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Tuesday | May 9th | 9:00 - 12:00 p.m.  
 Tuesday | May 16th | 9:00 - 12:00 p.m.  
 Tuesday | May 23rd | 9:00 - 12:00 p.m.  
 Tuesday | May 30th | 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Call 712.623.6708 to schedule your appointment.

**Memorial Day tribute**  
4B-6B

# THE RED OAK Express

**WEDNESDAY**  
 May 24, 2023  
 Red Oak, IA  
 Volume 156, No.21  
 redoakexpress.com

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**\$1.50**

## Bill Williams to speak at Memorial Day event

**Nick Johansen**  
The Red Oak Express

The community of Red Oak will honor the courage and loyalty of those in the armed forces who sacrificed their lives to keep America free.

The Montgomery County Veterans Memorial Court of Honor will present a Memorial Day program beginning at 10:45 a.m. May 29 at the southwest corner of the Evergreen Cemetery.

This year's guest speaker is Bill Williams, who, along with his wife, Evonne, formed Patriotic Productions in 2011 with the mission of honoring the military Gold Star families and to promote patriotism. While not veterans themselves, honoring those who are has been a highlight of Bill and Evonne's lives.

The Williams are also the co-organizers of the Honor Flights of Nebraska. Thanks to many generous donations, more than \$2 million in funding has been raised to organize 13 Honor Flights for 3,500 Nebraska veterans as well as a couple of dozen veterans from south-

west Iowa over the past 11 years. "There have been seven Honor Flights for World War II veterans, two flights for Korean War veterans, two flights for Vietnam veterans, one all-female flight and the final flight was for Purple Heart recipients from Iraq and Afghanistan. Two Red Oak men, Larry Barnett and Stan Pfeiffer, were on the Vietnam Combat Honor Flight June 6, 2016," Williams said

Williams added he and wife Evonne are the creators of the Remembering Our Fallen exhibits: photos of the fallen from Iraq and Afghanistan.

"The Iowa exhibit has been traveling the state since May 1, 2011, and has been seen by thousands. It will be on display at the Wilson Performing Arts Center on Sunday, May 28, for the concert by the Marine Band from New Orleans," commented Williams

The national Remembering Our Fallen Tribute Towers are 34 towers containing photos of 5,500 of the fallen in the War on Terror. There are two versions, both exactly the same.

**WILLIAMS, Page 10A**



Memorial Day guest speaker Bill Williams, right, and wife Evonne pose with former U.S. Sen. Bob Dole in Washington D.C. before the first World War II Honor Flight on May 21, 2008. Sen. Dole was a recipient of two Purple Hearts and the Bronze Star with V for Valor. Williams said Sen. Dole met all seven of the World War II Honor Flights at the World War II memorial and greeted them. (Photo submitted)

## Villisca Good Samaritan raising awareness for Alzheimer's

**Nick Johansen**  
The Red Oak Express

The Villisca Good Samaritan Society at 202 Central Ave. is hosting a special Alzheimer's Awareness event on Friday, May 26, from 4:30 to 7 p.m.

Melinda Shackelford, clinical care coordinator for the Villisca Good Samaritan Society, is coordinating the event. Shackelford said they chose to hold the event in May to allow for a special musical performance from singer Sarah Davison.

"Sarah Davison is from Nashville, Tenn. She's in the High Road Band, which is a

gospel group. Sarah said she was going to be in the area over Memorial Day weekend, so we're holding it Friday," Shackelford said.

Shackelford added, food will be provided by AseraCare Hospice, St. Croix Hospice, and Care Initiative Hospice.

"They're having a cookout with hamburgers, hot dogs, side salads, and cookies. There will be a lot of food, and a lot of people are contributing to that meal. The grilling will be done by the Mills-Montgomery Cattlemen," commented Shackelford. "In 2021, I coordinated the first Alzheimer's Awareness Event when I worked at Arlington



Sarah Davison

Place in Red Oak. It's just a great way to bring people together for a common cause. Sarah Davison performed at that event as well."

Shackelford felt it was **ALZHEIMER'S, Page 2A**



Mark Jackson is celebrating 40 years of serving as the general manager of Mark Jackson's Red Oak Hardware Hank and Hallmark Gold Crown Store. Jackson, pictured second from left, recently celebrated the anniversary with a K-Dog lunch May 6. Also pictured are, from left: Darryan Wright, Garret Connelly, Ron DeMarce, and Alan Olson. (Photo provided by Monica Blay)

## Jackson celebrates 40 years of serving Red Oak

**Nick Johansen**  
The Red Oak Express

A staple of Red Oak's downtown is celebrating a major milestone this month.

Red Oak Hardware Hank and Hallmark Cold Crown Store general manager Mark Jackson is celebrating 40 years of operation this year. A Business After Hours and a special K-Dog lunch were held at the store earlier this month.

Jackson said he arrived in

Red Oak on May 9, 1983. He was traveling from Kansas City, Mo., where he had been manager of a small junior department store. Jackson said he was looking for a change.

"I did not like running retail in the city. I had been transferred there as a promotion from a store at Chillicothe, Mo. I loved it there, and I did really well, so they wanted to promote me to the city, and I was miserable there for almost a year. Then a manager position at the then

True Value store became available. Prior to being a True Value, it had opened in the location as Thomsen-Bergren Hardware store in 1922." Jackson said. "My then mother and father-in-law bought the store, and at the time they owned Seckington Hardware Store in Creston, which at the time was the size our hardware store is now. The store over here was a single storefront where Vial Insurance

**JACKSON, Page 2A**

## Donation made to aid in opioid treatment and prevention



A check in the amount of \$89,360 was donated to Zion Integrated Behavioral Health Services on May 16. Per Resolution 23-11, passed by the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors on April 18, Zion agrees to receive the opioid funds to be used and accounted for opioid addiction prevention and treatment activities. Pictured are, from left: Supervisor Charla Schmid; Amanda Wahlert, certified prevention specialist with Zion Integrated Behavioral Health Services; and Montgomery County Sheriff Jon Spunaugle. Schmid, along with designated staff from Zion, will be attending the opioid Settlement Funds Strategic Planning Summit in Des Moines May 24-25 at the Embassy Suites by Hilton. For further information and locations visit zioniowa.org, call 855-581-8111, or email info@zioniowa.org. (Nick Johansen/The Red Oak Express)



## Journeys Grief Support Group

Journeys is a support group for anyone who has lost a loved one and provides a safe, supportive atmosphere to learn about and understand the grief process.

Sessions held Tuesday  
 May 23rd - June 27th  
 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.

Call Judi at (712) 623-7288  
 or email at juderi@mcmh.org.





JACKSON

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

is located right now.”

Jackson said when he first started running the hardware store at its old location, it was a tight fit.

“We had a downstairs basement where Toyland and the sporting goods were, and the upstairs was tightly-packed 14 feet to the ceiling, had 30 inch aisles, and it was tight. We had lots of stuff in there. While it was not a very big store, we did pretty good in there, and tried to offer as much as we could,” Jackson explained.

Around two and a half years after he took over as general manager, Jackson said he and his then-wife were given the opportunity to purchase the store.

“My in-laws decided they didn’t want to own two stores anymore, and said if we wanted to keep running the store, we needed to purchase it from them, so we did, and we did pretty well as the new owners,” stated Jackson.

A few years after that, Jackson said his then-wife decided she didn’t want to run the hardware store, nor was she enamored with Red Oak. After splitting, she kept the house and Jackson kept the hardware store and the building. Still, they remained supportive.

“She was very nice about giving me the building, and my ex-wife and former in-laws have always been very supportive of everything we’ve tried to do here, because they’re a family from Creston with a hardware background and they wanted to see us succeed, so around 1988 is when I became the sole owner of the store,” Jackson commented.

Jackson said he met his second wife, Ann Carder, when she was a customer at the store. After dating others for around a year in the early 1990s, the

two went out on a date themselves and hit it off as a couple. They’ve now been together for 33 years and married for the past 23 years, and Ann has also been supportive of the store.

“She’s always had her own careers over the years, but she’s always been a part of the business since we got together and has gone with me to the buying shows. While she hasn’t worked in the store directly, after she retired from being a pharmacist, she volunteers a lot, and still volunteers to help me by going to the buying shows with me,” Jackson said.

Additionally, Jackson’s daughter, Samantha, was raised in the hardware business and began working in the old store at the age of 8. Now her two daughters, Lily and Penny, 8 and 5 years old, help Grandpa in the store as the fifth generation.

Jackson said they didn’t get a chance to move to the current location at 315 E. Reed St. until 1998, when Randy and Angie Spangenburg decided they were going to get out of the clothing business and take on a new career.

“They were going to close their clothing business, and initially they tried to find someone to buy the business but were unable. After they ran a going-out-of-business sale, Randy and my wife Ann talked after Randy closed, and they talked me into the fact the location would work as a hardware store. I was convinced it wouldn’t, but they talked me into it. It’s one of the best things they ever talked me into. We operated in the prior location until April 1999, then we moved over here and reopened.”

Five years later, a restaurant next door closed, so Jackson purchased that building and expanded the location further. Five years after that, Amy

Johnson’s Hair Clinic, which was the building further to the west also closed, so that building was purchased as well, and the expansions continued.

“We spent over a year renovating it and turned it into part of the hardware store where the appliances are, plumbing, and our rental department. Six years ago, we decided to run a Hallmark Gold Crown Store, but we couldn’t at the time due to the stipulations to become one,” Jackson advised. At that time, Bergren Jewelry next door had closed, so we decided to buy the building, renovate it, and open a store similar to a Hallmark Gold Crown. Halfway through that renovation, the guidelines for having a Hallmark Gold Crown Store in rural communities like Red Oak were revised, and we were able to open an actual Hallmark Gold Crown Store. That was only available for three or five years, and doesn’t exist anymore, but because we signed up when we did, we have been allowed to continue and move forward, which we’re very thankful for. It’s worked out really well for us.”

The store was True Value when Jackson took it over and stayed as True Value for another 20 years after he took over. Jackson said they stayed with True Value for about five years after they opened a second location near Hy-Vee, but eventually Jackson felt it was time for a change.

“We looked around at a lot of different outfits, like Ace Hardware. The best fit for us in the Midwest seemed to be Hardware Hank. Their corporate name, United Hardware, supplies all the Hardware Hank stores. We signed the contract with Hardware Hank in November 2004, and the change officially took place at the end

of January 2005. That’s been one of the best things we’ve ever done. Over the past 18 years, we’ve expanded seven times, so it’s been very good for us, and United Hardware and Hardware Hank have been very supportive of everything we’re trying to do, and they’ve been very good to us,” advised Jackson.

Jackson said he’s also done everything he can to give back to the community whenever he can. Being a locally-owned business has given him the ability to do so.

“In the early days when we were trying to build up our business, we didn’t have as many resources, so my wife at the time and I volunteered a lot. Ann and her family have always been big on giving back to the community. When Ann and I became a couple, we have been trying to increase how we give back to the community as our resources got better,” Jackson said. “We feel that we owe a debt of gratitude to the community and our friends and neighbors who supported us, so why wouldn’t we be supporting all the things that are important to them? And the support isn’t limited to money. If anyone is running a fundraiser, we’re certainly come up with merchandise for a raffle or prize drawing. We are very appreciative that the community of Red Oak, Montgomery County, and the surrounding Southwest Iowa area have supported us.”

Jackson said the most rewarding part of his job now is the same as it was when he first started: people.

“When I first started in retail, I didn’t know why I liked it so much. Now that I’ve done it all this time I’ve had time to reflect on it a lot. What I’ve discovered is that I like people. I like being around people. This enables me to be around people and help

them. My wife and daughter mentioned that maybe I should think about retiring, but I love what I’m doing, and I plan on doing it for a lot longer. I don’t work as many hours in the store as I used to when I first started, but I’m still working full-time. I plan on doing it for another 40 years if I can, and with luck, I’ll be joined by the granddaughters down the road,” Jackson explained.

Jackson also expressed his

deep appreciation for all the support he’s gotten since he first started his tenure in Red Oak 40 years ago.

“The biggest thing I can say is thank you to our friends, neighbors, and customers past, present, and future, for supporting and appreciating what we do. Without all of them, we couldn’t have done any of this. We appreciate you from the bottom of our hearts.”

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ALZHEIMER'S

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

very important to highlight the issue of Alzheimer's and to get the word out.

“We’re not getting any younger, and it’s very prevalent. There still aren’t a lot of answers to how to cure it or to even treat it. This event will help raise money to give towards research to find the answer. My grandmother had it, so I felt the effects personally,” commented Shackelford. “While everyone has a chance to get it, sometimes you feel you have an increased chance. I’ve also taken care of several people who were very important to me that had dementia, which made the issue even more important to me.”

Following the May 26 event, Shackelford said she is hopeful she can host the events on an annual basis, and continue having Davison perform.

“I would love to. We’ll just see how it plays out and go from there. It won’t have a specific date, it will be based on Davison’s schedule and when she can perform,” stated Shackelford.

A free will offering will be accepted for the meal. A raffle will also be held with prizes donated by local businesses.

“Among the raffle prizes are tickets to the Henry Doorly Zoo, Top Golf, monthly memberships to the Montgomery County Family YMCA, and Lied Center passes in Clarinda. We’re getting a good variety of stuff. It’s a great opportunity to give back,” Shackelford commented.

All the funds raised will be donated to the Alzheimer’s

Association. Shackelford said she’s looking for some extra hands to help out.

“If anyone wants to volunteer, I need volunteers to help get set up, take down, serve food, and help with the raffle. Nobody is ever turned down who wants to provide assistance,” Shackelford said.

For more information or to

volunteer, call Shackelford at the Villisca Good Samaritan Society at 826-9592.

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## DENNIS "DENNY" REYNOLDS, 79

Dennis "Denny" Reynolds, 79, Elliott, passed away Wednesday, May 17, 2023, at the Montgomery County Memorial Hospital.

Denny was born June 29, 1943, in Red Oak, the son of Silas and Mable (Weston) Reynolds. He and his sister Pat were the first twins born at Murphy Memorial Hospital. Denny was raised in Elliott and graduated from Elliott High School in 1961. He worked for the County Engineer's Office before starting to farm. He also did concrete work over the years as well as operating Elliott Backhoe service.



He was united in marriage to Cheryl Jennings on July 20, 1963, in Lyman. Denny loved horses, especially "Kinzie" and "Dollar" and was a member of the River City Roundup and the Pony Express Riders. He was known to bring "Father Christmas" to Red Oak, many times with his horses. Denny was also a longtime member of the Red Oak Elks Lodge. His greatest joy came from attending all of his grandkids' and great-grandkids' events and buying lottery tickets.

Preceding him in death were his parents; wife, Cheryl Reynolds on May 25, 2022; siblings, Elmer, Gail, Ed, and Lyle Reynolds and Caroline Hicks. Survivors include his children, Tami Weirich of Griswold; Denny Reynolds and wife Sue of Griswold; Jeff Reynolds and wife Kellie of Red Oak; Lisa Mundorf and husband Greg of Glade Park, Colo.; and Michael Reynolds and wife Kristan of Molina, Colo.; grandchildren, Melissa Weirich of Griswold; Justin Weirich and wife Ashley of Council Bluffs; Sara Coley and husband Seth of Council Bluffs; Dakota Reynolds of Griswold; Keyla Wyman and husband JC of Griswold; Collins Reynolds of Red Oak; Chance Mundorf of Breckenridge, Colo.; and Ryder Mundorf of Glade Park, Colo.; great-grandchildren, Rhett, Brielle, Rawlins, Bode, Brystal, Brynli, and Riggins; brothers, Les Reynolds of Omaha, Neb.; and Butch Reynolds of Elliott; sisters, Pat Vestal and husband Charlie of Emerson, and Karen Milner of Elliott; sisters-in-law, Diane Hart of Omaha, Neb.; Pam Ayres and husband Rich of Red Oak; Mary Ann Reynolds of Omaha, Neb.; and Janis Reynolds of Omaha, Neb.; many nieces, nephews, and other relatives and friends including his trail riding buddy, Kevin Kendall of Leon.

Funeral services were held Monday, May 22, 2023, at the Church of Christ in Elliott. Burial was in the Hillside Cemetery at Elliott. Nelson-Boylan-LeRette Funeral Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

## KEVIN HALE, 53

Kevin L. Hale, 53, Red Oak, passed away on Friday, May 19, 2023, at the Montgomery County Memorial Hospital, Red Oak.

Kevin Hale, the son of Arthur Mervin Hale and Dorothy M. (McBride) Hale, was born May 22, 1969, in Red Oak. Kevin grew up in Red Oak, where he was a 1987 graduate of Red Oak High School. While in school, he was active playing football, tennis and baseball.



Following graduation, Kevin earned his business degree from Buena Vista University, Storm Lake. He moved back home to Red Oak and over his working career worked for D&L Company in Red Oak; Lozier, of Omaha, Neb.; Oakland Foods of Oakland; and for 15 years at NSK of Clarinda as a quality control engineer.

On Feb. 10, 2007, Kevin was united in marriage to Stephanie Thurman in Red Oak. Kevin dearly loved his family, traveling with Stephanie and taking family vacations together. Kevin's friends were also like family and he treasured going hunting, fishing, golfing and hanging out together. He enjoyed playing poker and hosted Monday night poker with a great group of guys. Kevin was also a devoted Pittsburgh Steelers fan, loved attending bass fishing tournaments and umpiring softball games. A true outdoorsman, Kevin was a member of Pheasants Forever, Ducks Unlimited, and served as a board member of the Montgomery County Shooting Club.

Kevin was preceded in death by his parents; and brother, Norman. Kevin is survived by his wife, Stephanie Hale of Red Oak; daughters, Marissa (Travis) Keifer of Grinnell, Erica Sherman of Des Moines, and Lauren Thurman of Omaha, Neb.; granddaughter, Braylen Payton; nieces, Mandy Knapp and Jennifer (Daniel) Wright; mother and stepfather-in-law, Terry and Patti Haley; and father-in-law, Richard Thurman; other relatives and many friends.

May God bless his memory and give strength to those who mourn. Funeral Service will be held Friday, May 26, 2023, at 10:30 a.m. at First United Methodist Church, Red Oak. Burial will be in Evergreen Cemetery, Red Oak. Pastor Jennifer Van Nostrand will officiate.

Visitation with the family will be held at the First United Methodist Church, Red Oak, on Thursday, May 25, from 5 to 7 p.m.

Memorials may be given in Kevin's name to the family for future designation. Remembrances and condolences may be shared with the family at [sldfuneralhome.com](http://sldfuneralhome.com). Sellergren-Lindell-DeMarce Funeral Home is in charge of Kevin's arrangements and serving his family.

## MILES RUSSELL, 68

Miles Russell, 68, Red Oak, passed away Sunday, May 21, 2023. Services are pending with Sellergren-Lindell-DeMarce Funeral Home.

## DOLORES FORT, 94

Dolores Fort, 94, Council Bluffs, formerly of Red Oak, passed away Sunday, May 21, 2023, at Fox Assisted Living, Council Bluffs. Services are pending with Sellergren-Lindell-DeMarce Funeral Home.



## Deadline for obituaries is 9 a.m. Monday.



## 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](http://iowacourts.state.ia.us).

### REAL ESTATE

#### WARRANTY DEED

- Beth, Elizabeth and Scott Peterson to Dustin Nepper, 1-73-38 Lt 11.
- Ann Carder and Mark Jackson to Steven and Ava Huddle, 21-72-38.
- Bridgette Maynes to Julian and Yessica Rodriguez, Red Oak Eastern Slopes V Lt 50-51.
- Larry and Jean Anderson to Donald and Barbara Wolfe, 34-72-39 Parcel A.
- Shirley Kingery to Larry Abraham, Red Oak Oakview SD Lt 6.

#### QUIT CLAIM DEED

- Kelly Cave to Olivia Kruse, Red Oak Railroad Addition Blk 26 Lt 5.
- Alexandra Ravitskiy to Yelizar Ravitskiy, 4-71-37 Lt 1 Lt 1.

#### SHERIFF'S DEED

- Rodney DeVries, Jon Spuangle, Sheriff and Montgomery

County Sheriff to Donna DeVries, 1-73-38, Elliott Original Plat Blk 16 Lt 1,4.

### MORTGAGE

- Justin and Paige Rush to Farm Service Agency and United States Department of Agriculture, 4-73-36.
- Yessica and Julian Rodriguez to Mortgage Electronic Registrar Systems Inc., MERS, and Guild Mortgage Company LLC, Red Oak Eastern Slopes V Lt 50-51.
- Paulette Wasson to Southwest Iowa Housing Trust Fund, Villisca Stoddard Addition Lt 36.

### MOD/AMENDMENT OF MORTGAGE

- Trevor McAlpin to Houghton State Bank, modification, Red Oak Northeastern Addition Blk 6 Lt 10 Bishops SD OLT 6.

### SMALL CLAIMS

- DJR Investments Inc. vs. Steve Adams, Red Oak; Orion Hodges, Oakland, Parties in Possession, Red Oak; and Santa's Children Christmas Village, Oakland; dismissed with prejudice.
- Margie Cunningham vs. Ronald Hall, Red Oak, judgment in favor of the plaintiff, forcible entry.
- LVNV Funding LLC vs. Dulcie Koch, Villisca, dismissed without prejudice.
- United Farmers Cooperative vs. Vince Abraham, Villisca, dismissed without prejudice.

### ARRESTS

- Filed May 16, Cody Copeland, 29, Red Oak, warrant for

failure to appear, \$25,000 bond.

- Filed May 16, Hailey Fada, 25, Red Oak, OWI first offense, \$1,000 bond.
- Filed May 16, Elysia White, 40, Red Oak, theft fifth degree, \$300 bond.
- Filed May 16, John Gekas, 56, Omaha, Neb., Ida County warrant for contempt of court, \$300 bond.
- Filed May 19, Linda Becerra, 67, Red Oak, driving under suspension, \$491.25 cash bond.
- Filed May 19, Patricia Hartigan, 68, Papillion, Neb., possession of drug paraphernalia.
- Filed May 19, Kiley Caron, 33, Red Oak, driving under suspension, \$491.25 cash bond.
- Filed May 20, Sarah Reaf-leng, 36, Red Oak, Adams County warrants for possession of controlled substance - marijuana, child endangerment three counts, failure to appear, \$1,000 bond.
- Filed May 20, Jerry Dawson, 49, Red Oak, violation of parole, held on no bond.
- Filed May 21, Corey Gloden, 31, Ft. Myers Beach, Fla., possession of controlled substance - marijuana first offense, \$1,000 cash bond.
- Filed May 22, Alanna Minton, 23, Omaha, Neb., possession of controlled substance - marijuana first offense, \$1,000 bond.

### DISMISSED

- Kaiden Schooling, 18, Red Oak, disorderly conduct - fighting or violent behavior, dismissed; assault, dismissed.

### CRIMINAL

- Felony, State of Iowa vs. Joseph Bartlett, 44, Red Oak, pro-

hibition violation, pled guilty, original sentence imposed.

- Simple misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Michael Josephson, Red Oak, domestic abuse assault first offense, two days jail, time served, \$500 fine.
- Simple misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Kaiden Schooling, 18, Red Oak, public intoxication, pled guilty, \$105 fine; assault, \$105 fine; possession of drug paraphernalia, \$105 fine.
- Simple misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Noah Groves, 22, Red Oak, assault, pled guilty, \$105 fine.

### TRAFFIC

- Gabrielle Mueller, Smithville, Mo., speeding.
- Paige Geer, Clarinda, speeding.
- Thomas Anderson, Red Oak, no valid driver's license, failure to provide proof of financial liability.
- Benjamin Brockway, Springfield, Ill., registration violation.
- Tori Bergerson, Red Oak, no valid driver's license.
- Daniel Lajko, Red Oak, speeding.
- Angela Conant, Bellevue, Neb., speeding.
- Sarah Hughes, Omaha, Neb., speeding.
- Trever Beller, Council Bluffs, speeding.
- Monica Gannon, Atlantic, speeding.
- Samson Mouser, Atlantic, speeding.
- Markus Johnson, Red Oak, passing contrary to highway sign or marking.
- Joseph Meyer, Maryville, Mo., speeding.

### ACCIDENTS

- On May 16, at 2:30 p.m., Red Oak Police officers investigated a two-vehicle accident in the 1400 block of Eastern Avenue. Hailey Fada, 25, Red Oak, driving a 2017 Chevy Malibu, struck a legally parked 2011 Ford F250 owned by Charles Shipley, Red

Oak. Damage to the Fada vehicle was about \$4,000, and damage to the Shipley vehicle was about \$3,500. Fada was cited for OWI first offense and failure to maintain control of a motor vehicle, and was held on \$1,000 bond.

## SUDOKU

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	7		6	8				
	2							3
3		6		4		2		5
5	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!

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

ANSWER:

## WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to building.

A H M R E M

--	--	--	--	--	--

Answer: Hammer

## WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to vision.

S A H L

--	--	--	--

Answer: Lash

## WORD SCRAMBLE

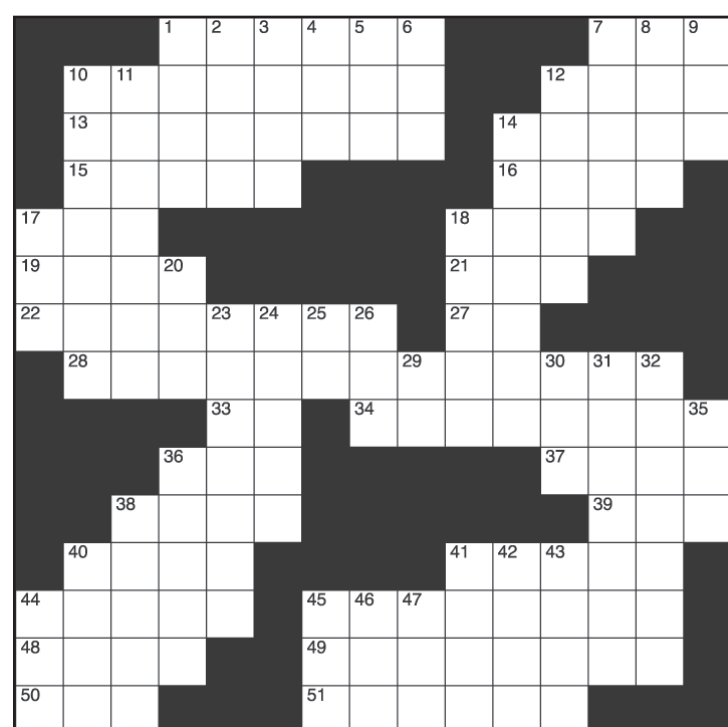
Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to salad.

Y C E R L E

--	--	--	--	--	--

Answer: Celery

## CROSSWORD - ANSWER ON PAGE 8B



### CLUES ACROSS

- Wear away by friction
- Insecticide
- Elicited a secret vote
- Beef
- Disagreement
- \_\_\_ Crawford, supermodel
- Jeweled headdress
- Digits
- Trillion hertz
- Snap up
- Classical portico
- Residue after burning
- Large integers
- Free agent
- Where ballplayers work
- Blood type
- Scottish city
- Google certification (abbr.)

### CLUES DOWN

- Nonflowering aquatic plant
- Britpop rockers
- National capital
- Consumed
- The habitat of wild animals
- Serbian monetary unit
- Make a sudden surprise attack on
- Wood or metal bolt
- Relaxing attire
- Famed neurologist
- Dullish brown fabrics
- Member of ancient Jewish sect
- Griffith, Rooney
- Lawmakers
- Government lawyers
- The arch of the foot

- Sun up in New York
- Cygnus star
- Male parents
- Talk to you (abbr.)
- A place to clean oneself
- Southwestern US state
- South Korean idol singer
- Pirate
- Pituitary hormone (abbr.)
- Mistake
- Promotions
- Prepares
- Partner to flowed
- State lawyer
- Patti Hearst's captors
- Pound
- Electronic data pro-

- Sports player
- Treats with contempt
- Apprehend
- Excessively talkative
- Highways
- Ribosomal ribonucleic acid
- College organization for males
- Any customary observance or practice
- Employee stock ownership plan
- Male parent
- The 23rd letter of the Greek alphabet
- Female bird
- Autonomic nervous system



## Southwest Iowa Education Foundation awards multiple scholarships



The Southwest Iowa Education Foundation held a scholarship breakfast May 17 at Iowa Western Community College in Council Bluffs. Several area students were awarded scholarships during the breakfast. Pictured are, from left: Red Oak senior Sam Fields, who was awarded the Eddie Lee Memorial Scholarship, Griswold Senior Trista Swain, who was awarded the Adam Cline Memorial Scholarship, and Griswold Senior Makenna Askeland, who received the Witt Memorial Scholarship. Not pictured are Red Oak Senior Lainey DeVries, who was awarded a Barbara J. Green Memorial Scholarship, and Southwest Valley Senior Rebecca Wetzel, who was awarded the Martha D. Winum Memorial Scholarship. (Photos submitted)



### Abigail Burke honored

Stanton Senior Abigail Burke was recognized by Gov. Kim Reynolds and Lt. Governor Adam Gregg for outstanding academic achievement at the 21st Annual Governor's Scholar Recognition Ceremony on April 30 at the Iowa Events Center in Des Moines. Each high school was invited to select a senior student with the highest academic ranking, based on grade point average for their first seven semesters. (Photo submitted)

### Buena Vista spring dean's list

Buena Vista University congratulated more than 550 students who were named to the spring 2023 dean's list. The Dean's List recognizes full-time students achieving a 3.5-grade point average or higher for the semester. Among the area students named to the list for the spring, 2023 semester were Angel Girouex, Red Oak; Camryn McClintock, Essex; and Abby Parris, Macedonia.

### Peterson graduates from Central

Tyler Peterson, Emerson, was one of 222 students who were recent graduates of Central College. Peterson and the other graduates were celebrated during commencement 2023 on Saturday, May 13, in the P.H. Kuyper Gymnasium. Peterson earned a bachelor's degree, majoring in Kinesiology.

## Stronger the Press, Stronger the People

# VIEWPOINTS

THE TIME CAPSULE | ROY MARSHALL

### A barnstormer's funeral

On a pleasant afternoon 90 years ago area residents looked up to see a squadron of 11 airplanes enter Montgomery from the west. Flying in formation at about 2,000 feet, the planes were different types and colors, some bi-wing, none of them looking like anything in the air today.

After passing over Emerson and Red Oak, the squadron went into a holding pattern about five miles northeast of Stanton. They circled, maintaining formation as one plane at a time dropped out and glided to a landing in a bluegrass pasture.

The pilot of a larger plane carrying perhaps a dozen passengers saw lighter models bounce across a farm field, then decided to watch services from above.

Airplanes on the ground taxied into position, forming a line along the east edge of Arlington Cemetery, wing-tip to wing-tip, facing the open grave of Clifford Burnham and the large congregation gathered there for his last rites.

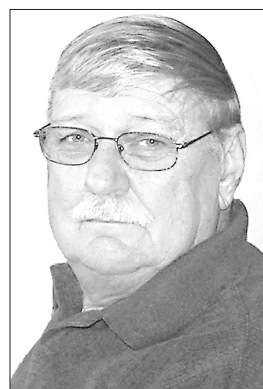
Burnham, youngest of nine children, was born in 1898 on a farm north of Villisca (near Arlington). After high school he joined Company F of the National Guard and, according to his obituary, spent 18 months in France during World War I.

Through much of 1918 he was in front-line, trench warfare. There he suffered severe shrapnel wounds and spent several months in an Army hospital.

From the trenches he saw airplanes overhead and, like many others, promised that if he lived through this he would fly.

Burnham returned to Villisca and teamed with an older brother, Arlie. They each purchased an airplane, became proficient, and offered lessons.

The brothers relocated and partnered with a pilot named "Dutch" Miller to offer charter flights and training at what was then the



Omaha airport.

Clifford was married in 1927 to Vada Willey. At the time of his death he was 35, had a home in Council Bluffs and two children; a daughter, 5, and a son, 8 months.

The Burnhams probably did barnstorming before the Depression, but with a sour economy the demand for charters and lessons diminished. Flying more stunt shows helped pay the bills.

Sept. 3, 1933, was a Sunday. Arlie scheduled an air show in Nebraska; Clifford signed up for one at the fairgrounds in Greenfield.

He'd be flying the MonoPrep, a fast, high-wing, open-cockpit plane manufactured in the late 1920s. Due to the stressful maneuvers of stunts, wings for this one were reinforced with cables.

Although the Burnhams were in a dangerous business, news articles about Clifford say he was a safe pilot, had over 4,000 hours flight time, knew his aircraft and was satisfied the one he'd take to Greenfield was up to the task.

One of his stunts that day was to fly over the crowd while the plane was upside down. As he approached the grandstands at 1,300 feet he opened the throttle and rolled.

The feat went well for a few moments, then a wing snapped and the MonoPrep spun out of control.

Burnham was wearing a parachute and quick-release seat belts, but spectators with a view told reporters he made no apparent effort to free himself during a spiral dive into a corn field.

Because of this and the fact that MonoPlane wings were directly

above the cockpit, it was believed the wing struck him and he lost consciousness.

Services were held in Omaha, after which six of the approximately 200 pilots who learned to fly from Burnham carried his coffin to a hearse that led the funeral cortege to Arlington Cemetery. There his pall bearers were former members of Company F, men who had served with him in France.

About seven years ago I checked in for a flight out of Eppley and learned we were on a two-hour delay. I spent most of that time browsing a row of enlarged photographs mounted on the walls of the second floor corridor between the north and south gate terminals.

Some pictures were of early aircraft and their pilots. One was of a modest building with a few 1920-era automobiles parked out front. The building was brick. Mounted on the roof was a sign reading "Burnham-Miller Flying Service—Lessons \$2."

I knew something of Burnham's death, but not the details, and decided that as Memorial Day approached I'd visit Villisca's library, do some reading, then stop by Arlington Cemetery and pay my respects.

In the cemetery are several markers for Burnham family members, but not Clifford. Eventually I learned that as time passed his widow became unsatisfied with the location. She had the body exhumed and reburied in an Omaha cemetery.

It's easy to stand in Arlington and imagine those colorful airplanes of the 1920s bouncing to a landing in an adjoining farm field. We doubt Burnham's second graveside service was as impressive as the first.

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

### 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.

#### 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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# THE RED OAK Express

Dedicated to Freedom Since 1868

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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

25 May

Five One 8: closed.  
10:30 a.m., Home Health 101 seminar at the Red Oak Senior Center, 204 S. Broadway. Refreshments provided.

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.

4-6:30 p.m., Red Oak Farmers Market, northeast corner of Fountain Square Park. Everyone welcome to attend.

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

26 May

Five One 8: closed.  
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.

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

7 p.m., "Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3," theatre #1; "The Super Mario Bros. Movie," theatre #2; Red Oak Grand Theatre.

27 May

Five One 8: closed.  
9 a.m.-noon, Red Oak Farmers Market, northeast corner of Fountain Square Park.

7 p.m., "Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3," theatre #1; "The Super Mario Bros. Movie," theatre #2; Red Oak Grand Theatre.

28 May

2 p.m., The Marine Forces Reserve Band, free concert at the Wilson Performing Arts Center, 300 Commerce Dr. Call 623-3183 or visit wilsonartscenter.org to reserve tickets.

2 and 7 p.m., "Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3," theatre #1; "The Super Mario Bros. Movie," theatre #2; Red Oak Grand Theatre.

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

29 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.

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

30 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.

31 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.

Griswold Tuesday Music Club celebrates 100 years

The Tuesday Music Club celebrated the 100th anniversary of its founding with a Special Program and Guest Day held on April 4, 2023 at the Central Church of Christ, with over 60 attending.

President Robin Drake gave the welcome and Secretary Elsa Casey called the roll with 21 members introducing their guests. Treasurer Nancy Lynch gave recognition to the eight former members who were present and the year they joined. These included Peggy King (1970), Nancy Potter (1976), Cindy Nichols (1979), Ceal Schwartz (1980), Sharol Steinbeck (1980), Kathy Govig (1986), Pat McCauley (2003), and Judy Duhn (2012). Dignitaries attending were Brad Rhine, Griswold Mayor; Megan Harding, Griswold Public Library; Sheryl Owen, Griswold City Manager; Carol Smith, Our Lady of Grace

Music Leader; and Donna Forsythe, editor Griswold American.

Vice president Michelle Hartfield recognized members attending according to the decade they joined. Lila Hoogveen, Robin Drake, and Jessica Jacobsen presented the club history. One hundred years ago in March of 1923, Mrs. Fred (Stella) DeWitt and Mrs. H.D. (Dora) Turner met at the home of Mrs. Turner to discuss their desire of forming a musical study group in Griswold. As a result of this meeting, the club was founded on March 20, 1923. The first officers were: President, Mrs. Fred DeWitt; Vice president, Mrs. C.S. Tompkins; Recording Secretary, Mrs. F.N. Hopson; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Cecil Grennell; and Treasurer, Mrs. H.D. Turner. There were 21 charter members. The club motto is "Let us make good music popular and popular

music good." The purpose of the Tuesday Music Club is to foster and promote music and interest in music and to encourage an appreciation of good music in the home and community. Club colors are yellow and white, and the club flower is the daffodil. From 1923 to 1942, the club met in members' homes twice a month on the second and fourth Tuesdays, but since 1942, it meets on the first Tuesday of each month from September through May.

The Archive Table in the Family Life Center displayed new scrapbooks which contain all 100 club program books in addition to photos and newspaper clippings. Also displayed were sheet music from 100 years, names of all past presidents, and a list of the 183 members throughout the years. For many years the club gave eighth-grade honor awards during the

eighth-grade recognition day. On display was the trophy awarded to Shirley Bees Drake in 1950.

Committees for the celebration included: Guest Book and Greeter-Laura Amos; Invitations-Jan Brown, Michelle Hartfield, Nancy Lynch, Linda Parker; Decorations-Donna Reimers, Eileen Denne, Doris Rieken, Cathy Vannausdele; Program-Lila Hoogveen, Robin Drake, Jessica Jacobsen; Food-Shirley Bierbaum, Fern Lindvall, Pat Barnes, Carolyn Sindt; Publicity-Sandy Kneisel, Donna Perdue. Archive-Linda Parker, Donna Perdue, Nancy Lynch, Laura Amos.

The Tuesday Music Club 100th Anniversary program was recorded and can be seen at this link:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1XgiVzLhWQZNsjkMhOq0hXBAh4dR9HnO5/view>

Numerous area communities hosting Memorial Day ceremonies May 29

Multiple communities are hosting Memorial Day ceremonies May 29.

In Red Oak, the Memorial Day ceremony begins at 10:45 a.m. at Evergreen Cemetery. In the case of inclement weather, the ceremony will be held at the Red Oak Jr./Sr. High School gym.

Stanton's Memorial Day ceremony will be at 10 a.m. at Stanton High School.

The Memorial Day ceremony in Villisca is 10 a.m. at the Villisca Cemetery. In case of inclement weather, the ceremony will be moved to the Villisca gymnasium.

In Grant, a Memorial Day ceremony will be held at 11 a.m. at the Grant Cemetery. Following the ceremony, the Grant United Methodist Church will hold its Memorial Day dinner from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. with

a free-will offering. All money raised supports the Grant United Women in Faith and their work for mission projects and the Grant church.

Memorial Day services will be held at the Gomer Cemetery at 10 a.m. The cemetery is located one mile east of Wales.

Essex will hold a Memorial Day ceremony at 11 a.m. at the Essex Cemetery. A coffee event will take place at 9:30 a.m. at

Memorial Park.

The Memorial Day ceremony in Emerson will take place at noon at the Emerson Cemetery.

The 142 Memorial Day service and annual meeting of the association is scheduled for 3 p.m. at the Walnut Cemetery in West Township. Guests are reminded to bring lawn chairs.

Finally, a Memorial Day ceremony will take place at 10 a.m. at the Nodaway Cemetery.

Happy Anniversary!

Celebrating their anniversaries this week are:

- Jim and Terri Hoskinson (religious) – May 26
- David and Shirley Slem – May 28
- Ron and Denise Mardesen – May 28
- Mitch and Sonia Kunze – May 31

Congratulations and happy anniversary to you!

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

Open House/Card Shower



ROSSANDER 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Harold and LaDonna Rossander will celebrate their 50th anniversary on June 11.

In honor of the occasion, the family is hosting an open house

from 1:30 to 3:30 pm June 11 at the Stanton Fire Station

If unable to attend, send cards to the couple at 2915 220th St, Stanton, IA 51573.

Senior Menu

Thursday, May 25: Pork ragu with rigatoni noodles, cooked zucchini, garlic bread stick, hot sliced apples, beverage mix.

Friday, May 26: Pulled BBQ pork on a hamburger bun, corn, baked beans, brownie with choco-

late frosting, beverage mix.

Monday, May 29: Closed in observance of Memorial Day.

Tuesday, May 30: Country fried steak with country gravy, whipped potatoes, green beans, multi-grain bread slice, baked

cookie, beverage mix.

Wednesday, May 31: Cherry almond salad with ranch dressing, marinated carrots, saltine crackers, brownie, beverage mix.

For more information, call the Senior Center at 623-3497 or Car-

olyn at 402-926-8683.

Please call for reservations by 9:30 a.m. the day before you plan to eat lunch.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Advent Christian

300 S. 2nd Ave., Villisca, Rev. Jeff Eason, Sunday School, 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:30 a.m., Celebrate Recovery, Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.

Assembly Of God

1005 Senate, Red Oak, 623-2174, Services, 10:30 a.m.

Baptist

The Bridge (First Baptist Church), 406 N. 3rd St., Red Oak, Rev. Len Taylor, Worship, 11 a.m.

Grace Baptist, 1510 N. 6th St., Red Oak, Gary D. Walters, Bible class, 10 a.m., Worship, 11 a.m., Wednesday, Prayer, 7 p.m. Grace Baptist, 525 Main St., Griswold, Victor Maxson, Bible study, 10 a.m., Worship, 11 a.m. Online: 11 a.m. livestream.

Southern Baptist

Crossroads Community Church, 303 E. Oak St., use the alley entrance, Rev. Ricky Rohrig, Sr., Celebration Services with Kids' Church, 9:23 a.m., Wednesdays in the Word, live on Facebook, 6:30 p.m. 712-357-1060, [crossroadsredoak.com](http://crossroadsredoak.com). Online: 9:45 a.m. approx. live on Facebook.

Catholic

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

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

Christian

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

Christian & Missionary Alliance

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

Faith Community, 2701 N. 8th St., Red Oak, Pastor Dan Wetzel, Associate Pastor Stephen Beaulier, Worship, 9:30 a.m. Connection Classes for pre-kindergarten-adults, 11 a.m., Wednesday activities: Faith Kids, Pre-K grade 4, 6-7:30 p.m. Faith Midpoint, grades 5-6, 6-7:30 p.m. Faith Youth, grades 7-12, 7-8:30 p.m. Online: 9:30 a.m. on KCSI, 9:30 a.m. on Facebook.

Church Of Christ

Church Of Christ, Elliott, Sunday Bible School, 9 a.m., Worship, 10 a.m., Men's and Women's Bible study and breakfast, first Sunday of the month at 7:30 a.m. River of Life Church, Hwy. 48 North, Red Oak, Interim Minister Kevin Berry, Sunday School 9 a.m., Worship, 10 a.m.

Church Of the Nazarene

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

Covenant

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

Faith Covenant Church, 212 Alice St., Essex, Pastor Gordon Scott, Pastor Staci Shearer, Worship, 8:30 a.m.

First Covenant, Rev. Alan Dean, pastor, 3rd & Hammond, Red Oak, Worship, 9:30 a.m.

Lutheran

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

Bethlehem Lutheran, 1101 Summit St., Red Oak, Rev. Jennifer Yeske-Drown, Sunday worship, 11 a.m. Strand Evangelical, Rural Villisca, Rev. Marietta Nelson-Bittle, Worship, 9:45 a.m.

Fremont Lutheran (Nyman), 1147 Ironwood Ave, Red Oak, Pastor Ann Albert, Worship, 9:30 a.m., Sunday School, 10:30 a.m.

Mamrelund Lutheran, 410 Eastern Ave., Stanton. Worship, 10:30 a.m. Sunday School, 9:15 a.m. Online: 10:30 a.m. FMTC Cable Channel 1, also live on Facebook.

Mt. Calvary, 107 S. 5th, Villisca, Jerome Wagoner, Worship, 9:00 a.m. Tabor Lutheran, 1711 Q Ave., Stanton, Worship, 8:15 a.m., Sunday School, 9:15 a.m. Peace Lutheran, (A WELS Congregation), 411 Church St., Shenandoah, Saturday Worship, 5:30 p.m.; Bible and Sunday School, 6:30 p.m.

Non-Denominational

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

Presbyterian

Center Ridge, 1546 N. 110th St., Red Oak, Caryn Pedersen, Worship 1 p.m., two times a month. Call 623-9023 for more information.

First Presbyterian, 109 S. 3rd Ave., Villisca, Rev. Sandra Wainwright, Sunday School, 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:30 a.m.

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

Reformed Evangelical

Heartland Sovereign Grace Church, new church plant. Bible study Sunday, 5 p.m., [www.swiacrec.com](http://www.swiacrec.com), contact@swiacrec.com.

United Methodist

First United Methodist, 600 E. Hammond, Red Oak, Rev. Jennifer Van Nostrand, Worship, Sunday, 9 a.m.; Youth group Wednesday 6:30-8 p.m., grades 6-12, snack is served. Online: 9 a.m. [fumcro.org](http://fumcro.org); click on the media tab to see previously recorded services.

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

Red Oak Circuit, Linda Westerhold; Hawthorne, 1248 210th St., Red Oak, Worship, 10 a.m.; Stratton, 1695 150th St., Red Oak, Worship, 11:15 a.m. Online: 11:15 a.m. live on Facebook.

Elliott United Methodist, Rev. Terry McClain, Sunday School, 9 a.m., Worship, 10 a.m. Online: 10 a.m. live on Facebook.

Emerson United Methodist Church, Rev. Denise Stevens, 801 Bradford Ave., Emerson, (712) 824-7368, Sunday School, 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:30 a.m.

Grant United Methodist, Pastor Casey Pelzer, Worship services, 8:30 a.m. Online: 8:30 a.m. live on Facebook

United Methodist, 203 S. 3rd Ave., Villisca, Pastor Jennifer Van Nostrand, Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:45 a.m. Online: 10:45 a.m. live on Facebook.

Strahan United Methodist, Five miles south of Hastings on M16., [strahaniowachurch.org](http://strahaniowachurch.org), Rev. Joni Hickey, Sunday Worship service 9:45 a.m., Adult and child ren's Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

United Church Of Christ

First Congregational, 608 Reed St., Red Oak, Sunday Worship, 11:30 a.m. in the sanctuary with fellowship prior to the service at 10:30 a.m., Rev. Holly Scherff, interim pastor.

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Sellergren•Lindell•DeMarce  
Funeral Home - 623-2796



# Red Oak Graduation 2023



The Red Oak High School 2023 senior class held its commencement ceremony May 21. The class motto was: "Together, we have experienced life. Separately, we will pursue our dreams. Forever, our memories will remain." Pictured above, members of the class of 2023 celebrate after the presentation of diplomas. (Nick Johansen/The Red Oak Express)



Josie Rengstorf was one of two seniors who spoke before the graduating class.



Camden Chamberlain was congratulated by Board President Bret Blackman after receiving his diploma.



Brayden Johnson and Board President Bret Blackman.



Lainey DeVries was congratulated by Board Member Jackie DeVries.



Braden Woods was congratulated by Board Member Roger Carlson.



Tanner Kinsley collects his diploma.



Taelin McRae with Board President Bret Blackman.



Board President Bret Blackman congratulates graduate Logan Conn.



Lillian Pafford and Board President Bret Blackman.



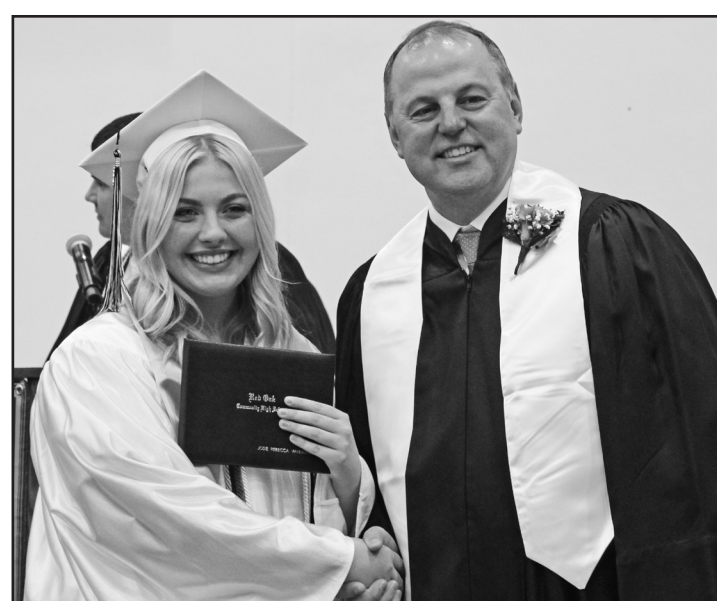
Senior Speaker Michelle Grass addresses the crowd.



Kindered Lehman poses with Board President Bret Blackman



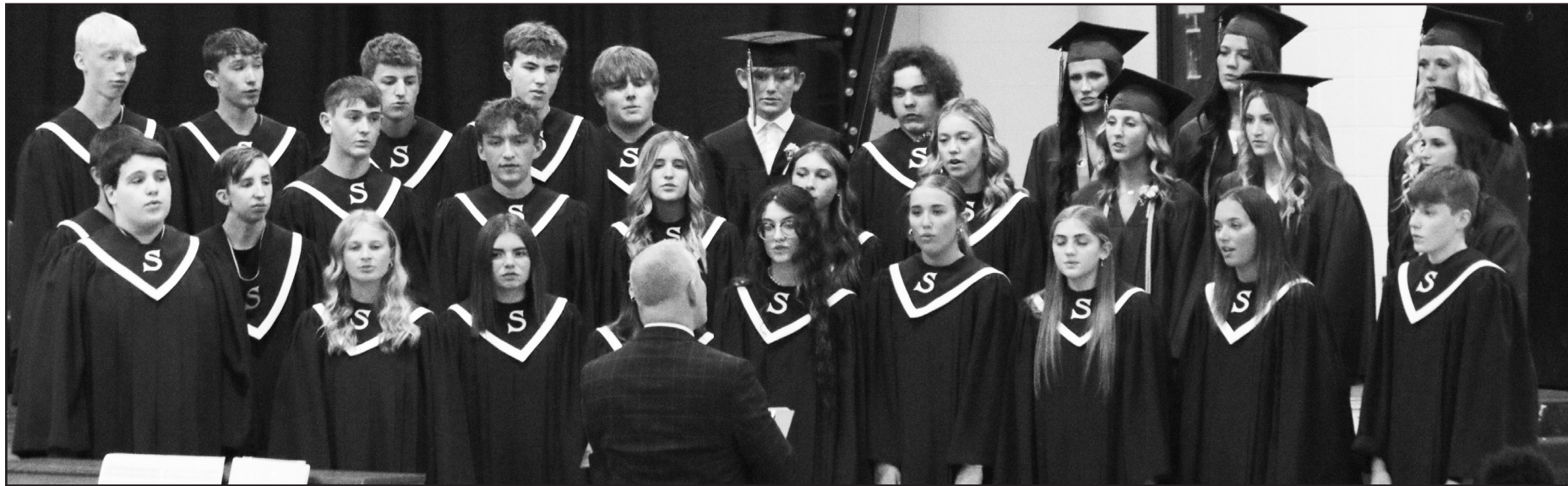
Board Member Jackie DeVries congratulates Eduardo Lepe.



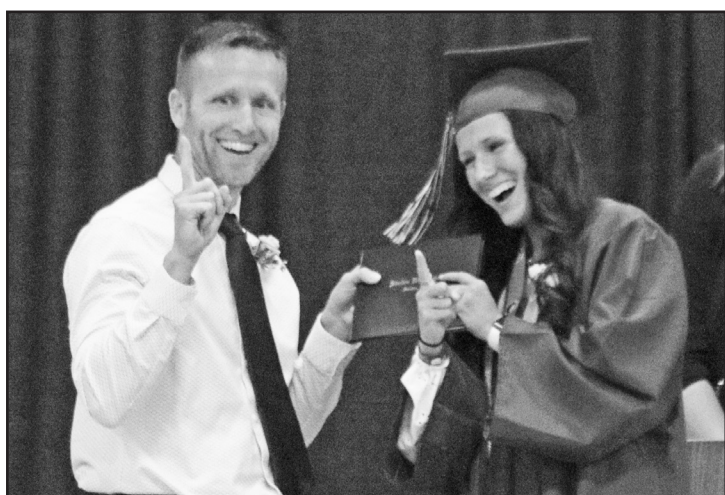
Board President Bret Blackman congratulates graduate Josie Vanderhoof.



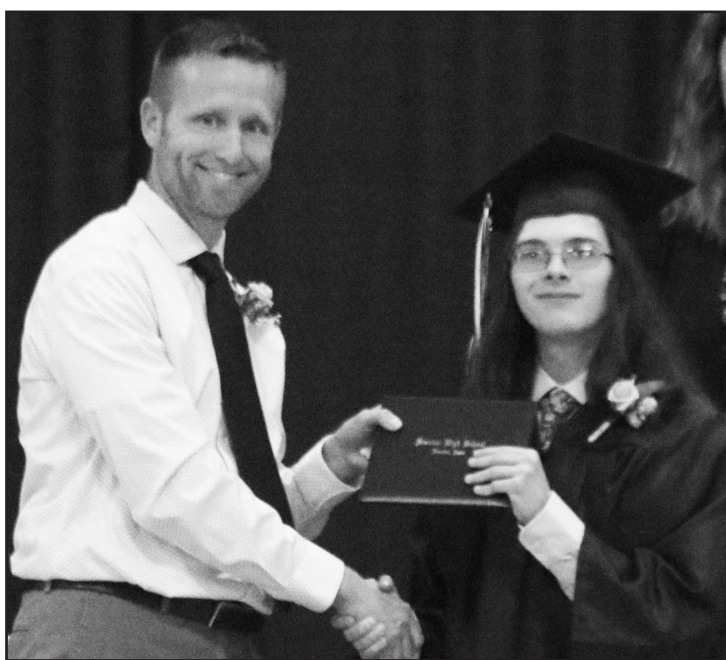
# Stanton Graduation 2023



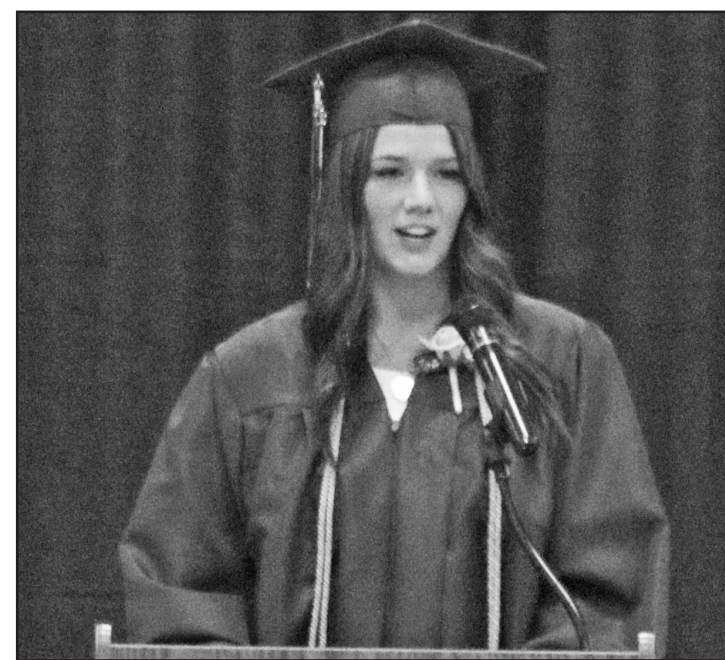
The Stanton High School choir performed "Good Riddance (Time of Your Life)", accompanied by senior Damian Meek on guitar during the graduation ceremony May 20. (Charm Carpenter/The Red Oak Express.)



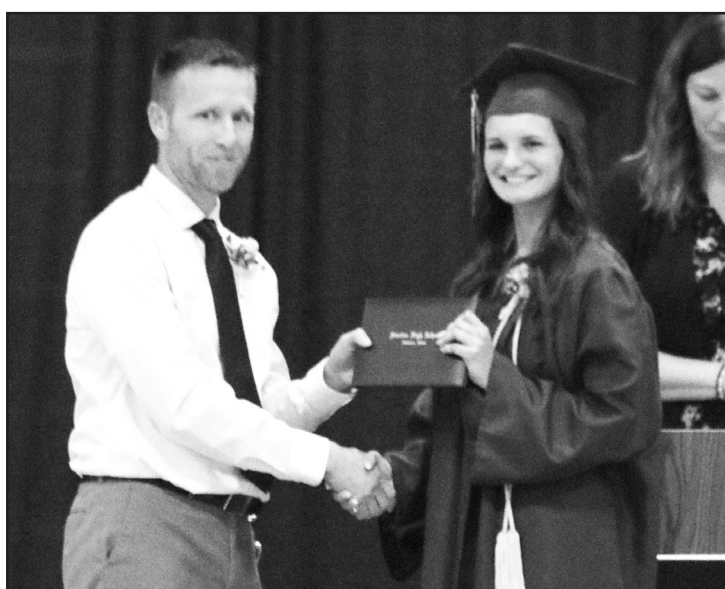
Stanton School Board President John McDonald (and father of a member of the state champion shuttle hurdle relay team) presents Addi Olson (member of the state champion shuttle hurdle relay team) with her diploma as they celebrate both accomplishments with a special handshake and number one sign at the graduation ceremony.



Stanton School Board President John McDonald presents the diploma to Damian Meek.



Jenna Stephens addresses the audience in her salutatory address.



School Board President John McDonald presents the diploma to the class of 2023 valedictorian Abigail Burke.



Senior Marissa Strough presents her mother with a flower and a hug.



Board President John McDonald poses with Dartangnan Most after presenting his diploma. Also pictured is Superintendent Katie Elwood.

# Essex Graduation 2023



The Essex School District had eight seniors graduate on May 21. Pictured are, front row, from left: Mat Givens, Nick Givens, Preston Driscoll, Jacob Robinette, Owen Hedditch, and John Staley. Back row, from left: Natalie Taylor, Tori Sample, valedictorian Brianne Johnson, and salutatorian Olivia Baker. (Photos submitted)



Brianne Johnson, right, receives her valedictorian award from Essex principal Rob Brecht.



Principal Rob Brecht presents the salutatorian award to graduating senior Olivia Baker.



Natalie Taylor poses with a scholarship



# Red Oak High School announces scholarships, awards for graduating seniors

Red Oak High School seniors received the following scholarships and awards at Awards Night Wednesday, May 17.

- Bridgett Archer: Red Oak Elks Ben Rolf Memorial Scholarship.
- Tymberlee Bentley: Red Oak Ambassadors, and the Red Oak Education Association scholarship.
- Cash Berendes: American Citizenship Award sponsored by the Iowa Bar Association.
- Dawson Bond: Altrusa International, Benda Memorial, Red Oak Rotary Club Ray Gustafson, and the Jordan Vannausdle Pillars of Character scholarships.
- Logan Conn: Central Trustee, Central Journey, and Central Presidential scholarships.
- Landon Couse: Montgomery County Memorial Hospital Employee Sponsored, Simpson Merit, and the Simpson Presidential scholarships.
- Lainey DeVries: Altrusa International, Bank Iowa Spirit of Chandy, Forrest Bloom Memorial, Classy Chassis Car Club, FFA Alumni, John F. Hossle 4-H FFA, J.R. Inman, Iowa Elks Most Valuable Student, Iowa Farm Bureau Federation, Mills Montgomery County Cattlemen, Montgomery County Soil & Water Conservation, Red Oak Optimists-La Von Billings, Riefel-Ellwood Education, Red Oak Rotary Club Ray Gustafson, Southwest Iowa Education Foundation, Barbara J. Green Memorial and the David Templeton Memorial scholarships.
- Chloe Edie: American Red Cross scholarship.
- Sam Fields: Altrusa International, Donald F. Ross Community Directed (CDS), Iowa Elks Most Valuable Student, Red Oak Elks Bob Crocker Memorial, Good Samaritan Society Healthcare

or Spiritual Ministries, Montgomery County Memorial Hospital Auxiliary, Red Oak Music Boosters, Red Oak Ambassadors, Red Oak Grand Theatre, Southwest Iowa Education Foundation, Eddie Lee Memorial, and the UNL – Ruth Leverton Scholar awards.

- Theresa Flick: Daughters of the American Revolution.
- Isabella Glassel: American Association University Women, Army ROTC, Help Our Youth, John F. Hossle 4-H FFA, and the Glenava Klopping scholarships.
- Michelle Grass: Thomas Randal Draper, Good Samaritan Society Healthcare or Spiritual Ministries, Montgomery County Memorial Hospital Employee Sponsored, and KU Achievement scholarships.
- Jackson Kling: Morningside University Athletic Scholarship.
- Kindered Lehman: Iowa Elks Vocational Grant Lexi Meier: Good Samaritan Society Healthcare or Spiritual Ministries scholarship.
- Josie Rengstorf: Edwards Sisters Foundation, Red Oak Music Boosters, and the Minneapolis College of Art and Design Portfolio.
- Tessa Rolenc: Edwards Sisters Foundation, Jim Logan Communications, J.R. Inman, Red Oak Music Boosters, Stanley James Plank Memorial, Red Oak Education Association, Red Oak Grand Theatre, Ted Sparr Memorial, David Templeton Memorial, UNO – Donna Owen Memorial, and the UNO Maverick Advantage scholarships.
- Fateen Sealy: Panther Purple Award, UNI – T.E.D., and Zeta Kappa scholarships.
- Hannah Smith: Class of 1942, Help Our Youth, Ina C. Murphy, Central College Journey,



Red Oak senior Tessa Rolenc was recognized by Gov. Kim Reynolds and Lt. Governor Adam Gregg for outstanding academic achievement at the 21st Annual Governor's Scholar Recognition Ceremony on April 30 at the Iowa Events Center in Des Moines. Each high school was invited to select a senior student with the highest academic ranking, based on grade point average for their first seven semesters. (Photo submitted)

- Central College Presidential, and Central College Trustee scholarships.
- Josie Vanderhoof: Montgomery County Memorial Hospital Employee Sponsored, and Red Oak Music Boosters scholarships.
- Jonah Wemhoff: Kiwanis Loren Works Music Scholarship, Red Oak Music Boosters, and Red Oak Education Association scholarships.

## CLASS OF 2023

**Josie Rengstorf**      **Tessa Rolenc**

**Red Oak**  
**COMMENCEMENT**  
Sunday, May 21, 2023 @ 2:00 pm  
Location: Jr Sr HS Orange Gym

*Class Colors:* Black, Orange & White  
*Class Flower:* Orange Carnation  
*Class Motto:* "Together, we have experienced life. Separately, we will pursue our dreams. Forever, our memories will remain." Unknown.

The Red Oak Express apologizes to these students whose names were incorrect in our graduation edition:  
Camden Chamberlain, Danique Dobbe, Ren Halvin, Lexi Meier, and Josie Vanderhoof.

## Spotlight: Animal Health

### How to make a backyard safe for dogs

Dogs, particularly puppies, can be full of boundless energy. Channeling that energy into exercise with long walks or play sessions can help stem dogs' propensity to get into trouble around the house as they burn off extra adrenaline. Pets who don't have an energy outlet may chew off-limits objects or get into other mischief.

According to the American Kennel Club, the amount of exercise a dog needs depends on the animal's age and breed. For example, border collies or Siberian huskies may require much more exercise than English bulldogs, simply because the former are working breeds. Pet owners with large backyards often find those outdoor spots are ideal for when their dogs get the "zoomies," something that tends to be a daily occurrence. Letting their dogs run around yards, whether on their own or chasing tossed tennis balls, is an ideal way to provide exercise and tire out pups. In such scenarios, it's vital that pups have a dog-friendly yard in which to play.



**Use safe lawn care products**  
An expanse of grass is the perfect place to frolic or enjoy some sunbathing — for people or pets. But contact with chemically treated lawns can cause a number of health issues for dogs, such as allergies or intestinal upset.

Switching to native grasses can reduce the need to use chemicals to get lush lawns. When supplementation is needed, homeowners can switch to organic products or natural compost as safer alternatives than chemical-based products.

**Fence off the yard**  
Off-leash running and bounding through the yard will make any dog smile. However, a fence is a must-have to ensure a dog doesn't become an escape artist. Be sure the fence is high enough so that the pup cannot jump over it. Burying chicken wire in the dirt beneath the lower edge of the fence also can help prevent dogs who like to dig from exiting by crawling underneath the fence.

Consider installing a lock on the fence gate so that no one can wander in and surprise the dog, which may startle the animal and prompt it to defend the property. A lock also helps prevent dog theft.

**Keep the yard tidy**  
Maintaining a clean yard also is key to safety. Inspect the yard regularly to make sure nothing is around that can prove harmful, whether it's poison ivy, felled branches or broken fence panels. Also, keep shrubs and grass trimmed to reduce flea and tick populations on the property.

**Avoid poisonous plants**  
Certain plants can be dangerous if they're consumed by curious pups. Chrysanthemums, peonies, irises, and hydrangeas are some plants that can be poisonous. For a full list of poisonous plants, visit the ASPCA website (aspc.org).

**Keep an eye on animals**  
Dogs can spend some unattended time in the yard, but check in from time to time. Should wildlife get into the yard, dogs may get hurt by tussles or bites. Birds of prey, such as owls, hawks and even vultures, may attack small dogs in a yard. According to Pat Silvosky, director of the Milford Nature Center in Kansas, some birds can be territorial. While they might not view a dog as an easy meal, they could swoop down and attack to defend territory. The same may occur with other wild animals.

A dog-friendly yard may require a little effort to create, but it's worth a little sweat equity to keep pups safe.

### New dentist at SWIA Dental



Dr. Desirae Oltmanns will be joining the practice of Southwest Iowa Dental Associates, located in Shenandoah.

Dr. Oltmanns comes to Shenandoah from a small Iowa town. She completed her undergraduate studies at Iowa State in 2019 and went on to graduate from The University of Iowa College of Dentistry in 2023.

Dr. Oltmanns finds great joy in serving her community and providing exceptional dental care to patients of all ages. Her empathetic nature and friendly demeanor create a welcoming environment for her patients.

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## Council discusses options for permit extension

Nick Johansen  
The Red Oak Express

The Red Oak City Council is weighing options regarding a lapsed building permit.

On May 15, the council heard comments from Ken Schauen, who had been sent a note regarding a lapsed building permit for a garage being constructed on his and his wife's, Kelli Confer, property at 1700 Forest Ave.

Schauen said he felt the letter was in error and should be retracted by city hall or nullified by the council.

"City administrator Al Vacanti never reached out, and most likely was not aware of the history and the actions associated with this permit. The building permit for the detached garage was granted in May of 2019. Shortly after the permit issuance, a group tried everything they could to stop and delay the project," Schauen said. "First, they petitioned the board of adjustment and failed to stop it through that avenue. Then, they filed a civil lawsuit against the Red Oak Board of Adjustment, and while that eventually failed, they had a court injunction to stop us from building. While everything was under litigation, we were prohibited from moving forward on it."

Schauen said a second attempt to delay or stop the project was made to the Red Oak Board of Adjustment, which again failed, and Schauen state false claims were made to the Iowa

Department of Labor, which were later dismissed.

"They claimed we had unlawful workers on the property doing construction. After an investigation, the Department of Labor dismissed it. Also, the inspection process was interfered with. Someone told the Southwest Iowa Planning Council office that the permit was invalid and they shouldn't bother coming to Red Oak and inspecting it. The SWIPCO office would not give the name of who informed them unless they are subpoenaed," commented Schauen.

According to Schauen, the court battles and other situations caused a two-year delay in the beginning of construction. Also, the project was delayed even further from supply chain issues during and after the COVID-19 pandemic. Had the project started as scheduled, no delays would have occurred.

Also, Schauen stated that they were given notice by former city administrator Brad Wright that the permit would be extended due to the circumstances.

"This was agreed upon by both Brad Wright and the attorney that represented the city that was paid by the City of Red Oak's insurance underwriter to defend the board of adjustment while the group was suing them," stated Schauen.

Schauen highlighted two properties. The first was 308 E. Corning St. Schauen said a permit was given for the property in

February of 2020, yet had gotten no letter of a lapsed building permit in the file. The other property was at 311 E. Linden St. A permit for a project on the property was issued in May of 2016, but again, no letter of a lapsed permit was located in the file. Schauen further stated the properties were highly visible.

"Both properties are only a few blocks from city hall on busy public streets, with people passing by them daily. My property at 1700 Forest Ave. is located on a dead-end street, sees little traffic, and the garage can only be seen if you pass the house and look back over your shoulder, which just isn't natural," advised Schauen.

Schauen added he was curious to know if any other properties received lapsed building permit notices, and how the property was brought to Vacanti's attention in the first place.

"It's not a normal place to drive by. It seems like we've been singled out here, at a minimum, and request the council nullify the letter. The permit is 24 months past, but when something goes into litigation, the clock stops. I'm also requesting the council extend the original permit at no additional cost," Schauen.

Councilperson Brian Bills felt the permit needed to be renewed, and asked for the normal procedure for a renewal. Red Oak Mayor Shawna Silvius said according to City Code, it has to

be formally requested before the Red Oak City Council.

According to the letter, the fee to cover the lapse in the permit would be \$604.80, but that was factoring in the number of months since the permit was issued in 2019, and not factoring in the period where the property was in litigation.

Councilperson Jeanice Lester felt that Schauen should not be charged the \$604.80 when the property was in litigation. Lester also felt the project needed some sort of a deadline in order to extend the permit, and suggested extending the permit to December 31

Schauen asked for a number of how many other properties received lapsed permit extensions. The council members had no knowledge of the numbers. Schauen reiterated his and Confer's property seemed to have been singled out.

Silvius stated that the hearing was for fact-finding purposes, and a formal request for a permit extension needed to be presented to the council on June 6. Silvius said that would allow Schauen to get a better idea for whether or not the project could be completed by the Dec. 31 deadline suggested by Lester.

No further action was taken by the council.



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## Red Oak Orscheln Farm & Home to become Tractor Supply Company

Tractor Supply Company, the largest rural lifestyle retailer in the United States, has announced the Red Oak location of Orscheln Farm & Home has begun its transition to Tractor Supply. The initial phase includes rolling out Tractor Supply's Neighbor's Club rewards program, which provides a number of enhanced benefits and offers for customers. The Red Oak store is one of 81 Orscheln Farm & Home locations Tractor Supply acquired in October 2022. All will be converted to Tractor Supply by the end of 2023.

"Orscheln Farm & Home has been a staple in the Red Oak community for many years, and we will carry on that commitment as we move forward as Tractor Supply," said Jeremy Adams, store manager at Red Oak Tractor Supply. "While the store's name and layout may change, our commitment to this community will not. We are excited to serve the Red Oak area, invest in local organizations and celebrate our shared passion for Life Out Here."

As part of the rebranding, customers will see new trademark Tractor Supply signage, as well as the arrival of Tractor Supply's top-tier exclusive brands,

including Countyline, Ridgecut and 4health. Customers will also find an expanded assortment of products to further improve their ability to maintain their homes, land and animals. The exceptional people and service the community has come to know will remain unchanged. All current Orscheln employees have been invited to join the Tractor Supply team.

Tractor Supply is a Certified Great Place to Work. The company has been recognized on Newsweek's lists of America's Most Responsible Companies and America's Greatest Workplaces for Diversity, Forbes' list of Best Employers for Diversity and earned a perfect score on the Human Rights Campaign Foundation's 2022 Best Places to Work Corporate Equality Index. The company also offers competitive salaries and an industry-leading benefits package. Those interested in joining the team are invited to learn more at TractorSupply.com.

During this initial transition phase, customers can join Tractor Supply's Neighbor's Club, which enables members to earn points with purchases at any Tractor Supply and Petsense

by Tractor Supply location. The Neighbor's Club program is free to join, and points can be redeemed for rewards, services and more. Members also receive exclusive benefits and offers. More information is available at NeighborsClub.com. Orscheln's Grow Rewards program will be discontinued.


As of April 1, 2023, the Tractor Supply operated 2,164 Tractor Supply stores in 49 states, including 81 stores acquired from Orscheln Farm and Home in 2022 that will be rebranded to Tractor Supply by the end of 2023. For more information on Tractor Supply, visit [www.tractorsupply.com](http://www.tractorsupply.com).

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## Red Oak Farmers Market opens for the 2023 season



Red Oak's first farmers market of the 2023 season kicked off at Fountain Square Park on May 18. Markets will continue every Thursday from 4 to 6:30 p.m. and every Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon until Oct. 14. Pictured above, visitors to the market try out some of the food being offered by Gena's Kitchen. (Photo submitted)

## Supervisors agree to seek grant for no-slip safety equipment

Nick Johansen  
The Red Oak Express

The Montgomery County Board of Supervisors has given approval to pursue a grant for safety equipment to prevent slips and falls.

At the regular meeting May 16, the supervisors heard a presentation from safety coordinator Morgan Lewellen, who said the county was eligible to receive a safety implementation grant from the Iowa Municipalities Workers' Compensation Association.

"The grant will provide funding for county workers that work in inclement weather, such as snow and ice, for non-slip traction shoes that slip over the employee's regular shoes. The grant amount is up to \$10,000," Lewellen said.

In order to qualify for the grant, Lewellen said the county would have to make some adjustments to policy in the employee handbook as well as other changes.

"The grant requires the county to have a future plan in place to replace them when they become worn out or broken, so I would be requesting a line item in my budget to pay for that down the road," Lewellen explained. "The representative I spoke to said the equipment can last up to two years."

If approved, Lewellen said she could apply for the grant on



Safety coordinator Morgan Lewellen shares grant details with the supervisors. (Nick Johansen/The Red Oak Express)

Jan. 1, 2024, during the open enrollment period.

Per the recommendation, the handbook would have to add verbiage stating 'slip-resistant footwear such as cleats, spikes, and other traction aids will be provided to employees that are exposed to ice and snow while performing their duties. The type of job function and the length of time spent outdoors will determine the type of footwear or traction aid that each employee is provided. During the period of Nov. 1 through April 1, employees provided with slip-resistant footwear or other traction aids shall be required to wear the footwear when working outdoors and if snow and ice is present or forecasted during

the work shifts. Failure to comply will be a violation of the employer's personal protective equipment policy and subject to discipline."

Lewellen added that the grant is also a study through the IMWCA, so monitoring would take place.

"The IMWCA would be watching our claims, basically, to see if we have any slip and falls, and put that information into percentages and use that information for evaluation," said Lewellen.

The supervisors approved Lewellen's request to apply for the safety implementation grant from the Iowa Municipalities Workers' Compensation Association.

## Council continues discussions for StudioOne Townhomes funding

Nick Johansen  
The Red Oak Express

The Red Oak City Council is still considering funding options for the StudioOne Townhomes project, up on Ratliff Road.

At the regular council meeting May 15, Ryan Funk, who is co-founder of StudioOne Townhomes, shared details about the project with the council. Funk said the company decided to get into multi-family housing development three years ago in Nebraska City. Following the success of the Nebraska City project, Funk reached out to other communities, one of them being Red Oak.

The initial phase will include the building of 33 townhomes, and all told the project will be about a \$7 million investment. The homes would be listed for market rate.

"The current market rate in Nebraska City is about \$1,300 per month for a townhome. When we do it again, it will probably be closer to \$1,500. We're looking to eventually build 19 more homes in Nebraska City," commented Funk.

After repeated conversations with city leaders, Funk said they were at the point where they needed to look at different financing options.

"Funding options could be TIF, grant money, tax abatement, or infrastructure help. Those are the things we're trying to explore with the city currently. It's a good product with solid surface countertops, stainless steel appliances, and presents really well. We believe it will fit into the great development that Marty and Larry Barnett have already done there and add a product to the City of Red Oak that is not currently available," advised Funk. "Six or seven houses went up for sale in Nebraska City because people were able to move into the new townhomes. The homes also attracted a number of young professionals as residents. Seven of them moved to Nebraska City solely for the homes."

The State of Iowa offers a rural workforce housing tax credit that allows Funk's company to apply for up to a \$1 million tax credit to do market-rate workforce housing. Funk said that's where the city's involvement is crucial.

"To even qualify for the tax credit, Red Oak has to commit to at least \$1 million in help, be it tax abatement, tax increment financing, or infrastructure help. We're trying to start the process,

going and we're excited to be a part of Red Oak. Everyone has been receptive wherever we've gone. We have to apply for the tax credit in the middle of June, or we lose the whole year, and can't submit an application until June 2024," Funk stated.

Funk estimated the roadway grading and preparations would be around \$1 million to \$1.2 million. Funk said they attempted to use local contractors whenever possible, but sometimes the length of the projects was too much for some local contractors. Funk estimated 30% of the Nebraska City project was done by local contractors.

The council then met with Chip Schultz, the managing director of public finance at Northland Securities of Des Moines. Schultz had spoken at the May 1 meeting and advised that the council had two potential funding options to assist in the project, one was a TIF rebate where the contractor would put in the infrastructure. The second option, for which Schultz said he did not have details finalized yet, was for the city to fund the infrastructure project, which made the option more feasible.

"The city has bond issue debt that falls off in 2023-24 and 2024-25 and drops down the amount quite a bit on the city's existing general obligation debt, and allow the city to fund the infrastructure," Schultz said.

Schultz did have a review of the city using TIF funding. Schultz felt that both options were not ideal from the city's perspective, as both required a rebate of 100% of the new valuation back to the developer, and both assumed the developer funded the infrastructure.

"On a financial level, they don't give the developer the cost recovery that they're looking for

to make it a viable project. They don't work on even the most generous TIF rebate approach," Schultz said.

With a typical Iowa market rate residential TIF rebate, the funding generated would be around \$706,000 to the developer over the conventional 11-year time period, which Schultz said the developer's feedback was that it wasn't financially viable. The second option was a TIF rebate term extension to 16 years, with the approval of the Red Oak School District, Montgomery County Board of Supervisors, and Southwestern Community College. That total was around \$1,053,000. Schultz felt that wasn't enough either.

"Based on the feedback, I think they're more financially interested in the project if the city is willing to fund the infrastructure up front. With general obligation debt dropping down to \$660,000 at the end of 2025, there's room there to layer in new debt while having a lower debt service levy to citizens of the city. I know we can get there by taking that approach, but I also know it needs to be laid out and proven to the council and the citizens," Schultz said.

Schultz was still working on the financial figures for the second approach, and said he could have the final numbers available for a special city council meeting scheduled for May 30.

The deadline to apply for the State of Iowa offers a rural workforce housing tax credit for 2023 was June 9. Funk said he was hopeful they could meet that deadline, but committed to applying in 2024 if the deadline could not be met. Discussions will continue at the May 30 special meeting.

## WILLIAMS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

One travels west of the Mississippi River, one east on 35 foot trailers. The exhibit was unveiled September of 2017 at the Lincoln Memorial.

Four stops have included New York City for Veterans Day, Pasadena for Rose Bowl week, outside football stadiums of the universities of Alabama, Tennessee, Kentucky, Nebraska, Kansas, the New England Patriots, the Army Navy game in Philadelphia, the Armed Forces Bowl, the Pentagon, Wrigley Field, and the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally. It was displayed in downtown Red Oak for Junction Days 2019, organized by Larry and Marty Barnett.

The Williams are organizing their third Patriotic Parade and Concert in downtown Omaha Saturday morning, May 27, featuring the Marine Corps Band from New Orleans, the Fort Riley Mounted Color Guard, the Tuskegee Airmen traveling exhibit, along with a P 51 Mustang, and over 100 other entries. Last year's parade drew 10,000 visitors.

Awards received by the Williams include the 2013 Omaha World Herald Midlanders of the Year, 2014 Knights of Aksarben Court of Honor, and 2016 Midlands Community

Foundation award.

The public is invited to attend the Memorial Day ceremony May 29. In case of inclement weather, the program will be held at the Red Oak Jr./Sr. High

School.

On May 28 at 2 p.m., The Marine Forces Reserve Band will perform a free concert at the Wilson Performing Arts Center,

300 Commerce Dr. Tickets may be reserved by calling 623-3183 or online at wilsonartcenter.org.

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For More Information or to Register:

Call 712-623-3135 Email: [info@wilsonartcenter.org](mailto:info@wilsonartcenter.org)  
Or stop by The Wilson at: 300 Commerce Drive, Red Oak, Iowa 51566