. Villisca, Villisca South Villisca Lt 17 Parcel A.

MOD/AMENDMENT OF MORTGAGE

- Douglas Bennett and Kimberly Euker to Bank Iowa, modification.

SMALL CLAIMS

- LVNV Funding LLC vs. Kelly Kaimann, Red Oak, judgment in favor of the plaintiff, \$799.18 with 6.51% interest from May 2 plus costs. Payment plan of \$30 per month to begin May 28 until paid in full.
- Credit Management Services Inc. vs. Brandon Misner, Elliott, judgment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$1,035.69 with 6.51% interest from May 2 plus costs.
- MM Finance LLC DBA EZ Money Check Cashing vs. Sheila Rush, Elliott, judgment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$215 with \$6.51% interest from May 2 plus costs.
- Capital One Bank USA, NA

vs. Samuel Caniglia, Red Oak, judgment in favor of the plaintiff, \$5,974.92 plus costs.

ARRESTS

- Filed May 1, Jeffrey Porter, 46, Red Oak, driving while license suspended - 23 withdrawals, failure to provide financial liability, \$491.25 bond.
- Filed May 2, Michael Archer, 32, Red Oak, OWI second offense, \$2,000 bond.
- Filed May 3, David Holste, 52, Clarinda, driving while barred, \$2,000 bond.
- Filed May 6, Rachel Flathers, 35, Elliott, child endangerment three counts, interference with official acts, \$2,000 bond.
- Filed May 5, Seacody Anderson, 28, Corning, warrant for harassment first degree, held on no bond.
- Filed May 6, Steven Shipley, 29, Omaha, Neb., driving while license suspended, \$491.25 bond.
- Filed May 7, Clifford Good, 54, Council Bluffs, driving while license suspended, \$491.25 bond.

CRIMINAL

- Aggravated, State of Iowa vs. Jill Palmer, 45, Bellevue, Neb., operation of motor vehicle with

expired license, pled guilty, \$105 fine.

- Simple misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. John Strait, 61, Red Oak, open burning violation, pled guilty, \$105 fine.
- Simple misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Maura Jones, 20, Red Oak, public intoxication, pled guilty, \$105 fine.

OWI

- Holly Gross, 33, Red Oak, violation of probation, pled guilty, original sentence imposed.
- James Durbin III, 59, Red Oak, OWI first offense, 10 days jail, 8 days suspended, 9 months probation, \$1,250 fine, half off if driver's license proven in four months.

TRAFFIC

- Elizabeth Reents, Creston, speeding.
- Christopher Brady, Omaha, Neb., speeding.
- Dustin Potter, Council Bluffs, operating non-registered vehicle.
- Jennifer Deter, Percival, speeding.
- Megan Manzer, Red Oak, operating non-registered vehicle.

- Hayleigh Palmer, Glenwood, registration violation.
- Bradina Gary, Atlantic, no valid driver's license.
- Megan Snow, Kirksville, Mo., speeding.
- Thomas Anderson, Red Oak, parks and public lands - littering.
- Christopher Downey, Tecumseh, Neb., no valid driver's license, registration violation.
- Wade McFarland, Emerson, failure to maintain or use safety belts.
- Toby Burk, Woodward, speeding.
- Aydan Bloomer, Creston, speeding.
- Samuel Irlmeier, Manning, speeding.
- Mark Wallace, West Des Moines, speeding.
- Michelle Konfrst, Glenwood, speeding.
- Don Woods, Omaha, Neb., speeding.
- Robert McMann, Henderson, speeding.
- Clarence Williams, Red Oak, speeding.
- Cyrus Rader, Hopkins, Mo., speeding.

Red Oak Weather

	High	Low	Precip
Monday, May 1	60	40	
Tuesday, May 2	63	37	
Wednesday, May 3	66	31	
Thursday, May 4	73	34	
Friday, May 5	82	44	
Saturday, May 6	66	57	.22
Sunday, May 7	80	53	.01
Weekly Total Precipitation			.23
May Total Precipitation			.23

ANSWER - PUZZLE ON PAGE

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DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN...?

Archived from 2018, 2013, 1998, and 1973 editions of The Red Oak Express

5 Years Ago

Lt. Bill Honeyman presented a flag to Montgomery County Veterans Memorial Court of Honor chairman Ed Wilkins. The flag had flown over Honeyman's ship, the USS Howard DDG 83, an Arleigh Burke-class guided missile destroyer that was commissioned into the Navy in 2001, named for Medal of Honor recipient Gunnery Sgt. Jimmie E. Howard with the USMC. Howard was an Iowa native, born in Burlington. Honeyman presented the flag to the Court of Honor to those that had served, and were currently serving, in the armed forces.
The Griswold girls golf team finished its final regular season meet in the Western Iowa Conference undefeated with a win over Underwood. Mayeya Peters claimed medalist honors.

10 Years Ago

A tear-stained audience of family, friends, and community members attended the graduation of the Villisca Class of 2013, the last ever Bluejays graduation ceremony. A total of 27 seniors received their diplomas. Beginning with the next school year, Villisca entered into a whole-grade sharing agreement with Corning to become to the Southwest Valley Timberwolves. Honor graduate Jennifer King gave the opening remarks, reminding her peers that while high school was coming to a close, it was the beginning of a new journey.
The Red Oak Tiger girls tennis team was on its way back to the regional finals after winning in the quarterfinals and semifinals at home in the 1A team tennis tournament.

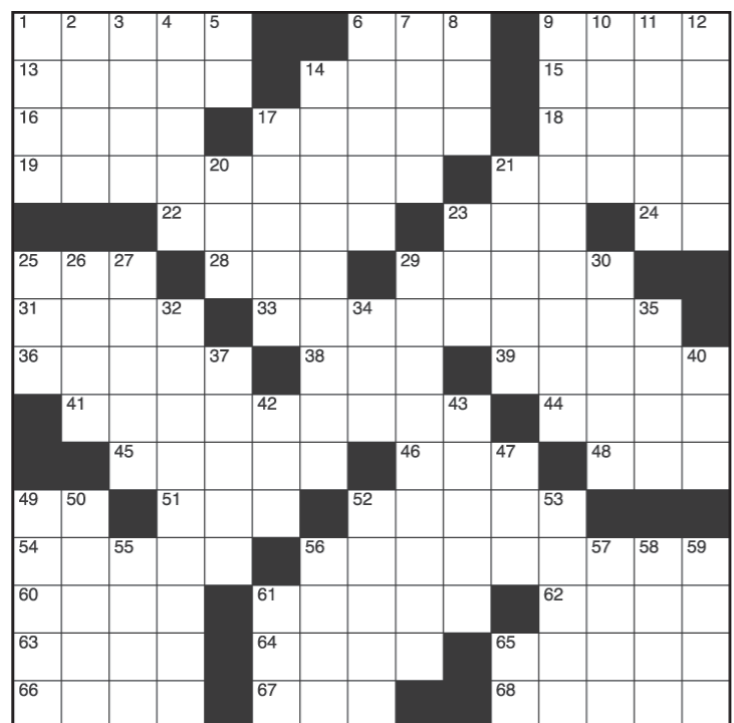
25 Years Ago

The Red Oak Senior Center was alive and well, according to manager Missy Peterson. The future of a senior center and meal site was questionable earlier in the year, but Peterson reported the conflicts had been resolved, and the center was open at its former location on the lower level of the Red Oak Masonic Lodge. The congregate meal service continued to be provided through Southwest 8 Senior Services.
The Red Oak Tiger prep girls varsity tennis team was a first-time champion in Des Moines. Red Oak nipped returning champion Urbandale by a score of 29-27.
All American Video was offering Playstation and Nintendo 64 game rentals for \$2.50 per night.

50 Years Ago

More than 300 people attended the annual Red Oak Flight Breakfast, though inclement weather kept the fly ins down to only six planes. A Navy Cessna U-3 flown by Lt. Dennis Sapp and Lt. Joe Killinger flew in from California, and had the distinction of being the plane that took the longest journey to get to Red Oak. Sapp said the trip was one he'd been wanting to make ever since he became a pilot.
Tom Dovel, a Red Oak Community High School junior track runner was honored by the Des Moines Register as its Prep of the Week after running four quarter miles in under 50 seconds at Lewis Central and Atlantic track meets.
A six pack of 12 ounce cans of Pepsi were on sale for 89 cents at Red Oak Fruit & Grocery.

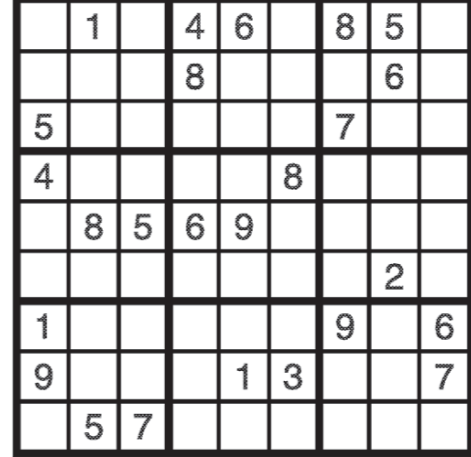
CROSSWORD - ANSWER ON PAGE



- ### CLUES ACROSS
- Midway between south and southeast
 - Fathers
 - Wine grape
 - Al Bundy's wife
 - Organic compound
 - Venezuelan state
 - Interest term
 - Experts
 - Central cores of stems
 - Smooth and glossy
 - One-time S. Korean city
 - One from Damascus
 - Short message at the end of an email
 - It cools your home
 - Oh, God!
 - Intestinal pouches
 - Men
 - Popular English soccer team (abbr.)
 - Former CIA
 - Arrange in steps
 - A baglike structure in a

- plant or animal
- The Great Lake State
- Dog-__: to mark a page
- Stop moving
- Ancient Dead Sea region
- Of I
- Clerical vestment
- Songs sung to a lover
- Charges
- Popular design program manufacturer
- Where to park a boat
- One who values reason
- Slang for cigarette
- Sailboats
- Actress Zellweger
- Screen material
- Country music legend Haggard
- Puts together in time
- When you hope to arrive
- For each one
- A bog
- The creation of beautiful or significant things
- Affirmative
- Pie __ mode
- Nonclerical
- Inspirational football player Hamlin
- Learning environment
- Khoikhoi peoples
- Bring out or develop
- Shows up
- Theatrical device
- Loads
- Popular Hollywood alien
- Distinguishes
- College dorm worker
- Secondary or explanatory title
- Resembling wings
- One who delivers a speech
- Loop with a running knot
- Airborne (abbr.)
- Beloveds
- Ordain
- Breed of small cattle
- Very small period of time (abbr.)
- Revolutions per minute
- They __
- Longtime ESPN anchor Bob
- A place to stay

SUDOKU



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!

ANSWER:

Red Oak FFA students take part in Iowa FFA Conference in Ames

On Sunday, April 16, 12 members of the Red Oak FFA Chapter drove up to Ames for the 2023 Iowa FFA State Leadership Conference.

On April 16, Conor Britten set up the chapter display. The chapter display was judged on April 17, receiving a bronze rating.

April 17 was also the Red Oak FFA Chapter's first day at the State Leadership Conference.

The members packaged food to be used in Meals For The Heartland for the first time that morning.

Following that, members

explored the career fair in the afternoon.

The Red Oak FFA also attended the FFA barbecue and fun night, where they got the chance to meet people from other chapters around the state.

Cloie Bruce and Harley Longnecker served as the chapter's delegates.

They were able to help with the selection of the new state officer team.

Abby Johnson also received a plaque recognizing her for serving on the nomination committee.

Cloie Bruce won a silver rat-

ing for her secretary's book on the state level. In addition to Cloie and Abby's awards, the Red Oak FFA Chapter also won an ambassador award with a silver rating.

April 18 was the second day of the Iowa FFA State Convention. Red Oak had four members receive their state degrees. Those members included Bella Glassel, Cloie Bruce, Stef Medina, and Lainey DeVries.

Ella Johnson performed in the state FFA choir during the second and fourth sessions for the second year in a row.



Red Oak FFA members attending the State Leadership Conference were, from left: AJ Beeson, Dillan Rydberg, Pace Challie, Casey Johnson, Conor Britten, Natalie Johnson, Addey Lydon, Ella Johnson, and Hailey Rydberg. Not pictured: Abby Johnson and Cloie Bruce. (Photo submitted)

Stronger the Press, Stronger the People

VIEWPOINTS

LETTER TO | THE EDITOR

Glassinger weighs in on local drag shows

To the Editor:

In response to the Viewpoints section of the defense of the drag shows. I am a 90+ year old Christ follower, born to glorify God.

Jesus was born of the virgin by the Holy Spirit of God, the son of the one and only true God, sinless, but willing to take

on the fleshly body to live and endure all the temptations of our flesh to become our salvation, being abused, defiled, spit upon by the political and religious leaders, hung on the Roman cross of torture, taking all our sins upon himself for our redemption, but not before he had presented the good news of the Gospel to God's chosen

people, the Jews, and including others along his way.

Teaching his disciples and giving the instructions to (Mathew 28:19) "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you, and lo,

I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen."

Yes, he arose from the grave and is alive today, sitting at the right hand of our heavenly father.

I am not interested in your shows, disagree with the LGBTQ and transgender groups. We all have the right to choose as yet; the freedom of speech to voice our choices in life.

I commend Mr. [Fuller] for his community involvement and for his, as well as Mr. Kelly, Jr., and Cherie Miller to use their right of free speech, and no, the New Testament does not explicitly tell us how to dress, etc., but it does warn of God's wrath in Romans 1:18-32. Mr. Kelly, Jr., and yes, Cherie, He is a God of love, love disciplines. However,

John 14:1-6 tells us of his promise of eternity.

I pray Mr. Kelly, Jr., did not pose a threat in the last paragraph of his letter.

Joanne Glassinger
Red Oak

Letters to the Editor

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

THE CORNER OFFICE | TESS NELSON

Goodbye to The Red Oak Express



I have never been one for pomp and circumstance. I tend to enjoy being backstage, watching and listening to those around me.

Don't get me wrong, I know how to put on a good show of being outgoing, but I'm happiest when it's just my closest confidants and me.

Leading The Red Oak Express and The Opinion-Tribune in Glenwood through a 500 year flood (March 2019), a pandemic (March 2020), and the sale of our company two times in a few months (June-September 2021), I have accepted a position elsewhere.

After being in the newspaper industry since 2005, I am getting out of the business. To be honest, I am looking forward to the change. However, I have no doubt there will be times I will miss it. I have been fortunate to meet so many wonderful people and do so many cool, unique things because of this career choice.

I would like to thank the citizens and business owners of Montgomery and Mills counties for their support over the past several years. I leave the paper in good hands. You will not find a more intelligent, dedicated group of professionals than my employees at the two entities. I will miss them greatly.

You'll still see me around; just not as much. I remain a member of the Red Oak Chamber & Industry Association and a Red Oak Ambassador member. If I didn't tell you personally I was leaving,

don't take it to heart, as I said before, balloons and confetti aren't my style.

In a couple weeks, you will find out where I have gone to and you'll understand my move.

Again, thanks for the memories. I can't help but think of the quote by A.A. Milne from The Complete Tales of Winnie-the-Pooh. "How lucky am I to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard."

Tess Nelson is the former general manager of The Red Oak Express and The Opinion-Tribune in Glenwood. She and her husband, Bryan, reside on a Century Farm near Bethesda with their son, Colt, 12, who is a sixth grader at Essex Community School.

THE TIME CAPSULE | ROY MARSHALL

Long live the Queen

In April, 1926, A.R. Tracy, a Red Oak banker, businessman, investor and president of the group of local stockholders who owned Red Oak Canning Company, was speaker at a meeting of the Rotary.

Following a fine dinner in the Johnson Hotel, with tables attractively decorated by floral arrangements and stacked pyramids of canned Red Oak corn, Tracy said the plant was packing about a million cans of corn each year.

When the sweet corn finished in late September they'd start canning pumpkins, which some farmers planted with their corn. Plans were to expand into tomatoes, hominy, catsup and pork and beans when growers were found to produce in the quantities needed.

The plant, on the west end of Coolbaugh, was established in 1902. Consisting of three buildings and about four acres, up to 90 workers were employed during harvest.

Tracy referred to field corn as being the "king of crops" in Montgomery County. "Sweet corn," he continued, "has the qualities of a queen in as much as sweet corn is more delicate, tenderhearted, loveable and sweet—these are the qualities of a good queen."

The variety that occupied the queen's throne was "Stowell's Evergreen." Nearly 1,000 acres were projected to be under contract, and Tracy was soliciting more.

Newspaper ads invited those interested in growing corn for his operation to contact the plant manager.

Contracts included all the "Stowell's Evergreen" seed needed, free of charge.

Prices paid for the crop varied from year to year (we find them ranging from \$8 to \$14 a ton), and the cannery also offered a bonus



and incentives.

All the farmer had to do was plant, cultivate, hand-pick and deliver.

\$8 to \$14 per ton may sound like very little. Consider, though, that \$14 then is about \$422 today.

Farmers normally produced from four to six tons per acre, which today would equal an income of up to \$2,500 per acre, and farmers still had the stalks for livestock.

Incentives varied, but an example was 1913 when the cannery gave cash awards based on yield. D.B. Carlyle of rural Red Oak, with five tons and 760 pounds per acre, received an additional \$3 (\$90 today) for each of the seven acres he raised.

Sweet corn was a lot of labor, planting dates were determined by the cannery, and delivery had to be in a timely manner. Expenses included horses and harness.

A new Blackhawk double row corn planter went for \$35 (\$1,000), and a cultivator might cost \$10 (\$300). There was, however, no purchased fertilizer, no diesel fuel, no herbicides and no charge for seeds.

The expansion Tracy anticipated was never completed, partly because operations at the plant were not as rosy as his speech.

Strikes temporarily shut down the cannery during at least two harvest seasons, as workers walked off demanding better pay (in 1926

the hourly wage for seasonal help was 35c, which is \$6 today.) There were also several injuries—a finger here, a fracture there—usually involving cutters that separated kernels from cobs, conveyors and other machinery not equipped with safety features common today.

Problems were encountered in getting vegetables in sufficient quantity, annual production of canned goods declined, and then came the Depression.

The final blow, it appears, was weather. A news item tells us the cannery contracted not just with farmers to produce corn, but also to deliver, canned corn. Losses were heavy when drought years in 1935 and '36 cut yields to almost nothing, and the cannery didn't open in 1937.

"Stowell's Evergreen," which the Red Oak Canning Company insisted on, is an open-pollinated variety with white kernels that was then the most popular variety in the country.

Still available from a few garden seed suppliers, I bought a packet a few years ago. It germinated and grew well, and most stalks had two good-looking ears. I can't offer insight regarding the taste, as my electric fence shorted out and racoons ravaged the "queen."

At one time Montgomery County farmers grew 1,000 acres of "Stowell's Evergreen," and it was planted in hundreds of area gardens. Is there anyone around who'll be raising the old heirloom this year?

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

DEADLINES

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

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Express

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WHO WE ARE

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Single copies are \$1.50 each and available at (in Red Oak unless speci-

fied): Red Oak Express; Casey's (Red Oak, Stanton, Villisca, Griswold); Cubby's; E-Stop (Emerson); Fareway; Hy-Vee; Hy-Vee Wine &

Spirits; United Farmers Cooperative. Single copy sales are also available from a coin rack in front of the Red Oak Express.

Community Calendar

11 May

9 a.m. - 7 p.m., Spa day at the Pudgy Pumpkin Patch Gift Shop, 512 N. 4th St. Call 623-8111 for more information.
12:30 p.m., Bingo, Red Oak Senior Center, 2700 N. 4th St. Call 712-623-3497 or Carolyn at 402-926-8683 for more information.

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

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

12 May

Red Oak Public Library, Popcorn Friday, all day.

10-11 a.m., Core 52 Bible study at the Red Oak Presbyterian Church, 511 E. Coolbaugh St.

4:30-7:30 p.m., PTO Carnival at Inman Elementary, 900 Inman Dr. See story on this page for further details.

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

7 p.m., "The School of Magical Animals 2," theatre #1; "John Wick Chapter 4," theatre #2; Red Oak Grand Theatre.

13 May

8 a.m. - noon, PYO flower sale at the Red Oak Early Childhood Center, 400 W. 2nd St., see story on this page for further details.

9-9:45 a.m. Sports Academy, T Ball, an introduction to different sports and activities to help promote good physical fitness habits and lifelong interest in sports and activities, Montgomery County Family YMCA, 101 E. Chary St.

7 p.m., "The School of Magical Animals 1," theatre #1; "John Wick Chapter 4," theatre #2; Red Oak Grand Theatre.

7 p.m., "Dearly Departed," Coming Opera House, 800 Davis Ave., Coming. Tickets \$13.

14 May

2 and 7 p.m., "The School of Magical Animals 2," theatre #1; "John Wick Chapter 4," theatre #2; Red Oak Grand Theatre.

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

15 May

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

5:30 p.m., Red Oak City Council meeting, Red Oak Fire station or via Zoom.

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

16 May

8:30 a.m., Montgomery County Supervisors, North Meeting Room in courthouse basement, open to public.

9-11 a.m., Intro to pickleball at the Montgomery County Family YMCA, 101 E. Cherry St. Equipment provided. Free for members of the YMCA, non members \$5 per session.

9 a.m. - noon, Free facial cancer screenings at Montgomery County Memorial Hospital, 2301 Eastern Ave., call 623-6708 to schedule an appointment.

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

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

2-3:30 p.m., Journeys Grief Support Group, Faith Community Church, 2701 N. 8th St.

17 May

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.



Prayer breakfast a success

Numerous residents from around the area woke up early to take part in the National Day of Prayer breakfast in Red Oak Thursday, May 4, at the Gold Fair Building. This was the 20th anniversary of the National Day of Prayer Breakfast in Red Oak. In addition to the breakfast, attendees also were able to enjoy a short program featuring music from "Reconciled." (Photo submitted)

Jail N' Bail assists Squadron of Heroes



The Southwest Iowa Squadron of Heroes had a successful Jail N' Bail fundraiser at the Red Oak Elks Lodge Friday, May 5. Pictured above is volunteer convict Brad Baker. Money raised to "bail" out the volunteer convicts was collected as a donation to the Squadron of Heroes. (Photo submitted)

MCMH offering free cancer screenings

Montgomery County Memorial Hospital is hosting free reveal imager facial scans as part of Cancer Awareness month. Scans will be available from 9 a.m. to noon May 16 and 23, and from 1 to 4 p.m. May 30. Call 623-6708 to schedule an appointment.

Happy Birthday!

Celebrating birthdays are:

- Geoff Gutha - May 12
- Steve Jones - May 12
- Darian Heideman - May 14
- Evan Vannausdle - May 14
- Ramona Sellers - May 16
- Zachary Thomas - May 16
- Pete Crawford - May 17
- Butch Neligh - May 17

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.

Neva Slump 90th Birthday

On a spring day in 1933, a baby girl was born as cute as could be.

A wife, mother, grandmother and friend to so many. Her love for life shines bright like a penny.

With her smile, she lights up the room. Her warmth and care, like a springtime bloom.

On May 22, she'll celebrate 90 amazing years, so let's fill her mailbox with birthday cheers!

Cards can be sent to Neva at 3003 N. 4th St., Red Oak, IA 51566.

Happy Anniversary!

Celebrating their anniversaries this week are:

Darin and Alicia Johnson - May 13
Tim and Kate Fridolph - May 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.

Two PTO events this weekend

The Red Oak Parent-Teacher Organization is holding two events this weekend.

From 4:30-7:30 p.m. Friday, May 12, the annual PTO Carnival will be held at Inman Elementary at 900 Inman Dr. Cost is \$10 per wristband for ages 4 and up. The event will feature raffles, games, food, prizes, and more.

On May 13 from 8 a.m. to noon, the PTO is holding a flower sale at the Red Oak Early Childhood Center, 400 W. 2nd St.

Senior Menu

Thursday, May 11: Hamburger patty on a bun, roasted red potatoes, baked beans, cherry gelatin, beverage mix.

Monday, May 15: Cheese omelette, hashbrown casserole, hot applesauce, cinnamon roll, orange juice, beverage mix.

Friday, May 12: Oven fried chicken with chicken gravy, corn casserole, peas, dinner roll, frosted coconut cake, beverage mix.

Tuesday, May 16: Shredded BBQ pork on a bun, scalloped potatoes, corn, fruited gelatin, beverage mix.

Wednesday, May 17: Chicken salad sandwich on white bread, pea salad, pasta salad, fresh fruit, beverage mix.

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

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., 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 Sylvester Okoh, Sunday Mass, 8:30 a.m. St. Mary's, 1510 Highland Ave., Red Oak, Father Lazarus Kirigia, Saturdays, 5 p.m. (1st, 3rd, 5th Saturday); Sunday, 10:30 a.m., in Spanish, 1 p.m.
- Christian**: First Christian, 1909 Summit St., Red Oak, Pastor AJ Baratta, PreKindergarten - Sunday School, 9:30-10:15 a.m., Fellowship, 10 a.m., Worship, 10:30 a.m. Online: 10:30 a.m. live on Facebook.
- Christian & Missionary Alliance**: Citylight Southwest Iowa, 705 Bradford, Emerson. Co-lead pastors Matt Keller, Tyler Mass. Worship with children's church, 10 a.m. in-person gathering. Online: 10 a.m. live on Facebook.
- Church Of Christ**: Church Of Christ, Elliott, Sunday Bible School, 9 a.m., Worship, 10 a.m., Men's and Women's Bible study and breakfast, first Sunday of the month at 7:30 a.m. River of Life Church, Hwy. 48 North, Red Oak, Interim Minister Kevin Berry, Sunday School 9 a.m., Worship, 10 a.m.
- Church Of The Nazarene**: Red Oak, 401 E. Prospect St., Rev. Lori Lathrop. Radio ministry, 8:30 a.m., worship with children's church at 10:30 a.m.
- Covenant**: Evangelical, Rev. Matt King, 308 Eastern, Stanton, Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:45 a.m. Online: 10:45 a.m. live on Facebook and later on Youtube.
- Jehovah's Witness**: 210 Argus Road, Shenandoah, Thursday, 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m., public Bible discourse.
- Lutheran**: Bethesda Lutheran, Rural Clarinda. Worship 9:30 a.m. Worship, Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Bethlehem Lutheran, 1101 Summit St., Red Oak, Rev. Jennifer Yeske-Drown, Sunday worship, 11 a.m. Strand Evangelical, Rural Villisca, Rev. Marietta Nelson-Bittle, Worship, 9:45 a.m. Fremont Lutheran (Nyman), 1147 Ironwood Ave, Red Oak, Pastor Ann Albert, Worship, 9:30 a.m., Sunday School, 10:30 a.m. Marnelund Lutheran, 410 Eastern Ave., Stanton. Worship, 10:30 a.m. Sunday School, 9:15 a.m. Online: 10:30 a.m. FMTC Cable Channel 1, also live on Facebook. Mt. Calvary, 107 S. 5th, Villisca, Je-rome Wagoner, Worship, 9:00 a.m. Tabor Lutheran, 1711 Q Ave., Stanton, Worship, 8:15 a.m., Sunday School, 9:15 a.m. Peace Lutheran, (A WELS Congregation), 411 Church St., Shenandoah, Saturday Worship, 5:30 p.m.; Bible and Sunday School, 6:30 p.m.
- Non-Denominational**: Oaks Community Church, 41310 Ellington Rd., Emerson, Rev. Ron Perry, 712-824-7218, Sunday School, 10 a.m., Worship, 11 a.m.
- Presbyterian**: Center Ridge, 1546 N. 110th St., Red Oak, Caryn Pedersen, Worship 1 p.m., two times a month. Call 623-9023 for more information. First Presbyterian, 109 S. 3rd Ave., Villisca, Rev. Sandra Wainwright, Sunday School, 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:30 a.m. Red Oak Presbyterian, 511 E. Coolbaugh, PO Box 402, Red Oak, Caryn Pedersen, redoakpresbyterianchurch.com. 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. Jennifer Van Nostrand, Worship, Sunday, 9 a.m.; Youth group Wednesday 6:30-8 p.m., grades 6-12, snack is served. Online: 9 a.m. fumcro.org; click on the media tab to see previously recorded services. Wesley Chapel UMC, Rev. Joni Hickey, M16 north off Hwy. 34 then west on Epperson. 624-8320. strahaniowachurch.org Worship, 8:30 a.m., Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
- United Church Of Christ**: First Congregational, 608 Reed St., Red Oak, Sunday Worship, 11:30 a.m. in the sanctuary with fellowship prior to the service at 10:30 a.m.. Rev. Holly Scherff, interim pastor.

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Cable Companies THURSDAY EVENING MAY 11, 2023. Table with columns for Cable Companies (A, B, C, D) and time slots (7 PM, 7:30, 8 PM, 8:30, 9 PM, 9:30, 10 PM, 10:30). Lists various TV shows and their corresponding channels.

Cable Companies FRIDAY EVENING MAY 12, 2023. Table with columns for Cable Companies (A, B, C, D) and time slots (7 PM, 7:30, 8 PM, 8:30, 9 PM, 9:30, 10 PM, 10:30). Lists various TV shows and their corresponding channels.

Cable Companies SATURDAY EVENING MAY 13, 2023. Table with columns for Cable Companies (A, B, C, D) and time slots (7 PM, 7:30, 8 PM, 8:30, 9 PM, 9:30, 10 PM, 10:30). Lists various TV shows and their corresponding channels.

Cable Companies SUNDAY EVENING MAY 14, 2023. Table with columns for Cable Companies (A, B, C, D) and time slots (7 PM, 7:30, 8 PM, 8:30, 9 PM, 9:30, 10 PM, 10:30). Lists various TV shows and their corresponding channels.

Cable Companies MONDAY EVENING MAY 15, 2023. Table with columns for Cable Companies (A, B, C, D) and time slots (7 PM, 7:30, 8 PM, 8:30, 9 PM, 9:30, 10 PM, 10:30). Lists various TV shows and their corresponding channels.

Cable Companies TUESDAY EVENING MAY 16, 2023. Table with columns for Cable Companies (A, B, C, D) and time slots (7 PM, 7:30, 8 PM, 8:30, 9 PM, 9:30, 10 PM, 10:30). Lists various TV shows and their corresponding channels.

Cable Companies WEDNESDAY EVENING MAY 17, 2023. Table with columns for Cable Companies (A, B, C, D) and time slots (7 PM, 7:30, 8 PM, 8:30, 9 PM, 9:30, 10 PM, 10:30). Lists various TV shows and their corresponding channels.

Montgomery County Public Health logo and text: 'FREE BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC'. Includes a list of dates and times for the clinic and contact information for Sumer Sandholm, RN.

Council hears financing options for potential Red Oak townhome project

Nick Johansen
The Red Oak Express

The Red Oak City Council heard options for potential funding towards the StudioOne Townhomes project, proposed just west of First Street on Woodland Hills.

The project would include 33 units in the first phase. The units would be one or two bedroom with a one car garage, and would create a transitional opportunity for young couples without children or an aging population, freeing up other homes in the community.

At the regular Red Oak Council meeting May 1, the council met with Chip Schultz, the managing director of public finance at Northland Securities of Des Moines. Schultz said he was there to outline a couple of options for the council to consider in regards to the project.

"The two main distinctions between the two approaches, based on discussions we've had with the developers are, assuming the developers fund the infrastructure projects up front. That is in a perfect world; however, if that approach is used, based on their feedback, it may position the townhome project to be at a pricing level that may not be as affordable as you'd like them to be," Schultz said. "The other alternative would be for the city to fund the infrastructure, while not having any sort of city debt service levy increase beyond what you currently have."

Schultz said if the developer funded public infrastructure during the construction period, the city's involvement was to work with the developer to "rebat" a portion of the property taxes, payable to the developer over time. The rebate would be proposed to occur through a tax increment financing rebate mechanism. The rebate would be based on the new housing property valuation derived from StudioOne townhomes.

"You're at 11 years with a typical Iowa market rate residential TIF rebate project. That can be lengthened to 16 years with the consent of the Red Oak School District, Montgomery County Supervisors, and Southwestern Community College. That may put the project in a position of being more financially viable and meeting the city's goal of more housing stock, if the city were to fund the infrastructure, but it's a big decision for the council," commented Schultz.

Taxes would be paid by the developer, as they would be maintaining the property as the owner. Schultz said he had traditionally worked for the city, and he was trying to bring the two sides together for discussion of the project. Schultz said he was approaching the project with sensitivity to property taxes.

"The city has a 2012 bond issue with a debt service of \$235,000 per year. The final payment of that is in 2025, and a 2018 general obligation bond issue with final payment in 2026. Most of those debt service payments are around \$340,000 per year. With those two debts being paid off, that opens up the capacity for funding future project without having a city debt service levy increase. That would be the goal if the city were to be of the mind to fund the infrastructure for this project," advised Schultz. "If the city had other core city street projects, those could be reviewed as part of the same bond issue, adamantly with the goal of not having a property tax levy increase."

With an assumed project valuation of \$6.5 million, the city would end up with around \$1.6 million of valuation available for an annual TIF rebate amount, which didn't give the city the flexibility Schultz wanted to see.



Chip Schultz outlines funding options to the members of the Red Oak City Council at the May 1 meeting. (Nick Johansen/The Red Oak Express)

If the city were to fund the public infrastructure during the construction period, Schultz said the city would be up fronting the public infrastructure costs through a general obligation bond issue.

Debt service on the bonds would be structured to take into account existing payments on general obligation debt of the city and would gradually be layered in as existing debt was paid off.

Red Oak Mayor Shawna Silvius said housing remained a primary goal of the city.

"This would be an opportunity to have market rate housing with hopefully no additional debt for the taxpayers, and expand our tax base," stated Silvius. "This project is a huge need. We heard that from our housing study."

Schultz added there was a broader sense of financial benefits beyond those that would come to the city.

"As more population moves into town, school enrollment goes up, increasing certified enrollment which brings in more operating budget for the district. More head count in town brings in more dollars for the county from a road use tax standpoint, and local option sales tax dollars as well. If the project proceeds, it does benefit the wider local government and school and not just the city," Schultz explained.

Schultz made it clear that he expected no decisions from the council, and would be presenting more concrete figures during the May 15 meeting, and present a set of scenarios that would fund whatever project deemed prudent to the city.

"The plans will be arranged, and then the city can simply evaluate whether or not to proceed with those various scenarios. Everything will be driven by the council's decision and whatever priorities they may have," said Schultz.

No other discussion on the financing took place at the meeting, and no action was taken.

Extensive digitization project completed at courthouse



Carleen Bruning, Recorder and Jill Ozuna, Auditor announce that Montgomery County has completed an extensive digitization project, placing thousands of records online. Montgomery County staff and the public now have secure, remote access to data and images any time and from any location — 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. Digitizing provides a valuable public service by providing convenient access to the information and ensures the county's valuable records are preserved and stored electronically in case of disaster.

The Montgomery County Auditor and Recorder worked in partnership with Cott Systems to scan and organize the Recorder's real estate records and the Auditor's real estate transfer books using Cott Systems' online index software. Records are now digitally available to view and print online at no cost.

The Recorder's real estate records are indexed by name, while the Auditor's real estate transfer books are indexed by legal description. With these search choices, county offices and the public will be able to successfully research property using either option.

The link os named Online Historical Records and can be found on the county website at montgomerycountya.gov.

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Norris says carbon pipeline is, 'gambling with public and environmental safety'

Nick Johansen
The Red Oak Express

Rural Red Oak resident Jan Norris shared an update with the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors at its regular meeting May 2.

Speaking during the public comment period, Norris said the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) would be holding public meetings in Des Moines May 31 and June 1.

"These meetings will have an online option. I encourage the supervisors to follow the important information that will be provided, but you must register online by May 12," Norris said. "The meetings are being held to help inform rule-making decisions. Discussion will include emergency response to a pipeline break, including needed equipment and training; dispersion modeling;

and safety measures such as leak detection, recordings, and more."

Norris said PHMSA announced a year ago it planned to strengthen carbon pipeline safety oversight following an investigation into a rupture in Mississippi.

"In that situation, they imposed a nearly \$4 million fine for violations, including inadequate modeling that neglected to show danger to the village," commented Norris.

Norris added California had already imposed a moratorium on carbon pipelines until new safeguards were established, conflicting with claims from Summit Carbon Solutions.

"As you may recall, Summit specifically cited California as a market for premium ethanol, which is looking more questionable every day."

Also, Norris said opponents have been concerned that increased safety requirements

could be too late, coming after the proposed pipelines were in the ground.

"Essentially, this is gambling with public and environmental safety. The regulatory overhaul will likely impact the siting, and therefore pose a risk to the safety of our community," commented Norris.

With that in mind, Norris felt having the supervisors pass a local ordinance was very important.

"I ask you again to please schedule the ordinance hearings and continue the process. The planning and zoning commission has done its job and approved the draft ordinance. The board of adjustment has discussed its concerns. The only hold up is putting it back on the agenda. Please continue the process and protect my neighborhood," stated Norris.

No further discussion on the pipeline took place.

Grilling causes garage fire at 308 E. Valley in Red Oak

Staff Report

Members of the Red Oak Fire Department were called to a garage fire at 308 E. Valley street in Red Oak Thursday, May 4.

Red Oak Fire Chief John Bruce said the structure fire was reported at 9:44 p.m. with fire department volunteers arriving a short time later, who reported the garage was fully engulfed.

The fire engine arrived at 9:48 p.m., reporting the back garage exterior wall was

fully engulfed, with a grill on fire as well.

Bruce said firefighters quickly knocked down the fire and all fire ground operations were terminated at 10:30 p.m.

He added there were no injuries to fire, rescue or law enforcement personnel or civilians.

Bruce said it appears the neighbor at 306 E Valley Ave., had started his grill, which was located directly behind the garage at 308 E Valley. The grill caught fire, extending to the exterior rear portion of the garage

located at 308 E. Valley.

"The west (rear) wall of the garage was completely destroyed and some interior items were damaged - the amount is unknown at this time," commented Bruce.

Assisting agencies included the Stanton Fire Department, Elliott Fire Department, the Red Oak Police Department, the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office (MCSO), and members of the MCSO Communications Center.

Josephson found guilty of assault



Josephson

On May 2, 42-year-old Michael Kirk Josephson was found guilty of the crime of assault, a simple misdemeanor, in Montgomery County Magistrate Court. The verdict was returned by a jury after a one-day trial and a little over 30 minutes of deliberations.

On October 13, 2022, Noah Roberts, Josephson's step-son, called law enforcement after he was assaulted in the Josephson home.

An investigation by the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office resulted in Josephson being charged with assault.

After the verdict was returned, Josephson was released on bond. Sentencing will be set at a future date.

Conviction of simple assault carries with it a sentence that could include up to 30 days in jail and a fine of \$855.

This case was investigated by members of the Montgomery

County Sheriff's Office, the Red Oak Police Department, and prosecuted by the members of the Page County Attorney's Office, who were appointed as special prosecutors.

Revisions coming to county employee handbook

Nick Johansen
The Red Oak Express

The Montgomery County Board of Supervisors has started the process of making revisions to its employee handbook.

At the regular Montgomery County Board of Supervisors meeting May 2, the supervisors reviewed some noted corrections to the handbook, including those submitted from county engineer Karen Albert. Ozuna said department heads had been notified but input was limited.

"I sent a notice to all the department heads telling them if they saw something in the handbook that needed changed to let me know. So far, Karen Albert is the only one that has submitted any changes," Ozuna said.

One question raised about the handbook was whether or not employees of other boards followed the stipulations of the employee handbook.

Montgomery County Public Health coordinator Samantha Beeson, who serves with the Montgomery County Public Health Board said they had policies that were in line with the county.

"Our policies can not be any more lenient than what the county has, we can only have a more strict policy. Most of our policies line up with the county, and we try to keep it as similar as we can, there are just a few things that are slightly different," Beeson said.

Ozuna confirmed that the other boards with separate policy had the same stipulations and could not be any more lenient in policy than what was put in place by the handbook.

Also under discussion was whether overtime should be changed from employee discretion to department head discre-

tion.

After further discussion, the supervisors were in agreement with making the change from allowing the employees to have discretion regarding overtime to having overtime be at the discretion of the department heads.

The supervisors also discussed vacation carry over days and the length of employee lunch breaks. Further details will be discussed at a future board of supervisors meeting.

One issue raised was whether to allow for the transfer of sick leave between employees.

Robinson said the transfer initially came about when an employee from a department was seriously injured, and other employees from that department transferred some of their own sick leave to help out. Olson felt it was very important.

"It's a big deal. It's been done at least two times in the secondary roads department since Karen Albert has been with us," Olson said. "I feel like we should leave it alone. When you talk to employees, that's huge. It's an insurance policy to them if they have a major issue and use all of their vacation or sick time. I'd hate to take that away from them."

Olson was of the opinion that it be left alone entirely. It was suggested that the hours donations be limited to vacation time only.

Ozuna wanted to add stipulations that donated sick time could not be used in conjunction with workman's compensation, a 100 hour cap of donated sick time, per person, over a three-year period, and no new sick time accrual if the employee was using accumulated sick time.

"Those are the three things I'd like added if we keep this in place. It will also help eliminate

abuse of the donation of sick time, and keep things fair for everyone," said Ozuna.

The supervisors were in agreement with the changes. Future handbook updates will be discussed at a future board of supervisors meeting.

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