

## Bird Flu Most Likely at Beeds Lake



Some of the deceased birds were found in groups, like this one. Photo by Wendi Lindley Pryor.

BY JENNIFER BURNHAM  
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

Around 70 Canada geese were found deceased at Beeds Lake last week.

Iowa DNR Waterfowl Biologist Orrin Jones visited Beeds Lake Tuesday morning to evaluate the situation. He said the cause of death for the birds is most likely Avian influenza.

Jones said it's obvious when birds are severely affected by the flu, as they often act unnaturally, twisting and turning their heads in abnormal ways and sometimes spinning in circles. Another indication that they are sick is if they allow humans to get

within several feet of them, which is not the case for healthy birds, which will often fly away when approached by humans.

"We describe them as sick birds. A lot of lethargy. A lot of times the birds won't be fully aware of their surroundings," Jones said.

When he arrived at the lake, the majority of the bird carcasses were located in the center of the lake, around the air hole, he said. But he also observed dozens of live geese on the west side of the lake, many without symptoms of Avian influenza, which gave him hope.

"The good news is that I didn't see very many that are symptomatic," said

Jones. "I'm guardedly optimistic that there weren't more sick and dying birds present. Only a small percentage of the population is severely affected."

Avian influenza has been a widespread problem throughout the state, according to Jones, but there is a solution.

"The ultimate solution is for the population of geese to develop an immune response," he said. "Basically, the strongest birds are going to survive this and they're going to have antibodies so they'll be able to survive next time."

Jones said there's no way to measure progress of immunity in the birds at this time.

The public should avoid contact with sick and dead birds, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"The sick birds are often in strange locations and don't respond the way birds usually respond to humans," Jones said. "Those are the birds people should avoid interacting with."

According to a press release from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Iowa DNR and its federal partners have been monitoring for the presence of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in Iowa's wild birds since early 2022. After nearly a year without detections in sick or dead birds, Iowa has seen a sharp jump in affected waterfowl across the state mostly, north of Interstate 80 since early December, spurred on by the stress of migration and the severe cold.

As stated in the press release, "Avian influenza is a highly transmissible, naturally occurring virus found in certain waterfowl and shorebirds. There are various subtypes and strains, most of which cause limited harm to domestic poultry (low pathogenic) but some of which are lethal (highly pathogenic)."

Jones has been with the Iowa DNR since March of 2013. He studied Wildlife Ecology and has degrees from the University of Delaware and the University of New Hampshire.

More photos on A3

## HD-CAL Alternative Program Gives Students Second Chance

BY JENNIFER BURNHAM  
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

Many don't know about the alternative program at HD-CAL, but for the more than 100 graduates of the program since 2009, its existence means everything.

Program Coordinator Alexis Hoegh Vosburg said the alternative school program is for those students who don't do well in the traditional learning environment.

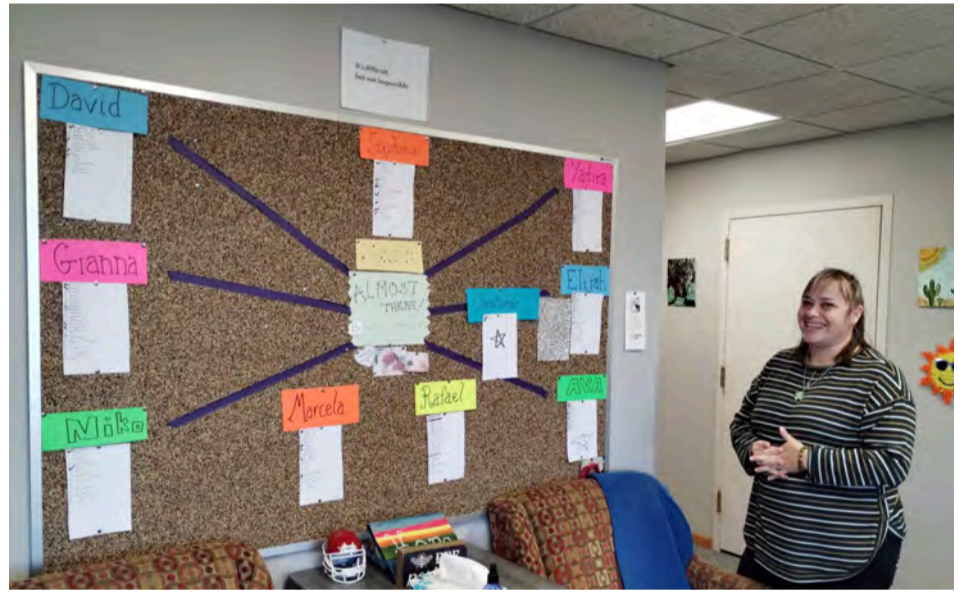
"These are not bad kids," Vosburg said. "They all have a story."

Some of the students she works with are young parents. Some are working to help support their families. And some simply need more flexibility. Whatever the case may be, getting them to the finish

line requires some more guidance, which Vosburg is happy to offer as Program Coordinator.

This is Vosburg's fourth year as the coordinator. She works alongside HD-CAL Activities Director Christi Weiser, Principal Matt Trosky, Student Advocate Michelle Spradlin, Counselor Cynthia Krull and Counselor Terry Carr, all of whom make the program possible, said Vosburg.

The alternative program was first started in the early 2000s and it's been housed in a number of buildings — North Side, Church of the Living Word, Hampton-Dumont-CAL High School and then eventually the school district's bus barn, near the municipal airport, where it's currently stationed. The current space holds five work rooms for students, along with a kitchen



See **SECOND CHANCE:** Page 3

Alexis Vosburg has been with the alternative program for four years now.

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BY JENNIFER BURNHAM  
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

The folks at Olive Ave Redemption are big on giving back to the community, especially during the holiday season.

This year, Owners Shawna and Lisa Heckman surprised three local families with \$100 gift cards to Fareway and one family with cash for presents. Last year, they adopted a family with six kids, but this year, they decided to split it up and let locals nominate a family. After posting a call-out on their Facebook for nomination, they received nominations for seven families.

"We asked families to nominate a family they thought could use help or a pick me up this holiday," Shawna said. "We went through, read all the nominations and sat down to-

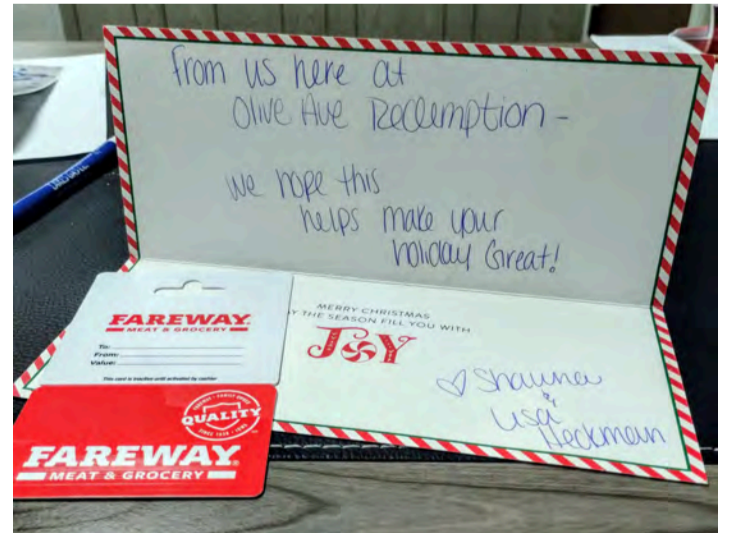
gether and picked out families. Some just for their purpose in the community, others for their hardships in life."

When asked why they do this for the community, Shawna said the answer is simple.

"Everyone deserves to enjoy the holidays," she said. "The holiday season is the perfect time to reflect on our own blessings and to see ways to make life better for those around us. We're hopeful to keep the tradition alive for years to come."

Shawna encourages everyone to stop by their can redemption center at 1931 Olive Ave. in Sheffield. Follow them on Facebook at "Olive Ave Redemption" for their latest updates. The center is closed Mondays, Tuesdays and Sundays and open Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from noon to 6 p.m. and Saturday

## Olive Ave Redemption Owners Surprise Families for Holidays



The Fareway gift card Burnham received.

from 9 a.m. to noon.

"A lot of people still don't know we're here," Shawna said. "We invite everyone to stop by and check out our

facility."

(Editor's note: News Editor Jennifer Burnham and her son were one of the recipients of the gift cards this year.)

### Deadlines

Legals Monday, 12 p.m. | News Friday, 5 p.m. | Ads, Inserts Friday, 3 p.m. | Classifieds Friday 3 p.m. | Obituaries Monday, Noon | Coverage 24 Hours

## Remembering a Franklin County Fair Artist

BY GARY KEENAN

AJ Lutter, our friend and legendary carver, passed away Dec. 31. A long time ago he was diagnosed with Polycythemia Vera, which is a chronic and rare form of blood cancer. It is suspected this was a result of being exposed to Agent Orange in Vietnam. Along the way he had health setbacks, but always bounced back. My wife and I teased him at times about having "nine lives", which turns out to be a real good thing. Thankfully he outlived the original prognosis by many years.

AJ carved professionally for most of his life. He carved at many fairs, events, and competitions (most of which he won). He traveled the country carving tree trunks on site with his Nissan pickup. He was frequently commissioned by Famous Dave's BBQ to carve large welcoming bears along with many other pieces.

AJ lived in Des Moines (Iowa) during the 90's, before I started carving. I noticed some of the carved stumps in the area, and thought they were incredibly cool. One was a handstand bear in West Des Moines that was about 9 or 10 feet tall. I'm pretty sure the handstand bear idea originated with AJ, but after I started carving I shamelessly stole the idea and carved several handstand bears. I first met AJ at Ridgeway, PA, when I happened to have a handstand bear fastened into the rear corner of my pickup. He commented on it, found it to be funny...and I believe he found it somewhat flattering. The next time I ran into AJ was at a competition in Quincy, IL, where he was one of the judges. When the event was over and I was headed home, I pulled into a restaurant in SE Iowa for a break. AJ pulled in there at the same time. We ordered food and admittedly, I was a little intimidated as I was relatively new at carving and I was well aware that I was sitting across the table from one of the best carvers on the planet. But, AJ was never condescending or egotistical. Just easy to talk to and always willing to help anyone.

In the early 2000's AJ was back to carving at the Iowa state fair, and he often recruited Ken Tynan, myself, or others to help with moving logs, doing some finish work, taking care of saws, etc. Many fairgoers have told us that watching the chainsaw carving is their favorite thing to see at the fair. There were often people standing in line waiting to talk to AJ. I don't have the exact numbers, but it's in the range of 28 years or more that AJ carved at his main fairs. When time and some health issues made it more difficult for AJ to do a fair by himself, he asked me if I would work the fairs with him. I said, "Absolutely, I would consider it an honor". So for about seven years we both carved at his fairs, which included the Iowa and Kansas state fairs.

AJ's favorite county fair was at Hampton, IA (Franklin county). I often teased him about being Hampton's "favorite son" and I wasn't way off on that as they loved him and treated him like royalty. Most mornings one of the fair board members would bring us fresh fruit to snack on. Near the carving pit was a building where they cranked out homemade ice cream all day long. If we headed that direction, one of the board members was giving us ice cream. One year near the end of the fair, AJ threw his back out. He could hardly walk, not to mention

carve. Hampton is a small town, and the fair board arranged for AJ to go to the Chiropractor early Sunday morning. I drove him there, he got worked over, but it didn't really help him. We get to the fairgrounds, and any places available to sit were very uncomfortable for AJ. I asked a couple board members if they had anything more comfortable for AJ to sit in. They went digging through their storage and came up with a lazy boy recliner. They placed it under a shade tree by our pickups where AJ could relax and take in all the action. Another year, the board asked him to come early and be the Grand Marshall (I was saying that he was the "Grand Poobah"... of their parade. Treated like royalty, yes... but he deserved it.

Another favorite memory from Hampton... when long before social media, carvers were connecting on a bulletin board style forum which we called the "Yellow forum". A bit of a bruhaha had kicked up on the forum regarding an upcoming competition at Storm Lake, Iowa. Steve Backous, a friend and west coast carver liked to have his fun on the forum and without missing a beat started writing a (fictional) story about the "World Chainsaw Carving Championship" taking place where else but Iowa. One of the carvers in the story was a guy named "Tynan". In Steve's defense I'm sure that any similarities or resemblance to real or fictional characters was purely coincidental... Anywho... another



Photo provided by Gary Keenan.

chapter" of the story was being written and posted everyday. So at breakfast AJ and I had to read the newest chapter and one morning as we were reading there was a bit about Tynan standing at the sink washing out his thong... and we busted out laughing so hard I spit out my coffee. Steve is quite the writer and the overall story was great. Those were also the days when the real Tynan and Buzzsaw (a carver from Georgia) had this hobby of verbally beating each other up on the forum as well. I miss you Tynan!

Most of these pics were taken at my place where we've had a late fall get together with some carvers from this area. The pic with AJ and a little bear, was when he visited us at the Iowa state fair about five years ago... and we talked him into doing a small carving. Even if it was a push for him, we could tell he enjoyed doing it... and it was a nostalgic moment. We were lucky enough to have AJ at my place just two months ago.

You had quite the ride AJ! Rest in peace my friend, you will be missed...



Photo provided by Gary Keenan.



Photo provided by Gary Keenan.



Photo provided by Gary Keenan.

## School Board Votes to Replace Activities Director Role at HS

BY JENNIFER BURNHAM  
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

The Hampton-Dumont Community School District Board voted to replace the high school's current Activities Director with an administrative position during a special Jan. 6 meeting.

Christi Weiser currently serves as the high school's Activities Director and as a student advocate in a full-time role. (She is contracted to spend half of her time as the Activities Director and half of her time as a student advocate.) She has served as a student advocate for the district for the last seven years and this is her fifth year in the Activities Director position. She is the fifth Activities Director the district has had in the last ten years.

The high school's Activities Director role will be changed to an Assistant Principal/Athletic Director position that requires an administrative license. Weiser has an athletic administration license but not an educational administration license, which means she cannot serve in the new role.

During the meeting, there was also discussion of having the new administrator take over the duties of the Activities Director at the middle school, but the Board decided against it.

Currently, Dustin Moorehead has a 6/8 time teaching contract and 2/8 time Activities Director position at the middle school.

"The 9-12 portion of the Activities Coordinator position, in which Christi Weiser held, will be restructured to be an administrative licensed position in conjunction with a 9-12 assistant principal position," HDCSD Superintendent Aaron Becker told the Chronicle Tuesday morning. "Anyone that has a school administrator license may apply. Christi Weiser has a full time student advocate role that is not impacted by this restructure."

## Coach Stafford Leads 10th Year of Girls Basketball Camp

BY JENNIFER BURNHAM  
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

Coach Miranda Stafford led her tenth year of the youth girls basketball camp at HD-CAL last week.

The two-day camp prepared the children for their games for the Hampton Youth Basketball season, with boys and girls practicing at different times. Games for the youth season started on Saturday, Jan. 4.

The girl high school players helped at the different stations during camp, while Coach Stafford could be seen assisting and encouraging the young players, shouting out "nice try!" and "who made a basket?!"

Coach Stafford said she loves seeing children in the gym, being active, and that it's a great way for the older players to give back to their community and the younger children.

## MercyOne and Aetna Reach Multi-Year Agreement

PRESS RELEASE

Mason City, Iowa; December 31, 2024 – We are pleased to share Aetna, a CVS Health company, and MercyOne have reached a multi-year agreement that will allow our valued patients and members to maintain the in-network access to the MercyOne hospitals, facilities, and health care providers they trust. We are thankful for everyone's patience and support as we worked together to reach a fair agreement.

### About MercyOne

MercyOne is a connected system of health care facilities and services dedicated to helping people and communities live their best life. MercyOne's care providers and staff make health the highest priority. The system's clinics, medical centers, hospitals and affiliates are located throughout the state of Iowa and beyond. Headquartered in central Iowa, MercyOne is a member of

Trinity Health (based in Livonia, Michigan) – one of the largest not-for-profit Catholic health care systems in the nation. Learn more at MercyOne.org

## Candle-Stick Chapter DAR Meeting

PRESS RELEASE  
KIM BOSCH, SECRETARY  
CANDLE-STICK CHAPTER DAR

The Candle-Stick Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution met at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 10, 2024, at the home of Pat Sackville in Hampton with five members present. It was a special day for our Hostess Pat, who was also celebrating her birthday! After our Business Meeting, our Regent Linda Allan led our Program on Christmas Traditions. The other members in attendance shared their family Christmas Traditions with each other. Our Hostess served us a delicious lunch following the Program.

Our next Candle-Stick Chapter DAR meeting will be held at 1:30 p.m. at the Hampton United Methodist Church Library on Tuesday, January 14, 2025. Our Hostess will be Louise Gilchrist. The Program will be that of the Chapter Master Report (CMR). All members need to send their 2024 volunteering activities to our Regent Linda Allan before our next meeting on January 14, 2025.

Candle-Stick Chapter DAR always welcomes guests and prospective members to come join us for our meetings.

SECOND CHANCE: FROM COVER



The alternative program is located at the school district's bus barn.

stocked with food from the high school's cafeteria and a local food pantry.

Last year, staff from the Franklin County ISU Extension and Outreach Office held health/cooking classes for students in the alternative program. Vosburg said the students really enjoyed the classes and learned from them and hopes they can partner with the Extension Office again.

The mission of the program is to "provide a safe and caring environment where each student can and will learn."

"We like a personal connection," Vosburg said. "We also maintain a lot of communication with the families."

The program runs like a well-oiled machine, with some students showing up every day of the week, while others stop by a couple days a week. Vosburg said their goal is 20 hours a week or 20 percent prog-

ress each week and that she understands that looks different for every student. She works with teachers at the high school to coordinate assignments, quizzes and tests for the different classes. Some students focus on one class at a time while others juggle up to four at a time. She said they see mostly students from HD-CAL, but have had some open enrolled from West Fork and AGWSR in the past. The goal for each student is for them to graduate with a high school diploma from HD-CAL.

"I'm not as concerned about their hours as I am about their progress," she said.

Vosburg said she is happy to help the students in a number of ways — coaching them through assignments, answering questions about their progress, encouraging them to stay on track — but their success depends mostly on them.

If they want to complete all of the courses, and obtain their diplomas, they must be willing to put in the work, she said.

Students in the alternative program use an online resource called "Edgenuity," which teaches kindergarten through twelfth grade. As of 2019, Edgenuity serves more than four million students in the country. According to Vosburg, most of the students in the alternative program are juniors and seniors, but they take students all the way from freshman year to 21 years of age.

Safety is a big priority for Vosburg and the Student Support Team that she works with when considering students for the program, she added.

"This has to be a safe place for everybody," she said. "We want it to feel as safe as the high school or safer."

She works closely with the Student Success Center team at the high school, helping transition students into the alternative program as needed. Currently, the program has 20 students. A total of thirteen students graduated from the program last year with a high school diploma from HD-CAL.

"I feel like this job, in particular, is more rewarding because I see the outcomes," Vosburg said. "I see the kids that maybe wouldn't have gotten their high school education but



Alexis Vosburg in the front lobby of the building, where she often helps students with their schoolwork

did because of the program — because of the flexibility, because of the relationship-building, because of the opportunities it's able to provide. To me, that is super rewarding."

Hampton resident Miranda Guerrero has had two children go through the program, which she called a godsend.

"She genuinely cares about the students and wants them to succeed," Guerrero said. "She is absolutely amazing! If it wasn't for Alexis my older kids would have never finished school."

HD-CAL Principal Matthew Trosky

said Vosburg has done a "remarkable job" leading the program.

"She has a unique ability to connect with students and help foster a climate where students want to achieve," he said.



Donated food in the program's kitchen



Last year, the Franklin County ISU Extension and Outreach Office held health and cooking classes in the kitchen at the bus barn



One of the study rooms where students can work alone or in groups



One of the study rooms where students can work alone or in groups

BEEDS LAKE: FROM COVER



Around 70 birds were found at Beeds Lake last week. Photo by Wendi Lindley Pryor.



Some of the deceased birds were found in groups while others were more spread out. Photo by Wendi Lindley Pryor.

NIACC Honors List

The following Franklin County residents made it onto NIACC's 2024 Fall Term President's List and Dean's List.



**Alexander:**  
Jordan Peinck

**Coulter:**  
Cole Rodemeyer

**Dumont:**  
Jalayah Ivey

**Hampton:**  
Edwin Flores  
Miranda Garcia-Sosa

Alexa Hinders  
Katelyn McRoberts  
Aiden Polk  
Olivia Steele

**Sheffield:**  
Andrew Atkinson

Congratulations to all!

80th Birthday

Ken Lubkeman will be 80 years young on Saturday, January 18th. Please extend birthday wishes to him at PO Box 477, Latimer, IA 50452, or lubkemanarol@gmail.com or text 641-430-9471



**PRO RACING THIS WEEK**  
Racing News, Stats & Trivia

**This Week's Racing News**  
NASCAR Plans Massive 'Ramp Up' of Live, Streaming Content  
NASCAR's year-old \$53 million production facility in Concord, N.C., will be responsible for 50% of the content seen under the sanctioning body's new TV agreement that begins in 2025, says NASCAR President Steve Phelps. Phelps said only about 14% of the content seen in 2024 originated in the facility. However, in 2025 in addition to the networks covering NASCAR's races, there would be "robust content" through NASCAR.com, NASCAR's social channels, YouTube and Netflix. He described it as a "massive ramp up" with the facility devoted to live-event production on the weekends and feature content during the week and in the off-season. "I think that we need to do a better job keeping our fans engaged in the off-season just to keep them thirsty so when you get to the Clash, they're ready." Phelps said during Epartrade's Racing Industry Week. "We have this growing data warehouse, which is over 20 million strong. When we understand who they are, where they are, what motivates them, who their favorite driver is, what they want, we can serve them content as well."

**All-Time Top Driver's Bio**  
**Darrell Waltrip**  
Born: Feb. 5, 1947  
Cup wins: 84  
Cup top-tens: 390  
Cup championships: 3

Darrell Waltrip is a 3-time NASCAR Cup Series champion, winner of the 1989 Daytona 500, and the first 5-time winner of the Coca-Cola 600 (formerly the World 600), the Series' longest race (1978, 1979, 1985, 1988, 1989). Waltrip was born in Owensboro, Kentucky, February 5, 1947. Starting his driving career in go-karts at age 12, Waltrip entered his first stock car race just four years later. Waltrip began racing in the NASCAR Cup Series, NASCAR's top racing series, at age 25. He got his first Cup victory at Nashville International Raceway, May 10, 1975, at age 28, in the Music City 420. Waltrip went on to win 83 more NASCAR Cup Series races during his career. He still holds many NASCAR records, more than a decade after his retirement as an active driver. He had 12 wins at Bristol Motor Speedway, seven of which were consecutive wins beginning in 1981, and ending April 1, 1984, (a track and Cup Series record for any driver, all time). Waltrip also became the first NASCAR driver to be awarded \$10 million in race winnings. He is a 2-time winner of NASCAR's Most Popular Driver Award, (1989, 1990), was the "American Driver of the Year", (1979, 1981, 1982), and was named "NASCAR's Driver of the Decade".

**Racing History**  
**January 10, 1921** - On this date, Ray Elder, a west coast driver, beat all of the regular series veterans in an upset at the season opening Motor Trend 500 at Riverside in California. Elder won 47 races on the NASCAR Pacific Coast Late Model Series, which is the second most all-time victories. He was inducted into the West Coast Stock Car Hall of Fame in its first class in 2002.

**Racing Trivia**  
**In 1989, who won NASCAR Rookie of the Year honors?**

a) Darrell Waltrip c) Davey Allison  
b) Dick Trickle d) Derrick Cope

ANSWER: (a) Dick Trickle

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Correction and Retraction Policy

The Hampton Chronicle strives for accurate and complete news reporting, but occasionally we get it wrong. In cases where an error has been made, we will run a correction, clarification, retraction, or editor's note in the next edition. Our goal in any event is to inform readers of corrections clearly and quickly, citing the incorrect information and updating with the correct information.

Corrections will be printed on page two in the next issue published. The correction will denote the issue, article and incorrect information along with the correction. Digital corrections will also be made, and an editor's note will be added to the bottom of the article in question noting what was inaccurate and noting when the article was amended. If the article was posted on Facebook, Twitter, or any other online medium controlled by the Hampton Chronicle, a post will be made linking to the corrected article, noting the correction.

**First Amendment to the Constitution**

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

**STATE of IOWA MOTTO**

Our liberties we prize and our rights we will maintain.

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Where the will of men exceeds the rule of law, there, tyranny prospers.

**It's NEWS To US!**

- If you're having a party.
- If you have out-of-town guests.
- If you take a trip.
- If a son or daughter leaves for college, or comes back for a visit.
- If a son or daughter enlists in the Armed Forces.
- If a son or daughter receives scholastic honors.
- If someone in your family or business receives a promotion, job change or retires.
- If a former resident passes away.
- If you entertain at a dinner or a party.
- If your club meets.
- If your class holds or plans a reunion.
- If you're celebrating a wedding anniversary.
- If you move out of town.
- If someone moves into your neighborhood.
- If someone enters a hospital.
- If a business is opening or closing.
- If something interesting is happening.

The Hampton Chronicle attempts to cover the news in Franklin county and adjoining areas as thoroughly as possible, and we appreciate it when you let us help you get the word out! We hope you'll let us know if you have news by emailing news@hampton-chronicle.com, or by calling or texting 515-988-3726.

**Thanks for letting us know!**

**THE SENIOR SCENE**

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**MONDAY-FRIDAY from 8 a.m.-4 p.m.**

**ACTIVITIES**

Monday, Jan. 13

1:00 BINGO

Tuesday, Jan. 14

12:30 CRIBBAGE

Wednesday, Jan. 15

12:45 500 CARDS OR

HAND & FOOT

Thursday, Jan. 16

1:00 BINGO

Friday, Jan. 17

STAY & PLAY

**GREAT LUNCHES AT 11:30**  
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 Call 456-5191 For Reservations

*Menu*

**Monday, Jan. 13**

Sloppy Joes - Vegetable - Fruit

**Tuesday, Jan. 14**

Taco Casserole - Mexican Rice - Black Beans/Refried Beans - Cookie

**Wednesday, Jan. 15**

Lasagna - Garlic Bread - Salad - Fruit

**Thursday, Jan. 16**

Chicken - Potato Wedges - Vegetable - Banana Bread

**Friday, Jan. 17**

Tuna Casserole - Tater Tots - Vegetable - Fruit

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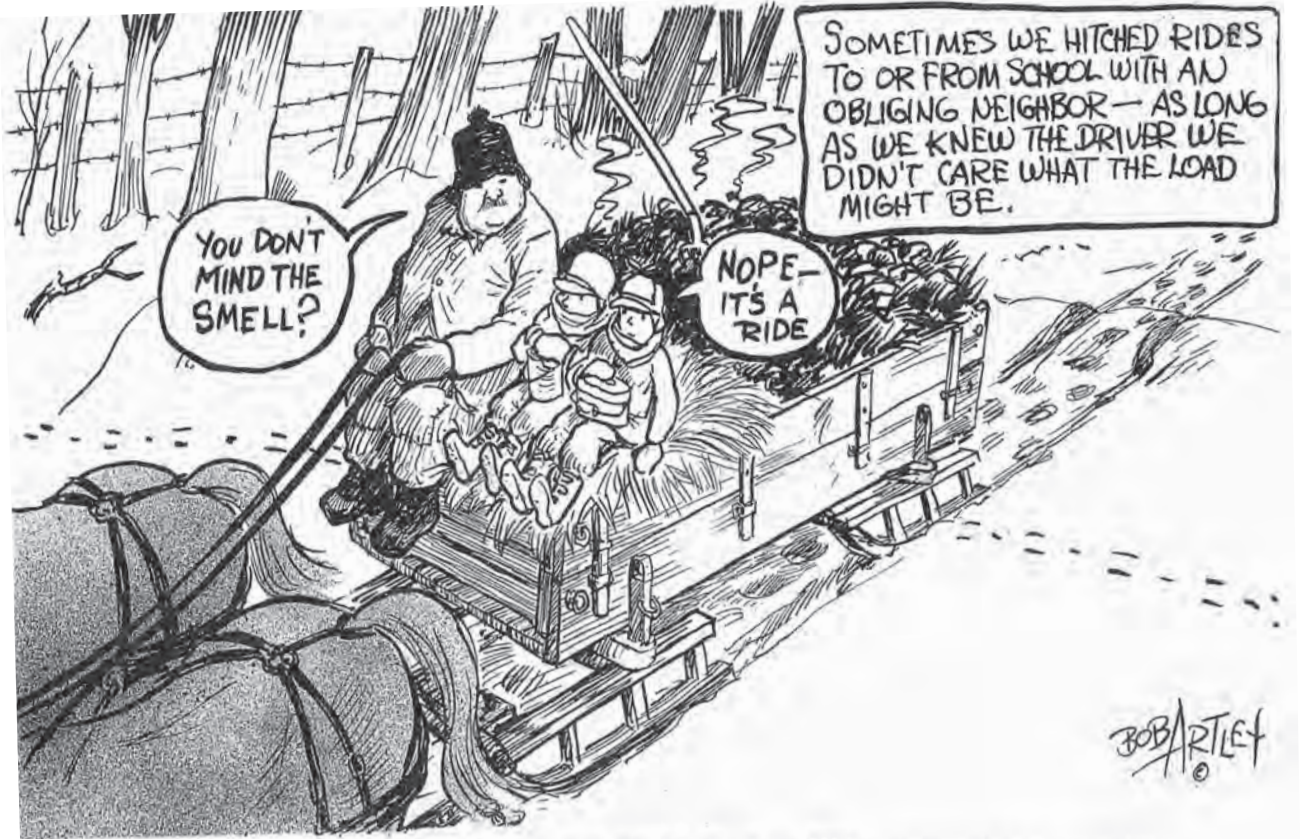
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**Delivering a Conservative Agenda For America**



**REP. RANDY FEENSTRA**  
 COLUMNIST

On November 5 th , 2024, the American people delivered a mandate for our government by electing President Trump and Republican majorities to Congress. Like me, our families and neighbors want secure borders, safe communities, a strong economy, and an affordable cost of living. It is now our responsibility to honor the will of the voters and get our country back on track.

First, we must secure our border. President Biden—and his less-than-effective border czar, Kamala Harris—allowed illegal immigration to balloon from the low levels we saw from

President Trump's first term. According to estimates from the Center for Immigration Studies, the illegal immigrant population grew to 14 million this year. This presents an incredible financial burden to American taxpayers to the tune of over \$150 billion

per year. I am committed to working with President Trump—and our new border czar, Tom Homan—to cut the flow of fentanyl and other illegal substances through our southern border.

However, the flow of fentanyl often doesn't just start in South or Central America. According to a U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) intelligence report, China remains the primary source of fentanyl and related substances. This is just one entry in a long list of the subtle acts of aggression from China. The People's Republic of China (PRC) continues to attempt to purchase American farmland and plots of land near airports and U.S. military bases. Threats of this nature should never come to our shores. In the 118 th Congress, I introduced and co-sponsored numerous pieces of legislation to combat the growing threats on our freedom from China. The Protecting U.S. Farmland and Sensitive Sites from Foreign Adversaries Act and the Defend America's Rural Energy Act both targeted the purchase of land by China.

Second, we must rebuild our economy. It has been said many times, but it remains true—Bidenomics proved disastrous for American households, farms, and small businesses. The Senate Joint Economic Committee reported that the typical household

now spends an additional \$11,434 to maintain the same standard of living they enjoyed in 2021. Economic pressure has been felt on all fronts. One of the biggest priorities for the new Congress is the update and reauthorization of President Trump's Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) of 2017. In the past, I have cosponsored legislation to make the TCJA permanent. Serving on the House Ways and Means Committee, I will work with my colleagues to extend the TCJA and protect these important tax cuts for our families, farmers, and businesses.

Another priority for the 119 th is restoring American energy independence. It's no secret that the average household pays much more for their energy costs than they did when President Trump ended his first term in office. This burden is felt by farmers, small businesses, and manufacturers as well—increasing costs on our main streets. The Biden administration has also made our nation increasingly dependent on foreign energy.

The U.S. Energy Information Administration notes that U.S. crude oil imports increased in 2023.

For the past four years, foreign nations have been given the opportunity to surpass American energy production and threaten our national security by applying pressure to energy independence. The solution to these issues is grown

right in our fields. Ethanol and other biofuels hold the key to cheap, American energy.

Finally, we must continue to stand up for our farm producers. On my 36 County Tour of 2024, one of the most common reports from our communities was the importance of passing a new, revitalized Farm Bill. Unfortunately, Senate Democrats spent two years playing politics at the expense of the American farmer. In the 119 th Congress, my Republican colleagues and I will work to finally provide our producers with the resources they need to prosper in the international marketplace and keep the prices in our grocery aisles low. We will address soaring input prices driven by rampant government spending and allow our producers to do what they do best without bureaucrats looking over their shoulders.

There is a lot to look forward to in the coming legislative calendar, but it won't be easy. The Democrats will push back on every item of the Republican agenda. With the support of President Trump and the American people, we will make America safer, stronger, and more prosperous than ever before. I am honored to have the opportunity to represent the Fourth District of Iowa in the 119 th Congress and look forward to hearing from Iowans on how we can improve our future—together.

**Reading, Writing, and Hopping Through Life's Changes**



reading between the lines  
 with Amanda Rink

**AMANDA RINK**

"Let's put it this way: if you are a novelist, I think you start out with a 20-word idea, and you work at it and you wind up with a 200,000-word novel. We, picture-book people, or at least I, start out with 200,000 words and I reduce it to 20." - Eric Carle

I love to read. I mean, that probably goes without saying, given my job title. Reading has always been a huge part of my life. I read a lot. In 2019, I started tracking my reading stats, partly for fun and partly because I was working at the Talbot Belmont Public Library at the time. My fellow book-loving friends and I made a little competition out of it. That year, I read 78 books, and in

their '90s nostalgia stashes in search of a backup bunny, just in case.

Of course, I couldn't just make a simple request... I had to write something cute to go along with it.

That's when my husband, who has always been my biggest cheerleader, encouraged me to turn it into a full children's story. And so began the journey of self-publishing my first children's book.

I found an illustrator right away, which felt like a sign that the project was meant to be. The rest, though, was a learning curve. Formatting, design, and publishing were all new to me, and I handled every step myself. Thankfully, there was no rush. My only goal was to create something my kids and husband would be proud of.

What I didn't expect was the incredible support from my community. I've heard so many stories from fellow writers in my online groups, whether they write true crime, romance, or children's books, about how tough it is to launch a book. Many pour their hearts into their work, only to sell a handful of copies. It's heart-

breaking, and a lot of them end up feeling defeated.

So, when I checked my own sales recently, I was overwhelmed by gratitude. The response to Hoppy has been beyond anything I imagined. People in my community have even asked me to sign their copies, which is both exciting and nerve-wracking... because, let's be honest, my handwriting is atrocious!

I just want to take a moment to thank everyone who has supported this little story that means so much to me. Writing about my kids and seeing it resonate with others is a feeling I can't quite put into words.

If you'd like to purchase a copy of Hoppy, you can find it on Amazon. And if children's books aren't your thing, that's okay too, I'm just grateful you took the time to read this column.

Amanda Rink is the Editor of The Wright County Monitor and a Children's Book Author. When she isn't caring for her family, writing for the newspaper, or avoiding laundry, she can be found hiding in the woods with a cup of coffee and a romance novel.

## Budgets, Let's Start at the Very Beginning!



By Katy Flint  
Franklin County Auditor

It's officially budget season here in Franklin County (and most counties, cities, and schools across the state). I thought it might be interesting to take you through the many steps of the budget process that we take here, so you might better understand how it all works. Through the next several weeks, I'll be sharing with you exactly where we are in the process and what is going on.

Back in early December, as the Budget Director, I sent out spreadsheets to all the department heads in Franklin County. They spent the entire month looking at their expenditures, getting bids & quotes from companies, and estimating what their expenses might be for FY2026. (Let me stop and clarify that our budgeting years...or fiscal years...run from July 1 st – June 30 th so we are currently working on drafting the budget for July 1 st 2025-June 30 th 2026.) The Supervisors gave the guidance to all department heads to figure no more than a 2.5% increase to their operating budgets. Operating budgets are all expenses with the exception of wages & benefits. The Supervisors want all department heads to be very conservative and cog-

nizant in their spending, which is why they typically do put a cap on growth of expenditures.

Once I have all the department worksheets, I start importing them into the big master budget that the Supervisors will receive. The other thing I am working on during this time is figuring the amount of property taxes that we need and can generate. Back in 2023, the legislators passed a law that limits the amount of growth for taxation a county can utilize. In our situation, Franklin County is being limited to only 2% growth.

What does this mean? In the case of FY2026, it is forcing our levy rate down from the current fiscal year and ultimately means LESS property taxes. So, this is where the Supervisors really start doing their work

as they must balance the rising costs and inflation of goods and services, but doing it with less money.

The next step is the Supervisors meeting with each department head individually. They will spend time talking to each dept head about their drafted budget, find where cuts could possibly be made, special projects or purchases that might need to take place, etc. This helps them narrow in on a more solid budget. These meetings will all take place next week and are open to the public, just like all Supervisor meetings.

Make sure to come back next week to find out more about the budgeting process. As always, if you have questions about the county's budget process, do not hesitate to contact me. Until next time...

## SUDOKU

6				1			3	
				4				6
3						8	7	9
							4	
1	5					9		
	8		2			7		
4			5	3	8			
	7							
				2		1		4

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

LEVEL: INTERMEDIATE

4	6	1	9	2	7	8	3	5
5	8	3	4	7	6	9	2	1
7	2	9	8	3	5	6	1	4
8	9	7	5	1	9	2	7	8
1	4	1	4	1	4	1	4	1
9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
6	7	4	3	4	9	5	1	6
2	3	2	4	3	2	4	3	2

THIS WEEK'S SUDOKU IS SPONSORED BY:



In the school voucher debate I hear that religious schools are stealing funds from public schools. This is a small example of an entire mindset accepting our existence as enslaved people. We are forced to pay for an entire education system that is not ours by choice. This system is not necessary for an orderly and prosperous society.

The lack of willing workers for small business people is evidence that education guided by government has failed. A need for education will produce a system that best fills that need if given the freedom to do so. When Henry gets his first paycheck will he be able to truthfully say, "This is mine.?"

## The Truth Shall Set You Free



THE ALTERNATIVE  
FRITZ GROSZKRUGER  
THE ALTERNATIVE

All our friends have exceptional grandchildren. I've always thought they were a bit over the top. I made fun of them for fawning over their grandchildren. People can make fun of me and I don't mind at all. Laughter is good. Now, I'm one of those people who have exceptional grandchildren. As I write this I even wonder if I should capitalize grandchildren, because

of Henry. The kids (Mandy, Karl, Darby (8), and Henry (6) were on their way up from Southern Iowa the day after Christmas when they stopped at a convenience store. The clerk said to Henry, "So did Santa bring you lots of presents?" Henry said, "No, my parents did... I know the truth." Henry was a bit presumptuous in saying he knows the truth, I suppose. Otherwise I'd ask him for stock tips. He could be my fact checker. Knowing the truth about Santa is not necessarily a bad thing. It's a start toward being a valuable part of the human race. What's so bad about getting presents from your parents? Henry is part of a generation that will at least have more access to the truth. That was not the case in the Walter Cronkite

days. Donald Trump's victory in November may have come from a great distrust in mainstream media. There was a large demographic who listened to podcasts, skeptics following conversations of people who were marginalized because their knowledge might rock the boat. I remember Neil Young and Joni Mitchell pulling their body of work from streaming service, Spotify, because Joe Rogan talked with doctors who questioned the safety and efficacy of a "vaccine" with no conventional testing protocol. Rogan helped expose massive profits manufactured by government mandates and subsidies rather than an honest and voluntary market. Rogan spoke with a woman who wrote a book

about so-called transgender children having preemptive surgeries and hormone treatments. Children. The mainstream media treated these bizarre treatments like a tonsillectomy, further evidence of elusive truth. Then there's the Supreme Court nominee who didn't know what a woman is because she is "not a biologist." She was confirmed. I'm reminded of my idea that we old folks need children to help with our phones and computers. Henry knows what a woman is. I always seem to fall back on the Tonkin Gulf incident, or Iraq's weapons of mass destruction as lies with horrific consequences. But what about Santa Claus? Are kids being programmed to believe they are entitled to free stuff?

### Letter to the Editor Policy

The Hampton Chronicle welcomes the opinions of our readers in the form of letters to the editor, as long as the submissions are not in bad taste and refrain from attacking individuals without supporting documentation or a rational and legally defensible justification. In any event the newspaper reserves the sole discretion to decide whether or not a reader submission will be published. If your letter is selected it will be run on a single occasion and you agree to give us the right to publish it in print and digital form. The Hampton Chronicle will not accept letters that are duplicated, reprinted, copied, or otherwise reproduced. Letters should be original, typewritten or neatly handwritten. Letters should not exceed 300 words. Letters exceeding this length could be subject to editing and may not be published in their entirety. The Hampton Chronicle does not as a general rule print form letters or letters which are also submitted to other newspapers. We are most interested in sincere personal views as opposed to canned publicity releases or talking

points for an individual or a cause, therefore if a writer cannot assure us that their submission is individual and personal, it may be rejected. Your Letter to the Editor must include:
 

- Your full name with signature
- Your complete address
- Your telephone number

 Your address and telephone number will not be printed in the newspaper, but will be used for verification by newspaper editorial staff. Unsigned letters and letters containing personal attacks the newspaper deems to be of a libelous nature will not be published. The Hampton Chronicle reserves the right to end debate on a topic after both sides have had ample chance to express their views. The Hampton Chronicle reserves the right to edit or refuse all letters. All columns and letters on the opinion page are the views of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Hampton Chronicle.

### Correction and Retraction Policy

The Hampton Chronicle strives for accurate and complete news reporting but occasionally we get it wrong. In cases where an error has been made we will run a correction, clarification, retraction or editor's note in the next edition. Our goal in any event is to inform readers of corrections clearly and quickly, citing the incorrect information and updating with the correct information. All corrections will be printed on page 2A in the next issue published. The correction will denote the issue, article and incorrect information along with the correction. Digital corrections will also be made and an editor's note will be added to the bottom of the article in question noting what was inaccurate and noting when the article was amended. If the article was posted on Facebook, Twitter or any other online medium controlled by The Hampton Chronicle, a post will be made linking to the corrected article, noting the correction.

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## Code Counsel: Fiscal Management

BY JIM DAVIES  
MEMBER AT LARGE,  
HAMPTON CITY  
COUNCIL

Chapter 7 of the City of Hampton Code of Ordinances establishes policies and provides for rules and regulations governing the management of the financial affairs of the city.

The budgeting process for the next fiscal year (FY26) begins this month. City Manager Ron Dunt is the finance and accounting officer of the city and is responsible for the administration of the provisions of Chapter 7 which includes operating budget preparation.

Section 5 of Chapter 7 outlines the operating budget preparation process. The annual operating budget of the city shall be prepared in accordance with the following:

1. Proposal Prepared. The finance officer shall be responsible for the preparation of the annual budget details, for review by the mayor and council and adoption by the council in accordance with directives of the mayor and council.

2. Boards and Commissions. All boards, commissions, and other

administrative agencies of the city that are authorized to prepare and administer budgets must submit their budget proposals to the finance officer for inclusion in the proposed city budget at such time and in such form as required by the council.

3. Submission to council. The finance officer shall submit the completed budget proposal to the council.

4. Council Review. The council shall review the proposed budget and may make any adjustments to the budget which it deems appropriate before accepting such proposal for publication, hearing, and final adoption.

5. Notice of Hearing. Upon adopting a proposed budget, the council shall set a date for a public hearing and cause notice of such hearing and a summary of the proposed budget to be published not less than ten nor more than twenty days before the date established for the hearing. Proof of such publication must be filed with the county auditor.

6. Copies of Budget on File. Not less than twenty days before the date that the budget must be certi-

fied to the county auditor and not less than ten days before the public hearing, the clerk shall make available enough copies of the detailed budget to meet the requests of taxpayers and organizations and have them available for distribution at the offices of the mayor and clerk and at the city library.

7. Adoption and Certification. After the hearing, the council shall adopt, by resolution, a budget for at least the next fiscal year and the clerk shall certify the necessary tax levy for the next fiscal year to the county auditor and the county board of supervisors. The tax levy certified may be less than, but not more than, the amount estimated in the proposed budget. Two copies each of the detailed budget as adopted and of the tax certificate must be transmitted to the county auditor.

The total maximum property tax dollars for this fiscal year (FY25) and affected property tax levy established by Resolution 2024-13 approved by the Hampton City Council on April 25, 2024, was \$1,771,160 or \$15.17711/thousand.

A city budget finally ad-

opted for the following fiscal year becomes effective July 1 and constitutes the city appropriation for each program and purpose specified therein.

Section 6 of Chapter 7 establishes how the budget can be amended.

Any increase in the amount appropriated to a program or any transfer of appropriation from one program to another must be prepared, adopted and subject to protest in the same manner as the original budget.

Any transfer of appropriation from one activity to another activity within a program must be approved by resolution of the Council.

The finance officer, who is the city manager, shall have the authority to adjust, by transfer or otherwise, the appropriations allocated within a specific activity without prior Council approval.

January budget workshops are scheduled for Mondays the 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th if needed. Regular January council meetings are scheduled for Thursdays the 9th and 23rd. The public is invited to attend all workshops and meetings.

## WORDS OF WISDOM



Who has co-hosted Dick Clark's New Year's Rockin' Eve since 2006, and is the new game show host for Wheel of Fortune? Answer: Ryan Seacrest.

What song, traditionally played on New Year's Eve, is about preserving old friendships and looking back over the events of the year? Answer: Auld Lang Syne.

\*\*\*\*\*

This week's trivia questions:

What college football bowl game has been played annually in New Orleans, Louisiana since 1935?

What college football bowl game has been played in Dallas, Texas every year since 1937?

What college football bowl game has been played in Miami, Florida every year since 1935?

\*\*\*\*\*

Jan. 8 is Earth's Rotation Day, and World Literary Day; Jan. 9 is National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day, and International Choreographers Day; Jan. 10 is National Cut Your Energy Costs Day, and Save the Eagles Day; Jan. 11 is National Milk Day, and World Sketchnote Day; Jan. 12 is National Pharmacists Day, National Youth Day, and National Hot Tea Day; Jan. 13 is Public Radio Broadcasting Day, National Sticker Day, and National Fourth Graders Day; Jan. 14 is Organize Your Home Day, and International Kite Day.

\*\*\*\*\*

This week is Elvis Presley Birthday Celebration Week.

\*\*\*\*\*

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths."

– Proverbs 3:5-6

\*\*\*\*\*

"And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will."

– Romans 12:2

\*\*\*\*\*

"In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

– Matthew 5:16

\*\*\*\*\*

HELP! My brother has 2 tickets to the Super Bowl. My brother has 2 tickets to the upcoming Super Bowl! He was so excited and paid the \$3,500 for each ticket as soon as they went on sale. However, he didn't realize that the game would land on the day of his wedding.

If you are interested, he is looking for someone to take his place.. It will be at St. Francis Church in Des Moines, Iowa at 3:45 p.m. She is 5' 7" and weighs about 145 pounds. She's a great cook, and will be in the white dress!

\*\*\*\*\*

Air Force One gets caught in a snowstorm in Iowa and crashes. Because most of the roads are out, it takes emergency responders a long time to reach the wreck. When they get there, they see a farmer.

"Did you see the plane crash?" asked the EMTs. "Yup. Sure did. Buried them all too," answered the farmer.

"None of them survived?"

"Well, the president said he did, but you know what a liar he is."

\*\*\*\*\*

A guy walks into a store in Iowa and says, "I'd like to buy that .50 cal sniper rifle with 4,000 rounds of ammunition and a box of penicillin."

The store clerk replies, "Sorry Sir, I'm going to have to see some paperwork for that penicillin."

\*\*\*\*\*

The Iowa State Cyclones football team has played in 19 bowl games, starting with the Sun Bowl against LSU in 1971. The Cyclones have played in a bowl game seven of the last eight years, the most recent being a 42-41 win over the Miami Hurricanes in this year's Pop-Tarts Bowl in Orlando, Florida.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Iowa Hawkeyes football team has played in 37 bowl games, including 35 since 1981. The Hawkeyes' first bowl game appearance was a win over Oregon State in the 1957 Rose Bowl. Their most recent bowl game was a 27-24 loss to Missouri in this year's Music City Bowl in Nashville, Tennessee. Iowa's record in bowl games is 18-18-1.

\*\*\*\*\*

## DAR Plaques Missing

BY LEE NELSON

Two historic bronze plaques placed in Franklin County by the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) are missing.

Franklin County Deputy Sheriff Joshua Einspahr stopped at the Greater Franklin County Chamber of Commerce office on Tuesday, December 31

to speak with GFCCC interim director Jim Davies, who is also on the Franklin County Historical Society (FCHS) board of directors.

Einspahr was following up on a phone call received by the Law Enforcement Center of a plaque missing from a stone marker located on 95th Street south of Hampton. Another plaque was also missing

from a stone marker on the corner of 210th Street (Chapin Road) and Mallard Avenue, north of Hampton. Einspahr was enquiring whether the Historical Society had perhaps temporarily removed them for maintenance purposes.

Davies was not aware of any work being done by FCHS and contacted Louise Gilchrist, treasurer of the Candlestick Chapter of the DAR. The missing plaques, along with six other plaques, had been placed at historic sites throughout the county by the Candlestick Chapter. Gilchrist confirmed with Linda Allan, Regent of the Candlestick Chapter, that they had not removed the plaques.

According to the inci-

dent report filed by Einspahr, the two plaques were secured onto the boulders using four screws and it appeared someone ground them off. The stolen plaques are made of bronze and valued at a minimum of \$200 each plus the cost of shipping and mounting. If they were stolen for scrap, the price of bronze scrap is around \$3.00 per pound.

Einspahr later checked all other Franklin County marker locations and reported that no other plaques were missing.

Anyone with information about this crime is urged to contact the Franklin County Law Enforcement Center at 641-456-2731.



The historic bronze plaque was removed from this stone located on the corner of Chapin Road (210th Street) and Mallard Avenue, north of Hampton. The plaque, presented by the Candlestick Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, honored the Old Chapin Ross House Hotel. Photo by Joshua Einspahr.



This is the missing plaque stone marker on 95th Street, 5-1/2 miles south of Hampton. The marker commemorates the site of Maysville (1856-1890), the first town in Franklin County but now a ghost town. Photo by Joshua Einspahr.

## New Sign at Church of Christ



The Hampton Church of Christ, 811 4th St. NE, has a new sign bringing light to north Highway 65. In the background is their beautiful new house of worship that was built in 2022. The property, north of Casey's, was land owned by Ferris Nursery. Photo by Lee Nelson.

# What's At The Windsor

**BY JIM DAVIES**  
WINDSOR THEATRE  
MANAGER

Gladiator II will show at the Windsor Theatre starting Friday, January 10 through Thursday, January 16.

Showtimes are Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Wednesday and Thursday at 7 pm with a Sunday matinee at 1 pm.

Gladiator II, distributed by Paramount Pictures, is rated R for strong, bloody violence. The run time is 148 minutes.

Plot: Years after witnessing the death of Maximus at the hands of his uncle, Lucius must enter the Colosseum after the powerful emperors of Rome conquer his home. With rage in his heart and the future of the empire at stake, he looks to the past to find the strength and honor needed to return the glory of Rome to its people.

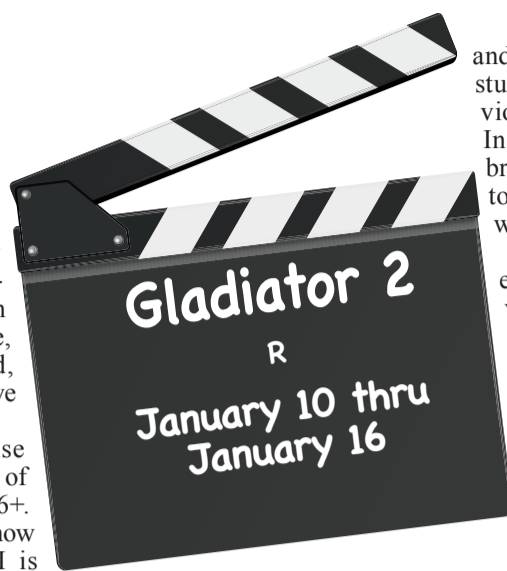
Rotten tomatoes' Tomatometer certifies it as FRESH with all critics (374 reviews) giving it a 71% and a 6.6 out of 10 rating. The Popcornmeter (10,000+ verified audience ratings) gives it 82% and a 4.2 out of 5-star rating.

Internet Movie Database (IMDb) gives this adventure epic 6.7/10 stars.

Metacritic.com (64 critics) shows a generally favorable Metascore of 64 with 38 (61%) positive, 22 (35%) mixed, and 2 (3%) negative reviews.

Common Sense Media gives it 3 of 5 stars for age 16+. Parents need to know that Gladiator II is the sequel to the historical epic Gladiator (2000). Like the original film, it has pervasive graphic, bloody violence, including many scenes set in the Roman arena in which gladiators battle animals and one another.

In hand-to-hand combat, gladiators are punched, thrown, and stabbed; one is beheaded, and another's arm is cut off (the bloody stump is shown at length). Main characters are shot with arrows, have their throats slit, and are beheaded (the heads are then carried around and displayed to make a political point). Gladiators also take on



(computer-generated imagery) animals such as baboons and a rhinoceros; the animals are bloodied and killed. One scene features a naval battle in the Coliseum: Sharks are in the water and bloodily dispatch any gladiator who falls in. Female characters serve largely as props to motivate male characters—one is killed early in the movie to spur her husband's bloody revenge.

Language is infrequent but includes "whore," "bitch," and "damn." Characters drink too much in many scenes, calling for more wine during parties

and slurring their words, stumbling, and calling for violence after drinking. In one scene, a character breathes in opium smoke to kill the pain from a wound treatment.

Characters are generally White and conventionally attractive; Denzel Washington's Macrinus is a welcome exception. Paul Mescal (Lucius Verus Aurelius) and Pedro Pascal (General Acacius) also star. Derek Jacobi (Senator Gracchus) reprises his role from the original film as does Connie Nielsen (Lucius's mother).

Both adult and youth price is \$5 for an R rated movie. Youth under age 17 require a parent or adult guardian to accompany them during the movie. The price at the door for those aged 50 and over is \$3 on Sunday. Tickets are \$3 each for everyone at the door on Wednesday and Thursday.

The following credit cards are accepted: Mastercard, Visa, Discover, American Express, and Apple Pay. A four percent service charge is added to each credit card charge.



Tickets can also be purchased online at [www.windsortheatre.com](http://www.windsortheatre.com). A convenience fee of 50 cents per ticket is charged for online purchases.

Upcoming movies at the Windsor Theatre include Sonic the Hedgehog 3 (Jan. 17-23) and Mufasa: The Lion King (Jan. 24-30).

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**WINDSOR THEATRE**

**NOW SHOWING**  
**"Gladiator 2"**  
R

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**Mufasa: The Lion King**  
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# Chamber-Main Street News and Knows

**BY JIM DAVIES**  
INTERIM DIRECTOR

The Greater Franklin County Chamber of Commerce (GFCCC) will soon be sending out membership renewal invoices along with a brochure highlighting what a membership provides. Please note that membership dues have not increased in 20 years.

Your investment, both financial and time, enables us to support economic growth by improving the quality of life and business climate in the Franklin County area. This is accomplished through the efforts of Franklin County Tourism and four committees: Economic Vitality, Organization, Promotion, and Design.

The Franklin County Tourism Board actively promotes and markets Franklin County as a tourist destination for day and overnight visitors. Tourism

grants are available.

The Economic Vitality Committee's goal is to build a commercial district that responds to the needs of today's consumers by strengthening existing economic assets and diversifying its economic base through retaining and expanding successful businesses. Its objectives are to provide a balanced commercial mix, sharpen competitiveness, expand the merchandising skills of business owners, attract new businesses that the market can support, and convert unused or underused commercial space into economically productive property.

The Organization Committee prepares annual fundraising initiatives, promises membership involvement, and establishes consensus and cooperation by building partnerships with the residences and commercial district stake-



holders to provide effective, ongoing management and advocacy for the community.

The Promotion Committee develops advertising, retail promotions, special events, and marketing campaigns that create a positive image that will rekindle community pride while improving consumer and investor confidence

in the commercial district throughout the county. The communications express the commercial districts' unique characteristics, business establishments, and activities to shoppers, investors, potential business and property owners, and visitors to stimulate activity.

The Design Committee's goal is to enhance

the visual and physical appearance of the corridor, its commercial district, and create a safe and inviting environment for shoppers, workers, and visitors. The focus is historic preservation. The Design Committee can assist local developers, contractors, and business owners working on renovations, façade improvements, or new building development. Design and technical assistance are available. Building Improvement Grants are available to property/business owners within the Hampton TIF district providing up to \$2,000 in matching funds.

A new sub-committee called Main Street Hampton Committee, made up of 7-10 people, is being organized to guide the implementation of the local Main Street program allowing the Chamber board to focus on the county-wide mission of the GFCCC.

As Interim Director, I will guide the Chamber/Main Street program until a permanent replacement can be found to fill the director position.

If you would like to know more about Chamber/Main Street committees and volunteer to serve on a committee, please stop by the GFCCC office at 5 First St. SW, Hampton or call the office at 641-456-5668. You can also call or text me on my cell phone at 641-425-4707.

Nobody makes a journey alone. Be aware of the needs of others. We all need companions. Let's work together to encourage and challenge one another to be the best that we can be, making our community the best it can be.

Thank you for your support and involvement with the GFCCC.



107 people attended Wicked this last weekend compared to 121 the weekend before. Two more showings Wednesday and Thursday night 7 PM.

## NIACC To Offer ESL Classes in Hampton

**PRESS RELEASE**  
NORTH IOWA AREA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

North Iowa Area Community College (NIACC) is excited to partner with La Luz Centro Cultural and offer English as a Second Language (ESL) classes in Hampton. This program is specifically designed for adults 18 and older whose first language is not English, aiming to improve their speaking, reading, writing, and listening skills in a supportive, friendly environment.

An open house and required orientation will be held on Tuesday, January 14 from 5-8pm at La Luz Centro Cultural, located at 7 2nd Ave NE in Hampton. Classes will continue to meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5-8pm at La Luz.

These sessions are structured to cater to various proficiency levels, from beginners to more advanced learners, ensuring that each participant can learn at a pace that suits them best. Class sessions are eight weeks and attendance is mandatory. Students continue to enroll in sessions until they have mastered the English language. The first 12 individuals will be enrolled in the class, if more than 12 people are interested, a waiting list will be started.

"There is a great need for ESL instruction in the Hampton area and we look forward to providing this service in the community," said Molly Anderegg, Director of Education to Employment at NIACC. "Our goal is to help individuals improve their English skills as well as learn how to navigate additional education, employment, and American culture."

For more information visit <https://www.niacc.edu/business-and-workforce-solutions/adult-literacy/english-second-language-esl/> or contact the NIACC Adult Education Department at [ael@niacc.edu](mailto:ael@niacc.edu) or 641-422-4278.

The mission of North Iowa Area Community College (NIACC) is to enrich lives through comprehensive educational opportunities, a commitment to learner success, community engagement, and leadership. Founded in 1918, NIACC is a nationally-recognized, two-year college located in central North Iowa, serving approximately 3,000 career and transfer students each year. Recognized by the Aspen Institute as one of the nation's leading community colleges, NIACC is where futures are found. Start your journey today at <https://www.niacc.edu/apply-mkt/>. Future, Found.

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Franklin County Home Care Service is accepting applications for a Certified Nurses Aid at a beginning wage of \$18.99 or Homemaker at beginning wage of \$16.44. Mileage reimbursement is allowed for travel. This position is full-time. Applicants will provide services in homes within Franklin County to support independently in their home with intermittent care. Job assignments include personal care assistance, light house cleaning, laundry, meal prep, and other assigned tasks. Work schedule may vary during regular daytime hours. Applicants must have a valid driver's license and complete a Physical and Drug Screening test. Application open until the job is filled. For more information, call 641-456-5830. EOE employer

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#### For Information

Contact: Murphy Realty & Mgmt.  
PO Box 476  
Algona, IA 50511  
515-295-2927



### FOR SALE

Building lot at corner of Third and Gilman, Sheffield. Formerly The Peppermint Inn. Phone 1-909-659-6521. Chuck Towle. 4290 F. St, San Bernardino, California 92407

### HELP WANTED

Help Wanted-Government POLICE OFFICER: Indianola Police Department will begin taking applications for the positions of Police/Patrol Officer starting 1/6/2025. Obtain applications by visiting <https://indianolaiowa.applicant-pro.com/jobs>, choose Police Officer. Deadline 2/7/2025 EOE

### NOTICE

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### SERVICES

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### WANTED

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**PT cleaner needed** for office building in Iowa Falls, Iowa. Daytime position. \$17/hr, must pass background check and drug screen.

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**Henderson Sand & Salt Spreader Bids**  
 Bids will be accepted until 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 9, 2025.  
 Mail bids addressed as follows:  
 Henderson Sand & Salt Spreader, City of Dumont, PO Box 303, Dumont, IA 50625.  
 The City reserves the right to accept or reject all bids.  
 Questions call: 641-857-3411.

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# January Events Program



**AMERICAN LEGION'S BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER,** from 7 to 10 a.m. Dine-In and Take-out (No Drive thru). Weather permitting - Freewill offering

**MOONLIGHT SKI AND SHOE,** from 4 to 8 p.m. Try out cross country skiing and/or snow shoeing through the Maynes Grove trails, illuminated by lights along the trail and the full moon light. This event is free. Registration is not required. Skis, poles, shoes, and snow shoes are available to rent during the time of the program while supplies last.



**DOWS LEGION POTATO BAR,** Sunday 12 Jan. 11am-1pm Dine-In and Take-out (No Drive thru). Weather permitting - Freewill offering



**POP-UP MARKET @ FIRST & VINTAGE TOO!** Helping promote local businesses, a few home-businesses at a time. Every 3rd Saturday of the month- unless noted otherwise, from 10am-2pm, Downtown Hampton. Check out First and Second Vintage Facebook page to see details on the vendors for that day. If interested in being a vendor or to find out more info, please contact Jerre Grefe @ (515) 851-0518. Dine-In and Take-out (No Drive thru). Weather permitting - Freewill offering

## WEEKLY

**FIRST AND SECOND VINTAGE TOO!**  
**HOSTS:**  
 122 FIRST ST. NW, DOWNTOWN HAMPTON  
 515-851-0518

**SHOP HOURS**  
 Wed-Fri 9-5,  
 Saturday 9-4

**OPEN CERAMICS**  
 Wed-Fri 9-4  
 Saturday 9-3  
 Sundays and evenings by appointment

**ENGLISH CLASSES**  
 La Luz Centro Cultural English Class every Monday and Wednesday from 5:30-7 PM  
 7 2nd Ave NE, Hampton, IA,

**LADIES' AFTERNOON OUT PLANT BINGO!**  
 Sun, Jan 26, 2-4  
 Everyone goes home a winner!  
 BYOB, snacks provided  
 \$20 registration

## UPCOMING

### WELCOME BACK TO STORYTIME!

Storytime is for children 12 months of age through kindergarten. There will be books read, songs, rhymes, movement activities and more. Storytime will be held on Wednesday mornings at 10:30 a.m. Families are welcome to stay afterwards for playtime. There will be different toys, games, and activities provided each week for informal play. Please do not bring your own toys. Storytime will repeat at 6:00 p.m. that same day. (without playtime)

**Got an event you'd like listed in our weekly Calendar?**

**Email us at:**  
[news@hamptonchronicle.com](mailto:news@hamptonchronicle.com)

## CIVIC CALENDAR

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**  
**DETAILS:**  
 Monday 8:30 AM  
 Franklin County Courthouse

**ACKLEY CITY COUNCIL MEETING:**  
**DETAILS:**  
 Second Tuesday

**GENEVA CITY COUNCIL:**  
**DETAILS:**  
 Second Tuesday of every month  
 6:30 PM

**ALEXANDER LIBRARY BOARD:**  
**DETAILS:**  
 Third Wednesday of every month

**CAL SCHOOL BOARD:**  
**DETAILS:**  
 2nd Thursday of the month  
 at 5:30 PM

**FRANKLIN COUNTY TOURISM BOARD:**  
**DETAILS:**  
 Second Thursday,  
 4:30 PM,  
 Center 1

**ALEXANDER CITY COUNCIL:**  
**DETAILS:**  
 Alexander Library, 409 Harriman St  
 City Council meetings on the First  
 Tuesday of every month

**HANSELL CITY COUNCIL:**  
**DETAILS:**  
 Second Wednesday every month,  
 Community Center 7:00 PM

**HAMPTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD:**  
**DETAILS:**  
 Board meets every 3rd Wednesday  
 of the month, 5:15 PM-6:15 PM  
 Library board meets to discuss  
 library business, budgeting, funding  
 and happenings.

**ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT:**  
**DETAILS:**  
 5:30 PM  
 City Council Chambers

**FRANKLIN COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD:**  
**DETAILS:**  
 Second Monday of month,  
 6:30 PM  
 Maynes Grove Shelter

**COULTER CITY COUNCIL:**  
**DETAILS:**  
 Second Wednesday of the month,  
 6:30 PM

**LATIMER CITY COUNCIL:**  
**DETAILS:**  
 Second Wednesday,  
 6:30 PM

**DUMONT LIBRARY BOARD:**  
**DETAILS:**  
 Dumont Public Library  
 Second Wednesday of every month

**HAMPTON CITY COUNCIL:**  
**DETAILS:**  
 Hampton City Council meets in  
 Regular Session on the 2nd and 4th  
 Thursdays of each month at 6:00  
 PM, in the City Council Chambers.  
  
 Workshops are held on the  
 Mondays preceding the 2nd and  
 4th Thursday Regular Sessions  
 at 6:00 PM, in the City Council  
 Chambers.

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH**  
**DETAILS:**  
 Second Monday every other month  
 (usually) February 13th 4:00 PM

**DOWS CITY COUNCIL:**  
**DETAILS:**  
 First Monday of every month  
 6:00 PM

**SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL:**  
**DETAILS:**  
 Every second Monday  
 of the month at 7 PM

**HAMPTON DUMONT SCHOOL BOARD:**  
**DETAILS:**  
 Fourth Monday of the month  
 6:00 PM

**FRANKLIN COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMISSION:**  
**DETAILS:**  
 First Wednesday of month,  
 7:00 PM  
 Franklin County Law  
 Enforcement Center

**FRANKLIN COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE:**  
**DETAILS:**  
 2nd Tuesday of the month at 4:00  
 PM at Center 1

**DUMONT CITY COUNCIL:**  
**DETAILS:**  
 Second Thursday  
 7:00 PM  
 At EMS Center Dumont

**FRANKLIN COUNTY VETERANS AFFAIRS:**  
**DETAILS:**  
 First Tuesday of the Month  
 4:00 PM,  
 Franklin County Veterans Affairs  
 Office

**WEST FORK SCHOOL BOARD:**  
**DETAILS:**  
 Third Monday of the Month,  
 5:00 PM,  
 West Fork High School Sheffield

**ISU EXTENSION COUNCIL:**  
**DETAILS:**  
 ISU Extension and Outreach Office  
 6 2nd St NW, Hampton, IA 50441  
 Regional Coordinators meeting  
 every Third Monday of the month at  
 6:00 PM  
 Appointed regional coordinators  
 meet to discuss items of interest to  
 the ag community locally



Brylee Dickman reaches for a rebound during the Warhawks' win on Nov. 26. Photo by Kevin Labotka



Karma McMorris goes up for a shot during the team's win over North Iowa on Nov. 26. Photos by Kevin Labotka

## Warhawks Girls Basketball Aims to Keep Success Going

BY KEVIN LABOTKA  
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

The season is off to a good start for the West Fork Warhawks girls basketball team as the Warhawks entered the winter break with a record of 5-2 on the year. Head coach Rodney Huber said that he thought that things were pretty good during the first half of the season.

"We had an injury to Leah Weaver right before the break at the St. Ansgar game which kind of contributed to us having some issues in that game adjusting," Huber said. "Overall we played pretty well in that game and almost came out with a win."

The team had their first game

back from break on Jan. 3, against Iowa Falls-Alden. With the injury to Waver, Huber said he thought the other girls have stepped up nicely so far.

During the first half of the season, one positive for Huber was that he thought the defense has gotten better.

"The press that we like to run has continued to grow as the girls have gotten more comfortable playing with each other in it," Huber said. "It is starting to create more on ball turnovers and in the half court I think our defense has gotten more consistent and solid so that is good to see."

To keep the success the team has had so far going, Huber said that the team has to limit the

amount of turnovers they have had on offense so far.

"Even in the Iowa Falls game out of break the turnovers were too high. I think we were in the 20s or something like that. That is something that has to come down if we want to beat the really good teams on our schedules," Huber said. "We will continue to look at that stuff and try to get it fixed."

Three of the five wins the Warhawks had before break were by 10 or more points and Huber said that getting multiple wins by a large margin of victory is always nice.

"The way we play sometimes lends itself to it," Huber said. "We had some games that got close and we were able to stretch the

lead again. It is nice to be able to do that when you can."

There have been multiple players that have caught Huber's eyes so far.

"Well the three that have really stepped up since Leah's absence has been Nehir Kanat, Karma McMorris, and Brylie Hubka," Huber said. "I think those three are going to be really important for us moving forward. Hubka has really been growing and she plays inside and outside and you can see her confidence growing. Kanat is really starting to get comfortable with what we do defensively and she is kind of running the show as the lead guard. Those three have really played well."

Huber said that a goal for the Warhawks for the rest of the season is to still be in the mix for the conference title.

"Obviously we have to try to right the ship with Leah out until she can come back and hopefully this will allow the other girls to get some confidence," Huber said. "Heading into the post season we want to rack up as many wins as possible so we can get a good seed going into district play and I think this team if we continue to grow has a really good shot of going far in district play."

The Warhawks' next game is at home on Jan. 10, against Nashua-Plainfield at 6:15 p.m.

## Upcoming Sports Events

### Hampton-Dumont-CAL

Jan. 9. Girls wrestling at Iowa Falls-Alden, 6:30 p.m.  
Jan. 9. Boys wrestling at Iowa Falls-Alden, 6:30 p.m.  
Jan. 10. Girls basketball vs Algona, 6:15 p.m.  
Jan. 10. Boys basketball vs Algona, 7:45 p.m.  
Jan. 11. Girls wrestling at Trojan Tangle at West Marshall, 10 a.m.

Jan. 11. Boys wrestling at Clarion-Goldfield-Dows, 10 a.m.  
Jan. 13. Girls wrestling at Humboldt, 6 p.m.  
Jan. 14. Girls basketball vs Crestwood, 6:15 p.m.  
Jan. 14. Boys basketball vs Charles City, 7:45 p.m.

### West Fork

Jan. 9. Boys wrestling at West Fork Quad, 6 p.m.  
Jan. 10. Girls basketball vs Nashua-Plainfield, 6:15 p.m.  
Jan. 10. Boys basketball vs Nashua-Plainfield, 7:30 p.m.

Jan. 11. Girls wrestling at Allie Morrison Duals, 10 a.m.  
Jan. 13. Girls wrestling at Humboldt, 6 p.m.  
Jan. 13. Boys basketball at Clarion-Goldfield-Dows, 7:30 p.m.

To send in sports tips,  
email  
[sports@hamptonchronicle.com](mailto:sports@hamptonchronicle.com)

### FARM FOR SALE

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A PARTY.

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CELEBRATING A  
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IF A SON OR DAUGHTER  
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The Hampton Chronicle attempts to cover the news in Franklin county and adjoining areas as thoroughly as possible, and we appreciate it when you let us help you get the word out! We hope you'll let us know if you have news by emailing [news@hamptonchronicle.com](mailto:news@hamptonchronicle.com), or by calling or texting 317-443-3582

# Bulldogs Boys Wrestling Team Shows Growth During First Half of Season

BY KEVIN LABOTKA  
HAMPTON  
CHRONICLE

With the first half of the season over and the team coming back from the winter break, The Hampton-Dumont-CAL Bulldogs boys wrestling team is ready to get back to competition. Head coach Patrick Hansen said that while some things did not go their way that the first half of the season was good for the Bulldogs.

"We wrestled hard and got better and showed a lot of growth over the first half of the year," Hansen said. "We had a pretty hard schedule, so with wrestling you learn more about yourself than you do with just winning. It is not easy for the kids to deal with losing but it is hard for them to understand how much it makes them but I think we have a good group of kids that understand and the break has been nice and we are ready to get after it."

At their most recent meet before the break, the team took fifth place out of 19 teams with a score of 153.5 points at the Jim Kinyon Norsemen Invitational on Dec. 21. In that meet, Madox Strother went 10-6 and took fifth place in the 106-lbs weight class, Luke Showalter went 12-6 and took fifth place in the

120-lbs weight class, and Arnold Yahir Guerara-Barara went 1-3 in the 126-lbs weight class.

Charlie Showalter went 15-1 and took first place in the 132-lbs weight class, Jacob Mahler went 9-8 in the 138-lbs weight class, and Jaymes Stevens went 9-7 and took sixth place in the 144-lbs weight class. Ryder Strother went 5-4 and took sixth place in the 150-lbs weight class, Taylor Mahler went 13-3 and took first place in the 157-lbs weight class, Colin Bird went 13-4 and took second place in the 165-lbs weight class, and Sean Heilskov went 8-8 and took seventh place in the 175-lbs weight class. Brody Robertson went 6-9 in the 190-lbs weight class, Maddon Evans went 10-7 and took fifth place in the 215-lbs weight class, and Emmitt Elling went 5-10 in the 285-lbs weight class.

A positive for Hansen during the first half is how the younger wrestlers have been coming along and how he said the JV team also looks strong so far this year.

"Our JV, they did a lot of stuff that is hard, which is why we do it," Hansen said. "I am pretty happy with the growth they have shown with just getting better and just coming along."

In the second half of the season, Hansen said



Taylor Mahler took first place in the 157-lbs weight class at the Jim Kinyon Norsemen Invitational on Dec. 21. Photo by Molly Bird.

one thing he would like to see the team improve on is competing more.

"We have lost a lot of close matches in some of those duals that we lost and we have to get better at competing at the end of those matches," Hansen said. "Just going for broke and putting ourselves in a better situation to win. We wrestled a lot of tough matches and things like that and now it is time for the rubber to meet the

road and start putting it to people."

One improvement that Hansen has noticed from the start of the season to now is how the wrestlers have pushed the pace.

"I think we have gotten more tech falls this year than any other year in school history," Hansen said. "It is good for higher points and we have some kids that are really pushing the pace right now. They are not letting kids hang



Charlie Showalter took first place in the 132-lbs weight class at the Jim Kinyon Norsemen Invitational on Dec. 21. Photo by Molly Bird.

around on them and win by one, they are trying to win by eight or nine or 10 points and trying to get as many tech falls as they can."

A goal for the rest of the season for Hansen is that with around 30 duals left this year that the Bulldogs get a few more wins to put themselves in a good spot for when regional duals come around.

"We have a lot of district seeding duals coming up and if we put ourselves

in a good spot we have a pretty good district for us," Hansen said. "With looking at some of the teams and where the kids are at I can see us getting quite a few kids through. There are quite a few that are in good situations and we have to stay positive and keep grinding for the end of the year."

The team's next meet is on the road at Iowa Falls-Alden on Jan. 9. at 6:30 p.m.

# Hampton-Dumont-CAL Boys Basketball Prepares For Second Half of Season



Brady Harr scores a basket during the Bulldogs' loss to Webster City on Dec 13. Photo by Kevin Labotka

BY KEVIN LABOTKA  
HAMPTON  
CHRONICLE

The first half of the season might not have gone the way the Hampton-Du-

mont-CAL Bulldogs boys basketball team would have like record wise as the Bulldogs entered the winter break with a record of 1-5. But head coach Brian Niesen said that said that

he thought the team had some good moments in the first half but that they have to focus on being more consistent.

"I feel like when our halfcourt defense gets

set that was probably our strength in the first part of the season," Niesen said. "On offense we have to do a better job of finishing at the rim and taking care of the ball and those are things that we will keep working on throughout the season."

The Bulldogs had their first game back from break on Jan. 6. in a matchup against North Butler.

During the second half of the year, limiting turnovers is something that Niesen said he would like to see the team work on.

"No one wants to turn it over and just teaching kids why a certain turnover happened and trying to learn from our mistakes," Niesen said. "I think our kids have been very coachable and are willing to get better in that area. That will make everything better if we can limit our turnovers and get more shots on offense and give our defense a chance to set up."

One positive for the Bulldogs that Niesen said

he thinks the team can carry over for the second half of the season is how they played while on halfcourt defense.

"Our halfcourt defense in most games has been good and has kept us in it," Niesen said. "Teams go on a run when we have multiple turnovers in a row so getting that defense set has been a plus for us. Rebounding over all has been really good for us. Brady Harr and Caden Woods have been good for us especially and Aaden Keehn has done a good job on the glass. Those are strengths that we can build on right there."

There are multiple players who have stood out to Niesen so far.

"Brady Harr has been really good on both ends," Niesen said. "He is our leading scorer and rebounder and assists guy, Caden Woods has had some good scoring and rebounding nights, and Tramaine Horton has shown the ability to score the ball, same

as Connor Miller. Then we have young Connor Miller who is a sophomore who has been climbing up the depth chart as well as he has been playing well."

With a large turnaround in the roster compared to last season, Niesen said that he thinks the players have adjusted to the difference in playing time.

"We told them that it could be a flow," Niesen said. "Some nights you might play a lot more than others and there are a couple of sophomores that are climbing up the depth chart as well. We are trying to figure it out and lots of kids are pretty similar in their early skill levels so we are trying to figure it out and figure out which combination is right. We told them that it could change game by game and if there is a group of five that gets hot out there we are definitely going to keep them in."

The team's next game is at home on Jan. 10. against Algona at 7:45 p.m.

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## ICE FISHING



BY RICK JANSSEN

I was able to get out on the ice on December 23, 2024. Since I had just returned from Hawaii the week before, I was not sure what condition the ice was in. I did drive out to Beeds Lake the weekend before and I spotted other people out on the ice, so I knew it was safe.

I normally start my ice fishing for the season on the north shore of Beeds Lake. I park at the turn in area on the north side and walk down to the jetty below the parking area. From experience I know that the water gets deep out in front of

the jetty. I walked out to where I knew the water was deeper and I drilled about ten holes in a line out in front of the jetty. When I am ice fishing, I like to drill several holes to get started. Then I take my depth finder and check each hole. With the depth finder that I use, there is a very clear mark that shows the bottom of the lake. What I then look for is a line on my depth finder somewhere above the bottom. A "mark" or line above the bottom would indicate a fish. I will continue to drill and check holes until I find a mark on my depth finder.

On this day on the seventh hole I checked, I saw some marks above the bottom. I then pulled my little portable ice shelter over the hole and flipped the cover over my head. I got out my ice fishing pole and baited up my tiny jig with a wax worm and dropped it down the hole. I can watch the jig go down in the water on my depth finder. What

I hope for is the little mark of the fish will swim up and meet my jig mark on the way down. This would indicate some active fish. If the fish mark does not move when my jig is coming down this would indicate a very inactive fish.

Today I was in luck. My jig was slowly dropping down the hole and the fish swam up very fast and took my bait. Wow, first drop down the hole and I had an aggressive fish. Time to light up the heater. I try to get my ice shelter warm enough inside so that I can fish without my gloves. I have a much better feel of the line without my gloves on.

Since my shelter is very small it does not take much to heat it up. With my gloves off it was time to get serious.

The next time I dropped my jig down the hole another fish came up to take my bait, but I missed the hook set. This was still a good sign. When there are multiple marks on

the depth finder, and the fish are moving up aggressively that indicates that there are multiple fish in the area, and they are eager to eat. I dropped down again and had another nice bluegill on the ice. I decided I would keep ten for supper and release any others that I caught.

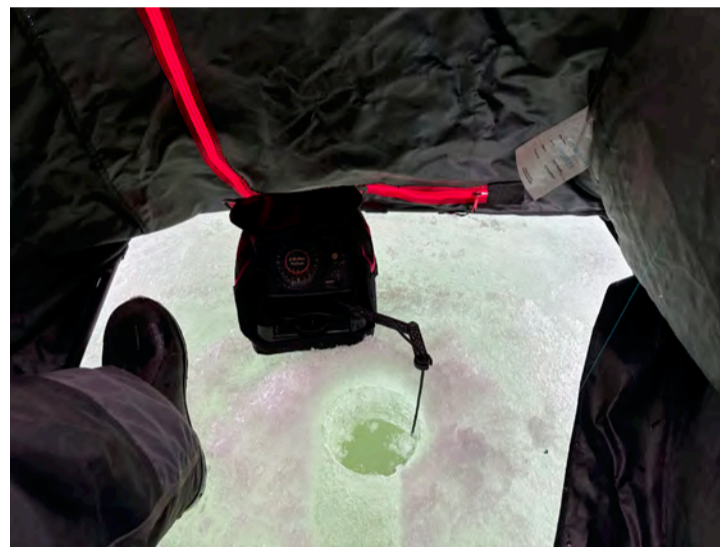
Often when I am ice fishing, I can find fish, but I can't seem to get them to bite. I then try a different color of jig or a new style. I am amazed that some small change can make a big difference. Sometimes the fish are aggressive for a period of time and then they stop biting, and I have to start over by drilling more holes and moving to another location. So far on this trip the fish were cooperating just as I wished.

It did not take long, and I had my ten fish on the ice. Now when I caught more fish, I would just put them back down the hole. Yes, I could legally keep more fish, but ten fish make a good meal for my

wife and myself so that is the number I normally take home. I can come back and catch more another day.

I am guessing I was only out for around two hours, and I caught 22 bluegills and one crappie. It was a great day. As I was packing up to leave, I looked around the lake and counted 13 other ice shacks on the lake and a few people sitting on buckets on the ice. I see I was not the only person that wanted to get out today.

Of course, around Christmas time it got very warm again and I did not want to venture out on the ice until the weather turned cold again. I also knew I would be deer hunting so that would give the ice time to harden up again. Careful what you wish for. I was out deer hunting this morning and the temperature was only 11 degrees and I see the forecast is for some very cold temps coming our way.



## Franklin County 4-H Launches 'Mooving Pedals to Dairy Delicious Smoothies' Community Initiative

**PRESS RELEASE**  
FRANKLIN COUNTY  
ISU EXTENSION AND  
OUTREACH OFFICE

HAMPTON – Franklin County Extension and Outreach is thrilled to announce the launch of a new, exciting community engagement initiative, "Mooving Pedals to Dairy Delicious Smoothies."

This hands-on activity features an interactive blender bike designed to introduce local families to the health benefits of dairy and agriculture in a fun and educational way.

Franklin County 4-H received an Undeniably Dairy grant for \$4,575 to purchase a blender bike to bring dairy to unexpected places. As our community continues to grow and diversify, Franklin County 4-H is committed to making agriculture and healthy

living accessible to everyone. By incorporating this innovative, bike-powered blender into local events, we aim to connect families of all backgrounds with the value of nutritious dairy products and foster a deeper understanding of where food comes from.

The blender bike allows participants to create and enjoy delicious smoothies. The experience combines physical activity with education, all while promoting the benefits of dairy. The bike proudly displays a dairy cow wheel pattern with the Undeniable Dairy logo alongside the Franklin County 4-H logo, you may have seen this bike pedaling at local events already this year.

Arriving to Franklin County in late October, the bike has already seen an estimated 1,000 people including teenagers and young adults at events such



Youth riding the bike at Slam the Stigma night at Hampton Dumont High School

as, Halloween Howl, 4-H Junior Fun Night, NIACC Discover Day and SLAM the Stigma Hampton Dumont Varsity basketball

game. "Mooving Pedals to Dairy Delicious Smoothies" is not only a fun activity but also a vital op-



4-H members, (left to right) William Vosburg, Peyton Kofoot, Max Kofoot and Kaitlyn Emery making strawberry smoothies using the Blender Bike at 4-H Junior Fun Night

portunity to strengthen our community's connection to agriculture and healthy eating. In 2025 we look forward to continuing this ex-

citing initiative in Franklin County and engaging families in a way that highlights the importance of dairy in a balanced diet.

## Beef Quality Assurance Certification Session

**PRESS RELEASE**  
ISU EXTENSION AND  
OUTREACH

HAMPTON, Iowa - The Iowa Beef Center and Iowa State University Extension are cooperating with the Iowa Beef Industry Council to help educate producers in Beef Quality Assurance program. A training and certification session will be held on Monday Jan. 20 from 1-3 pm at the Cerro Gordo County Extension Office at 601 S. Illinois Ave in Mason City.

BQA is a nationally coordinated, state imple-

mented program that raises consumer confidence through assuring proper management techniques and a commitment to quality within every segment of the beef industry.

BQA certification is increasingly being encouraged, and in some cases required, by market outlets for finishing cattle and this is expected to increase. BQA is a voluntary program, and the Iowa BQA Program is funded by the IBIC and the Beef Checkoff.

To pre-register for the session contact the Cerro

Gordo County Extension office at 641-423-0844. If you have questions about the BQA session contact Russ Euken at 641-923-2856 or email at [reuken@iastate.edu](mailto:reuken@iastate.edu).

Other sessions are scheduled in the state as well, check the IBIC website at [iabeef.org](http://iabeef.org) for Iowa BQA Program and other upcoming certification trainings in your area. BQA certification is also offered online at the national level, which can be accessed at [BQA.org](http://BQA.org).

## Private Pesticide Continuing Instruction Course Offered in Franklin County

**PRESS RELEASE**  
ISU EXTENSION AND  
OUTREACH

HAMPTON, Iowa – Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Franklin County office is offering one last opportunity to attend the Private Pesticide Applicator Continuing Instruction

Course (P-CIC), led by Extension Field Agronomist, Angie Rieck-Hinz. The course will be offered on January 21, 2025, 1:30 p.m., Youth for Christ

Building, 420 4 th St SE, Hampton,

Iowa. Preregistration is required. Please email Traci Kloetzer, [tkloetze@iastate.edu](mailto:tkloetze@iastate.edu) or call 641-456-4811, press 1, provide your name, phone number, and county of residence to register.

The course will run for approximately 2 ½ hours including check-in and breaks. The registration fee is \$30. We accept the following forms of payment: Cash or Check made payable to Franklin County

Extension at the door.

The course will fulfill 2024-2025 recertification requirements for private pesticide applicators.

**Topics to be covered include:**

- Pesticide use and the environment
- Pesticide labels and comprehension, including restricted entry interval and preharvest interval
- Pests, pest management, and pesticides

# Newspaper Delivery Driver Arrested for Sex Charges Against Minor

BY JENNIFER BURNHAM  
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

A newspaper delivery driver at Mid-America Publishing (which owns the Hampton Chronicle) was arrested for sexual misconduct charges against a minor Monday morning.

Richard Dixon Peacock II, 29, of Geneva was arrested at the Hampton Chronicle office at 11:20 a.m. by the Franklin County Sheriff's Office on a Pine County, Minnesota arrest warrant. He is facing one count of criminal sexual conduct - penetration or contact with a person under 14 years old and another count for kidnapping/confinement and removing a person without consent. Both charges are felonies.

There was a nationwide extradition warrant for Peacock. Pine County Sheriff's Office (out of Minnesota), Franklin County Sheriff's Office and the Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation worked together on the warrant. Franklin County Sheriff Aaron Dodd said his agency has been working with the Pine County Sheriff's Office for several weeks.

An hour-long search was executed at his house in Geneva at 11:59 a.m. on Monday.

According to the victim's complaint, Peacock messaged back and forth with an 11-year-old girl on Discord. The victim stated that she identified herself as an 11-year-old and that "Rich-

ard" identified himself as a 27-year-old. She reported that they met in person in Hinckley, MN, on Dec. 21, after telling her parents she was staying with a friend for the night. They ate at a diner and then saw a movie at a local theatre, before going to a hotel room that Peacock had booked for the night. According to the complaint, Peacock took naked photos of the victim. He touched her sexually and told her to touch him. Video surveillance at the theatre showed them being there together.

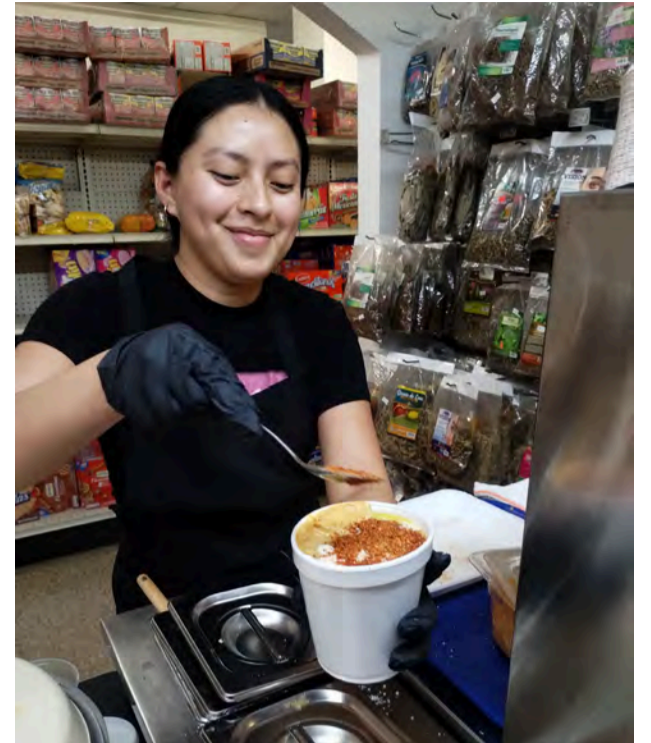
Peacock is currently being held at Hardin County Jail without bond. He is awaiting an extradition hearing.



Richard Peacock booking photo from the Franklin County Sheriff's Office



Richard Peacock being searched by law enforcement in the parking lot in front of the Hampton Chronicle office Monday morning.

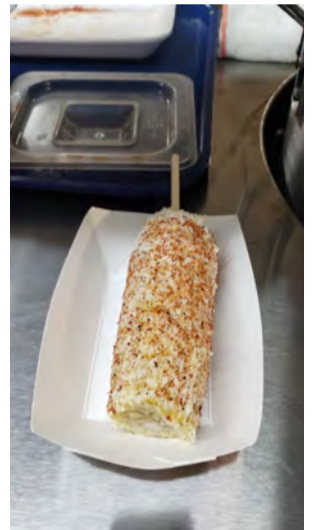


Yamileth preparing an order for a customer Friday night.

## Don't Miss Mexican Street Corn at La Frontera

La Frontera has some big news: They're now selling Mexican-style street corn every day from 2 to 9 p.m. You can either get corn in a cup (esquites) or corn on the cob (elote loco). Toppings include cotija cheese, mayo, lime and tajin. I tried the corn in a cup on Friday, and it was magnificent. 10/10. You can add some spice to your corn by opting for the chipotle mayo, as well. Here's Yamileth serving customers with a smile Friday night. (Six bucks for the corn in a cup and four bucks for corn on the cob.)

—News Editor Jennifer Burnham



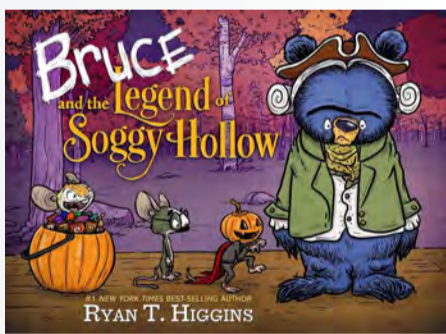
Corn on the cob goes for four bucks each.

# Readers of the Week at the Hampton Public Library



BY Brenda Van Wert, Children's Librarian  
Hampton Public Library

Reader of the Week at the Hampton Public Library is Gemmaline Schmidt, age 6. She is in the 1st grade this year. Gemmaline is the daughter of Jonathan and Talia Schmidt. Her favorite book is Bruce and the Legend of Soggy Hollow by Ryan T. Higgins.



Gemmaline Schmidt

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 Website: faith-hampton.com  
 Facebook: FBC-Hampton  
 • Wednesday, January 8, 8:30 a.m. Men's Prayer; 4:30 p.m. Pathfinders K-6; 6:30 p.m. SWAG 7-12  
 • Sunday, January 12, 9:30 a.m. Worship Service; 11 a.m. **Sunday School Class**  
 • Tuesday, January 14, 9:30 a.m. Women's Prayer  
 • Wednesday, January 15, 8:30 a.m. Men's Prayer; 4:30 p.m. Pathfinders K-6; 6:30 p.m. SWAG 7-12

**CATHOLIC**

**St. Mary's Catholic**  
 611 Sherman Ave., Ackley  
*Fr. Kevin Earleywine, Priest*  
 • Sunday, 8 a.m.  
 • Tuesday, December 24, 6:30 p.m. **MASS; MIDNIGHT Mass; Doors open at 11:30 p.m.**

**St. Patrick's Catholic**  
 1405 N. Federal St., Hampton  
*Fr. Kevin Earleywine, Priest*  
 • Tuesday, December 24, 4 p.m. **MASS – English**  
 • Wednesday, December 25, 5:30 p.m. **MASS – Spanish**

**CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)**

**First Christian Church**  
 605 Fourth St. NE, Hampton  
 • Saturday, January 11, 8 a.m.  
**Christian Men's Fellowship**  
 • Sunday, January 12, 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

**LATTER DAY SAINTS**

**The Church of Jesus Christ Of Latter Day Saints**  
 Hampton / Miguel Sosa Garcia, Branch President  
 • Sundays, 10 a.m. Worship Service; Spanish Activities

**LUTHERAN**

**Our Savior's Lutheran**  
 121 Prospect, Ackley  
 • Sundays, 9 a.m. Sunday School; 10 a.m. Divine Service (Communion 2nd, 4th, 5th); 11 a.m. Fellowship  
 • Tuesdays, 4 p.m. Tuesday School

**Richland Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELS/WELS)**

300 Elm St., Thornton  
 952-607-1293  
*Pastor Caleb Helmen*  
 • February - July 8:30 a.m. church and 9:30 a.m. Sunday School.  
 • August - January 10:30 a.m. Church and 9:30 a.m. Sunday School.  
 • Bible class Tuesday 10:00 a.m. September through May.

**St. John's Lutheran**

1207 Indigo Ave., Hampton  
 • 11 a.m. Worship - 2nd and 4th Sundays

**Zion St. John Lutheran**

*Sheffield*  
 422 Sherman St, Sheffield, IA 50475  
 • Wednesday, January 8, 8:30 a.m. ZSJ Piecemakers; 2:45 p.m. **JAM**; 6:15 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal; 7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
 • Thursday, January 9, 2 p.m. West Fork Food Pantry  
 • Sunday, January 12, 9 a.m. Worship Service; 10:15 a.m.

Fellowship & Sunday School;  
**Baptism of Jesus**  
 • Wednesday, January 15, 8:30 a.m. ZSJ Piecemakers; 5:15 p.m. 7-8 Confirmation Class; 6:15 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal; 7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

**St. Paul Lutheran Church**

17 Second St. NE, Hampton  
*Caitlyn Tauro*  
 Sunday Worship: 9:00 am.  
 Sunday School 10:15 am  
 Adult Sunday School 10:15 am

**St. Paul's Lutheran**

304 W Main, Latimer  
*Reverend Joel Peter Wagner*  
 • Sunday, January 12, 9 a.m. Divine Service; 10:30 a.m. Family Bible Study & Sunday School

**St. Paul's Church**

400 Larch St., Thornton

**St. Peter Lutheran Church**

502 2nd St. S, Rockwell

**Trinity Lutheran Church**

16 12th Ave. NE, Hampton  
 www.trinityhampton.com  
*Vicar - Jacob Stefanec, Rev. Karl C. Bollhagen, Pastor*  
 • Sunday, January 12, 8:30 a.m. Worship Service with Holy Communion; 9:45 a.m. Sunday School & Adult Bible Study  
 • Sunday Radio Broadcasts: 7:30 a.m. Lutheran Hour on KLMJ, 104.9 FM; 10:15 a.m. Radio Worship Broadcast on KLMJ, 104.9 FM

**St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church – Vilmar**

*Rev. Tamara J. K. Keen, Pastor*  
 • Sunday, January 12, 8:45 – 9:45 a.m. Sunday School; 9:15 p.m. Choir Practice; 10 a.m. Worship Service; 11 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship

**First Lutheran Church – Dows**

206 W Ellsworth St, Dows  
 • Sunday, January 12, 9 a.m. Sunday School, Confirmation, & Coffee; 10 a.m. Worship Service with Communion  
 • Wednesday, January 15, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. **FREE community meal**

**METHODIST**

**Ackley United Methodist**

416 Hardin St., Ackley  
*Pastor Calvin Scholte*  
 • Sundays, 9-9:45 a.m., Sunday School; 10 a.m. Worship Service

**First United Methodist**

510 Thompson St., Sheffield  
*Pastor Pastor Wendy Johannessen*  
 • Sundays, 9 a.m. Worship Service

**Geneva United Methodist**

603 Front St., Geneva  
*Pastor Jon Montgomery*  
 641-903-3214  
 • Sundays, 9:30 a.m. Sunday School; 10:30 a.m. Worship

**Hampton United Methodist**

100 Central Ave. E, Hampton  
*Pastor Dennis Burns*  
 • Thursday, January 9, 9:30 a.m. BeFriendsers  
 • Saturday, January 11, 9 a.m. – 10 a.m. **Cans/Bottles Redemption**; 9 a.m. **Men's Fellowship Breakfast**; 5 p.m. Worship Service  
 • Sunday, January 12, 9:30 a.m. Adults Bible Study; 11 a.m. Worship Service; 11:30 a.m. Radio Broadcast on KLMJ, 104.9 FM; 12 p.m. Fellowship; 12:30 p.m. Facebook Broadcast; 6 p.m. 4-H  
 • Monday, January 13, 1:30 p.m. God's FLOCK

• Tuesday, January 14, 1:30 p.m. Faithful Stickers; 6 p.m. **P.E.O.**  
 • Wednesday, January 15, 5:30 p.m. Wacky Wednesday

**West Fork United Methodist**

2200 Tulip Ave., Sheffield  
*Pastor Wendy Johannessen*

**New Hope United Methodist Parish: Aredale, Bristow, Dumont**

*Pastor Dennis Burns*  
 • Aredale: Worship, 8:15 a.m.  
 • Dumont: Worship, 9:30 a.m.

**United Methodist Church**

Morgan/Bradford, 569 100th St., Dows  
 Lee Center, 393 Ironwood Ave., Alden  
*Rev. Judy Eilderts*  
 • Sundays, 10 a.m. Worship service with fellowship time following (Lee Center, odd months; Morgan/Bradford, even months)

**United Methodist**

Dows  
 • Lay Speaker Richard Echelberger  
 • Discipleship class - Sunday @8:30am  
 • Worship Service @ 10:00am

**NON-DENOMINATIONAL**

**Church of the Living Word**

420 First Ave. NE, Hampton  
 641-456-8175  
*Pastor Pat Thompson*  
 www.clwhampton.org  
 • Sundays, 9 a.m. Worship  
 • Wee Ones Christian Preschool: Mon., Tues., Thurs.; Mary Mollenbeck, Director, 641-456-8471

**Living Well Fellowship**

917 Howard St. (First Presbyterian Church), Aplington • 319-247-5569  
 • Mondays, 7 p.m., Contemporary Worship Exploring Redemption and Healing. Come early for hot chocolate or cappuccino.

**Sovereign Grace Church**

109 N Eskridge St., Dows  
*Pastor Doug Holmes*  
 www.sgcdows.com  
 • Sundays, 10:15 a.m. Sunday School; 11:15 a.m. Worship at First Presbyterian in Dows

**Hampton Church of Christ**

811 4th St. NE, Hampton, IA.  
 hamptonchurchofchrist.com  
*Pastor Joe Peter*  
 • Sundays, 9:30 a.m. Morning Café; 10:15 a.m. Worship Gathering

**Sixth Street Church of Christ (Acapella)**

909 Sixth St. SW, Hampton  
*Minister Jim Zacharias*  
 • Sundays, 9:30 a.m. Sunday School; 10:30 a.m. Worship; 4:30 p.m. Worship  
 • Wednesdays, 4:30 p.m. Bible Study

**PRESBYTERIAN**

**Aplington Evangelical Presbyterian Church**

917 Howard St., Aplington  
*Rev. Michael McLane*  
 • Sundays, 9:30 a.m. Worship Service with fellowship following services

**REFORMED**

**Dumont Reformed**

912 Third St., Dumont  
*Pastor Chris Meester*  
 • Sundays, 9 a.m. Sunday School; 10 a.m. Worship (nursery care provided each week)  
 • First Monday of the month, 1 p.m. Reformed Church Women (RCW)

• Wednesdays, 7 p.m. RCYF (High School youth group from 8-12 grade)

• All times and schedules are subject to change due to pandemic. You can join us online Youtube and Facebook: **Dumont Reformed Church**, website: dumontreformed.com, and Dumont Cable 1000

**First Reformed**

214 Brown St., Alexander  
 • Sunday, 9:15 a.m. Worship Service; 10:30 a.m. Kids Choir & PreK-HS Sunday School; **Sunday School Children Sing during Worship Service**

**Zion Reformed Church**

2029 Jonquil Ave., Sheffield  
*Rev. Petri van Rooyen, Pastor*  
 Office Hours: M,W, Th: 8-Noon  
 \* Bad Weather KLMJ\*  
 • Wednesday, January 8, 7 p.m. RCYF  
 • Sunday, January 12, 9:15 a.m. Worship Service & 2025 Installation; 10:30 p.m. Sunday School; 7 pm. **Joy Circle**  
 • Monday, January 13, 1:30 p.m. **Vesper Circle**  
 • Wednesday, January 15, 6:30 p.m. **Family Ministry**

**Hampton Seventh Day Adventist Church**

605 4th St. NE, Hampton  
*Pastor Steven Shafer*  
 Phone: 641-424-3055  
 Email: SDAHamptonIA@gmail.com  
 • Sabbath School Saturday 9:30  
 • Worship 11:00

**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**First Congregational U.C.C.**

22 First Ave. SW, Hampton  
 (641) 456-2192  
*Pastor Karen Koenig and Pastor Peggy Allison*  
 • Wednesday, January 8, **Pastor Peggy will officiate morning worship at Leahy Grove Assisted Living**  
 • Sunday, January 12, 9:15 a.m. Sunday School; 10:30 a.m. Worship Service; 11:30 a.m. **Coffee Fellowship**

**Immanuel U.C.C.**

204 E. South St., Latimer  
*Pastor Joe Dunwald*  
 • Sunday, January 12, **No Sunday School**; 9:15 a.m. **Pancake Breakfast**; 10:30 a.m. Worship Service with Communion

**St. Peter's United Church Of Christ – Geneva**

496 Raven Ave # B, Geneva, IA 50633  
 • Sunday, January 12, 9:15 a.m. Sunday School; 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

*In loving memory of*  
**Beverly Ann (Voss) Rusinack**  
 1943-2024



Beverly Ann (Voss) Rusinack passed away on Christmas Day, December 25, 2024, after a battle with cancer. Burial will be at a later date. Funeral arrangements are under the guidance of the Sietsema-Atkinson Funeral Home in Hampton.

Beverly (Bev) was born October 19, 1943, to Herman and Idella (McIlrath) Voss. Bev attended the Aredale Public School until it closed in 1954. She then went to Dumont Consolidated School until graduation in 1961. She was a member of the basketball team and sang in the chorus.

After graduation she went to work for Mier Wolf and Sons. Later, she went to work at Northwestern Bell Telephone Company. She worked with the company for 33 years of service before retirement. She then worked part-time for the Hampton Reminder.

In August 1967, she married John Rusinack in the Aredale Methodist Church. They were married for 57 years.

Bev was a lifelong member of The Telephone Pioneers. She was an avid seamstress, making beautiful clothes. Bev enjoyed making quilts for family members. She also made blankets and baby clothes for nieces and nephews. You could always find her with John at local racetracks. Her favorite was going to the go cart tracks, watching and cheering on her nephew and his sons.

Bev is survived by her husband John, brother Ralph (Karen) Voss, sister-in-law Pam Rusinack, and nephew Scott (Jennifer Stadlander) Brown. She is also survived by her great nieces and nephews.

Bev was preceded in death by her parents, brother Robert (Bob) Voss, sister Betty Brown, sister-in-law Billie Sue Voss, brother-in-law Dave Rusinack, and brother-in-law Darrell Brown.

*Death Notices*

**Larry Robert French**

Larry Robert French, 79, of Council Bluffs, Iowa, passed away on Tuesday, December 17, 2024, at Grand Jivante Nursing Home in Ackley, Iowa, with his wife Sonya at his side. Funeral services will be 1 p.m. on Friday, January 10, 2025 at the Ackley United Methodist Church in Ackley with burial in the Pleasant Hill Cemetery. Funeral arrangements are under the guidance of the Sietsema Funeral Home in Ackley.

**Clifford Cameron**

Clifford Cameron, 81, of Sheffield, passed away on Thursday, January 2, 2025 at the Sheffield Care Center. Funeral services will be 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, January 8, 2024 at Zion St. John Lutheran Church in Sheffield with burial in the Hillside Cemetery. Visitation will be from 4-7 p.m. on Tuesday at the church. Funeral arrangements are under the guidance of the Sietsema-Atkinson Funeral Home in Hampton.

**AJ Lutter**

AJ Lutter, age 75 of Brainerd, MN. AJ will be remembered for his World-Famous Chain Saw Sculptures. "Come See What I Saw" A gathering time will be held from 5:00-7:00pm, on Wednesday, January 8, 2025, with sharing of memories at 7:00PM at Halvorson Taylor Life Events Center in Brainerd, MN. www.halvorsontaylor.com

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**Strength to Carry On**

Accounts of people surviving for long periods of time in the wilderness or lost at sea are amazing, and often uplifting. The will to live is strong, and you don't know how far you can go until you are forced to do it. There are accounts of polar explorers surviving for years because their ships were "iced in" or stuck in the ice, such as the Franklin expedition, which left England in 1845 seeking the Northwest Passage and was icebound until 1848, when the crews left their ships and tried to walk to safety (they never made it). The Donner Party was a group of migrants going to California who spent the winter of 1846-1847 in the Sierra Nevada mountains and resorted to cannibalism to survive. More recently, in 1972 a group of Uruguayan rugby players travelling by plane crashed in the Andes and survived by eating some of the remains of passengers who had died. The decision to eat human flesh to survive is surely one of the most difficult and horrific one can imagine, and yet it shows the strength of our will to live. These stories of survival also show that human beings, when pushed to the limit often find ways to push beyond the limit. The phenomenon of a "second wind," where we find reserves of energy hitherto untapped is familiar to every endurance athlete. What we seldom hear about, however, is that there can often be a third or a fourth wind, that is, we can almost always dig deeper to find further untapped reserves. And what is more, when the reserves within have truly run dry, we can sometimes tap into sources from without, and one of the greatest is the divine energy coursing through all of nature. So the next time you're feeling wiped out and that you can't go another step, look for that second wind, and ask God for strength to carry on.

-Christopher Simon

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## FROM THE LOG

## Franklin County

**Traffic:** Maninder Pal Singh, of Fresno, California, failure to comply with safety regulations rules;

Hector L Armas Decena, of Dallas, Texas, speeding and no valid driver's license;

Jahmal Khalil Banks, of Bethesda, Maryland, speeding;

MD Hamim Hossain, of Mankato, Minnesota, speeding;

Jessica Freerks, of Aredale, registration violation;

Jeffrey Dennis Buck, of Fenton, Missouri, speeding;

James Estrada Perez, of Eagle Pass, Texas, speeding and no valid driver's license;

Jarred Keithal Phillips, of Tatum, Texas, maximum group axle weight violation – 5001 to 6000, maximum gross weight violation – 8001 to 9000, and maximum group axle weight violation – 4001 to 5000;

Skyler Jeffrey Martinez, of Sheffield, failure to use child restraint device and operation without registration card or plate;

Luis Aldair Mendoza Marquez, of Grandview, Missouri, speeding and no valid driver's license;

Hector Ramon Perez, of Belmond, no valid driver's license and speeding;

Matthew Brian Carnahan, of Palo, speeding;

Eric Emerson Hanson, of Apple Valley, Minnesota, speeding;

Maya Rose Giese, of Woodbury, Minnesota, speeding;

Kelvin Harris, of Brooklyn Park, Minnesota, operation without registration card or plate and speeding;

Jacob Richard Blau, of Latimer, speeding;

Jonathan Lembke, of Des Moines, speeding;

Timothy S Halvorsen, of Forest City, speeding;

Jerry Ray Sanders, of Eagle Grove, game management area regulations;

Matthys Michiel Van Der Merwe, of Rake, maximum gross weight violation – 7001 to 8000;

**Civil:** Citibank NA versus Karen Ann Rew, order for judgment, \$11,158.83 fine;

Jefferson Capital Systems LLC versus Glenn Arlen Williams Jr., petition filed;

State of Iowa, of Des Moines, versus Ismael Rodriguez Torres, of Hampton, order of disposition; pled guilty for an amended crime of lascivious conduct with a minor;

2 year prison time, 2 year prison time suspended, and serving 2 years probation time;

**OWI:** Adan Cruz Ponce, of Hampton, order for arraignment; arraignment, January 27, 8:45 a.m.;

Maycol Vinicio Lopez Barrios, of Clarion, criminal complaint and hearing for initial appearance;

**Small Claims:** 205 1st St. NW LLC, of Berwick, versus Bersain Lopez Lopez, of Hampton, all parties in possession, of Hampton, dismissed without prejudice;

Discover Bank, of Golden Valley, Minnesota, versus Frine Perdomo, of Latimer, original notice;

LVNV Funding LLC, of Plymouth, Minnesota, versus Lessie Jean Love, of Geneva, original notice;

Criminal: Andrew Craig Buttshaw, of Hampton, order for arraignment; arraignment, January 27, 8:45 a.m.;

Emily Elizabeth Buttshaw, of Hampton, order for arraignment; arraignment, January 27, 8:45 a.m.;

Brianna Jolie Zavala, of Hampton, non jury order setting trial;

Marcus Dean File, of Hampton, order of disposition; pled guilty for domestic abuse assault – 1st offense, and obstruction of emergency communications, 2 days jail time, 2 days jail time suspended, serving 6 months probation time, and \$105 fine;

Mason Eugene Oberender, of Galt, criminal complaint;

Filiberto Santos Elvira, of Hampton, order of disposition; pled guilty for possession of a controlled substance – first offense, serving 1 year probation time and \$430 fine;

Luke Dale Bourne, of Minneapolis, Minnesota, hearing for initial appearance;

Derek Johnathan Kohl, of Cedar Rapids, criminal complaint;

Rahsaan Eugene Conley, of Des Moines, criminal complaint and hearing for initial appearance;

Oscar Johan Cruz Carbajal, of Hampton, search warrant

## Police &amp; Sheriff Reports 12/30-1/5 Hampton Police Reports

**Monday, December 30:** Officers executed one traffic stop.

8:32 a.m.: Report of a suspicious vehicle in the area of Hwy 3, Hampton.

9:29 a.m.: Report of harassment in the 10 block of 2nd St. NW, Hampton.

3:17 p.m.: Report of found articles in the area of Beeds Lake, Hampton.

**Tuesday, December 31:** Officers executed one traffic stop, assisted with one medical call, and received five general calls.

7:05 a.m.: Report of dog calls in the 600 block of 4th Ave NW, Hampton.

7:48 a.m.: Report of trespass in the 300 block of Central Ave W, Hampton.

7:50 a.m.: Officers assisted with booking information in the 100 block of 5th St. SW, Hampton.

9:58 a.m.: Report of trespass in the 300 block of Central Ave W, Hampton.

2:07 p.m.: Report of a suspicious person in the 300 block of Central Ave W, Hampton.

9:42 p.m.: Report of debris on roadway/right of way in the 500 block of Central Ave E, Hampton.

**Wednesday, January 1:** Officers executed two traffic stops, assisted with one medical call, and received two general calls.

3:41 a.m.: Report of dog calls in the 800 block of 2nd Ave SE, Hampton.

10:07 a.m.: Report of false pretense/swindle in the 900 block of 2nd Ave SE, Hampton.

3:49 p.m.: Report of a disabled vehicle in the 600 block of 6th Ave NE, Hampton.

10:36 p.m.: Report of an operating while intoxicated issue in the 1500 block of 140th St., Hampton.

11:22 p.m.: Officers assisted with booking information in the 100 block of 5th St. SW, Hampton.

**Thursday, January 2:** Officers assisted with one medical call and received two general calls.

2:02 a.m.: Report of public intoxication in the area of Kwik Star, Hampton.

3:01 a.m.: Officers assisted with booking information in the 100 block of 5th St. SW, Hampton.

10:35 a.m.: Report of theft from building in the 1300 block of N Federal St., Hampton.

3:14 p.m.: Report of suspicious activity in the 500 block of 1st Ave NW, Hampton.

4:19 p.m.: Report of a nuisance/junk ordinance violation in the 300 block of 3rd Ave NW, Hampton.

4:35 p.m.: Report of animals (except dogs) in the area of 805 Pizza and Chicken, Hampton.

4:56 p.m.: Report of false 911 calls in the 1700 block of Central Ave E, Hampton.

**Friday, January 3:** Officers assisted with two medical calls, assisted one motorist, and received one

general call.

10:48 a.m.: Report of theft from vehicle in the 300 block of Central Ave W, Hampton.

11:51 a.m.: Report of trespass in the 300 block of Central Ave W, Hampton.

3:19 p.m.: Report of a nuisance/junk ordinance violation in the 200 block of 7th St. SW, Hampton.

3:22 p.m.: Report of a nuisance/junk ordinance violation in the 700 block of 8th St. SW, Hampton.

3:24 p.m.: Report of a nuisance/junk ordinance violation in the 700 block of 8th St. SW, Hampton.

3:24 p.m.: Report of a nuisance/junk ordinance violation in the 700 block of 8th St. SW, Hampton.

3:26 p.m.: Report of a nuisance/junk ordinance violation in the 700 block of 8th St. SW, Hampton.

3:29 p.m.: Report of a nuisance/junk ordinance violation in the 500 block of 6th St. SW, Hampton.

3:34 p.m.: Report of a nuisance/junk ordinance violation in the 200 block of 3rd St. SW, Hampton.

3:35 p.m.: Report of a nuisance/junk ordinance violation in the 300 block of 4th St. SW, Hampton.

3:37 p.m.: Report of a nuisance/junk ordinance violation in the 300 block of 1st St. SW, Hampton.

3:40 p.m.: Report of a nuisance/junk ordinance violation in the 200 block of 1st St. SW, Hampton.

3:42 p.m.: Report of a nuisance/junk ordinance violation in the 200 block of 1st St. SW, Hampton.

3:43 p.m.: Report of a nuisance/junk ordinance violation in the 200 block of S Federal St., Hampton.

3:45 p.m.: Report of a nuisance/junk ordinance violation in the 100 block of 2nd St. SE, Hampton.

3:56 p.m.: Report of a nuisance/junk ordinance violation in the 100 block of 6th St. SE, Hampton.

4:34 p.m.: Report of juveniles in the 500 block of 3rd Ave SW, Hampton.

**Saturday, January 4:** Officers assisted with one medical call and received one general call.

6:17 a.m.: Officers conducted a welfare check in the 20 block of S Federal St., Hampton.

1:29 p.m.: Report of a suspicious person in the 200 block of 1st Ave NW, Hampton.

**Sunday, January 5:** Officers assisted with two medical calls and received two general calls.

9:52 a.m.: Report of suspicious activity in the 1300 block of 4th St. NW, Hampton.

4:59 p.m.: Report of suspicious activity in the 200 block of 1st St. NW, Hampton.

5:38 p.m.: Report of a family dispute in the 500 block of 3rd Ave SW, Hampton.

10:14 p.m.: Report of a domestic matter in the 500 block of 1st Ave NW, Hampton.

10:25 p.m.: Report of dog calls in the area of Kwik Star, Hampton.

## Franklin County Sheriff Reports

**Monday, December 30:** Officers executed one traffic stop, received a report for one controlled burn, and received two general calls.

5:27 a.m.: Report of an acci-

dent with property damage in the area of I-35 northbound and mile mark 165, Coulter.

6:07 a.m.: Report of a vehicle off roadway in the area of I-35 and mile mark 165, Latimer.

6:44 a.m.: Report of a vehicle off roadway in an unlisted area, Latimer.

9:09 a.m.: Report of dog calls in the area of 70th St., Iowa Falls.

9:40 a.m.: Report of vandalism in the area of N Franklin St., Ackley.

2:47 p.m.: Report of found articles in an unlisted area, Hampton.

5:19 p.m.: Report of a disabled vehicle in the area of Mallard Ave and 165th St., Hampton.

7:58 p.m.: Report of a suspicious vehicle in the area of 230th St., Alexander.

**Tuesday, December 31:** Officers executed eight traffic stops, assisted with one medical call, and received two general calls.

8:29 a.m.: Report of traffic complaints in the area of Hwy 65, Sheffield.

3:30 p.m.: Report of a suspicious person in the area of 230th St., Alexander.

3:39 p.m.: Report of dog calls in the area of 250th St., Thornton.

4:52 p.m.: Report of traffic complaints in the area of I-35 and mile mark 174 northbound, Sheffield.

7:15 p.m.: Report of civil disputes in the area of Finch Ave, Latimer.

8:07 p.m.: Officers assisted other agencies with an issue in the area of 7th Ave, Ackley.

11:32 p.m.: Report of an accident with personal injury in the area of Reynolds St., Latimer.

**Wednesday, January 1:** Officers executed four traffic stops, assisted with one medical call, and received three general calls.

9:29 a.m.: Report of an accident with property damage in the area of Gull Ave, Latimer.

9:31 a.m.: Report of a disabled vehicle in the area of Hwy 65 and 130th St., Hampton.

10:56 a.m.: Report of a disabled vehicle in the area of I-35 and mile mark 164.5 southbound, Latimer.

11:48 a.m.: Report of dog calls in the area of Vine Ave, Hansell.

12:06 p.m.: Report of a disabled vehicle in the area of I-35 and mile mark 165 northbound, Latimer.

6:07 p.m.: Officers assisted with booking information in the 100 block of 5th St. SW, Hampton.

8:32 p.m.: Report of traffic complaints in the 1900 block of Hwy 3, Hansell.

10:44 p.m.: Officers assisted the Hampton Police Department with an issue in the area of 140th St., Hampton.

**Thursday, January 2:** Officers executed seven traffic stops, assisted with one medical call, assisted one motorist, and received a report for three controlled burns.

1:19 a.m.: Report of motor vehicle theft in the area of Spruce Ave, Geneva.

2:17 a.m.: Report of a suspicious person in the area of Wren Ave, Ackley.

2:51 a.m.: Report of an operating while intoxicated issue in an unlisted area, Ackley.

3:31 p.m.: Officers assisted with booking information in the area of 5th St. SW, Hampton.

9:11 a.m.: Report of juveniles in the area of Vine Ave, Ackley.

11:51 a.m.: Report of a vehi-

cle off roadway in the area of 190th St. and Lark Ave, Hampton.

3:55 p.m.: Report of a suspicious person in the area of 210th St., Alexander.

**Friday, January 3:** Officers executed three traffic stops, assisted two motorists, and received a report for one controlled burn.

6:26 a.m.: Report of a dispatch call in the area of I-35 and mile mark 169 southbound, Dows.

8:13 a.m.: Report of vehicle off roadway in the area of 70th St. and Hwy 65, Bradford.

9:48 a.m.: Report of a dispatch call in the area of I-35 and mile mark 156 southbound, Dows.

11:21 a.m.: Report of dog calls in the area of the bike trail and Spruce Ave, Hampton.

11:32 a.m.: Report of dog calls in the area of 250th St. and Finch Ave, Thornton.

1:17 p.m.: Report of harassment in an unlisted area of Franklin County.

1:43 p.m.: Report of animals (except dogs) in the area of Cerro Gordo St. and Indigo Ave, Thornton.

3:40 p.m.: Report of false 911 calls in an unlisted area, Sheffield.

5:27 p.m.: Report of traffic complaints in the area of I-35 and mile mark 165 southbound, Coulter.

5:42 p.m.: Report of a deer accident in the area of Hwy 65 and 95th St., Geneva.

7:13 p.m.: Report of traffic complaints in the area of I-35 and mile mark 188 southbound, Meservey.

7:32 p.m.: Report of suspicious activity in the area of 2nd St., Bradford.

**Saturday, January 4:** Officers executed three traffic stops, received a report for one controlled burn, and received two general calls.

5:58 a.m.: Report of a vehicle off roadway in the area of Lake Dr, Hampton.

12:51 p.m.: Report of vandalism in the 900 block of Balsam Ave, Alexander.

2:16 p.m.: Report of a disabled vehicle in the area of Finch Ave and Hwy 3, Latimer.

**Sunday, January 5:** Officers executed one traffic stop and received one general call.

6:05 a.m.: Report of vehicle off roadway in the area of Gull Ave, Latimer.

12:49 p.m.: Report of a dispatch call in the area of I-35 and mile mark 177, Thornton.

4:03 p.m.: Report of suspicious activity in the 300 block of 4th St., Coulter.

6:43 p.m.: Report of a suspicious person in the 1300 block of Vine Ave, Dumont.

## Butler County Sheriff Reports

**Monday, December 30**

Officers executed seven traffic stops, assisted with four medical calls, assisted... motorists, and received three general calls.

10:18 a.m.: report of return calls/follow-ups in the 30300 block of 160th St.

10:30 a.m.: Report of road debris in the area of 190th St and Hwy 14.

10:53 a.m.: report of a weapon permit issue in the 30100 block of 110th St.

2:06 p.m.: report of trespass in the 18300 block of 180th St.

2:54 p.m.: Report of a parking complaint in the area of 12th St and Nash St.

5:56 p.m.: Report of dog/deer/livestock in the area of Forest

Av and Hwy 57.

6:06p.m.: Report of a driving complaint in the 100 block of MainSt.

10:57 p.m.: Report of a domestic/family matter in the 600 block of Hwy 57.

**Tuesday, December 31:** Officers executed 17 traffic stops, assisted with three medical calls, assisted one motorist, -and received two general calls.

12:12 a.m.: Blake William Evans, 36 of Signourney, arrested for OWI-2nd offense; drivers-licensed/enid/revoked-OWI, jailed

3:07 a.m.: Officers responded to an alarm in the 700 block of Hwy 14.

6:38 a.m.: Officers conducted a business door check in the 1300 block of Industrial St.

7:54 a.m.: Report of civil department requests in the 13000 block of 120th St.

8:32 a.m.: Officers conducted a welfare check in the 200 block of Locust St.

9:56 a.m.: Report of property damage in the area of Hwy 57 and Riverview Dr.

10:41 a.m.: Report of dog/deer/livestock in the 700 block of Riverview Dr.

11:20 a.m.L Report of dog/deer/livestock in the 600block of N 2nd St.

12:52 p.m.: report of do/deer/livestock in the 32700 block of Hwy3.

2:06 p.m.: Report of a domestic/family matter in the 10000 block of Lodge Ave.

3:20 p.m.: Report of jail inquiries in the 400 block of 6th St.

6:27 p.m.: Report of civil department requests in the 200 block of Elm St.

8:31 p.m.: Report of a 911 call in the 300 block of Main St.

**Wednesday, January 1:**

Officers executed 10 traffic stops, assisted with two medical calls, assisted two motorists, and received one general call.

7:31 a.m.: Report of a suspicious vehicle/person/activity in the 800 block of Beaver St.

10:07 a.m.: Report of dog/deer/livestock in the 800 block of 4th St.

10:31 a.m.: Report of a suspicious vehicle person/activity in the area of Highway 57 and Ridge Ave.

11:19 a.m.: Report of return calls/follow-ups in the 100 block of E Main St.

11:26 a.m.: Report of a 911 call in the area of 235th St and Lake Rd.

5:33 p.m.: Report of jail inquiries in the 400 block of 6th St.

11:36 p.m.: Report of a suspicious vehicle/person/activity in the area of N 2nd St and E Ely St.

**Thursday, January 2:**

Officers executed 12 traffic stops, assisted with one medical call, assisted two motorists, and received two general calls.

1:40 a.m.: Report of maintenance in the 200 block of E J Ave, Grundy Center.

10:30 a.m.: Report of return calls/follow-ups in the 400 block of 6th St.

11:27 a.m.: Report of a sex offender registry issue in the 500 block of W Prospect St.

12:28 p.m.: Report of return calls/follow-ups in the 400 block of 6th St.

1:54 p.m.: Report of return calls/follow-ups in the 300 block of E Courtland St.

3:01 p.m.: Report of civil department requests in the 400 block of 6th St.

4:13 p.m.: Report of dog/deer/livestock in the 22300 block of 220th St.

4:41 p.m.: Report of property damage in the area of Hwy 3 and Main St.

4:49 p.m.: Report of return calls/follow-ups in the 500 block of Spruce St.

10:49 p.m.: Report of property damage in the 200 block of E 6th St.

## PROPERTY TRANSFERS

**Quit Claim Deed:** Barbara Jean Hansen, Keith Hansen, Kenneth John Enslin, Kathryn A Enslin, Paul Ernie Enslin, Marcia J Enslin to Kenneth John Enslin; 12-91-19 SW SW, 12-91-19 SE SW, 13-91-19 E2 NW Part, 13-91-19 W2 NW Part, 13-91-19 W2 SW, 23-91-19 S2 SW

**Warranty Deed:** John R Heilskov Trustee, Todd W Heilskov Trustee, Verner E

Heilskov Revocable Trust to John R Heilskov, Joan Heilskov, Jane Heilskov, Todd W Heilskov; 13-91-21 S2 NW

**Warranty Deed:** John R Heilskov, Barbara A Heilskov to Todd W Heilskov; 13-91-21 S2 NW

**Warranty Deed:** Joan Heilskov, Jane Heilskov, Todd W Heilskov, Brenda Sue Heilskov to VEH LLC; 13-91-21 S2 NW  
**Contract:** Richard D Lukens-

meyer, Debra L Lukensmeyer to Schrock Concrete INC; 28-92-20 NE SE Parcel 2024 63

**Warranty Deed:** Bradley G Staley, Susan K Staley to BGS Farms LLC; 2-90-21 S2 NW, 2-90-21 NE Part, 36-91-21 W2 NW Part, 35-91-21 SE SE, 36-91-21 S2 SW, 31-92-20 NE NE Parts, 31-92-20 NW NE Parts, 30-92-20 SW Part, 31-92-20 NE NW Part, 31-92-20 NW NW Part

**Tax Sale Deed:** George H Wendel, Sharyn Meyer, Michael G Harris, City of Sheffield, Franklin County Treasurer to ACC 871 LLC; Shef Sheffield CF Johnston's Blk 1 Lot 7-8

**Quit Claim Deed:** Oak Tree Properties LLC to Marina Guerrero, Irene Cordoba; Hamp Holdn Blk 1 Lot 5 Part

**Warranty Deed:** Doreen L Petersen to Frances Foland;

Hamp Vfwad Blk 4 Lot 4

**Quit Claim Deed:** Mark A Diemer, Leanne Diemer, Diemer Brothers to Steven J Diemer; 30-91-19 Part

**Quit Claim Deed:** Marcia A Zimmer, Denise R Green, Mark A Diemer, Kristi Diemer to Steven J Diemer; 30-91-19 SE SE NW Parcel 2019 21, 30-91-19 SW SW NE Part

**Contract Amend:** Steve Diemer, Rhonda Diemer to Tyler

Toomsen, Erin Toomsen; 30-91-19 SE SE NW Parcel 2019 21, 30-91-19 SW SW NE Part

**Warranty Deed:** Steven J Diemer, Rhonda Diemer to Steven J Diemer, Mark A Diemer, Denise R Green; 30-91-19 Part

**Warranty Deed:** Donald Louis Warneke Jr., Angela Warneke to K Warneke Farms LTD; 33-91-19 NE Part

## FROM THE LOG

## Friday, January 3:

Officers executed 16 traffic stops, assisted with three medical calls, assisted ... motorists, received a report for one controlled burn and received two general calls.

10:45 a.m.: Report of jail inquiries in the 400 block of 6th St.

11:48 a.m.: Report of jail inquiries in the 400 block of 6th St.

2:32 p.m.: Report of fraud/identity theft in the 17700 block of 180th St.

3:11 p.m.: Officers conducted a house check in the 3200

block of 302nd St.

3:14 p.m.: Officers conducted a house check in the 24200 block of Willow Ave.

4:30 p.m.: report of a weapon permit issue in the 500 block of Parriott St.

4:53 p.m.: Report of harassment in the 200 block of E Ilgenfritz Ave.

6:32 p.m.: Report of a 911 call in the 900 block of Caldwell St.

7:23 p.m.: Report of dog/deer/livestock in the 500 block of N 2nd St.

9:13 p.m.: Report of a 911 call in the 400 block of 6th St.

10:14 Report of a vehicle fire

in the 200 block of 3rd St.

## Saturday, January 4:

Officers executed five traffic stops, assisted with five medical calls, assisted ... motorists, received a report for three controlled burns and received two general calls.

2:32 a.m.: Report of a vehicle fire in the area of Hwy 57 and Orchid Ln.

2:53 a.m.: Report of an assault in the area of Forest Ave and West Brook St.

4:12 a.m.: Report of property damage in the area of Hwy 57 and Jay Ave.

10:48 a.m.: Report of a sus-

picious vehicle/person/activity in the 00 block of High School BLVD.

12:05 p.m.: Report of dog/deer/livestock in the area of 135th St and Hwy 14.

3:51 p.m.: Report of transport in the 100 block of 4th NE St.

4:45 p.m.: Report of dog/deer/livestock in the area of Hwy 188 and Terrace Ave.

4:57 p.m.: Christopher Collin McClain, 31 of Albuquerque NM, arrested on an unknown charge, jailed.

5:55 p.m.: Report of a domestic/family matter in the 200 block of Locust St.

## Sunday, January 5

Officers executed three traffic stops, assisted with two medical calls, and received three general calls.

3:38 a.m.: Report of dog/deer/livestock in the 200 block of N Washington St.

9:17 a.m.: Report of civil department requests in the 700 block of Beaver St.

10:57 a.m.: Officers responded to an alarm in the 600 block of Hwy 57.

5:17 p.m.: Report of a suspicious vehicle/person/activity in the 22500 block of W Main St.

5:30 p.m.: Report of the

Sunday night test page in the 400 block of 6th St.

5:53 p.m.: Report of a 911 call in the 300 block of 1st St.

8:20 p.m.: Jeromey James Despard, 34 of Clarksville, arrested for possession of marijuana 2nd offense and possession of drug paraphernalia, jailed.

9:25 p.m.: Report of jail inquiries in the 400 block of 6th St.

10:00 p.m.: Report of office personnel calls in the 400 block of 6th St.

11:27 p.m.: Report of a 911 call in the 600 block of Nash St.

## MARRIAGE LICENSES

Clay Emhoff, 26, Sheffield, to Catlin Starr, 23, Sheffield.

IOWA | DOT

PROPOSED BRIDGE REPLACEMENT  
ON U.S. 65 IN CERRO GORDO COUNTY

OVER THE WEST FORK CEDAR RIVER

## SHARE YOUR FEEDBACK:

Available January 8, 2025 to January 20, 2025



Go to [bit.ly/iowadotreg6366](https://bit.ly/iowadotreg6366)



View the virtual presentation



Leave an online comment

## CONTACT US:

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JVJV500736

TO: JESSICA MARTINEZ AND RUBEN RAMIREZ (or) PUTATIVE FATHERS OF A CHILD BORN ON THE 25TH DAY OF JANUARY 2009. You are notified that there is now on file in the office of the Clerk of Court for Franklin County, a Petition for Termination of Parental Rights, Case Number JVJV500736, which to a child born on the 25th day of January, 2009. For further details contact the Clerk's Office.

Published in the Hampton Chronicle on January 1, 8, and 15, 2025

JVJV500734

TO: ZACH SEABURG AND ALL PUTATIVE FATHERS AND SIERRA WALKER OF A CHILD BORN ON THE 10TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2018. You are notified that there is now on file in the office of the Clerk of Court for Franklin County, a Petition: Child in Need of Assistance, Case Number JVJV500734 which to a child born on the 10th day of January, 2018. Further details contact the Clerk's Office.

Published in the Hampton Chronicle on January 1, and 8, 2025

Drainage District 35 & 56

NOTICE OF ELECTION IN DRAINAGE DISTRICT NO. 35 & 56

FRANKLIN COUNTY, IOWA To the Landowners in Drainage District No. 35 & 56: You and each of you are hereby notified that an election will be held at the Scott Simons home, 1063 Nettle Ave., Hampton, Franklin County, Iowa, on Saturday, Jan. 18, 2025, for the purpose of electing one trustee for the drainage district for a three year term and for any vacancy which may exist.

Published in the Hampton Chronicle on January 8, and 15, 2025

Drainage District 25

NOTICE OF ELECTION IN DRAINAGE DISTRICT NO. 25

FRANKLIN COUNTY, IOWA To the Landowners in Drainage District No. 25: You and each of you are hereby notified that an election will be held at Corey Jacobsen's house, 1060 Cardinal Ave., Dows, IA 50071, on Saturday, Jan. 18, 2025, for the purpose of electing one trustee for the drainage district for a three year term and for any vacancy which may exist.

Published in the Hampton Chronicle on January 8, and 15, 2025

Franklin Co BOS Minutes, 1/2/25

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS January 2nd, 2025

A recording of the Board meeting may be found on YouTube at: @Franklin CountyBoardofSuperviso The Board of Supervisors met at 8:30AM on Thursday, January 2nd, 2025 for a special session, at the Franklin County Courthouse with Board members Lukensmeyer, McVicker, and Vanness present. Motion by Lukensmeyer, seconded by McVicker to approve the Agenda as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Published in the Hampton Chronicle on January 8, 2025

Drainage District 24

NOTICE OF ELECTION IN DRAINAGE DISTRICT NO. 24

FRANKLIN COUNTY, IOWA To the Landowners in Drainage District No. 24. You and each of you are hereby notified that an election will be held at the Mitch Meyer home, 1550 65th St., Iowa Falls, Iowa 50126, on Saturday, Jan. 18, 2025, for the purpose of electing one trustee for the drainage district for a three year term and for any vacancy which may exist.

Published in the Hampton Chronicle on January 8, and 15, 2025

Public Notice of Master Matrix - Pantheon

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Franklin County Board of Supervisors has received a construction permit application for a confinement feeding operation, more specially described as follows: Name of Applicant: Pantheon Farms, LLC Location of the Operation: Section 18 of Hamilton Township Type of confinement feeding operation structure proposed: One new 2490 head deep pit swine finisher confinement building at an existing swine confinement facility.

Published in the Hampton Chronicle on January 8, 2025

Drainage District 3-47- and Sub District 2-13

NOTICE OF ELECTION IN DRAINAGE DISTRICT NO. 3-47 and Sub district 2-13

FRANKLIN COUNTY, IOWA To the Landowners in Drainage District No. 3-47 and 2-13: You and each of you are hereby notified that an election will be held at the 1777 30th Street, Ackley, IA. 50601, Franklin County, Iowa, on Saturday, Jan. 18, 2025, for the purpose of electing one trustee for the drainage district for a three year term and for any vacancy which may exist.

Published in the Hampton Chronicle on January 8, and 15, 2025

Drainage District 58

NOTICE OF ELECTION IN DRAINAGE DISTRICT NO. 58

FRANKLIN COUNTY, IOWA To the Landowners in Drainage District No. 58: You and each of you are hereby notified that an election will be held at the Merlyn Wiarda home, 240 110th St, Dows, IA, on Saturday, Jan. 18, 2025, for the purpose of electing one trustee for the drainage district for a three year term and for any vacancy which may exist.

Published in the Hampton Chronicle on January 8, and 15, 2025

Franklin Co BOS Minutes, 1/6/2025

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS January 6th, 2025

A recording of the Board meeting may be found on YouTube at: @Franklin CountyBoardofSuperviso The Board of Supervisors met at 8:30AM on Monday, January 6th, 2025, at the Franklin County Courthouse with Board members Lukensmeyer, McVicker, and Vanness present. Motion by McVicker, seconded by Lukensmeyer to approve the Agenda with the addition of the drainage meeting being held via Teams and "Consider for Approval - Claims". All ayes. Motion carried.

2024 Holiday Closing Schedule

Table with 3 columns: Day, Date, Holiday. Lists dates for 2024 holidays including President's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day.

Motion by McVicker, seconded by Lukensmeyer to approve a resolution pertaining to Construction Evaluation. The resolution reads in full:

RESOLUTION #2025-2

CONSTRUCTION EVALUATION RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Iowa Code section 459.304(3) sets out the procedure if a board of supervisors wishes to adopt a "construction evaluation resolution" relating to the construction of a confinement feeding operation structure; and WHEREAS, only counties that have adopted a construction evaluation resolution can submit to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) an adopted recommendation to approve or disapprove a construction permit ap-

plication regarding a proposed confinement feeding operation structure; and WHEREAS, only counties that have adopted a construction evaluation resolution and submitted an adopted recommendation may contest the DNR's decision regarding a specific application; and WHEREAS, by adopting a construction evaluation resolution the board of supervisors agrees to evaluate every construction permit application for a proposed confinement feeding operation structure received by the board of supervisors between February 1, 2025 and January 31, 2026 and submit an adopted recommendation regarding that application to the DNR; and WHEREAS, the board of supervisors must conduct an evaluation of every construction permit application using the master matrix created in Iowa Code section 459.305, but the board's recommendation to the DNR may be based on the final score on the master matrix or may be based on reasons other than the final score on the master matrix; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF FRANKLIN COUNTY that the Board of Supervisors hereby adopts this construction evaluation resolution pursuant to Iowa Code section 459.304(3).

Roll call vote was as follows, Ayes: Lukensmeyer, McVicker, Vanness; Nays: None. Motion carried and resolution duly adopted. Motion by Lukensmeyer, seconded by McVicker to approve a resolution pertaining to Franklin County Investigation of Drainage Districts Per Requests. The resolution reads in full:

RESOLUTION 2025-3 FRANKLIN COUNTY INVESTIGATION OF DRAINAGE DISTRICTS PER REQUESTS

NOW, ON THIS 6TH DAY OF JANUARY 2025, THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS PRESENTED TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ACTING AS DRAINAGE DISTRICT TRUSTEES: WHEREAS, SAID TRUSTEES BELIEVE THAT IT IS IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF DRAINAGE DISTRICTS THAT INDIVIDUALS, LANDOWNERS, OR ENTITIES MAKING REQUESTS FOR DISTRICT INVESTIGATION OF REPAIRS BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE COSTS OF THOSE INVESTIGATIONS IN THE EVENT THAT THE SOURCE OF THE NEED FOR REPAIRS WOULD BE PRIVATELY-OWNED TILE AND NOT PART OF THE DRAINAGE DISTRICT FACILITIES OR NO PROBLEM IS FOUND AND THE DRAINAGE DISTRICT FACILITY IS ANYTHING OTHER THAN OPEN DITCH. BE IT RESOLVED THAT IN THE EVENT ANY INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY MAKES A REQUEST TO THE DRAINAGE DISTRICT TO INVESTIGATE PROPOSED REPAIRS WHICH REQUIRE THE DISTRICT TO EXPEND FUNDS TO DETERMINE THE LOCATION OF NEEDED REPAIRS, FEASIBILITY OF REPAIRS, OR ANY OTHER COSTS INCURRED IN CONNECTION WITH INVESTIGATING THE REQUEST AND THAT IN THE EVENT IN THE COURSE OF INVESTIGATION IT IS DISCOVERED THAT THE DRAINAGE TILE OR RELATED STRUCTURES NEEDING REPAIR ARE NOT UNDER THE DRAINAGE DISTRICT'S CONTROL, THEN THE INDIVIDUAL, LANDOWNER, OR ENTITY REQUESTING THE INVESTIGATION SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR PAYMENT OF ANY EXPENSES INCURRED BY THE DISTRICT. IF SAID INVESTIGATION RESULTS IN NO PROBLEM DISCOVERED, SAID REQUESTOR IS RESPONSIBLE FOR PAYMENT OF ANY EXPENSES INCURRED BY THE DISTRICT. THIS DOES NOT APPLY TO DRAINAGE DISTRICT FACILITIES THAT ARE OPEN DITCHES. IF THE INVESTIGATION IN THE DISTRICT FINDS A PROBLEM WITH DISTRICT FACILITIES, THEN SAID DISTRICT WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR PAYMENT OF ANY EXPENSES INCURRED BY THE DISTRICT AS ALLOWED BY IOWA CODE. THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ACTING AS DRAINAGE DISTRICT TRUSTEES AUTHORIZE THE FRANKLIN COUNTY AUDITOR TO PREPARE THE NECESSARY FORM FOR THE INDIVIDUAL, LANDOWNER, OR ENTITY TO EXECUTE PRIOR TO ANY INVESTIGATION (EXCEPT OPEN DITCHES) IN A FORM NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE INTENT OF THIS RESOLUTION. Roll call vote was as follows, Ayes: Lukensmeyer, McVicker, Vanness; Nays: None. Motion carried and resolution duly adopted. Motion by McVicker, seconded by Lukensmeyer to appoint Supervisors to

Boards & Commissions for 2025 as follows. All ayes. Motion carried.

Table with 4 columns: Committee/Organization, Lukensmeyer, McVicker, Vanness. Lists appointments for various committees including Mental Health, Board of Health, Detention Community Action, etc.

\*\* - Denotes Non-Voting Member of Board or Commission Motion by Lukensmeyer, seconded by McVicker to approve claims as presented. All ayes. Motion carried. The Supervisors acknowledge the Recorder's Quarterly Report for Q4 of 2024. The Supervisors acknowledged the Auditor's Quarterly Report for Q4 of 2024. Chairman Vanness adjourned the meeting at 10:37AM until Monday, January 13th, 2025 at 8:30AM at the Franklin County Courthouse for a special session. ATTEST: Chris Vanness, Chairman Katy A. Flint, Auditor & Clerk to the Board

Published in the Hampton Chronicle on January 8, 2025

Franklin Co Claims, 1/6/2025

Publication List by Vendor/Description

Table with 3 columns: Vendor/Description, Amount, and Unit. Lists various vendors and their claim amounts, such as Hampton Hardware Sup, City of Hampton Water, Hawkeye West Pest Cntrl Svcs, etc.

Published in the Hampton Chronicle on January 8, 2025

Got a Legal Notice to Submit? Deadline for legal notice submissions is Monday at noon

## Iowa-licensed doctor charged with sex crimes, others accused of incompetence

BY CLARK KAUFFMAN  
IOWA CAPITAL DISPATCH

A Michigan physician criminally charged with at least 29 counts of sex crimes has agreed to surrender his license to practice medicine in Iowa.

Dr. Zvi Levran of Farmington Hills, Michigan, who specializes in urology, has been charged by the Iowa Board of Medicine with entering into a voluntary agreement to restrict his practice of medicine in Michigan. According to the board, Levran's Michigan medical license was suspended in January 2023 and Levran at some point voluntarily surrendered his medical license in Ohio.

The Iowa board also alleges that Levran has agreed to refrain from practicing medicine in Minnesota until a number of criminal charges are resolved but that he does not admit any of the underlying allegations in those cases.

The Iowa board alleges Levran, 68, has been criminally charged with two counts of first-degree criminal sexual assault and at least 27 counts of third- and fourth-degree criminal sexual assault.

Levran, who reportedly spent decades working with youth hockey teams in Min-



Photo courtesy: Adobe Stock

nesota and Michigan, was arrested in October 2022 after a 19-year-old man told authorities he was sexually assaulted during an examination in Levran's home office. A few weeks later, Levran was charged with seven additional counts of criminal sexual conduct.

At a preliminary hearing in April 2023, four former hockey players testified to unwanted sexual contact with Levran during visits in his home office. A judge subsequently ruled there was enough evidence for Levran to stand trial on 22 counts of criminal sexual conduct involving 10 former hockey players.

In September 2024, prosecutors filed additional

charges against Levran, alleging he took explicit photos of a 16- or 17-year-old patient in Farmington Hills and solicited an explicit video from a 16- or 17-year-old patient. Those allegations have resulted in charges of child sexually abusive activity and possession of child sexually abusive material.

Levran has pleaded not guilty to all of the charges.

Other Iowa-licensed physicians recently sanctioned for alleged misconduct include:

— Dr. Jon Ahrendsen, a family practice physician who has worked for Iowa Specialty Clinics in Clarion. Ahrendsen was charged by the board with professional incompetence. According to

the board, Ahrendsen treated a patient for chronic pain for several years and failed to properly document the patient's medical condition or need for narcotics.

The board alleges that despite the patient's history of drug abuse and requesting early refills for prescriptions, Ahrendsen failed to assess the patient for possible drug abuse or diversion of narcotics; prescribed the patient higher-than-recommended doses of unspecified "high-risk medications;" and failed to make any concerted effort to wean the patient off the drugs.

The publicly available board documents give no indication as to the patient's outcome. The board has is-

sued Ahrendsen a warning and restricted his ability to prescribe controlled substances. The board has also placed his license on probation and required him to enroll in a practice-monitoring program for three years.

— Dr. Scott W. Smith, who was charged by the board with professional incompetence, unprofessional conduct, and violating rules governing the practice of medicine. The board alleges that Smith, while practicing telemedicine, "experienced several compliance issues with trying to maintain a practice caring for telemedicine patients across multiple states."

The board has not disclosed what those issues were

but alleges that the federal Drug Enforcement Administration suspended Smith's controlled-substance prescribing privileges at some unspecified time in the past "as a result of the investigation into his prescribing ketamine via telehealth."

The board alleges 19 other states imposed some form of disciplinary action against Smith, who has agreed to a voluntary surrender of his Iowa license.

— Dr. Donald Rae Simmons, who has agreed to surrender his Iowa license after being charged by the board with professional incompetence, unprofessional conduct and sexual misconduct while practicing in Oklahoma.

In 2023, the Oklahoma board alleged the managing physician of Simmons' former employer reported that Simmons had been engaged in a sexual relationship with a patient, which Simmons later admitted to the board. In May 2024, the Oklahoma board placed Simmons' license in that state on probation for three years.

Read more from Clark Kauffman online at [IowaCapitalDispatch.com](https://www.iowacapitaldispatch.com)

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## Iowa-licensed attorney faces sanctions for neglecting client's case

BY CLARK KAUFFMAN  
IOWA CAPITAL DISPATCH

An Iowa-licensed attorney is facing a potential suspension of his law license due to sanctions imposed in the state of Arizona.

Earlier this year, the presiding disciplinary judge of the Arizona Supreme Court Attorney suspended for six months the Arizona law license of attorney David Joseph Martin of Lakeside, Arizona. Martin's license was then placed on probation for two years.

According to court records, Martin represented a teenager who was injured when a truck by vehicle while crossing a street within the crosswalk. With Martin as her attorney, she sued the driver of the car.

According to the subsequent findings of the presiding disciplinary judge, after he was hired to represent the girl, Martin "displayed a pattern of neglect" by failing to respond to the driver's attorney, failing to comply with discovery and disclosures rules, failing to respond to the opposing counsel's motion to dismiss the

case, which resulted in the case being dismissed by the court, and then by misleading his client into believing the case was still active.

As part of the sanctions imposed by the presiding disciplinary judge, Martin will also have to pay the cost of his client's medical treatment at a hospital, estimated at \$5,781.

Because of the sanctions imposed in Arizona, Martin's Iowa law license is now subject to a possible six-month suspension, although he does have the opportunity to argue that such a penalty is unwarranted.

Iowa Supreme Court records indicate Martin was first licensed to practice law in Iowa in 1983. In 2002, his Arizona license was placed on probation for one year and Martin was censured, although the reasons for that disciplinary action are not disclosed in Iowa court records.

Read more from Clark Kauffman online at [IowaCapitalDispatch.com](https://www.iowacapitaldispatch.com)

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Photo courtesy: Adobe Stock

## Iowa doctor cited for 'gross malpractice' in patient deaths wins back license

BY CLARK KAUFFMAN  
IOWA CAPITAL DISPATCH

The state board that oversees Iowa physicians has reinstated the license of a doctor it previously sanctioned for alleged "gross malpractice" related to patient deaths caused by drug overdoses.

In 2017, the Iowa Board of Medicine accused Dr. Robert Cunard of Missouri Valley of inappropriate prescribing, improper pain management and unethical conduct that contributed to the deaths of an unspecified number of patients through drug overdoses.

According to the board, Cunard had "prescribed large quantities of potentially lethal medications to numerous patients" between 2011 and 2017, and continued to prescribe those drugs to patients who had exhibited signs of abusing the drugs or diverting the drugs to others.

Cunard was also alleged to have simultaneously prescribed sedatives and painkillers to certain patients, "placing them at increased risk of harm, including unintentional death," the board alleged.

In addition, the board alleged Cunard prescribed methadone and Suboxone to patients who were trying to recover from drug addiction, even though he lacked a federal permit to prescribe the drugs in that manner.

Before the board filed those charges, Cunard was sued by the parents of 31-year-old Stephen Cathcart, who allegedly died of a painkiller overdose in 2014. Cathcart's family alleged Cunard had prescribed Cathcart oxycodone, gabapentin and clonazepam, despite Cathcart's documented history of suicidal thoughts and drug abuse.

In 2018, the civil lawsuit was settled out of court and the Board of Medicine suspended Cunard's license for an indefinite period and imposed a civil penalty of \$5,000. At the time, the board stated that should it ever choose to reinstate Cunard's Iowa license, it would be placed on probation that would result in board monitoring of his practice, including audits of his prescriptions.

In September 2019, the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services issued Cunard a license, subject to probation, to practice medicine and surgery in

Nebraska. In a letter to Cunard, the department stated, "The reason for offering you a probationary license is the suspension of your license by the Iowa Board of Medicine."

Also in 2019, Nebraska's Department of Correctional Services hired Cunard to work for the department as a physician, according to state payroll records.

In July 2022, Nebraska's Board of Medicine voted 7-0 to deny Cunard's application for early termination of his probationary requirements. Cunard's probationary period ended in October 2023, and two months later, in December 2023, the board voted 8-0 to reject Cunard's request for removal of unspecified "limitations" on his license that remained in place.

In recently agreeing to reinstate Cunard's Iowa medical license, the Iowa Board of Medicine kept in place its prior order that bars Cunard from prescribing or administering controlled substances for the treatment of chronic pain except when dealing with patients in nursing homes and hospice.

However, the board stated that because Cunard has "already completed probation and monitoring in the state of Nebraska," it will be im-

posing no additional requirements along those lines.

The Iowa Capital Dispatch was unable to reach Cunard for comment.

Read more from Clark Kauffman online at [IowaCapitalDispatch.com](https://www.iowacapitaldispatch.com)

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It's a free, confidential, 24/7 resource that can help you and your loved one find an experienced treatment professional.

**Call 1-800-BETS OFF today to get help for them — and you.**

**1-800-BETS OFF**

Iowa HHS

# Basketball Camp

HD-CAL held their annual youth basketball camp last week!  
Check out some shots from the two-day camp.



**ADAMS**  
CELEBRATION of LIFE  
FUNERAL HOME  
& MONUMENT SALES

Danni Adams  
Owner  
Damon Adams  
Owner

"Our goal as owners is to make funeral options affordable."

**DIRECT CREMATION**  
**\$1,595**  
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