



Column One Events

Kidstop annual soup supper

Kidstop Childcare is having its annual Soup Supper fundraiser on Wednesday, March 22, 2023, from 5:00 pm-7:00 pm. The soup supper will be in the Summit Center Cafeteria in Bancroft, Iowa. It is a free-will donation, with the proceeds going toward Kidstop activities and supplies. Take-out is available! You can also call ahead and have your order ready for pick up. Call Kidstop at 515-885-2379 by noon on March 22 to put your order in. Meal includes chili, chicken noodle, broccoli cheddar soup, cornbread, homemade cinnamon rolls, homemade dinner rolls, and desserts.

They will also be having 3 and 4-year-old preschool registration for the 2023-2024 school year from 5 pm-6 pm.

Main Street Pub to hold Fish Fry

Main Street Pub in Bancroft will be holding a fish fry every Friday thru Lent from 5:00 - 9:00 p.m. The dinner includes three pieces of cod fillets, baked beans, cole slaw, and choice of potato for only \$15.99 plus tax. An extra fillet is \$2.00 a piece.

Democrats to hold March meeting

The Kossuth County Democrats will hold their March meeting and Odd Year Caucus on Monday March 27th at 6:30 PM at the Algona Public Library. Regular monthly business, election of officers, and odd year caucus will be on the agenda.

Bancroft Register sets new hours

Hours at the Bancroft Register office will vary over the next few weeks. Monday and Tuesday - closed; Wednesday and Friday - 8:30 - noon and 1:00 - 4:00; Thursday - 8:30 - 12:00. These hours may change without notice.

Spring Storytime and Fun Time to be held at the Bancroft Library

The Bancroft Public Library is hosting Spring Story and Fun Time! Preschool Children, 3 years old and above, please join us on Tuesdays April 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th from 9:30am-10:30am.

On Wednesday April 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th the School Kids, K-5th grade, can join us from 4:30pm-5:30pm.

Registration is greatly appreciated! Please call the library at 515-885-2753, send us a FB message or stop on in to get signed up! Be sure to give the age of the child so they get put in the right group! We are looking forward to the fun we're going to have and the nicer weather that is upon us!

THE SWEA CITY HERALD-PRESS

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Gravel roads in the town and Swea City and around the area are beginning to show the effects of the melting snow. Certain roads in Swea City have been barricaded to keep traffic from traveling on the gravel.

Swea City City Council hears insurance update

By Michael Tidemann

The Swea City City Council at their Wednesday, March 15 meeting heard an update on the city's insurance premium for the coming year.

Despite a good claims record, agent Alex Bluer with EMC Insurance said the city's premium will be \$80,275 which includes a 9 percent increase over the current year's premium.

Bluer said a larger increase for the current year was due to not having a lot of the city assets on the policy. Other factors that could impact the city's renewal positively or negatively include a newer dump truck, how long the pool remains open and transferring the city ambulance to the countywide ambulance service.

Workers Compensation premiums will see a 37 percent increase, based on frequency and severity.

After discussion, the council agreed to a \$1,000 deductible on Workers Compensation, adding cyber liability and increasing property liability.

In other business, the council held a public hearing and approved a 16.45220 maximum tax levy rate, a

6.8 percent increase. The levy will raise \$208,651 for the city. Significant increases are due to health insurance and liability costs.

In the library report, board member Tifani Stevens said the board had March 8 and had board training Feb. 28. Stevens said the board hopes to improve the library Website and they'll take Roberts Rules of Order training.

Chris Stevens reported on fire and ambulance activity. Stevens said four fire department volunteers had grain bin rescue training the previous Thursday. Plans are underway for an EMT class and that two more ambulance drivers were added.

Mayor Wendy Zielske said the city needed to inventory items for the ambulance. She offered concern about the city being made whole should Swea City no longer be the northern hub for countywide ambulance service.

Maintenance Supervisor Travis Stevens said he was attending CEU training the following Tuesday for water certification. He said the new garbage truck would arrive in two to

three weeks.

In other business:

- The council tabled making an interfund loan for the garbage truck.
- The council tabled action on pool staff.

- There was no wastewater treatment plant update since ISG Engineering staff were not present.

- The council set a 6:30 p.m. April 19 public hearing for the fiscal 2024 budget.

- The council approved Mayor Zielske and councilmember Randy Perdue as representatives to the countywide EMS advisory council.

- Zielske said the city had received a \$5,000 donation from Wild Rose Casino in Emmetsburg.

- Councilmember Nicole Hoyer noted property owner concerns over gravel roads. City Clerk Alycia Wolterman said roads could be paved if property owners paid a special assessment. She noted though that getting all affected property owners to agree to the assessment might be a problem.

Roofing issues discussed at North Kossuth

By Kim Meyer

Estimates to fix the roof over the cafeteria area of the North Union Swea City Campus were presented to the North Kossuth School Board on Monday, March 13.

Adam Pointer, building maintenance, explained what the roofing issue. The roof is over 20 years old and has had minimal issues in that time. He did receive two estimates that were very close in costs.

The board discussed both estimates and voted to accept the Hawkeye Flat Roof Solutions estimate. Core samples will be taken of the roof. The board is hoping the company can complete the roof over the summer and fall.

Another project discussed at length was updates on the high school softball field. School board members Roger Hagedorn and Justin Deim have been speaking to Michaelson's and Jeff Tirevold to see how they can

fix the issue in the outfield.

Hagedorn and Superintendent Travis Schueller both commented that safety issues need to be fixed.

The question among the board members was how much to spend on fixing the field. Several months ago, issues with the infield and outfield were presented to the board but no solutions were advanced from there.

The issue that the board would like to see fixed for this year is the outfield.

Some board members suggested spending only around \$6,000 to \$7,000 for fix the safety issues.

Superintendent Schueller has the spending authority of up to \$15,000 for a project without having to get it board approved.

They will talk to Michaelson's and Tirevold and give them a budget to fix issues.

Building principal Julie Runksmeier updated the board on building activities. The middle school spring fling was scheduled for Thursday,

March 16. The students and staff are preparing for the ISASP in April along with the Conditions for Learning Survey. A Book Blast fundraiser is being held to raise money so every child in the Swea City and Fenton buildings will have a new book to go home with this summer. The middle school concert will be held on April 3.

The board will hold the 2023-24 Budget Hearing for April 10th at 6:30 pm in the conference room.

Approved the baseball lease with the City of Bancroft.

After going through the audit, the board accept the audit as presented.

Approved the resignation of Kelsie Johnson as middle school volleyball coach effective at the end of the 2022-23 school year.

Approved to hire Maria De Orta as a special education para effective immediately.

The next school board meeting will be held on April 10 at 6:30 p.m.

Audit Report released for North Kossuth Community School

Schnurr & Company, LLP, Certified Public Accountants and Consultants, today released an audit report on North Kossuth Community School District, Swea City, Iowa.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS:

The District's revenues totaled \$6,186,188 for the year ended June 30, 2022, a 0.70% decrease from the prior year. Expenses for District operations for the year ended June 30, 2022, totaled \$5,903,691, a 5.46% increase from the prior year. The decrease in revenues is due to a decrease in state and federal revenue sources. The

increase in expenditures is attributed to an increase in instruction and support services expenditures.

AUDIT FINDINGS:

Schnurr & Company, LLP reported one finding related to the receipt and expenditure of taxpayer funds. The finding is found on page 61 of this report. The finding addresses a lack of segregation of duties. Schnurr & Company, LLP provided the District with recommendations to address the finding.

The finding discussed above is repeated from the prior year. The

Community School District's Board of Education have a fiduciary responsibility to provide oversight of the Community School District's operations and financial transactions. Oversight is typically defined as the "watchful and responsible care" a governing body exercises in its fiduciary capacity.

A copy of the audit report is available for review on the Auditor of State's website at <http://auditor.iowa.gov/reports/index.html>.

NU High School ranks #1 on ESSA testing

By Kim Meyer

North Union High School Principal Robert Zotz was pleased to show the school board results from the ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act) testing that was done with last year's 10-12 grade students.

He explained at the March 13th meeting that the scores are based on the following:

1. Student participation
2. ISASP (Iowa Statewide Assessment of Student Progress) Scores - Math and ELA for Proficiently Rate, Growth and Overall School Average.
3. Graduation Rate
4. Conditional Learning Survey
5. Post Secondary Readiness Index (Participation in college exams, postsecondary coursework and students who are CTE (Career and technical education) concentrators).

He was pleased to announce that North Union, grades 9-12), was first in our conference and region with a High Performing Label and a score of 63.13.

Second was St. Ansgar with a score of 62.74, followed by Central Springs with a 61.92, Lake Mills with a 61.62 all receiving High Performing labels with Garner-Hayfield-Ventura coming in fifth with a 60.13 and a Commendable label.

Principal Zotz said that with a really cool thing for the kids. And they are working on a reward for them for doing this well. He noted that by "giving the kids value to take the test" gave them a reason to take it seriously. Mr. Zotz also updated the board on high school activities. Basketball and wrestling had a good season and spring sports are slowly beginning. All State Speech students did well. The show choir finished first in their division in Emmetsburg. Pops Concert and winter formal dance were both held. The dance team finished first in Novelty and they also had three students perform on the all Iowa Dance Team. At the end of the month, the booster club banquet will be held.

Chris Stevens has been working hard in taking steps to build a Skills USA Program and is continually

applying for grants. He did receive a \$5,000 grant for tools from Harbor Freight Tools.

Seven members of the FFA attended the Iowa Legislative Symposium to advocate for FFA and AG education.

Ag instructor Sarah Manderfeld is working on the new ES curriculum that allows students more hand only training.

He also stated they are working on Advisory group consisting of a teacher and 12 students from each grade who will meet 1 to 2 times a month. The group will work on climate and culture while building relationships with other students and teachers.

The audit report was reviewed and approved.

The budget hearing will be held at 5:00 p.m. on April 10.

The board approved the resignation of North Union High School Band instructor Chris Lockwood.

They approved the hiring of Nicole Phoenix as the new high school special education teacher.

Swea City Memories and Milestones



ADVANCED ART STUDENTS - The advanced art students at Swea City, taught by Mr. Dan Sorenson, chose the field of art they like most. Various areas chosen included sculpture, painting, pottery, candles, print making and various other projects. Pictured with projects from left to right are: Cindy Davidson, Rose Anderson, Connie Wegner, and Joyce Sougstad.

Each week, this publication will share stories and pictures of that growth of Swea City. We will showcase the town of Swea City. If you have photos or information that you would like to share with this column, please email it bancroftregister@yahoo.com or contact Kim or Julie at 515-885-2531.

Bancroft Chamber of Commerce holds annual social

By Kim Meyer

The Bancroft Chamber of Commerce held their annual social on Wednesday, March 15 at the Summit Center. Social hour started at 5:30 p.m. and the food was served by Hager Foods at 6:00. The tables were decorated with an Irish theme of green.

Bancroft Chamber Director Carole

Bernhard welcomed everyone attending before starting the awards.

The first recognition of the night was given by WCTA to recognized the City of Bancroft.

Director Bernhard then recognized local businesses and organizations who are celebrating milestones.

Businesses and years:

- Andi's Floral and Embellishments - 10 years,

- Tigges Chiropractic - 25 years
- Bancroft Community Foundation - 25 years

- Bancroft Community Historical Society - 25 years

- Bancroft Area Rotary - 30 years

- Shillington Hardware - 60 years

- Carole was also recognized for serving as a director for six years.

Weiby Johnson VFW Auxiliary Minutes

Thursday morning, March 16th, 2023

Meeting called to order by President Diane Wilcox with 5 members present.

Treasurer's report was given by Lisa Hansen, treasurer, and approved subject to Audit. Audit Report was given by Marceil. Motion to accept by Emina and seconded by Sandi. Carried.

Minutes of the last meeting were read by Sandi and approved as read.

General Orders were read, acted upon, and filed.

Sandi purchased Easter Baskets for the Veterans in Valley View and Main Street Manor.

A sympathy card was sent to Department President Dru Novak's family on her passing.

Motion by Marceil to give \$25 to Easter Bunny Days in Ringsted, Armstrong and Swea City. Carried.

Lisa helped at the Dueling Pianos program put on by the ABC club of Armstrong.

Jan Berven, one of our members, passed away on March 13th. A card

will be sent later when services are held.

Year-end reports were worked on and are ready to be mailed.

There will be a fish fry on Good Friday night here at the Post Home, and we will furnish bars.

Next meeting will be Monday night April 3rd at 6 p.m. Lunch will be served by Janet Price.

Meeting Adjourned.
Respectfully submitted,
Sandi Holm, secretary

Your Right To Know

Swea City City Council Meeting for March 15th, 2023

Council met in regular session on Wednesday, March 15th, 2023, at the Swea City, City Hall at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Zielske presiding. Employees Alicia Wolterman, Travis Stevens and Kegan Boland were present. Present were council members Wolterman, Kollasch, Boland, Perdue and Hoyer. In attendance were Alex Bluer with PMC, Tifani Stevens Library board member, Chris Stevens and Mike Tidemann. Motion by CM Boland, seconded by CM Hoyer to approve the consent agenda. All ayes, carried.

1. Motion to approve agenda.
2. Motion to approve minutes.
3. Motion to approve bills.
4. Motion to approve financial reports.

Library Board member Tifani Stevens reviewed with council the recent board meeting minutes. Tifani also shared the board participated in zoom meetings, hosted a Dr. Sue's party, and are working on the website.

Chris Stevens reported fire department has been quiet and both ambulance and fire have been working on finding trainings.

Water and Sewer: Travis reported operations are going well.

Garbage: Travis reported garbage operations are going well.

Motion by CM Boland second by CM Wolterman to table interfund loan item until next meeting. All ayes carried.

Motion by CM Wolterman second by CM Kollasch to table pool staff item until next meeting. All ayes carried.

Alex Bluer with PMC reviewed the policy renewals and premiums with council.

No report from ISG
Motion by CM Wolterman second by CM Kollasch to open the public hearing for Resolution 05-2023; Resolution approving Maximum Property Tax Dollars for FY 23-24. Roll call all ayes. Alicia reported no oral or written comments were received. Alicia also reported the resolution wasn't reapproved because the notice wasn't published in the paper after it was sent to them. Motion by CM Boland second by CM Hoyer to close the public hearing. Roll Call all ayes.

Motion by CM Hoyer second by CM Kollasch to reapprove Resolution 05-2023; Resolution approving Maximum Property Tax Dollars for FY 23-24. Roll Call all ayes.

Motion by CM Wolterman second by CM Kollasch to set the date and time for public hearing for FY 23-24 Swea City budget for April 19th @ 6:30. All ayes carried.

Council discussed need for a

representative for the EMS Advisory Council. Motion by CM Hoyer second by CM Wolterman appoint Wendy and Randy to the council with them sharing one vote. All ayes carried.

Council discussed available options for extended warranty for the garbage truck. Motion by CM Hoyer second by CM Wolterman not to purchase the extended warranty for the new garbage truck. All ayes carried.

No discussion for nuisance abatements

Mayor Zielske reported the city received a letter from Wild Rose Casino announcing they had extra funds to disperse to local communities and were requesting the city claim a grant of \$5000.00. Alicia will sign the agreement and return.

With no further business, motion to adjourn was made by CM Wolterman, second by CM Perdue all ayes carried.

Alicia Wolterman, City Clerk

Wendy Zielske, Mayor

WARRANTS FOR FEBRUARY 2023	
GARBAGE	
RINGTEL, PHONE	\$31.16
BW GAS & CONVENIENCE	
FUEL	\$513.26
CUSTOM BLACKSMITHING	
DUMPSTERS	\$4,320.00
KO CITY AUDITOR	
LANDFILL	\$1,692.60
VISA, MISC	\$202.55
TOTAL	\$6,759.57

GENERAL	
ALLIANT, UTILITIES	\$382.81
RINGTEL, UTILITIES	\$97.22
MADISON NATIONAL LIFE	
LIFE INSURANCE	\$30.53
RVT, COMPUTER	\$309.90
WELLMARK BC/BS	
INSURANCE	\$147.08
COUNTRY INN, MEAL	\$120.45
SWEA CITY HERLAD PRESS	
PUBLISHING	\$258.52
MARCO, COPIER	\$153.71
HAWKINS, SUPPLIES	\$50.00
A. WOLTERMAN	
INSURANCE	\$298.84
VISA, VARIOUS	\$648.08
TOTAL	\$2,497.14

FIRE	
MB AUTO, REPAIRS	\$23.38
VISA, MISC	\$24.63
TOTAL	\$48.01

ROAD USE	
ALLIANT ENERGY	
UTILITIES	\$451.73
WELLMARK BC/BS	
INSURANCE	\$1,174.25
TEAM LAB, SUPPLIES	\$202.25

IOWA PRISON INDUSTRIES	
SUPPLIES	\$151.16
K BOLAND, INSURANCE	\$286.70
BW GAS & CONVENIENCE	
FUEL	\$1,272.56
IRS, FED FICA M/C	\$741.31
IPERS, RETIREMENT	\$277.18
VISA, SUPPLIES	\$78.85
TOTAL	\$4,636.48

WATER	
ALLIANT ENERGY	
UTILITIES	\$1,716.39
RINGTEL, UTILITIES	\$31.16
HAWKINS, SUPPLIES	\$40.00
IA DEPT OF REV, WET TAX	\$813.36
VISA, POSTAGE	\$240.00
STATE HYGENIC LABORATORY	
TESTING	\$34.00
IRS, FED, FICA, MC	\$1,689.33
IPERS, RETIREMENT	\$1,140.69
TOTAL	\$5,704.93

SEWER	
ALLIANT ENERGY	
UTILITIES	\$264.49
IRS, FED, FICA, MC	\$2,396.29
IPERS, RETIREMENT	\$1,571.50
ARMSTRONG BUILDING SUPPLY	
SUPPLIES	\$10.99
TEAM LAB, SUPPLIES	\$1,175.25
TOTAL	\$5,418.52

REVOLVING LOAN	
TRANSFER TO GENERAL	
	\$28,962.60
TOTAL	\$28,962.60

AMBULANCE	
RINGTEL, UTILITES	\$162.95
VERIZON, PHONE	\$78.42
BW GAS & CONVENIENCE	
FUEL	\$224.58
BOUND TREE, SUPPLIES	\$114.65
STRYKER, REPAIRS	\$1,928.00
VISA, MISC	\$15.00
MB AUTO CLINIC, REPAIRS	\$232.04
AMERICAN WELDING & GAS	
SUPPLIES	\$270.56
ALLIANT ENERGY	
UTILITIES	\$1,096.01
TOTAL	\$4,122.21

LOST-ST	
ALLIANT, STREET LIGHTS	\$2,051.29
TOTAL	\$2,051.29

LIBRARY	
ALLIANT ENERGY	
UTILITIES	\$353.08
RINGTEL, PHONE	\$38.66
VISA, SUPPLIES	\$526.96
IRS, FED, FICA, MED	\$223.54
TOTAL	\$1,142.24

RECEIPTS	
CAP PROJECTS-	
GARBAGE	\$10932.60

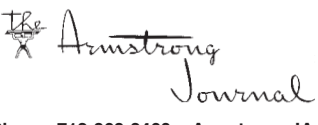
GENERAL-	\$54170.26
ROAD-	\$125.53
FIRE USE-	\$6471.68
DEBT SERVICE-	\$477.38
T & A-	\$282.22
WATER-	\$15650.61
SEWER-	\$7908.69
DEPOSIT-	\$0
AMBUSANCE-	\$11601.31
REVOLVING LOAN-	\$7.62
STORM SEWER-	\$960.76
EMERGENCY-	\$24.63
LOST-	\$8543.44
LIBRARY-	\$73.47

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SCRATCH
PADS

- Various Sizes -

\$1.50 per pound


The Armstrong
Journal

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clmt@armstrongjournal.com

Your Right To Know

Minutes
City of Bancroft
105 E Ramsey St
Regular Council Meeting
March 13, 2023
MINUTES-

Mayor, Tom Johnson opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 PM.

Roll call was taken with James Looft, Jay Johnson, Paul Ingalls, and Richard Arndorfer present. Jeff Theisen was absent. Staff present were Crysti Neuman - City Director, Tim Rowlet - Utility Clerk, Trevor Klunder - Electric, Art Ingalls - Deputy Clerk/Sewer, and Krista Looft - Deputy Water. Guest present were Dan Dackin with Dackin Insurance, Brian Klein with North Iowa Environmental, Jeff Broedser, and Roger and Carol Hagedorn.

Mayor proposed Public Hearing @ 7:00 PM for Proposition of Withdrawal from the Amended and Restated Lehigh-Webster Transmission and Webster Terminals Facilities and Operating Agreement.

Motion by Looft, second Arndorfer to approve agenda. All approve. Motion carried.

Motion by Ingalls, second Johnson to approve Consent Agenda. All approve. Motion carried.

Motion by Johnson, second Looft to approve the bills. All approve. Motion carried.

PUBLIC FORUM: No comments.
Crysti Neuman gave her City Director's Report which highlighted a budget update of \$5,896 loss for City income regarding the statewide residential tax rollback, a \$5k grant opportunity from Polk Alto county to use "for public purpose", the upcoming Bancroft Bonanza bingo night on March 25th, and information learned from the mock OSHA walkthrough done by IAMU.

Motion by Looft, second Arndorfer to rescind the public hearing for FY 23/24 FY budget, to be rescheduled. All approve. Motion carried.

Motion by Johnson, second Ingalls to table action regarding insurance rates for City and Utility until renewal time next month. All approve. Motion carried.

ELECTRIC UTILITY:
Motion by Johnson, second Looft to approve Resolution 2023.03.01 a Resolution Adopting the Bancroft Municipal Electric Utility Reliability Plan. Arndorfer - Aye, Ingalls - Aye, Looft - Aye, and Johnson - Aye. Resolution passes.

Motion by Looft, second Arndorfer to approve Resolution 2023.03.02 a Resolution Approving And Consenting To Withdrawal From The Amended And Restated Lehigh-Webster Transmission And Webster Terminals Facilities And Operating Agreement, And Approving The Amended And Restated Lehigh-Webster

Your Right To Know

Low Rent Housing Agency

Low Rent Housing Agency of Bancroft
107 E Ramsey, Bancroft, IA
Regular Board Meeting
Monday March 13, 2023 @ 6:45pm
UNAPPROVED MINUTES
The Low Rent Housing Agency of Bancroft meeting was called to order at 6:48 p.m. by Chairperson Thomas Johnson and a quorum was declared.
Ingalls/Johnson moved to approve the agenda. AYES: All. NAYS: None. Motion carried.
Ingalls/Looft moved to approve the minutes of February 13, 2023. AYES: All. NAYS: None. Motion carried.
Management Report: Following review and discussion, Johnson/Looft moved to approve items under the Management Report. AYES: All. NAYS: None. Motion carried. Motion carried.

Old Business: A. HUD 52723/52722 for operating subsidy submitted to and approved by HUD. B. Bird submitted Capital Funds 5-Year Rolling Action Plan, awaiting approval by HUD.

New Business: A. Maintenance manager vacancy. Bird reported on a possible replacement. B. Discussion to approve Bill Merron for mowing, landscaping for FYE 2023. Looft/Arndorfer moved to approve. AYES: All. NAYS: None. Motion carried. Motion carried. C. Operating subsidy for March \$2,396.00. Johnson/Arndorfer moved to approve items under old business and new business. AYES: All. NAYS: None. Motion carried, none abstained. Motion carried.

CLAIMS	
Algona Publishing, Apt. Ad	40.00
Alliant Energy, Natural Gas	2,506.02
Bancroft Municipal Utilities	
Elec-Water-Sewer-Garbage	3,433.28
Bancroft Register	
Apt. Ad/Minutes	163.12
Bomgaars, Routine supplies	20.57
Colors by Design	
Paint-Designs 16 & 23	405.19
Constance Bird	
Reimbu. Equifax background checks fee for January	15.32
Equifax	
Background checks February	22.53
Forge & Build	
Routine supplies; baseboard	
Apts. 16 & 23	726.31
Hjelmeland Flooring, Inc.	
Remove/replace all flooring Apt. 16	3,373.69
Larry Lappin	
Apt. 16 clean, re-hang doors, re-seat toilet	425.00
Murphy Realty & Management	
Management Fee	2,500.00
North Iowa Appliance	
Apt. 16 - stove	930.89
Shillington Hardware	
Routine supplies; toilet Apt. 24	345.06
Thompson Sewer, Apt. 7, 9, 10	10493.27
Gerald Zeller	
Routine, Unit Turnaround	836.25
Central States Agency LLC	
Annual Property Insurance Premium	27,993.16

Other comments:
With no further business the meeting adjourned on a motion by Ingalls/Looft at 7:04 pm.
(Published March 22, 2023)

Your Right To Know

Proceedings of the

BMU Bills

BMU CLAIMS--MARCH 2023	
VENDOR, FOR	AMOUNT
Advantage Admin	
Health Insurance	\$26.25
Alliant Energy, Gas-169 Bldg.	\$425.84
Allied ENS, IT services	\$503.88
Aramark, Rug rental	\$108.36
Bancroft Cargo, Gas/supplies	\$248.00
BMU, Utilities	\$98.65
Bancroft Register, Publishing	\$25.98
City of Bancroft, Payroll	\$18,138.85
GIS Benefits, Insurance	\$228.68
Gordon Flesch Co.	
Copier services	\$205.10
Grainger, Safety decals	\$50.50
IMFOA, Annual Dues	\$51.50
Irby, Stuart C.	
Electric Supply	\$4,155.60
JMV Graphix, Truck decals	\$60.00
NIMECA, Power cost	\$113,308.63
Nate's Auto, Service work	\$207.82
Postmaster, Postage	\$173.76
Shillington Hardware, Supplies	\$117.08
VISA, Supplies, first aid kits	\$1,065.10
Wellmark BC/BS	
Health Insurance	\$5,486.16
WCTA, Communications	\$124.86
	\$144,980.56

BMU ELECTRIC BANK ACCOUNTS	
FUNDS	
BALANCE 2/01/2023	\$721,898.53
RECEIPTS	\$583,731.19
DISBURSEMENTS	(\$862,382.44)
BALANCE 2/28/2023	\$443,247.28
MONEY MARKET FUND	

BANK CD	\$338,363.09
CURRENT BALANCE	\$459,732.83
	(Published March 22, 2023)

EFTPS Fed W/H	
Payroll taxes	\$8,050.16
Fastenal Company	
First aid supplies	\$177.24
Fraker, Erin, Mileage	\$43.75
Goche Farms, Snow hauling	\$657.50
Gco Office, Email domain	\$280.00
Grainger, Safety kits	\$59.43
Hager Foods, Supplies	\$72.00
Hawkins, Inc., Chlorine	\$20.00
Huber, Faith, EMS Supplies	\$12.12
Huber, Faith, Library cleaning	\$70.00
IA Park/Rec Assoc	
Pool continuing ed	\$165.00
Industrial Chem Labs	
Degreaser	\$116.86
IPERS, Retirement	\$3,152.35
ISU Extension,	
Pesticide training	\$45.00
Kiplinger's Magazine, Renewal	
\$117.54	

Looft, Jaimes, Reimbursement	\$32.50
Men's Health Advisor, Renewal	\$54.00
Nat Geo Kids, Renewal	\$45.00
North IA Environmental	
Contract services	\$703.00
Park Planet	
Playground equipment	\$3,386.00
Real Simple Magazine	
Renewal	\$43.00
Rec Supply Co, Pool chemicals	
\$1,952.23	
Shillington Hardware, Supplies	\$86.89
The Emblem Authority	
Police patches	\$309.00
Treasurer, State of IA	
Payroll taxes	\$1,039.10
VISA, Training, first aid kits	\$849.63
Visual Edge, IT Services	\$182.34
WCTA, Communications	\$411.91
Windows & More, Janitorial	\$70.00

	RECEIPTS	DISBURSEMENTS
	2/1/23	2/28/23
GENERAL	\$8,601.57	\$33,880.37
LIBRARY FUND		
ROAD USE TAX	\$8,653.36	\$1,742.80
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	\$73.17	\$2,652.62
EMERGENCY FUND	\$11.90	
LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX	\$10,240.09	
TAX INCREMENT FINANCING		
URBAN RENEWAL	\$-	\$-
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT		
DEBT SERVICE	\$196.96	
CAPITAL PROJECT	\$31,183.00	\$62,166.00
SEWER	\$19,792.71	\$14,352.32
WATER	\$47,823.00	\$14,361.44
ELECTRIC	\$18,138.85	\$18,138.85
STORM WATER	\$23,019.52	\$23,120.52
	\$167,734.13	\$170,414.92

SAVINGS	
RECREATION/CELEBRATION	\$4.27
STREET EQUIPMENT FUND	\$26.27
	\$3,207.19
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	\$2,521.22
SAVINGS TOTAL	\$5,759.00
MEMORIAL PARK	\$5.65
SINKING FUNDS	
WATER	\$7,027.95
SEWER	\$11,642.52
CAPITAL STREET	\$24.58
STORM SEWER	\$1,202.00
SINKING FUNDS TOTAL	\$19,897.05
LIBRARY	
TOTAL	\$193,395.83

(Published March 22, 2023)

Your Right To Know

Proceedings of the

Kossuth County Board of Supervisors

BOARD PROCEEDINGS	
March 7, 2023	
REGULAR March SESSION	
The Board of Supervisors met pursuant to adjournment. Present were Roger Tjarks (Chairman), Kyle Stecker, Joshua Waechter, and Carter Nath. Absent: Jack Plathe.	
Chairman, Roger Tjarks called the meeting to order at 8:00 A.M. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.	
Public discussion was held.	
Motion by Nath and 2nd by Stecker to approve the agenda and minutes of the previous meeting dated February 28, 2023. Motion carried unanimously.	
Motion by Waechter and 2nd by Stecker to approve the claims.	
Chairman Tjarks called for a roll call vote: Waechter: yes, Nath: yes, Stecker: yes, Tjarks: yes. Motion carried.	
AMU Svrs	657.73
Alg Pub Co Glasses	1418.02
American Glass Co Supp	1750.00
AO Life Ins Ins.	87.50
Arnold Motor Supply Parts	2780.94
Fidelity Reg. Lic Ins Ins.	140.38
Bancroft Reg. Notices	1154.25
Best Western Univ Lodging	359.38
Bomgaars Supp	968.40
Central IA Dist Supp	1255.00
Centurylink Phone	129.63
Cintas Supplies	1545.49
City of Algona Exp	13689.89
City of Fenton Utilities	111.22
City of Wesley Cons	66.45
City of West Bend Utilities	752.91
City of Whittemore Exp	2401.41
Com-Tec Land Mobile Radio Exp	3040.00
Dave D Lane Exp	175.26
Deven Exhausting & Repair Svrs	62.00
DM Stamp Mfg Supp	71.00
Dump-It Sanit Svrs	93.00
Elec-Systems & Software Supp	2026.20
Farmers Coop Elev Fuel	1818.18
Fenton Coop Telephone Svrs	251.06
Force America Parts	2634.24
Galls Supp	17.99
D Green Exp	238.83
Heartland Business Systems Exp	137.50
D Heiderscheidt Exp	72.96
Hiway Truck Equipment Supp	297.04
HJK Multi Family Redevelopment Exp	175.00
Hy-Vee Supp	5336.77
Ingalls Electric Engineer Sup	1555.81
Iowa Attorney Generals Office Exp	28.00
ISACS Svrs	280.00
ITSavvy LLC Supp	3770.75
John Deere Financial Parts	13830.20
Keltek Svrs	8554.81
Kemco Tires Svrs	52.50
KC Sheriff Svrs	1000.00
KK Treas Svrs	11.69
KKRHC Svrs	5804.00
D Leu Exp	5.00
Lone Rock Coop Tel Phone	599.05
Mail Serv Supp	1176.63
Martin Marietta Agg Rock	261.82
Martins Field Svrs	1064.15
M McGregor Exp	64.22
Mid Am Energy Svrs	8492.45
Midwest Technology Services LL	17348.41
Midwest Wheel Exp	312.68
Miller Looft TW Fuel	2982.88
A Miller Exp	199.13
A Nielsen Exp	120.00
S Miller Exp	350.00
Monroe Sys Busi Exp	227.73
NASSCO Supp	144.92
C. Nath Exp	141.48
New England Mfg Supp	930.58
North Central Iowa Services, L	5733.16
Engineer Supp	75.96
NIA Lumber&Design Exp	196.73
North Iowa Media Group Exp	382.00
Norther Balance&Scale Exp	111.00
NW Comm Service	815.27
IOS Supp	402.20
MC Overhead Door Service	78.01
PAKOR Exp	3565.15
Petrolband Exp	75.96

A RESOLUTION TO WITHDRAW FROM THE ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT WHICH FORMED THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT CHIEF ELECTED OFFICIAL CONSORTIUM FOR THE WORKFORCE INNOVATION



HIGHLIGHTS WITH HENRY

State Representative Henry Stone

On Thursday I served on a subcommittee for HF 560. This bill pertains to college courses for high schoolers. It passed subcommittee and is now ready for discussion in the Appropriations Committee.

This week we have been debating and passing a lot of legislation. Here is a look at a few headlining pieces from this past week:

Revenue Estimating Conference Finds Iowa's Economy, Tax Collections Strong

Iowa's economy remains strong, generating higher state tax collections, according to the state's Revenue Estimating Conference. The three-member panel held its annual spring meeting last Friday, revising the revenue estimate for Fiscal Year 2023 (current fiscal year) and Fiscal Year 2024 (budget we will be working on) and setting an initial estimate for Fiscal Year 2025.

As has been the case since they set their initial forecast in December 2021, the panel again raised the revenue projection for Fiscal Year 2023. This time, they increased the forecast for the General Fund to bring in to \$9.7504 billion. That is a \$135 million increase over their forecast made in the meeting in December of 2022. When compared to Fiscal Year 2022, revenue would be down 0.5 percent. The reason state revenue would be lower is the implementation of the tax cuts passed during the 2022 session, which went into effect on January 1. LSA has projected that the tax cuts will return \$575 million to Iowa taxpayers in FY 2023.

As a reminder, the FY 2023 budget was built after the Revenue Estimating Conference met last March and projected revenue for the year then was \$9.1879 billion. Over the past year, the panel's estimate for FY 2023 has risen by \$562.5 million.

For Fiscal Year 2024, the panel's estimate for General Fund revenue has been raised to \$9.6503 billion. This is an increase of \$24.8 million over December's official projection. When compared to the new forecast for Fiscal Year 2023, state revenue would decline by 1.0 percent. As with the FY 2023 estimate, the 2022 tax cuts have been factored into the forecast. They will return an additional \$450 million to Iowa taxpayers in FY 2024.

For Fiscal Year 2025 (budget which will be passed in the 2024 legislative session) the REC's initial forecast for General Fund revenue is \$9.7413 billion. This would be an increase of \$91 million or 0.9 percent over the FY 2024 forecast.

Why are these numbers as high as they are, even with the implementation of the 2022 tax cuts? Iowa's economy remains strong, as retail sales remain above pre-Pandemic levels. The state's employment figures in February surpassed the pre-Pandemic high. All three major sources of tax revenue – personal income tax, sales and use tax, and corporate income tax – are running higher than last year's levels. And that is with implementation of the tax cut starting on January 1.

The positive impact of the tax cuts on Iowa's economy is already being felt. According to the Department of Management, the average retiree in Iowa will have an additional \$3500 in their pockets this year thanks to

the elimination of tax on pension income and the higher Social Security COLA. That's a big help to seniors being hit hard by the persistent inflation continuing to grip the national economy.

The Revenue Estimating Conference also revised their estimates for the Rebuild Iowa Infrastructure Fund. For Fiscal Year 2023, gaming tax revenue is now projected to come in at \$335 million. This is an increase of \$17.4 million from December's numbers. And for the new budget year, gaming revenue is now expected to be \$312 million in FY 2024. This is an increase of \$26.2 million over the December figures.

House Passes Overdue Legislation to Realign State Government

This week the Iowa House of Representatives passed a piece of legislation, SF 514, that streamlines and realigns the state government of Iowa. It has been nearly 40 years since the organization of the state government has been evaluated and restructured in order to better serve Iowans. In that time the number of cabinet level departments and agencies has grown to 37 agencies. Within these agencies are many duplicative and redundant services that will move under appropriate departments to maximize the services provided to Iowans.

By aligning functions and services that are similar taxpayers will have a more straightforward process for interacting with the government and receiving the proper services without unnecessarily going to several agencies. One of the biggest changes is bringing in all licensing and regulatory services into the newly named Department of Inspections, Appeals, and Licenses. Currently, the licensing and management of 136 professional licenses is overseen by 11 different state agencies. Now when contractors work on a project they will only have to coordinate with one agency in order to complete various inspection aspects of the project.

With such an important task as moving boards, authorities, and departments into their new locations the State Government Committee assigned a seven member subcommittee to review the legislation, speak with departments to ensure smooth transitions, and ensure these policy changes would work. The subcommittee then held 6 public meetings to hear from the public and the department directors to flesh out concerns. The State Government Committee then considered the bill and adopted a 40-page amendment addressing concerns that were raised before and during the subcommittee process.

While there was an undue amount of hyperbolic rhetoric about the size of the bill (1,513 pages) the first 880 pages largely dealt with the merger of the Department of Human Services and the Department of Health which has been in the works for over a year. The remaining changes made in the bill are not changes to services provided to Iowans, but moving boards and oversight to more appropriate departments in a way to make efficient use of staffing and resources. Above all the legislation aims to provide more streamlined access to government services for Iowans.

The legislation, now heading to the Governor's desk for signature,

was an overdue measure to ensure that government is working for the taxpayers. Consolidating existing services from 37 agencies to 16 will better pool resources and provide stronger oversight to ensure the best service possible for Iowans.

School Bathroom Issues

Parents across Iowa have contacted members of the legislature concerned about the privacy of their children in school. There have been a significant number of reports of biological males using female changing rooms, bathrooms and at least one instance of female students forced to share a hotel room with a biological male on school trip. Violating the privacy of these boys and girls not only hurts them but also places them in a position that no child should have to navigate. Senate File 482 ensures that children are not forced to share a space with a person of the opposite sex while they are using the restroom, or changing clothes.

SF 482 takes a simple and straightforward approach. The bill requires schools to designate bathrooms and changing rooms, such as locker rooms, for either boys or girls. Girls are required to use a girl's bathroom or changing room and boys are required to use a boy's bathroom or changing room. If there is any conflict or confusion, the sex listed on the child's original birth certificate clarifies what facility the child shall use. These requirements also apply when there are extracurricular activities outside of the school building. This ensures girls and boys each have the privacy they should expect in a school.

If a child wants greater privacy than provided by law their parent can send a letter to the school requesting reasonable accommodations. A reasonable accommodation does not allow a boy to use a girl's bathroom or vice versa but does allow the child access to a single occupancy restroom or changing area, or controlled use of faculty restrooms or changing areas.

There are exceptions to the bill for parents assisting a child who cannot use the restroom or changing room by themselves, janitorial and maintenance staff if the room is empty, allowing access to anyone providing emergency medical care, and in a disaster or emergency situation where it is necessary to protect students from a threat.

Protecting the privacy of children should be a priority for all adults. Children should not be subjected to woke and confusing gender ideology and should have their privacy protected in their school setting.

Iowa Lakes Offers Free Memoir Writing 101 Lunch And Learn

(Spencer, Iowa) Everyone has a story to share, but who will tell it? For people interested in telling their own stories, Iowa Lakes Community College is offering a free Memoir Writing 101 Lunch and Learn. Steve and Mary McSwain Steele, the co-authors of "Times They Are A-Changin'...", will lead the class on the Spencer Campus on Thursday, April 20, 2023, from noon to 1:30 pm.

Memoirs are powerful stories that can change the lives of both the writer and their readers, so learning how to write a memoir effectively is essential to telling a life story before sharing it with others. The Memoir Writing 101 Lunch and Learn will teach participants how to write a narrative from their perspective about a part of their life, the first step towards writing a memoir.

"You may think you've led an average life that wouldn't interest others. But think about it. You were born before cell phones, laptops, and the Internet. Some of you lived through a World War, the Vietnam conflict. Some of you survived polio outbreaks and Covid pandemics. You may have seen many U.S. presidents come and go. You have seen life from a unique perspective that no one else has, and you are the link that

connects your parents' generation to your children's. If your story isn't shared, your grandchildren will lose a part of their history," explained Mary McSwain Steele.

A memoir is the written version of the stories told in person, sharing memories and moments with descendants without parts being forgotten or lost over time. Sharing the memories of one's life with loved ones becomes a priceless gift between generations.

This workshop is appropriate for aspiring writers of all ages. Everyone is welcome to attend the class on their lunch break and bring their lunch with a dessert provided. The Lunch and Learn will be held on the Spencer Campus at 1900 Grand Avenue, with a virtual opportunity to watch and participate in the workshop also available.

"Join us for a workshop on the art of memoir writing and learn how simple - and gratifying - it can be to look back on your life and share those memories with your loved ones," encouraged Mary McSwain Steele.

Register for the Memoir Writing 101 Lunch and Learn (#6742) at iowalakes.edu/ce or call 800-252-5664.

www.statelinepubs.com

Join Us For Sundaes on Sunday

Sponsored by Friends of the Ringsted Library, the Ringsted Library and Thrivent Financial

Sunday, March 26, 2023 • 10:30 -12:30

at Ringsted American Legion/Community Center



Serving Hot Beef Sundaes, Salads, Ice Cream Sundaes, & Beverage

Free Will Offering--

Suggested donation \$12 Adults; Ages 10 & under \$6
To Go Meals available - call 866-1291

SCRATCH PADS

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The Armstrong Journal
Phone: 712-868-3460 - Armstrong, IA
krig@armstrongjournal.com
clint@armstrongjournal.com

NOTICE

Johanson's Cafe & Pizzeria

Closing on March 31ST, 2023

Cafe will be relocating to Bancroft, Iowa

We want to say THANK YOU to our customers for your loyal patronage during the 13 years we have been in business in Armstrong. We have enjoyed serving you.

Dale, Teresa, Josh

Meals-On-Wheels from Johanson's will cease after March 31st. This Community needs someone or some group to take over this Monday to Friday program which enables many to stay in their homes. If any questions about Meals-On-Wheels, please call Theresa at 712-868-4949 or (cell) 515-578-0456.

NU OPEN HOUSE

North Union Preschool at the Fenton Elementary building will be having an open house and pre-registration for the 2023-2024 school year.

Prospective students and parents are encouraged to attend on Tuesday, April 4 anytime from 5:30-6:30 at the preschool classroom in Fenton.

Larson Named 2023 ICCAC Coach Of The Year Amid Berth Into The NJCAA Division II Men's Basketball Championship

Troy Larson, Head Men's Basketball Coach for Iowa Lakes Community College, was selected by the Iowa Community College Athletic Conference (ICCAC) as the 2023 Coach of the Year. He led the Laker Men's Basketball team to their first regular season title since 2012-13 and their second Region XI Tournament title since 2020-21.

Larson is the eighth men's basketball coach at Iowa Lakes Community College and has been coaching at Iowa Lakes for the past 16 years. This is his first Coach of the Year award since ICCAC started awarding in 2017-18. Larson's overall coaching record is 342 wins and 151 losses, earning All-Time Winningest Coach at Iowa Lakes this year with 337 wins.

"Coach Larson is exceptional at recruiting student-athletes with the knowledge, skills, and abilities that best align with the Men's Basketball program and who commit to what it means to be a Laker. He is a master in player development and has the coaching knowledge and experience to help student-athletes reach their full potential. Coach Larson provides the critical foundation for student-athletes during their two-year experience at Iowa Lakes, allowing them to move on to the next level of play at a 4-year college or university. He is a coach, mentor, and role model, often making a lasting impact on each student-athlete that goes through his program," shared Julie Williams, Iowa Lakes Dean of Students.

Coach Larson says the Coach of the Year award results from the remarkable season the Iowa Lakes Men's Basketball team has had so far,

winning the regular ICCAC season at 13-3, two games ahead of the two second-place teams.

"The assistant coaching staff worked hard to scout and recruit, bringing in the right type of guys and then focusing on player development and coaching up our team. I feel blessed to coach such a high-character group of young men who are constantly sacrificing individual accolades for the betterment of our team; the team consists of a very talented, high IQ, and tough bunch of players. In addition, Iowa Lakes has provided great administrative support for our basketball program to be successful, and we have a strong fan base, which helps when playing at home. I'm honored to accept the award on behalf of the team and institution," explained Coach Larson.

The Lakers are currently 24-8 on the season finishing first in ICCAC conference play, winning the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division II Region XI tournament, and advancing to the NJCAA Division II's Men's Basketball National Championship held in Danville, Illinois March 21-25.

"A lot of our success this season comes from a deep bench, great credit given to Coach Larson for his ability to develop and manage all players and team chemistry. We are playing at a high level right now, and I'm looking forward to seeing them make a deep run in the National Tournament next week," said Williams.

To learn more about Iowa Lakes Athletics, please visit iowalakesathletics.com.

BRUNCH BUFFET

Please join us
March 26 • 9 am to 1 pm

COST: \$15 Adults
\$ 8 age 6-10
FREE for 5 & under

The HIDEAWAY
Country Greens
401 C Ave • Armstrong, IA 50514
Phone: 712-868-3048

March 29th Delores is celebrating her 80th Birthday!

Please help us celebrate with a card shower!
Delores Arndorfer
507 S Summit St • Bancroft, IA 50517

Graduates and parents...
are you having a graduation

Open House

Publish your Graduation Open House Announcement for 2 weeks prior in your local newspaper.

Published in Armstrong, Bancroft, Ringsted and Swea City.

\$20

for 2 weeks

Deadline is the Friday noon before publication.

Ceylon Community Day

Consignment Auction 88th Annual

Farm Equipment / Vehicles / Misc.

Saturday April 15th, 2023

Ceylon MN – Starting: 8:30 am

Huge Auction Selling 2-3 Rings All Day

Call early with consignments to get advertised
Watch Facebook for info and pictures of auction items

Bring Consignments to Ceylon

April 6th – April 13th

8:00 am – 5:00 pm

Howell Real Estate & Auction

www.howellrealestateandauktion.com

Mark Howell Gary Helmers Larry Howell
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Coming around the turn in the 4x200-meter relay was North Union senior Ella Ulrich. Finishing 8th with a time of 2:01.13 was Ulrich, Naomi Jones, Beth Streuber and Libby Stevens at the Buena Vista University High School Elite Meet on Saturday, March 18 in Storm Lake.

Iowa Lakes Athletics Hires New Head Volleyball Coach

The Iowa Lakes Community College Athletics Department hires new Head Volleyball Coach, Nick Erdman of Courtland, Minnesota. Coach Erdman brings a decade of coaching experience to the Lakers Volleyball team and a passion for building on retiring Head Volleyball Coach Mike Turnbull's legacy, planning to help the team reach new heights in the upcoming years.

"We are excited to add Coach Erdman to our athletics staff. Erdman has built an outstanding high school program and has the skillset needed to recruit quality student-athletes for our program. He has a passion for the sport, understands the game, and will help position our student-athletes to move on to the next level of collegiate volleyball. We look forward to getting him on campus and seeing where our volleyball program goes over the next couple of years," said Troy Larson, Iowa Lakes' Athletics Director.

In addition to coaching the Laker Volleyball team, Coach Erdman will join the Advising and Success Center staff, where he will be helping students at Iowa Lakes obtain the resources needed to be successful, including assistance with registration, academic advising, tutoring, and transfer planning.

"Erdman will do an outstanding job in our success center with his teaching background. He cares about student success and will be an asset for Iowa Lakes," shared Larson.

Coach Erdman grew up in a gym or on a field while his dad was coaching and started coaching in 2013, bringing ten years of coaching experience to Iowa Lakes. Erdman earned a Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics from Concordia University Wisconsin in 2016 and his master's in teaching and learning in 2019. He has coached many teams during his coaching history, including seven years with the Jr. Red Knights Volleyball Club, two years at Northern Ozaukee School District, and four years at Sheboygan Falls High School.

"I am extremely thankful to the Iowa Lakes Athletics Department and Administration for this new opportunity. I commend Coach Turnbull's excellent job getting the program into a competitive spot, and I look forward to building on all the great things he has done for the program. I know this conference will be a trial by fire, where I will need to learn quickly, but I am excited about the challenge and can't wait to be a Laker," said Coach Erdman.

To learn more about Iowa Lakes Athletics, please visit iowalakesathletics.com.



North Union senior Bryer Prochniak is starting off his track season with a first place finish in the 60 meter dash with a 7.04 time on Saturday, March 18.



North Union junior Collin Rasch set a new school record in the shot put with a throw of 47'2" on Saturday, March 18.

Rasch sets school record in shot put

By David Swartz

STORM LAKE — The North Union track teams were at the Buena Vista University High School Elite Meet this past Saturday, March 18 in Storm Lake.

The Warriors' day was highlighted by a school record throw of 47 feet, 2 inches in the boys' shot put by Collin Rasch.

Also, Bryer Prochniak took first in the 60-meter dash in 7.04 seconds and second in the 200-meter dash in 23.02 seconds.

In the girls' events, Shelby Fraker had the best finish as she placed 40th in the 200-meter dash in 28.46 seconds.

North Union top 8 finishes are listed below:

North Union girls' results

200-meter dash: 4, Shelby Fraker 28.46;

4x200-meter relay: 8, NU (Ella Ulrich, Naomi Jones, Beth Streuber, Libby Stevens) 2:01.13

North Union boys' results

60-meter dash: 1, Bryer Prochniak 7.04

200-meter dash 2, Bryer Prochniak 23.02

60-meter hurdles 5, Carter Morphew 9.49

4x200-meter relay: 8, NU (C. Morphew, Gavyn Morphew, Kaden Laabs, Preston Guerdet) 1:43.84

4x800-meter relay: 5, NU (Guerdet, G. Morphew, Liam Kollasch, Nick Arndorfer) 10:51.99

Distance medley relay: 8, NU (Landon Price, Collin Rasch, Labs, Lucas Dryer) 4:52.58

Shot put: 1, Rasch 47'2"

Thank You! It's about time that I express my appreciation to everyone who remembered me on my 90th Birthday.

The flowers, the food, and the many cards filled with kind messages warmed my heart.

To my family who came home, in spite of the snowy weather, to help me celebrate, I give my special thanks.

Marjorie Fitzgerald

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MECHANIC

Kossuth County Secondary Road Department is seeking a qualified candidate for the position of Mechanic at our North Algona Mechanic Shop.

- This position maintains, repairs and cares for of all types of vehicles and construction equipment. Mechanic work includes but is not limited to diagnosis, repair and replacement of mechanical, electrical, hydraulic, pneumatic parts and components in gasoline or diesel-powered heavy highway construction and maintenance equipment. Welding and fabrication experience is a plus.
- Possession of or the ability to obtain a Class "A" Commercial Drivers License with air brake endorsement is required.
- The successful candidate should be positive, hard-working, have good communication skills, and be willing to learn. Establishing a working relationship with co-workers, vendors, suppliers and the public is also required. Kossuth County offers competitive wages, excellent benefits, and modern shops to work in.
- An application may be obtained at the office of the Kossuth County Engineer, 114 West State Street, Algona, IA, 50511 or <https://kossuthcounty.iowa.gov/careers.php>.
- Applications will be accepted until April 14, 2023 or until the position is filled. Offers are contingent on passing background checks and preemployment functional job analysis.

Kossuth County is an Equal Opportunity Employer

CARS, VANS, TRUCKS

17 Chevy 1500 LTZ, 4-dr., red, 4x4, leather, sunroof, 40,000 mi., 1-owner	\$39,500
16 Ford F150, crew, 4x4, gray, V6, auto, new tires, 1-owner	\$18,800
15 Ford Edge Titanium, 4-dr., black, sunroof, AWD, 1-owner	SOLD \$16,700
14 Ford Escape XLT, 4-dr., white, 1.5L motor, AWD, 82,000 mi.	\$13,800
14 GMC Terrain SLE, 4-dr., black, Leather, sunroof, WD	\$12,500
14 Chevy Impala LTZ, 4-dr., wine color, V6, leather, sunroof, new tires	\$ A V E
11 Dodge Challenger RT, 2-dr., gray, V8, Hemi, auto, wheels, 2-owner	\$24,800
02 Chevy Monte Carlo SS, red, V6, wheels, 78,000 mi.	\$ 8,100

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JOIN US FOR AN
Open House Event

FRIDAY, MARCH 24TH, 10AM-2PM
2107 25th St. | Emmetsburg, IA 50536

Mark the calendar for March 24th to join us in Emmetsburg at the new **Parallel Ag** location, formerly Woodford Equipment for an Open House celebration. Join us for lunch at noon, enter to win prizes, visit with product specialists and Parallel Ag parts and equipment experts, and much more.

Learn more and register for a free gift at parallelAg.com

Parallel Ag
800.659.1639

Country Greens GOLF COURSE OPEN HOUSE PARTY

MARCH 25th • 5-8PM

Please stop in for a free taco and nacho bar and buy a season pass for the upcoming season! We will be drawing names from those who signed up for a season pass.

Prizes are 3 gift certificates - \$50, \$100 and \$150. All who paid for season passes before that night will also be entered into the drawing.

When you finish your golf game, swing into The Hideaway for a refreshing beverage and good food!

401 C ave. • Armstrong, IA 50514 • 712-868-3048

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!!

The HIDEAWAY
Country Greens

You are invited to an Open House

Baby Shower

honoring
Olivia Kajewski
Saturday,
April 1, 2023
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
at 702 Beech St,
Burt, Iowa

Please bring a book instead of a card and don't forget to write a short message to Baby Boy Benjamin!

APRIL 2023 SCHEDULE

FAIRMONT Opera House

B2Wins
Friday, April 14, 2023 • 7 PM

Heartsong
Sunday, April 16, 2023 • 2 PM

Axiom Brass
Friday, April 28, 2023 • 7PM

Junie B. Jones
Monday, April 24, 2023
10 AM • 12:15 PM • 7 PM
Tuesday, April 25, 2023
10 AM • 12:15 PM

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www.fairmontoperahouse.org
45 Downtown Plaza • PO #226 • Fairmont, MN 56031

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5 Years Ago
March 21, 2018

Austin Petersen of Swea City will play Tim Allgood in the Wartburg College presentation of "Noises Off"...Marissa Nielsen, daughter of Kim and Tysen Nielsen, was the lucky winner of a new glove given away during the North Union Youth softball clinic held by North Union head softball coach Art Ingalls...Wrangling Grace Cafe in Bancroft was named as one of the top 10 places in Iowa as having the best burger. Nominations for the honor were given to the Iowa Beef Industry Council and Iowa Cattlemen's Association. The number of votes each restaurant received determined the 2018 top Ten restaurants...Backstage in Bancroft announced the sale of tickets for their spring play "Love, Lies and the Doctor's Dilemma...Dalton Sathoff of Armstrong was arrested after running around the business district in Armstrong naked. The incident caused the North Union High School to go into a soft lockdown. There was no direct threat to the high school but done as a precaution...

10 Years Ago
March 13, 2013

Daffodil sales were a success in Swea City raising \$2,285.00 to help support the fight against cancer. Eight Gifts of Hope were presented to eight

people in the community now suffering from cancer. It was also noted that this was the last year for the sale of daffodils...North Union high school student Mason Harbaugh received a Division 1 rating in acting and a division 2 rating in Improvisation at the state individual speech contest. Harbaugh was also selected for the All-State Speech Festival...North Union High School Choir student Katrina Newman performed a solo "Traveling Soldier" at the high school pop's concert - A New Beginning...North Union After Prom committee sponsored the magic and illusionist show that featured Keith West at the high school gymnasium in Armstrong.

25 Years Ago
March 11, 1953

Swea City Mayor Bob Baker swore in Larry Slifka as the new city council member. Slifka was appointed to the city council following the resignation of Henry Mayland...Mike Lockwood, Judy Larson and Mark Reynolds were pictured in the paper practicing their lines for Patent Pending Player's "On Golden Pond". A dinner theater will be held at the Immanuel Lutheran Church...Little Lambs Daycare was buzzing with activities as children enjoyed treats, played games and some had their faces painted. Visiting the daycare was a clown, aka Mitch

Hauskins, who entertained the children...North Union seventh grade winners for the Knights of Columbus Spelling Bee contest were first place Kristin Laubenthal and second place Christine Kern. Winners in sixth grade were first place Cody Bilyeu, second place Dustin Eisenmann and third place Shanna Dawson.

50 Years Ago
March 22, 1953

A new car wash has opened in Swea City this week. Rich Foster, owner and operator of Rich's Barber-shop, has opened the new car wash in the old locker building next to his barbershop. The unit is coin operated do it yourself operation...Dale's Floor Service in Swea City has opened up a new enlarged facilities in downtown Swea City. The business is located in the old mens clothing store building next to the bank on main street. Dale and Virginia Wegener previously operated the floor covering service from a display room in their home...North Kossuth senior sponsor, Mr. Jim Rode, presented seniors Steve Montgomery and Cathy Mein with their prizes for being top salesmen. Steve received a poison mug and Cathy a smiling elephant. The senior class held a fundraising event to raise funds for their class trip to Chicago. Steve sold 15 bottles of Rex all purpose cleaner and Cathy sold 25 bottles.

70 Years Ago
March 19, 1953

Nine boys from Swea City FFA Chapter brought home 4 blue and two red ribbons from the Minnesota State spring barrow show held in Albert Lea....Coach Fred Hayen reports

23 hopefuls entered for spring baseball practice. Of these baseball prospects, six are letter-winners from last season. They include Lee Dixon, Clifford Beadle, Gary Gabel, Kenneth Johnson, Ray Larson, and Leland Osgood...Everett Thorson won a gold award in the sub-district FFA speech contest at Forest City for his talk on Farm Cooperatives. Thorson won the right to advance to the district speaking contest. Norman Ottman received an honorable mention for freshman creed speaking...Serving aboard the destroyer USS Harlan R. Dickson, in the Mediterranean is James D. Mullarkey, boasts wain's mate third class, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Mullarkey of Swea City...Sheriff Ralph Lindhorst was in Swea City Wednesday investigating several robberies which occurred here Tuesday night. Several cars were broken into and robbed of articles at the VFW hall as the owners were at a part at the hall. It appears the thefts may have been the work of local vandals but isn't overlooking the possibility it may have been done by someone outside of Swea City.



The Northwest Chargers 4-H Club from Woden made a generous donation of blankets for pediatric patients at Kossuth Regional Health Center. Pictured are Left to Right - Nichole Larson, Marcie Larson (RN and their mom), and Jessica Larson

Area Church Services



These weekly church messages and schedules are contributed by these concerned and responsible citizens and businesses from this area!

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ST. JOSEPH WESLEY ST. CECELIA ALGONA

ST. MICHAEL WHITTEMORE SS. PETER & PAUL WEST BEND CATHOLIC CHURCHES

Rev. Steven McLoud, Pastor

Wednesday, March 22

8:30 a.m. - Mass at St. Michael, Whittemore

2:00 p.m. - Sunday Scripture Study - SC parents room

6:00 p.m. - Stations of the Cross (SH) meal to follow

6:30 p.m. - Religious Education for grades K/1, 2 at St. John the Baptist, Bancroft

7:00 p.m. - Religious Education for grades 8, 9, 10 at St. John the Baptist, Bancroft

7:00 p.m. - YDisciple at St. Cecelia

Thursday, March 23

8:30 a.m. - Mass at St. Joseph, Wesley

9:00 a.m. - Eucharistic Adoration at St. Joseph, Wesley

4:00 p.m. - Outreach Committee at St. Cecelia, Algona

5:00 p.m. - Eucharistic Adoration at SS. Peter & Paul, West Bend

6:00 p.m. - Mass at SS. Peter & Paul, West Bend

Friday, March 24

7:00 a.m. - Mass at St. Cecelia's, Algona

7:30 a.m. - Sacrament of Penance

Saturday, March 25

3:15 p.m. - Sacrament of Penance at St. Cecelia, Algona

4:15 p.m. - Sacrament of Penance at St. Joseph, Wesley

4:30 p.m. - Mass at St. Cecelia, Algona

5:00 p.m. - Mass at St. Joseph Wesley

Sunday, March 26

8:30 a.m. - Mass at St. Michael, Whittemore

8:30 a.m. - Mass at St. John the Baptist, Bancroft

9:30 a.m. - Coffee, rolls and fellowship at St. John Baptist, Bancroft

10:30 a.m. - Mass at SS. Peter & Paul, West Bend

10:30 a.m. - Mass at St. Cecelia, Algona

Monday, March 27

7:00 a.m. - KC Rosary for Vocations at St. Cecelia, Algona

8:00 a.m. - Mass at St. Cecelia, Algona

5:30 p.m. - Lenten Vespers at St. Cecelia

Tuesday, March 28

8:40 a.m. - Student Mass at St. Cecelia, Algona

5:30 p.m. - Mass at St. John the Baptist, Bancroft

5:30 p.m. - Mass at St. Cecelia, Algona

6:00 p.m. - Sacrament of Penance at St. Cecelia, Algona

Wednesday, March 29

8:30 a.m. - Mass at St. John the Baptist, Bancroft

6:00 p.m. - Stations of the Cross (SH)

6:30 p.m. - Religious Education for grades K/1, 2 at St. John the Baptist, Bancroft

7:00 p.m. - Religious Education for grades 8, 9, 10 at St. John the Baptist, Bancroft

Thursday, March 30

8:40 a.m. - Mass at St. Cecelia, Algona

5:30 p.m. - Mass at SS. Peter & Paul, West Bend

6:30 p.m. - Mass at St. Michael, Whittemore

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Swea City, IA

Pastor Todd Hartsock

Sunday, March 26

8:45 a.m. - Worship Services inside the church

Social hour will be held following service

Worship service is also available to hear on radio 1620AM from your car in the Church's parking lot.

Wednesday, March 29

6:00 p.m. - Mighty Warrior Youth Group, Open Bible Church

BETHANY EVANGELICAL & REFORMED CHURCH Ledyard, Iowa

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Sunday, March 26

9:00 a.m. - Adult and Children's Sunday School

10:00 a.m. - Worship

Wednesday, March 29

6:00 p.m. - Mighty Warrior Youth Group, Open Bible Church

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH Bancroft, Iowa

Pastor Jim Dewar

Sunday, March 26

9:30 a.m. - Sunday School

10:30 a.m. - In person and Face-

book Live Worship Services

6:30 p.m. - In person Sunday Evening Service

Wednesday, March 29

7:30 p.m. - In person evening, Prayer Service

FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN Lakota, Iowa

Pastor Kent Madison

Sunday, March 26

8:30 a.m. - Worship

Wednesday, March 29

6:30 p.m. - Lenten Service at Lutheran Church

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH Lakota, Iowa

Pastor Chad Duffy

Sunday, March 26

9:00 a.m. - Sunday School/Confirmation

10:00 a.m. - Worship

Wednesday, March 29

6:30 p.m. - Lenten Service

ALGONA FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, March 26

9:00 a.m. - Sunday School

10:15 a.m. - In-person Worship Service at Algona Presbyterian Church followed with fellowship and coffee time

Monday, March 27

9:00 a.m. - Sunday's Worship Service on AMU Channel 20 and Mediacom Channel 18

Tuesday, March 28

12:00 noon - Mission and Ministry Meeting

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Lone Rock, Iowa

Pastor Walter Reemtsma

Sunday, March 26

9:00 a.m. - Worship Service - This service can be seen live on Facebook at Lone Rock Presbyterian Church

10:00 a.m. - Fellowship coffee

5:30 p.m. - Lenten Service

Tuesday, March 28

9:30 a.m. - Prayer Time in fellowship hall

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH Lone Rock, Iowa

Pastor Duane Miesner

Sunday, March 26

9:00 a.m. - Worship with Holy Communion

9:45 a.m. - Sunday School

Monday, March 27

8:00 a.m. - Men's Breakfast/Bible

Study

1:30 p.m. - Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, March 29

6:00 - 7:00 p.m. - Confirmation Classes

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH Swea City, Iowa

Sunday, March 26

9:00 a.m. - Worship Service inside church with live streaming on Facebook at Immanuel Lutheran Church

10:00 a.m. - Sunday School

Wednesday, March 29

6:00 p.m. - Mighty Warrior Youth Group, Open Bible Church

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor David Schultz Swea City, Iowa

Sunday, March 26

9:00 a.m. - In person services

Wednesday, March 29

6:00 p.m. - Mighty Warrior Youth Group, Open Bible Church

OPEN BIBLE CHURCH Swea City

Sunday, March 26

10:00 a.m. - Worship Services at church

10:30 a.m. - Service streamed at sweacityopenbible.org

Wednesday, March 29

6:00 p.m. - Mighty Warrior Youth Group, Open Bible Church

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH Burt, Iowa

Rev. Thomas J Cowell

Thursday, March 23

3:00 p.m. - Titonka Nursing Home

Sunday, March 26

8:30 a.m. - SSchool/Adult Class

9:30 a.m. - Divine Service

6:00 p.m. - New Member Class at Trinity

Tuesday, March 28

10:00 a.m. - Morning Prayer

Wednesday, March 29

4:45 p.m. - Supper at Trinity

6:00 p.m. - Lenten Service at Trinity

6:30 p.m. - Midweek Catechisis at Trinity

BURT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Pastor Kent Madison

Pastor Walt Reemtsma

Sunday, March 26

10:30 a.m. - Service will be broadcast live on Burt Presbyterian Church Facebook page

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you? Local problems are often best handled locally. But, before you jump in to start solving problems, a little preparation will go a long way. Start by defining the problem (a problem clearly defined is half solved). Then brainstorm possible solutions, perhaps with the people who are affected by the problem. Decide which solution seems best, and then prepare a plan and put the plan into practice. You might need to evaluate your plan afterwards, and if it didn't work out as planned you might try one of your other plans. But remember, you are someone who can solve this problem. So don't give up. - Christopher Simon

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Team Dragons and Team Wildcats pose with the basketball medals that they earned at the Iowa Special Olympics Spring Classic.

Local Special Olympians do well at Spring Classic

By David Swartz

Emmet County Special Olympics team members were in Iowa City this

past weekend competing in various basketball events at the Iowa Special Olympics Spring Classic.

Emmet County participants

competed in the 3-on-3 competition as well as various basketball skills with several earning medals.

In Development Dribble, which is how many dribbles an athlete can do in a minute, John Bunge had his personal best of 111 to receive gold.

The Basketball Skills event consists of a target pass, a spot shot and 10-meter dribble. Lynda Hart earned gold in the group while Caleb Giddings received bronze.

Two basketball teams took part in 3-on-3 competition.

Team Dragons, a unified team which includes Special Olympians and Unified players earned silver. Special Olympics members of Team Dragons are Tristan Teachout, Brandon Roelfs, and Dawson Boughey with unified players Jeremy Coss and Hunter Burns. Coss is also the team's coach.

Team Wildcats earned bronze. Members include Todd West, Ryan Foster, Jesse Hatland, MacCasey Beauman and Isaiah Ahrens. The team is coached by Tim Ahrens.

As part of the weekend activities, the Emmet County Special Olympics Team attended the Heartlanders hockey game at Xtreme Arena.

John Bunge was given the honor of riding on the Zamboni.

Iowa DNR to begin annual spring burning

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will be conducting prescribed burns this spring on wildlife management areas managed by the Iowa DNR's Prairie Lakes Wildlife Unit in Clay, Palo Alto, Emmet and Kossuth counties.

Areas scheduled for prescribed burns are Dewey's Pasture, Hawk Valley, High Bridge, Tom Tuttle Marsh, Little Sioux, Fen Valley, Elk Lake, Barringer Slough, Dan Green Slough and Ocheyedan in Clay County; Blue Wings Marsh, Dewey's Pasture, West Fork and Fallow Marsh in Palo Alto County; Ingham-High, Bur Oak, Iowa Lake, Anderson Prairie, Birge Lake, Grass Lake, Tuttle Lake and Twelve Mile Lake in Emmet County; Goose Lake, Stateline, Seneca and Iowa Lake Marsh in Kossuth County.

Prescribed burns are used to improve wildlife habitat, control invasive plant species, restore and maintain native plant communities and reduce wildfire potential and vary in size from a few acres to several hundred acres. Burn units are typically on a 4-5 year rotation.

Prescribed burns typically begin mid to late morning and are completed by late afternoon or early evening between mid-March and mid-May. Burns will be conducted on a day that meets the objectives and weather conditions defined in the burn plan. Any prescribed burns that are not able to be completed this spring will be considered for the burn schedule next fall.

Contact Iowa DNR wildlife biologist Rob Patterson at 712-330-2563 with any questions or concerns.

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The Armstrong Journal

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Landon Price all conference honors



By David Swartz

Due to untimely snows this past winter sports season, the Top of Iowa West Conference never had a chance to hold its wrestling tournament.

Without the chance for head-to-head competition, the conference coaches took it upon themselves to select the all-conference wrestlers this season.

From North Union, sophomore Landon Price received honorable mention all-conference honors.

Wrestling at 120 pounds, Price finished the season with a 43-7 record and finished third at the Class 1A District meet in Lake Mills. Of his 43 wins this season, 32 were by fall.

Price set the school record for the most wins in a season with 43. He also tied with fellow teammate Dalton Tobin for the most pins with 33 pins each.

The wrestling team set a school record with 15 dual wins.

North Union Middle School team finishes second at BG Quiz Bowl

The North Union Middle School sent three quiz bowl teams to the Bishop Garrigan Junior High Quiz Bowl on Saturday, March 18 in Algona.

The teams were North Union 1 - Kyan Walter, Drake Nelson, Jacob Ernster and Hunter Geitzenauer who finished 2nd; North Union 3 consisting of Thomas Price, Brody Deim, and Luke Hansen finished 13th and North Union 2 finished 14th with the team consisting of Gabe Henning,

Cadence Lemmens and Colin Kruse.

North Union 1 defeated Newman 2 advancing them to the semi finals. NU then defeated Bishop Garrigan 3 sending them to the finals to go up against Bishop Garrigan 1. North Union came up short and brought home a second place win.

North Union 3 lost to Algona 3 in the quarter finals. Also suffering a loss in the quarter finals was North Union 2 to Okoboji 3.

Lone Rock Woman Facing Charges After Rollover Accident

The Kossuth County Sheriff's Office says shortly after 4:30 p.m., on Saturday, March 11, 60-year-old Tina Ristau was driving a 2001 Dodge Dakota pickup northbound in the 2400 Block of County Road P30 when she hit a patch of ice in the roadway, causing her to lose control of the vehicle.

The pickup entered the west ditch, where it rolled several times before finally coming to rest in a field beyond the ditch. As a result of the rollover, the truck collided with a utility pole owned by Midland Power Cooperative.

Ristau had to be extricated from the vehicle by mechanical means and was taken by Algona EMS to Kossuth Regional Health Center with suspected minor injuries.

Ristau was cited for driving with a suspended license, failure to maintain control, failure to use a safety belt and failure to provide proof of financial liability. Damage was estimated at \$5,000 to the truck and \$1,500 to the utility pole.

Whittemore man arrested

On March 13th, 2023, the Kossuth County Sheriff's Office executed a search warrant at 302 210th Street near Whittemore. Deputies seized numerous items known to be associated with illegal drug use, such as cash, marijuana, and firearms.

As a result of the search warrant, the following charges were issued for Dakota Mullen, age 28, of 302 210th Street, Whittemore, Iowa:

- Possession of a firearm as convicted felon (Class D Felony)
- Possession of a controlled substance, 2nd or more offense (Class D Felony)
- Possession w/ intent to deliver controlled substance (Class D Felony)
- Failure to affix drug tax stamp (Class D Felony)

- Unlawful possession of prescription drug (Serious Misdemeanor)
- Child Endangerment (Class D Felony)

Possession of drug paraphernalia (Simple Misdemeanor)

Arrest warrants have been issued for Dakota Mullen. The child endangerment charge is due to minor children living at the residence where illegal drug activity is present. All persons charged with a crime are presumed innocent until proven or found guilty in a court of law. Further charges are pending as this investigation remains active.

Kossuth County Sheriff



Dash, the Iowa City Heartlander mascot takes a moment to greet Tristan Teachout. Tristan is a graduate of North Union High School.

Graduation Open House

for Class of 2023 Graduate
Riley Dean Corderman

Sat., April 1, 2023
from 2 to 5 p.m.
at the farm
1531 Hwy. 15, Armstrong, IA 50514

Anyone wishing to attend,
Please RSVP by
March 29, 2023
via text to
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712-363-3785

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