

CITY OF NEW VIRGINIA IOWA  
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NEW VIRGINIA, IA 50210

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September 19, 2024

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## August Publishing Costs

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NEXT AD DEADLINE

October 9, 2024

MAILING DATE

October 17, 2024

## Barns

Contributed by Sue Stills

Those of us who grew up in a rural setting were likely to have a barn on their property. A barn can signify a place of shelter for animals, a place to keep animal feed out of the weather, a place to store farm and other equipment, or even a place in which children might play. Field mice looking for food may be abundant in a barn, and they will often end up as food for cats and perhaps owls. The word barn comes from the Old English bere, for barley or grain in general, and aern, for a storage place. Thus, a storehouse for barley. The modern barn largely developed from the three-aisled medieval barn. The aisled barn had large entrance doors and a passage corridor for loaded wagons. The storage floors between the central posts or in the aisles were known as bays or stalls. The upper area, the hayloft or mow, was used to store hay and sometimes grain. A farmstead may also have a silo for grain or hay storage.

In the U.S., older barns were built from timbers hewn from trees on the farm or nearby and built as a log crib barn or timber frame barn. Joints were mortised and tenoned, and hand-hewn wooden pegs or handmade nails were used. Imagine the time and effort involved in constructing such a barn without the use of a sawmill, power tools and commercially available bolts, nails and other construction necessities. As settlements grew, many men could be enlisted in the construction and "raising" of a barn. A favorite television series of mine is "Barnwood Builders." The men salvage antique barns, log cabins and timber frames and reconstruct them as homes. They marvel at the talent and ingenuity of the builders of these structures that have stood for generations. Stone barns were sometimes built in areas where stone was a cheaper building material. They were no less labor-intensive, however. Some barns were built of bricks.

The Iowa Barn Foundation was founded in 1997 and is dedicated to preserving Iowa's rural agricultural buildings. The Foundation estimates that fewer than 40,000 of Iowa's 200,000 original barns remain standing. Old barns are susceptible to deterioration due to weather, to cracks in the masonry from movement of the walls, and roofing and foundation problems. The Foundation's magazine and annual barn tours raise money to provide barn rehabilitation or restoration matching grants to help property owners restore their barns. Touring the barns is an educational experience in learning about the history of Iowa agriculture. The Foundation has called these Iowa barns "Castles on the Prairie" and "Prairie Cathedrals."

Many barns in the northern United States were painted barn red, often with white trim. One possible reason for this is that ferric oxide, which is used to create red paint, was the cheapest and most readily available chemical for farmers in New England and nearby areas. Ferric oxide acts as a preservative, and so painting a barn with it would help to protect the structure. Modern barns are now typically steel buildings. Many of them are red, often with white trim. Some are white or tan with green trim, and other color combinations may be seen as well. In the past, some barns served another function as a community gathering space, such as for a barn dance. Nowadays, we see elaborate "barn" structures that serve as venues for wedding receptions, reunions and parties in general.

Have you ever seen a quilt pattern on a barn? The history of the American Barn Quilt can be traced back almost 300 years, to the arrival of immigrants from Germany, Austria and the Netherlands. It is believed that painting quilt patterns on barns originated in Pennsylvania. Since paint was very expensive in those days, painting a decorative yet distinctive quilt pattern on their barns was a wonderful way of allowing for

decoration. It could also help travelers in finding certain families or crossroads, since they were just told which pattern to look for. Paint became less costly around the 1830's to 1840's, and barn painting/decorating became an actual trade with specialized artisans. Barn quilts are still popular today and may be seen on other types of buildings and houses in as many as 45 states. Quilt trails have been developed in many states, including Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan and Iowa. Maps are provided to guide viewers to the locations of barn quilts. Barn Stars, also known as "stars in circles," have been in the U.S. since the 18th century and were sometimes used as the mark of the builder, for decoration and sometimes as a symbol of a "blessing" or hex to ward off evil.

A more pragmatic form of barn painting arose in the early 20th century when advertisers saw barns as billboards. There was a barn a few miles from where I grew up on which was painted the advertisement: CHEW MAIL POUCH TOBACCO TREAT YOURSELF TO THE BEST. This advertising program ran from 1891 to 1992, with about 20,000 barns in 22 states being painted.

Most of the signs were painted by Harley Warrick of Belmont County, Ohio. Barn owners were paid a minimal amount to allow the advertising, and they also benefitted by receiving a fresh coat of paint that helped to preserve the integrity of the barn wood.

Now here's my Old Barn story: The farmhouse in Elma, NY, where we moved in 1953, was built in 1880, and there was a large barn on the property of the same age vintage. The barn had never been painted, and it was a weathered gray. There was a large central area. Upon entering, there was a room on the right extending half the length of the barn that Dad used for storage. Beyond this room was an open area, and Dad sometimes rented this space to a local man where he could stack his rectangular hay bales. My adventurous (mischievous?) brother Jim used to climb the hay stacks, and of course, he fell at least once. My brothers and friends also liked to jump off the bales.

There was a hayloft above the storage room, accessible via a crude ladder. No hay was stored there, and my older brother Tom, who became a civil engineer, built a two-story "house" there. Jim built a one-story "house" there, using a small cabinet door as the door. One time, Jim and I tried to spend the night in the small house. It was so small that, even as kids, we could not extend our legs out straight, and we did not stay all night. On the other side of the barn, there were two rooms that extended the length of the barn, with a hayloft above. Dad used the loft for storage, and we were instructed not to go up there because the floor was not safe. Of course, Jim disobeyed him in order to go up to see a litter of kittens, and he fell through the floor, landing on Dad's workbench. The front room below had two stanchions where we once had two hogs, then later a calf. Dad's workbench and rabbit cages were in the second room in the left side of the barn. Dad raised rabbits and sold their meat. In later years, Dad and my brothers tore down two-thirds of the barn, leaving the left half and converting it to an apartment.

Have you heard these "barn idioms"? "He couldn't hit the broad side of a barn." "Were you born/raised in a barn?" "Lock the barn door after the horse is stolen (the horse has bolted)." "Your barn door is open." So barns have been an integral part of lives all over the world and have served many purposes. I think it is wise to try to preserve these venerable buildings as best we can.

Sources: [iowabarnfoundation.org](http://iowabarnfoundation.org); [americanbarnquilts.com](http://americanbarnquilts.com); [barnquiltinfo.com](http://barnquiltinfo.com); [Wikipedia.com](http://Wikipedia.com); [tweetledeedesignco.com](http://tweetledeedesignco.com)



# City Of New Virginia

## Council Meeting Minutes, September 9, 2024

The Council met in regular session on Monday September 9th, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. for the September council meeting. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Strange with Council Members Dunkin, Bailey, Taylor and Truman present. Absent Galivan. Minutes from the August meeting were approved.

**Old business discussed:** The City software will be updated to a cloud-based system this fall or early winter.

**Citizen Input:** Bryan Nelson and Mike Hanson with Omnitel Communications were present to give an update on their fiber optic internet service within the city limits of New Virginia. A new fiber optic project for internet service will be started in the fall of 2025 in New Virginia. The location is Main Street south of Broadway including South Street. For more information on Omnitel Communications internet service and options go to OmniTel.biz.

Kim Kirkpatrick and Ron Kirkpatrick were present to discuss the Lions Hall Building. Different options are being considered including shutting the building down due to lack of funds and low rental numbers. Fund raising events and possible grant opportunities are being looked into.

Brian Arnold was present to introduce himself. He is running for the District 1 County Supervisors position.

The Garden Club inquired about the person that sets up in Old Settlers Park and sells fruits and vegetables and if they could possibly set up a stand and sell items. It's the Council's opinion that Garden Club can set up a stand if they want to.

Placing gravel on the west side of the intersection of Broadway and Border Street was discussed. This was approved two or three months ago. A local contractor was contacted to do this project. The contractor will be contacted to get this taken care of.

There have been citizen complaints about the properties at 402 East Street and 801 East Street needing to be mowed. Letters will be sent to the property owners regarding this issue.

**Water Utilities discussed:** No new updates and no items or issues to discuss.

**Fire Department Business:** Fire Truck 769 will be getting the lettering and graphics done, soon after that, the truck will be placed in the fire station awaiting the arrival of the new skid unit to be installed upon its arrival.

The fireworks remnants have been cleaned up and the filling of ruts at the cemetery has been done.

**Law Enforcement:** The report summary from the Sheriff's Office for the month of August was reviewed. Deputies received or initiated 32 calls for service during the month of August. Officers spent in excess of 63 hours in the city for the month. Officers patrolled in excess of 288 miles within the city limits for the month. There were no citations and/or warnings written for traffic violations that occurred within the City of New Virginia proper.

There has been a lot of vandalism around town with the use of gold spray paint spraying street signs, streets, mailboxes, privacy fences, a roll-off dumpster and other objects. The graffiti has included the letters GG for Gold Gang. There has been a report filed with the Warren County Sheriff. If anyone has information regarding this vandalism, contact the Warren County Sheriff's Office. Mayor Strange has reached out to other cities regarding security cameras.

### GAMP UPDATE

Insurance for the truck pull is \$1200.00. The truck pull will be September 21, 2024 starting at 6:00 p.m.

### KEEP IOWA BEAUTIFUL PROGRAM

There are several events being planned for in 2024. September – End of Summer Social to include live music, ice cream truck and kid friendly activities - Date: September 29th at Hickory Hills from 1-4 p.m. October – Scarecrow Stroll/contest and Trunk or Treat. December – Country Christmas Holiday Home Tour Friday December 6th from 4 to 7 p.m. and Saturday December 7th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

### ELF CLUB

No new updates.



**Recycling Dates  
New Virginia**

**Oct 3  
Oct 17  
Oct 31**

### Public Notice

All City Water Payments need to be mailed or dropped off into the gray payment drop box located by the New Virginia Hen House and New Virginia Post Office.

The supply of bulbs for the Christmas street light decorations will be checked so they can be ready to put up around Thanksgiving time.

Truman moved, seconded by Taylor to approve payment of all City bills. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

With no further business to come forth, Bailey moved, seconded by Truman to adjourn meeting. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

**The October council meeting is scheduled for Monday October 7th , 2024, at 7:00 p.m. October meeting date – Monday October 7th , 2024, at 7:00 p.m.**



Jennifer Baughman, City Clerk

## City of New Virginia- July

VENDOR	CLAIMS REPORT REFERENCE	AMOUNT	CHECK #	CHECK DATE
ALLIANT ENERGY	ELECTRIC/GAS/STREET LIGHTS	\$463.19	15342	7/7/2024
AT&T FIRSTNET	PHONE SERVICE	\$78.82	15374	7/10/2024
BOUND TREE	MEDICAL SUPPLIES	\$1,171.60	15356	7/10/2024
BRENT BAUGHMAN	MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT	\$66.26	15357	7/10/2024
ELAN FINANCIAL SERVICES	CONCRETE DISC GOLF COURSE	\$2,622.44	15341	6/30/2024
EMERGENCY APPARATUS MAINTENANC	VEHICLE REPAIR - 762	\$3,762.53	15358	7/10/2024
GLOBAL INDUSTRIAL	OTHER CONTR SERVICE BENCH HUSS	\$493.95	15359	7/10/2024
HAWKEYE TRADER	AD JUNE TRUCK PULL	\$124.00	15360	7/10/2024
HIGHWAY LUMBER COMPANY	SUPPLIES-DISC GOLF	\$75.33	15361	7/10/2024
HY-VEE	MEDICATIONS	\$83.76	15362	7/10/2024
IOWA LEAGUE OF CITIES	ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUE FY25	\$592.00	15376	7/10/2024
IOWA PUBLIC RETIREMENT SYSTEM	IPERS	\$298.87	16326624	7/8/2024
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	FED/FICA TAX	\$1,188.35	16326625	7/8/2024
JOSEY GALIVAN	OTHER SUPPLIES - DISC GOLF	\$29.95	15364	7/10/2024
KASTNER PYROTECHNICS	FIREWORKS	\$4,446.04	15340	6/20/2024
NAPA AUTO PARTS PREMIER PARTS	VEHICLE PARTS 241	\$40.58	15377	7/10/2024
ONE BILLING SOLUTIONS LLC	AMBULANCE BILLING	\$139.23	15366	7/10/2024
PI PI'S PORTA POTTY SERVICE	OTHER CONTR SERV - NVOS	\$2,557.70	15378	7/10/2024
LINDE GAS & EQUIPMENT INC.	OPERATING SUPPLIES	\$128.34	15367	7/10/2024
PROIMAGE SIGN & LIGHTING	TRUCK PULL EXPENSE SIGNS	\$773.00	15368	7/10/2024
R & R MOWING SERVICE	MOWING CITY AREAS	\$1,225.00	15379	7/10/2024
RON HULTS	CLEANING GAMP	\$125.00	15369	7/10/2024
SOUTHERN IA COUNCIL OF GOVERN	DUES FY 2025	\$1,693.20	15380	7/10/2024
TERRY STUART	CONCRETE FOR BENCHES OLDSETTLE	\$321.84	15371	7/10/2024
THE EXCHANGE	TRUCK PULL ADS JUNE 2024	\$220.00	15372	7/10/2024
WARREN CO ECONOMIC DEVELOPEMEN	ANNUAL FY2025	\$1,100.00	15381	7/10/2024
WASTE MANAGEMENT	RECYCLING	\$1,181.90	15383	7/10/2024
WEX FLEET UNIVERSAL	VEHICLE FUEL	\$305.45	15384	7/10/2024
WINDSTREAM	TELEPHONE/INTERNET	\$548.94	15385	7/10/2024
	<b>TOTAL GENERAL</b>	\$25,857.27		
ALLIANT ENERGY	ELECTRIC/GAS/STREET LIGHTS	\$1,153.24	15342	7/7/2024
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	FED/FICA TAX	\$60.49	16326625	7/8/2024
	<b>TOTAL ROAD USE</b>	\$1,213.73		
ANCEL KENNEDY	SERVICE	\$125.00	15373	7/10/2024
AT&T FIRSTNET	PHONE SERVICE	\$22.40	15374	7/10/2024
BRENT BAUGHMAN	MILEAGE - WATER TESTING	\$124.20	15357	7/10/2024
IA DEPT OF NATURAL RESOURCES	ANNUAL FEE FY25	\$54.64	15375	7/10/2024
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	WET TAX JUNE 30 20024	\$548.53	16326641	7/8/2024
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	WET TAX MAY 31 2024 PENTALTY	\$540.42	16326642	7/8/2024
IA ONE CALL	METER LOCATES-IOWA ONE CALL	\$19.80	15363	7/10/2024
IOWA PUBLIC RETIREMENT SYSTEM	IPERS	\$680.35	16326624	7/8/2024
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	FED/FICA TAX	\$442.95	16326625	7/8/2024
MUNICIPAL SUPPLY INC	OPERATIONAL EQUIP REPAIR	\$158.49	15365	7/10/2024
SAVAGE GRADING & UNDERGROUND	OTHER CONTR SERVICE	\$733.00	15370	7/10/2024
WARREN WATER DISTRICT	WATER USAGE/LOAN PAYMENT	\$4,854.75	15382	7/10/2024
	<b>TOTAL WATER UTILITIES</b>	\$8,304.53		
	GENERAL	\$5,967.16		
	ROAD USE	\$207.13		
	WATER	\$1,842.64		
	<b>Total Payroll Paid</b>	\$8,016.93		
	<b>***** REPORT TOTAL *****</b>	<b>\$43,392.46</b>		
TOTAL FUNDS				



**GARAGE  
SALE**

**Craft Sale**

## New Virginia City Wide GARAGE SALE & CRAFT SALE

SATURDAY, SEPT. 21, 2024

8 am – 2 pm

THE NEW VIRGINIA LIONS WILL BE SERVING  
BREAKFAST BURRITOS & NEW VIRGINIA OLD  
SETTLERS WILL SERVE A LUNCH OF A BEEFBURGER  
OR HOT DOG, BAKED BEANS, CHIPS, DESSERT AND  
A DRINK IN OLD SETTLERS PARK (LUNCH 11AM TO  
2PM)

TO GO ORDERS AVAILABLE

GARAGE SALES & CRAFTERS MAY SET UP IN OLD SETTLERS PARK FOR A \$5.00 FEE  
CRAFT & GARAGE SALES MAY BE POSTED FOR FREE. EMAIL YOUR INFORMATION  
nvlwagaragesale@gmail.com

NEW VIRGINIA HOMETOWN PRIDE AND WARREN  
COUNTY CONSERVATION PRESENT

SEPT 29, 2024 1-4PM

## END OF SUMMER SOCIAL

FEATURING

**RON BURCHETT  
BRADY STREETER  
PAT MEADE & FRIENDS  
BRIGGS FAMILY**

MUSIC, VENDORS, FOOD, ICE  
CREAM, KIDS ACTIVITIES,  
DANCING, AND MORE!

HICKORY HILLS PARK  
23752 US-69  
NEW VIRGINIA, IA 50210

FREE ENTRY ★ DONATIONS APPRECIATED ★ BYO CHAIR

IF DONATING PRIOR TO EVENT, PLEASE DROP OFF AT CITY  
STATE BANK IN NEW VIRGINIA

MPA Classes:

Stock Gas

Conventional Headed

Modified 2WD

Stock Diesel

6200# Super Street 4X4

6200# Pro Street 4X4

6200# Super Stock 4X4

6200# Pro Stock 4X4

V8 Hot Rod Tractor

Farm Stock Tractor

Work Stock Diesel

Open Class



For More Information Call Matt Strange 515-249-6074 or Alan Brommel 515-249-8636

A FANTASTIC SHOPPING EVENT

## IOWA'S LARGEST ARTS & Crafts SHOW

SEPTEMBER 27 - 29

VARIED INDUSTRIES BLDG.  
IOWA STATE FAIRGROUNDS  
DES MOINES, IOWA  
Fri. 5-9; Sat. 9-5; Sun. 10-4

ADM. Just \$8.00  
(10 & under free)  
FREE PARKING - Free  
Shuttle Bus Service from  
North Parking Lot on  
Both Friday & Saturday.

"Where You Can Buy That Quality,  
Handmade Product At An Affordable Price."  
Garden Art, Oak Furniture, Paintings, Ceramics, Jewelry, Metal  
Art Sculptures, Pet Products, Etched & Stained Glass, Yard Art,  
Pottery, Blown Glass, Candles, Clothing, Floral Wreaths, Toys &  
Dolls, Baskets, Rugs, Glassware, Purses, Ornaments and Food.  
Callahan Promotions, Inc. 563-357-1986

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To Win \$50 Gift Certificates, Visit Our Facebook Page at  
Callahan Promotions, Inc.

\$1 OFF ADM.  
WITH THIS AD

Over  
300  
Exhibitors

2024 New Virginia Iowa

## Truck & Tractor Pull

Saturday, September 21

6:00pm

General Admission/Pit Pass:

\$15.00

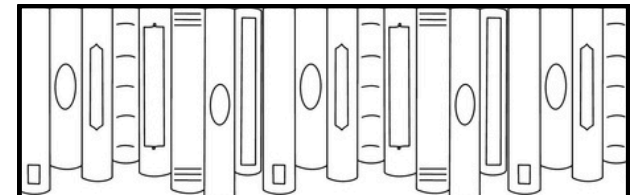
Kids 12 & younger free-

Parents/Guardian must sign

waiver for minor in pit area

Driver of Truck/Tractor plus

one additional person free



What's Happening this month at the  
New Virginia Public Library?

STEM Day October 2nd at 9am!

Book Club October 18th at 4pm!

Creative Arts Tour at the Library 9/18-9/25

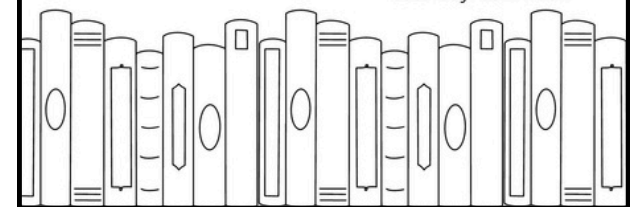
[www.newvirginia.lib.ia.us](http://www.newvirginia.lib.ia.us)

New Books:

After Oz by Gordon McAlpine  
Target Acquired by Lynette Eason  
Joy by Danielle Steel  
Somewhere Beyond the Sea by T.J. Klune

Library Hours:

Tuesday: 4pm-8pm  
Wednesday: 9am-11am/1pm-8pm  
Thursday: 4pm-8pm  
Friday: closed  
Saturday: 9am-noon



# CITY OF ST. CHARLES

## 9 September 2024 City Council Meeting Minutes

The St. Charles City Council met at City Hall on Monday, 9/9/2024, for a regular meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Megan Allison called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Council members Tom Blomme, Whitney Hutton, Travis Brockett, and Dan Kozak were present along with 18 guests. Mayor Dennis Smith was absent.

**Approval of Agenda:** A motion was made by Whitney Hutton/Tom Blomme to approve the agenda. Voice vote passed unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes for Council Meetings 8/5/2024:** Minutes were amended to state Gary and Linda Brooks were present to hear the plan to reseed. Motion made by Travis Brockett/Tom Blomme to approve the minutes. Voice vote passed unanimously.

**Approval of August Treasurer and Budget Reports:** Motion made by Dan Kozak/Travis Brockett to approve the treasurer and budget reports for August. Voice vote passed unanimously.

**Approval of September Bills:** Motion made by Tom Blomme/Whitney Hutton to approve the September bills. Voice vote passed unanimously.

**Sheriff's Report:** During August there were 58.03 patrol hours, 8 calls, and 2 traffic stops in St. Charles.

**Cole Dickinson Employee Review Questions:** Cole was given the option to move to a closed session according to Iowa Code 21.5I. A closed session was declined. Cole asked for a review of his work with the City of St. Charles. Many representatives attended the meeting to participate in the discussion. Cole had previously resigned from the City but would like to be rehired by the City of St. Charles. No action was taken at this time.

### City Boards/Committees:

- Sewer Report: The August sewer report was submitted to the City.
- Maintenance Report: A motion was made by Megan Allison/Tom Blomme to approve new push button faucets for the park bathrooms at a cost of up to \$600. Voice vote was unanimous.
- Fire/Rescue Department: August meeting minutes were submitted. The Fire Department is planning an EMS class that will be open to the public. Rick Schaffer shared information concerning Hinterland and the involvement of the Fire Department. The Call volume for the Fire and Rescue Departments is at a high with close to 200 calls being received for this calendar year.
- Library Board: Margaret Blair presented the August minutes. A new librarian has been hired. The Library is asking for public input on when story time will work best for the community.
- Clerk's Report: Todd Dickinson has been contacted concerning reseeding.

**Resolution 9A-2024** A Resolution approving the 2024 Street Finance Report: Motion by Whitney Hutton/Dan Kozak to approve the Fiscal Year 2024 Street Finance Report submitted to the Iowa DOT. R/C Vote was unanimous.

**Resolution 9B-2024** A Resolution approving the Transfer of Funds to Capital Street Projects: Motion by Tom Blomme/Travis Brockett to approve the transfer of funds from General account to Capital Street Projects. R/C Vote was unanimous.

**Resolution 9C-2024** A Resolution approving the Annual Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2024: Motion by Whitney Hutton/Dan Kozak to approve the Fiscal Year 2024 Annual Financial Report published on August 29, 2024. R/C vote was unanimous.

**Resolution 9D-2024** A Resolution approving the Transfer of Funds to General Fund: Motion by Tom Blomme/Whitney Hutton to approve the transfer of funds from Fire Department Savings to the General fund for the purchase of a Fire/Rescue truck. R/C vote was unanimous.

**Dead Tree Walnut Trail:** Tabled to receive a quote to trim the tree away from the power lines.

**Crack Sealing the City Streets:** The City will take bids for sealing the cracks in the city streets.

**Austin Blvd:** The City will take bids to help the street drain properly so water will drain into the ditch. The City will also be looking at the shoulders along the east side of Main Street.

**Y-Park Bevington:** The City feels they cannot use city resources for a park located out of city limits.

**Opportunity and Nuisance Reviews:** A court date regarding a house on Main Street is set for September 18th unless a timeline of construction is sent to the City.

**Gravel Trucks:** Per Iowa Code, Highway G-50 is a Farm to Market Road and the City of St. Charles cannot restrict trucks without valid written justification approved by the Iowa DOT.

**Public Forum:** Gary and Linda Brooks were present and gave input and asked questions concerning many topics on the agenda. Gary Brooks asked about a school bus making a stop in an area that is not designated as a bus stop. Linda Brooks also inquired if the City's part time employee receives extra pay if he chooses to work weekends or holidays. At this time, no part time employee receives overtime or holiday pay in the City of St. Charles.

Motion made by Dan Kozak to adjourn the meeting at 9:29 pm.  
The next City Council meeting will be October 7, 2024, at City Hall.

Megan Allison, Mayor Pro Tem

Attest: Tracy Kozak, City Clerk


Posted at: City Hall, Post Office, Montross, and Library

**OPEN HOUSE**


**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12TH**

**11:30am to 4:00pm**

**Kids activities**  
**Music**  
**Refreshments**



**Serving Lunch 11:30-1:30pm**  
**Chili Bar and Chili Dogs.**  
**Free Will donation**



Come see the transformation of the "grand lady" on the corner. Available for rental as an event venue.  
Also a satellite welcome center for the Madison County Chamber of Commerce

**135 FFA ALUMNI**

**pancake**

**SUPPORT FFA FUNDRAISER**

*Come enjoy some pancakes*

**Sat Oct. 19 7 to 11 AM**



**St Charles Lion's Hall**

See page 22 for article



# John Brown in 1850's Iowa and Area

By Kirk Freeman (St. Charles Library Director)

*Continued from July...*

In Madison County, the Brown family knew many friends they would stay at randomly to avoid enemies that were always hunting for them since newspapers reported that Abolitionist and Quaker households all over Madison and Warren counties were stopping points from September to October 1856 throughout 1857 and the fall of 1858. John Brown sometimes wrote to Jesse Painter, a Quaker near Peru, (from an 1890's interview with one of Brown's men) and was reportedly seen visiting others on almost every path, road, and trail in south and central Iowa. From a witness to several of these travels, John Brown's son Owen often joked that Winterset was a strange name for a town and would start a discussion and humorous theories on how the name was derived around campfires and on travels.

At St. Charles, allies offered a place to rest as they took the roads westward and south to Tabor. The unnamed benefactor was one of the operators in St. Charles, most likely someone in or very near, the town proper. This is merely speculation but when the wagon moved on, Watson mailed a letter back to his sister in Elba, New York, from the town's post office that was located on the west end of Main Street at the time.

The letter is preserved at the Kansas Historical Society: St. Charles Iowa October 30, 1856

*Dear Mother Brothers and Sister*

*I sent you a draft for \$30 a few days ago in a sheat of paper with a very few words on it, they being all I had time to write then: We are well and in fine spirits besides being in good company we are in the company of a train of Kansas teams loaded with Sharps rifles and canon. I heard a report that Father had gone east. The travel very slow. You can write to us at Tabor. On our way we saw Garret Smith F. Douglas and other old friends. We have each a Sharps rifle. Oliver your watch was all that saved us. I want you to write and let us know how you get along. No more now*

*Yours truly*

*Watson Brown*

The 200 Sharp's rifles were stored in Tabor for a year, but these eventually were what Brown used for the October 1859 attack on Harper's Ferry in Virginia (now West Virginia) three years later.

When the mule train arrived at Tabor, Salmon ignored his orders and went to Kansas only to hear (falsely) that his target had died in a skirmish and returned to Tabor. Watson, either willingly or not, left Tabor, back to Chicago and eventually to the farm in Elba, New York.

John Brown, meanwhile, spent months in the East speaking, pleading, building allies, and raising funds while constantly dodging US Marshalls that were sent to arrest him. Brown eventually decided to return to Iowa and begin drilling his men for the continued fighting in Kansas. At Tabor, Iowa, free-staters gathered and waited for supplies and training. But, by August 1857 when Brown arrived, the fighting in Kansas had slackened off compared to the year before. Governor Geary was intent on peace in Kansas, and this caused the new President, James Buchanan, who wanted a Kansas governor that was less peacemaker and strongly pro-slavery, to appease the south. The south was threatening secession to get their way, and Buchanan did not want to be the President that split the United States so he replaced Geary with Robert J. Walker of Mississippi in April 1857. Walker held an election on the Lecompton Constitution (submitted by the pro-slavery faction that upheld slavery and the rights of wealthy, white slave owners) to the voters and the pro-slavery faction won. It was soon found that the election was fraudulent when the state vote counters found thousands more pro-slave votes than there were voters. This caused a second vote that was heavily monitored and the free-staters won. But the Kansas Legislation was packed with illegally placed slave owners that decided to override the second vote as rigged (without evidence) and put the

owner, was so infused that the pro-slavery men and President were so will to ignore the U.S. Constitution and the results of the fair election making Kansas a free state, that he resigned in disgust rather than sign the document into law.

But as this was playing out in Kansas, Brown was in Iowa with malaria. It was during his care and recovery here that he started planning for the Harpers Ferry Raid. In late 1857, John Brown started moving weapons and men to Springdale, Iowa, for preparation and training. Springdale, in eastern Iowa, was a Quaker community closer to a railroad line and yet far enough out to not get much notice. In early December, John Brown started out with the Sharps rifles and a small group of his men for the move to Springdale, other men and materials would follow in small groups to not bring too much attention. On a cold and snowing December morning John Brown, Owen Brown, Richard Realf, John Henry Kagi, Aaron D. Stephens, Charles P. Tidd, John E. Cook, William H. Leeman, Luke F. Parson, and an escaped slave Richard Richardson left to walk to Springdale. Because of malaria and the weariness of the constant fighting in and for Kansas, John Brown, then 58 years old, looked like a man in his eighties. He walked slower, his hair was white, and his usually clean-shaven face was covered in a long beard. This time the weather drove the group to more friendly people's doors for use of a dry hay barn or a hot meal than on previous journeys.

Once the weapons reached Springdale, John Brown would go between that place and Tabor several more times, but alone and on the stagecoach. Two of the major stagecoach stops and rest areas in the region was northeast of Indianola near Palmyra, Indianola, and Lynn in Warren County and in Madison County Hogan's Point, Winterset, and another singular location west of Winterset close to the county line. Like service stations today the coach did not have to stop there but could to either change out one or two horses, eat something light or simple, get a drink of water (or other), use the outhouse, clean-up some, replace worn or thrown horseshoes, or even attend to very minor veterinarian and/or medical services. In larger town stops there were opportunities for various upscaled places to eat, hotels, baths, laundry, apothecaries, maybe a saloon, shopping for some comforts and replacing the older team with a fresh one if need be. At this time, letters could be mailed, and possibly a telegraph cable to send and receive messages and get the latest news.

But John Brown had a plan to develop and deploy. His journeys in Iowa would end by 1858; the Sharps rifles were shipped east to a hidden location at Kennedy Farm, about nine miles south of Sharpsburg, Maryland. The men who trained in Springdale, went to Chatham, Canada, a community of escaped slaves for a while before heading to Ohio to disperse until needed. When the Civil War started, most of these men joined the Union Army to fight for their principles against the forces of slavery and secession.

As most readers of history know, in October 1859, John Brown and a handful of his men failed to seize the arsenal at Harpers Ferry and sought cover in a very small building at the front of the armory used to store the fire engine. I shall not go into that event here except to detail what happened to Watson Brown, the young man who sent the letter in 1856 from St. Charles that started my whole research journey. *Visit page 23 for the rest of this story....*



## St. Charles Does \*CBF

### October 11, 12th & 13

<p><b>Friday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Talk Shop Lounge Restaurant 11-8pm Music by Ray Scott @ 6:30pm</li> <li>*Tiger Lily Cafe 6:30am-1:30pm 5-9Pm</li> <li>+Main Street Shops Open 10am-6pm</li> </ul>	<p><b>Saturday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*SCCF Breakfast &amp; Bake Sale 7-10am St. Charles Parish</li> <li>*Tiger Lily Cafe Iowa 7:30-7:30pm. Drink &amp; food specials</li> <li>*Main Street Shops 10-4pm</li> <li>*Corner Service Gas Station 10-4pm</li> <li>*Gateway Open House 11:30-4pm Chili Bar 11:30-1:30pm Free will donation Enjoy music games and kids activities</li> <li>*Country Bridges Market &amp; Craft Fair Ave of Saints Venue 10-4pm</li> </ul>	<p><b>Sunday</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+Main Street Shops Open Noon to 4:00pm</li> <li>+Country Bridges Market and Craft Fair Ave of the Saints.10-4pm</li> <li>+Talk Shop Lounge 10 to 10:00pm Restaurant- 10- 7pm</li> <li>*Tiger Lily Cafe Iowa 8am-1pm</li> </ul>
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**\*Covered Bridge Festival**

# the city of Truro

Est. 1884

Truro City Council Minutes  
September 9, 2024  
Community Center

Mayor Bryan Arzani presided over and called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Ancel Kennedy, Julie McMichael, Jason Phillips, and Lyndsay Cannoy were present. Matt Masters was absent. Fire Chief Terry Stills, Public Works Director, Ronnie Hults, Tracee Dembinski, Brad Blum and Emily Hanna were also present. From the public: Shelby Goad Arzani asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Motion by Phillips/McMichael to approve the agenda. All Ayes. Motion carried.

The Sherriff's report was reviewed.

No Report from Emergency Management.

Stills gave the Fire & Rescue Report: 2 fire calls and 10 EMS calls. Stills explained that the Heart Monitor is not working. Batteries are obsolete as well as other parts not available. A new monitor would cost approximately \$30,000. The Department is looking for Grants and other ways to fund a new monitor. The Department has ordered 2 defibrillators, one for the ambulance and 1 for the grass truck. The Burn Trailer will be in St. Charles on Saturday, September 14. The Department will attend this training. The Department will also be conducting EMT classes starting December 1, 2024.

The Water/Wastewater report was reviewed.

Dembinski presented the findings of the feasibility study for the new library/city hall to the Council. The estimated cost of the proposed library/city hall is \$1.6 to \$1.8 million.

Demolition of the lumberyard, which would be the site of the proposed library/city hall would be approximately \$30,000. Hanna presented an idea to the Council regarding the Library; she and her husband have a business and would be interested in the purchase of the library at the appropriate time. She currently has a business at Jones Diner but would like to expand. She wants to have a commercial kitchen that she would be able to rent space to folks that would like to sell baked goods. She would also like to apply for a Grant but needs the City's OK.

Motion by Kennedy/Phillips to approve Resolution 2025-2 for a new streetlight at the corner where Second Street meets First Street. Vote by rollcall: Phillips Aye, McMichael Aye, Cannoy Aye, Kennedy, Aye, Masters were absent. Motion by Phillips/McMichael to approve.

Resolution 2025-3 hiring and setting a wage for the new City Clerk at \$16.50 per hour. Vote by rollcall: Phillips Aye, McMichael Aye, Cannoy Aye, Kennedy, Aye, Masters was absent. Changing the hours City Hall is open was discussed. Motion by McMichael/Kennedy to change the hours that City Hall is open to 7:45 AM to 3:15 PM Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday. All Ayes motion passed.

Purchase and sale of City Trucks was tabled until next meeting.

Motion by Phillips/Cannoy to approve Resolution 2025-4 to transfer \$114,971.92 from various funds to correct negative balances. Vote by Rollcall; Phillips Aye, McMichael Aye, Cannoy Aye, Kennedy, Aye, Masters was absent.

Motion by Kennedy/Cannoy to write off the utility bill for 145 N Hull Street in the amount of \$205.28. All Ayes motion passed.

Motion by Cannoy/Phillips to set the Public Hearing for the Ordinance changing zoning for Center Street between West Street and Railroad Street for October 7, 2024. All Ayes motion carried.

Arzani acknowledged the Truro Boosters, Fire Department and all the folks involved with the Feeding Frenzy. The Feeding Frenzy was very successful.

Hults gave the Public Works report.

Motion by Phillips/Cannoy to approve the Consent agenda items. All Ayes motion carried. Arzani asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion by McMichael/Phillips to adjourn. All Ayes motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:23 pm.

Bryan Arzani, Mayor

Attested: Rebecca Morris, City Clerk

## TRURO FIRE & RESCUE ASSOCIATION

### HARVEST FEST

Silent Auction

5-8

Live Auction @ 7

SATURDAY

OCTOBER 5TH

TRURO COMMUNITY CENTER



Women's  
Basket  
Raffle

Gun Raffle @ 8:30

WINCHESTER XPR .350 LEGEND

SPRINGFIELD ARMOY XD-N 10AA

TICKETS

\$10 / PIECE

\$50 / 6 TICKETS

SIG SNIER P322 COYOTE .22LR

SMITH & WESSON R&P SENI  
AUTOMATIC 9MM LUGER



Free Will  
Dinner 5-8



# September THOUGHTS

As the summer's heat diminishes,  
The ninth month starts and finishes.

For those born then, you're under  
The sign of Virgo. No wonder

You are detailed, logical, organized;  
Amid chaos, you are well prized.

Your sapphire birthstone is usually blue,  
So pretty in rings and necklaces too.

September's flowers, morning glories and asters,  
Brighten fading gardens, such disasters!

Our fields sport sunflowers, goldenrod,  
Glorious treasures from our God.

Trees dressed in gold, orange and red;  
Arouse such joy that it must be said:

"Autumn is the year's last colorful smile."  
So enjoy sweet September for a while.

Sue Stills, a September Virgo





I-35 Girl Scout Troops  
 Graduation years 2024, 2025 & 2026  
 made big donations to provide further  
 support for the  
 Ronald McDonald Houses in Iowa  
 and the Animal Rescue League of Iowa.  
 Years of leadership in fundraising have led  
 them to these generous actions at the end of  
 their Girl Scout journey.  
 Thank you Addy for being seen with the  
 donations!!



KEEP UP  
 the good  
 WORK



Truro Library  
 Monthly Book Club!  
 Every Third Thursday  
 @ 5pm

October's book club  
 selection will be  
 This Tender Land by  
 William Kent Krueger

## Truro Public Library

### New Books

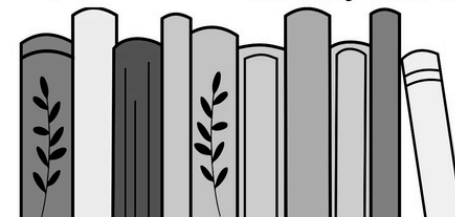
Maria by Michelle Moran  
 Joy by Danielle Steel  
 Passions in Death by J.D. Robb  
[www.truro.lib.ia.us](http://www.truro.lib.ia.us)

Borrow ebooks  
 & audiobooks

Libby.  
 The library reading app



**Library Hours:**  
 Sunday Closed  
 Monday Closed  
 Tuesday 9:30-3:30  
 Wednesday 3:30-6:30  
 Thursday 10:00-6:00  
 Friday Closed  
 Saturday 9:00-noon



## JONES FAMILY DINER

*Daily Lunch Specials*

SANDWICHES - PIZZA - AMERICAN

*Try our new cauliflower  
 crust pizza.  
 Guaranteed not to taste  
 like a vegetable!*

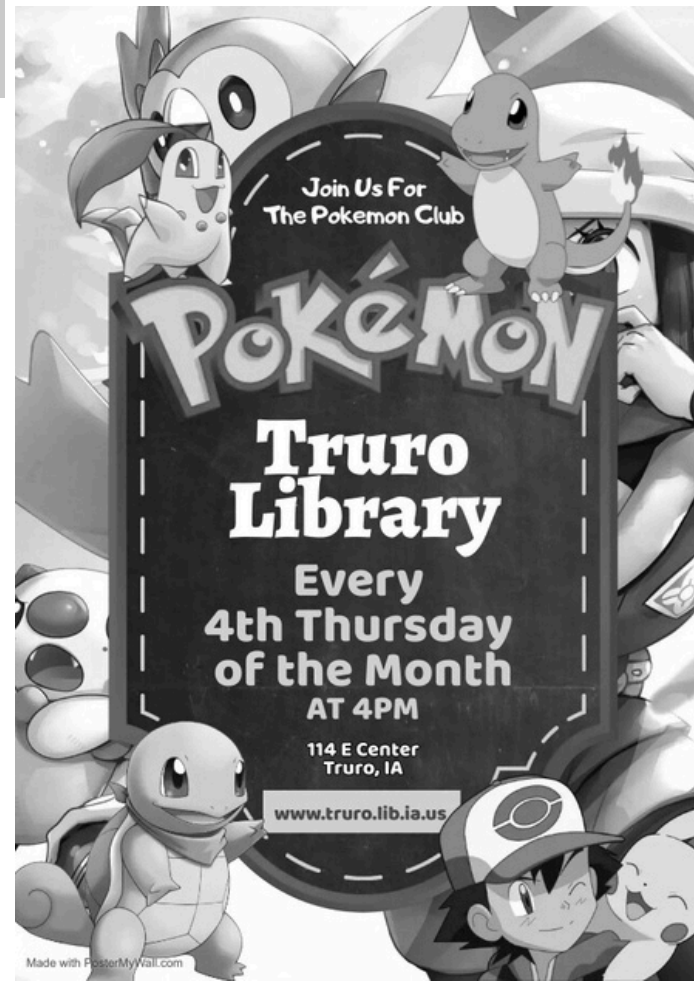


**HOURS**  
 Monday through Friday  
 11:00 am - 1:30 pm  
 &  
 4:30 pm - 8:00 pm  
 Saturday 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

**-Closed Wednesdays and Sundays-**

126 EAST CENTER STREET, TRURO, IOWA 50257  
 ORDER NOW : 515-468-5688

yum!



## A MESSAGE FROM MR. GRANDON

*I-35 CSD SUPERINTENDENT*

### Exciting Developments in Our School Facilities!

We are thrilled to share that our newly renovated science spaces are officially open! These renovated facilities are designed to provide our students with the best possible environment for learning, exploration, and innovation. From advanced lab equipment to collaborative learning areas, these spaces will undoubtedly enhance the educational experience for all our science students.

In addition to this, we are pleased to report that our baseball and softball complex is nearing completion. The new complex will offer top-notch facilities for our athletes, complete with upgraded fields, seating, and amenities. We can't wait to see our teams hit the field and enjoy these fantastic new spaces.

Thank you to everyone who has supported these projects. Your commitment to our school and community is what makes these developments possible. Stay tuned for more updates as we continue to enhance our facilities for the benefit of our students and staff!



Overview + Football Practice Field as of Aug. 27th

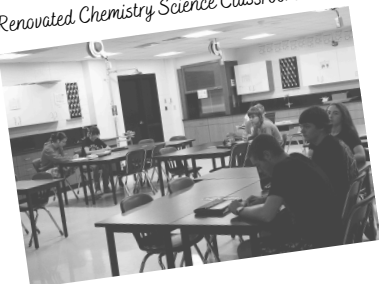


Renovated Biology/Science Classroom

It's Still Here!!  
Mural from the Class of 2009



Renovated Chemistry Science Classroom



## SUPPORT A VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION IN 2024-2025!

- **JOIN the I-35 PTO / BEEP Club**
  - Meets second Tuesday of the month at 5:00 p.m. in the Elementary Library
  - Follow them on Facebook at I-35 PTO/BEEP Club
  - All welcome! Next meeting: Oct. 8th
- **JOIN the I-35 Booster Club**
  - Meets second Wednesday of the month at 5:00 p.m. in the HS Commons.
  - Follow them on Facebook at I-35 Booster Club
  - All welcome! Next meeting: Oct. 16th
- **SUPPORT the I-35 Education Foundation**
  - Save the Date for the Roadrunner Gala - Feb. 22, 2025
  - Check out their Facebook page at I-35 Education Foundation to stay up to date.

**SCAN TO ORDER NOW!**



**2024  
HOCO**

**FEATURING HS FALL PARTICIPANTS ON THE BACK OF THE SHIRT!**

**STORE CLOSÉS - SEPT. 26, 2024 @ 9:00 AM**



# 5TH & 6TH GRADERS JUMP INTO THE NEW HOUSE SYSTEM!

The I-35 approach to Character Development and Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) for 5th and 6th grade students has some big changes for 2024-25 and beyond! We have implemented a house system as a more mature approach to PBIS. It's designed to help our students feel engaged and excited about school; which in turn, helps their ability to learn and grow. Students were randomly sorted into a house at sorting ceremonies in September. There, they were cheered on by staff, family and peers. All staff members supporting 5th and 6th grade were also assigned a house along with a student captain. Congratulations to Aubrey, Zippy, Kade, and Wyatt for being selected as house captains for the four houses! You can learn more about the house system and its goals in this informational brochure. Simply scan the QR code below.



**HOUSE SYSTEM BROCHURE**



**I-35 ELEMENTARY WEBPAGE**

Stay up-to-date on Interstate 35 Elementary news by reading the building biweekly newsletter. Past copies are on the school's website on the Elementary page.

## CONNECT WITH US!

Stay up-to-date on I-35 CSD news and info. Check out the news section of the website or follow us on social media.



## STAFFING NEEDS

Contact Jen Baughman (jbaughman@i-35.k12.ia.us) to learn more about these positions. Scan the QR code to see the job posting flyer. Visit [www.roadrunnerpride.org](http://www.roadrunnerpride.org) > **Employment** to view all of the current job postings for I-35 CSD.

### DAYCARE ASSOCIATE - PART-TIME

- 2024-2025 School Year
- Part-Time Position
  - Afternoon Shifts Needed
    - Example: 2:00 - 6:00 p.m.
    - Contact us with questions on schedule options
- Work with Children (ages 3+) in a Fun, Vibrant Environment
- Training Provided
- Strong and Supportive Team!



### SPECIAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATE

- 2024-2025 School Year
- Full-Time Position
- Benefits Package\*
  - Health Care
  - Individual Coverage \$35/month
  - Dental & More
- Growing Special Education Enrollment
- Strong and Supportive Team!



\*Note: The benefits package is for full-time employees. This graphic makes no guarantees related to insurance benefits, coverage or costs which are subject to annual changes.



# MARTENSDALE-ST. MARYS BOND REFERENDUM

At its regularly scheduled meeting last night, the Board of Directors of the Martensdale-St. Marys Community School District took action to call for the addition of a referendum to the ballot in the November 5, 2024, election, for a General Obligation Bond not to exceed \$15.95 million. The proposed plan requires 60% voter approval.

In addition, the Board of Directors approved the use of SAVE Funds in its meeting last evening for the development of plans to complete the renovation of the two science rooms at the school. This work is to be completed in advance of the start of the 2025-2026 school year (August 2025).

## The Plan

The proposed plan was developed over the course of nearly seven months following community meetings regarding the District's facilities and with faculty and staff input by a committee of over twenty individuals. The committee outlined these themes as they approached their work. The plan had to:

- Enhance safety and security
- Drive program and student success
- Expand opportunities
- Improve functionality and appearance

The plan specifically calls for:

- A shift to make the "front" of the building north facing.
- The addition / renovation of a parking lot and bus loop on the north side along with a main drive and an entrance off Highway 28.
- The addition of a single safe and secure entrance on the north side serving both the elementary and secondary components of our school operation. Both the elementary and secondary offices would be located here, including space for both counselors and others.
- The addition of a gymnasium that would be large enough to ensure that we can host post-season events in volleyball, basketball, and wrestling moving forward and provide our students in physical education with a first-class facility to participate in during school.
- Upgrades to the HVAC System, Fire Safety Systems, and Electrical System throughout the existing building.
- Furniture replacement throughout the building to include student spaces.

## Financial Impact

In the last bond levy, the Board of Directors managed the overall school levy to be reasonably stable while also levying extra within the debt service fund that saved

taxpayers \$46,475.00 in addition to refinancing that debt in 2012 that saved \$247,084.00. This resulted in total savings for taxpayers of \$293,000.00 and enabled those bonds to be paid off 5 years early. This plan calls for similar fiscal responsibility. Initially, the tax rate will increase from \$15.59 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation to \$16.00.

Think of the Property Tax Rate as a pie with different components making up the whole. At this time, the rate of \$15.59 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation is made up of different component pieces that change based upon enrollment and the needs of the district. Moving forward, the District will adjust those components to keep the tax rate as low as possible while still operating in a financially responsible manner.

In the long term (the time after 3-4 years), District leaders are confident that we can maintain a tax rate that is less than \$17.64 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation (an increase of only \$2.05 from the current property tax rate).

In both situations, the Board of Directors of the Martensdale-St. Marys Community School District will set the property tax rate annually. In doing so, the District will work to maintain a steady tax rate and minimize the individual impact on property owners.

The tax rates of our neighboring districts are:

- I-35: \$18.67 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation
- Norwalk: \$18.38 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation
- Indianola: \$17.94 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation

## Learn More

Individuals can learn more on the District's Bond Referendum Website: [www.mstmbond.com](http://www.mstmbond.com).

In addition, to ensure that voters are informed, the District will hold three Community Information Sessions this fall. These sessions will be held in the Media Center at the school.

- Thursday, September 19 – 5:30pm
- Wednesday, October 9 – 5:30pm
- Monday, October 28 – 7:00pm

At these meetings, Dr. Bill Watson, Superintendent, will provide an overview of the projects and will also discuss the financial impacts of the bond.

## WHISKEY BALLS

Here's an easy recipe I got from Taylor Holtry. I'm not sure of the name, but I just call it Whiskey Balls! I'm leaving soon for bear camp, and this will be something simple I can leave in the crock-pot in my camper while we're out hunting all day. Of course, I'm doubling it to feed a crowd, so you may want to cut it in half.

- 2 bags frozen meatballs, your choice on flavor
- 2 cups ketchup
- 2 cups brown sugar
- 1/2 cup whiskey

Put the meatballs in the crock-pot. Mix the ketchup, brown sugar, and the whiskey. Pour over the meatballs and stir to coat them all evenly. Cook on low for several hours. Give 'em a stir every once in a while, if you're back in camp. I usually cut down a bit on the whiskey. The whiskey will cook off and won't taste real boozy so you can serve to most anyone. I've seen some recipes that add a couple splashes of Worcestershire sauce. Your call. Enjoy!

## Gerry Allen Memorial Park

### Community Building

809 West Street, New Virginia, IA

N.V. City Limits    All Other Renters

Full Day Rental    \$125.00    \$150.00

Half Day Rental    \$ 75.00    \$100.00

Hourly Rental    \$ 20.00    \$ 20.00

Deposit \$125.00 due at time of reservation, rental fee due prior to event.

All Non-Profits groups - there will be no rental fee.

Signed rental agreement required.

Certificate of liability insurance for rental over 50 people is required.

*All renters must cleanup at the conclusion of their event.*

Visit us at [www.newvirginia.com](http://www.newvirginia.com) or call:

Jennifer Baughman 641-449-3492 for more information



# ROAD TRIPPING

Contributed by Terry Garner

## Pigs on the Loose!

This road trip is close to home but I thought it worth sharing.

I headed to Osceola the other day and after you cross Squaw Creek south of here, you drive up on Poverty Ridge. It gets kind of snaky and there's lots of houses along there so I drive pretty slow in that stretch. So..... I'm just moseying along taking in the scenery when off to my left I see a herd of pigs at a feeder out in the pasture! I slammed on the brakes and backed up. Sure enough, there was a herd of pigs, at least a dozen or so, probably 40 pounds maybe? They were all red, except one, and he was black and white spotted. They were all bunched around a little pig feeder set out there in the grass. Someone had run some electric fence close to the ground to try and keep them contained in a small area of the pasture. They had an old pond full of cattails to waller in to keep cool. A couple of them ran up to the fence to check me out, then ran back to the group. I couldn't see any sign of a ring in their noses at all. For those of you who grew up raising hogs, you know what that means!

My friend lives on the south side of that property. I called her to tell her about them. She'd seen them and we got to laughing about what was gonna happen with them pigs pretty darn soon. She grew up on a farm raising hogs too and we were having a good laugh about how long it was gonna take for them pigs to escape and take off for the timber!

Fast forward to yesterday, and Rollie and I were driving by there coming home from Osceola. Guess what? No pigs! No sign of a pig anywhere! The gate was open, and you could tell that someone had drove in there. But we're wondering if they loaded them up and took them out or if they escaped and they were just looking for them. The ground was all rooted up, rougher than a cob. They'd definitely been having fun doing what pigs do!

Of course, I immediately got on the phone to my friend. She'd noticed that they had disappeared. We were having a good laugh wondering what happened to all those pigs. Maybe they'll get in Squaw Creek and have a gay old time! Maybe, just maybe, I'll get a call from my neighbors to come do some hog hunting! Here's hoping!!!

An update: We went by a couple days later and they were back. But I did notice that they had rooted up a big clump of sod onto the electric fence. Wonder how long it will be before they're gone again!

Another update: Remember the sewing machines Rollie bought at the flea market in Mercer, Missouri? For \$5 bucks apiece, \$10 dollars total? Well, about \$500 dollars later, two of them are up and running! The repairman put new wiring on the decent one in the bentwood box and it's sewing good. The one my neighbor gave me was a treadle machine and the repairman converted it to electric. It fit perfectly in the cabinet that Verna Mae gave me and it sews great too! Verna Mae wasn't able to get the other one broke loose, so I dropped it off with him when I picked the others up. I haven't heard back from him yet, but I'm saving my money up!



**Honey, are we lost?**

**No dear, we're just exploring.**

## JESUS' RIGHT HAND



It's amazing how life is a constant series of ebbs and flows, much like an ocean tide. One moment you have a vast beach with seashells and trinkets waiting to be discovered, and suddenly you find the water washing up over your ankles, inching slowly toward your knees. The shells and trinkets have disappeared under the rising water and soon the waves begin to crash as the tide rolls in. This is a moment of decision, and you have a choice. You can either move further away from the rising tide or allow the ocean to swallow you up. As an adult, I would hope that you would choose to move further inland to avoid being washed out to sea. However, trying to explain this concept to a young child who has been so absorbed in finding treasures in the sand isn't that easy. They stomp and angrily tell the waves to "stop, stop, stop!" as if they could stop the ocean tide from rising simply by being stubborn and refusing to move.

At times, someone will say to me, "I don't know how you do it." I usually respond with a Bible scripture or something that lets them know it was only possible with God. But recently I saw a response that was so simple and so honest. This response was, "Well, I wasn't given a choice." Just like the ocean's ebbs and flows, you don't dictate life. You make a choice of how to respond to what comes your way. You can choose faith or fear. You can choose to cling to God and trust His direction, or you can be angry and shut God out. This doesn't just apply to the big, heartbreaking life moments. Life is full of change, and it happens every moment of every day.

I realized this month that it has been three years since taking over as director of Jesus' Right Hand. The only thing that I can count on (besides God) is the fact that things are constantly changing. Things have changed since 1987. Back then, we were dealing with the farm crisis, and Larry and Karen opened the doors to meet the needs of these farm families. Since then, we have dealt with a whole host of new changes including 9/11, a world-wide pandemic, economic crisis and an entire redefinition of culture as we know it. And during this, the number of people seeking our help has dramatically increased. We haven't been given a choice in these life-changing events. But we have chosen to respond to what is coming our way.

At the beginning of September, we officially closed the clothing portion of this ministry. It was a very difficult decision for me personally, because I remember the cramped space across the street, weaving my way through the racks and shelves of clothing in that tight little space. I felt very disloyal to our original founders, because it was a very big part of JRH when they first began. But this change was necessary, and it wasn't a decision we made without much prayer. We are currently helping 100+ families with food each week, including our Fresh Food Giveaway, the emergency food pantry and the community fridge. We tracked the requests for clothing for almost a year and found that the number of people accessing the clothing closet was incredibly small compared to the food requests. I'm sure you have seen regular reports on the local news about the huge spike in food pantries all over the country and we are no different. We are not in competition with anyone, nor do we desire to re-invent the wheel. There are places around us that can meet the needs of people who need clothing, household goods and furniture that we have a good working relationship with. Because our space is becoming more limited with the number of people that we serve, we felt our mission was to focus on meeting the spiritual needs of those who come through our door and providing food for people in need. We will do this with the love of God, through Jesus Christ. When we are blessed with abundance, we will give abundantly, and we will share what we have with others. When things are looking lean, we trust that God will provide. No one has ever been turned away due to lack of food, and God has never failed to prepare us for what is ahead. I believe the most recent changes are being made in preparation for what is to come. Proverbs 3:4-5 tell us "Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths." You see, if we try to figure it out, we will make a mess out of it. God knows the end from the beginning. He prepares us. All we need to do is trust Him, and acknowledge (consult Him) in our decisions, because God ultimately knows the path of our destiny. This has been a constant for Jesus' Right Hand since the beginning. And that is something that will not change.

We have been so blessed with the support of so many through the years, and it needs to be acknowledged. The words of encouragement, the hugs, prayers and smiles mean so much. You have shown us that you believe in what we do with every donation. This really is a blessing, because it is given from your heart. God has allowed us the resources we have been given as a tool to touch broken lives, fill lonely hearts and stomachs and reach lost souls for the Kingdom of God. None of this would have been possible without you and we are honored and humbled that we have been trusted with this mission. We pray you have been encouraged by these words. We are here for you if you need us.

In His Love and Service,  
Jesus' Right Hand

## MAKING AN EXTRA BUCK

Contributed by Mel Stills

There were not many ways to make an extra buck for a farm kid. I wasn't highly motivated to buy my own car, and further education wasn't my first priority. Fortunately, needs and attitudes change.

As a little kid, I probably got some kind of allowance for doing things around the house and farm. I wasn't tempted by money. We worked collectively to make a go of it farming. You simply had a job to do, and my reward was a warm bed (the bed was warm, but the room wasn't), food for everyone and a new pair of shoes before school started.

We went to town twice a week, Saturday and Tuesday night. Not so much for shopping, but for selling eggs and getting the things at the grocery store that we were out of or didn't produce on our own.

Early on, I probably got a dime to buy candy or a Coke at the drugstore. That amount probably went up to a quarter when I became more productive around the place, but I don't remember getting a dollar as an allowance. The girls and I might get a bit extra so we could buy Mom something for Mother's Day or her birthday. I still have some of those treasures we bought at the hardware store, a little glass coal bucket to put toothpicks in and a plastic red woodpecker to pick up the toothpicks. Seems now that there was a trend there. That quarter or half dollar was for bringing in the coal for the fire or dry corncobs so that Mom could get the cook stove heated up. Maybe I did get a dollar when I started milking cows, feeding the animals and the dreaded weed pulling from the garden.

There were some opportunities to make some money away from the farm. If a local farmer needed some help and Dad didn't need to repay a favor, I could make some of my own money.

I first remember mowing the neighbor's yard. She was old and very particular how I mowed around her flower beds. The grass was always pretty tall when I was asked to mow. They had the standard push reel mower, dull of course -- pull it towards you 12 inches and push hard forward to cut maybe six inches. That was repeated a thousand times to get the yard cut. She would offer me a glass of very sweet Kool-Aid, and when I was done to her liking, she insisted on paying me what she called "Pin Money." I have no idea what pin money is, but it was a dime, 10 cents for a couple of hours hard mowing, but I did get a glass of Kool-Aid! I wasn't always asked; another neighbor kid a bit older than I was also asked to mow her yard. He was two or three years older than I, so maybe he moved on, and I inherited the job.

Anyway, he told me he got the same Kool-Aid, but he got a nickel, five cents. Labor costs did get out of control, and everyone was paying more for services. Prices went up a nickel in three years, or maybe I did a better job of mowing.

This same old farmer asked another kid up the road and me to put hay bales in the barn. I had had to do this on several other occasions, and it was simply helping a neighbor, and pay was not expected. On this day, my Dad and my friend's Dad were there watching us toss the bales. When the job was done, the old farmer asked, "What do I owe you kids?" My friend's Dad spoke up quickly and said "???" dollars, and Dad said the same. I never worked for free again for this neighbor, except if he or his wife were sick, and then you were expected to chip in.

Farmers would look for kids to help put up hay in the summer, and I think we got \$1.25 - \$1.50 per hour, \$6-\$10 for a day's work. You could buy lots of gas for Dad's car, go to a movie and eat out or have a date with that kind of money.

In the winter time, I always had a trap line trying to catch raccoons, muskrats and mink. The hides didn't make a bunch of money, but anything was better than nothing. Dad's rules were if you trap you need to check your traps twice a day. No problem, milk the cows, feed the hogs, hay the cows, then walk a half mile to Squaw Creek, check all your traps and get back to the house, get ready for school and eat breakfast. The bus came at 7:30 a.m.

Before trapping season, I would scout the area to find what I thought would be a good location. Coons, muskrats and mink all require traps in or near water. You didn't want the animal to suffer long; the plan was for them to drown. Find a muskrat hole and set a trap in the opening of their den. Lugging dead wet coons, muskrats and mink to the house when it's zero or colder was a real treat. If you wanted to make some money to do things, you just did it and didn't complain. That afternoon when I got back from school, did all the chores and ran the trap line again, I skinned and stretched the hides to dry.

I also trapped or hunted foxes. There was a two-dollar bounty on a fox, and all you had to do was bring the ears in as proof you had killed the animal. You could make some real money if you could locate a fox den. I guess foxes were a problem with chickens. I wouldn't think of killing a red fox these days.

I managed to make enough money to do the things I wanted. I bought nice shirts to wear to school, put gas in the car and did all the things a teenager did in the 40's & 50's. It took a while, but I finally learned that an education could get me the things I needed. Mowing yards, putting up hay, skinning wet, cold muskrats and making a little "Pin Money" wasn't a long-term solution.



The Virginia Boosters 4-H Club held their September 11, 2024, meeting at 7:00 PM at the Lions Hall in New Virginia.

Brady Streeter called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Roll call was, "What are you most excited for this school year?"

Jaden McDonald gave the treasurer's report.

This month's old business: Old Settlers - Club got second place

The monthly county newsletter began the new business. We discussed:

- 4-H and Clover Kid enrollment
- Clover Kids and 4-H information night Sept. 17, 6-8
- County and State Fair Project Pick-Up in the extension office
- County Fair Livestock Auction and Premium checks at Regions Bank
- Edible Arrangements workshop October 1st, 6:30-8
- Creative Arts Tour Sept. 18th in Public Library

Any other new business:

- Reimburse members for state premiums-club voted yes
- Discussion of next month's officer elections
- Pumpkin painting/carving contest at next meeting-club voted yes

Blake Erikson motioned to adjourn the meeting, and Rosemary Seward seconded.

Peyton and Jaden McDonald gave their presentation over a game.

The next meeting is October 9, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

### Interstate 35 FFA News

Written by Mckenzie Phillips, Reporter



The Interstate 35 FFA Chapter held their meeting on August 30 in Ms. Bedwell's classroom in the CTE building. Kolter Good called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m. We enjoyed ice cream during our meeting.

Old business for the meeting was that we had great county and state fairs. We volunteered at Little Hands on the Farm at the Iowa State Fair. Clarke County Fair: Lilly Peterson showed her horse.

Brayden Miller entered a hunting blind. Betsy Jones showed a heifer. Easton Goering showed pigs. Warren County Fair: Keifer Bedwell showed goats and rabbits.

The new business we discussed was Career Development Day on September 17 in Osceola, Greenhand Fire-up on October 17 in Ankeny, having a float in the Homecoming Parade, jacket orders for new members, and the Greenhand Ceremony on November 14 in the auditorium. The Greenhand recipients will receive their Greenhand degree and FFA jacket. We are also growing poinsettias to sell around Christmas time.

The Interstate FFA Alumni Chapter is having a barn quilt painting fundraiser on Sunday, September 8, at 1:00 p.m. in the CTE building at the high school. You can sign up for the event on the Interstate FFA Alumni Facebook page.

Congratulations to Hanna Bedwell on earning her American FFA Degree! Anyone interested in joining FFA, contact the advisor, Hanna Bedwell, email hannabedwell@I-35.k12.ia.us with any questions.

The next meeting will be on September 19 during C advisory. We will talk about upcoming fruit sales and t-shirts.

Mckenzie Phillips

MckenziePhillips@I-35.k12.ia.us



## How Does Your Garden Grow?

Contributed by Susan King

Last month, I shared that my husband and I recently moved back to the Midwest from Georgia. Besides our family, friends, our new home and our newfound freedom of being empty nesters, I was most excited for..... black, nutrient-rich soil.

While I planted and tended to a garden in Georgia, it was quite pitiful, and the fruit and veggie yield was embarrassing. If you have ever traveled the northern part of Georgia, near the Blue Ridge Mountains, you might be thinking, how

could your garden not be bountiful? The flora there is very lush, and the land is extremely fertile, as the red clay soil retains moisture extremely well, but what clay soil lacks is nutrients. The soil is acidic and deficient in nitrogen, magnesium and lime, key ingredients in creating a healthy, thriving garden. Despite adding compost and organic matter to my Georgia clay garden, I still struggled.

That lush flora, that I referenced, was another battle I faced. Unfortunately, or fortunately, overgrown wisteria and other flowering vines and giant Leland Cypress and Holly trees shaded my garden during peak sun hours. Add in a family of feral cats that called my garden home, and I was literally throwing time and money out the window. I had a passion and the motivation for a garden that could feed our family, but ultimately the less-than-ideal conditions and environment won out.

Knowing I had a large garden at our new Iowa home, I had been planning for quite a while, not only what vegetables I wanted to grow, but also researching soil content, location (some plants don't get along), weed prevention and pests. I was "garden ready"! What I hadn't planned for was timing and other more critical priorities needing my attention. Moving across the country and everything that entails is exhausting when you are "20 something," let alone when you are "50 something"! Getting all our belongings out of the garage and driveway, somehow, took priority over planting a garden. While my thoughts were on my garden, my muscles, or lack thereof, were on Rubbermaid containers and cardboard boxes.

Finally, on June 17, planting day came. I knew it was too late for seed planting, so I ventured to some garden centers to pick up plants. To my surprise, I was met with cross-eyed looks from employees when I asked where the vegetable plants were. On my third stop, I was finally able to locate some rather pathetic looking tomato plants, a few very sad pepper plants, and three plants that were simply labeled "GOURD". I bought them all, brought them home and immediately went to work. I had rototilled the garden the day before, so planting was a breeze. My planted garden consisted of 17 tomato plants, five pepper plants, three GOURD plants, some onion bulbs and two basil plants (and weeds I don't know the botanical names of, but I gave "four-letter" names to). Although late, let the growing season begin!

Did I mention already that my husband and I are empty nesters and that my Georgia garden was lack luster, so I overplanted that garden in an effort to multiply any yield? Seventeen tomato plants, five pepper plants and three GOURD plants, all that not only survived, but are thriving - makes me laugh every time I drive into our driveway and pass them. Thankfully, both my mom and my mother-in-law know a thing or two about canning and family/friends are delighting in the gift of crops, and what an awesome gift our community has in Jesus' Right Hand where others can enjoy the fruits of my labor. Although I'm still harvesting this year and our awesome Iowa weather this summer is extending the growing season, I'm already thinking about my 2025 garden. My research this winter will include proper planting ratios.

Grow where you are planted and hopefully your produce is bountiful!!

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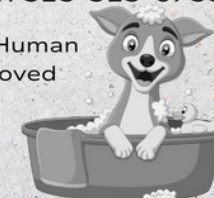


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# ALL THINGS AG

## USDA Launches Online Debt Consolidation Tool to Increase Farmer and Rancher Financial Viability

WASHINGTON, Aug. 29, 2024 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is announcing the launch of the Debt Consolidation Tool, an innovative online tool available through farmers.gov that allows agricultural producers to enter their farm operating debt and evaluate the potential savings that might be provided by obtaining a debt consolidation loan with USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) or a local lender.

"Providing producers with options to structure their debt in a manner that affords them every opportunity to meet the goals of their agricultural operation is the best way to ensure the nation's farmers and ranchers build financial equity and resilience," said FSA Administrator Zach Ducheneaux.

A debt consolidation loan is a new loan used to pay off other existing operating loans or lines of credit that might have unreasonable rates and terms. By combining multiple eligible debts into a single, larger loan, borrowers may obtain more favorable payment terms such as a lower interest rate or lower payments. Consolidating debt may also provide farmers and ranchers additional cash flow flexibilities.

The Debt Consolidation Tool is a significant addition to FSA's suite of improvements designed to modernize its Farm Loan Programs. The tool enhances customer service and increases opportunities for farmers and ranchers to achieve financial viability by helping them identify potential savings that could be reinvested in their farming and ranching operation, retirement accounts, or college savings accounts.

Producers can access the Debt Consolidation Tool by visiting farmers.gov/debt-consolidation-tool. The tool is built to run on modern browsers including Chrome, Edge, Firefox, or the Safari browser. Producers do not need to create a farmers.gov account or access the authenticated customer portal to use the tool.

### Additional Farm Loan Programs Improvements

FSA recently announced significant changes to Farm Loan Programs through the Enhancing Program Access and Delivery for Farm Loans rule. These policy changes, to take effect September 25, 2024, are designed to better assist borrowers to make strategic investments in the enhancement or expansion of their agricultural operations.

FSA also has a significant initiative underway to streamline and automate the Farm Loan Program customer-facing business process. For the over 26,000 producers who submit a direct loan application annually, FSA has made several impactful improvements including:

The Loan Assistance Tool that provides customers with an interactive online, step-by-step guide to identifying the direct loan products that may be a fit for their business needs and to understanding the application process.

The Online Loan Application, an interactive, guided application that is paperless and provides helpful features including an electronic signature option, the ability to attach supporting documents such as tax returns, complete a balance sheet, and build a farm operating plan.

An online direct loan repayment feature that relieves borrowers from the necessity of calling, mailing, or visiting a local USDA Service Center to pay a loan installment. A simplified direct loan paper application, reduced from 29 pages to 13 pages.

### A new educational hub with farm loan resources and videos.

USDA encourages producers to reach out to their local FSA farm loan staff to ensure they fully understand the wide range of loan and servicing options available to assist with starting, expanding, or maintaining their agricultural operation. To conduct business with FSA, please contact your local USDA Service Center.

FSA helps America's farmers, ranchers and forest landowners invest in, improve, protect and expand their agricultural operations through the delivery of agricultural programs for all Americans. FSA implements agricultural policy, administers credit and loan programs, and manages conservation, commodity, disaster recovery and marketing programs through a national network of state and county offices and locally elected county committees. For more information, visit fsa.usda.gov.

USDA touches the lives of all Americans each day in so many positive ways. In the Biden-Harris administration, USDA is transforming America's food system with a greater focus on more resilient local and regional food production, fairer markets for all producers, ensuring access to safe, healthy and nutritious food in all communities, building new markets and streams of income for farmers and producers using climate smart food and forestry practices, making historic investments in infrastructure and clean energy capabilities in rural America, and committing to equity across the Department by removing systemic barriers and building a workforce more representative of America. To learn more, visit usda.gov.

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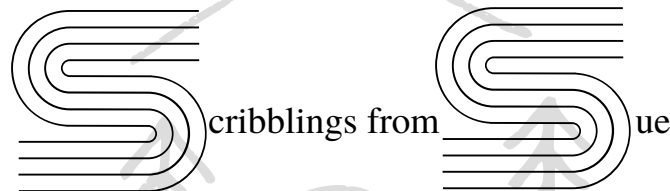
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Contributed by Sue Stills

Our two-month summer sojourn in Iowa has ended, and we are back at home in Sun Lakes, AZ. The drive distance from St. Charles, IA to Sun Lakes is 1,377 miles, and the time is estimated at 20 hours and 49 minutes. The drive was long, but basically uneventful. We had been a little apprehensive that there would be terrible Labor Day traffic because we were traveling on the Saturday and Sunday before Labor Day, as well as on Labor Day. That turned out not to be the case except for the heavy truck traffic on I-40 through New Mexico. Actually, there is always heavy truck traffic on I-40. We saw extensive fields of yellow wildflowers in Iowa, Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas. Just beautiful!

Saturday, our first day of driving home from Iowa, was too long, 11 hours. We had made reservations at a Best Western motel in Dalhart, in the panhandle of Texas. We have stayed there before, and sure enough, just like before, we were offered free earplugs because of the very close-by trains. The train whistles and rumblings began at 4:30 a.m. and continued on. I had a fun waffle in the shape of Texas for breakfast at the motel. Sunday, we had reservations at a Hampton Inn in Gallup, NM. The hotel, however, was undergoing extensive renovations, and they had booked our room on the fourth floor – and the elevator was not working! That was totally unacceptable, and neither was the clerk’s attempt to book us at a “sister” hotel for \$190. So we walked across the parking lot and got a very nice room at Comfort Inn. Ah! The joys of traveling!

On Labor Day, we exited I-40 at Holbrook, AZ, not going as far west as Winslow, AZ (with a nod to the Eagles’ “Take It Easy”), and drove southwest and south to come into Sun Lakes from the east, thereby avoiding Flagstaff and Phoenix. That highway winds through the mountains (yes, there are mountains in Arizona) with plenty of curves and plenty of traffic, lots of motorhomes and camper trailers of people going home after the holiday. We were glad to get on level ground as we neared Sun Lakes.

Our trip brought us through several Native American reservations in New Mexico and Arizona. Arizona has 20 reservations for its 22 federally recognized Native American tribes that represent more than 296,000 people. The reservations cover more than 19 million acres, with sizes ranging from the large Navajo Reservation to the small Tonto Apache Reservation of just over 85 acres. Many tribes today are committed to diversifying their economies, so in addition to casinos, you can visit and enjoy tribally-owned shopping malls, RV parks and convenience stores, resort hotels and golf courses. When we went to the Grand Canyon National Park in April 2023, we stayed at the Cameron Trading Post in Cameron, AZ, which is east of the Park. Cameron is on the Navajo Indian Reservation. The Trading Post had a very large gift area with mainly Native American arts and crafts items for sale. I bought a pair of turquoise earrings. Interestingly, although Arizona does not participate in Daylight Saving Time, the Navajo Nation does. So we were going in and out of “time zones” as we came and went from Cameron to the Park and back.

Well, we missed out on some of Arizona’s summer heat of well over 110 consecutive days of 100° or more. Our rosebushes did not fare well, even though they were being watered with our irrigation system. Some of our other backyard plants also show the effects of extreme heat. Our old grapefruit tree had not been doing well, although there was growing fruit on it. But now, a huge swath of it is dead. Our landscaper is due to come in a few weeks to work on the front and back yards, and removing the grapefruit tree will have to be one of his projects. It was such a pleasure to experience the cooler weather in Iowa, even with the high humidity. But we know that cooler temperatures are in our future here!



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Indianola, IA 50125  
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Property-casualty insurance products are offered through Farm Bureau Property & Casualty Insurance Company+\* and Western Agricultural Insurance Company+\*/West Des Moines, IA and are intended for residents of AZ, IA, KS, MN, NE, NM, SD and UT. Fixed life insurance and annuity products are offered through Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company+\*/West Des Moines, IA and are intended for residents of AZ, IA, ID, KS, MN, MT, ND, NE, NM, OK, SD, UT, WI and WY. Individual must be licensed with issuing company to offer insurance products.

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**NOVEMBER 5TH**

SAMANTHA

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[www.fettforhouse.com](http://www.fettforhouse.com)

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**Specializing in:**

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Actual build by Borntrager Brothers

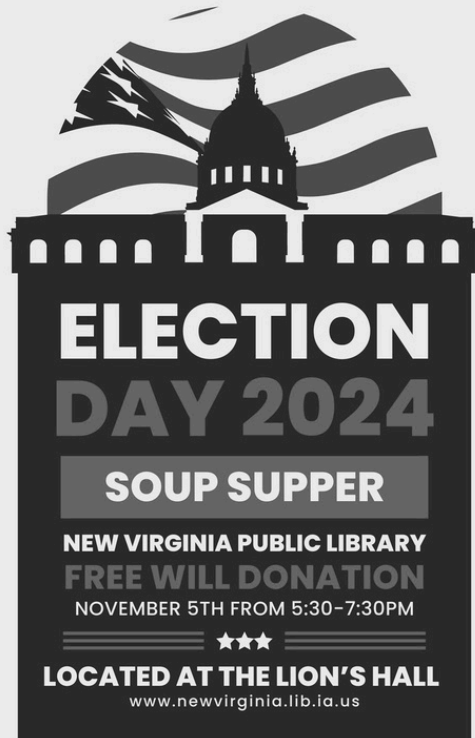
**We also do general carpentry work,  
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~ References Available ~

**Call Joni Borntrager @ 515-468-0243  
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*You Like It Darker*  
by Stephen King

Reviewed by Sue Stills

This 2024 book, another 500-pager by my favorite author, was not one story, but 12 short stories. These stories involved fate, mortality, luck, and the folds in reality where anything can happen. The longest one, “Danny Coughlin’s Bad Dream,” showed how one psychic flash in a dream and a Good Samaritan action could have catastrophic results. In “Laurie,” an unexpected and unwanted gift of a puppy changes a lonely widower’s life. All of the stories kept me interested and wondering what the next page would bring.

**A Journey Through Parkinson’s Disease**

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY  
Extension and Outreach

Learn about Effects, Treatments for Parkinson’s Disease

Growing older is the greatest risk factor for acquiring Parkinson’s disease and many people live with symptoms for several years before being diagnosed. Often people in early stages of Parkinson’s Disease assume their symptoms are part of normal aging or are due to other health problems they may have, such as arthritis. However, early Parkinson’s Disease symptoms may not be that apparent and may even come and go. Frequently it is the spouse or other relatives who first notice slight problems with a loved one’s movements.

To learn about Parkinson’s Disease, its effects, and possible treatments, register now to participate in “A Journey Through Parkinson’s Disease,” an educational series from Iowa State University Extension and Outreach. Madison County Extension, along with Madison County Health Care System, MCHCS Senior Life Solutions, MCHCS Health & Rehab Services, Iowa State’s Department of Kinesiology, and Human Sciences Extension and Outreach are sponsoring the series in A Journey Through Parkinson’s Disease beginning Thursday, October 3rd. The educational series consists of three, 1-hour sessions held once a week on Thursdays, October 3rd, 10th and 17th. Cathy Drost, a Human Sciences Specialist, will teach the classes, which include interactive lessons, discussions, and activities. Another learning component will include a presentation covering mental health issues from MCHCS Senior Life Solutions as well as a presentation from MCHCS Health & Rehab Services that will teach participants about increasing stability and decreasing fall risks.

Sessions are scheduled from 10:00 AM to 12:30 PM at the Madison County Hospital Chesnut Building, 300 W. Hutchings Street in Winterset. A light meal will be provided. There is a no fee for the program.

For more information or to register on-line, go to [extension.iastate.edu/humansciences/parkinsons](http://extension.iastate.edu/humansciences/parkinsons) or contact Alysha Reynolds at 515-462-5120 or by e-mail at [areynolds@madisonhealth.com](mailto:areynolds@madisonhealth.com).



**Medicare’s Open Enrollment is Oct 15th–Dec 7th**

Do You Have Questions?  
SHIIP/SMP Can Help

Every year between Oct 15th–Dec 7th, persons with Medicare Part D have the opportunity to review their drug plan coverage. SHIIP/SMP volunteer counselors are available for a free, confidential and unbiased review of cost and coverage, with changes taking effect January 1st, 2024. Call 515-962-5375 to schedule your appointment at the Indianola Activity Center (2204 West 2nd Ave). Phone appointments also available.

SHIIP/SMP is a service of the State of Iowa. They do not sell or promote any insurance companies, policies or agents.



**MEDICARE  
DRUG PLAN**  
ANNUAL OPEN ENROLLMENT  
**OCT 15-DEC 7**

**COMPARING PLANS SAVE \$\$\$**

CALL WARREN COUNTY SHIIP

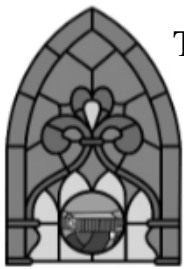
**515-962-5375**

**OFFICE & PHONE APPOINTMENT AVAILABLE**

@ INDIANOLA ACTIVITY CENTER  
2204 WEST 2ND AVE  
INDIANOLA, IA 50125

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It does not sell or promote any insurance  
companies, policies, or agents.





## The Improved St. Charles Gateway- Welcome Center & Event Venue

The big brick building at the corner of Main Street and Highland as you come in to St. Charles from the east was built in 1916. The one that looks like a church? Yes, it was a church - the building once housed the Presbyterian Church, and it was an active parish from 1916 until its dissolution in 1978. The lot, building and contents were sold at auction to Margaret Cook, an individual with close ties to the community. Margaret used the building for storage for 20 years. Upon Margaret's passing in 1998, the building was gifted to the city in memory of Charles Anderson, a longtime resident of St. Charles.

Margaret requested that it be used for community interests. At this time, the St. Charles Historical Preservation Committee was formed with the purpose to preserve history and raise funds for the restoration. The committee took responsibility for the building. They worked very hard to empty, clean and bring back some purpose and life to the building by raising money for wiring, updated plumbing, new windows, new roof, ramp, and steps. A hail storm damaged the roof and the original stained-glass windows. They raised additional monies to have them restored and replaced. All visitors to the Welcome Center comment on the beautiful windows. (The next time you drive by take special note of the window facing Main Street.) The committee also remodeled the basement, adding a bathroom and a working kitchen. They were a hard-working and dedicated crew. Members included Carroll Hayden, Joan Brown, Teddy Gray, Pat Lathrum, Pat Nehring, Jan Downs, and Joan Naylor.

Fast forward 24 years. The city has now acquired management of the building again due to the dissolution of the Historical Preservation Committee. The city council made a commitment to keep the building and make it a viable and usable building for the community. The Tourism Board was created by the council to manage the building and advise the council on the needs of the community regarding tourism and growth. The Tourism Board goals are to preserve the building and its history and make it a usable venue for all sorts of activities and events. To promote the growth of St. Charles and the newly established Covered Bridge Scenic Byway, a partnership was established with the Madison County Chamber of Commerce. The Welcome Center will operate as a satellite tourism location promoting St. Charles as the Gateway to the Bridges and Madison County. There are retail opportunities for chamber and community members to advertise and sell their products. They are open Thursday through Sunday from 11:00am to 3:00pm from May through October.

Upon acquiring the building, a group of community members came in and cleaned out and returned the items that had remained from the previous occupant. Then, an evaluation was done. The actual structure, roof, and windows are in good condition. It was some of the internal systems and cosmetic updates that were required to bring the building back to life as a safe and usable venue. The first item on the list was an electrical update - bringing things up to code and making it safe. HVAC was next on the list - installing three mini split heating and air-conditioning units on the main level. We then held a second round of cleanup with a community workday where we scrubbed, cleaned, and polished. The last of the major improvements were the repair, patching, and repainting of the main level. This was the costliest of the updates as there was water damage, cracked and missing dry wall as well as many years of neglect. It is now complete, and she is ready to go.

To go along with the Gateway to the Bridges theme for St. Charles it has been decided to rename the location. The official name will now be The Gateway St. Charles - Welcome Center and Event Venue. We will be hosting an Open House on Saturday, October 12th. Lunch will be offered from 11:30am to 1:30pm and open house will continue until 4:00pm. This is also Covered Bridge Weekend with other activities happening in St. Charles. Come and experience The Gateway St. Charles - Welcome Center and Event Venue.

We are very grateful for the St. Charles Preservation Committee and their vision for this building. We want to thank Greater Madison County Community Foundation, St. Charles Community Foundation, St. Charles Caring Neighbor Circle, the Keep Iowa Beautiful/Paint Iowa Beautiful program, and numerous local citizens for their support of this project. With these community grants and donations of time and money, we have been able to complete the revitalization and are hosting visitors in the Welcome Center and are ready to host events in the venue. There are always things that need to be worked on, so we plan to host some events and do some fundraising. Keep your eye out for activities coming up.

## CARD SHOWER!!

Monty Morris will be turning 80 on September 20, 2024!

Please send cards to:  
7255 Roosevelt  
New Virginia, IA 50210



Happy Birthday from  
your kids, grandkids and  
great-grandkids!

We love you!!



thank you  
for  
making a  huge  
difference



## !!! DRUMROLL PLEASE !!!



Thank you to the members of Neophyte Lodge #301 in New Virginia for donating this amazing drum set to Interstate 35 Bands! Justin came in to work with the drumline students in preparation for the marching season and surprised us with this beautiful set! It's a huge update to our old set that was frankensteined together to hold the drums up. Also thank you to Scott Davis for helping to find the set, for replacing the drum heads and making the new set sound great. It will serve the band and community for years to come, thank you!

- Nick McKinney -



Watson Brown was 24 at the time of the raid and, unlike his father and brothers, never fired a weapon in anger. When surrounded in the engine house with local prisoners inside, John Brown asked Watson and another man named Stephens to raise a white handkerchief and talk to the local militia about terms.

Behind them Mr. Kitzmiller, a prisoner, would come along as he was the acting superintendent of the armory, hoping his voice would land better with the locals. While holding this white flag high, both men were shot by a drunken militia that had broken into a tavern whiskey supply beforehand. Well before the young men stepped a few feet out the door and Kitzmiller still in the doorway of the fire

engine house, Kitzmiller was pulled back by one of Brown's quick-thinking men or he would've been shot as well. Watson was struck just below the stomach, which is an agonizing wound and usually mortal for this time, but he was able to crawl back to the fire engine house while under fire. Stevens lay bleeding in the street from two slugs in him and being mocked while used for drunken target

practice (none hit him) as he cried for help from the locals. It was not until Mr. Brau, a prisoner in the fire house, asked leave to assist Stevens and carried the wounded man to a nearby house, then, personally, oversaw that the wounded man was given medical treatment that saved Stevens from dying in the gutter. Mr. Brau also got the doctor to look at Watson's wounds that were staunched from bleeding before departing the engine house promising to return in the morning to see Watson again. To the honor of Mr. Brau, he then returned to the fire house to remain with the prisoners.

Meanwhile, in intense pain Watson begged for someone to "dash his brains out" and when that did not happen tried to shoot himself before his father yanked the pistol out of his hand. After the engine house was stormed the next morning by U.S. Marines that arrived during the night, Watson was still alive. The commander of the Marine detachment was Brevet Colonel Robert E. Lee, who first sent his aide-de-camp Lt. J.E.B. Stuart to deliver the terms of surrender to John Brown. When the two men met again, face-to-face, they both recognized the other from Kansas and exchanged a few courteous words. When Brown refused to surrender, Stuart turned to walk away and raised his hat, this was the pre-determined signal to attack. Locals called to the Marines to kill the raider prisoners, and the military moved quickly to take charge before the still drunken mob got out of hand. Watson was hurled into an occupied cell and left him unattended even as cell mates called for medical assistance for the dying Watson. His cellmate put Watson on the only bed in their cell, which was a rough wooden plank, and he died there a day later in agony, still unattended. The guards threw his body along the roadside with two other of John Brown's men that were murdered by the locals, Hayden and Anderson.

The Winchester Virginia Medical College came and collected the bodies and used them as teaching cadavers. There, the flesh was stripped off and Watson Brown and his remains treated and stained to dry out the tissue as an instruction cadaver. A sign was hung around the skinless body's neck that read "thus to all abolitionists" and was considered a great jest. His skin was used to make moccasins for at least two college supervisors and a few wealthy landowning students. Someone used a knife to cut a ghoulish smirk on Watson's mouth. The other raider bodies were dissected then de-fleshed and (supposedly) around 1863, the bones were tossed into one or more outhouse pits by several persons that saved them as souvenirs but indignantly tossed them rather than letting federal soldiers who were hunting for the skeletons get them. They were hailed as local heroes.

In the Spring of 1862, the 27th Indiana Infantry Regiment captured the town of Winchester. The regimental surgeon, Dr. Jarvis Johnson, entered the school and found the hanging cadaver of Watson Brown, the sign still around the neck, and the school notes on who the remains once were. Some of Watson's fingers, teeth, and toes were missing--cut and pulled out by souvenir and memento hunters. Within hours the medical school was burned down by vengeful soldiers, the only incident of arson in the town of Winchester during the entire war (impressive considering the town changed hands 72 times).

Dr. Jarvis Johnson,  
27th Indiana Infantry c. 1862



Harper Ferry Assault, John holding Watson's hand, as illustrated in newspapers, 1859

		CLAIMS REPORT			
VENDOR	REFERENCE	AMOUNT	CHECK #	CHECK DATE	
ALLIANT ENERGY	ELECTRIC/GAS/STREET LIGHTS	\$443.71	15393	8/5/2024	
AT&T FIRSTNET	PHONE SERVICE	\$49.81	15412	8/9/2024	
BRETT DOUGLAS	DEPOSIT REFUND	\$125.00	15413	8/9/2024	
ELAN FINANCIAL SERVICES	OFFICE SUPPLIES PAPER-TONERFAX	\$507.99	15394	8/5/2024	
CENTRAL IOWA PEST CONTROL	PEST CONTROL	\$80.25	15386	7/16/2024	
D&L ELECTRIC & AUTO SALES	REPAIR EMERGENCY EXIT LIGHTFD	\$112.00	15397	8/6/2024	
HEIMAN FIRE EQUIPMENT	VEHICLE REPAIR HYDRAULIC PISTO	\$3,655.62	15399	8/6/2024	
IOWA LEAGUE OF CITIES	MAYORS ASSO DUES	\$30.00	15401	8/6/2024	
IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT	2ND QTR UNEMPLOYMENT LATEFEE	\$35.00	16326643	8/4/2024	
IOWA PUBLIC RETIREMENT SYSTEM	IPERS	\$412.92	16326637	8/5/2024	
IOWA PUBLIC RETIREMENT SYSTEM	IPERS	\$23.60	16326639	8/6/2024	
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	FED/FICA TAX	\$459.87	16326638	8/5/2024	
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	FED/FICA TAX	\$22.96	16326640	8/6/2024	
J&L SANITATION	GARBAGE SERVICE - CITY	\$62.00	15388	7/16/2024	
J&L SANITATION	GARBAGE SERVICE - CITY	\$62.00	15403	8/6/2024	
JAKE ZUERCHER	OPERATING SUPPLIES 768	\$75.99	15415	8/10/2024	
ONE BILLING SOLUTIONS LLC	AMBULANCE BILLING	\$564.85	15404	8/6/2024	
LINDE GAS & EQUIPMENT INC.	OEPRATING SUPPLIES	\$124.20	15405	8/6/2024	
R & R MOWING SERVICE	MOWING CITY AREAS	\$1,225.00	15406	8/6/2024	
SANDRY FIRE SUPPLY LLC	VEHICLE REPAIR	\$279.70	15407	8/6/2024	
WASTE MANAGEMENT	RECYCLING	\$1,181.90	15409	8/6/2024	
WEX FLEET UNIVERSAL	VEHICLE FUEL	\$578.63	15410	8/6/2024	
WINDSTREAM	TELEPHONE/INTERNET	\$559.62	15411	8/6/2024	
<b>GENERAL TOTAL</b>		<b>\$10,672.62</b>			
ALLIANT ENERGY	ELECTRIC/GAS/STREET LIGHTS	\$1,225.86	15393	8/5/2024	
ARBOREAL LOCOMOTION LLC	TREE REMOVAL	\$2,350.00	15392	8/5/2024	
<b>ROAD USE TOTAL</b>		<b>\$3,575.86</b>			
ANCEL KENNEDY	SERVICE	\$125.00	15396	8/6/2024	
AT&T FIRSTNET	PHONE SERVICE	\$22.45	15412	8/9/2024	
ELAN FINANCIAL SERVICES	SUPPLIES - DIAPHAGH	\$2.14	15394	8/5/2024	
DES MOINES WATER WORKS	WATER TESTING	\$208.00	15398	8/6/2024	
HUSTON'S LAWN/SNOW REMOVAL	WATER TESTING	\$100.00	15387	7/16/2024	
HUSTON'S LAWN/SNOW REMOVAL	WATER TESTING - ONE CALL	\$115.00	15400	8/6/2024	
HUSTON'S LAWN/SNOW REMOVAL	WATER TESTING	\$100.00	15414	8/9/2024	
IA ONE CALL	METER LOCALS - IOWA ONE CALL	\$10.80	15402	8/6/2024	
IOWA PUBLIC RETIREMENT SYSTEM	IPERS	\$355.49	16326637	8/5/2024	
IOWA PUBLIC RETIREMENT SYSTEM	IPERS	\$23.59	16326639	8/6/2024	
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	FED/FICA TAX	\$406.99	16326638	8/5/2024	
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	FED/FICA TAX	\$22.94	16326640	8/6/2024	
WARREN WATER DISTRICT	WATER USAGE/LOAN PAYMENT	\$4,865.25	15408	8/6/2024	
<b>WATER UTILITIES TOTAL</b>		<b>\$6,357.65</b>			
GENERAL		\$2,326.40			
WATER		\$2,007.54			
Total Payroll Paid		\$4,333.94			
TOTAL FUNDS		<b>***** REPORT TOTAL *****</b>			
		<b>\$24,940.07</b>			

**2024 Tri-Corner-Express Ad Prices**

The Tri-Corner-Express ad prices are as follows. Please email us your ad at [tricorner@newvirginia.com](mailto:tricorner@newvirginia.com) or drop off your ad in the Black Mailbox labeled Tri-Corner-Express on The Hen House - West Street, New Virginia, IA

Business Card (3.5 x 2)	\$30.00
Quarter Page (5 x 4.5)	\$45.00
Half Page Horizontal (10.5 x 5)	\$85.00
Half Page Vertical (5 x 9.5)	\$85.00
Full Page (10.5 x 9.5)	\$175.00

Thank You's, Birth Announcements, Birthdays, & Anniversaries:  
 0 - 50 words = \$5.00    51 - 100 words = \$10.00  
 \$0.10 per word over 100 words    \$5.00 for each photo  
 Obituaries and Weddings (Including one photo): \$40.00  
 Additional photo(s) \$5.00 each

See October for the rest of the story....

# CHURCH DIRECTORY

Assumption Shrine, Churchville  
(Formerly Church of the Assumption)

2841 South Street,  
Churchville, IA

Business Office:

c/o St. John the Apostle Church  
720 Orchard Hills Drive,  
Norwalk, IA 50211

Fr. Daniel Kirby

Mass Monday evenings at 5:30 p.m. (During  
Lent.)

Mass : First Sunday of the month at 10:30 a.m.  
(Rosary at 10:10 a.m.)

St. Patrick's Irish Settlement

3396 155th St. Cumming, IA 50061

Fr. Thomas Dooley - 515-462-1083

Mass: Sunday 8 am

Religious Ed: Ginny Darr, ginginery@aol.com  
or call 515-707-9243

Martensdale Community Church  
(An Evangelical Free Church)

3953 Hoover St. PO Box 200  
Martensdale, IA 50160

1 mile north of Martensdale on Hwy 28

Pastor: Jeremy Kidder  
641-764-2491

Associate Pastor: Daniel Moore

Sunday Worship 9:00 am

Bible Study: 10:30 am

Sr. High Youth 6 pm Sunday

Awana: 6:30 pm Wed. Sept. thru Apr.

Jr. High Youth 6:30 pm Wed. Sept. thru Apr.

www.mcc-church.com

Fairview Community Church

19705 Hwy 69 Indianola, IA 50125  
515-961-6069

Pastor Gearold McElwee  
Cell 515-669-5519

Sunday School: 9:30 am

Sun. Morning Worship 10:30 am

Sun. Evening Worship 5:30 pm

Cubi Club & Twenty/20 - 5:30 pm

Adult Endeavor - 6:00 pm

Wed. Bible Study & Youth Classes 7 pm

Grace Baptist Church

304 Knotts Street

New Virginia, IA 50210

Pastor Michael Mattson

www.gbcnv.org

Sunday Worship: 10:30 am

Thursday Evening:

Bible Study 6:30 pm

St. Charles Parish

305 W. Main St. PO Box 208

St. Charles, IA 50240

Pastor: Darin Feikema

641-396-2441

www.saintcharlesparish.org

Sunday School 9 am

Worship Service 9:45 am

Fellowship Time: 11 am

Truro Congregational

Christian Church UCC

155 E Garfield Box 17 Truro, IA 50257

Rev. Hugh Stone

Cell: 641-414-4876

Email: hugh29181@outlook.com

Worship 10:00 am

Coffee & Fellowship: 11:00 am

Potluck Lunch every 2nd Sunday: 11:00 am

Immaculate Conception

101 St. James St. PO Box 88

St. Marys, IA 50241

Fr. George BoachieNyarko

515 210-2490 (Emerg. only)

gnyarko@dmdiocese.org

Mass: Sunday 8:00 a.m.

Sarah Gehringer (Office Manager)

641-297-2359

immacula@myomnitel.com

Office Hours: Tues. & Thurs. 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Religious Ed - Sunday morning  
following Mass

Michelle Fick (Director) 641-297-2259

Faith Fellowship Church

164 Highway 152 Osceola, IA 50213

641-342-6603

Pastor: Scott Davis

Youth Pastor: Tyler Murrow

oefc@iowatelecom.net

Sunday School 9:00 am

Worship: 10:00 am

Calvary Baptist Church

109 N. Hartman St. Charles, IA 50240

641-396-2234

Pastor Doug Helton 641-396-2747

Sunday School - 9:30 AM

Worship - 10:30 AM

Wed. Prayer, Adult Bible Study - 6:30 PM

New Virginia Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)

604 Main Street. / Box 112

New Virginia, IA 50210

Pastor: Darin Feikema

515-490-4444 Cell: 515-770-3713

Sunday Worship: 11 AM

New Virginia United Methodist Church

301 West Street / Box 301

New Virginia, IA 50210

641-449-3779

Pastor Paul Burrow

515-402-1802

Pastor's email: burrowpi@yahoo.com

Church email: NewVA-

Medora@outlook.com

Sunday Worship: 10:30 AM

Fellowship following Worship Service

Quilters Tuesday 1-4 PM

Necessities Pantry open 2nd Wednesday

10-11 AM & 6:00-7:00 PM

Like us on Facebook:

New Virginia United Methodist Church

Medora United Methodist Church

10804 Hwy G-76 / Box 301

New Virginia, IA 50210

641-449-3779

Pastor Paul Burrow

515-402-1802

Pastor's email: burrowpi@yahoo.com

Church email: NewVA-

Medora@outlook.com

Sunday School: 9:15 AM (children)

Worship: 9 AM

Quilters: 1:00 P.M. Thursday

Church of Christ

10985 44th Lane Prole, IA 50229

Sunday Worship: 10 AM & 6 PM

Wednesday Worship: 7 PM

Elder: Duane Proudfit 515-961-4470

Elder: Mike Penick 515-989-4165

Deacon: Fred Bown 641-764-2484

Deacon: Richard Bown: 641-764-2765

Linn Grove United Methodist Church

7483 50th Ave

(4 miles north of Martensdale)

(1 block east of Hwy 28)

Prole, IA 50229

Pastor: Bernie Colorado

515-981-4062

Sunday Breakfast: 8 - 9:30 AM

(free will offering)

Traditional & Children Sunday Worship 10 AM

Adult Sunday School-1st & 3rd Sunday 11:15 AM

Pastor's email: bernieco2003@yahoo.com

St. Paul Lutheran

(Evangelical Lutheran Church in America)

ELCA

615 Iowa Ave / P.O. Box 290

Martensdale, IA 50160

641-764-2752

office@mystpaullutheran.com

Worship: 10:00 AM

LifePoint Church

801 N. Fillmore St.

Osceola, IA 50213

641-342-2334

Pastor Chuck DeVos

www.lifepointministries.net

info@lifepointministries.net

Sunday Worship @ 9:00 am & 10:30 am

Classes @ 9:00 am Wednesdays @ 6:30 pm

Peru United Methodist Church

Pastor Sharman Eaton

Social Time @ 8:30 am

Coffee and Snacks

Worship 9:00 am

