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Summer Sports

2B-3B



THE RED OAK Express

WEDNESDAY

June 7, 2023
 Red Oak, IA
 Volume 156, No.23
 redoakexpress.com

DEDICATED TO FREEDOM SINCE 1868

\$1.50



The two-person circus act "The Great DuBois," featuring Michael DuBois and Viktoria Grimm, will be the opening show of the Wilson Performing Arts Center's 2023-24 season. (Photo submitted)

Circus, comedy featured in new WPAC season

Nick Johansen
 The Red Oak Express

The Wilson Performing Arts Center has announced a wide variety of shows with something for everyone for its upcoming 2023-24 season, with the theme "Meet Me at the Wilson." In addition to outside performances, three local productions will feature casts from in and around the Red Oak area. When it comes to choosing productions for each season, executive director Val Zane said it was probably her favorite part of the job.

"We accept calls from people, we also reach out to people, and we Google a lot of things. We're always looking for what would be a fun balance for our season, as far as entertainment and community relations. We love to find a balance of fun, and learning," Zane said. "We also like to try to find things that have never been here before, as well as things that we can bank on that will be a lot of fun and that people will want to see again and again. We're open to bringing back shows from the past, but we also

like bringing in a few different things so people can find out if they love that as well."

Director of operations Candy Garey said it was also important to do a fair amount of research about each act or performer, to make sure they could deliver.

"We don't just want to go on what a performer is going to send us, because that's usually been edited and doctored up a bit. With Youtube, we can see their live concerts and get a full idea of what they sound like to make sure they can perform a live show without all the filters," commented Garey.

Additionally, Zane said they structure their seasons around the feedback they get from audiences.

"We talk to a lot of our season pass holders, as well as first-time audience members and find out what they want to see, then take their feedback and try to figure it out. We decided on a 12-show season because we wanted to have some community theater productions in there. I

SEASON, Page 2A

RO pool open for summer



The Red Oak Municipal Pool opened for the season June 3. Hours for June will be 1 to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday, and 1 to 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. From 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Tuesdays, the pool will hold Tiger Shark Toddler Time. Pool features open will depend on lifeguard availability. (Photo submitted)

McDonald appointed as new deputy clerk/HR manager

Nick Johansen
 The Red Oak Express

Susie McDonald will step into a new role at Red Oak City Hall on July 1, that of deputy clerk and HR manager.

At the regular council meeting June 5, the council approved a new job description for the combined role.

Councilperson Jeanice Lester felt the combined job was a good idea.

"This will make it so the office is not all on one person's shoulders, and I feel everyone will be happy that we did it," Lester said.

The Council then approved Mayor Shawna Silvius' recommendation to promote McDonald to the job, effective July 1, to

make it an easy transition starting with the new fiscal year.

Silvius said McDonald will bring a lot to the position.

"She has a lot of experience in the field, and has been doing a phenomenal job with our payroll, our benefits, and helping people understand those benefits. I'm very proud of the work she's done," Silvius commented.

McDonald's salary was set at \$52,000. The salary was approved by the council.

"This is in alignment with the study that we just completed," Silvius stated.

According to Silvius, interim city administrator Al Vacanti built the salary into the budget in anticipation of the position being created, and the new salary was factored into the new budget.

With McDonald's appointment, the council discussed and approved an updated job description for a utility billing clerk. Silvius said the city would have around one month to fill the position.

The council also approved advertising for applicants for the position, and also discussed the purchase of a new computer and monitor for the utility billing clerk.

"Because she will be taking her computer with her, we will need to approve the purchase of a computer and monitor with service fees for the utility billing clerk desk area," Silvius advised.

COUNCIL, Page 8A



Red Oak Mayor Shawna Silvius, and Red Oak City Councilperson Brian Bills during council discussion. (Nick Johansen/The Red Oak Express)

Swedish School begins June 12 in Stanton

Nick Johansen
 The Red Oak Express

Students in grades first through sixth grade who are interested in learning more about Swedish history are encouraged to participate in this year's Svenska Skolan (Swedish School) classes.

Classes will be held June 12-16 from 9 a.m. to noon at Stanton's Swedish Heritage & Cultural Center at 410 Hilltop Ave. The classes are led by Yvonne Johnson, who said she started the classes in 1996.

"At that time, I moved back from Minneapolis, Minn. I had retired after teaching music at public school and moved back to the family farm. They had a similar program at the American Swedish Institute in Minneapolis, and I patterned the class after that," Johnson said. "I wanted to start this in Stanton because all of my ancestors are from Sweden, and my mother instilled in me a love of Sweden and the Swedish culture," Johnson said.

John Mainquist teaches the culture class, Diane Campbell teaches the beginning language class and Sheila Mainquist teaches the dancing. Johnson



Students participate in a prior Swedish School class. (Photo submitted)

teaches the Swedish songs and dances and a language class. Jonas Borg, a native Swede, also assists. Several other volunteers in the area do crafts with the children.

Participants who take part in the school will

SCHOOL, Page 2A



You Are Invited

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Enjoy refreshments and piano music while you tour the department and learn more about our Oncology, Hematology, & Infusion Center services available right here in Red Oak.

June 27th
 4 - 6 pm

SEASON

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

think we have a “rock” type of season this year,” commented Zane.

Kicking off the season is “The Great DuBois: Masters of Variety.” The show will be held July 29 at 7:30 p.m. Garey said the show is a two-person circus that was featured in the film, “The Greatest Showman.”

“We’re going to be giving out treats, and we’re going to have a real good time. It’s the Wilson’s first circus,” Garey said.

Zane added that it took a lot of behind the scenes work to get them to the Wilson stage, as initially, they were above the budget.

“We had to wait for them to come through so we could get them at a good price. It was a treat to be able to get them into our building. I’ve been looking forward to doing this show. For a while I didn’t think we were going to be able to book them, and now that we know they’re coming it’s a very exciting thing,” Zane advised.

On Sept. 9 at 7:30 p.m., and Sept. 10 at 2:30 p.m., Zane said they are hosting “Jimmy Ryan’s Heroes Behind the Hits: Music & Tales from the Legends of Rock & Roll.” Zane said Ryan has toured with artists such as Elton John, Carly Simon, and

Cat Stevens. “He has a ton of people he’s toured with, he’s written a book, and he’s going to tell the audience all the secrets about the people he’s toured with. He told me a lot of them, and I immediately knew we had to book him, because he was so entertaining,” stated Zane.

Sept. 29 and 30 at 7:30 p.m., and Oct. 1 at 2:30 p.m. will be the season’s first community theatre production, “Every Brilliant Thing.” The show is a one-person community-theater piece that highlights all the joys of life together in one show. It’s supposed to make the audience inspired and feel lucky to be alive. However, Garey said audience participation is needed.

“While it’s a one-person show, it requires audience interaction as well. They will be putting in their own twist on things. The audience doesn’t have to participate, but it will be helpful,” stated Garey.

The BelAirs, a blues, country, soul, and rock and roll group will perform Oct. 21 at 7:30 p.m., and closing out October “The Everly Brothers Experience featuring the Zmed Brothers” will perform on Oct. 29 at 2:30 p.m. Zane said the BelAirs and the Zmed brothers are a very popular



Rock 4 Vets will make a return appearance on the WPAC stage in November. (Photos submitted)

group around the area. November will see the return of Rock 4 Vets, featuring the Southwest Iowa All-Stars, at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 11. Zane said the popular group performed to a sell-out crowd last year.

“In addition to hosting the show, we’ll also be doing a variety of fundraisers that will benefit local veterans associations. It’s on my birthday, which I’m very excited about. We’ll do some silent auctions and a live auction as well,” Zane explained.

The second community theater production on the Wilson stage will help ring in the Christmas season, with “Irving Berlin’s White Christmas.” The show will be performed for two weekends, Dec. 8, 9, and 15 at 7:30 p.m., Dec. 16 at 1 p.m., and Dec. 10 and 17 at 2:30 p.m.

The first Wilson show in 2024 is “Reza: Edge of Illusion.” Reza is the world’s top performing illusionist. The show will take place Jan. 28 at 2:30 p.m. Garey said Reza is a return appearance to the Wilson.

“He last performed here in 2017. He does a great magic act, and I helped bring in some of his equipment, and I couldn’t figure out how he did any of his tricks,” Garey said.

Another show Zane said she is excited about having at the Wilson is “Touch of Grey, a Grateful Dead Tribute Band.”

Zane said it’s the Wilson’s first ever Grateful Dead tribute band.

“I’ve seen them perform several times, and they are absolutely amazing. The lead singer is Matt Wilbur, the district attorney of Pottawattamie County. He grew up in Carson, which is where my husband is from, so I reached out to him, and he said yes. In addition to Grateful Dead songs, they also cover a lot of other things,” Zane advised.

Moving on to March, the Wilson will host “Funny Fiddle, the Comedy & Music of Chris Pendleton.” Zane said audiences are in for a treat.

“Chris Pendleton is hilarious, so she plays the fiddle and tells jokes, and it’s going to be fantastic. She’s so funny. I don’t want to ruin too much of it, but if anyone misses that show, they’re missing out,” Zane commented.

In April, audiences can see “The Wilson’s Comedy Showcase” with headliner Austin Anderson, April 20 at 7:30 p.m.

“Austin is hilarious obviously, otherwise we wouldn’t have him as the headliner of a comedy show. We’re also going to try to get community involvement in this, like some skits and improv for local community members to get up on stage. That’s going to be very fun.”

Closing out the 2023-24 season is a final community theater

production, “School of Rock,” which will also feature a rock camp for kids after the show. Val is hopeful they can turn it into a regular camp.

“We’ll invite kids to take some sort of classes over the summer. We’re also looking for a sponsor for “School of Rock” as well. All the shows are awesome, but we’re really excited about this show. It’s going to get

a lot of kids in the community involved, and show off a lot of the talent in Southwest Iowa,” Zane said.

Like “White Christmas,” Zane said the show will be split into two weekends, June 14-15, and June 21-22 at 7:30 p.m., and June 16 and 23 at 2:30 p.m.

For more information, visit wilsonartscenter.org. To purchase tickets, call 623-3183.



Zachary and Dylan Zmed with “The Everly Brothers Experience.”

SCHOOL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

learn about a variety of subjects during the week-long course.

“We teach the kids Swedish songs and dances. We have a culture class. We introduce them to the Swedish language, and do Swedish crafts, and a lot of people from the area help teach,” Johnson commented.

All of the participating students are in one class except for the language class, when the students are split into two groups.

“We have a beginners section, and then a section for the kids that have been there before, as we have many children who come back year after year until they get too old,” stated Johnson.

Johnson added being able to teach the students on a subject she’s passionate about is a rewarding experience.

“It’s very exciting to be able to be teaching children again, and the kids love coming to it. They’re always excited to participate, and I get lots of good feedback from former students. In fact, we have some second-generation children who are coming to the class now.”

The class culminates with participation in the Swedish Heritage & Cultural Center’s Midsommer activities beginning at 5 p.m. on June 17.

“The kids dress in Swedish costume and perform the songs and dances that they’ve learned in class. Swedish pancakes are served, and the Maypole is raised, and everyone dances around the Maypole,” commented Johnson.

In the past, there has been a fee to participate in the class, but for the last several years, the class is taught for free, thanks to

donations.

“There are two people that contribute money to the class so the kids don’t have to pay. They are two members of the community who want to see these classes continue and want the children to be able to attend,” said Johnson.

The class is open to kids both in and outside of Stanton, though enrollment is limited.

Call Johnson at 586-4504 to register.

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Chlamydia

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**APY = Annual Percentage Yield. APY is accurate as of 5/5/2023. 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 \$5 share deposit. Federally insured by NCUA.



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By making smart investments in renewable energy generation, technology and infrastructure, we can deliver electricity to more customers at nearly the same rate as 10 years ago. These same investments will also help keep our energy rates affordable and predictable for the rest of this decade.



GRACE BLACKBURN, 94

Grace Marie (Cardwell) Blackburn, 94, a former resident of Malvern, passed away peacefully on April 15, 2023, at a retirement community in Lewisville, Texas. She was born in Malvern, on June 2, 1928, to John Robert (Bob) and Grayce (Burrows) Cardwell, who operated a plumbing and heating business there. She grew up during the Depression of the 1930s and graduated from Malvern Community High School in 1945. She studied music at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln until she married William Glenn (Bill) Blackburn in November 1947. They made their home in Malvern, IA. She met Bill while working as a summer clerk at Salyers Auto, where Bill, a WWII veteran, worked as a mechanic. Later, the couple owned and operated Blackburn DX, distributing fuel oil and oil products, as well as operating a gas station on N. Main Street in Malvern. Grace served as the company's Bookkeeper and Administrative Manager.



They had three sons, William R. Blackburn (Sara) of Long Grove, Ill.; Michael K. Blackburn (Angela) of Malvern, and Argye, Texas; and Stephen G. Blackburn (Susan) of Grand Island, Neb. In 2019, she moved to an assisted living community in Flower Mound, Texas, near her son, Michael, and his extended family.

Grace put her music skills to good use in the Malvern community for decades. In keeping with her strong faith, she was a member of the First Presbyterian Church and later the Malvern United Methodist Church for a combined 87 years. She was the only pianist and organist for the Presbyterian Church and spent many faithful years serving as a member of the Guild and Social Union. Additionally, she performed many years in the Sunday choir and in the Easter Cantata and the Messiah. She enjoyed teaching Sunday School and served as secretary of the Methodist women's group.

In her later years, she worked as organist in the music program at the Glenwood State School and assisted with special education student programs at the Glenwood community schools. She frequently performed at nursing homes and at funerals in the area.

Grace was a long-term member of the American Legion Auxiliary, often serving as president. The group provided support for veterans, decorated their graves, and served funeral dinners for many of the town's residents.

Following in the footsteps of her mother, she loved flower gardening. She was a dedicated member of the Malvern Garden Club, serving many terms as president. The club helped encourage the beautification of Malvern.

Despite her busy schedule, she always found time to attend her sons' and grandchildren's school and community activities. She was the Cub Scout den mother when her sons were members. She and husband Bill formed a town 4-H club in Malvern in the early 1960s for the benefit of her sons and other town boys. She was a dedicated caregiver to her parents in their declining years.

Grace loved to go ballroom dancing with her husband and their friends, and in later years enjoyed Bridge Club. She was an avid reader and closely followed current events. Grace and Bill were fond of walking the timbers of the Loess Hills each spring with friends in search of the elusive morel mushroom. The two squeezed in a few wonderful foreign trips to Puerto Rico, Mexico and Switzerland.

She was of feisty Scotch-Irish stock, as marked by her beautiful auburn hair, and was always quick to defend her family, friends, town, country, and political party. She more than held her own with her three brothers and three sons; she didn't take sass. She was a devoted and loving daughter, wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and friend. Many deeply mourn her passing.

Grace is survived by her three sons; brother, Richard Cardwell (Marlene) of Omaha; brother-in-law, Bruce Blackburn (Janet) of Tabor; sister-in-law, Patricia Cardwell of Des Moines; and seven grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her beloved husband of 67 years, William G. Blackburn in 2015; grandson, Cameron W. Blackburn; parents, John and Grayce Cardwell; parents-in-law, William C. and Cleo Blackburn; step-mother, Hazel Cardwell; step-mother-in-law, Mary Blackburn; brothers, James and William Cardwell, and in-laws, Max, Zylpha, Eleanor, Richard, Jean and infant Jackie DeWayne Blackburn and Dorothy and Phyllis Cardwell.

Graveside services for Grace were held on June 3, 2023, at the Malvern Cemetery with a Celebration of Life for Grace at the Malvern Community Building at noon. In lieu of flowers, The Grace Blackburn Memorial Fund has been established for donations in her honor to be used to benefit the Malvern community and Iowa, the place she loved and called home for 90 years. Please send all donations to The Grace Blackburn Memorial Fund c/o the Malvern Bank PO Box 120 Malvern, IA 51551.

CAROL SEAMAN, 80

Carol Ann Seaman, 80, Red Oak, formerly of Pittsburgh, Penn., passed away Monday, May 29, 2023, at her home.

Carol was born Nov. 23, 1942, in Pittsburgh, Penn., the daughter of Harry and Ann (Silay) Duffy.

Preceding her in death were her parents; and her husband, John William "Jack" Seaman.

Survivors include her daughter, Tiffany Powell of Red Oak; and son, Sloan Seaman of Seoul, Korea.

No services are scheduled at this time. Nelson-Boylan-LeRette Funeral Chapel of Red Oak is assisting the family with cremation services.

JEANETTE BLAIR, 89

Jeanette Marilyn Blair, 89, passed away peacefully at home on May 31, 2023.

She was born May 22, 1934, in Neola, to George and Geraldine (Ostdiek) Delanty.

In 1951, Jeanette married Kenneth Blair of Pittsburgh, Penn., who was stationed at Offutt Air Base. To this union five children were born, Kenny, Jeanene, Bruce, Marilyn and Mark.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Kenneth; daughter, Marilyn; sister, Pat Schlautman; brother, Gary Delanty; and grandson, Eric Timberlake.

Jeanette is survived by son, Kenny and wife Rhonda; daughter, Jeanene; son, Bruce and wife Karen; son, Mark and wife Wendy; sisters, Phyllis Root, Donna Anderson, Kay (Larry) Brownfield, Karen (Frank Hickey) Allen, Connie Hook, and Pam (Ralph) Cruz; grandchildren, Shannon, Jennifer, Mike, Marty, Jeanette, David, Andrew, Shelly, Mike, Amy, James, and Roary; great-grandchildren, McKenzie, Zachary, Jackson, Sasha, Dejaun, Taylor, Kolby, Karter, Kevin, Dusty, Tony, Michael and Madison.

Visitation will be held from 10 to 11 a.m. at Hoy Kilnoski Funeral Home, 1221 N. 16th St., Council Bluffs, on June 7, 2023.

Funeral Service will be held at 11 a.m. at Hoy Kilnoski Funeral Home on June 7, 2023.

A private graveside service will be held at LaPlatte Cemetery.



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

- Dwight Nelson to Greg Riley, Coburg Original Plat Lts 572-573.
- Charles Woodward, Melissa Adams, and Melissa Woodward to Rocio Adams, Red Oak Ketchers Addition Blk 1 Lt 6.
- Jesse Nelson to Sophie Buys Houses, LLC, Red Oak Oakview SD Lts 12-13.

- Evelyn Salway and Nicholas Scott, Agent, to McAlpin Rentals, LLC, Villisca Original Plat Lt 49.

COURT OFFICER'S DEED

- Ronald Smith, Jr. Estate and Chris Barrans, Executor, to Bryan White and Laura Syverson-White, 7-71-36 Lts 1-5.

QUIT CLAIM DEED

- Greg Riley to Harlan Sallach, Coburg Original Plat Lts 572-573.
- Ronald Smith, Jr. Estate and Chris Barrans, Executor, to Bryan White and Laura Syverson-White, 7-71-36 Lt 6.
- City of Red Oak to Michael Squires, Red Oak Railroad Addition Blk 8 Lts 15-16.
- Brittany Homan and Brittany Van Fosson to Jacob Homan, Villisca N. Villisca Lt 34.

COURT DEED

- Audie Rainey to Caleb Gettler, Red Oak Eastern Slopes V Lts 37-38.
- Cliff and Brenda Marts to Tori Blackburn-Tristain and Brian Wickham, 28-72-38 Lts 3-4 SD

- Jason Gilliland to George Kaleb #500 MO Land Trust, Red Oak Quiby Addition Blk 3 Lt 4.

MORTGAGE

- Bryan White and Laura Syverson-White to Bank Iowa, 7-71-36 Lts 1-5.
- Trevor Johnson to Bank Iowa, 26-72-39 Parcel A.
- Sophia Grigio, Managing Member, and Sophie Buys Houses, LLC to Gregory Champion, Red Oak Oakview SD Lts 12-13.
- Shirley Vannausdle to United Community Bank, 36-73-36, 3-72-36.
- Darrin and Heather Fisher to Houghton State Bank, 31-71-36 Parcel A.
- Trisha Fast and Trisha Owen to Bank Iowa, Villisca N. Villisca Lt 19.
- Donald and Jennifer Griffin to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems Inc., MERS, and New American Funding LLC, Red Oak Oak Hill SD Lt 7.

SMALL CLAIMS

- United Farmers Coopera-

ive vs. Trevor Abraham, Villisca, judgment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$672.24 with 6.59% interest from May 30, plus costs.

ARRESTS

- Filed May 30, Bengerman Housh, 31, Whiting, driving while license suspended, \$491.25 bond.
- Filed June 3, Chandra Baggett, 38, Red Oak, public intoxication, \$300 bond.
- Filed June 3, Christopher, 42, Lewis, violation of no contact order; Cass County warrants for controlled substance violation, possession of controlled substance third offense, OWI first offense, \$2,000 bond.
- Filed June 3, Jennifer Holz, 35, Lewis, violation of no contact order, \$1,000 bond.
- Filed June 5, Jose Palomares-Garcia, 51, Underwood, interference with official acts, criminal mischief fourth degree, \$1,000 bond.

DISMISSED

- Alana Johnson, 36, Red Oak, forgery, four counts, dismissed.

CRIMINAL

- Felony, State of Iowa vs. Alana Johnson, 36, Red Oak, theft third degree, deferred judgment, one year, one year probation.
- Simple misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Richard Jenkins, 52, Red Oak, possession of drug paraphernalia, pled guilty, \$105 fine.
- Simple misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Gary Clark, Jr., 40, Elliott, possession of drug paraphernalia, pled guilty, \$200 fine.
- Civil Infraction, City of Red Oak vs. Athea Hamilton, Red Oak, ordinance violation, animals at large, license violation, cruelty to animals, \$1,500 fine.

TRAFFIC

- Zachary McDonald, Bellevue, Neb., no valid driver's license.
- Stephen Hall, Villisca, speeding.
- Joshua Crigger, Elk Creek, Va., speeding.
- Jessica Peterson, Council Bluffs, speeding.
- Matthew Miller, Red Oak, speeding.
- Todd Konz, Red Oak, no valid driver's license.
- Deiondre Rice, Omaha, Neb., speeding.
- Matthew Toney, Bellevue, Neb., speeding.
- Chad Davidson, Bellevue, Neb., speeding.
- Sheila Rush, Elliott, speeding.
- Tyra Adam, Des Moines, speeding.
- Miguel Vazquez Lopez, Alta, speeding.
- Nicolas Veliz Espinoza, Council Bluffs, speeding.
- Dathan Pettis, St. Joseph, Mo., speeding.
- Brian Kramer, West Des Moines, speeding.
- David Rippe, Omaha, Neb., speeding.
- Austin Shannon, Council Bluffs, driving while license denied, suspended, cancelled or revoked.
- Richard Dozier, Red Oak, operation of motor vehicle with expired license.

Vigilance is Key to Preventing Tick Bites

From ISU Extension

Ticks, and the pathogens they carry, can pose a serious risk to human health. As the weather warms and Iowans spend more time outside, the risk of tick diseases can be lowered by avoiding ticks, checking for tick hitchhikers upon returning indoors, and removing any attached ticks promptly and effectively.

More than a dozen species of ticks can be found in Iowa, according to Laura Iles, director and extension plant pathologist with the North Central Integrated Pest Management Center. However, the three most common species are the blacklegged or deer tick, the American dog or wood tick and the lone star tick. All three species can transmit bacteria that cause disease, but only the blacklegged tick transmits Lyme disease, making it a species of particular concern.

While blacklegged ticks are most common in eastern and northeastern Iowa, they have been found across all 99 counties. They can be distinguished from other tick species by their black or dark brown legs, mouthparts and backs.

According to Iles, the tick life cycle contains four main stages. Between each life stage, ticks must attach to a host and feed. Immature ticks, often called "seed ticks," are particularly small and can be difficult to spot. Immature blacklegged ticks are typically most active in June, while adult ticks are most active in May and October.

Avoiding ticks

Avoiding tick-infested areas, especially when ticks are most

active, is key in preventing the transmission of tick disease.

"Ticks like moisture and tall grass," said Iles. "Wood edges, or wooded areas with lots of undergrowth, are some of the common places that people come into contact with ticks. Ticks will crawl up vegetation, then sit at the top of the vegetation and wave their legs, which is called 'questing.'"

When working in tick infested areas, wearing a long-sleeved shirt, shoes and long pants tucked into a pair of socks can prevent ticks from coming into contact with skin and attaching. Insect repellents can also be sprayed on the clothing to further prevent contact with ticks.

"Wearing long pants tucked into your socks can also be help-

ful because it means that ticks have to crawl a long way to get to where they can attach, so you are much more likely to spot them," she said.

Another important strategy in preventing the transmission of tick vectored, illness-causing pathogens is performing routine tick checks. If a tick is discovered while still crawling, there is no risk for disease, as ticks need to be attached to the skin to transmit pathogens.

"Pathogens such as Lyme disease cannot be transmitted unless the tick is feeding, so ticks have to be attached for 24 to 36 hours in order to transmit the disease," said Iles. "After you've been in an area that may have ticks, remove clothing and place it directly into the wash to kill any ticks, then check yourself, as well as children and pets."

Removing ticks

If a tick is discovered feeding on the skin, it should be removed as quickly as possible.

"Firmly grab the tick with a pair of tweezers as low on the body as possible, then pull



RO Weather

- Monday, May 29: High 82, Low 51, Precip: Trace
- Tuesday, May 30: High 85, Low 61, Precip: None
- Wednesday, May 31: High 86, Low 59, Precip: Trace
- Thursday, June 1: High 84, Low 64, Precip: .04
- Friday, June 2: High 85, Low 63, Precip: None
- Saturday, June 3: High 89, Low 63, Precip: .03
- Sunday, June 4: High 91, Low 60, Precip: None
- Weekly Total Precipitation: None
- June Total Precipitation: .07

ANSWER - PUZZLE ON PAGE 4B

Word search grid with letters and words hidden. Includes words like NOBEL, SEVER, TUB, etc.

SUDOKU puzzle grid with numbers and empty cells. Includes instructions on how to solve and the answer key.

Southwest Valley Honor Rolls

FIRST SEMESTER HIGH HONOR ROLL

Emily Adams, Gracelyn Bain, Nora Barnes, Oakley Benge, Madeline Bevington, Alyssa Birt, Bryan Blankenship, Mya Bohn, Ashton Boswell, Parker Boswell, and Paighton Buffington.

Emma Cooper, Sidney Crill, Brianna Crozier, Isaac Currin, Tierney Dalton, Samantha Davies, Emma DeVore, and Andraya Dimmler.

Quaid Eddy, Cody Fast, Evan Fast, Mackenzie Fast, Ella Finical, Vanessa Fletchall, Victoria Fletchall, Ian Forsythe, Miaya Fourez, and Sophia Freshour.

Piper Govig, Carly Green, Devin Greenwalt, Sadie Groszkrueger, Maggie Haer, Riley Hartman, Cael Hogan, and Tegan Hoyt.

Lauren Inman, Lucas Inman, Colin Jacobs, Elijah Jacobs, Ethan James, Lucas James, and John Jones.

Anjali Kathikar, Olivia Kathikar, Marshall Knapp, Layla Konecne, Charlee Larsen, Kathryn Lillie, Ada Lund, and Adyson Lundquist.

Brayden Maeder, Mackenzie Maeder, Thatcher Marsh-Narigon-Holdsworth, Lindsay Maurer, Rylie McAlpin, Carlita McCoy, Madeline McCoy, Julia Means, Matthew Means, Miller Means, Wyatt Mendenhall, Derek Morales, Ryanne Mullen, Kya Newton, Cord Nippert, and Grace Nippert.

Owen Paul, Kailyn Pritchard, Megan Ramsey, Michael Ramsey, Alyssa Randall, Hailey Randall, Ashlynn Reser, Mackenzie Richards, Karissa Richey, Zoey Rinehart, Ely Rodriguez, Abigail Sanderson, Penelope Sanderson, Jayley Schlapia, Morgan Shuler, KC Sitzman, Alanea Skelton, Reagan Sonntag, Mariah Sparks, and Dylan Stormer.

Desirae Tacner, Evan Timmerman, Haidyn Top, Delaney True, Garret True, Natalie True, Tyler True, Elizabeth Wetzel, Gavin Wetzel, Rebecca Wetzel, and Shae Wolf.

Delaney Yates, and Natalia Zimmerman.

SECOND SEMESTER HIGH HONOR ROLL

Emily Adams, Gracelyn Bain, Nora Barnes, Oakley Benge, Madeline Bevington, Alyssa Birt, Mya Bohn, Ashton Boswell, Parker Boswell, Ian Brown, Ethan Bruce, and Paighton Buffington.

Emma Cooper, Brandon Cox, Sidney Crill, Brianna Crozier, Isaac Currin, Tierney Dalton, Hunter Davidson, Samantha Davies, Emma DeVore, Andraya Dimmler, and Paul Douglas.

Quaid Eddy, Evan Fast, Mackenzie Fast, Ella Finical, Vanessa Fletchall, Victoria Fletchall, Ian Forsythe, Miaya Fourez, and Sophia Freshour.

Piper Govig, Carly Green, Devin Greenwalt, Sadie Groszkrueger, Maggie Haer, Tate Haffner, Riley Hartman, Cael Hogan, and Tegan Hoyt.

Lauren Inman, Colin Jacobs, Elijah Jacobs, Ethan James, Lucas James, and John Jones.

Anjali Kathikar, Olivia Kathikar, Layla Konecne, Dakota Krause, Charlee Larsen, Kathryn Lillie, Ada Lund, and Adyson Lundquist.

Brayden Maeder, Mackenzie Maeder, Evy

Marlin, Thatcher Marsh-Narigon-Holdsworth, Lindsay Maurer, Carlita McCoy, Madeline McCoy, Julia Means, Matthew Means, Miller Means, Wyatt Mendenhall, Derek Morales, Ryanne Mullen, Tianna Nelson, Kya Newton, Cord Nippert, and Grace Nippert.

Kaya Owen, Owen Paul, and Kailyn Pritchard. Megan Ramsey, Michael Ramsey, Alyssa Randall, Hailey Randall, Ashlynn Reser, Mackenzie Richards, Karissa Richey, Zoey Rinehart, Ely Rodriguez, Abigail Sanderson, Penelope Sanderson, Jayley Schlapia, Morgan Shuler, KC Sitzman, Reagan Sonntag, Mariah Sparks, and Dylan Stormer.

Desirae Tacner, Evan Timmerman, Haidyn Top, Delaney True, Garret True, Natalie True, Tyler True, Logan Westlake, Jazmin Weston, Elizabeth Wetzel, Gavin Wetzel, Rebecca Wetzel, and Shae Wolf.

Delaney Yates, and Natalia Zimmerman.

Red Oak Honor Rolls

SECOND SEMESTER HIGH HONOR ROLL

7th grade: AJ Beeson, Ella Blackman, Dalton Ferree, Hudson Fisher, Elizabeth Fowler, Casey Johnson, Madilyn Johnson, Seth Lydon, Wyatt Ogden, William Pollock, Kaleb Sebeniecher, Ashton Vrba, and Emma Wingert.

8th grade: Caitlin Britten, Sawyer Bruce, Pace Chaillie, Carson Davids, Brooklyn Gilleland, Emmanuel Grass, Gillian Heim, Cathryn Horn, Natalie Johnson, Keely Jones, Gavin Lindsay, Maddison Lopez, Vivian Lucas, Jaileigh Lundquist, Rylan Mirts, Reese Montgomery, Jackson Perdue, Marlee Perrien, Dystiney Pruett, Mariel Ramirez, Amber Rea, Rowyn Rigby, Dillan Rydberg, Sophie Snyder, Ryan Soar, Sergio Villanueva, Leya Walker, Haylee Wallace, and Mhylee Wallace.

9th grade: Jesika Aldrich, Sophie Devito, Jayda Edie, Ethan Fouts, Josie Goldapp, Cale Hall, Karly Jenkins, Ellison Johnson, Sianna Klepinger, Sarah Knight, Mykinzie Magill, Lily Marsden, Jacob Patterson, Mareli Ramos, Seth Richards, Zoie Rohrig, Emily Sebeniecher, Alyssa Strebe, Anna Wenberg, and Bryce Williams.

10th grade: Brody Bond, Nicole Bond, Kennedy DeVries, Landon Gigstad, Grace Goldapp, Ella Johnson, Alexis Joint, Brynn Knaus, Jessica Knight, Raevyn Lucas, Emma Moles-Dollen, Iris Ogden, Kadyn Riibe, Brinkly Sallach, Kyle Sandholm, Brayden Sifford, Blake Sloan, Nevaeh Soar.

11th grade: Brenna Baier, Tyler Beeson, Bryton Bergren, Olivia Bozwell, Hayden Brenner, Cloie Bruce, Sebastian Clear, Kiah Cooper, Ethan Davids, Max DeVries, Vincent Filpi, Ty Jenkins, Kaysie Kells, Elaine Klepinger, Joshua LeRette, Jaydin Lindsay, Joselyn McCunn, Cyrus Mensen, Merced Ramirez, Hailey Rydberg, Grace Wingfield, and Kaden Wingfield.

12th grade: Joanna Bloomer, Dawson Bond, Haley Branam, Aiden Bruce, Landon Couse, Lainey DeVries, Danique Dobbe, Jacob Eggers, Samuel Fields, James Gass, Michelle Grass, Josie Rengstorf, Tessa Rolenc, and Braden Woods.

SECOND SEMESTER HONOR ROLL

7th grade: Niveya Armstrong, Aubrey Bass, Kaylee Blackman, Paisley Gettler, Hayden Hietbrink, Kayden Hunger, Anabella Kling, Bryleigh Mauer, Davis Mayberry, Madilynn Moyer, Kaidyn Pence, Miah Plumlee, Dailon Reafleng, Analli Torres, Jax VanHouten, Haylee Walters, Brandon Zamarron, and Izic Zarate.

8th grade: Owen Blystone, Paulina Bueno, Keidy Camilo Perez, Elliott Cartwright, Weston Couse, Elliana Freshour, Audrina Johnson, Mickenzie Miner, Madison Osheim, Osiel Pedersen, Guadalupe Ramos, Jared Scriver, Gabrielle Smith, Jesika Smith, Ethan Strunk, Elaina Utecht, Carson VanScoy, Ashton Williams, and Raelissah Wilson.

9th grade: Judy Budka, Emelia Coover, Anabel DeCesare, Masen Fisher, Dayton Gusman, Myhlie McCunn, Jocelyn O'Neal, Madilyn Parker, Ashlynn Reafleng, Mariella Richards-Hernandez, Madison Roach, Louisa Stickland, and Thomas Wilcoxon.

10th grade: Adam Baier, Elizabeth Baucom, Jacob Brower, Jersey Churchill, Lillian Cobb, Chloe Conn, Alyson DeCesare, Brett Erickson, Marley Gray, Ilana Johnson, Jaide Larson, Adelia Lydon, Hope Schmadeke, Ashley Schmid, Lena Torbett, Cassandra Vera, Pablo Villanueva, Victoria Wendt, and Logan Williams.

11th grade: Prashna Bell, Jakson Biggerstaff, Macartnie Boeye, Griffin Eubank, Hunter Gilleland, Heath Jackson, Hunter Jarrett, Abigail Johnson, Bennett Johnson, Ukume Latus-Pantoja, Blayke Mirts, Anderson Ruhl, Brayden Sego, Bryce Shirley, Annabelle Squires, and Gracie Strunk.

12th grade: Heavyn Aherns, Bridgett Archer, Tymberlee Bentley, Guadalupe Bowen, Kayden Bozwell, Camden Chamberlain, Logan Conn, Brandon Erp, Riley Fouts, Isabella Glassel, Ren Halvin, Jackson Kling, Lexi Meier, Chase Roeder, AJ Schmid, Fateen Sealy, Hannah Smith, Josie Vanderhoof, Jonah Wemhoff, and Ethan Wenberg.

Have a great summer!

Stronger the Press, Stronger the People

VIEWPOINTS

THE TIME CAPSULE | ROY MARSHALL

\$5 house calls

In November of 1957, the three members of Montgomery County's Board of Supervisors—Reuben Johnson, C.R. Lagergren, and Clifford Jones—met with two doctors representing the Montgomery County Medical Society.

Dr. Glenn Skallerup, MD, president, and Dr. Jack Fickel, MD, secretary of that organization, were there to sign an agreement intended to assure that "all indigent Montgomery County poor having legal settlement in Montgomery County, Iowa, may receive competent and proper medical and surgical attention commencing December 1, 1957."

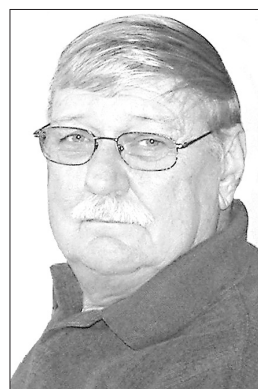
The agreement included a fee schedule stipulating payments those doctors, all of them members of the Montgomery County Medical Society, would receive from the county for services provided to eligible patients.

- The fee for daytime house calls within the city limits was \$5.
- House calls at night or on weekends and holidays were \$8.
- Routine hospital visits were \$3.
- Office calls (to include examination, prescriptions, and inexpensive medication) were \$3.
- Lab work ranged from \$2 to \$5 per procedure
- Immunizations were \$3 each, as were routine vaginal and rectal exams and treatments

Conditions requiring more intensive attention were to be billed by individual case, with a "Special Report" to justify any additional charge. (These reports must have been interesting reading for county supervisors.)

But were doctors in the 1950s and '60s actually making house calls?

Charlotte Wookey Skallerup assures me they were, and she was in a position to know. She was married to the only surgeon in this



county at the time, and she also managed his office.

Glenn Skallerup was born in Walker in 1921. He was studying medicine at the University of Iowa when drafted into the military during World War II.

He served four years, then returned to finish college, after which he interned in Cincinnati.

When he came to Red Oak in 1953 he was looking for a larger town and planned to be here only a short time. He liked the people, though, and the Murphy Memorial Hospital on High Street, got along well with other Red Oak doctors and practiced here for over 35 years.

Charlotte Wookey grew up near Hawthorne. She graduated from Red Oak High School in 1956, valedictorian of her senior class. Awarded a \$250 academic scholarship, she attended Simpson College, graduated, and was teaching junior high and high school girls physical education in Red Oak when she met Dr. Skallerup. They were married in 1961.

She took his calls while he was at work and she took his calls at home. Dr. Skallerup didn't take vacations. He was on call during his entire career.

There was no 911, no cell phones, and when he left either the office or their home his wife knew where to find him. She'd call for him at the hospital, at the home of a patient, the barber shop, shoe store or the meat market, and often she'd see him off in the middle of the night or on a holiday weekend.

I asked her about the scheduled rates. She laughed and said there

were times he didn't charge that much.

He was paid a flat \$75 for an appendectomy. Dr. Bastrom didn't like performing circumcisions, so when requested Dr. Skallerup would do them as a favor.

He once surgically removed a living baby from a deceased mother. He sometimes paid for patient services from his own pocket, and a news item about him tells us he was highly regarded by other doctors for his surgical skills and accuracy in diagnosis.

Mrs. Skallerup spoke of her association with the Hospital Auxiliary. Dr. Skallerup was a Shriner. Both were active members of the Hawthorne Methodist Church and both participated in monthly meetings of the Montgomery County Medical Society.

At these meetings Dr.'s Alden, Fickle, Bastrom, Smith, Hanson, Edmund and Skallerup and their wives had dinner at the Red Oak Country Club, then spent the evening discussing the latest in procedures, medications, equipment and other relevant medical developments.

Dr. Skallerup retired in 1988 but remained active in the Medical Society. After his death in 2007 this newspaper made reference to his service as a doctor and surgeon in Red Oak and at the Corning Hospital and also praised the Skallerup's financial support of the hospital, the Industrial Foundation, 4-H and other deserving organizations and individuals.

We probably have male subscribers who met Dr. Skallerup at a very young age and are unaware that he performed for them a rather delicate procedure—which he did as a favor.

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.

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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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WHO WE ARE

Employees in order of continuous service: Trish Deitchler, Graphic Design; Peggy Boeye, Office Manager, News; Ann Watt, Mail; Nick Johansen, News Reporter; Charm Carpenter, Sports Reporter; Tracy Schooling, Driver; Nanny Crowe, Circulation; Joshua Byers, Regional Publisher.

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

Community Calendar

8 June

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.

4:30 p.m., "Chicks with Sticks" ladies golf tournament at the Red Oak Country Club, 2038 200th St. Social hour at 4:30 p.m. tee-off at 5:30 p.m. See story on this page for further details.

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.

9 June

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 p.m., "Training: Launch Your Business with Customer-Focused Marketing," Corning Opera House, 800 Davis Ave., Corning. Free to attend. See story on this page for further details.

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

5:30-7:30 p.m., Business After Hours, LJ Aesthetics, 1503 N. Broadway, south corner of the Hy-Vee Plaza. See story on this page for further details.

7 p.m., "Gordon Lightfoot: If You Could Read My Mind," theatre #1; "Book Club: The Next Chapter," theatre #2; Red Oak Grand Theatre.

10 June

9 a.m.-noon, Red Oak Farmers Market, northeast corner of Fountain Square Park.

4-8 p.m., Saturday in the Park, Anderson Park in Essex, farmers market/vendor fair, live music. See story on this page for more information.

7 p.m., "Gordon Lightfoot: If You Could Read My Mind," theatre #1; "Book Club: The Next Chapter," theatre #2; Red Oak Grand Theatre.

11 June

2 and 7 p.m., "Gordon Lightfoot: If You Could Read My Mind," theatre #1; "Book Club: The Next Chapter," theatre #2; Red Oak Grand Theatre.

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

12 June

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.

13 June

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.

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.

14 June

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.

Red Oak Rotary welcomes new members



The Red Oak Rotary Club added two new members to its organization June 1. Pictured left, Red Oak Rotarian Carrie Shalters welcomes Lindsay Blaine. Pictured right, new member Curtis White is welcomed by Red Oak Rotarian Emily Martin. Members of the Rotary said Blaine and White both bring a desire for service and they are pleased they chose to join the Rotary. (Photo submitted)

Business After Hours June 9

The Red Oak Chamber and Industry Association is hosting a Business After Hours event at LJ Aesthetics at 1503 N. Broadway St. in the south corner of the

Hy-Vee Plaza from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. June 9.

Appetizers and drinks will be provided. The public is invited to attend.

Ladies golf tournament June 8

The Red Oak Country Club is hosting a "Chicks with Sticks" golf event at the Red Oak Country Club, 2038 200th St.

The event kicks off June 8 at 4:30 p.m. with a social hour, and tee-off is at 5:30 p.m. Hole prizes will be announced at the tee-off.

Cost to participate is \$18 for

non-members with a \$12 fee for golf cart rental. Golfing is free for members, but they will be charged a \$12 fee to rent a cart.

If planning to eat, orders need placed by 8:30. If players are on the course they can call in their order at 623-4281.

Free training session in Corning

Main Street Corning is hosting a free training session at 5 p.m. June 9 at the Corning Opera House, 800 Davis Ave., Corning.

"Launch Your Business with Customer-Focused Marketing" will give participants an opportunity to learn strong customer-focused marketing strategies to

reach an audience and turn them into local customers, beyond offering good products and services.

RSVPs are requested by emailing mscorning@adamscountyiowa.com. For more information, visit adamscounty-iowa.com/main-street/.

Happy Anniversary!

Celebrating their anniversaries this week are:

- Brian and Kara Yeager – June 10
- Wendell and Jeannine Gourley – June 12

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.

Essex hosting Saturday in the Park

The public is invited to a Saturday in the Park event from 4 to 8 p.m. June 10 at Anderson Park.

A farmers market and vendor fair will be held from 4 to 7 p.m., Live music by Jeff Slater will be offered from 6 to 8 p.m.

Food trucks will also be available from 4 to 8 p.m. Other

activities include a bags tournament, face painting from 5 to 7 p.m., and a bounce house.

Attendees are requested to bring a lawn chair. If attendees are over the age of 21, they can also bring an adult beverage to enjoy as well.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

Senior Menu

Thursday, June 8: Ham and white beans, peas, steamed cauliflower, carrots, corn bread, cookie, beverage mix.

Friday, June 9: Sloppy joe on a bun, ranch potatoes, mixed vegetables, fruited gelatin, beverage

mix.

Monday, June 12: Sliced roast beef with brown gravy, whipped potatoes, peas, oreo brownie, beverage mix.

Tuesday, June 13: Hamburger patty on a bun, roasted red pota-

toes, baked beans, cherry gelatin, beverage mix.

Wednesday, June 14: Chicken and rice casserole, club spinach, wheat bread slice, peach crisp, beverage mix.

For more information, call the

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

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

Happy Birthday!

Celebrating birthdays are:

- Tom Hallcock – June 8
- Dana Swanson – June 9
- Roger Magnussen – June 9
- Bryan O'Flynn – June 9
- Linda Clark – June 10
- Tom Docker – June 12
- Ed Foote – June 13
- Norma Marsh – June 13
- Bob Kinser – June 14

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.

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., 6 p.m.; Wednesday, Prayer, 7 p.m. Grace Baptist, 525 Main St., Griswold, Victor Maxson, Bible study, 10 a.m., Worship, 11 a.m. Online: 11 a.m. livestream.

Southern Baptist

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

Catholic

St. Joseph's, 131 W. High, Villisca, Father 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.

Jehovah's Witness

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

Lutheran

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

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

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

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

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

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, 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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Cable Companies THURSDAY EVENING JUNE 8, 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 channels.

Cable Companies FRIDAY EVENING JUNE 9, 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 channels.

Cable Companies SATURDAY EVENING JUNE 10, 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 channels.

Cable Companies SUNDAY EVENING JUNE 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 channels.

Cable Companies MONDAY EVENING JUNE 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 channels.

Cable Companies TUESDAY EVENING JUNE 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 channels.

Cable Companies WEDNESDAY EVENING JUNE 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 channels.

ACORN acres logo and advertisement for Red Oak's Elderly Housing. Text includes: 'NOW TAKING APPLICATIONS', 'Red Oak's Elderly Housing', 'One bedroom apartments', '*Utilities included *Garbage pick-up', '*Appliances furnished *Mail delivered to the door', '*Community room for tenants' family use', '*Laundry facilities on-site', 'ACORN acres', '1805 N 8th St. • Red Oak, IA 51566', 'For more information call 712 623 4558'.

More funding options outlined for Red Oak infrastructure

Nick Johansen
The Red Oak Express

The City of Red Oak heard an update on financing for potential infrastructure projects.

At a special meeting May 30, the council heard a presentation from Chip Schultz with Northland Securities. Schultz shared a breakdown of the principal and interest on outstanding city bond issues, consisting of general obligation debt only. Bonds had been issued in 2012, 2015, 2018, and 2019.

"The city's annual debt service per year has been roughly in the \$930,000 to \$1 million range. In fiscal year 2024-25 it drops to \$661,675, and drops down materially in 2025-26 to \$523,725. Looking five years out, in 2027-28, your annual debt service existing, general obligation debt only, is \$463,900, and drops down accordingly after that," Schultz said.

In the last five years, for general obligation bonds only, Schultz said the city has paid off \$3,830,000 in principal. In the last seven years, the total principal paid off has been \$4,870,000, and over 10 years, the paid off principal is \$6,530,000. Schultz said the takeaway is that more debt has been paid off than has been issued.

"If you look into the future, it reflects a hypothetical future debt payment of \$925,000 beginning the next fiscal year. The debt service payments would be lower than what the city has had historically, and it's an opportunity to fund new projects without increasing the city's annual debt service," commented Schultz. "The city has a pretty decent debt service fund balance, and there's a little bit of room I've worked with in using a portion of that balance. That element combined with a lower annual future debt service pay-

ment after fiscal year 2024-25 gives the city room to fund new projects in the context of also having a lower debt service tax levy each year."

Schultz added essential corporate purpose projects are considered to be streets, water, sanitary sewer, sidewalks, and fire department equipment.

"The city would simply need to hold a public hearing to proceed with the financing for these types of projects, and it wouldn't require a public referendum. This is the same process the city has followed for many financings in the past. With a general obligation bond issue, you can fund whichever housing projects you decide to proceed with. It doesn't require a public referendum and gives the city a clear path forward for funding those projects," advised Schultz.

Another project under consideration was renovations to the fire station. Schultz explained that while the project was under urban renewal authority as essential corporate purpose, funding it with a general obligation bond was subject to reverse referendum, in which 10% of the electors who voted in the most recent city-wide election would be able to petition the project to be taken to referendum. There would be no dollar limit. The approach required an urban renewal plan amendment, a public hearing on an urban renewal plan amendment, and all proceedings prepared by Dorsey & Whitney, the city's bond counsel. The city used the same authority for the 2019 general obligation bonds for the Red Oak Municipal Pool project.

Schultz then outlined five potential general obligation bond scenarios the city could pursue.

- A bond issue of \$2.3 million with \$1.3 million for North Housing public infrastructure for the proposed townhome devel-



Chip Schultz with Northland Securities discusses the City of Red Oak's bonding capacity at the May 30 special meeting. (Nick Johansen/The Red Oak Express)

opment, and \$1 million for the purchase of a new fire truck. The payment structure would be for 13 years. The debt service levy per \$1,000 valuation would be \$3.50766 for the 2024-25 budget, falling to \$2.80. Beginning in 2026-27, the debt levy would fall to \$2.10.

- A bond issue of \$3.5 million, with \$1.3 million for North Housing public infrastructure for the proposed townhome development, \$1 million for the purchase of a new fire truck, and \$1.2 million for additional housing project infrastructure. The payment structure would be for 14 years. The debt service levy per \$1,000 valuation would be \$3.50766 for the 2024-25 budget, falling to \$3.10. Beginning in 2026-27, the debt levy would fall to \$2.60.

- A bond issue of \$3.9 million, with \$1.3 million for North

Housing public infrastructure for the proposed townhome development, \$1 million for the purchase of a new fire truck, and \$1.6 million for renovations to the fire station. The payment structure would be for 14 years. The debt service levy per \$1,000 valuation would be \$3.50766 for the 2024-25 budget, falling to \$3.25. Beginning in 2026-27, the debt levy would fall to \$2.80.

- A bond issue of \$5.1 million, with \$1.3 million for North Housing public infrastructure for the proposed townhome development, \$1 million for the purchase of a new fire truck, \$1.6 million for renovations to the fire station, and \$1.2 million for additional housing project infrastructure. The payment structure would be for 16 years. The debt service levy per \$1,000 valuation would be \$3.50766 for the 2024-25 budget, falling to \$3.40.

Beginning in 2026-27, the debt levy would fall to \$2.90.

- A bond issue of \$5.1 million, with \$1.3 million for North Housing public infrastructure for the proposed townhome development, \$1 million for the purchase of a new fire truck, \$1.6 million for renovations to the fire station, and \$1.2 million for additional housing project infrastructure. The plan factors in \$500,000 from city funds or grant dollars assumed. The payment structure would be for 15 years. The debt service levy per \$1,000 valuation would be \$3.50766 for the 2024-25 budget, falling to \$3.35. Beginning in 2026-27, the debt levy would fall to \$2.90.

If the city went with the highest bonding capacity, Schultz said the city's peak debt service levy, beginning in fiscal year 2025 and after is \$3.40, 10 cents lower than the \$3.50766 budgeted for 2023-24.

"Given the debt the city has paid off, and the lower debt service payments in the future, you have the ability to fund these projects while having a debt service levy in 2026-27 that's 50 cents lower than your debt service levy next year," Schultz stated. "No other projects are assumed, just this financing, but this accomplishes a lot for the city and would perhaps be the only financing the city needs for a year or two."

Schultz said the information gave the council as decision-makers, as well as the public, information on how the city might proceed and contemplate what the projects would do to the city's taxes.

"It's all very preliminary, but I think as you evaluate projects, you would want to have this information in front of you so you can make a better informed decision," Schultz commented.

Schultz also laid out the city's

legal debt capacity, based on the broadest project scope of \$5.1 million.

"In 2023-24, the city's legal debt limit is \$14,070,629. The principal balance, including that financing, would be \$9,760,000 in principal outstanding if the \$5.1 million in projects were bonded for, and the city would be at roughly 69.1% of its available legal debt limit for one year," explained Schultz. "The following year, once the debt was paid down, the city would be at 62.9% after the first year. The reason I mention that is because in fiscal year 2019-20, the city was also at 62% of its legal debt limit. There would be one year where the city is above that threshold, but after it's paid down, it will fall back down. Some cities have a self-imposed debt limit where they only go to 80% or 85% of their legal debt limit, and the city would be well below that. In 2026-27, the city is back down to under 50% of its legal debt limit."

Schultz also said the city's revenues from the housing property, per year, would be roughly \$65,345, and the payoff point would be around 20 years, when the total revenue generated would be \$1,306,897.

The council also discussed a letter of engagement for Northland securities as underwriter for the City of Red Oak. Schultz said the letter was non-binding, and if the city decided not to proceed with any of the projects discussed under the potential general obligation bonds, there would be no cost to the city.

The council approved a letter of engagement for Northland Securities. The council also expressed its appreciation for Schultz' efforts in outlining funding options available to the city for funding the proposed projects.

West Central lease termination request approved

Nick Johansen
The Red Oak Express

The Montgomery County Board of Supervisors has agreed to a contract termination for West Central Community Action.

Currently, West Central maintains an office at the Highland Annex building at 1109 Highland Ave. The termination was to be effective no later than June 30. Montgomery County Supervisor Charla Schmid said the termination was needed due to a move. "West Central is moving to the former Sunshine 'N' Rainbows building at 1201 Highland Ave. This will allow everything to be under one roof rather than one office at the annex and one at Sunshine 'N' Rainbows," Schmid said.

Supervisors Chair Mike Olson said there might be a potential renter for the space West Central Community Action is leaving.

"I'm not sure, but it's my understanding that Family Connections, which is currently also located at the Highland Annex, is very interested in absorbing that former space. Maintenance supervisor Dan

Wright has been approached," stated Olson.

Supervisor Donna Robinson said she was pleased at the possibility for an expansion for both entities.

"I'm pleased that West Central is going to make the move, and since that would be a loss of revenue, I was wondering about if anyone would be wanting that office space, so that's good news. I was hoping we'd have someone that would be able to move in there," commented Robinson.

The supervisors also heard comments from county engineer Karen Albert, who said work is expected to begin in 2024 to finish portions of the resurfacing project on H34. The project is earmarked to progress early next year.

"We are in the process of putting plans together. It is on our five-year construction plan for the 2024 fiscal year. We're looking to let the project for bids early next year," Albert said.

There are two phases remaining, one in front of the Red Oak Country Club, and the farthest east portion of the project. Plans call for both remaining phases to



West Central Community Action will combine its offices at the former Sunshine 'N' Rainbows building later this summer. (Nick Johansen/The Red Oak Express)

go out for bids simultaneously.

"We're hoping if we can let them for bids at the same time, it will bring down the costs and get us a better price," commented Albert.

Albert said so far, there were no other conflicts with other potential road projects on H-34

that would prevent the completion of the resurfacing project.

Also, the secondary roads department prepared the county's gravel roads for dust abatement upcoming dust control measures are planned for the Fourth of July, and Labor Day.

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RO Fire Department looking to replace 34 year old truck

Nick Johansen
The Red Oak Express

The Red Oak City Council is looking to replace an outdated fire truck with a newer model.

At a special meeting of the Red Oak City Council May 30, the council met with Red Oak fire Chief John Bruce, who said plans to replace the department's 1989 fire engine 130, had been developed under Red Oak's prior fire chief. Bruce said there were a number of issues due to the truck's age.

"It failed its pump test in November 2019, August 2020, October 2021, and November 2022. A pump test measures the input and output of the truck's gallons per minute. It means the pump can't keep up with the National Fire Protection Association standards of so many gallons per minute. The failure of the pump is reducing the water flow," explained Bruce.

The significance of having effective fire engines, equipment, and personnel also impacted insurance rates. Bruce said The ISO (Insurance Services Office) Fire Score is a rating that determines how well the fire department can protect your community and home.

"Right now, we are currently at a four, which is really good for a rural setting. There's 105 points of an ISO rating, and 39 alone are apparatus and personnel response; it plays a huge part. It basically answers the question of how much response time is required for the first truck, second truck, a ladder truck, if needed, personnel, and how many gallons per minute of water can be used on the fire right away," advised Bruce. "Also, it doesn't just apply to Red Oak residents, it applies to our rural residents. We have insurance companies that will contact us and ask for the same rates as well. That's how the customers get that price range determined for them. There is a business aspect to us having good stuff."

While the truck was currently under reserve status, NFPA standards indicated reserve fire trucks should be no more than 25 years old, due to wear and tear and safety standards, and the truck was nine years beyond that.

"We've put on bandage after bandage to the point where it's no longer viable to use it. It has none of the new safety standards, and they're even having problems finding parts for these trucks now. Also, everything is getting more expensive," commented Bruce.

Among the issues needing to be addressed to bring the truck up to NFPA standards would be non-slip walking surfaces and handrails, the addition of a load manager system, an updated auxiliary braking

system, new engine belts, fuel lines and filters, and new brake lines.

Another big issue was timing. Bruce said to get a new fire truck ordered and delivered, even if they moved forward now, it would be in the realm of 41 to 44 and a half months until delivery if the truck was ordered immediately.

"This has turned into another problem, as we've dragged our feet on buying a replacement and now it's getting farther and farther out before we can get a new one delivered," Bruce said.

Councilperson Brian Bills asked how trucks were priced with such a delay noted between delivery. Bruce said once an agreement was signed, the price was locked in. Until that was done, approximately every 90 days, there could be a hike in the cost of materials. Also, if an agreement was signed, the truck would not need to be purchased right away.

The department's current first line apparatus, according to the NFPA standards, should be no more than 15 years old. Fire engine 131 on the first line is 14 years old, which means that it is pushing the point where it should be moved to the second line.

Bruce said they had done everything available to extend the life of Engine 130 as far as possible.

"Like usual, as we've moved through these projects, if you didn't have the funding available, we tried to find ways around it. Now we've pushed it to the point where Engine 130 is not even supposed to be getting used, and I don't want to see something happen," Bruce said. "And since we're sitting on a failed pump test, I'm not sure we can use that truck in an ISO rating right now, and I definitely don't want to do anything to our citizens that would raise their insurance rates."

While NFPA recommendations were to limit the trucks to 25 years of service, Bruce said they worked hard to get around 30 years of service.

"We are very religious on our maintenance here. It's done every year to keep those trucks alive and going. It's just that this one is way past the standard, and our mainline engine is encroaching on that 25 year standard. We're trying to get ahead of it."

After reviewing budgets with former city administrator Al Vacanti, Bruce said he felt the department was at a point where it was time to present the need, and council action would be greatly appreciated.

The new truck would be a Pierce Impel PUC pumper. Bruce said they selected Pierce because it holds the primary fleet at the department.



Red Oak Fire Chief John Bruce discusses the purchase of a new fire truck at the special council meeting May 30. (Nick Johansen/The Red Oak Express)

"It gives us uniformity for our parts and maintenance. We can order any part off that truck because they go off build numbers. We also have access to their engineers free of charge. When we had issues with our aerial truck, they flew two engineers out. The engineers reprogrammed the truck and it was not a penny out of our pocket for the work. That's them standing behind their product. They also have a shop in Des Moines for other mechanical work, so they can come to us, or we can come to them," explained Bruce.

While other companies built trucks, they had strict standards in regards to the builds for the trucks, and Pierce's strong maintenance offerings were a big factor in selecting trucks from Pierce.

Bruce said it was uncertain if any grants would be available to assist in the truck's purchase, and most unfortunately did not go very far towards the cost of purchasing a vehicle as expensive as a new fire truck.

Since the item on the agenda had no action, the council agreed to discuss support of the purchase of the new engine at a future council meeting.

Board approves work on boiler at Inman Elementary

Nick Johansen
The Red Oak Express

The Red Oak School Board met in special session May 25 to finalize building and equipment upgrades and to dispose of unused property.

Red Oak superintendent Ron Lorenz said the first item under discussion involved acceptance of a low bid of \$9,063 from Jones Mechanical in Red Oak to replace the heat exchanger on the boiler at Inman Elementary.

"The heat exchanger on the boiler failed. Crews are in the process of purging the system, and we wanted to get the unit purchased so we could replace it and get all the work done at once. It wasn't something we necessarily expected, but it's something we have to do," Lorenz said.

The board approved the Jones

Mechanical bid as presented.

The board also discussed and approved a revised bid of \$105,800 from School Bus Sales Co. of Waterloo, for a handicap-accessible minibus with a wheelchair lift. On Jan. 25, the board had approved the purchase of a Thomas Minotaur new minibus with a wheelchair lift and a 14 person capacity for \$90,478. However, Lorenz said there were complications in attaining that approved bus.

"We thought everything was fine, but we recently learned our order was cancelled because they weren't able to obtain the chassis or undercarriage to actually build the vehicles, due to more supply chain issues, so that put us in scramble mode a little bit," stated Lorenz.

Following the order cancellation, Lorenz said they looked for a quality used bus with a wheel-

chair lift, but were unable to find one. Also, the district pursued retrofitting an existing wheelchair lift onto one of the district's existing buses but Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards made that option difficult. With that in mind, Lorenz said the district solicited new bids.

"We received two bids, and the School Bus Sales Co. bid was by far the lesser of the two bids," explained Lorenz. "The board acted to approve that revised bid, and we're optimistic we'll be able to get that bus by the end of the next school year. They said delivery would be in eight to 12 months."

The board also acted on approving some of the district's remaining ESSER funds to purchase and install new servers, at a cost of \$58,164.

"The current servers that serve the entire district are near-

ing their end of life. With the window starting to close on our ESSER funds, we wanted to use those funds to purchase new servers. We solicited quotes, and received three. Riverside Technologies, Inc., which is our current managed service provider, was by far the least expensive," commented Lorenz.

Also, the board approved the disposal of obsolete equipment in the district. Lorenz said board policy required approval before disposing of obsolete equipment.

"We typically use an on-line auction service called Purple Wave. I believe we've used them three times before, and they do a really nice job. The board agreed

to allow us to list two pianos, document cameras, Toshiba IP telephones, and some other items that are just collecting dust in a room. We expect that auction to already be underway," said Lorenz.

Finally, the board approved renewing Lorenz' three-year contract as superintendent.

COUNCIL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

Cost of the new computer and monitor was \$2,041. The council approved the purchase of the new computer.

The council also heard an update on the Eastern Avenue road project.

Silvius said the city had received an update from the contractors, and things were moving slowly.

"The project is not moving quite as quickly as we'd like, but they should be paving by the week of June 19, if not a little before," explained Silvius. "Some of the water system work held the project up a little bit."

Street superintendent Chris Baird said a complete closure of the road would eventually be required.

"There's going to come a point where there's just no way they can leave the approaches to the driveways. They can leave them while they're doing the

rock, but once they get past that, to the final grade, the approaches will have to come up," Baird said.

Councilperson Brian Bills asked how long the homeowners would be cut off from parking in their driveways. Baird said the time frame was around a week

from the time the gravel was laid until the time they would be able to lay the concrete.

Baird added the contractor was hopeful that the closure would be no more than a week.

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SATURDAY JUNE 10, 2023 9-4

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Oops...

Last week's article on "Equestrians question Hacklebarney trail closure" stated that a shelter had been donated by Pat Huntsman. The article should have stated the shelter was donated by Pat Victor, in memory of Bill Victor.