

CITY OF NEW VIRGINIA IOWA

PO BOX 302

NEW VIRGINIA, IA 50210

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NOVEMBER 21, 2024

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December 11, 2024
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The History of Veterans Day

By Kirk Freeman, St. Charles Public Library



The marking of Veterans Day is a relatively new day of remembrance. For the first 178 years of this nation's history, there was no such thing as a veterans day. The idea of a day to remember veterans was considered counter to the desires of the citizens of the United States, who preferred peace and prosperity over the financial burdens, cost of lives, pain and the battles waged usually on this land that destroyed so much. For them, war was not "over there" but "here" and the effects seen and felt by nearly all.

There was a Remembrance Day since the 1860's, but that was to remember the dead of the Civil War. For almost 80 years, people went to local cemeteries, held picnics and listened to an old soldier or official read a speech, and/or have a recitation from a school child loudly repeating the Gettysburg Address they had to memorize and maybe a few songs from the school choir. Then the people would lay flowers, or a wreath, and go home. To them, the day was not only to mourn the dead, but to celebrate the life and freedom the soldiers fell to defend. The living celebrated the day where the dead could, in a spiritual sense, see they didn't fall in vain.

There was often a common complaint about this custom though. This was against the accursed sheep and goats that were grazing the grounds to keep it trimmed in many cemeteries. Few enjoyed brushing sheep and goat pellets out of the way to lay down the washed white picnic blanket. Then the frustrating attempts to shoo the animals away before they could snatch away some of the meal laid out. The usual request was for the farmer, or farmers, to corral the animals before the event, but that was not always done. There were also the timeless complaints by people living nearby of the yearly noise of brass bands, singing, laughter and all such "annoyances."

But as for a day honoring a living (and later, a dead) veteran? Not really seen on the horizon. Then....28 June 1914 Archduke Ferdinand and his wife were shot by a 20-year old Bosnian Serb named Gavrilo Princip. This event on the streets of Sarajevo set in motion a conflict known as The Great War (renamed World War I later). For four years, armies fought all over the world, nations waged total war almost everywhere. From continental lands, vast oceans, and seacoasts with aerial bombings on cities and battlefields and the first war where planes engaged in deadly dogfights in the skies. Even here in the United States the German Navy, in the form of U-Boats, shelled towns and harbors from Massachusetts to Texas in 1918.

Events of 1917 drew the United States into the war. There are numerous, very convoluted reasons for the nation's involvement, but the gist was from the removal of Germany's previous voluntary restriction of submarine warfare upon neutral ships. There was also an intercepted German telegram asking Mexico to attack the southernmost states and inviting Japan's formidable army and navy to also attack U.S. territories in the Pacific (Philippines, Midway, Alaska and Hawaii). This revelation created anger in the citizens, and this feeling permeated into the halls of Congress. Until this century, the U.S. Congress had the sole responsibility to vote on the declaration of war, though it was the President who had to go before Congress to ask them to do so with the reasons for a conflict clearly defined. Since 1914, many U.S. citizens went to Canada and enlisted in their services; in Canadian, British, Belgian, and French armies, there were units of Americans of all walks of life and race. Yet, overall, the world conflict was not our concern, until, with the people and Congress calling for hostilities, it happened on 6 April 1917 that the United States Congress declared war on Germany and her allies, jointly called the Central Powers.

The first American regulars to go overseas with the American Expeditionary Force (AEF) were units under General John "Black Jack" Pershing that served with him in the 1916 chase for Poncho Villa in Mexico. At this time (and before) in American History the United States had an exceedingly small military presence. The belief being that a large standing army would ultimately strain the coffers of the treasury and social programs for all citizens would eventually cease. So the 16th, 18th, 26th, and 28th Infantry Regiments and the 5th and 6th Field Artillery Regiments went with General Pershing overseas in June 1917. As these men had no experience in trench warfare, French and British veterans trained them until November. On the night of 3 November, a German trench raid attacked Company F, 16th Infantry Regiment, and killed the first three Americans of the war. Thomas F. Enright (age 30) the first son not born in Ireland of Irish immigrants in Pennsylvania. James B. Gresham (age 24) of Indiana, the only one of the three who was not honored by his town until a college student wrote a paper on Gresham in 2018. And Merle Hay (age 21) from Glidden, Iowa. Merle Hay and his fellow fallen all died in the hand-to-hand combat with the German veterans. Hay was last spotted fighting off two German soldiers with his rifle and bayonet. At some point in the melee, he dropped his rifle;

Continued on page 25.....

Council Meeting Minutes, November 4, 2024

The Council met in regular session on Monday November 4th, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. for the November council meeting. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Strange with Council Members Dunkin, Bailey, Galivan, Taylor and Truman present. Minutes from the October meeting were approved.

Old business discussed: The Christmas lights have been checked and are ready for placement on the poles.

Citizen Input: Citizens have expressed concerns about vehicles running the stop sign at Knotts and East Street. The Sheriff will be contacted about patrolling this area. Discussion was held regarding the possible placement of stop signs with flashing LED lights at the Knotts and East Street intersection.

Mark Matlage was present to discuss his vision as a candidate for the District 1 Warren County Supervisor position.

Water Utilities discussed: The inventory of the type of water lines coming into homes, businesses, and buildings, as well as the type of material the water lines within homes, businesses and buildings per rules and regulations of the Iowa DNR has been accomplished and submitted to the Iowa DNR. This special project took three weeks to complete. Bailey moved, seconded by Taylor to compensate Deputy City Clerk Brent Baughman \$1400.00 for the water line inventory project. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Fire Department Business: Fire Truck 769 update – the graphics and lettering of the truck has been completed. The truck is currently at Karl Chevrolet having the emergency lights, siren and communication system installed. From Karl’s, the truck will go to Reliant Fire Apparatus for installation of the skid unit. After this, the truck should be complete and ready to be placed into service.

Sheet rock for the storage room at the fire station has been delivered and will be hung within the next week or two.

Law Enforcement: The report summary from the Sheriff’s Office for the month of October was reviewed. Deputies received or initiated 34 calls for service during the month of October. Officers spent in excess of 58 hours in the city for the month. Officers patrolled in excess of 239 miles within the city limits for the month. Four citations and/or warnings were written for traffic violations that occurred within the City of New Virginia proper.

KEEP IOWA BEAUTIFUL PROGRAM

The Hickory Hills music event was a success, as well as Trunk or Treat Night for Halloween. A line dance and dancing event was held on November 2nd which had a good crowd. Events being planned for the remainder of 2024: 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.

GAMP UPDATE

The current cleaners at the GAMP Community Building declined the cleaning proposal of a fixed rate of \$100.00 per month with two cleanings per month and the City furnishing cleaning supplies. There will be an ad placed in the Tri Corner for cleaning the GAMP Community Building.

Food for the truck pull was discussed. There will be more information gathered for the December meeting regarding food costs and food quantities.

ELF CLUB

ELF Club representative Kim McWilliams was present to get approval for the use of Old Settlers Park for Christmas displays and the need to have the flood lights in the park shut off. The need for a bucket truck to place a tree topper on the tree and then take it down after the holiday season was discussed. The balance of the ELF Club account will be verified.

TRI-CORNER-EXPRESS

Discussion was held regarding updating the Tri-Corner-Express By-Laws. Terry Garner and Kim McWilliams were present for the discussion. Galivan moved, seconded by Taylor to table updating the Tri-Corner-Express By-laws until the December 2024 council meeting so thorough review between meetings can be done. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Truman moved, seconded by Taylor to open a public hearing on Resolution 2024-06 – A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND ADOPT NEW VIRGINIA STREET FINANCIAL REPORT FROM JULY 1, 2023 TO JUNE 30, 2024. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

With no citizens present and no written responses or email responses received in response to approving and adopting the New Virginia Street Financial Report from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024, Truman moved, seconded by Taylor to close the public hearing. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Bailey moved, seconded by Galivan to pass and approve Resolution 2024-06 – A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND ADOPT NEW VIRGINIA STREET FINANCIAL REPORT FROM JULY 1, 2023 TO JUNE 30, 2024. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

The City-Wide Christmas Lighting Contest will continue this year.

Discussion was held regarding the possibility of an ice skating rink on the GAMP pulling track.

The City received an email forwarded from Milo City Clerk Misti Kosman with an opinion from the Iowa League of Cities regarding sidewalk repair. It was discussed to have options of tearing out sidewalks or repair/replace them.

The Trail Committee had an online meeting with a National Parks and Trails representative regarding plans for a walking/biking trail.

The Council was given an update on the onboarding process of the City software. The snow removal bid will be placed in the November Tri-Corner-Express.

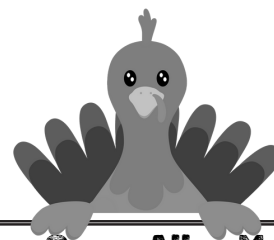
Truman moved, seconded by Taylor to approve payment of all City bills. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

With no further business to come forth, Taylor moved, seconded by Truman to adjourn meeting. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

The December council meeting is scheduled for Monday December 2nd, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. December meeting date – Monday December 2nd, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

Jennifer Baughman

Jennifer Baughman, City Clerk



Gerry Allen Memorial Park Community Building

809 West Street, New Virginia, IA

N.V. City Limits All Other Renters

Table with 3 columns: Rental Type, N.V. City Limits, All Other Renters. Rows include Full Day Rental, Half Day Rental, and Hourly Rental.

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 or call:

Jennifer Baughman 641-449-3492 for more information

Public Notice

All City Water Payments need to be mailed 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 Sign

at the United Methodist Church in New Virginia

Please send messages to: newva-medora@outlook.com Please put SIGN in the subject line.



CLAIMS REPORT				
VENDOR	REFERENCE	AMOUNT	CHECK #	CHECK DATE
ALLIANT ENERGY	ELECTRIC/GAS/STREET LIGHTS	\$488.72	15417	9/3/2024
AT&T FIRSTNET	PHONE SERVICE	\$49.81	15442	9/12/2024
ELAN FINANCIAL SERVICES	TECHNOLOGY - GOOGLE GSUITES	\$85.04	15418	9/3/2024
G WORKS	TECHNOLOGY - ANNUAL FEES	\$2,257.00	15424	9/10/2024
EXTINGUISHER COMPANY	FIRE EXTINGUISHER CHECKS	\$78.00	15426	9/10/2024
HIGHWAY LUMBER COMPANY	SUPPLIES - BOLTS/NUTS/FASTNERS	\$64.38	15427	9/10/2024
HY-VEE	MEDICATIONS	\$23.75	15429	9/10/2024
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	STATE TAXES	\$159.05	16326657	9/4/2024
IOWA PUBLIC RETIREMENT SYSTEM	IPERS	\$436.52	16326658	9/4/2024
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	FED/FICA TAX	\$496.22	16326659	9/4/2024
J&L SANITATION	GARBAGE SERVICE - CITY	\$62.00	15430	9/10/2024
JUSTIN STRANGE	SUPPLIES - CLEANING VANDALISM	\$28.59	15440	9/11/2024
ONE BILLING SOLUTIONS LLC	AMBULANCE BILLING	\$633.96	15431	9/10/2024
LINDE GAS & EQUIPMENT INC.	DEPRATING SUPPLIES	\$128.34	15432	9/10/2024
R& R MOWING SERVICE	MOWING CITY AREAS	\$1,225.00	15433	9/10/2024
WARREN CO FIRE/EMIS ASSOCIATION	ANNUAL DUES	\$379.30	15441	9/11/2024
WARREN CO SHERIFF'S OFFICE	LAW ENFORCEMENT CONTRACT	\$6,549.50	15434	9/10/2024
WASTE MANAGEMENT	RECYCLING	\$1,181.90	15436	9/10/2024
WEINMAN INSURANCE	TRUCK PULL INSURANCE	\$400.00	15437	9/10/2024
WEINMAN INSURANCE	TRUCK PULL INSURANCE SEPT PULL	\$800.00	15443	9/12/2024
WEX FLEET UNIVERSAL	VEHICLE FUEL	\$144.04	15438	9/10/2024
WINDSTREAM	TELEPHONE/INTERNET	\$549.51	15439	9/10/2024
Total General		\$16,220.63		

ALLIANT ENERGY	ELECTRIC/GAS/STREET LIGHTS	\$1,183.02	15417	9/3/2024
G WORKS	TECHNOLOGY - ANNUAL FEES	\$2,257.00	15424	9/10/2024
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	STATE TAXES	\$6.47	16326657	9/4/2024
Total Road Use		\$3,446.49		

ANCEL KENNEDY	SERVICE	\$125.00	15422	9/10/2024
AT&T FIRSTNET	PHONE SERVICE	\$22.45	15442	9/12/2024
BRENT BAUGHMAN	MILEAGE 8/20/24 WATER SAMPLE	\$82.80	15423	9/10/2024
G WORKS	TECHNOLOGY - ANNUAL FEES	\$2,257.00	15424	9/10/2024
DES MOINES WATER WORKS	WATER TESTING	\$30.00	15425	9/10/2024
HUSTON'S LAWN/SNOW REMOVAL	MILEAGE - WATER TESTING	\$100.00	15428	9/10/2024
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	WET TAX JULY 2024	\$478.14	16326655	8/30/2024
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	STATE TAXES	\$139.48	16326657	9/4/2024
IOWA PUBLIC RETIREMENT SYSTEM	IPERS	\$375.94	16326658	9/4/2024
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	FED/FICA TAX	\$439.72	16326659	9/4/2024
UECO-UTILITY EQUIPMENT COMPANY	WATER SUPPLIES	\$2,429.52	15416	8/26/2024
WARREN WATER DISTRICT	WATER USAGE/LOAN PAYMENT	\$4,608.00	15435	9/10/2024
Total Water Utilities		\$11,088.05		

GENERAL	\$2,306.58
WATER	\$1,971.27
Total Payroll Paid	\$4,277.85
***** REPORT TOTAL *****	\$35,033.02

Great opportunity to expand your **Cleaning Business** or get some **Extra Income**

Clean the GAMP Building **Two times a month,** November to May **Earn \$100 each month**
Cleaning supplies provided

Contact Jennifer Baughman, City Clerk for more info at cityclerk@newvirginia.com or 641-449-3492



Recycling Dates
New Virginia
Nov 29
Dec 12
Dec 27

*Grateful
thankful
blessed*

CLAIMS REPORT				
VENDOR	REFERENCE	AMOUNT	CHECK #	CHECK DATE
ALLIANT ENERGY	ELECTRIC/GAS/STREET LIGHTS	\$575.97	15444	10/1/2024
AT&T FIRSTNET	PHONE SERVICE	\$49.81	15489	10/9/2024
ELAN FINANCIAL SERVICES	OFFICE SUPPLIES ENVELOPES	\$779.13	15445	10/1/2024
CENTRAL IOWA PEST CONTROL	PEST CONTROL	\$75.00	15481	10/8/2024
CHARLES GABUS FORD	VEHICLE REPAIRS	\$5,955.27	15478	10/8/2024
DINGES FIRE COMPANY	FIREHOSES	\$2,557.12	15482	10/8/2024
IMAGETRED INC	LICENSE SUPPORT FEE	\$737.92	15479	10/8/2024
INTERSTATE 35 FFA	TRUCK PULL EXPENSE GATE	\$600.00	15485	10/8/2024
IOWA PUBLIC RETIREMENT SYSTEM	IPERS	\$611.89	16326678	10/6/2024
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	FED/FICA TAX	\$1,147.22	16326679	10/6/2024
JAY WILLIAMS CONSTRUCTION	BUILDING REPAIRS SPRAY FOAM	\$1,520.00	15488	10/8/2024
ONE BILLING SOLUTIONS LLC	AMBULANCE BILLING-AUGUST 2024	\$1,056.31	15493	10/13/2024
PI PI'S PORTA POTTY SERVICE	TR/TRACTR PULL EXPENSES	\$1,500.00	15467	10/8/2024
LINDE GAS & EQUIPMENT INC.	OEPRATING SUPPLIES	\$128.34	15475	10/8/2024
R& R MOWING SERVICE	MOWING CITY AREAS	\$1,225.00	15483	10/8/2024
RED ROCK PULLING SLED	TRUCK PULL EXPENSE SLED	\$2,100.00	15484	10/8/2024
MACQUEEN	VEHICLE MAINTENANCE FIRE TRUCK	\$734.35	15476	10/8/2024
STRANGE ELECTRIC & PERFORMANCE	BUIDLNG MAINTENANCE REPLACE L	\$418.51	15474	10/8/2024
THE EXCHANGE	TRUCK PULL EXPENSE - ADVERTISI	\$220.00	15473	10/8/2024
WASTE MANAGEMENT	RECYCLING	\$1,181.90	15469	10/8/2024
WEX FLEET UNIVERSAL	VEHICLE FUEL	\$154.17	15477	10/8/2024
WINDSTREAM	TELEPHONE/INTERNET	\$549.62	15496	10/13/2024
General Total		\$23,877.53		

ALLIANT ENERGY	ELECTRIC/GAS/STREET LIGHTS	\$1,191.40	15444	10/1/2024
INROADS ASPHALT PAVING + MATERI	STREET MAINTENANCE FIREST ALLE	\$25,529.00	15480	10/8/2024
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	FED/FICA TAX	\$12.20	16326679	10/6/2024
SAVAGE GRADING & UNDERGROUND	OTHER CONTR SERVICE	\$550.00	15494	10/13/2024
Road Use Total		\$27,282.60		

ANCEL KENNEDY	SERVICE	\$125.00	15472	10/8/2024
AT&T FIRSTNET	PHONE SERVICE	\$22.45	15489	10/9/2024
BRENT BAUGHMAN	WATER SUPPLIES MILEAGE	\$55.20	15470	10/8/2024
ELAN FINANCIAL SERVICES	OFFICE SUPPLIES ENVELOPES	\$452.60	15445	10/1/2024
DES MOINES WATER WORKS	WATER TESTING-CONSUMER CONFIDE	\$442.59	15465	10/8/2024
HUSTON'S LAWN/SNOW REMOVAL	TESTING - WATER	\$100.00	15471	10/8/2024
IA ONE CALL	METER LOCATES - IOWA ONE CALL	\$21.60	15466	10/8/2024
IOWA PUBLIC RETIREMENT SYSTEM	IPERS	\$368.87	16326678	10/6/2024
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	FED/FICA TAX	\$458.22	16326679	10/6/2024
MUNICIPAL SUPPLY INC	OPERATIONAL EQUIP SUPPLIES	\$1,113.26	15492	10/13/2024
SCOOTER HOHNEKE	OTHER CONTR SERVICE-PIPES RESI	\$3,641.88	15490	10/9/2024
SCOTT WOODS	SUPPLIES - WATER METERS	\$47.78	15495	10/13/2024
WARREN WATER DISTRICT	WATER USAGE/LOAN PAYMENT	\$5,012.25	15468	10/8/2024
Water Utilities Total		\$11,861.70		

GENERAL	\$5,653.07
WATER	\$1,901.66
Total Payroll Paid	\$7,554.73
***** REPORT TOTAL *****	\$70,576.56

PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of New Virginia will receive sealed bids for snow removal from city streets, alleys, and sidewalks to include GAMP property for the 2024/2025 winter season. The bid should be figured to include fuel and salt for sidewalks & intersections. Payment will be made monthly based on weather conditions that require snow removal. See details/requirements for snow removal listed below. The City reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. Bids must be received by December 2nd, 2024 by 12:00 p.m.

Please send bids to:

City Clerk – P.O. Box 302 – New Virginia, IA 50210

More specific details/requirements include: Continuous blading of streets from start of snow to end of snow on accumulations of 1 inch or more; priority will be the fire station front apron, overhead doors, walk-in doors and alley & parking on the south side of the fire station and GAMP parking & bldg. entrance area at community bldg. when events are scheduled; treat major intersections with salt as necessary; accepted bid could be terminated if snow removal is not performed to expectations/requirements.

CITY OF ST. CHARLES

City Of St. Charles

Council Meeting Minutes, November 11, 2024

The St. Charles City Council met at City Hall on Monday, 11/11/2024, for a regular meeting. Mayor Dennis Smith called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM. Council members Tom Blomme, Megan Allison, Travis Brockett, and Dan Kozak were present along with 12 guests. Council member Whitney Hutton was absent.

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

Approval of Minutes for Council Meetings 10/7/2024: Motion made by Travis Brockett/Dan Kozak to approve the minutes. Voice vote passed unanimously.

Approval of October Treasurer and Budget Reports: Motion made by Dan Kozak/Megan Allison to approve the treasurer and budget reports for October. Voice vote passed unanimously.

Approval of November Bills: Motion made by Tom Blomme/Megan Allison to approve the November bills. Voice vote passed unanimously.

Sheriffs' Report: During October there were 38.52 patrol hours, 12 calls, and 10 traffic stops in St. Charles.

Public Forum: Gary and Linda Brooks asked about reseeding. The City had contacted Todd Dickinson about this project in August, with a follow up in October. A complaint was filed with the City concerning an employee's private Facebook account. The issue was referred to the Library Board as the complaint involved a library employee.

Precast Plant East of St. Charles: Jessica Stark discussed the opposition to the plant and the rezoning of the property the plant is to be built on from Agricultural to M1 Industrial. The City has concerns about additional truck traffic on Main Street. Motion by Megan Allison/Tom Blomme to file a letter of opposition, stating concerns about traffic, with the Warren County Board of Supervisors. Voice vote was unanimous.

City Boards/Committees:

- **Sewer Report:** The October sewer report was submitted to the City. A new mission dialer is needed as ours is no longer communicating. Motion by Megan Allison/Dan Kozak to approve the purchase and repair by Electric Pump after Rhonda Guy has reviewed and agreed to the quote. Voice vote was unanimous.
- **Fire/Rescue Department:** Rick Schaffer presented the October minutes. The Fire/Rescue Departments' call volume returned to their normal numbers in October after many months of heavier than normal call volume.
- **Library Board:** Margaret Blair presented the October minutes.
- **The Gateway/Tourism Board:** October minutes were submitted.
- **Mayor's Report:** Mayor Pro Tem Megan Allison reported on the hiring of a new Emergency Manager. Mitch Johnson has been selected as the Director of Madison County Emergency Management.

Clerk's Report: The custodian position, in partnership with Innovative Industries, approved in October is no longer going to work out. The City will be notified of any future opportunities to partner again should they arise.

Public Hearing for FY 25 Budget Amendment 1: Motion by Megan Allison/Dan Kozak to start the Public Hearing at 7:33 PM. After no public wished to speak, the hearing was closed at 7:36 PM.

Resolution 11A-2024 A Resolution approving a Budget Amendment for FY 25: Motion by Megan Allison/Tom Blomme to approve the first Budget Amendment to FY 25. R/C Vote was unanimous.

Waste Management Contract Renewal: A discussion was held on the presented renewal amendment. The Council would like data concerning the history of CPI for the Trash and Waste Industry before making a motion. Waste Management will be contacted for those numbers.

Crack Sealing on Main Street: After realizing the amount of work to be done to seal the cracks on Main Street and other locations, a motion was made by Travis Brockett/Megan Allison to increase the funding to complete the project before the winter freeze. The final cost will be determined after all the measurements are finished. Voice vote was unanimous.

Dead Tree Walnut Trail: MidAmerican Energy has looked at the tree and will trim it back a safe distance from the powerlines in question.

Plowing of Cemetery: The South Township Board of Trustees contacted the City of St. Charles to inquire having the City's plow help with occasional snow removal. The City would be willing to help with plowing for the cost of \$20 plus wages per snowfall. The Council would also like a written contract stating the City assumes no liability for damages. This will be presented to South Township for their approval.

Resolution of Termination of Central Iowa Regional Drinking Water Commission: Motion by Travis Brockett/Megan Allison to approve the Resolution presented by the Central Iowa Regional Drinking Water Commission to dissolve the Commission. R/C vote was unanimous.

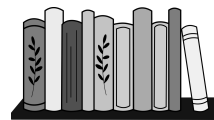
North and Middle River Watershed Management Authority: Tom Blomme will attend the quarterly meeting on November 14th and report back to the Council.

Motion made by Tom Blomme to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 pm. **The next City Council meeting will be December 9, 2024, at City Hall.**

Dennis Smith, Mayor

Attest: Tracy Kozak, City Clerk

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



BOOK REVIEW

**The Outsider
by Stephen King
Reviewed by Sue Stills**

In this 2018, 560-page novel, Stephen King presents situations in which horrible crimes have been committed against children, with the accused perpetrators being ordinary, well-respected men. One case is older, and we learn of it later in the book, but the current case rocks a small Oklahoma town and turns the entire town against the accused man and his family. In spite of his statement of innocence and alibi, the evidence mounts against him. We follow police detectives and attorneys and another investigator who opens our eyes to the possibility that otherworldly forces may be at work in these cases. The premise certainly reflects Stephen King's imagination, and I enjoyed the book very much.



St. Charles Gateway
Presents

Trees and Trimmings

Come
see trees
nativity scenes
& holiday
trimmings



Vote for
your
favorite
tree

Dec 13th- 6:30-8:30pm
Dec. 14th- 4:30pm-6:30pm
Dec. 15th- 2:00-4:00 pm



THE
Gateway
ST. CHARLES
WELCOME CENTER & EVENT VENUE



**HOLIDAYS ARE QUICKLY
APPROACHING
CHECK OUT THIS UNIQUE VENUE
FOR HOLIDAY PARTIES OR
FAMILY GATHERINGS**

The beautiful historic stained-glass windows, small stage, and wooden floor make it a unique and beautiful option for all types of events. For information on rental prices and available dates you may reach out to: Gatewaystcharles@gmail.com or call City Hall at 641-369-2545

Smalltown Christmas in St. Charles

Saturday, December 14th

A festive lineup of events to get you into the holiday spirit.

**The St. Charles
Lions Club
will host a
free will
offering
spaghetti
dinner.
Stop in for
dinner and pick
up your
merchant bingo
cards for a
chance to win
prizes!**

4:30-6 pm - Horse drawn wagon rides will be offered in the back parking area of The Gateway Event and Welcome Center located at 202 E Main Street (weather permitting).

- Visit The Gateway Event and Welcome Center. Enjoy the many **decorated Christmas trees and building**. If you would like to decorate a tree for the event, please email gatewaystcharles@gmail.com.

- **Shop the local businesses and vendors of St. Charles.** Many businesses will be open on Main Street and throughout town. Vendors will be located at the Talk Shop Event Center. Be sure to get your bingo card stamped at each location you visit!

5-6:30 pm - Santa will ride a firetruck through Main Street and will be delivered to the Library where he will greet visitors.

grATeFUL

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, 2025. 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.



Truro City Council Minutes November 4, 2024 at the Community Center

Mayor Bryan Arzani presided over and called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Ancel Kennedy, Jason Phillips, and Lyndsay Cannoy were present. Matt Masters was absent. Justin Goad representing the Fire Dept., Public Works Director, Ronnie Hulst, and Sheriffs' Deputy Little were also present. From the public: Justin Goad. Arzani asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Kennedy motioned to approve agenda and to table the discussion and public hearing of the proposed ordinance to restrict use on Center Street between West Street and Railroad Street to Commercial Only to gather further information. Phillips seconded. All Ayes, motion carried.

Public: Goad made a complaint to the council about the Quads that race by his home and need to be slowed down. He suggested an additional speed limit sign or a 4-way stop.

Hulst mentioned there was a dark spot by Atkinson and Railroad because the light was out. He will contact the appropriate people to fix it.

Brett Jones, owner of Ego Dive, addressed the council and public that he has taken steps to fix the issues stemming from some unruly patrons of his establishment. Jones' goal was to accommodate the public concerns.

The Sheriff's report was reviewed. Deputy Little reported there were no out of the ordinary issues and said it was a good month.

No Report from Emergency Management.

No report from Professional Operation Management.

Goad from the Fire Department said there will be some training in the old lumber yard parking lot.

McMichael made a motion to set the Public Hearing to amend the budget for the purchase of the new city truck to the December 9, 2024 city council meeting. City Clerk suggested the December 2nd meeting be moved to December 9th because of the Thanksgiving Holiday. City Clerk also suggested the January 6th meeting be moved to January 13, 2025 because of a conflict. Kennedy made a Motion to move the December meeting from December 2nd to December 9, 2024 and the January 6th meeting to January 13, 2025. McMichael seconded the motion. All Ayes, Motion carried.

Hulst presented the Public Works Reports. Described new city truck and said the other two trucks were ready to sell. Hulst updated the council on the new meter installation progress. Installed 15 but are on hold because the manufacturer shorted a shipment of parts and kept changing the delivery date. All meter installations are on hold.

Kennedy stated a correction from last month's minutes. The live burn fire training should have been written as October 24th, 2024 not October 26th, 2024. Phillips motioned to approve Consent Agenda items.

Kennedy seconded the motion. All Ayes, motion carried.

Phillips motioned to adjourn, McMichael seconded. All Ayes, motion carried. End of meeting 6:38 p.m.

Next Council Meeting Monday, December 9, 2024 6:00 p.m.

Not sure what to give someone for Christmas?

Got that hard-to-buy-for person on your list who has everything? Know someone who lives away but would like to keep up with community news? Why not give them a subscription to the Tri-Corner-Express for Christmas? Chances are there will be something in every issue to peak your loved ones' interest since we cover news and events in the Interstate 35 and Martensdale-St. Marys school districts and our local towns. Consider buying a subscription for your loved ones, and we can start delivery in December to run for a full year. Only \$20 dollars for a year, and your shopping will be done!

Give Santa a break (and yourself!) and let us do the work for you. Mail your subscription fee of \$20 to P.O. Box 302, New Virginia, IA 50210 with a note telling us you want it for Christmas and we will do the rest.

Thank you for supporting the Tri-Corner-Express!

TRURO AREA BOOSTERS
PRESENTS

A HOMETOWN CHRISTMAS *Party*

DECEMBER 14TH / 5-8 PM
TRURO COMMUNITY CENTER

Activities

Santa Town Chili Cookoff

TRURO COMMUNITY FRIDGE



We accept non perishable food. Anyone in our community of Truro can take advantage of the food that is in the fridge or pantry. Open during library hours.

ITEMS NEEDED

- ▶ Canned Food
- ▶ Snack Foods
- ▶ Food & Vegetable
- ▶ Juice Pouches

Truro Public Library
114 E Center Street

For More Information : 641-765-4220 www.truro.lib.ia.us

TRURO LIBRARY

UPCOMING EVENTS

NOV 26 **STORYTIME**
10 AM - 11 AM

DEC 5 **LEGOS**
4 PM - 5 PM

DEC 12 **KID CRAFT**
4 PM - 5 PM

DEC 19 **BOOK CLUB**
5PM - 6PM

FOR MORE INFO VISIT US AT
WWW.TRURO.LIB.IA.US

TRURO PUBLIC LIBRARY BOOK CLUB

December 19th
One Day in December by Josie Silver
Two people. Ten chances. One unforgettable love story.

January 16th
First Lie Wins by Ashley Elston
The stakes couldn't be higher, but then, Evie has always liked a challenge

February 20th
In the Midst of Winter by Isabel Allende
The lives of three characters collide during the biggest Brooklyn snowstorm in memory

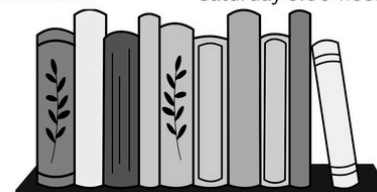
*Once a month at 5pm

Truro Public Library

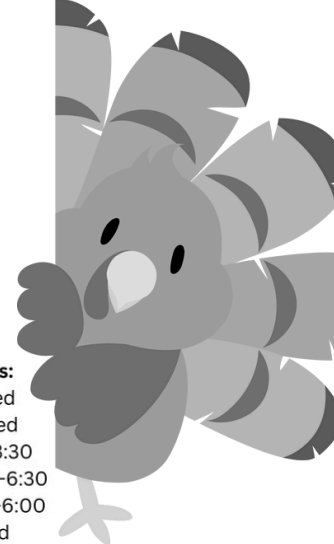
New Books
Framed by John Grisham
The Mirror by Nora Roberts
Hot Mess by Jeff Kinney
www.truro.lib.ia.us

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!*

Ask us about
CATERING

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

Join the New Virginia Lions for a Soup and Grilled Cheese Fundraiser

503 West St, New Virginia

Sunday, December 15th, 4 - 6 PM

Bingo to follow from 6 -8 PM, 50 cents a piece

Free Will Donation
will go towards
New Virginia
Building Fund



New Virginia Hometown Pride
Presents

CONTRA DANCE

NOVEMBER 23RD 7-10PM

No Experience Necessary!
Dance Calling by Von Kaster
Music by Onion Creek Band & Friends

Admission - \$5/person or \$20/family
Snacks and drinks available for free will
donation

New Virginia Legion Hall
480 East St
New Virginia, IA

Trees, Tastes & Trimmings

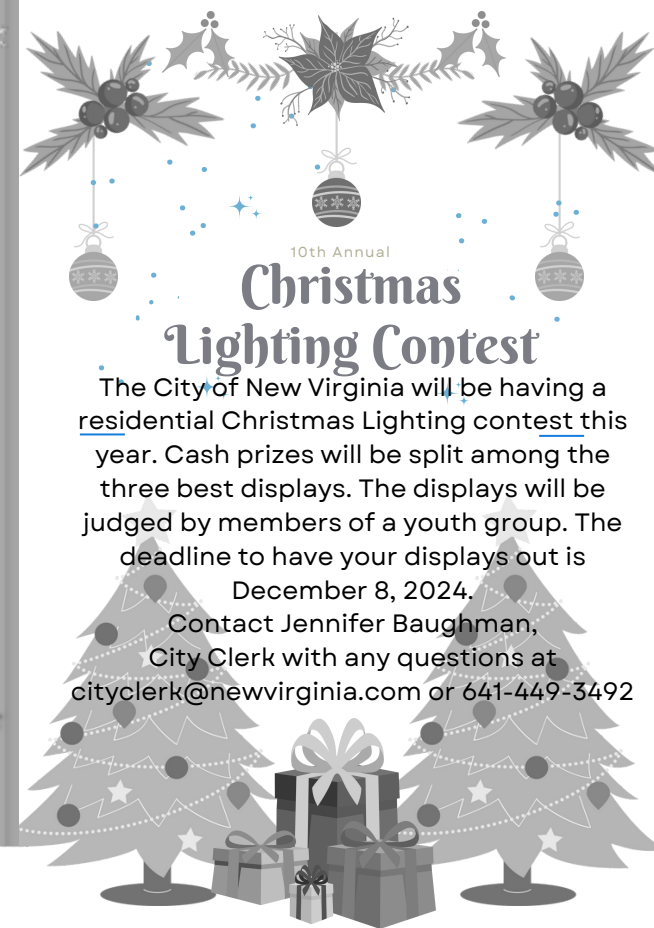
Saturday, December 7, 2024

9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

St. Paul Lutheran Church
615 Iowa Ave., Martensdale

Homemade soups, candies
& cookies; decorated trees;
kids crafts

Proceeds benefit St. Paul children &
youth programs



10th Annual Christmas Lighting Contest

The City of New Virginia will be having a residential Christmas Lighting contest this year. Cash prizes will be split among the three best displays. The displays will be judged by members of a youth group. The deadline to have your displays out is December 8, 2024.

Contact Jennifer Baughman,
City Clerk with any questions at
cityclerk@newvirginia.com or 641-449-3492



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

Book Club November 21st 4pm!

Movie Day December 4th 9-11am!

Christmas Cookie Fundraiser December 8th 2-4pm!

www.newvirginia.lib.ia.us

New Books:

Triangle by Danielle Steel
Framed by John Grisham
Minecraft Festive Ideas by
Christian Glucklich

Library Hours:

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



SANTA IS COMING TO THE NEW VIRGINIA LIONS HALL

503 West St, New Virginia

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8TH,

2:30 - 4 PM

Get your picture taken with Santa
and take a
horse-drawn wagon ride

Enjoy
hot dogs and chips
popcorn
hot chocolate and coffee





Country Christmas

A Holiday Home Tour

featuring New Virginia area country homes

December 6th, 4:00-7:00 p.m.
December 7th, 10:00-4:00 p.m.
Tickets on sale through
NVHP FB Page website OR
New Virginia Library
Early Bird Special Pricing thru 10/31

Hosts:
Tom & Christina Grommel
Rob & Laura Ganger
Bailey Farms Barn & Venue
Aron & Sara Neely
Chad & Lyndall Bierman



Point & click on the QR Code
to be directed to ticket sales

CHRISTMAS COOKIE FUNDRAISER



NEW VIRGINIA LIBRARY
December 8th 2PM-4PM
504 BOOK ALLEY, NEW VIRGINIA, IA 50210

Made with PosterMyWise.com

New Virginia Methodist Church Hosting Annual Supper

The New Virginia Methodist Church will be holding its "Annual Church Holiday Supper" on December 7, 2024 Turkey and dressing ham with all the trimmings, also, veggies, homemade salads, rolls/butter and everyone's favorite yummy PIE.

5:00 PM to 7:00 PM

FREE WILL DONATION

Auction will begin--approximately at 7:00 PM

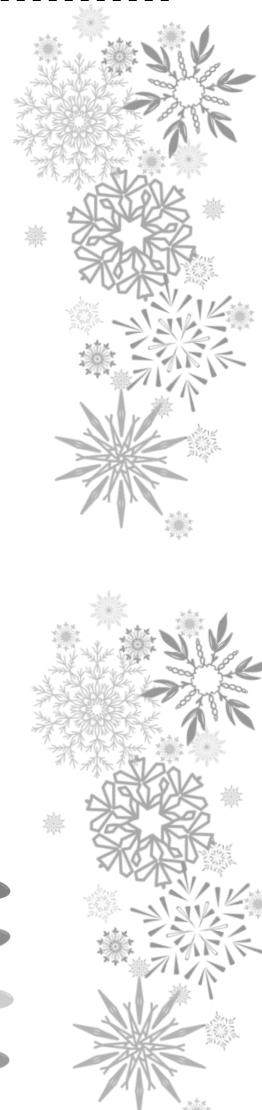
The auction will continue until everything is sold. There will be lots of homemade goodies - candy, pies, cinnamon rolls, canned goods, cookies, gifts and a few hand-sewn quilts by the New Virginia Quilters.

Hope to see everyone there for some good food
and a fun-filled evening!

Calling all ELVES

Would you like to help decorate
Old Settlers Park for December?

Display a tree for your biz, family, or group?
Contact Kim McWilliams at (515)321-0652
for more information



NEW VIRGINIA HOMETOWN
PRIDE PRESENTS

Winter Jam

December 15th 2-4pm

Bluegrass and acoustic music
jam
Potluck, bring your favorite
Christmas treat or snack to share!
Drinks provided

Donations go towards future music
events

GERRY ALLEN MEMORIAL BUILDING
809 WEST ST.
NEW VIRGINIA, IA



A MESSAGE FROM MR. GRANDON

I-35 CSD SUPERINTENDENT

I-35 Community,

As we approach the Thanksgiving holiday, we have much to celebrate and reflect on. This season brings with it an opportunity to express gratitude, and we're incredibly thankful for the hard work, dedication, and success of our students, educators, and families.

Our students continue to achieve academically, showcasing their commitment to learning and growth. These accomplishments reflect the strength of our community, the support of our families, and the dedication of our staff who work tirelessly to provide meaningful educational experiences.

Our school community continues to work tirelessly to find ways to improve our facilities to better meet the needs of our students and stakeholders. As this work progresses, the district will be seeking feedback from all stakeholders so we can ensure voices are heard and needs are met. The district will continue to focus on doing what is best for kids throughout this process.

We wish you all a joyous Thanksgiving filled with love, laughter, and time spent with family and friends. Let's carry the spirit of gratitude and celebration forward as we continue to inspire and empower our students.

Chad Grandon
Superintendent, I-35 CSD

ACTIVITIES WRAP UP FALL SEASON, KICK OFF WINTER!

The Roadrunner fall activities season concluded with a state appearance for Cross Country athlete Olivia Phillips! Olivia set a new personal record during her senior year at the state meet, a great way to wrap up her high school career!

We look forward to a fantastic winter season and encourage all Roadrunner fans to get out and cheer on our student athletes! Check out the November and December Winter Schedule in the side bar to learn more.

REMINDER: THANKSGIVING BREAK

*NO SCHOOL
NOV. 27th, NOV. 28th
& NOV. 29th*

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

Boys JV at 5 p.m.; Varsity at 7:30 p.m. (typical start times)

Girls JV at 4 p.m.; Varsity at 6:15 p.m. (typical start times)

- 11/25 @ Central Decatur (Basketball Jamboree) | Boys JV & V
- 11/26 @ Central Decatur | Girls JV & V
- 12/02 @ Martensdale-St. Marys | Boy JV & V | Girls JV & V
- **12/03 vs. Clarke | Boys JV & V | Girls JV & V**
- 12/06 @ Van Meter | Boy JV & V | Girls JV & V
- 12/10 @ Ogden | Boy JV & V | Girls JV & V
- 12/12 @ Murray | Boy JV & V | Girls JV & V
- 12/13 @ DM Christian | Boy JV & V | Girls JV & V
- **12/16 vs. Earlham | Boy JV & V | Girls JV & V**
- **12/17 vs. Panorama | Boy JV & V | Girls JV & V**

HIGH SCHOOL BOYS WRESTLING

- 12/07 @ Winterset, 9:30 a.m. | JV
- 12/07 @ Independence, 10:00 a.m. | Varsity
- 12/10 @ Winterset, 5:30 p.m. | Varsity
- 12/12 @ Lenox, 5:00 p.m. | JV & Varsity
- 12/13 @ Saydel, 4:15 p.m. | JV
- 12/14 @ Saydel, 10:00 a.m. | Varsity
- 12/20 @ Indianola, 5:00 p.m. | JV
- 12/20 @ Shenandoah, 10:00 a.m. | Varsity

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS WRESTLING

- **11/21 @ Home Dual, 5:30 p.m. | Varsity**
- 11/23 @ Urbandale, 9:00 a.m. | Varsity
- 12/10 @ Norwalk, 5:00 p.m. | Varsity
- 12/14 @ WDM Valley, 9:00 a.m. | Varsity
- 12/16 @ Saydel, 4:00 p.m. | Varsity
- 12/19 @ Woodward-Granger, 4:00 p.m. | Varsity

WHAT IS "WIN TIME"?

THE WIN MODEL: SUPPORTING EVERY STUDENT'S GROWTH AT I-35 ELEMENTARY

At Interstate 35 Elementary, our students' growth and success are our top priorities. One way we support that goal is through the WIN program—short for "What I Need." The WIN model is a dedicated time within the school day for students to receive additional support or enrichment beyond their regular grade-level learning. This approach ensures that every student has the opportunity to thrive in a way that's uniquely suited to their academic needs.

The WIN model provides each student with individualized learning time tailored to their current needs. This could mean extra support in a challenging subject, advanced learning opportunities for those who are ready, or practice in specific skills. Unlike the standard grade-level curriculum, WIN time focuses specifically on targeting each student's unique learning goals. This time is additional to the core instruction that every student receives, allowing them to stay on track with their grade-level work while also addressing personal learning needs.

Students are grouped flexibly based on their needs, which may change throughout the year as they make progress. These groupings allow teachers to work with smaller clusters, ensuring that each child receives focused attention. The structure of WIN time includes:

1. Skill Reinforcement
2. Enrichment Opportunities
3. Flexible Grouping

By providing this additional layer of support and enrichment, WIN ensures that students aren't limited to a "one-size-fits-all" approach. Instead, they receive grade-level instruction along with customized learning opportunities that target individual goals. This dual focus allows students to stay engaged with their class while also receiving the right level of challenge or support in areas they need.

At Interstate 35 Elementary, the WIN model represents our commitment to helping each student reach their full potential. As our students continue to grow and develop, we look forward to seeing the positive impact of "What I Need" time on their learning journey.

WINTER MIDDLE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

MIDDLE SCHOOL BASKETBALL

8th Grade plays at 4PM; 7th Grade plays at 5PM

- 11/12 | Woodward Granger | **Boys Home;** Girls Away
- 11/19 | SE Warren | **Boys Home;** Girls Away
- 11/21 | Mount Ayr | **Boys Home;** Girls Away
- 11/25 | DM Christian | Boys Away; **Girls Home**
- 11/26 | Van Meter | Boys Away; **Girls Home**
- 12/02 | SE Warren | Boys Away; **Girls Home**
- 12/05 | MSST | **Boys Home;** Girls Away
- 12/09 | Clarke | **Girls Home**
- 12/13 | Earlham | **Boys Home;** Girls Away
- 12/16 | East Union | **Boys Home;** Girls Away
- 12/17 | Mount Ayr | Boys Away; **Girls Home**
- 12/19 | Central Decatur | Boys Away; **Girls Home**

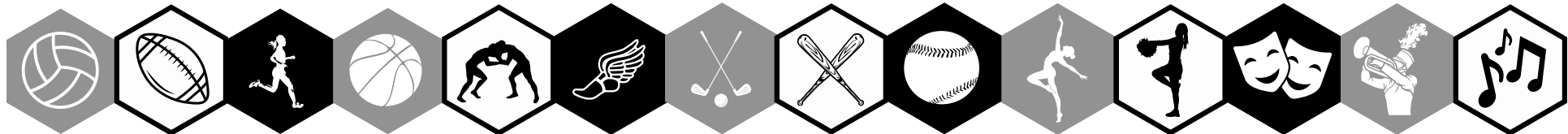
MIDDLE SCHOOL WRESTLING

- 12/09 @ Indianola, 4:30 p.m.
- 12/10 @ Carlisle, 4:30 p.m.
- 12/10 @ Norwalk, 5:00 p.m.
- 12/17 @ Wayne, 4:30 p.m.
- 1/09 @ Panorama, 4:00 p.m.
- 1/13 @ Central Decatur, 4:00 p.m.
- **1/21 Home Meet, 4:00 p.m.**
- **1/24 Home Invite, 4:00 p.m.**
- 1/27 @ Earlham, 4:15 p.m.
- 2/06 @ Creston, 4:15 p.m.

DMU VISITS 7TH & 8TH GRADERS

Recently, graduate students from Des Moines University (DMU) came to speak with I-35's 7th and 8th grade students about the effects drugs, alcohol, and vaping have on the human body. The students listened to presentations from the DMU students and then were able to see, and even feel, organs from the cadaver lab.





I-35 BOOSTER CLUB



IGNITING DREAMS & SUPPORTING TEAMS

It's hard to believe that 2024 is quickly coming to a close. We've been busy helping support fall activities and events. Now we are turning our attention to winter and the 4th quarter. Here's a snapshot of what we're working on and what's to come:

- Winter concessions slots are open! We ask for your help to work because concessions sales account for a significant portion of our annual funding. It helps us to say yes!
- Your business may receive a call or an email asking about corporate donations as you look to budget for 2025. Options start at \$500/season. Every donation makes a difference!
- The split pay for the 2025-2026 Roadrunner Club will open in January.
 - Did you know some companies offer a donation match? Consider checking your employee benefits to see if this is a perk at your job. It's a great way to make your donation have even more of an impact in our community.
- Winter sports apparel is in progress. We worked with our vendor to create designs we hope you love! We've also smoothed out the logistics as we all adjusted to a new vendor and order pick-up should run smoothly. The general district apparel store is open year-round.

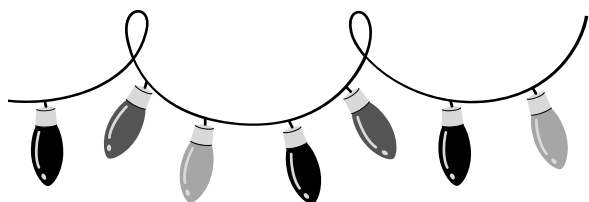
VOLUNTEER FOR WINTER CONCESSIONS!

We ask that one slot be covered per high school and/or middle school winter athlete in your family. Other volunteers also welcome!

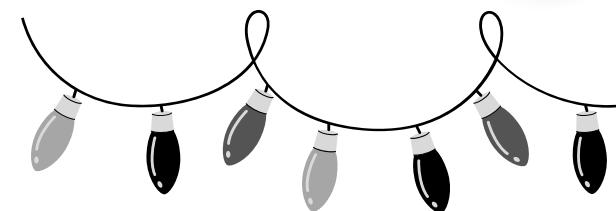


SIGN UP NOW!

www.i35roadrunnerboosters.org



HOLIDAY VENDOR FAIR



I-35 HIGH SCHOOL COMMONS

DECEMBER 7TH
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

LOCALLY-OWNED COMPANIES

- Boy Scouts - collecting food donations
- Creations by Alyssa
- D's Fancy Foraging
- El Delicioso Street Tacos - parked out front
- Frosting Queen
- Hanna Valley Protein
- HIRTA Helps
- LJ Creations
- Norwex
- Pampered Chef
- Papparazzi accessories
- Plastic Welding 3D



- Red Aspen
- Rosebud Designs
- Scentsy
- Shut The Front Decor
- Stickers, Bracelets, Stationery
- The Redhead Homestead
- Thirty One and Perfectly Posh
- Tiger Lily Cafe
- Vanillaholic
- Wearmouth Apiary
- Wild River Studios



Scan the code to learn more!



KIDS CORNER!

- Santa makes his debut!
 - 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
 - Professional photos by Sydney H. Photography
- I-35 Student Lead Team Kids Craft Fundraiser
 - Make a craft + give back to the Student Lead Team
- Winter Word Search & Coloring pages

ROAD TRIPPING

Contributed by Terry Garner

THE ROAD TO CANTRIL

Some time ago, I mentioned the Dutchman's Store in Cantril, Iowa and that they were building a new building on the north side of Highway 2 in southeast Iowa. They opened their new store September 20th, 2024, and Rollie and I could hardly wait to get down there. We finally found some free time and made plans with Jim and Sherry to go down and check it out.

We left out at eight o'clock in the morning and stopped for breakfast at the Barnyard Restaurant in Decatur, west of Leon. We usually like this place, but for some reason that morning, they just didn't impress us! They brought Rollie and Sherry's breakfast; a little later, they brought Jim's out; then finally mine. Which wasn't really mine! I ordered a sausage omelet and got someone's ham omelet. With wheat toast. Sherry had my sourdough toast, and she had ordered wheat, so we traded toast. By this time, Rollie and Jim were pretty much done eating, so I kept my mouth shut (imagine that!) and ate up so we could get on the road. I guess everyone has bad days. We'll go back; we really do like the place.

We finally made Cantril and pulled in the new BIG parking lot of the Dutchman's Store. It was a lot different than trying to find a place to park at their old store, that's for sure! We moseyed in and the first place I went was the fabric department. The first item I threw in my cart was a bag of Hershey's kisses for half price. Gotta eat on the way home, you know! Then on to their new hunting and fishing department, where I found Rollie. It wasn't Scheels, but they had a good selection of some hunting and fishing supplies, and he picked out some fishing stuff. I checked out the book aisle and found a couple cookbooks I was wanting for Christmas presents for people on my Christmas list. We pushed on and found Jim and Sherry over in the grocery side, filling their cart with stuff they didn't need! Busted, Sherry! I do think they had more grocery items than before although we didn't buy much, just picked up some things to munch on on the way home mostly.

The store is definitely big, and there is a lot more room now to get around. In a way, I was somewhat disappointed with the new store, but I think mostly it was due to the fact that we just don't like change. I didn't really mind the old store and their crowded aisles, and I was familiar enough with it that I could find what I needed. Most of this trip was spent looking around and seeing all the new changes. When we go back, we will get down to business and do some serious shopping!

We made a few more stops on the way home. There's a cheese place in Milton called the Milton Creamery that we took in. Then on to Hwy 2 Discount west of Bloomfield. They have a good selection of frozen meats that we like to stock up on. Then we made for The Continental Hotel in Centerville for a late lunch, early supper. Why ruin a good day with cooking, right Sherry? All in all, a good day with lots of good eats and good family!



Honey, are we lost?

No dear, we're just exploring.

Scribblings from Sue
Contributed by Sue Stills

Our October-into-November weather here in Arizona has been dry, with mornings in the 40's and daytime temperatures ranging from the 60's to 80's. The lantana, Texas sage and ruellia plants in our front yard have flowers on them. The side-yard bougainvillea is still blooming. Our irrigation system is working well, and Mel gives the fruit trees and plants additional water at times. He needs something to do....there is no grass to mow!

After doing online research, Mel bought a Kamado Joe charcoal grill and smoker. Google that to see what it looks like. He bought accessories as well, including a rotisserie attachment, a pizza stone and a pizza "paddle." His rotisserie chickens turned out very well, and we have yet to make a pizza in the Kamado.

We had a great visit in late October from my 80-year-old cousin Tim and his wife Mary Lou from Buffalo, NY. They were mainly visiting his daughter and husband in Phoenix, so seeing us and my brothers was a happy addition to their trip. Our 62-year-old cousin Mary (Tim's sister) from Middletown, NY, also came, which was a wonderful surprise. We had not seen any of them since 2018 when their sister Linda passed away. She was my age, and we were very close. We did a lot of reminiscing and laughing during dinner at our house.

The Sun Lakes Community Theatre's improv group, the Improvables, held a performance while my cousins were here. Mary had already flown home, but Tim and Mary Lou went with Mel and me, and it was a fun evening. The cast of the Theatre's performance of the comedy "Exit Laughing," by Paul Elliott, was having rehearsals three days a week, and I attended many of the rehearsals. My role as costumer was to help Kyle, the 31-year-old actor portraying a stripper policeman, get dressed in his uniform. Last month, I wrote about my challenge of making a Halloween cop costume into a "tear-away" uniform. I did accomplish that, and initially we had a problem with the shirt armholes gapping open, since we had snapped only some of the snaps closed. So we snapped them all, and if Kyle did not move his arms around once he was dressed, the problem was solved. The performances took place November 6-10, and there was a sell-out crowd (128) for almost every performance. Kyle's stripping and dancing had the audience hooting and howling with laughter! The four female actresses did a great job also, and there were plenty of funny lines in the play. The main message of the play was to live life to the fullest and to "exit laughing." I provided "snacks" of fruit for two of the performances and homemade snickerdoodle cookies for the last performance. Guess which was the most popular! Even the sound technicians and the house manager came to the "green room" for a cookie. The director of the play hosted a cast party on November 12 at one of the country club restaurants in Sun Lakes, and we had a good time. She gave all the cast and me a Shutterfly-type book of photographs of various scenes taken during the play. We all wore nametags (this was mainly for the spouses who attended). My nametag read "Sue Stills I made Kyle's costume come apart."

We have been enjoying our flashy '39 Roadster golf cart. People wave as we drive by, and people come and talk to us everywhere we stop. Mel has handed out several business cards of the owner/manufacture when people express interest in getting a cart of their own. We often hear "That is the coolest thing I've ever seen!" I will say that it is pretty cold riding in it when it is 50 degrees. The windshield is low, we sit up high, and there is plenty of wind, even at 24 mph. I usually wear a ballcap to hold my hair in place, and I use a warm blanket. Mel bought white fuzzy dice and hung them on the rearview mirror! He also bought assorted colored lights in order to decorate the cart for participation in the Christmas golf cart parades. Our life is sure different here, isn't it? *Wishing you all a happy and blessed Thanksgiving.*



How Does Your Garden Grow?

Contributed by Susan King

quickly fades. Death marches in, and soon my vision of a green and healthy winter window is replaced with brown, pathetic and pitiful plants that mirror the landscape outside. I dispose of the plants, clean the pots, tuck them away for the next try and buy more dried herbs. Last week, as I pulled those same 'death' pots out, and I canvased my kitchen and dining spaces for the perfect location, my husband walked in and laughed. He uttered one questioning word that carried a lot of meaning given my lack luster prior attempts – "AGAIN?" It is true, the definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results. So, with renewed vigor (primarily to prove him wrong), I got serious and ventured to a popular garden center and asked for "the herb expert." Thirty minutes later, I walked out with proper soil, new pots and a handful of small, sprouted plants and most importantly, knowledge of growing herbs indoors. While it may seem like common sense and maybe many of you readers have years of experience and success under your belt, but growing herbs indoors is trickier than it appears on the surface. The three biggest success factors for healthy indoor herbs are: Proper sunlight, breathable pots that drain well, and a nutrient rich potting soil. Of course, water, fertilizer and general plant TLC are important, as well, but most problems arise in the aforementioned plant care ingredients. I learned that terracotta pots are the best for indoor herbs because they breathe well, and one reason many plants don't thrive indoors is because they need better airflow, and many pots (i.e. plastic) restrict circulation, and your herbs can suffocate indoors. Also, most terracotta pots have a drainage hole at the bottom. This drainage hole prevents your herbs from sitting in water which can cause root rot. The "herb expert" also recommended placing small pebbles in the dish so the water that drains out can disperse versus being wicked back up into the soil. Once you have a breathable, well-draining pot, the type of soil you add is important. Herbs need to be placed in an organic potting mix that is sandy. Sandy soils are best for growing herbs because they naturally drain better and contain more oxygen. Now, on to where to place your well potted herbs for optimal growth. Most herbs require at least six hours of sunlight, which can be hard during winter months in Iowa. Obviously, a southern facing window is the best, but a west facing window will work too (or a grow light!). Rotating your plants weekly to ensure they receive even light exposure will help to promote balanced growth and your plants will 'stand-up' better. Don't forget to fertilize every couple of weeks with a good plant food and clip your herbs weekly to promote new growth. My new 'herb' friend at the garden center reassured me I wasn't alone in my quest for a windowsill winter garden, and I certainly wasn't alone in year over year flops. With new pots, new knowledge and my new phone-a- friend herb expert, this may just be the year for my green, thriving windowsill!

What's a cheerleading herb called? An encourage mint (I could use some!).

Confession time. For years, I have attempted to grow windowsill herbs to enjoy during the winter months. And for years, I have failed. I have a strong start year over year, and I'm optimistic that 'this' will be the year my windowsill is green and thriving and my Italian dishes will be adorned with aromatic basil, or my Thanksgiving stuffing will contain the real deal, but my optimism

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1 pound ground turkey or leftovers
4 cups dried bread cubes
1/2 cup dried cranberries
1/2 cup finely chopped celery
1/2 cup finely chopped onion
1/2 cup chicken broth
1/4 cup unsalted butter, melted
1 large egg, beaten
1 teaspoon dried sage
1/2 teaspoon dried thyme
1/2 garlic powder
1/4 teaspoon salt and 1/4 teaspoon pepper

1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees. In a large bowl, combine bread cubes, cranberries, celery and onion.
2. In a separate bowl, mix turkey, broth, butter, egg, sage, thyme, garlic powder, salt and pepper.
3. Add the turkey mixture to the bread mixture, stir until combined. Shape into 1 1/2 inch-balls and place on a lined baking sheet.
4. Bake for 20-25 minutes until golden brown.

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River Otters *Lontra canadensis*

Contributed by Mel Stills

As a kid growing up in the 40's and 50's, I trapped the usual game available at that time in Iowa. There were no otters to try and catch. They were once abundant in Iowa but disappeared around 1929. Sue and I at our former place, now the King place, just South of New Virginia, began to see a larger animal around our pond in the last 10 years we lived there. River otters were playing on the banks of our pond, chirping, sliding down the bank into the pond, laying on the float, rolling around. Lots of fun to watch until one day, I watched a larger otter pulling a large grass carp by the head, across the pond towards some cattails. They were starting to not be as much fun to watch. Where did they come from?

The Iowa Agriculture Department or DNR thought multiflora rose would be great for a natural fence. They had other ideas too, for farmers to use this weed in Iowa. Cousin Charlie in his ag classes helped plant this "Asian ornamental." Iowa DNR also got the idea to re-introduce river otters into Iowa, and with a three-way state agreement, sent two wild Iowa turkeys to Kentucky, in exchange for one river otter Kentucky would buy from Louisiana. Three hundred forty-five river otters were introduced to Iowa over a 20-year period starting in 1985 and ending in 2005. The first 16 were let free in the Des Moines area. They have rivers there.

The problem is as the otters reproduce, one to six per litter, in the search for new territory, they begin to move away from larger rivers until they are down to the creek level of water, and there isn't an abundance of fish in our small creeks. They now have moved to ponds where the fishing is a little easier. There are now river otters in all 99 Iowa counties. Our old pond, where I grew up, only had bullheads so it wouldn't be a choice dining place for otters.

A grown otter will eat two to three pounds of fish daily, and they hunt 60% of the day. They also like to play, catching fish and killing for the fun of it. They target larger fish, so if you have a small pond with a lot of little fish, they can't do much harm to your fish population. A sign that you might have otters in your pond is partially eaten fish on the bank. Looking at Facebook postings about pond owners' experiences with otters isn't assuring that otters are a benefit to your pond.

I knew we had otters. To learn more, I Googled Iowa DNR river otter, and a lot showed up. I learned that otters are not structurally harmful to a pond. They den up in an old badger or beaver den. They can grow to be 53 inches long, including the tail, and weigh up to 25 pounds. The young are introduced to water at about two months of age and learn to swim. They stay with mama until they are full adults.

One option for ridding yourself from this fun-loving critter is legal trapping. The limit is three otters per trapper, per year. You need to go through the DNR process to trap, but if you do, "Trapping Today" predicts otter pelts will be worth \$15-\$20 per pelt. A tanned otter pelt caught legally, is worth anywhere from \$50-\$200 per pelt. From 2006 till 2018, there were 8,797 river otters trapped in Iowa.

I wondered what those other hides I'd stretched would be worth today, and I found these values: beaver \$20-30, muskrat \$2, wild mink \$5-6, red fox \$10-15. I never trapped bobcat, but today a hide is worth up to \$100. I think you might be trying hard to get those higher prices, but that's what my computer search came up with.

Otters do not like to be disturbed by humans. Yelling at them, throwing rocks at them or shooting near them will make them leave, but they will probably come back when they are done with the neighbor's pond.

Was the re-introduction of river otters beneficial to Iowa? The otters have benefitted, but the fish in small ponds are having a hard time when otters move in. For more information, Google search Iowa DNR river otter and follow any of the sites that might interest you.



Virginia Boosters 4-H Club News

Written by Ella Scott, Reporter



The Virginia Boosters 4-H club held their October meeting at 7:00 PM at the Lions Hall in New Virginia. The meeting was called to order by Brady Streeter, President. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Nora Nelson, Vice President.

Our roll call for this meeting was "favorite Halloween candy treat." Our secretary's report was read by Brianna Fantz, Secretary. Our Treasurer's report was read by our 2023-24 Treasurer, Jaden McDonald.

This meeting we discussed old business which included signing up for presentations and exhibit-building premium checks being mailed out. Next, we discussed new business. We reviewed the newsletter and awards night ceremony, which is being held on Sunday, November 17, at 4:30 PM. Thankful Thursday is October 10. Trunk or Treat is October 26, and the theme for our booth will be superheroes. We made a motion to purchase club year pins. The first motion was by Charlotte Miller, and Lauren Miller seconded that. Lastly, for new business, we voted for new officers for the 2024-25 year. The President is Brady Streeter, the Vice President is Nora Nelson, the Secretary is Brianna Fantz, the Reporter is Ella Scott, the Treasurer is Drake Nelson, the Banner Club Representative is Keifer Bedwell, and the Photographer is Jaden McDonald. Then we stood for the 4-H Pledge, which was led by Charlotte. We adjourned the meeting. The first motion was by Blake Erikson, and it was seconded by Blake Downs. To end the meeting, we had a pumpkin decorating contest.



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Please share this information with anyone you may know who is not receiving their issues. Thank you, The Tri-Corner-Express Team



JESUS' RIGHT HAND

This month, we are uncovering all the behind-the-scene action here at JRH and our preparation for our two big Holiday Giveaways. At the time of this writing, we have just started accepting Thanksgiving Meal applications from Nov. 11th – 22nd. We received 33 applications for a Thanksgiving meal just on the first day, and it looks like we are going to surpass last year's totals! We do not have access to any turkeys or hams this year like in years past, but we do have a couple of freezers filled with a very nice selection of larger meat items. God has always provided for the needs, and this seems to be the way He chose to provide for this holiday. We are grateful we have something nice to provide for their meals, but most importantly, our clients are truly grateful.

Once we've had the Thanksgiving Meal Giveaway on Nov. 25th, we will shift our focus to Christmas and begin taking Christmas assistance applications from Nov. 29th through Dec. 13th. Thanksgiving comes late this year, and there is less time to prepare for Christmas, so we will have to work very quickly! Our gift-wrapped donation boxes will be out in the businesses on Tuesday, Nov. 26th, and we will pick them up on Tuesday, Dec. 17th. Of course, we will always have families available for adoption, but please be patient, because many of our applications come in during the last few days. The Christmas Giveaway has been set for Saturday, Dec. 21st this year.

What's it like around the ministry during our holiday season? Organized chaos is a nice way to say it, but every year I tend to panic, thinking that we don't have enough time to get ready, but it always comes together during the final days. We begin planning well before the application window opens for either one of our holiday giveaways, scheduling everything from the first day to the very last, updating paperwork and application forms, begin ordering holiday food items from the Food Bank and setting them aside for the day of packing. The Saturday before the Thanksgiving Giveaway the past few years, we have been blessed to have the St. Charles Parish youth group come in and prepack all the boxes with the non-perishable foods and stack them for distribution. They are such a blessing, doing this huge task in a couple hours, where it would have taken us at least a day or two! On the day of the Thanksgiving Giveaway, we try to set out extras for a holiday meal for the clients who didn't sign up for a meal box, but still need a little something extra. Last year, we had key lime pies, canned veggies and stuffing mix, but it varies from year to year.

Once Thanksgiving is over, we distribute the donation boxes to local businesses and then begin getting the applications for Christmas assistance. Managing the application process seems to be a full-time job, because each one is coded according to the needs of the person or family. Some of the applications are missing information or illegible, and everything is verified from our database. The phone seems to ring off the hook during this time, because we have an option to mail the applications to those who are further away, but we strongly encourage them to come in person to fill them out because there is always a risk of not getting them back in time. We also get phone calls and requests to adopt families, so we try to match the donor with the recipient family and get the information to the donor, so they have time to shop before the deadline. This year we will not have an option for clothing on the application, because earlier this year we discontinued our clothing closet, but there will still be an option for food and gifts.

Throughout this whole process, we still need to do our regular donation runs and Fresh Food Giveaways which keep us busy enough without the added work of the Christmas Giveaway. Also, during this time, we receive the food collected by the Boy Scouts Food Drive (Dec. 14th this year!) which is such a blessing, especially with the food boxes that go out during this giveaway. This food helps

us not only during the holidays, but throughout the year, meeting the needs of those who come to us for food.

The 10 days leading up to the giveaway brings the donation boxes back from the businesses, sorting and categorizing the gift items, and the task of beginning to fill the gift requests. We have a unique coding system, and we use garbage bags to keep things hidden from little eyes! We use a lot of them this time of year, so if anyone wants to donate UNSCENTED large black garbage bags or the UNSCENTED white kitchen garbage bags, they will be welcomed! We have a lot of kids with sensory issues, and the scent of the bags has bothered them in the past, plus it has been hard on our elves who spend hours packing gifts.

Sometime in this process, we enlist the help of a group to pack the Christmas food boxes, but that date hasn't been decided yet. We also begin receiving the adopted family gifts back from the donors which are bagged according to the codes and set aside for distribution.

On the Tuesday before the giveaway, we begin to set up appointments to come and pick up the gifts and food and spend a lot of time on the phone contacting each family/individual. During this time, our volunteers are clearing out the distribution center and bringing the bags of gifts to organize them in order. There are still elves in the back filling gift requests, and sometimes we must make an emergency run to find items for our harder-to-fill age groups. Each child usually receives three gift items, and their parents will get one item each. We then try to include a "family gift," such as a movie, a game or something that they can enjoy together. The older teen boys and men are the ones which are the most difficult to fill because we receive limited amounts of these items. We are usually worn out by the end of the day, but it's a wonderful time of fellowship for everyone involved. We work up to the 11th hour, checking and rechecking to be sure everything is filled and in order.

The day of the giveaway is always fun for everyone involved. The people are always so happy to get their gifts and food, and we have a great time talking with them about their Christmas plans. The past two years, we have tables filled with stocking stuffers for them to choose for their kiddos, and sometimes extra wrapping paper, bows and even Christmas decorations. It's usually an eight-hour day from beginning to end, but our hearts are full, and our tissue boxes are empty. In the years past, we have closed the ministry from the giveaway day through the first of the year, but now we are working during that time on an as-needed basis. Donations still need to be picked up, and our Fresh Food Giveaway still goes on, but we take days off here and there during that time to rest and recuperate from our busy holiday season. I hope that you enjoyed getting a peek inside our Holiday Giveaway programs this year! If you have any questions or would like to see firsthand how our ministry operates, please contact us at 641-449-3377 or email us at jesusrighthand7@gmail.com. Our website address is jesusrighthand.com and we are also on Facebook which

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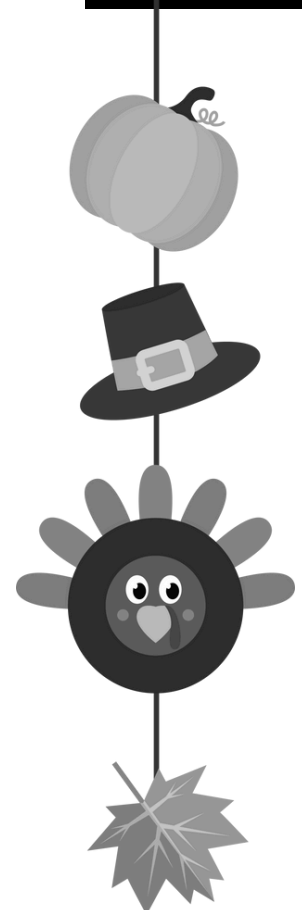
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USDA to Begin Issuing \$2.14 Billion to Agricultural Producers through Key Conservation and Safety-Net Programs

DES MOINES, Iowa, Oct. 22, 2024 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) today announced that it will begin issuing more than \$2.14 billion in payments to eligible agricultural producers, and landowners—providing much needed support through key conservation and safety-net programs. Producers should soon receive payments from USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) for their participation in these programs aimed to conserve natural resources and keep family farms economically viable.

Specifically, program participants are expected to receive more than \$1.7 billion through the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and CRP Transition Incentive Program (CRP TIP) and more than \$447 million through the Agriculture Risk Coverage and Prices Loss Coverage (ARC/PLC) programs. Additionally, FSA is announcing an investment of \$21 million for projects to better measure the effectiveness of CRP.

"Conservation and safety net program payments are significant investments in preserving and protecting our valuable and vulnerable natural resources and they provide protection for producers impacted by market volatilities," said Matt Russell, FSA State Executive Director in Iowa. "These programs support voluntary land stewardship and provide agricultural producers with risk protection and production stability, keeping them in business and feeding the world."

Conservation Reserve Program Payments

FSA is issuing more than \$1.7 billion in annual rental payments to agricultural producers and private landowners through the Conservation Reserve Program and CRP Transition Incentive Program. These annual rental payments are made to eligible farmers and ranchers throughout the country who establish long-term, resource-conserving plant species, such as approved grasses or trees, to control soil erosion, improve water quality and enhance wildlife habitat on cropland taken out of production. The duration of CRP contracts is between 10 and 15 years.

FSA accepted offers for more than 2.2 million acres through this year's Grassland, General, and Continuous CRP signups, bringing current enrollment to nearly 26 million acres.

These conservation-minded producers help provide invaluable benefits to the nation's environment and economy.

Top five states for current acreage in CRP:

- Colorado: 2,978,741
- South Dakota: 2,626,430
- Nebraska: 2,423,361
- Texas: 2,225,310
- Kansas: 2,040,412

Investments in CRP Monitoring, Assessment, and Evaluation

FSA invested \$21 million in 15 projects to further the monitoring, assessment, and evaluation of the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). Projects funded this year include the adoption of emerging technology to increase knowledge on subjects such as the benefits of wetland restoration to mitigate flooding, contributions of CRP to wildlife habitat, and role CRP plays in strengthening the resiliency of agricultural operations.

FSA originally committed \$10 million to the Notice of Funding Opportunity in May, but due to the quality of project proposals submitted FSA awarded more than \$20 million. Since 2021, FSA has invested over \$70 million into monitoring, assessment, and evaluation efforts.

The monitoring, assessment, and evaluation projects are designed to produce information that enables USDA to better target CRP toward conservation outcomes by improving data, models, and planning tools while supporting USDA's goal of putting American agriculture and forestry at the center of climate-smart solutions. The land currently enrolled in the program improve water quality, protect soil resources, provide critical wildlife habitat

and aid to climate resiliency within agricultural systems. Further quantifying program benefits allows the USDA to better target CRP to achieve continued conservation wins across environmentally sensitive lands while strengthening the program's modeling and conservation planning resources for all producers.

Signed into law in 1985, CRP is one of the largest voluntary private-lands conservation programs in the United States. It was originally intended to primarily control soil erosion and potentially stabilize commodity prices by taking marginal lands out of production. The program has evolved over the years, providing many conservation and economic benefits.

Continued on page 22



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Pumpkin Oat Bars

Ingredients: Base

- 1 c. (2 sticks) cold unsalted butter
- 1/4 c. granulated sugar
- 3 T. light brown sugar
- 1 T. pure vanilla extract
- 2 T. old-fashioned oats
- 2 c. all-purpose flour
- 1 T. ground cinnamon
- 1/2 t. kosher salt

Ingredients: Filling

- 3 large eggs
- 1/2 c. honey
- 1/4 c. granulated sugar
- 2 T. packed light brown sugar
- 2 t. pure vanilla extract
- 1 (15 oz.) can pumpkin puree
- 1/2 c. heavy cream
- 1 T. pumpkin pie spice
- 1 t. ground nutmeg
- 1/2 t. kosher salt

Ingredients: Oat Topping

- 1/2 c. packed brown sugar
- 6 T. (3/4 stick) cold unsalted butter
- 1 c. old-fashioned oats
- 1/2 c. all-purpose flour
- Pinch of kosher salt

Base: Grease a 13" x 9" pan with cooking spray, then line pan with parchment. In the large bowl of a stand mixer fitted with the paddle attachment, beat butter, granulated sugar, brown sugar, and vanilla on high speed until smooth and creamy, about 4 minutes. Gently crush oats to break them down into tinier pieces. Slowly add oats, flour, cinnamon, and salt and beat on medium-low speed until blended, 1 to 2 minutes. Press base into bottom of prepared pan. Cover and refrigerate at least 20 minutes or up to 1 day. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Bake base until beginning to firm up, about 10 minutes.

Filling: In a large bowl, whisk eggs, honey, granulated sugar, brown sugar, and vanilla until well combined. Add pumpkin puree, cream, pumpkin pie spice, nutmeg, and salt and stir with a wooden spoon until combined.

Oat Topping & Assembly: In stand mixer, beat brown sugar and butter on medium speed until well combined. Using your fingers, break down most of the oats as you add so you have some smaller pieces. Add flour and salt and beat on low speed until just combined. Pour pumpkin filling over base in pan. Cover with foil. Cut a large slit lengthwise down center of foil. Bake bars until pie filling is starting to set, about 50 minutes. Uncover pan. Using your fingers, crumble oat topping over top, leaving some filling exposed. Continue to bake until crumble layer crisps up, about 15 minutes more. Let cool at least 30 minutes (or ideally refrigerate up to 1 day) before cutting into bars.

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With over 30 years of experience, serving the needs of 20 counties
in southern Iowa and northern Missouri.

Continued from page 20

Agriculture Risk Coverage and Price Loss Coverage Programs

USDA has started to issue payments to producers of 2023 crops that are estimated at more than \$447 million through the Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs. ARC and PLC provide financial protections to farmers from substantial drops in crop prices or revenue and are vital economic safety nets for most American farms. ARC and PLC program and crop specific data is available online and through your local FSA county office.

Authorized by the 2014 farm bill they can provide a cushion for farmers during tough economic conditions and fluctuating market prices.

For more information on available FSA programs, contact your local USDA Service Center.

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.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.



It's Your Future. Let's Protect It. ®



**FARM BUREAU
FINANCIAL SERVICES**

AGENT

Vince Proudfoot

Registered Representative

2500 West 2nd Ave, Ste 3

Indianola, IA 50125

515-961-6262

Helping people protect the things most important to them for over 20 years.

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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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- **Horse Barns**
- **Riding Arenas**



Actual build by Bornttager Brothers

**We also do general carpentry work,
including roofing, remodeling, house repairs,
barn repairs and restoration, etc.**

~ References Available ~

Call Joni Bornttager @ 515-474-9080



THOSE WHO SERVE



Contributed by Mel Stills

November 11 is Veterans Day. There are many in our community who have served in our military and some who are serving today. These men and women will probably not tell you about themselves, but maybe a family member or a representative of our American Legion will submit a story about them. We have learned the hard way that freedom isn't free, and everyone who served or are serving is part of an overall mission to protect the United States.

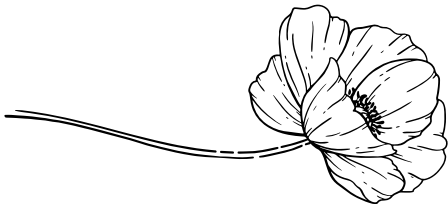
I think everyone would like to know about those young men and women from our community who are serving. They left home boys and girls, but they grew up quickly with the responsibilities they were given.

There are lots of veterans in our community. I wrote about some of them before for the Tri-Corner-Express. Someone volunteered to take over that job, but things didn't work out, and the project was dropped. I'm here in Arizona, and it would be hard for me to track down stories, so is there someone in the Tri-Corner-Express area who would be willing to gather information on our veterans and those currently serving and share it in the Tri-Corner-Express?

I'll give you a short example of a serviceman's story. I joined the Navy in 1959, to get off the farm and see the world. I served 13 years active and 10 years in the reserves. I did see the world; I saw California, Virginia, Japan, Vietnam, Guam. The Navy gave me the experience I needed for a very rewarding career. After the Navy I went to school, saw Philadelphia, Texas, and a whole lot more of the world. After all of that, I came back to my roots because the rest of the world doesn't have what Iowa offers. I would probably ask more questions, but the hard part for me was to identify the veterans, and the rest just came out in our conversations.

Those who serve also includes the men and women in our volunteer fire and medical services in our community. Their stories also should be told.

Most of us living didn't get a welcome home, but it is never too late to hear "atta boy." I hope someone will pick up this rewarding endeavor and can let us know about those in our community who have and are serving. Story contributions can be submitted to tricorn@newvirginia.com or the drop box at the northeast corner of the Hen House in New Virginia.



OmniTel Communication Grants for the 3rd Quarter of 2024.

The Board of Directors of OmniTel Communications has awarded grants to the following local organizations: **Madison County Chamber of Commerce, Truro Area Boosters, and Tourism Board- The Gateway St. Charles.**

The next grants will be awarded in January. Grant applications can be found at www.omnitel.biz/charities

OmniTel Communications invites public and private non-profit organizations to submit applications for funding to help with specific projects and events in your community. The purpose of OmniTel's Charity Grant Program is to positively impact the quality of life in the communities which we serve.

Greatest consideration is given to the projects and events that benefit the most people. No Charity Grant will be awarded to individuals for personal gain (i.e. pageants, school trips, etc.). All applications are reviewed at the first board meeting of each quarter. Completed applications may be submitted at any time during the year. Civic organizations may request up to \$1,000, non-civic related organizations may request up to \$500, school activities and summer youth programs may request up to \$250.



See you there!

Santa Claus IS Coming To TOWN

Join us for the
**Lions Club
Christmas event!**

Sunday, Dec. 8 • 2:30 to 4 p.m.
New Virginia Lions Hall at 503 West St.

City State Bank will be on hand with cookies and prizes for the kids.

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 United Church of Christ

155 E. Garfield St., P.O. Box 17

Truro, IA 50257

Contact: Riley Dykstra, Student Pastor

Cell: 515-865-9392

Church: 641-765-4524

Email: truroucccchurch@gmail.com

Worship 10:00 am

Coffee & Fellowship: 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

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

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

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

301 Brown St.,

Peru, IA 50222

Pastor Sharman Eaton

Social Time @ 8:30 am

Coffee and Snacks

Worship 9:00 am

probably after he received a deep bayonet slash across the throat, he pulled his pistol for close range fighting when he was shot in the head by a single German 9mm pistol round, and he died face down in the mud still clutching his sidearm.

The war continued for another year and officially ended on 11 November 1918 at 11:00 am Greenwich Mean Time. For bragging rights, Allied Generals (mostly American) decided to make one final push in the last hours so they could claim to be the commander that pushed the furthest in the Great War and also pressure Germany to accept very Draconian peace terms. So, the front lit up with artillery blasts, gas, and bayonet charges until the clock struck eleven. The last morning of the war caused over 3,500 allied dead in these senseless assaults. As the clock approached the end of the war, men died so very close to surviving the conflict. The grim statisticians of General Staffs everywhere on the Western Front eagerly gathered the names of the last to die for the division records.

George Edwin Ellison, 40, a York Englishman, of the 5th Royal Irish Lancers fought in the first battle of the war in 1914 and fought in every battle with one two weeks leave home in 1916 before returning to the front. His only brother was killed in battle in 1917. While on patrol a German sniper shot Ellison on the old Mons battlefield in the same woods the Irish Lancers defended in 1914. It was 09:30. Ellison's son would celebrate his 5th birthday five days later, not knowing his father was dead, due to a clerical error Ellison's family would not know he died until the telegram arrived...on the evening of Christmas Eve.

Augustin-Joseph Victorin Trébuchon, 40, a French shepherd from Montchabrier (France). He fought in every battle since the 1914 Battle of the Marne, wounded severely twice, the last by an artillery shell in 1917, leaving his left arm mostly useless except to hold lighter objects. Though he qualified for a medical discharge, the army refused to do so, stating Trébuchon was one of the few old veterans left to teach the new recruits. So he was made a messenger (runner) and phone operator. On the morning of 11 November, an unknown French commander ordered 700 men to cross the Meuse River at 09:30, with Trébuchon carrying a field phone and a communication wire from an unwinding spool to direct fire and report German positions for a planned surprise artillery shelling at 10:45. A heavy rain made a small wooden footbridge the engineers placed across the 70 meter wide river slick and about 80 men slipped and fell into the frigid waters with around 25 drowning. In temperatures below freezing, heavy fog and pounding rain the French quietly maneuvered to the point designated along the far bank. At 10:30 the rain stopped, and the fog suddenly lifted to reveal a quickly dug German entrenchment on the top of the bank. German machine guns opened fire, and within five minutes 91 French soldiers were dead. Trébuchon covered the retreat of the wounded with a pistol when a German bullet passed through his right side and out his left. Trébuchon and this action remained unknown until 1998 when an amateur historian uncovered an order to record all the men killed on the 11th in certain French units marked as killed on the 10th instead to save embarrassed commanders' reputations that ordered an unplanned and unsupported attack they knew would fail. No nearby French artillery units received any communication from any commander of a planned bombardment of the German positions. The advancement of 700 soldiers was for the bragging rights of an unnamed General to claim he was the hardest attacker. The historian's clever snooping uncovered the original action account and casualty lists where Trébuchon, in a faded entry by a field commander, was recorded as the last French soldier to fall.

Marcel Toussaint Terfve, 24, a Belgian who fought since the German Army crossed into neutral Belgium in 1914 in the 1st Belgian Infantry who stayed 25

with his unit without leave for the entire war. He was a corporal of a squad when the news arrived that the war would end at eleven. At 10:42 Terfve was sent with his squad to see if a German machine gun was still on their right. It was. The German gunner immediately opened fire and injured three, including Terfve. The men tried desperately to plug the hole in his left lung, but by 10:45 he was dead by suffocation in his own blood.

George Lawrence Price, 25, a Canadian soldier from Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, and drafted in 1917 as a replacement for the 28th Battalion (Northwest) in 2nd Division, 6th Canadian Infantry Brigade. This unit was in an attack at Frameries, south of Mons, to secure four bridges. The attack started at 04:00 and the objectives quickly taken with light resistance. At 09:00 the message arrived that hostilities would cease in three hours. Seeing several brick houses ahead that were perfect places to mount a machine gun, Price and five others went to investigate and found Germans inside who were doing exactly what they feared, putting a machine gun in place. A firefight ensued in the house, and the Germans ran across the street to another home. Price, in pursuit, stepped out after them and was shot just to the left of his sternum by a sniper. A Belgian nurse and two soldiers dragged Price inside, and she discovered he was shot through the heart, and he died shortly after. Time 10:58, two minutes before the end of the war. On the Armistice 50-year anniversary, the last survivors of his company came from Canada and placed a plaque to Price on the house he died in years before. In 1991, a footbridge in the French town was named The Price Footbridge; in 2015, the town's new school was named École George Price; in 2018 Canadian government leaders laid a wreath on his monument; and in 2021, the Town of Moose Jaw erected a monument for their hometown boy.

Henry Gunther, 23, the last American and known Allied soldier to die in the Great War. His parents were children of German immigrants in Highlandtown, in Baltimore, Maryland. This was an eastern Baltimore area known for its mostly Roman Catholic German population; even the local newspaper was printed in German until the start of America's entry into the war. Henry was a bank clerk and bookkeeper at the National Bank of Baltimore prior to getting drafted in September 1917. He was a member of the 313th Infantry Regiment, known as "Baltimore's Own" of the 157th Brigade of the 79th Infantry Division. His unit arrived in France in July 1918 and he was made a supply sergeant. However, in a letter home he wrote home that the conditions were miserable and advised a friend to not enlist and avoid the draft as the war appeared to be winding down. An army postal censor intercepted the letter, and Sgt. Gunther was demoted to Private Gunther. On 12 September 1918, Private Gunther arrived at the Meuse-Argonne front which was already involved in an offensive against the German lines. The unit was still fighting on the line on the morning of the 11th of November. Gunther saw this as an opportunity as he was determined to get his rank back, feeling shame at his reduction in the ranks. At 10:57 as his squad approached the village of Chaumont-devant-Damvillers, along the Meuse, they encountered two German machine guns that fired a few high rounds without intent to do harm. The squad immediately hit-the-dirt and, against the orders of his sergeant, Gunther fixed bayonet and charged single-handedly against the German position. The time, 10:59. The German crews tried waving Gunther away and even shouted for him to stop, but he fired at them until finally, a gunner reluctantly opened fire and killed Pvt. Henry Gunther. According to his comrades, a few seconds after he breathed out his last breath, the church bells started chiming out the time 11:00 am. Gunther fell with the other 11,000 casualties in the last hours of the war. The war was over.

Survivors describe that along the line the firing just quickly faded and then stopped, and four years of constant day and night artillery fire suddenly went silent. This abrupt silence caused an eerie effect and drove some men mad. For years their lives existed in a meat grinding Hell of mud, rain, snow, wind, dirt, gore, sewage, and the constant pall of death as war left exposed decaying corpses everywhere outside and inside the trenches. The odd feeling that sets in for many combat veterans came like a timed rush for millions of men almost at once. What were they going to do with their lives? Men and women who had up to now, dedicated every second to waging non-stop war, suddenly realized they had forgotten what their dreams were if they survived it. But the killing didn't end.

Lieutenant Tomas, 20's. At 11:02 am, Lt. Tomas (from Dresden, Germany) ordered his men out of a house that would now be in the American zone. Seeing five American doughboys approach, he waved at them and went to tell them they were leaving. One of them shot Lt. Tomas dead. The Americans in that area were not told the war was ending. Lt. Tomas had a wife and three young children at home in Dresden.

Many others died after the war was over because of distance and/or failures in communication. But sadly, their names are lost to the corrosion of indifference. For the one year of the Great War in which the United States was officially a participant, the nation mobilized 4,272,521 volunteers and draftees. Of these, 67,813 would die from shot, shell, gas, accident, the 1918 flu pandemic, and disease. U.S. numbers of wounded were 192,483 and an additional 14,363 were prisoners and missing. A small number to the total cost of the war numbering at 54,326,669 total in killed, wounded, and missing.

The First World War was (at the time) called the Great War or the Lost Generation War. So many young men died that the feeling was that an entire generation of the young were wiped out all over the world. The impact of their lives extinguished like a match in the wind. France alone lost nearly 1/3 of its young male population, Russia about the same, Britain lost so many officers it barely had a middle class left, and Germany and Austria were left starving and broken. The war reparations placed on Germany by the Allies was so heavy that it took that nation 91 years to pay it off (1919-2010). To add to the bitterness and petty retribution, food was not allowed into a starving Germany until 1922, after millions already died from hunger.

To remember the sacrifice of so many young people, and to celebrate the peace that was so sought for, every 11 November would be called Armistice Day, which most allied countries started almost immediately. The United States made it an annual observance in 1926. It was made a federal holiday in 1938 as "a day to be dedicated to the cause of world peace..." In the allied nations the ageing veterans from all wars would parade through cities, towns and villages to cheers from a thankful population for the peace they so enjoyed. In our corner of the world, the former doughboys would parade beside men who served in the Civil War, the Indian Wars, the Spanish-American War, the Boxer Rebellion, and the Philippines War. The years came and went, and fewer and fewer of the old men marched past cheering crowds. But then we had the Second World War (1939-45) that cost over 60 million lives, with 292,131 of those being American. Then Korea (1950-53) leaving 2.2 million dead with 36,000 of those being American.

Due to the huge numbers of WWII and Korean War veterans, the government felt that there needed to be a day to honor all veterans. The

likely candidate was Armistice Day; the holiday would remain the same but be inclusive to all service members, former and current.

So on 26 May 1954, Armistice Day became Veterans Day. The irony was the timing; the fall of the French defenses at Dien Bein Phu in French Indonesia was a few weeks before. The United States, just prior to this intense battle, decided to support the French and their allies in that area.

We know that region by its more common name, Vietnam, a place that would produce many more veterans shortly afterwards and impact the lives of all who lived through it. In 1971, in accordance with the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, Veterans Day was moved to the fourth Monday of October, and it remained that way until it was restored in 1978 to 11 November. But the intent remains the same, to honor those who fought for peace and not to celebrate war. Lasting peace is the greatest honor one can give to a veteran, for every generation that goes to war hopes that they might be the last to do so. Few old veterans want their children, or grandchildren, to go to war and see the brutal cycle continue. From the ghosts of those original doughboys to today, when the parade goes by, stand and applaud those men and women. Some experienced living nightmares for the valuable prize of peace, and all served to preserve it.

City of New Virginia CLAIMS REPORT for November 2024

VENDOR	REFERENCE	AMOUNT	CHECK #	CHECK DATE
ALLIANT ENERGY	ELECTRIC/GAS/STREET LIGHTS	\$409.60	15500	11/2/2024
AMANDA ROCKEY	RETURN DEPOSIT FEE	\$125.00	15526	11/9/2024
AT&T FIRSTNET	PHONE SERVICE	\$49.81	15521	11/9/2024
BOUND TREE	MEDICAL SUPPLIES	\$476.72	15503	11/5/2024
BRENT BAUGHMAN	MILEGAE MEDICATIONS	\$33.13	15504	11/5/2024
BRETT DOUGLAS	DEPOSIT REFUND	\$125.00	15522	11/9/2024
ELAN FINANCIAL SERVICES	TECHNOLOGY - WIX ANNUAL RENEWA	\$588.30	15501	11/2/2024
HAWKEYE TRADER	TRUCK PULL ADVERTISING EXPEN	\$124.00	15505	11/5/2024
HY-VEE	MEDICATIONS	\$13.00	15507	11/5/2024
IA MUNICIPAL WORKERS COMPENSAT	WORKERS COMP AUDIT 23-24	\$702.00	15508	11/5/2024
IOWA PUBLIC RETIREMENT SYSTEM	IPERS	\$444.39	16326699	11/5/2024
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	FED/FICA TAX	\$535.14	16326700	11/5/2024
J&L SANITATION	GARBAGE SERVICE - CITY	\$62.00	15498	10/19/2024
J&L SANITATION	GARBAGE SERVICE - CITY	\$62.00	15510	11/5/2024
MARK MCCOY	GAMP DEPOSIT REFUND	\$250.00	15499	10/19/2024
ONE BILLING SOLUTIONS LLC	AMBULANCE BILLING	\$886.56	15527	11/9/2024
LINDE GAS & EQUIPMENT INC.	OEPRATING SUPPLIES	\$124.20	15511	11/5/2024
R & R MOWING SERVICE	MOWING CITY AREAS	\$612.50	15512	11/5/2024
STRANGE SPECIALTY TIRE & AUTO	VEHICLE REPAIRS	\$20.00	15514	11/5/2024
WASTE MANAGEMENT	RECYCLING	\$1,181.90	15524	11/9/2024
WEX FLEET UNIVERSAL	VEHICLE FUEL	\$412.82	15516	11/5/2024
WINDSTREAM	TELEPHONE/INTERNET	\$560.06	15525	11/9/2024
	TOTAL GENERAL	\$7,798.13		
ALLIANT ENERGY	ELECTRIC/GAS/STREET LIGHTS	\$1,163.16	15500	11/2/2024
SAVAGE EXCAVATING	STREET REPAIR- GRADING BEHIND	\$100.00	15513	11/5/2024
	TOTAL ROAD USE	\$1,263.16		
ANCEL KENNEDY	SERVICE	\$125.00	15502	11/5/2024
AT&T FIRSTNET	PHONE SERVICE	\$22.51	15521	11/9/2024
DES MOINES WATER WORKS	WATER TESTING	\$15.00	15523	11/9/2024
HUSTON'S LAWN/SNOW REMOVAL	WATER TESTING SERVICE	\$100.00	15506	11/5/2024
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	WET TAX SEPT 302024	\$493.78	16326690	10/28/2024
IA ONE CALL	METER LOCATES - IOWA ONE CALL	\$34.20	15497	10/19/2024
IOWA RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION	ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES 2025	\$305.00	15509	11/5/2024
IOWA PUBLIC RETIREMENT SYSTEM	IPERS	\$593.01	16326699	11/5/2024
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	FED/FICA TAX	\$753.61	16326700	11/5/2024
SAVAGE EXCAVATING	WATER REPAIR 511 GRAND	\$636.47	15513	11/5/2024
WARREN WATER DISTRICT	WATER USAGE/LOAN PAYMENT	\$4,261.50	15515	11/5/2024
	TOTAL WATER UTILITIES	\$7,340.08		
	GENERAL	\$2,304.39		
	WATER	\$3,005.52		
	Total Payroll Paid	\$5,309.91		
	***** REPORT TOTAL *****	\$21,711.28		

annual non-perishable food drive

Sponsored by
Cub Pack and Boy Scout Troop 119

New Virginia, Truro and St Charles

We will be dropping bags off to each house on December 7th starting at 11 am in all three towns. We will be back around to pick those bags on December 14th starting at 9 am (please set your bags back outside by 8 am). All of the proceeds will be delivered to Jesus Right Hand for distribution to those in need in our communities in time for the holidays. Please be as generous as you are able, there is a great need.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Pat Thornburgh @ 515-681-0748



Iowa Farm Team Challenge 2024

The Iowa Draft Horse & Mule Association sponsored a new event this year. The "Iowa Farm Team Challenge" is a contest for farm teams to earn points at local draft horse shows. Awards are given to the teams that scored the most points during the season, and they qualify for an end-of-the-year championship show. Our first year of the Iowa Farm Team Challenge has been successful. We had eight shows with 50 different contestants: 32 men, 11 women, and seven youth contestants. The men's High-point race unbelievably ended in a tie! We used the championship show as a tie-breaker. We had contests across the state that included obstacle courses, log pulls, cultivators, feed team races, barnyard pulls and a plowing contest. The championship show was held in New Virginia on October 6th.

High point winners for the show season

Men's High Point Champion Jim Stuart, Stormy & Geraldine	Reserve High Point Champion Branden Harp, Alice & Queen
Women's High Point Champion Deanna Lagos, Jeb & Jeff	Women's Reserve High Point Champion Martha Burton, Mac & Bella
Youth High Point Champion Aiden Clemmens, Zeke & Jewell	Youth Reserve High Point Champion Taron Livingston, Duke & Dillon

End of the year championship show

Champion Men's team Jim Stuart, Jinger & Paulee	Reserve Champion Men's team Jim Stuart, Stormy & Geraldine
Champion Women's Team Brenda Coulson, Rip & Snort	Reserve Women's Team Jessica Cross, Rip & Snort
Champions Youth Team Cole Hartschen, Rip & Snort	

OH, MY ACHING BACK!



I was reading an old book the other day and came across a word I hadn't heard for a long time. Those of you older readers (and I'm getting there!) probably remember this word: lumbago. I thought it had to do with back pain, and after Googling it, I found out that yes, that's exactly what it is. Lumbago is an old term for pain in the lower back, which is the area of the spine that extends from the bottom rib to your fanny. The word comes from the Latin word lumbus, which means "loin" or "lower back." The medical term for lumbago is now "lower back pain."



Local Student wins

International Miniature Rodeo Association (IMRA)

Senior Bareback Title

Blaine Cornelison is a 9th Grader at Interstate 35 Schools where he participates in Wrestling, 4H and FFA. He is a member of Midwest Mini Buckers, IMRA, Iowa Rough Stock Rodeo Association and the Iowa JR High/High School Rodeo. He competed in the Senior (ages 13-15) Bareback event at Rodeos all year long and through the various associations that he belongs to, to earn a spot at the IMRA Finals that were held November 6-9, 2024 at Jackson, Missouri. The competition consisted of up to a total of 4 rounds. Top 5 contestants from each category then competed at the Short Go on Saturday morning. From there, the top 2 from the Short



Go went on to compete at the Finals Saturday evening. Blaine covered his first two horses for 46 and 62 points. He qualified to ride in the Short Go on Saturday morning in which he scored 68 points. He rode again on Saturday evening which landed him with a no score as he came off the horse before the buzzer. He ended the weekend with a total score of 176 which put him in 1st place. He received two belt buckles, one for Finals Short Go Champion and the other for Senior Bareback Champion. Blaine would like to thank all of his sponsors and those that came out to the C2U Fried Chicken Fundraiser. Everyone's support helped in getting him to the Finals.



Interstate 35 Education Foundation: Reflections from 3 Years on the Board

Nearly five years ago, I found myself looking for a way to positively engage with my alma mater and give back to the community I've always called home. As a legacy Roadrunner, my I-35 roots run deep – and I don't take that responsibility lightly. So how could I get involved in a way that would both make me proud and positively impact the students and teachers in our community?

I joined the Interstate 35 Education Foundation.

The Foundation board reignited its mission in 2021 to support innovative programs and resources that benefit pre-k through 12th grade students. Since then and with the support of generous donors, we have partnered with I-35 teachers and staff to bring their outside-the-box ideas to life to motivate, inspire and excite students about learning.

In the past year alone, the Foundation has awarded more than \$31,000 to 11 teacher-driven projects that directly enhance student learning experiences. Examples include interactive smart boards in math, intervention and spec ed classrooms; marching band uniforms; self-confidence books for secondary guidance curriculum; outdoor classroom materials; culturally responsive books for early readers; and Family STEM Night.

As a nonprofit organization, we are only able to support these initiatives thanks to the generosity and giving spirit of the parents, grandparents, community members and businesses in and around our three towns. This is why I am inviting you to donate to the I-35 Education Foundation on Giving Tuesday, December 3rd. Donate any dollar amount by using the QR code with this article. As a local nonprofit, you know that your contribution will be used to directly benefit our students and teachers.

A child in your family might have earned a token to the book vending machine in elementary school as a reward for meeting literacy goals or demonstrating good citizenship. They probably walked to the book vending machine with pride, carefully perused the titles, dropped in their token and selected a book. Maybe you even shared a moment with them where they explained how they earned the book and took time to read it

Interstate 35
FFA News
Written by McKenzie
Phillips, Reporter

The Interstate 35 FFA Chapter attended the 97th National Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana. On our way, we toured the Cinnamon Ridge Dairy Farm and the lock and dam system in Rock Island. On our second day, we attended the convention and expo and listened to Temple Grandin speak. We, also, took a tour that day to the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. We ended our day with dinner and a rodeo. On our final day, our advisor, Hannah Bedwell, received the American FFA Degree. We had a great time!



together. That was made possible by the I-35 Education Foundation who partnered with Mrs. Woods to purchase the book vending machine in 2022.

Just another example of how your support matters more than you know.

Kelsey Ritchey
Interstate 35 Education Foundation, President