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**WEDNESDAY**

Oct. 26, 2022

Red Oak, IA

Volume 155, No.43

redoakexpress.com

# THE RED OAK Express

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Volunteers who helped implement a new community orchard on the east side of Evergreen Cemetery are, front row, from left: LWMC President Laura Kloewer, and Red Oak Elks Lodge #1304 Exalted Ruler Brad Baker. Back row, from left: LWMC Board Member Jamie Werges, and Elks Past Exalted Ruler Drew Swanson. (Nick Johansen/The Red Oak Express) (Nick Johansen/The Red Oak Express)

## Community orchard planted within Evergreen Cemetery

**Nick Johansen**  
The Red Oak Express

Live Well Montgomery County is celebrating the completion of a community orchard to help benefit the Red Oak community and the surrounding area.

In early October, 17 fruit trees, including apple, apricot, plum, pear, peach and cherry trees, and 10 fruit bushes, blackberry raspberry, and honeyberries, were planted at the community garden on the far eastern side of the Evergreen Cemetery. The funding was provided by a gratitude grant from the Elks National Foundation.

Laura Kloewer, President of the Live Well Montgomery County Board, said the idea for the orchard came from Red Oak Elks Lodge #1304 Exalted Ruler Brad Baker.

"Brad approached Live Well Montgomery County with the idea of getting some fruit trees and writing a grant with the Elks and asked us if it would be something we were interested in," explained Kloewer. "The idea of improving access to food for lower income residents in Montgomery County, and increasing beyond just the vegetables to more fruits seemed like a win-win, and we jumped at the chance to work together on the grant and add the fruit trees."

Baker said he and other members of the Elks felt there was a

definite need to add more pounds of produce and fruits back into the community.

"Working up here at the cemetery gives me the opportunity to see up close what's being done, and the people who are involved. It struck a chord that maybe we could go after putting an orchard in, and it fit the parameters of the Elks National Foundation Gratitude grant," advised Baker. "People contribute to that grant extra. It's not part of their dues, they simply choose to, and it funds grants back to the community and scholarships. We by far always get more back for our community than we give."

Baker worked with Grimm's Gardens out of Nebraska City, Neb., to determine the proper fruit trees and bushes to bring to the orchard.

"Doug Grimm is an international arborist, and he was all kinds of into this program and wanted to help out. When we wrote the grant we were hopeful we'd get five to eight trees, and they were able to deliver 17 trees and 10 bushes and he's coming back next fall to do all the trimming and pruning and teaching the person who is assigned to the orchard how to do it properly so it will take off," commented Baker.

Kloewer said they are considering harvesting options for when the fruit trees and berry bushes produce their crop.

"We have volunteers with the Live Well Board and the community who take care of harvesting produce and donating it to food pantries, and Acorn Acres, and here in the clinic. I would really like for the fruit to be available if someone is walking by and wants to pick apple or a peach to be able to do so, but we also want to have a strategy and process in place so we don't have waste," Kloewer

**ORCHARD, Page 8A**

**"What you eat is an incredibly important part of a person's health, so making sure people have access to that is extremely critical."**

Laura Kloewer

## Horror film shot nearby, stars plenty of local talent

**Tess Nelson**  
The Red Oak Express

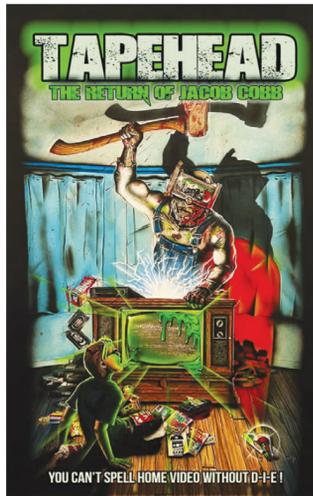
For those who enjoy horror movies from the 1980s and early 90s, there is a new killer in town.

"Tapehead: The Return of Jacob Cobb" has pretty much wrapped up shooting, and on Nov. 1 will begin the long, tedious editing phase, before it's released as an independent horror film in May or June of 2023.

Tapehead comes from the imagination of Dustin Mattson, who resides in Shenandoah with his wife, Meagan, and children, Jazmine and Tyson.

"I've been working on film in one aspect or another since high school. It wasn't until my mid 30s when I really decided there was nothing to lose," said Dustin. "I've been a fan of the genre for my entire life, and I felt like it was time that I actually contributed to it. Seeing what we have been able to do with basically no money is a gigantic confidence booster. We just have to try and get the world to pay attention to us now."

Dustin said Tapehead originated three to four years ago from a cartoon series for his YouTube Channel 3B Video. He explained it wasn't affordable to create a full season of a cartoon, so they swapped



Longtime friends Dillon Weeks, left, and Dustin Mattson on the set of Tapehead: The Return of Jacob Cobb. (Photo by Meagan Mattson)

out a full season of a cartoon for a short film that they managed to do in about four days. This was completed in June 2021 in the small town of Farragut, specifically in the former Dr. Henry Bonnes veterinary clinic on Main Street.

"The first short film was pretty much a proof of concept. This is the first feature length movie," explained Dillon Weeks, who plays Tapehead.

The full-length movie was filmed mainly in Shenandoah at the Mattson's home, although there is an alley scene shot in downtown Shenandoah by the Legacy 3 Theatre.

Mattson said the City of Shenandoah was very accommodating during production.

"We couldn't have done this without the support of them. They let us block off roads and alleys. Fareway in Shenandoah donated hamburger to feed the cast and crew, Shenandoah Inn & Suites let us have a room for an out of town cast member who had to fly in," Mattson recalled. "It was a truly amazing experience, and it helped making the movie be that much easier on us."

The majority of the cast is people from the Red Oak and Shenandoah area who know the Mattsons and share a love of the

theatre and/or horror films.

"Meagan and I thought Dillon would be a perfect fit based on our mutual love and respect for the genre. He brings a certain physicality to the role along with a truly intimidating aura. Everything from the way he turns his head, to the way he charges after a target. It truly takes a lot of talent to be able to act through all of the appliances he has to wear," Mattson said.

Taking place in the small rural Midwest town of Brower, Ill., Tapehead is about a young man, Jacob Cobb, a special needs teen who works in the backroom of his parents' video store.

"He is tragically killed when a prank goes wrong, and his death is covered up by the kids involved. So they don't know is that Jacob's blood soaked into the VHS rewinder, creating a bridge between life and death," Mattson said. "The cursed item is forgotten by time and is boxed up for over 20 years. Once it has been rediscovered, Jacob is awakened, rotten and angry."

Weeks, who resides in Red Oak, said the role of Tapehead is one he enjoys. Being a nice guy in real life, he said made pretending to be a maniacal killer fun.

"My costume is really user friendly;

**TAPEHEAD, Page 2A**

## District improves in school performance profiles

**Nick Johansen**  
The Red Oak Express

Inman Elementary and the Red Oak Jr./Sr. High School have improved their rankings in the Iowa Department of Education's 2022 School Performance Profiles.

Superintendent Ron Lorenz said the ratings were a requirement of the federal Every Student Succeeds Act, which called for districts to have school report cards.

"Both Inman and the junior/senior high school received acceptable overall ratings. The report cards compare districts on a number of dif-

ferent factors including participation rates on exams or state assessments, proficiency rates in English, language arts, and math assessments, student growth, and attendance. They take all those rates and distill it into a score, and compare districts based on that. We still have some work to do," Lorenz said.

The board also approved a hard surface roads only plan for the 2022-23 school year. Lorenz said the plan mainly went into play when gravel roads were unsafe or inaccessible.

"This includes situations when gravel roads are too icy

to drive on, or have drifted, or possibly in the spring when they are too muddy or too rutted to drive. We ask parents to transport their students to the hard surface closest to their home and get kids to and from school without getting busses stuck or having accidents," advised Lorenz.

Lorenz added the parents were given a window of when to have the kids at the route pick ups, but no kids were ever left behind. In cases where the parents were not able to pick up kids in the allotted time after school, the students were transported back to the school and the parents picked them

up there.

Also approved was the purchase of a van with a lift for the school's lunch program. Lorenz said there have been a number of issues with the district's existing van.

"It doesn't have a ton of miles, only around 68,000 miles on it, but it's been in the shop several times for repairs, and we're also having some problems with the external lift," Lorenz said.

Since the district had sufficient funds in the childhood nutrition account, Lorenz said they wished to purchase a new van and use the existing one

**BOARD, Page 7A**



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# Contention at city council meeting over city administrator evaluations

Tess Nelson  
The Red Oak Express

At the Monday, Oct. 17, Red Oak city council meeting, things got a little heated when discussing an employee evaluation form for the city administrator. Red Oak city council members Tim Fridolph and Pete Wemhoff have been working on a new employee evaluation form for the past couple months.

The two first worked independently on a form and then on a combined form. While the two of them agreed on several aspects, there were a few discrepancies.

Fridolph said he contacted Lisa Mart, human resource and management adviser for the Iowa Municipalities Compensation Association and sent her his form to look over. He said Mart informed him he was "on the right track."

"I approach this as something that has not been consistent in the past. I just feel we need to do better than before, and it's not just about any current position," Fridolph said. "I feel it is important to have certain things in place now and for the future."

Another area where Wemhoff and Fridolph disagreed was on having department heads conduct annual evaluations on the city administrator. Fridolph said he was told by Mart it is not out of the ordinary for that to happen.

When councilmember Brian Bills asked Wemhoff why he feels department heads should not fill out an evaluation form, Wemhoff replied, "I just feel a lot of department heads feel like they are getting evaluated every day or they are going to Brad anyhow already and telling him how they feel, and you don't need to fill out a piece of

paper to say that or to do that. They have a job to do besides fill out a form."

Wemhoff added that department heads should additionally be given an option on whether or not to fill out the evaluation.

Fridolph said he feels getting feedback from department heads is important and added if the annual forms are confidential; there will be more honest answers.

Fridolph and Wemhoff also differ in opinion about Mayor Shawna Silvius' role and her being able to conduct an evaluation on the city administrator.

Fridolph said he reached out to Mickey Shields, Director of Member Services for the Iowa League of Cities who said, "While each city has the full power to determine things like this, I would say all cities I've worked with include the mayor in the evaluation of the city administrator/manager. The mayor is obviously an elected official, and while they cannot vote (in most cities, since most of our members utilize the Mayor-Council form of government) they still directly represent the citizens along with the council members. I understand the view that the council is the body that approves the hiring (or termination) of a city administrator, but the mayor also plays a key role as an elected official."

I would also look at this type of situation from the opposite view - why would a mayor not be included in the evaluation of a key city staff position? In my experience, it would be awfully hard to explain why an elected representative of the community does not take part in such discussions/evaluations of the city government's top staff."

Mayor Silvius then passed out a copy of the city ordinance defining her role as mayor to each council member, as well as City Clerk Mary Bolton and City Administrator Brad Wright. She also handed out a chain of

command work chart.

"As we continue these conversations on how people work together, we need to follow our ordinances and [think about] why people are elected to positions," Silvius said.

Fridolph wanted the council to be aware of the impasse he and Wemhoff are in with their different views. He urged his fellow council members to reach out to other communities to see what they do when it comes to evaluating the city administrator.

Lastly, Fridolph informed the council that current city administrator Brad Wright was given a copy of his and Wemhoff's evaluations to look over and give feedback on. Wright told Fridolph and Wemhoff he disagreed with the sentence that says he is to "provide administrative support and assistance to the mayor."

When asked to elaborate, Wright replied, "I'm not sure how far this conversation is going to go in an open meeting, I guess, Tim."

"I'm not evaluating you, I'm asking a question, that is all I'm doing," Fridolph said. "You do not feel it is necessary or you didn't think we should leave on here, that says, 'provide administrative support and assistance to the mayor,' and if we left it on there, you'd just get a zero on that. So, I would just like to know why and then again, let the council think about it and decide from there if it needs to be included."

"I'm pretty sure we just branched over into a personnel matter," said Wright.

"I just asked a question about content on the evaluation form," said Fridolph. "This is content on a form that there is feeling should not be included."

This issue will be discussed further and voted upon at the Monday, Nov. 7 meeting.

# Rossander questions Byers meeting over pipeline ordinance

Nick Johansen  
The Red Oak Express

The Montgomery County Board of Supervisors were urged to take action on the proposed carbon pipeline ordinance.

Vicki Rossander, representing the Montgomery County Planning and Zoning Commission, met with the supervisors, and commented on the recent events that have put a hold on the ordinance that was approved weeks ago by the commission.

At a prior meeting, Planning and Zoning Commission Member Naomi McCunn sent a letter which stated she felt it was in the best interest of the county to let Summit Carbon Solutions have a seat at the table as the ordinance is being written and reviewed, so the county did not incur any legal problems in the future. Rossander felt it seemed to imply the ordinance should be adjusted to make it more satisfactory to Summit, and also expressed concerns that zoning administrator Barry Byers had sat with Summit representatives to discuss concerns with the county's proposed ordinance, and discuss the legal enforceability of any ordinance the county may pass.

"It doesn't seem prudent or logical to me

that we write any ordinance based on the threat of possibly being sued sometime in the future. We should write this and all ordinances with the belief that they are needed to protect our county, its citizens, their property, and their livestock," commented Rossander.

Rossander also stated she was baffled why anyone would sit down with one of the entities the county was trying to regulate so they could dictate to the county how to write or change the ordinance.

"We did not sit down with MidAmerican Energy when we wrote the recently-passed solar ordinance, and I seriously doubt we'll sit down with MidAmerican when we update the wind ordinance in the future," stated Rossander. "Why would we sit down with Summit to write the pipeline ordinance? I think we need to be very careful about allowing entities that we are trying to regulate to have a voice with how ordinance is written and what they state. Let's rely on the experts at Ehlers & Cooney, and not on Summit."

Supervisor Randy Cooper advised the other members that he had been in contact with Brian Shea with the Pottawattamie County Board of Supervisors, and Shea informed him the county was doing no ordinance.

"We're letting the Iowa Utilities Board make the decisions, and said it was because they felt an ordinance had no teeth. However, I touched base with the IUB Board, and I feel an ordinance is still good, as it will give a landowner some ammunition to negotiate with the pipeline," Cooper said.

Cooper said he was still in favor of the county passing an ordinance, even if it came down to the courts, and the ordinance didn't hold up, and if the ordinance was overruled, that the county shouldn't spend money fighting the legality in court.

Supervisor Donna Robinson felt the supervisors needed to wait and see what happened as time went on before making any ultimate decisions.

Supervisor Charla Schmid was in favor of the ordinance, as this was only for one pipeline, and the future of land in Montgomery County was in question, and an existing ordinance would help with that.

The supervisors agreed to have all the necessary members of the planning and zoning board, and other county entities sit in at the next meeting with Ahlers & Cooney to make sure everyone was getting the proper information.

## TAPEHEAD

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

the mask slips on and off so I don't have to sit in makeup. I have silicon gloves for hands, which is also convenient. Since he doesn't have any lines, I have to get the point across with his behavior and physical attributes," said Weeks.

Shooting was done every weekend in June through September with a budget of roughly \$7,000.

"We poured our hearts and souls into making a slasher movie like the ones we grew up on and love," said Mattson. "Everyone involved worked so hard to help us get this thing finished, and every single penny went to something on screen."

Weeks added that although it is a fun, 80's style slasher film, there are some hard turns that throw off the audience.

"People like slasher films because of what they are, and we certainly didn't want to take away from that by reinventing the wheel," Weeks said.

"I'm a big fan of likeable kids that are oblivious to impending violence," Mattson admitted. "The slasher is a pretty basic paint by numbers formula, but we feel like the climate is right for a new fun 'icon.' I think it's important to not just have 'meat for the beast.' You've got to make the kids count, so the

kills sting a little bit more than normal. As far as TapeHead himself goes, we spent a lot of time revamping the look of TapeHead for this film to give him a look that could be an awesome action figure you would love to have as a kid. I'm aware that the concept of a mentally challenged zombie who wears a VHS Tape on his face as a mask sounds absolutely ridiculous on paper; sometimes it's hard to explain without laughing. So the trick was to make him absolutely intimidating, that way when he's stomping after kids, the last thing you want to do is laugh."

Something Mattson and Weeks did avoid was typical slasher film clichés.

"We made sure to avoid the old tropes of people tripping or falling down, or the killer being slow while everyone else is sprinting," Weeks said. "We also took away a lot of the quick kills; we make them more deliberate. Additionally, each character has a specific role in the movie with a dialogue that isn't forced or corny."

The movie trailer can be found on Mattson's 3B Video YouTube Channel under "TapeHead - The Return Of Jacob Cobb" trailer as well as on Facebook.

"We are just looking for our seat at the big kids table, even if

we have to bring our own chairs," said Mattson. "TapeHead is our Michael Myers; he's the biggest project we've ever undertaken, and we have a lot of love for him and the places we can take him and I don't mean space ... that'll be TapeHead 45."

Lastly, Mattson wants people to realize the importance of chasing a dream, regardless of how crazy it may sound to others. He said he was told by plenty of people that making a

film was a pipedream and that he didn't have what it takes.

"If we can do it, you can do it. Grab a handful of your buddies, write a script that's achievable for little to no money, call in every favor you can and shoot a movie. Most people have a camera on their phone that's more solid than they think and there's free editing software out there too. Get creative and spill some (fake) blood."

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DARLENE CARPENTER, 91

Darlene Carpenter, 91, Red Oak, passed away Oct. 13, 2022. Darlene Mae Carpenter was born July 25, 1931 to Hans Eskil and Edna Josephine (Reynolds) Hansen in rural Shenandoah. She was preceded in death by her parents; husbands, Eldon Pritchett, Glen Binns, Raymond Kirchert and Dewey Carpenter; and two grandsons.

Darlene is survived by her children, Sharon Hayes, Gary Pritchett and Patricia Laire; 10 grandchildren; one step-grandson; 27 great-grandchildren; and six great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral Services were held Wednesday, Oct. 19, 2022 with Pastor Rick Sleyster officiating. Burial followed in the Rose Hill Cemetery.

Memorials are suggested to Montgomery County Animal Rescue or People 4 Paws. Remembrances and condolences may be shared with the family at www.hackettlivingston.com.

Hackett-Livingston Funeral Home was honored to have been entrusted with the arrangements.

WENDELL KELLEY, 88

Wendell Hughes Kelley, 88, Hastings, passed away Monday, Oct. 17, 2022, at the Bethany Lutheran Home in Council Bluffs.

Wendell was born Feb. 21, 1934, in Mills County, the son of Parle R. and Grace (Hughes) Kelley.

Preceding him in death were his parents, son, Paul Dean Kelley, and daughter, Cynthia Lea Kelley.

Survivors include his wife, Dorothy; and son, Richard Kelley. A private family graveside service will be held at Pleasant Township Cemetery near Griswold.

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

TODD GILLELAND, 41

Todd Allen Gilleland 41, Red Oak, passed away, Sunday, Oct. 23, 2022, at his home in Red Oak.

Funeral services are pending at Nelson-Boylan-LeRette Funeral Chapel in Red Oak.

BARBARA SHOOK, 82

Barbara Shook, 82, Red Oak, passed away Monday, Oct. 24, 2022, at Red Oak Rehab and Care Center.

Graveside services for Barbara Shook are pending at Nelson-Boylan-LeRette Funeral Chapel in Red Oak.

GAYLORD WILKINSON, 74

Gaylord Wilkinson, 74, Corning, entered eternal rest Monday, Oct. 17, 2022, at his home.

Gaylord Charles Wilkinson, the son of Junior and Lois Marie (Haley) Wilkinson, was born on Aug. 6, 1948, in Red Oak. He attended school in Cumberland, Wiota and Carbon before graduating from Corning High School with the class of 1968.

While in school, Gaylord worked as a farm hand for Edward Hoyt. In 1965 Gaylord met Libbie Henderson, and the two dated through high school. The couple married on Oct. 15, 1967, at the Strand Lutheran Church. To this union four children were born, Conrad Eric, Cheryl Lynn, Cedric Dale and Corey James, otherwise known as the 4-C's.

Gaylord worked for the co-op in Redfield for a short time. In 1975, the family moved to Bedford where they managed the Taylor County Care Facility. In 1978, the family would move back to Corning where Gaylord worked for the Adams County Maintenance Department. He later worked for various construction companies as a heavy equipment operator. All these jobs he worked in addition to working at Country Haven and Choice, Inc.

Gaylord enjoyed horses and attending horse pulls and watching draft horse competitions. He loved sports and traveled to many different sporting events. He especially loved cheering against the Nebraska Cornhuskers and the Dallas Cowboys and cheering for the Kansas City Royals and Kansas City Chiefs. When not attending a sporting event or watching one on TV, he was sure to be enjoying a dirt track car race. Family was very important to Gaylord; he enjoyed going camping with them and making sure he attended all his children's and grandchildren's events.

Left to cherish Gaylord's memory are his children, Conrad (Tara Benge) Wilkinson of Corning, Cheryl (Kelly) Walton of Corning, Cedric (Kim) Wilkinson of Eldridge and Corey Wilkinson of Corning; nine grandchildren; one great-grandchild; sister, Linda Szabo of Des Moines; uncles, Bob (Dorothy) Wilkinson of Texas and Roland Wilkinson of California; and brother-in-law, William "Bill" (Jayna) Henderson of Tennessee; along with several nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Preceding him in death were his wife, Libbie; parents, Junior and Lois; brother, Virgil Wilkinson; sisters-in-law, Pixie Wilkinson and Ruthelynn Hinton; brother-in-law, Barney Szabo; and mother- and father-in-law, Ruth and L.L. Henderson.

Funeral Services were at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 22, 2022, at Pearson Family Funeral Service & Cremation Center in Corning. Mr. Larry Johnson officiated. Burial followed at the Walnut Grove Cemetery in Corning.

Memorial contributions may be directed to EveryStep Hospice of Mount Ayr. Memories and condolences can be left at www.pearsonfuneralhomes.com.

Pearson Family Funeral Service & Cremation Center of Corning was in charge of arrangements.



KENNEDY HALEY, 17

Kennedy Nicole Haley, 17, Emerson, passed away Friday, Oct. 21, 2022, from a car accident near Malvern.

Kennedy was born Nov. 22, 2004, in Omaha, Neb., the oldest of two children of Melissa Ann (Wolfe) and Nickolas James Haley. Her brother Matthew was born in 2006. She grew up in the Malvern and Emerson area. Kennedy attended school at East Mills and was a high school senior with the class of 2023.

Kennedy had plans to be a cosmetologist. She enjoyed being a football cheerleader, loved taking pictures, making t-shirts and doing crafts, listening to music and dancing, and loved wearing other people's clothing. Kennedy was active in 4-H and a club member of the Henderson Hornets/Ambitious Andies/Clover Beez. She absolutely loved animals, living in the country and caring for her beloved horse, "Jackson" and her cat, "Bellie." Kennedy had plans to pick up her new puppy, "Letty," with boyfriend Levi on Oct. 23. Kennedy had a caring and beautiful soul, a bubbly and funny personality, and a smile that was so contagious. Her family and friends were an important part of her life and she touched the hearts of all who knew and loved her.

Kennedy was preceded in death by her grandfather, Jim Haley.

Kennedy is survived by her parents, Melissa and Nick Haley of Emerson; and brother, Matthew Haley of Emerson; her boyfriend, Levi Anderson of Malvern; grandparents, Shelly and Mitch Worcester of Malvern; grandmother, Shirley Haley of Villisca; grandparents, Danny and Shelly Wolfe of Randolph; great-grandparents, Sid and Josie Williams of Malvern, Don and Barb Wolfe of Randolph, and Ken and Colleen Gruber of Missouri; aunts and uncles, Nick Wolfe (Serena Shere) of Malvern; Shawn Blackman of Bellevue, Neb.; Jake and Brooke Donnelly, Ethan and Jordan Wolfe, all from Tabor; and Shelly and Bill Reeves of Thurman; her classmates of the East Mills Class of 2023; her cheer sisters, along with other relatives and many, many friends.

Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 26, 2022, at the Charles E. and Florence M. Lakin Community Center in Malvern. A Kennedy Haley Memorial Fund has been established at the Malvern Bank.

Loess Hills Funeral Home in Malvern is caring for Kennedy and her family.



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.

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WARRANTY DEED

- TC Accomodator 256 LLC and Rodney Rhoden, Managing Member, to Rodney Rhoden, Trustee, and Rodney Rhoden Trust, 16-72-39.
- Michael Kelly to Clarence and Ruth Ross, Red Oak Original Plat Blk 9 Lt 1.
- Paul Mertz, Chairman of Trustees and First Baptist Church of Red Oak to Anthony and Britany Evans, 27-72-38.

TRUSTEE'S DEED

- Clinton Allen Revocable Trust Agreement and Ronald Allen, Trustee, to Bryce and Kaitlin Allen, 15-71-38.
- GERALYN Schubert, Trustee and Juneberry Street Trust to Audie Rainey and Jeffrey McCoy, Villisca N. Villisca Lt 39.

QUIT CLAIM DEED

- Audie Rainey to Jeffrey McCoy and Audie Rainey, Red Oak Original Plat Blk 23 Lt 10.
- Anna Malkhasian to Anna Malkhasian Trust and Anna Malkhasian, Trustee, 13-72-36.
- Katie Sickels to Jason Sickels, 32-73-37.
- Tomi Schuldt to Tomi Schuldt, 15-72-38.

dt, 15-72-38.

COURT OFFICER'S DEED

- Gary Johnson Estate and Rory Johnson, Administrator, to Bucky's Farm LLC, 11-73-36.

CONTRACT

- Shawn Morse to Jeffrey Maxham and Larry and Mary Seward, Red Oak Original Plat Blk 69 Lts 5-6.

MORTGAGE

- Angela Silva to City of Stanton, Stanton Original Plat Lt 219.
- Richardo and Roxanna Adams to Home Investment Bank FSB, Villisca Lightbody Addition Lts 13-14.
- Bryce and Kaitlin Allen to Houghton State Bank, 15-71-38.
- Bryce and Kaitlin Allen to United States Department of Agriculture and Farm Service Agency, 15-71-38.
- Audie Rainey and Jeffrey McCoy to Houghton State Bank, Villisca N. Villisca Lt 39.
- Delbert Hiebert Revocable Trust, Delbert Hiebert, Trustee, Marjorie Hiebert Revocable Trust, Karalee Unruh, Beneficiary, and Keith Unruh, Beneficiary, to Bank Iowa, 25-71-39, 26-71-39.
- Anthony and Britany Evans to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems Inc, MERS, and Iowa Bankers Mortgage Corporation, 27-72-38.

SMALL CLAIMS

- Dennis McCulley vs. Sheri Wederquist, Red Oak, dismissed without prejudice.
- Credit Bureau Services of IA Inc. vs. Samuel Kier, Red Oak, judgment default in favor of the plaintiff, \$1,367.57 with 5.61% interest from Oct. 18, plus costs. Payment plan of \$50 per month to begin Nov. 14 and continue until paid in full.

ARRESTS

- Filed Oct. 18, Dewight Binau, 43, Red Oak, Fremont County warrant for contempt - violation of no contact order, \$3,000 bond.
- Filed Oct. 18, Jessie Fitzwater, 35, Villisca, felon in possession of firearm two counts, possession of methamphetamine third offense.
- Filed Oct. 18, Ashley Fitzwater, 24, Villisca, child endangerment two counts, possession of methamphetamine first offense.
- Filed Oct. 21, Michael Landon, Jr., 43, Council Bluffs, warrants for providing false information and driving while suspended, cash bond.
- Filed Oct. 21, Dewight Binau, 43, Red Oak, public intoxication, cash bond.
- Filed Oct. 22, Brian Price, 42, Tarkio, Mo., public intoxication, \$300 bond.

DISMISSED

- Felony, State of Iowa vs. Aidan Lowry, 29, Omaha, Neb., forgery, dismissed.

CRIMINAL

- Aggravated, State of Iowa vs. Austin Hale, 27, Red Oak, driving while license denied, suspended, cancelled, or revoked, pled guilty, \$250 fine.
- Aggravated, State of Iowa vs. Rebecca Tullis, 39, Villisca, child endangerment, \$855 fine, time served.
- Aggravated, State of Iowa vs. Aaron Allen, 37, Red Oak, harassment first degree, 90 days jail, suspended, \$855 fine, suspended, one year probation.
- Aggravated, State of Iowa vs. Ashley Fitzwater, 24, Villisca, child endangerment, two counts, possession of a controlled substance - methamphetamine, first offense.
- Felony, State of Iowa vs. Aidan Lowry, 29, Omaha, Neb., forgery, deferred judgement, two

years, two years probation.

- Felony, State of Iowa vs. Kiley Caron, 32, Red Oak, possession of a controlled substance, second offense, unlawful possession of prescription drugs.
- Felony, State of Iowa vs. Jessie Fitzwater, 35, Villisca, possession of a controlled substance, third or subsequent offense, dominion/control of firearm/offensive weapon by felon, two counts.
- Simple Misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Andrew Nagunst, 23, Red Oak, contempt - violation of no contact/protective order, seven days jail, time served, \$105 fine.
- Simple Misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Michael Josephson, 41, Red Oak, domestic abuse assault, first offense.
- Simple Misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Alex Flores Romero, 25, Cedar Rapids, possession of drug paraphernalia.
- Simple Misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Kiley Caron, 32, possession of drug paraphernalia.
- Simple Misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Randal Barr, 67, Red Oak, public intoxication, \$105 fine.
- Serious Misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Brittney Younk, 27, Villisca, driving while license denied or revoked, \$1,000 fine.
- Serious Misdemeanor, State of Iowa vs. Nicholas Foster, 22, Red Oak, criminal mischief fourth degree.

OWI

- State of Iowa vs. Benjamin Maxell, 46, Omaha, Neb., first offense, two days jail, time served, \$1,250 fine, probation.
- State of Iowa vs. Rebecca Tullis, 39, Villisca, first offense, two days jail, 2nd Chances in lieu of two days, \$1,250 fine, half waived if produces valid license, nine months informal probation.
- State of Iowa vs. Alex Flores Romero, first offense, possession of a controlled substance - mari-

juana, first offense.

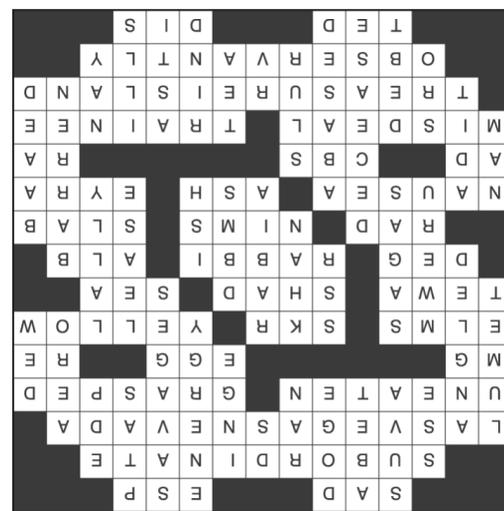
- State of Iowa vs. Brian Yochum, Sr., 52, Red Oak, first offense.

TRAFFIC

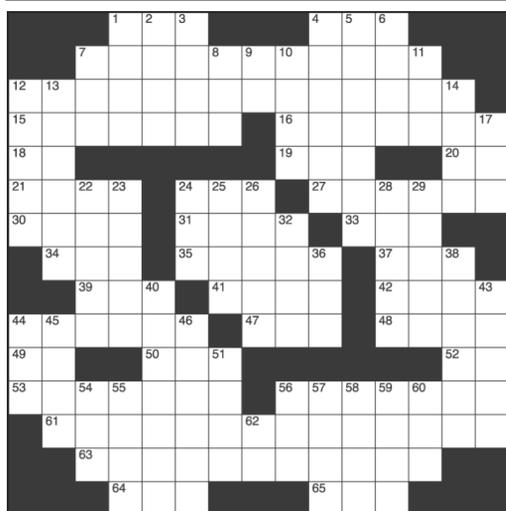
- Ronnie Johnson, Jr., Omaha, Neb., no valid driver's license.
- Kyle Gibbs, Glenwood, speeding.
- Joshua Lowe, Red Oak, fishing and hunting - no license over \$10.
- James Gilvin, Villisca, failure to maintain or use safety belts.
- Samuel Ruiz, Gulfport, Miss., speeding.
- Ashton Berndt, Creston, no valid driver's license.
- Cathy Auffert, Red Oak, failure to obey traffic control device.
- Justin Schomberg, Malvern, no valid driver's license.
- Richard Jenkins, Red Oak, failure to provide proof of financial liability insurance.
- Collin Huntley, Council Bluffs, speeding.

- Marcus Medlock, Sebastian, Ark., no valid driver's license.
- George Oliver, Jr., Omaha, Neb., speeding.
- Devon Briggs, Red Oak, fail to obey stop sign and yield right of way.
- David Gaunt, Red Oak, speeding.
- Stephanie Parks, Atlantic, speeding.
- Gracelynn Wagaman, Red Oak, speeding.
- Davey Stevens, Red Oak, registration violation.
- Thomas Mace, Atlantic, registration violation.
- Tyler Irvin, Red Oak, speeding.
- Shannon Bishop, Griswold, speeding.
- Mark Cullen, Raymore, Mo., speeding.
- Lisa Elliott, Council Bluffs, no valid driver's license.
- Nicholas Osthoff, Red Oak, operating non-registered vehicle.

ANSWER - PUZZLE ON PAGE



CROSSWORD - ANSWER ON PAGE



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Unhappy
- 4. Clairvoyance
- 7. One who works under you
- 12. What happens there stays there
- 15. Not ingested
- 16. Got the picture
- 18. One thousandth of a gram
- 19. Breakfast item
- 20. About
- 21. Tall deciduous trees
- 24. Safe keeping receipt
- 27. Cowardly
- 30. Pueblo people of New Mexico
- 31. Herring-like fish
- 33. A very large body of water
- 34. Angle (abbr.)
- 35. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
- 37. White clerical vestment
- 39. Cool!

- 41. Matchstick games
- 42. Thick piece of something
- 44. A state that precedes vomiting
- 47. Burned item residue
- 48. Jaguarundi
- 49. Anno Domini (in the year of Our Lord)
- 50. The home of "60 Minutes"
- 52. Dorm official
- 53. Give cards incorrectly
- 56. One who is learning the job
- 61. Popular R.L. Stevenson novel
- 63. Attentively
- 64. CNN's founder
- 65. Criticize

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Fijian capital
- 2. Assist
- 3. Elected lord in Venice
- 4. The capacity of a physi-

- cal system to do work
- 5. People of the wild
- 6. Parent-teacher groups
- 7. Midway between south and southeast
- 8. Moved quickly on foot
- 9. Handheld Nintendo console
- 10. "Top of the Stairs" playwright
- 11. Electronic data processing
- 12. "Dog Day Afternoon" director
- 13. Leaned
- 14. About aviation
- 17. Mountain is a popular type
- 22. Lake along Zambia and Congo border
- 23. Heroic tales
- 24. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 25. "Star Trek" villain
- 26. Hand gesture popular on social media

- 28. Renters have one
- 29. Tubular steel column
- 32. Database management system
- 36. Similar
- 38. Providing no shelter or sustenance
- 40. Death
- 43. What a sheep did
- 44. Midcentury Asian battleground
- 45. Horizontal passage into a mine
- 46. Mortified
- 51. Improper word
- 54. No seats available
- 55. Financial obligation
- 56. It can be hot or iced
- 57. Tough outer skin of a fruit
- 58. \_\_\_ Spumante (Italian wine)
- 59. Misfortunes
- 60. Negative
- 62. Camper

## Stanton soils team competes at state

The Stanton FFA Soil Judging Team participated in the Iowa FFA State Soils Evaluation Career Development Event on Saturday, Oct. 15 in Ames. The team placed in the top 10 receiving a gold rating and eighth place overall. The team also placed second overall on the test portion of the contest. Team members were Dacey Henneman, Clark Spencer, Ella Peterson and Caden Sallach. Dacey Henneman was third place high individual on the test and Caden Sallach was third place high individual on Pit 4.



Stanton soils team members competing at state were, from left: Dacey Henneman, Caden Sallach, Clark Spencer, and Ella Peterson. (Photo submitted)

FFA teams from 30 chapters across the state, including 117 individuals, participated in this year's Career Development Event designed to

provide the student an opportunity to display their agricultural knowledge and skills in the area of Soils Evaluation. The Soils Evaluation Career Development Event included the evaluation of four soil pits, plus a written exam about soils in Iowa. The score card used to judge the soil pits is divided into five parts: Surface Features; Soil Features; The Profile, Land Capability Classification, and Productivity Potential; Evaluation of Management Practices; and Sustainability of Soils for Non-Agricultural Uses.

## EM, Essex, Griswold choirs perform



The Corner Conference Junior High Music Festival was held at Sidney High School Tuesday, Oct. 18. Junior High choirs from the Corner Conference, including Griswold, East Mills, and Essex, participated. (Tess Nelson/The Red Oak Express)

## Stanton NHS welcomes new members



Stanton High School inducted six new members into the National Honor Society Oct. 17. Pictured are, from left: new members Dacey Henneman, Axel King, Evan Hopf, Nolan Grebin, Elyanna McDonald and Leah Sandin, as well as existing members Jenna Stephens, Abby Burke, Addison Olson and Brooklyn Silva. (Photo submitted.)

## Nelson, Westerlund named to dean's list

Des Moines Area Community College President Rob Denson recently announced that Taylor Nelson, Medical Laboratory Technology, and Noah Westerlund, Diesel Technology, both of Red Oak, were named to the summer semester dean's list.

To be eligible, a student must have completed a minimum of six credits and earned a 3.5 to 3.99 grade point average for that semester.

# VIEWPOINTS

## Stronger the Press, Stronger the People

THE TIME CAPSULE | ROY MARSHALL

### Football and family

Billy Smith died 10 years ago this month. The world, as they say, is poorer for it—and so are my autumn Saturday afternoons.

I met Smith in '91 or '92 in Washington, D.C. He was then on the Florida Highway Patrol, and had been for more than 30 years. The system of Public Safety in that state was such that when he reached the rank of major he was reassigned and served as head of the Investigative and Enforcement Division of the Office of State Fire Marshal. I held a similar position, we were both active with the National Association of State Fire Marshals, and we were in D.C. on related business.

Smith was a congenial man of good humor, a devout Christian with a subtle way of making those around him aware of his faith.

We got along well, although from the moment I saw him I had the odd feeling we'd met before. I asked; he said he didn't think so. I realized later he knew where I'd seen him; just chose not to say.

The moment passed and I didn't give it another thought until that fall. I was watching a college football game, Florida State was among the top teams in the nation, and won a close one. Coach Bobby Bowden made his way to midfield where a TV crew asked the usual questions and there, standing just behind him, was Billy Smith.

Smith was in uniform. I hadn't seen him with the "Smokey Bear" hat, oak leaf insignia, bars on his shoulders and stars on his collar, but there was no mistaking the white hair and cherubic face.

I saw him once or twice a year during the '90s and heard the following story, which I've confirmed and supplemented with material from his obituary and online accounts.

Florida State's coach in the 1960s was Bill Peterson. Peterson inherited a program that was mediocre, the fan base not what it could be. A story from FSU claims Peterson was looking for ways to distinguish the team and decided a bodyguard would set him apart. Secret Service type protection, with a guard in civilian clothes, would not serve the purpose, and neither would a guard who passed for an assistant coach. Peterson wanted someone with a presence—in uniform—and when he acquired that he set an example other coaches soon followed.

A contradictory story is that Bear Bryant at Alabama became irate when fans repeatedly



snatched the houndstooth fedora from his head. He enlisted an Alabama State Trooper to prevent such mischief. Bear Bryant was shadowed by his trooper, so Bill Peterson had to have one as well.

Whichever the case, Peterson made a phone call. Florida Highway Patrol brass knew this didn't fall within their scope of duty, so assigning an officer was potentially a problem. This was, however, an opportunity in several ways so they checked for volunteers. Billy Smith, then 10 years on the force, wanted the job. He could wear the uniform on game day and his schedule was arranged accordingly. He would, though, be on his own time with travel expenses covered by himself or the team. Smith liked to joke that his starting wage was nothing, but the amount doubled each year.

Coaches came and went; Smith stayed, Bowden arrived and the two became friends. Knowing Smith personally gave me an interest I wouldn't have otherwise had, and the pleasure of seeing Nebraska lose in the national championship game of 1993 was enhanced by the sight of Billy Smith at Bobby Bowden's side as Florida State celebrated.

Florida State won another national title in 1999, ranked in the top five each year for over a decade, and Coach Bowden was the toast of Florida.

After 2000, though, the program turned sour.

There were no doubt various reasons, but a great many fans pointed out that the decline began when Bobby Bowden hired his son, Jeff, as an assistant coach. Although Jeff didn't sparkle while coaching receivers, Bobby promoted him to offensive coordinator.

The offense grew worse. The fan base became increasingly restless. Bobby Bowden was accused of nepotism and urged to replace his son. He refused. He was Bobby Bowden, most successful coach in FSU history. He had a huge contract, he called the shots, things would get better, his son was staying.

Things didn't get better, Bobby Bowden refused to budge and nepotism charges became more intense. Finally, after an embarrassing shutout loss in 2007, Jeff Bowden resigned. News reports say the booster club paid him over half a million dollars to go elsewhere. While I'm probably not the first to note similarities between Florida State's football in the early 2000s and the University of Iowa 20 years later, I may be the first who spent time with Billy Smith.

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.

LETTERS TO | THE EDITOR

## Sen. Tom Shipley comments on rural schools

*Editor's note: The following letter is being reprinted due to an error. Sen. Shipley's statement should have read "it would bring \$1.5 million each over 10 years," rather than "it would bring \$1.5 million each year over 10 years." We apologize for the error.*

### To the Editor:

Not long ago there was a letter that challenged a position I took on SF 2369. That letter left a lot of relevant information out. This needs to be challenged.

SF 2369 received considerable attention because of the portion that would have offered parents a choice in their children's education and

the argument against it is that it uses public money for private schools. What it also did was extend the operational sharing program that provides state funding for school districts, your school district, for another 10 years.

Operational sharing is a system that provides extra funding for those schools involved in sharing staff with another district. Only 75% of the schools in Iowa receive this funding, all rural school districts. It amounts to \$25-27 million per year. However, it has a sunset, which means it will stop. In this case, it will stop in 2-3 years.

So what does that mean for your school? For Red Oak, Villisca, Corning, Stanton, Essex, Griswold, and East Mills, it would bring \$1.5 mil-

lion each over 10 years. When this is explained to people who ask about my position, almost without exception, they get it. They understand that without that money their school district will suffer. An area superintendent told me that three districts in Southwest Iowa probably would be done without operational sharing. He himself was a shared superintendent, as are most in the area, and one of the districts was one that he was serving. This money matters.

Unfortunately, the letter also made a blatantly misleading, false, inaccurate (whatever you choose) statement about my voting record on the issue. It was stated that I had voted on it in committee to advance it. This is absolutely untrue.

It went through two committees, education and appropriations. I do not serve on either, so it would be impossible for me to vote on the bill. It is very easy to determine who is on a committee. So, given that, what else may not have been accurate in the letter?

No one has supported funding for rural schools more vigorously than I have. Whether it be transportation equity, which helps offset transportation costs, or operational sharing funding, I will vote to support your schools, every single time.

Tom Shipley  
Nodaway

### DEADLINES

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

### CONTACT US

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# THE RED OAK Express

Dedicated to Freedom Since 1868

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### WHO WE ARE

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

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Single copies are \$1.00 each and available at (in Red Oak unless specified): Red Oak Express; Casey's (Red Oak, Stanton,

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

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

## Community Calendar

### 27 October

10 a.m.-6 p.m., Book Fair, Enarson Elementary.  
11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Lunch and Learn with representatives from Turner Technology, Agrivision Equipment, 2405 N. 4th St.  
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.  
4:30-6:30 p.m., Trick or Treat on the Trail, Evergreen Cemetery.  
5:30-7 p.m., Cook Now, Enjoy Later class, \$10 for the session, Montgomery County Extension Office, call 641-782-8426 for more details.  
7 p.m., Alcoholics Anonymous, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1101 Summit St.  
7:30 p.m., "Jekyll & Hyde: The Musical," at the Wilson Performing Arts Center. Call 623-3183 for tickets.

### 28 October

5-6:30 p.m., Main Street Trick or Treat, Central Park in Corning.  
5-7 p.m., Cram the Cruiser and Fire Truck with non-perishable food donations, Fareway and Hy-Vee parking lots.  
5:30 p.m., Alcoholics Anonymous, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1101 Summit St.  
6-9 p.m., Owen Justice Trio, Five One 8, 518 N. 4th St. Doors open at 3 p.m.  
7-10 p.m., Freaky Friday Costume Party, Five One 8, 518 N. 4th St.  
7 p.m., Elvis Rock N Remember tribute Show, Corning Opera House, 800 Davis Ave., Corning.  
7 p.m., "The Addams Family 2," theatre #1; "Gigi & Nate," theatre #2; Red Oak Grand Theatre.  
7:30 p.m., "Jekyll & Hyde: The Musical," at the Wilson Performing Arts Center. Call 623-3183 for tickets.  
7:30 p.m., "Leaving Iowa," Mills Masquers, 56543 221st St., Glenwood. Call 527-3600 for tickets.

### 29 October

7 p.m., "The Addams Family 2," theatre #1; "Gigi & Nate," theatre #2; Red Oak Grand Theatre.  
7:30 p.m., "Jekyll & Hyde: The Musical," at the Wilson Performing Arts Center. Call 623-3183 for tickets.

7:30 p.m., "Leaving Iowa," Mills Masquers, 56543 221st St., Glenwood. Call 527-3600 for tickets.

### 30 October

12:30 p.m., Mystery Drop at the Montgomery County Family YMCA, events start at 12:30 p.m., drop at 1 p.m. at the football/baseball field parking lot.  
2 and 7 p.m., "The Addams Family 2," theatre #1; "Gigi & Nate," theatre #2; Red Oak Grand Theatre.  
2 p.m., "Leaving Iowa," Mills Masquers, 56543 221st St., Glenwood. Call 527-3600 for tickets.  
2:30 p.m., "Jekyll & Hyde: The Musical," at the Wilson Performing Arts Center. Call 623-3183 for tickets.  
5:30 p.m., Alcoholics Anonymous, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1101 Summit St.

### 31 October

4-9 p.m., Meal and costume contest at the Red Oak Eagles Club, 200 E. Washington Ave. Prizes for children and adults in costume contest.  
12:30 p.m. Bingo, Red Oak Senior Center, 2700 N. 4th St. Call 712-623-3497 or Carolyn 402-926-8683 for more information.  
5:30 p.m., Red Oak School Board meeting, Jr./Sr. High School, or via Zoom.  
7 p.m., Alcoholics Anonymous, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1101 Summit St.

### November

8:30 a.m., Montgomery County Supervisors, North Meeting Room in courthouse basement, open to public.  
Noon, Rotary Club meeting. For location, go to <https://rotarydistrict5650.org/clubinfo/red-oak>.  
1 p.m., Card games (pitch and/or cribbage) Red Oak Senior Center, 2700 N. 4th St. Call 712-623-3497 or Carolyn 402-926-8683 for more information.  
5-5:45 p.m., Sports Academy, Montgomery County Family YMCA, 101 E. Cherry St.  
5-7 p.m., Group Swim lessons, Montgomery County Family YMCA, 101 E. Cherry St.

### 2 November

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.

## Trick or Treat on the Trail takes place this week



Red Oak's annual Trick or Treat on the Trail event is scheduled from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Oct. 27 at the Evergreen Cemetery. Everyone is welcome to attend. Pictured are two participants from a prior Trick or Treat on the Trail event. (Nick Johansen/The Red Oak Express)

## YMCA Mystery Drop Oct. 30

The Montgomery County Family YMCA is hosting its annual Mystery Drop event Oct. 30. Festivities begin at 12:30 p.m. with the drop scheduled for 1 p.m. at the football/baseball field parking lot. A grand prize of \$5,000 is being offered, with other cash prizes of \$1,500, and \$500. The grand prize winner will be eligible for an extra \$500 bonus if present during the drop. Refreshments will also be available.

## Music, contest at the Five One 8

The Five One 8, at 518 N. 4th St., is hosting two events on Oct. 28. From 6-9 p.m., the Five One 8 will host a live musical performance from the Owen Justice Trio. From 7-10 p.m., a Freaky Friday Costume Party will be held, with adult beverages provided, as well as tricks and treats. The public is invited to attend.

## Happy Anniversary!

Celebrating their anniversaries this week are:

Craig and Nancy Poole – Oct. 27  
Bill and Beverly Crager – Oct. 30

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.*

## Card Showers



### CRAGER 62ND ANNIVERSARY

Bill and Beverly Crager, formerly of Red Oak, will celebrate their 62nd anniversary on Oct. 30. In honor of the occasion, a card shower is requested. Send cards to the couple at 15 Benton Dr., Monroe City, MO, 63456.

### WALKER 80TH BIRTHDAY

John Walker will celebrate his 80th birthday Nov. 2. In honor of the occasion, his family is hosting a card shower. Send cards to John at 2120 Eastern Ave., Red Oak, IA 51566.



## Meal, costume contest at Eagles

The Red Oak Eagles Club at 200 E. Washington Ave. is hosting a meal and costume contest from 4 to 9 p.m. Oct. 31. Hot dogs, chips, and beans will be served for \$2 to those ages 15 and up. Kids under 14 eat free. The kids' costume contest will feature a \$20, \$10, and \$5 prize for first through third place. Prizes are also available for adults.

## Happy Birthday!

Celebrating birthdays are:

Kevin Triplett – Oct. 27  
Lois Perkins – Oct. 27  
Jesse Uhlmann – Oct. 28  
Terry McClain – Oct. 29  
Vernetta Hummel – Oct. 29  
Diana Kia – Oct. 30  
Adler Boeye – Oct. 30  
Deanna Suchting – Oct. 31  
Knoxley Doty – Nov. 1  
Jo Marcusson – Nov. 2

*To be included on the free "Happy Birthday" list, e-mail your birthday (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.*

## Cram the Cruiser and Fire Truck Oct. 28

The Red Oak Police Department, Red Oak Fire Department, and the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office, in partnership with Fareway Meat & Grocery and Hy-Vee Grocery Store, are asking for the public's generosity in an upcoming event. The annual Cram the Cruiser & Fire Truck event is scheduled from 5-7 p.m. Oct. 28 in the parking lot of Fareway and Hy-Vee in Red Oak. Donations of non-perishable food items will be accepted.

## Senior Menu

Thursday, Oct. 27: BBQ rib patty on a hamburger bun, whipped sweet potatoes, green beans, gelatin, milk/coffee.  
Friday, Oct. 28: Beef liver or hamburger patty with brown gravy, whipped potatoes, savory cooked carrots, dinner roll, fresh seasonal fruit, milk/coffee.  
Monday, Oct. 31: BBQ pork sandwich on a hamburger bun, au gratin potatoes, corn, Oreo brownie with orange frosting, milk/coffee.  
Tuesday, Nov. 1: Not available.  
Wednesday, Nov. 2: Not available.  
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.

## CHURCH DIRECTORY

<p><b>Advent Christian</b> 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.</p> <p><b>Assembly Of God</b> 1005 Senate, Red Oak, 623-2174, Services, 10:30 a.m.</p> <p><b>Baptist</b> The Bridge (First Baptist Church), 406 N. 3rd St., Red Oak, Rev. Len Taylor, Worship, 11 a.m. Grace Baptist, 1510 N. 6th St., Red Oak, Gary D. Walters, Bible class, 10 a.m., Worship, 11 a.m., Worship, 6 p.m.; Wednesday, Prayer, 7 p.m. Grace Baptist, 525 Main St., Griswold, Victor Maxson, Bible study, 10 a.m., Worship, 11 a.m. <b>Online:</b> 11 a.m. livestream.</p> <p><b>Southern Baptist</b> 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, <a href="http://crossroadsredoak.com">crossroadsredoak.com</a>. <b>Online:</b> 9:45 a.m. approx. live on Facebook.</p> <p><b>Catholic</b> St. Joseph's, 131 W. High, Villisca, Father Sylvester Okoh, Sunday</p>	<p>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.</p> <p><b>Christian</b> 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. <b>Online:</b> 10:30 a.m. live on Facebook.</p> <p><b>Christian &amp; Missionary Alliance</b> Citylight Southwest Iowa, 705 Bradford, Emerson. Co-lead pastors Matt Keller, Tyler Mass. Worship with children's church, 10 a.m. in-person gathering. <b>Online:</b> 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. <b>Online:</b> 9:30 a.m. on KCSI, 9:30 a.m. on Facebook.</p>	<p><b>Church Of Christ</b> 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.</p> <p><b>Church Of the Nazarene</b> 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.</p> <p><b>Covenant</b> Evangelical, Rev. Matt King, 308 Eastern, Stanton, Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:45 a.m. <b>Online:</b> 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 &amp; Hammond, Red Oak, Worship, 9:30 a.m.</p> <p><b>Jehovah's Witness</b> 210 Argus Road, Shenandoah, Thursday, 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m., public Bible discourse.</p>	<p><b>Lutheran</b> 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. <b>Online:</b> 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.</p> <p><b>Non-Denominational</b> Oaks Community Church, 41310 Ellington Rd., Emerson, Rev. Ron Perry, 712-824-7218, Sunday School, 10 a.m., Worship, 11 a.m.</p>	<p><b>Presbyterian</b> 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, <a href="http://redoakpresbyterianchurch.com">redoakpresbyterianchurch.com</a>, Service, 10:30 a.m. <b>Online:</b> 10:30 a.m. live on Facebook/Red Oak Presbyterian Church</p> <p><b>Reformed Evangelical</b> Heartland Sovereign Grace Church, new church plant. Bible study Sunday, 5 p.m., <a href="http://www.swiacrec.com">www.swiacrec.com</a>, contact@swiacrec.com.</p> <p><b>United Methodist</b> First United Methodist, 600 E. Hammond, Red Oak, Rev. Dr. Eric Sayonkon, Worship, Sunday, 10:30 a.m.; Youth group Wednesday 6:30-8 p.m., grades 6-12, snack is served. <b>Online:</b> 10:30 a.m. <a href="http://fumcro.org">fumcro.org</a>; click on the media tab to see previously recorded services. Wesley Chapel UMC, Rev. Carl Phillips, Worship, 8:45 a.m., Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. Red Oak Circuit, Linda Westerhold; Hawthorne, 1248 210th St., Red</p>	<p>Oak, Worship, 10 a.m.; Stratton, 1695 150th St., Red Oak, Worship, 11:15 a.m. <b>Online:</b> 11:15 a.m. live on Facebook. Elliott United Methodist, Rev. Terry McClain, Sunday School, 9 a.m., Worship, 10 a.m. <b>Online:</b> 10 a.m. live on Facebook. Emerson United Methodist Church, Rev. Denise Stevens, 801 Bradford Ave., Emerson, (712) 824-7368, Sunday School, 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:30 a.m. Grant United Methodist, Rev. Jenn Van Nostrand, Worship services, 9 a.m. <b>Online:</b> 9 a.m. live on Facebook United Methodist, 203 S. 3rd Ave., Villisca, Pastor Jennifer Van Nostrand, Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Worship, 10:30 a.m. <b>Online:</b> 10:30 a.m. live on Facebook. Strahan United Methodist, Hastings, Rev. David Kwangki Kim, Worship, 9:30 a.m., Sunday School, 10:30 a.m.</p> <p><b>United Church Of Christ</b> 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.</p>
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<p><b>Sponsored by:</b></p>	<p>Belt Auto Center &amp; Trailer Sales 623-2538</p>	<p>Nelson-Boylan-LeRette Funeral Chapel - 623-2525</p>	<p>Houghton State Bank 623-4823</p>	<p>Sellergren•Lindell•DeMarce Funeral Home - 623-2796</p>
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## Asian Copperleaf sightings are to be reported



Department of Agriculture

A weed first discovered in Black Hawk County in 2016 has again been spotted in 2022, nearly 30 miles away in Grundy County.

Due to its potential threat to row crops, the Iowa Department of Agriculture is asking Iowans to report any sightings to determine the potential scale of the infestation.

Asian copperleaf (*Acalypha australis*) is native to China, Australia, Japan, and other countries in the region and was first discovered in Iowa in a corn field near Cedar Falls.

Prior to this discovery in 2016, the only documented infestation in North America was within New York City. The plant was recently found in a soybean field in Grundy County, nearly 30 miles from the original infestation.

In both fields, several dense patches of the weed were present throughout the field, indicating the weed was in the field for several years before being identified. It is unknown how the plant was introduced to Iowa, but it is likely the two reported infestations are related.

The plant is a threat to row crops in its native range.

### Identification

Asian copperleaf is in the spurge family but lacks milky sap common in many spurges. It is an erect plant that can reach heights of 2-3 ft, but most plants found in Iowa were less than 18" in height. Leaves are 2-3" long, lanceolate with serrated (finely toothed) edges.

The distinguishing characteristic of Asian copperleaf are the bracts located beneath the flowers. The bracts are circular to heart-shaped with a dentate margin. Virginia copperleaf and three-seeded mercury, two other *Acalypha* species present in Iowa with a similar growth habit, have deeply-lobed bracts.

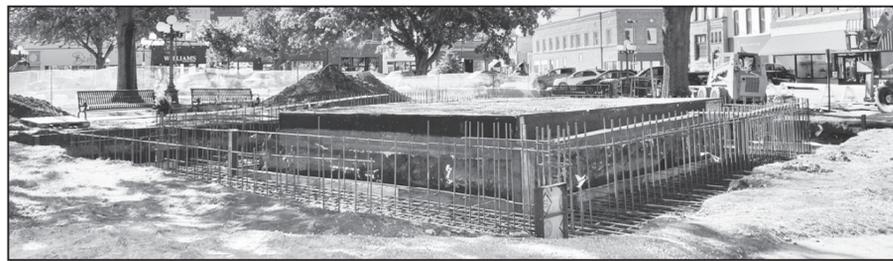
It is unlikely that anyone could confidently differentiate between these species prior to flowering. Asian copperleaf seems to emerge late in the season and remains under the crop canopy throughout the growing season.

### Requested action

The Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship and Iowa State University are interested in determining how widespread the weed is across the state. By determining how much area is infested with this weed, a better estimate of the risk it poses to Iowa crop production can be made.

Asian copperleaf was detected in both fields during crop harvest. Thus, the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship is requesting that farmers and others in the agricultural industry keep an eye out for this plant as fields are harvested.

If you detect the plant, contact the Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship at 515-725-1470 or e-mail [entomology@iowaagriculture.gov](mailto:entomology@iowaagriculture.gov).



## Stage remodel

The remodel at Fountain Square Park stage is underway. The goals of the remodel are for the stage to be bigger, which is fully handicapped-accessible; double-sided, with audio and lighting improvements. (Tess Nelson/Red Oak Express)

## Better Financial Living

### Elder fraud and ways to help prevent it

Dan Miller  
CFP

As a firm who helps oversee the resources of many families, we feel it is very important that we work together to ensure the safety of our senior community. Not only their physical safety, but the safety of their financial resources as well. Through no fault of their own, this demographic is often viewed as an easy target for fraud artists and those wishing to take advantage.

Unfortunately, elder fraud is on the rise as con artists continue to look for ways to take advantage of the often trusting nature of this generation.

With the advancements in medical technology our senior loved ones are now living more active and longer lives than ever before. Which is a great thing of course! The problem is that with the rapid increase in technology and those who capitalize on its use, we are seeing this group of our population, who may be a little less technologically savvy than some, become prime targets for elder fraud.

According to the organization Fraud.org it is estimated that over \$40 Billion dollars is stolen from seniors each year through fraudulent scams. Officials also predict that this number may be grossly understated because they estimate that the majority of elder fraud either goes undetected or unreported.

Once discovered by the defrauded party, often times they, or their families, are reluctant to report the incident because they may be too embarrassed by the situation or fear they will be targeted again.

So, what are we to do? We need to help educate our loved ones to be on the look-out and help them realize that they may be vulnerable to this type of unlawful activity. The following are a few Fraud Prevention Tips for our readers to consider as they strive to take care of their loved ones. We can't be with our elder family members all of the time, so we feel families need as much information as they can get to help prevent these types of activities.

One of the first tips is to encourage your loved ones not to speak at length on the phone, or over the internet, with people that they are not familiar with. Oftentimes fraudsters will try to prey upon the good nature, and sometimes the inherent loneliness of seniors, to try to get them to reveal some sort of personal information they can use to their advantage.

Once they get this information, they may use technology to dig even deeper into their bank accounts, or other parts of their personal life. Fraud artists have also been known to use these calls as a way to learn someone's address and to see if they live alone. For example, one common question these con artists may ask an elder woman is "Is this such-and-such address and can they speak to the man of the house?" With this one question they are trying to obtain the seniors correct address and to see if they live alone. This can be potentially dangerous for vulnerable widows who live alone.

So, this brings us to our next tip and that is not allowing strangers, or anyone that you did not invite, into the home. Fraud artists often pose as salesmen or maybe poll takers who say they just need a few minutes of the seniors' time. Of course, their goal is to just get into the home where they may try to take advantage of the senior in a myriad of ways. Oftentimes they work in pairs where one person will keep the person occupied while the other will look for bills or bank account information. And of course, in the worst-case scenarios, they may try to physically rob or bring harm to the seniors themselves.

Another elder fraud scheme is obtaining personally identifiable information by means of going through someone's trash or through their mail. This form of "dumpster diving" is a method that con artists use to try to gather account information



and other personally identifiable information that folks get in the mail, and then often discard in the trash. Con artists may also try to intercept someone's mail and steal it before the recipient has even had a chance to get to the mailbox. To help reduce the threat of these two types of access for potential fraud, two steps may need to be considered.

First, the senior may want to have all of their mail delivered to a lockable mailbox of some type. Either a P.O. Box or a lockable box at the end of their drive. Then, before discarding anything they received in the mail, make sure and run the refuse through a shredder before it goes into the trash. So, if you are ever looking for a gift for your parents who may already have "everything they need" you might consider a locking mailbox and a paper shredder. These might turn out to be the best gifts they ever received!

The last area of elder fraud that I want to highlight is Medicare insurance fraud. Medicare health insurance fraud schemes prey upon the trusting nature of many seniors and their need for information regarding these very important programs and their related insurance programs. Less-than-reputable companies often target seniors offering them free medical supplies in return for either their Medicare numbers or Social Security numbers.

They claim they need these numbers to be able to properly process their claims. This of course is also just a ruse. We need to make sure and tell our loved ones that a doctor must always order and sign for all medical equipment before Medicare will pay for it. Also, no reputable company would try to acquire this type of information over the phone.

Unfortunately, it's impossible to identify and list all of the types of schemes that are used against our senior population. So, we would encourage everyone to do their best to help educate their loved ones and talk to them about some of these potential dangers. As the saying goes, sometimes it "takes a village" to not only help raise our children, but to protect our loved ones as well.

*Daniel S. Miller, CFP® is President of Miller Financial Group, Inc. with offices located in Red Oak, IA and Omaha, NE. Dan and his team serve clients throughout the country as they prepare for the next stages of their financial lives. Dan is a published author of the book "Retirement Built to Last: Planning for When the Paychecks Stop" and has had articles published in the Wall Street Journal, Financial Advisors IQ, Successful Farming and The Hill. He is also a dedicated husband, father, and advocate for the financial planning process and financial education.*

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## Spotlight: Animal Health

### Halloween

Dr. Kate Fridolph  
DVM

Halloween is upon us. Most of the time when we think about Halloween, we think of traditional stuff like decorations, trick-or-treating, pumpkin carving. But, there are some other things that we need to remember when it comes to our pets.

For example, did you know that Halloween is the second most common holiday, after 4th of July, for pets to get lost. Other things we need to remember are the treats, decorations, and costumes.

There are many reasons that pets get lost at Halloween.

Trick-or-treating is a big culprit. The door that is opening and closing frequently can make it much easier to bolt outside.

Plenty of pets go trick-or-treating with their owners as well, which can allow for an escape if there is something particularly scary or a collar or harness doesn't fit as well as normal due to a costume.

There are a couple of easy ways to help ensure that your pet is not one of the lost, though. First, keep your pet in a kennel or another room or even board your pet so that they are away from the front door and trick-or-treaters.

Second, make sure your pet is easy to identify through microchips and collars with a tag that has up to date owner information.

As much as we all love the treats that come with Halloween, some of them can be quite harmful to our pets. Dogs are going to be the most common ones to eat things they are not supposed to, but there are plenty of cats that will get into food as well. Keep all candy/treats out of reach. We've probably all heard about the toxicity of chocolate, but raisins and sugar-free substitutes (xylitol) are very toxic items that are often overlooked and can be much more dangerous than chocolate.

Even simple things like glow sticks can cause problems. These are most commonly non-toxic, but can still cause quite the dramatic reaction due to bitterness.

Decorations can also be a Halloween hazard.

Many decorations involve cords and extension cords, which are easy to get ahold of or get wrapped up in. Puppies



and kittens are especially prone to chewing cords, so making sure the cords are out of reach or otherwise contained can be especially important - electrical shock is no joke.

Even the large animals need to be considered with decorations. Much of the outside decor can be quite scary to a horse or cow and cause some spooking.

Candles are another potential danger - many times they are used in carved pumpkins, which can be knocked over or even burn an animal that comes too close.

Costumes are another fun item this time of year. The most important thing to remember with pet costumes is to try it on beforehand to check for potential problems. If the animal is distressed when the costume is on, either a different type should be tried or something more simple, like a festive bandana, should be used. The costume should not restrict movement, sight, or a pet's ability to breathe and should not be too loose to where it can twist or constrict.

Check for small, dangling, or easily chewed off pieces that can become a choking or foreign body hazard - no one wants to have an emergency for that.

It can be tremendous fun to involve our pets in Halloween, but as you can see it can also be a bit hazardous if proper precautions are not taken beforehand.

Monitor those escape routes, treats, decorations, and costumes. Most importantly, have a fun and safe Halloween. If there are ever any questions, please call us.

*Dr. Kate Fridolph, DVM, is a veterinarian at Oak Valley Animal Health in Red Oak, a fully licensed and accredited veterinary clinic. They provide small and large animal care, from routine check ups to 24/7 on call emergency services.*



## OAK VALLEY ANIMAL HEALTH

• Red Oak 712-623-5511 • Villisca 712-826-5522

[info@oakvalleyanimalhealth.com](mailto:info@oakvalleyanimalhealth.com)

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## Bird stops in Red Oak

Candidate for Iowa Attorney General, Brenna Bird, stopped in Montgomery County last week. She is pictured with Montgomery County Sheriff, Jon Spunaugle. (Photo provided)



## BOARD

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

to replace one of the vehicles in the district's existing fleet.

"One of our vehicles is on its last legs, its transmission is gone, and it's rusting in half. It also has nearly 200,000 miles on it so there's no need to get it fixed," stated Lorenz.

Lorenz added the district needed to use some of the funds in the nutrition account due to state requirements. He requested the board approve an amount up to \$65,000 so the district could purchase the next available van and act swiftly.

"Barb Lombard, our transportation supervisor, has received a number of quotes that were all in the range of around \$63,000, but the vehicles are usually gone by the next day. We're asking that the board approve an amount up to \$65,000 so that we can purchase the next one that becomes available and act quickly," Lorenz explained.

The board also discussed and approved the purchase of on-site and virtual staff development and support for the Marzano Focused Growth and Evaluation Model, in the amount of \$37,950 from professional development funds.

"These will allow us to further our implementation of Marzano. One of the trainings will provide a crash course for our new administrators and prepare our lead teachers, mentors, and staff. It includes on-site training and ongoing supports," Lorenz commented. "We currently have an abundance of professional development funds, and the teacher quality committee found it important."

### In other business, the board:

- Approved the resignation, of school business official and board secretary Deb Drey, effective June 30, 2023. Lorenz stated that with the retirement of Sue Timmerman in 2021, Drey was currently the district's longest-serving employee, having been with the district for 37 years.

- Approved the hire of Colby Sorenson and Colin Bruce as senior high school wrestling assistant coaches for the 2022-23 school year.

VOTE

Charla SCHMID

District 1 Montgomery County Supervisor

"I would appreciate your vote on Tuesday, November 8th to allow me to continue serving as your County Supervisor."

**Vote Charla Schmid on November 8, 2022**  
7 a.m. - 8 p.m.  
Montgomery County Gold Fair Building

Paid for by Charla Schmid for County Supervisor

## RE-ELECT CARLEEN BRUNING

MONTGOMERY COUNTY RECORDER



### EXPERIENCED

Served as County Recorder since 2006

### KNOWLEDGEABLE

Employed in Recorder's office since 1998

### DEDICATED

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Paid for by the candidate Carleen Bruning

## Your Legislative Team for

Senate District 9



Senator Tom Shipley

House District 18



Representative Tom Moore

House District 17



Devon Wood

VOTE NOV. 8

### Advocates for:

Rural Schools  
Infrastructure  
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VOTE NOV. 8

**Passed Iowa's LARGEST Tax Cut Including:**

**NO Taxes On Pensions/IPERS**  
**\$100 Million Dollars for Broadband**  
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*Rural Values & Common Sense*

Paid for by Shipley for Iowa, Moore for House of Representatives, and Wood for Iowa

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## Grassley listened in Montgomery County:

**August 2022:** Q&A at Agri-Solutions in Red Oak

**March 2021:** Tour and Q&A with employees at the AT&T Call Center in Red Oak

**July 2020:** Tour and Q&A with employees at Farmers Mutual Telephone Company in Stanton

**August 2019:** Q&A at AgriVision Equipment in Red Oak

**August 2018:** Q&A hosted by United Farmers Cooperative in Red Oak

**August 2017:** Tour and Q&A with employees at Montgomery County Hospital in Red Oak



AND HE'S NOT DONE YET.

Paid for by The Grassley Committee, Inc.

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# Board approves moving forward with Highland Annex building renovations

**Nick Johansen**  
The Red Oak Express

The Montgomery County Board of Supervisors has agreed to pursue replacing the metal batten panels, fascia, and soffits at the Highland Annex building.

During the regular Board of Supervisors meeting Oct. 18, the supervisors received a maintenance update from maintenance supervisor Dan Wright. Wright said he was seeking input from the supervisors as he was looking at getting a lift, and wasn't sure how long to get the rental for.

"I need to rent a lift to measure the upper windows at the courthouse to see how many we have left needing repair. However, at Highland Annex, I've finally gotten prices for replacing the batten, fascia, and soffits for Highland Annex," Wright said. "If we're thinking about doing this and want to order the steel before the winter, I would need to get the lift for a week or so, and drive it up to Highland Annex after I examine the windows at the courthouse and then take off a couple of sections so I can get exact measurements, since they're going to cut the steel exactly the length I need them at."

Wright said the batten was similar to aluminum

siding, and is currently lined around the top of the Highland Annex building. He intended to use a batten that was a similar color to the brushed aluminum color on the building.

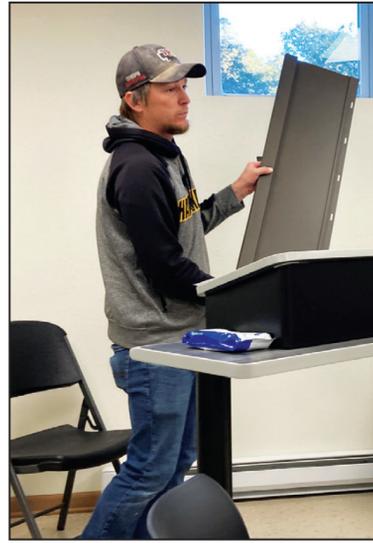
According to Wright, there were limited options on getting new batten material for the project.

"The only people that carry batten are Delta Metals on Highway 34. The United Farmers Cooperative can't get anything like this batten, they can only get standing seam metal that resembles barn steel. The price for the batten, fascia, and soffits from Delta metals is \$9,000 for the steel, all the trim pieces, fascia, and soffits, and everything will be cut to size," commented Wright.

Wright added he felt this final repair would take care of any exterior problems at the building.

"If we proceed with this, there will be nothing on the building that ever has to be painted, everything will be metal, and there will be nothing left to do to the outside of that building," Wright said. "I also feel this will end the water problems. Whenever we get a rain, and the wind is out of the right direction, it blows it up underneath the existing batten, then goes into the drywall and seeps down it onto the ceiling tiles. The cost of ceiling tiles is around \$8 now, and they used to be \$4."

Supervisor Donna Robinson asked, if approval was given to proceed, what the availability was for the materials. Wright said Delta Metals felt they



Dan Wright explains the need for improvements at the Highland Annex. (Nick Johansen/Red Oak Express)

could get all the materials and cut them to size in two to three weeks. In addition to the metal, Wright said there would be a few other costs to complete the project.

"I got a price for wood, and I'm not sure at this point how much I'll need, so I got a quote estimate for around \$1,200. I'll also need to rent a lift for about a month, and that's \$2,850 to rent the lift for a month," stated Wright.

Supervisor Mike Olson asked if American Rescue Plan Act funding would be used for the project's cost. Wright said he felt the money could come from the Highland Annex maintenance budget. Wright also got prices for barn steel, but questioned its appearance.

"It's a little cheaper, but I'm not sure if we should be putting barn steel on a commercial building that renters are paying for. Also, based on the size of the barn steel, I'd have additional labor involved."

Wright said if he was unable to complete all the work before winter set in, he could store the leftover materials at the maintenance shed at the law enforcement center until the weather cleared again.

The supervisors were in agreement with Wright to seek out the materials and check with the auditor's office to confirm the source of the funding.

# Lewis hired at SWITCH Director/Career Coach at East Mills



Lewis

Southwest Iowa Technical Career Hub (SWITCH), the career and technical education (CTE) center that will be located in Hastings, has a new director, Kattie Lewis. She will also serve as a career coach for Iowa Western Community College (IWCC).

Tim Hood, East Mills Superintendent, said, "East Mills is excited to hire Kattie Lewis as the SWITCH Director/Career Coach. This is a joint venture with IWCC, Iowa Jobs for America's Graduates (IJAG), Avenue Scholars, local businesses, and local school districts. We have made a commitment to not only East Mills Community School

District and area school districts but also this entire area of southwest Iowa to help grow our next generation of employees. This will allow high school students and adult learners to hone their skills for a career. It is a great day for southwest Iowa."

Dr. Dan Kinney, President of IWCC, added, "Iowa Western is excited to partner with the SWITCH, SWITCH Board of Directors, and East Mills School District Board of Directors to bring additional education opportunities to southwest Iowa. Iowa Western will focus our educational classes towards the career and technical area to support and grow jobs in the area. We will focus on not only high school students, but also adult learners."

Kattie Lewis grew up on farms near Wales and Emerson, she graduated from Nishna Valley High School and now farms with her husband near Emerson and Hastings. Her career path is varied, ranging from a radiologic technologist, educator, student advisor, and most recently, a director for a community college.

She says, "I have a passion for education, southwest Iowa, and CTE programming that will enhance and positively impact the eco-

nomie growth in southwest Iowa and in turn globally. I look forward to the opportunity to serve southwest Iowa as the SWITCH Director/Career Coach."

SWITCH was a project promised to the voters of the East Mills School District during the \$22 million bond vote in 2021 for the construction of a singular school site in Malvern.

The center will bring technical education pathways to high school students in the region at the East Mills Elementary building. Meagan Schnoor, East Mills parent and president of the SWITCH Advisory Board, said, "SWITCH is positioned to be the premier technical learning community in Mills County. We believe Kattie has the knowledge and the personality to make this a successful center. She will elevate our school district." Jay Burdic, Malvern Bank president and vice president of the SWITCH Advisory Board agreed, "With Kattie's lifelong ties to the district, I have no doubts that her leadership skills and attention to detail will be a driving force in unifying the district to ensure that SWITCH will be the model for which all future career and technical education centers are judged."

## ORCHARD

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Kloewer said. "We're going to encourage people to take something from a tree if they're on a walk, and potentially having a designated pick day when one of the fruits is ready and invite the community up to pick, and we'll also absolutely have to have volunteers who harvest the rest and make sure all the fruit and vegetables are getting into the hands of people who need it."

With the cost of food going up, and donations tapering off at local food pantries, Kloewer said it's incredibly important to have the orchard and garden to get fresh fruits and vegetables to people in need.

"What you eat is an incredibly important part of a person's health, so making sure people have access to that is extremely critical. Also, a lot of the older population grew up having access to produce and providing that to them is really important," stated Kloewer.

In addition to donating fruits and vegetables, Live Well Montgomery County is also providing education, such as container gardening classes at the food pantries in Red Oak and Elliott, and the Kids Garden program.

"We're not just providing the vegetables, we're also making sure we're empowering people and showing them how they can grow things on their own, and showing them the preparation side of things, so they know what to do with it, and providing recipes on what to do with the produce when they receive it. The Kids Garden provides nutrition and cooking education, as well as hands-on experience, and cooking things that are seasonal," explained Kloewer.

Kloewer says they don't anticipate adding more trees in the future, but they have discussed the idea of putting a pollinator garden in place.

"That would help us with the produce in our garden, as well as the fruit trees. It really helps with the production of vegetables and trees, and we've discussed the idea of strategic pol-

linator plants around the garden, but at this point, we feel the trees that we've gotten are a good amount," commented Kloewer.

With the existing community garden, and the new community orchard being funded entirely from grants, Kloewer stressed the importance of that funding to make projects such as these a reality.

"Without funding, projects like this are almost impossible. The grant writing process is something we've been doing since the beginning of the garden in 2015. Grant funding has been a part of the garden's entire history," Kloewer commented.

To be able to give back to the community with the new orchard and the garden, Kloewer said, is incredibly gratifying.

"Food insecurity is something we took on as an organization a few years ago, and was something we really wanted to focus on. It's great to be able to donate fresh fruits and vegetables and give people access to the fresh fruits and vegetables they should have, as well as be able to cook them and know what to do with them. It's very satisfying and it's great to be out there and work," Kloewer said.

Kloewer added being able to educate kids is a special feeling, especially since this is an agricultural area.

"A lot of kids don't know where their food comes from. A lot of families don't have gardens anymore and they don't preserve their food. Being able to hand on some of that knowledge to the younger generation is really wonderful, and it's overall a great experience," Kloewer stated.

Like any local organization, Kloewer said Live Well Montgomery County relies heavily on volunteers.

"Seeing the community come together and support the project is really great. The mobile food pantry is another big project we do, and the way that has grown, and the way the community has supported it is incredible. We've reached the point now where we're not having to seek out

volunteers, they're coming to us. Seeing the different community groups and businesses come together and support this kind of project is really endearing and wonderful," Kloewer said.

Baker said he was pleased that the Elks could partner with Live Well Montgomery County on the orchard project.

"The city gives them the spot. The hospital folks do all of the legwork, and we're able to help a bit through the Elks and the cemetery. The cemetery did do the planting for them and got them in the ground and watered. It's been a good partnership on the new orchard, and it's been a great partnership overall with the community garden," Baker commented.

Last year, the community garden donated 1,290 pounds of produce. This year, the total was 1,500 pounds. Now that the orchard is in place, Kloewer expects those numbers to keep going up.

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