

Sheriff's Office Cautions Community After Latest Scammer Case

BY JENNIFER BURNHAM
 HAMPTON CHRONICLE

The Franklin County Sheriff's Office gets at least a few calls each week regarding suspicious online activity and possible scammers.

Their latest case is one involving a fake website selling a boat, resulting in at least one person losing more than \$20,000. According to Franklin County Sheriff Aaron Dodd, the scammers who created the website are posing as a business owner out of rural Alexander, who they quickly learned had nothing to do with the website.

The scammers have lured in potential victims with the promise of a great deal on a boat — “selling” it for at least \$10,000 less than what it should have been worth. But, in reality, there was no boat.

So far, they know of at least one person who's fallen victim to the scam. Dodd learned of this when the victim contacted the sheriff's office, making the office aware that a local address was being used and for help retrieving his \$20,000. But, according to Dodd, that's unlikely to happen, as this person had wired the money and signed a waiver with the bank stating they were aware of the risks before finalizing their transaction.

Dodd thanked the victim, who's from out of state, for coming forward, as he possibly saved others from falling for the same scam.

For this case, in particular, Dodd has received calls from concerned buyers from all over the country, including Missouri, Texas, Wisconsin and Florida. He said that they worked with the Iowa Attorney General's Office, who helped them track down the IP address for the website in question.

The case is still under investigation.

“We are continuing to take reports and have followed



Franklin County Sheriff Aaron Dodd discussing scammer cases with Iowa Attorney General Brenna Bird, Franklin County Attorney Andrea Miller, AG Communications Assistant Honor DeFord and Chief Deputy Sheriff Joel McWilliams on Friday morning, Feb. 27. Photo by Jennifer Burnham

up on where the funds were transferred,” said Dodd. “The overall goal for us is to get the site taken down so there are no more victims transferring funds in the scam and to clear the names and addresses of local persons who have been misused in this scam.”

Dodd said there is one way to avoid scams like these, and that is to be cautious when making large purchases, even checking in with others, such as family members, for their advice. He added that most victims are older, so it's

smart to proactively check in with elderly family members, as well.

“Just beware: nobody is giving you anything for free,” Dodd said. “So many people are willing to fall victim to that. If people just stop, and ask a family member ‘what do you think of this?’ or stop and look back and think ‘how did I get to this point?’ so much of this would be stopped. Is this deal to good to be true? Do your homework.”

Jon Schmitt Celebrates Retirement with Community

BY JENNIFER BURNHAM
 HAMPTON CHRONICLE



Sheri Bogue, Jon Schmitt, Matt Hayner and Angie Hayner during their special open house Saturday morning, Feb. 28.

Jon Schmitt of Sheffield said farewell to his car shop, Jon's Auto Truck and Repair, on Saturday morning, Feb. 28, with a special open house.

Jon, who took over the shop in July of 1999, told the Chronicle that he was tired and ready to retire, but that he was thankful for all the support he had received from his customers throughout the years.

Last year marked 50 years since he had worked as a mechanic in the building, first working for Sheahan Chevrolet. Ever since taking over, he had become a staple for those in need of car services in the community, offering everything from oil changes to engine work.

Just last summer, Jon was named the recipient of Sheffield's 2025 People in the

Park CC Gilman Award. While he said he appreciated the honor, he doesn't need awards or recognition.

“My award is the customers,” he told the Chronicle last summer. “It's all about keeping the customers happy.”

Jon's shop was recently purchased by Hampton native Matt Hayner, who plans on offering full-service car repairs, including engine and transmission work, with a three-year, 36,000-mile warranty.

“I want everyone to give Matt a shot!” said Jon.

Matt said he is looking forward to serving the community and being involved.

He plans on opening the doors of Matt's Auto Care on Monday, March 9.

The car shop, located at 202 E. Gilman St in Sheffield, can be reached at 641-892-4260.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday
 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.
 9 Second St. NW,
 Hampton, Iowa
 LOCAL: 641-456-2585
 TOLL-FREE: 1-800-558-1244
 FAX: 1-800-340-0805



☀️ 37
 ☁️ 49
 WEDNESDAY
 15% CLOUDS AND SOME SUN

THURS	FRI	SAT
☁️ 14%	☔️ 94%	☀️ 25%
55 41 LOW CLOUDS	64 42 PERIODS OF RAIN AND T-STORMS	48 32 COOLER AND BREEZY AM

Iowa Attorney General Brenna Bird Thanks Local Dispatchers

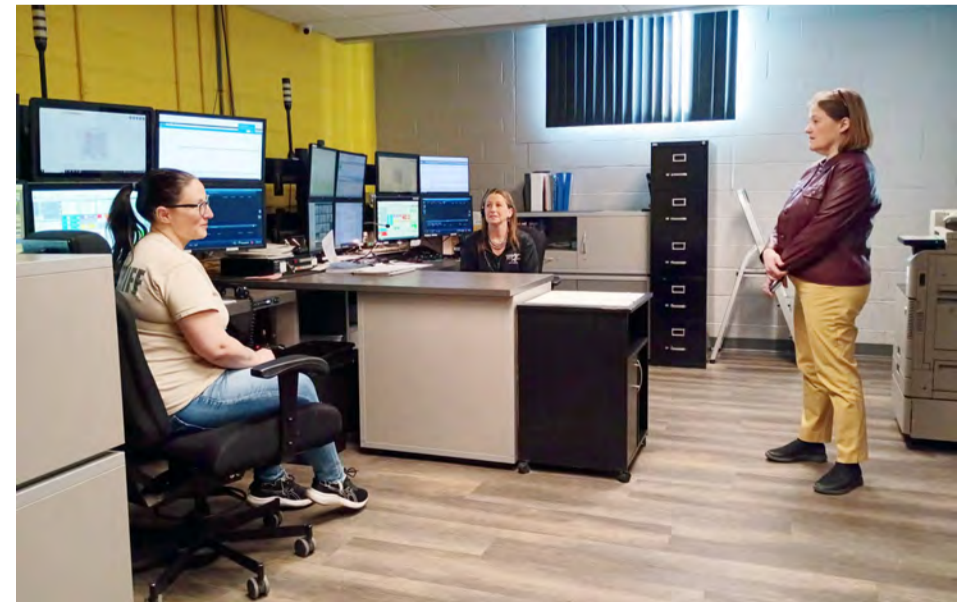
BY JENNIFER BURNHAM
 HAMPTON CHRONICLE

Iowa Attorney General Brenna Bird stopped by the Franklin County Sheriff's Office Friday morning, Feb. 27, to speak with local law enforcement about what they've been working on lately, including a scammer case.

While there, she chatted with dispatchers Kristin Roode and Jody Hepler about the challenges and importance of their roles.

“In Iowa, we take for granted that when we call 911 if something horrible happens, somebody will be on the other end of the line, and that person will help us,” Bird told the Chronicle. “And that's because our dispatchers do such a great job. I think, personally, they don't get the appreciation they deserve. When you lay your head on your pillow at night, there is a dispatcher on duty ... They are there 24/7 and they have the back of law enforcement, sometimes in very stressful situations.”

The Franklin County Sheriff's Office currently employs six full-time



Dispatcher Kristin Roode, dispatcher Jody Hepler and Iowa Attorney General Brenna Bird at the sheriff's office Friday morning, Feb. 27.

dispatchers.

Kristin has been with them for the last eight years and Jody has been with them for 22 years.

Bird encourages community members to show their appreciation for local dispatchers by sending them thank-you notes.

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

Hampton Lions Club Holds Annual Pancake and Sausage Fundraiser

BY JENNIFER BURNHAM
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

The Hampton Lions held their annual pancake and sausage fundraiser Thursday evening, Feb. 26, at the Hampton Country Club.

The event, which ran from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., served as a way for the Lions to raise money for upcoming projects and initiatives, including scholarships for area students and vision screenings for local children.

According to Hampton Lions Club President Craig Semler, the group went through 46 pounds of pancake mix this year, along with three and a half gallons of milk, 60 cups of coffee, one gallon of syrup and 96 ounces of sugar-free syrup.

A total of 181 people stopped by for dinner that night, helping raise more than \$300 for the club.



From left to right, Jim Zacharias, Michelle Schaefer, Jay Bushbaum, Todd Sabin, Bob Schaefer, Randy Devries and Dustin Abbas.

Photos on B10!

Thank You



Larry Schott after chatting with the Chronicle Wednesday afternoon.

Thank you, D&L Sanitation!

The collecting and disposing of our trash can be grueling (and dirty) work, but somebody has to do it, and the team at D&L Sanitation does it all with a smile, which is why I've decided to spotlight them in this week's appreciation post.

I caught up with D&L employee Larry Schott, earlier this afternoon, as he passed down my street. According to him, there is a never a dull day in his line of work. "It's always something, but we try to keep the customers happy," he said with a big smile.

Schott, who's been with D&L for the last 16 years, works several days a week, collecting trash in Hampton on Tuesdays and Fridays and cardboard when scheduled by the customers and on recycling days. Schott is one of several retired community members who does this as a part-time job for D&L. For him, it's a way to stay busy and active.

D&L Sanitation is a family-owned business, headquartered in Sheffield. It was first opened in 1970 by the Conlon family and then purchased in 2000 by Jill and Scott Conlon. Since then, Jill and Scott have run the show, handling everything from truck maintenance to customer service and administrative work. And when they're short a driver, Scott hops in a truck and gets to work, hauling trash alongside his employees.

Jill said that their work isn't always easy, but that they do what they can with what they have to provide a high-quality service to their customers. The company services more than 1,500 customers around Franklin County and Cerro Gordo, hauling their trash to the Landfill of North Iowa in Clear Lake.

"We really are an essential service," Jill said. "During Covid, when everybody was closed down, we couldn't, because we are essential. It's not an easy life or job but it's a reliable job and it's consistent."

Jill said that keeping up with all of the latest regulations of what they can and cannot do plays a big role in their work.

"There are a lot of things that are involved in this that people don't realize. All the regulations and everything else. We have to take everything into consideration," she said. "The work never stops but we do what we can to make our customers happy."

Jill said they are also big on giving back to the communities they serve, often donating their time, services and money to events and projects in Hampton, Sheffield and area communities. And when they need a truck repair or supplies, they keep it local.

"We are very community-oriented," she said. To D&L Sanitation, and everyone else who hauls garbage and recycling in our area: thank you! You are appreciated.

— News Editor Jennifer Burnham



Joann after giving the Chronicle a tour of the farm.

Crustacean Creations in Hampton

BY JENNIFER BURNHAM
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

Joann Hoover of Hampton can usually be found at Kwik Star, where she works full-time. But she also has a side job that many would find interesting — working as a shrimp farmer here in Hampton.

Every day, in the morning and the afternoon, she can be found at the shrimp farm just northwest of Fareway, where around 40,000 shrimp are raised every three months. For the last three years, Joann has been in charge of everything from feeding the shrimp to

maintaining the three large water tanks in the building.

Once the shrimp are harvested and cleaned, they are sent to Fareway for customers to check out.

According to Joann, this job is fun because it's different.

"I really enjoy this job," she said, as she peered into one of the large tanks.

The shrimp farm is one of three that partners with Midland Co., who provides the farms with technology and sales assistance. Read more about Midland in next week's edition of the Chronicle.

More SHRIMP photos: Page 8

Coming Up at the Hampton Public Library

BY JENNIFER BURNHAM
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

The team at the Hampton Public Library has some exciting events coming up, including their latest read-the-book-then-see-the-movie challenge. For this challenge, community members are encouraged to read "Reminders of Him," by Colleen Hoover, before watching the movie at the Windsor Theatre. The theatre will be showing the movie March 27 through April 2, and those who bor-

row the book from the library will receive a discount coupon for their movie ticket when they return the book. The Friends of the Hampton Public Library are sponsoring the discount coupons and the free popcorn at the theatre.

More exciting news: The library will hold their first puzzle competition for children on Thursday, March 12. Also sponsored by the Friends of the Hampton Public Library, this event is for kiddos in second through fourth grade. It will run from 1 to 3 p.m. that afternoon. The first fifteen kids who sign up will get to compete, with three in each team, and there will be plenty of snacks once the challenge wraps up. To register, visit the Hampton Public Library or call the library at 641-456-4451.

And last but not least, any child who stops by the library during spring break will be encouraged to sign up for a chance to win a gift basket — filled with spring break-themed goodies, of course. The two baskets were sponsored by the Friends of the Hampton Public Library.



Hampton Public Library cataloger Esmer Meza with their flyer for their latest read-the-book-then-see-the-movie challenge and their spring break gift baskets. Photo by Jennifer Burnham.



Photo by Jennifer Burnham.

SCHMITT RETIREMENT: FROM COVER



The Hayners meeting one of Jon's customers on Saturday.



Jon's Auto Shop will soon be transformed into Matt's Auto Care.



Jon Schmitt (right) visiting with a friend at his retirement party.

Another 'Perfect Hand' at Back Roads Bar & Grill

BY JENNIFER BURNHAM
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

Nancy Richard, who organizes monthly cribbage tournaments at Back Roads Bar & Grill, stopped by the Chronicle to share that they had another perfect 29-point hand — the highest possible score one can possibly get in one hand.

She explained that Doug Turner of Forest City was the lucky card player who received this score.

According to Nancy, who's been playing cribbage for the last 50 years, this is very rare, occurring roughly once in every 216,580 hands, and she can't believe it happened for a second time at the Bar & Grill.

"This makes us wonder if there is some special power at Back Roads Bar & Grill," Nancy joked. "This is the only two I've ever seen. We just like having a good time out there and this really is a challenging card game, which makes it even more fun. And it's a good way to make friends!"

Want to stop by their next cribbage tournament? It's scheduled for March 21 at Back Roads Bar & Grill in Aredale, with the first play scheduled for noon that day.



Doug Turner with his lucky hand, plus the 29-shaped cribbage board he won. Photo by Kay Mason.

Celebrate 90 Years with Marge!

Marge Nolte will celebrate her 90th birthday on March 13, 2026

In honor of this special milestone, family and friends are invited to help celebrate by sending her a birthday card.

Cards may be mailed to: Marge Nolte, P.O. Box 12, Dumont, IA 50625

Let's make her 90th birthday a wonderful celebration filled with warm wishes!

"ALL YOU CAN EAT FISH FRY" Friday

St. Patrick's Knights of Columbus

Three fish fries on Fridays, February 20, March 6, and March 20

Menu: fish, french fries, potato chips, baked beans, roll, and scooped ice cream

Beverages: lemonade, water, coffee, or milk

Cost: \$16 per person

Dine in or carry out.

Serving time: 5 p.m. until fish is gone

St. Patrick's Catholic Church, 1405 North Federal Street, Hampton

Little Library Coming to Courthouse

BY WREN MASTERS
HAMPTON
CHRONICLE

The Franklin County Board of Supervisors met on Tuesday, Feb. 24, to discuss the urban renewal project, a lawsuit and a little courthouse library.

During the meeting, there was discussion about whether or not the county would continue with their lawsuit against the Iowa Utility Commission, taking into account the legal fees they had already incurred.

Franklin County had joined seven other counties in the area for this lawsuit regarding the use of eminent domain and their approval of a carbon pipeline. The legal fees of this lawsuit haven't been excessive, but county officials are



Franklin County Foreman for Secondary Roads Kyle Simons speaking with County Supervisors Chris Vanness and Gary McVicker during the Feb. 24 meeting.

discussing the remaining length of the project and the future outlook of this.

Franklin County Auditor Katy Flint said she planned on attending the upcoming Feb. 26 Hampton city council meeting to request approval about

the joint urban renewal plan, which would place the Franklin County courthouse within the urban renewal area. (Flint attended the Feb. 26 meeting and received permission from the city council, as they had hoped.)

A request from the clerk of court has been approved, allowing them to place a Leslye's library within the courthouse. The books will be provided with no cost to the county aside from maintaining the library. (These libraries were creat-

ed to help make courthouse visits a little easier for families, according to the organization's Facebook, "Leslye's Library," where more information on their efforts can be found.)

Franklin County Foreman for Secondary Roads Kyle Simons met with the board and provided his department updates, including the approval of the county's utility permit application for Frontier Communications to place fiber in Eagle Avenue from 170th and 190th. This would cross through multiple drainage districts and a representative with the county has been in communication with them about this. A motion was made to approve this, provided that all fees and requirements are met.

Jerrod Wikert Named Recipient of City's February 2026 Image of Pride Award

BY JENNIFER BURNHAM
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

Hampton resident Jerrod Wikert was named the recipient of the February 2026 Image of Pride Award during the Feb. 26 city council meeting.

City Manager Ron Dunt applauded Wikert for the work he's done on his property at 1020 3rd St NW, along with all of the improvements he's made on his block, including demolishing and rebuilding the nuisance property next to his home. Wikert works for the city's water department.

Before this, Franklin County Auditor Katy Flint requested approval for the urban renewal joint agreement between the city and the county. The council voted to approve this agreement.

The council also set March 26

as the time and date of public hearing for the Fiscal Year property tax levy.

Mark Crawford with Crawford Engineering presented an overview of the Fiscal Year 2027 HMA street improvement program, which he said reflected recent feedback from the city councilors.

According to him, the base bid project includes 7th St SW, from 5th avenue to 8th Ave; 2nd Ave SW, from 5th St to 3rd St; 3rd Ave NE, from Federal to 4th St; the repair of the intake at the Hardee's corner; Progress Park parking lot repair; and the airport intersection.

He said bid alternates included the two alley projects (the alleys behind NAPA and Git-n-Go), as the first bid alternate; Federal Street South, from 2nd Ave to 3rd

See COUNCIL: Page 9



Dawson Wikert, Jerrod Wikert and Jayde Wikert with Mayor Steve Birdsall during the Feb. 26 meeting.

First Bank Hampton Donates to CAL Over 60s

PRESS RELEASE

First Bank Hampton recently donated \$1,500 to the CAL Over 60's Organization, helping support its mission of providing meals and fellowship for seniors in Latimer and the surrounding communities.

The CAL Over 60's Organization has served area residents since 1977, offering homecooked meals and a welcoming gathering place for individuals age 60 and older. The group meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month at the Latimer Community Center, with meals also available for those unable to attend in person.

Operated by volunteers, the not-

forprofit organization relies heavily on community support to cover food and operational costs. The donation from First Bank Hampton will be used for general expenses, helping the group continue its longstanding tradition of service.

"We appreciate the continued support from First Bank Hampton," said Doug McWilliams, speaking on behalf of the CAL Over 60's Organization. "Donations like this help ensure we can keep providing quality meals and fellowship for our seniors."

First Bank Hampton supports local organizations that strengthen the community and improve quality of life for residents.



135 people watched "I Can Only Imagine 2" the second weekend of showing at the Windsor Theatre. Three more opportunities to view this inspirational movie at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Wednesday and 7 p.m. on Thursday.

Correction

In last week's edition of the Chronicle, we wrote that Hampton-Dumont Middle School will have a two-hour late start on April 7 and 14 due to ISASP testing. Rather, the middle school will operate on the schedule as if it were on a two-hour delay, but with starting at the usual time, at 8:10 a.m. and students taking the ISASP test during those first two hours of the day.

PRO RACING THIS WEEK

Racing News, Stats & Trivia

This Week's Cup Series Race: Straight Talk Wireless 500

Location: Avondale, Ariz.
Date: March 8th, 3:30 p.m.
Last Year's Pole: William Byron
Last Year's Winner: Christopher Bell

Phoenix Raceway

Track Details
Distance: 1 Mile
Shape: Dogleg Oval
Banking / Turns: 3 - 11

Top News Stories

AI and Aerodynamics: Racing Tech Braces for Spring Swings
As the 2026 season transitions toward its first major road course test, the racing world is being reshaped by digital officiating and significant aerodynamic mandates. NASCAR finalized new AI-driven surveillance for Circuit of the Americas (COTA). To eliminate the "gray area" of track limits, officials are deploying AI-generated camera feeds in Turn 6 to automatically alert race control of any shortcuts, moving away from subjective human calls. Technical focus has also shifted to the universal A-post flap mandate. While introduced mid-season last year, 2026 marks the first full-field requirement for the safety devices at every track. Officials recently specified that the surface beneath these flaps must be painted bright orange to allow for instant visual verification of deployment during spins. On the international stage, the FIA issued a major technical clampdown on February 28 regarding Formula 1 engine compression ratios. Following suspicions that teams were bypassing the 16:1 limit by altering component behavior at high temperatures, new "hot and cold" testing protocols will begin June 1. Simultaneously, Ferrari unveiled its 2026 WEC livery for the 499P, featuring a revised underbody package designed to meet the series' newly adjusted aerodynamic performance window.

Last Weekend's Race: Tyler Reddick Won at Austin

Tyler Reddick won the DuraMAX Texas Grand Prix at Circuit of the Americas on March 1, 2026, becoming the first driver in NASCAR history to win the opening three races of a season. Starting from the pole in the No. 45 Toyota for 23XI Racing, Reddick led a race-high 58 of 95 laps. He maintained the lead through a final 17-lap green-flag run, finishing 3.944 seconds ahead of road-course specialist Shane van Gisbergen. Christopher Bell, Ty Gibbs, and Michael McDowell rounded out the top five. "It means the world," Reddick stated. "It was so important, so fitting that we were able to get three in a row and make history."

Tyler Reddick
Born: Jan. 11, 1996
Crew Chief: Billy Scott
Car: Toyota

Year	Wins	Top 10s	Avg. Finish
2026	3	3	1
2025	0	14	14.47

2026 Standings

Cup Series Top Ten				O'Reilly Auto Parts Series Top Ten			
Drivers	Points	Top 10s		Drivers	Points	Top 10s	
1) Tyler Reddick	186	3		1) Austin Hill	154	2	
2) Bubba Wallace	116	2		2) Jesse Love	126	3	
3) Chase Elliott	114	2		3) Justin Allgaier	115	2	
4) Ryan Blaney	100	2		4) Sheldon Creed	106	1	
5) Shane Van Gisbergen	90	2		5) Carson Kvatil	95	1	
6) Joey Logano	90	1		6) Rajah Caruth	90	2	
7) Daniel Suárez	87	1		7) Sammy Smith	86	2	
8) AJ Allmendinger	86	1		8) Corey Day	86	2	
9) Michael McDowell	83	1		9) Parker Retzlaff	81	1	
10) Carson Hocevar	82	1		10) Sam Mayer	78	1	

Racing Trivia

Which driver is known as "The Silver Fox" and won 105 Cup races?

a) Cale Yarborough c) Ned Jarrett
b) David Pearson d) Bobby Isaac

ANSWER: b) David Pearson. He earned the nickname for his grey hair and his incredibly long career.

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Scan this QR code to get more race results and news!

HAMPTON CHRONICLE

A Division of
Mid-America Publishing Corporation

LOCATION and INFORMATION

•9 Second St. NW, Hampton, IA 50441
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Matt Grohe

• (515) 988-3726
news@hamptonchronicle.com

Use this contact to offer story tips, letters to the editor, releases, etc.

•SERVICES

•Engagements, anniversaries, birthdays, weddings, births and family reunions information is published free of charge. There is a \$12 charge for each black and white photo and a \$24 charge for each color photo. Birthday and birth photos are published one column in width. Anniversary and Engagement photos are published two columns in width. Other such photos are published in a width appropriate to the number of people in the photo. Cards of thanks are \$18.

•Obituaries: Written announcement of basic information including services is free. Obituary is \$100 for 100 words. Anything thereafter is \$0.25 per word. Can be written by the family. Photos are published free with paid obituaries in a one column wide format, black and white. Billing is through funeral homes or payment is expected at time of submission, either via credit card, debit card, check or cash.

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.

A NATION of LAWS

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!

Celebrating President Trump's Historic State of the Union



REP. RANDY FEENSTRA
COLUMNIST

This week, I had the honor of attending President Trump's historic State of the Union address, a speech that sent a simple but powerful message: America is back on track. One year ago, President Trump made a promise to put the American people first, and the results are clear—a secure border, a stronger economy, lower taxes, and renewed opportunities for working families.

I had the privilege of welcoming Scott Root and Scotty Root to our nation's capital as my guests for the State of the Union. Scott is the father of the late Sarah Root, and Scotty is her younger brother. Nearly ten years ago, Sarah, a 21-year-old Iowan, was tragically murdered by an illegal immigrant who was driving drunk at three times the legal limit. Instead of being held accountable, her

killer posted bail and fled the country. This left her family without answers or closure for nearly a decade.

That injustice is why Senator Joni Ernst and I introduced Sarah's Law, which ultimately was included in the first law signed by President Trump. Last year, Sarah's killer became the first person ever extradited from Honduras to the United States for murder, and earlier this month, he was sentenced to more than 20 years in prison. While nothing can bring Sarah back or erase the years of grief the Root family endured, justice has finally been delivered.

President Trump echoed this message during his State of the Union as he told stories of other angel families, who also had loved ones killed by illegal immigrants. He demonstrated his tireless work to strengthen public safety and prevent tragedies like that of Sarah Root. Central to this effort is reversing the Biden-era open-border policies that put Americans at risk. Under President Trump's leadership, illegal border encounters have plummeted, construction of the border wall has resumed at full speed, and law enforcement now has the resources and support they deserve.

The President's address also highlighted historic economic victories this

year as the nation recovers from the disastrous fiscal policies of the previous administration—which they coined as “Bidenomics.” The President touted the Working Families Tax Cuts—legislation I helped write as the only member of Congress serving on both the Ways and Means and Agriculture Committees. This law has delivered the largest tax relief for working families in American history.

During this filing season, the average refund has increased by more than \$1,000, and overall refunds are up 11%. Workers will no longer pay taxes on tips or overtime, putting more than \$1,000 of hard-earned money back into their pockets, and seniors will no longer pay taxes on their Social Security benefits. Families are beginning to live the American Dream as they benefit from a permanent expanded child tax credit, tax deductions for loans on American-made cars, and the creation of new savings accounts—known as Trump Accounts—for newborns, with a \$1,000 federal contribution. These are just a few of the major wins under the Working Families Tax Cuts, providing historic relief for workers, families, farmers, and small businesses. I am honored to have worked with President Trump to accomplish this.

President Trump's trade agenda is also delivering tremendous results. America's trade deficit on goods with China has fallen 32% this year, exports have reached a record \$3.4 trillion, and new trade agreements across the world are providing access for Iowa corn, soybeans, pork, beef, and dairy. These policies, which are focused on growing our markets and driving new domestic investment, are fueling American agriculture, manufacturing, and job creation.

One year ago, President Trump promised to secure the border, lower costs, and put American workers first. Today, inflation has fallen dramatically from its peak under former President Biden, energy prices are down, private-sector job growth is strong, and our nation is once again enforcing its laws.

Last night marked a historic State of the Union that celebrated victories and relief felt across the United States. This is just the beginning of America's golden age. I will continue working alongside President Trump to protect our communities, support working families, strengthen our economy, create markets for our farmers, and ensure every Iowa family has the opportunity to succeed.

Funnel Survivors Are Focus of House Debate



REP. SHANNON LATHAM
COLUMNIST

Two headline-making bills that were passed by the Iowa House of Representatives in week seven of the 2026 legislative session include improving election laws and requiring commercial drivers to demonstrate English proficiency. With the first funnel date behind us, this week the Iowa House of Representatives debated several bills that made it through an Iowa House committee by Feb. 20. We're focused on passing bills off the House floor, so they may be considered by Senate subcommittees and committees before the second funnel deadline. March 20 is the final date for House bills to be reported out of Senate committees.

Below are summaries of a few bills that survived the first funnel and are eligible for floor action.

Agriculture

- HF 2444 removes unnecessary hoops for serving Iowa-grown foods at farm-to-table events on Iowa farms by allowing a special-use permit. This bill also expands market opportunities for raw milk producers by allowing them to sell their own milk in their own on-farm stores.

- HF 2340, the Iowa Farm Act, addresses biodiesel access in the Renewable Fuels Infrastructure Program while eliminating non-compete language in the Choose Iowa program. It makes changes to the Beginning Farmers program and the Butchery Revitalization Program. The bill gives the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) the authorization to lease facilities for quick control of infectious animal diseases. In addition, it increases agricultural tourism options and expands farm

exemptions from county zoning to encourage rural tourism.

Commerce

- HF 2580 makes it clear that eminent domain cannot be used for battery storage, solar and wind. This bill establishes statewide siting standards for renewable energy facilities but allows local authorities to maintain a moratorium or additional standards if they hold a public hearing and notify property taxpayers of lost revenue.

- HF 2633 prohibits life, disability and long-term care insurance from limiting coverage for living organ donors.
- HSB 691 allows landowners to renegotiate for continued yield losses.

Economic Growth and Technology

- HSB 742 establishes a framework for America's 250th celebration in Iowa including sales tax holiday over the 4th of July, Constitution day instruction, public broadcasting of events and Capitol complex monuments. This bill was referred to the

House Ways and Means Committee.

- HSB 727 requires a data center business that claims a sales tax exemption or sales and uses tax refunds to invest a minimum of 5% of the total value of the exemption or refund claimed for the previous year. This can be done as an equity investment in a qualifying business or innovation fund. The bill was referred to the House Ways and Means Committee.

Education

- HF 2493 allows five-year-olds to be eligible for statewide preschool programs.
- HF 460 establishes that pre-kindergarten will include at least 90 minutes of play-based learning during each half school day and at least 180 minutes of play-based learning during each full school day. Kindergarten shall include at least 45 minutes of play-based learning during each school day and defines “play-based learning.”

See **LATHAM: Page 6**

THE SENIOR SCENE

Where new friendships are made and old friendships are renewed



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

ACTIVITIES

- Monday, March 9**
1:00 BINGO
- Tuesday, March 10**
12:30 CRIBBAGE
- Wednesday, March 11**
12:45 HAND & FOOT OR 500 CARDS
- Thursday, March 12**
1:00 BINGO
- Friday, March 13**
BIRTHDAY DINNER: STAY & PLAY
- Friday, March 13**
12:00 COMMUNITY PINOCCHLE; 12:30 HAND & FOOT

GREAT LUNCHEAS AT 11:30
60 & under \$10.00
Over 60 \$7.00
Call 456-5191 For Reservations

Menu

- Monday, March 9**
Goulash - Vegetable - Fruit - Peanut Butter Bar
- Tuesday, March 10**
Open Faced Hot Beef Sandwich - Mashed Potatoes & Gravy - Vegetable - Fruit
- Wednesday, March 11**
Pork Meatballs in Creamy Mushroom Sauce over Egg Noodles - Whole Wheat Roll
- Thursday, March 12**
Lasagna - Garlic Bread - Lettuce Salad - Frozen Fruit
- Friday, March 13**
Meatloaf - Mashed Potatoes & Gravy - Whole Wheat Bread - Vegetable - Fruit

HAMPTON SENIOR CENTER
23 First St. SW, Hampton • 641-456-5191

A Funnel Report Card

Brass Tacks from Rural Iowa

BY BARBARA KALBACH

February 20 saw the passage of the first legislative funnel. This is a deadline lawmakers set to winnow down bills eligible for consideration for the remainder of the session. It doesn't apply to spending bills, but does a good job of narrowing what lawmakers will focus on around the midpoint of their time spent under the Golden Dome in Des Moines. I didn't have high hopes for this legislative session. Considering the last handful of years, the bar had

been set low. But I had a sneaking suspicion they could always go lower. So I'm kind of surprised they didn't go even lower this year. But then again, it's not a report card to pin to the refrigerator either. It goes without saying anything introduced by House or Senate Democrats went nowhere. Bipartisanship is a word that has been unheard of at our statehouse for at least a decade now. So that means fully funding our public education is again a pipe

dream. And it means even half-hearted measures introduced by Democrats to combat our water crisis died a quiet death. Speaking of public education, we'll be getting another paltry 2% increase in state supplemental aid for our public schools. A rate that has consistently failed to keep pace with inflation. And yet, the number of bills that survived the funnel relating to public education from kindergarten to college are too numerous to list. Legislators calling the shots at the statehouse sure do seem concerned about every nook and cranny of our public schools and libraries. But when it comes to private schools, even those receiving public

money, it's a different story. Sen. Charlie McClintock's (R-Alburnett) bill, Senate File 2008, aimed to hold private schools receiving vouchers to the same basic transparency and reporting requirements as public schools. It didn't even get a subcommittee hearing by his peers. More bad legislation that survived the funnel includes House File 2530. This stinky (pun intended) piece of legislation would prohibit the Iowa DNR from listing a waterway as impaired unless they have identified what animal's fecal bacteria was present in the water! This reads like a rejected script from the most boring episode of CSI that thankfully never got greenlit.

Somewhat surprisingly, there's potential good news on water usage coming out of the funnel. Nothing groundbreaking, but more than we've seen from lawmakers in recent years. House File 2447 would require data centers to submit regular reports on their water and energy use. It would also require that the cost to power them be paid for by the data centers, not by everyday people using the water for our drinking supply. Another bill, House File 2117 would provide funding to retrofit up to 100 private wells with groundwater monitoring equipment. This would more than double the approximately 60 wells currently monitoring our groundwa-

ter. These measures would help establish a foundation of knowledge to build on as we negotiate ways to clean up our state's waters – Iowa's most valuable resource. There might be some good that comes out of this legislative session after all. But it'll fall far short of what Iowans deserve from their elected officials. We best get ready for a lot of fluff and little substance when these legislators turn their attention to the campaign trail later this year. *Barb is a 4th generation family farmer, retired registered nurse, and board member of Iowa CCI Action. She can be reached at barbnealkalbach@gmail.com.*

Memories Made in Malaysia

BY ISAAC VOSBURG
WHERE IN THE
WORLD IS ISAAC
VOSBURG?

The sun was hot that day, even by Malaysian standards—two years ago this week, to be exact. Perspiration clung to cotton shirts before pools of it eventually bled through. The sweat dripped down people's foreheads and chins, and the only reprieve was the shade of a wide palm leaf or fern. I—along with a small group of other exchange students and host families from the state of Johor—was at Tanjung Piai, a National Park containing a mangrove forest, mud flats, an awe-inspiring and biodiverse ecosystem, oh, and the southernmost point of all of mainland Asia.

As we walked on from the parking lot toward the main gate, two of the younger kids from another host family and I marveled at how our shadows were cast almost straight downward over this equatorial noon hour. We paid our entrance fees and were soon enveloped by the flora, providing a leafy green shelter from the sweltering heat. Among the faunal cast of characters came mudskippers, snails, lizards, monkeys, and more. As I turned my attention to my surroundings, I felt as if I had been dropped on an alien world.

Mangrove trees are odd, at least from the vantage point of what one might expect by the term "tree." Their knot of roots stand well above the soil, or rather, mud, and reach up toward the trunk like an umbrella. It feels wrong to see a tree so exposed, like an X-ray



of what ought to be underground. This adaptation, however peculiar it may seem, is exactly what makes this ecosystem possible. These trees, together, calm the tides, provide safety and shelter to smaller creatures, and keep nutrients from being washed away by the waves. Exposed to the confluence of the Strait of Melaka and the Strait of Singapore, this forest keeps Tanjung Piai firmly rooted in place, literally.

The paths that crisscross the park are like wooden docks built on stilts, with thin passageways and guardrails that allow one to feel consumed by the foliage. At a couple of distinct points, there are stairs that lead a few feet down to an "exploration area," wherein visitors can stand on wooden planks at ground level and examine this incredible ecosystem for themselves. After having lived out the "look, I did that thing" moment of standing at the exact southernmost point of all of mainland Asia, soaking up the sun and the sea salty breeze, I moved on to one of these "exploration areas."

As I squatted down level with the ground, I surveyed

the area enclosed by the rectangular walkways. Within this two-meter by two-meter parcel, there was a mat of mangrove leaves that had fallen, vast tracts of bare mud, and most intriguingly, it was teeming with life. While the monkeys had cast their gaze and their shouts at me all morning from their tree-trunk perches, the snails, crabs, mudskippers, and more that I could see here held my attention like no other.

The mudskippers were the most interesting to me. They were fish that walked with their fins, breathed the same oxygen as you and I, and were insanely speedy. I spent the better part of ten minutes just trying to catch one before the two kiddos from earlier caught up with me. They squatted down, too, and together we pointed out the biggest snails, the smallest crabs, and yes, still attempted to catch a mudskipper in the process. Right as we were about to give up on this effort and return to the rest of the group, one of the little girls pointed out something novel: a snake.

It was only a baby, maybe seven or eight inches long, and about the width

of a number two pencil. We watched it slither slowly through the mud when the other girl said she wanted to pet it. I suggested as how that might not be the best of ideas, though in doing so, the seeds to a radical notion of my own were planted. I considered it, then dropped the idea just as fast as I had picked it up. I sat and watched the snake some more, my curiosity growing as a small snail, about as wide around as the head of a thumbtack, charted a collision course with the snake. Soon enough, the snail was crawling on top of the snake's head, and, I kid you not, the snail rested on top of the snake's head like a hat.

In my mind, this was all the justification that I needed. If the snake was calm enough to wear a snail as a hat, it was calm enough to be picked up. I grabbed the snake just behind the head with my thumb and pointer fingers and lifted it from the mud. "Look! Look!" I encouraged the girls to come and pet the snake's tail and body now that I held its head away from them. The snake remained docile for about a minute as I held and examined it, as did the hat-snail. Just as I was about to return them to the mud from whence they came, the snake began to twist between my fingers and turn its head toward my thumb. I got so scared I set the snake down and took a long bound to keep my distance. The snake shot off under the stilted walkway, far from sight.

This exhilarating moment was over as quickly as it began, and as the adrenaline subsided, the two girls and I hopped back on the

SUDOKU

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

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

SUDOKU ANSWERS

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

THIS WEEK'S SUDOKU IS SPONSORED BY:

**Koenen & Collins
Chiropractic Clinic**

walkway and rejoined the group. We kept our excitement to ourselves, because on the way out, I noticed a sign which stated, clearly, in four languages, and in bold: "Watch out for venomous snakes."

We Soldier On



THE ALTERNATIVE
FRITZ GROSZKRUGER
THE ALTERNATIVE

Ghostie's success has had glitches. I often evangelize about the benefits of electric fence.

I also try to ease the pain of failure with the phrase, "cheaper than school." Our kids have heard it a million times. While I've used some of my schooling in very profitable ways, the education behemoth sucks way more of our earnings than the mistakes we've

made. Do a little balance sheet yourself and you'll see what I mean. Experience, curiosity, and helpful friends win.

The New Zealanders invented modern electric fencing. If it's unplugged it doesn't hurt you like barbed wire does. While working for Louie and Joyce out in Montana, Louie often said that barbed wire was made for people, not animals. We built lots of fence, digging post holes by hand in rocks. Some of those holes were three feet across as we tried to find a way around the rocks. I think I bled more than than in my skateboarding days. And that's a lot.

One day Dawn was on a walk on the road near a loose and small gauge wire. Earlier that day Ghostie had a calf about 100

yards downstream. They had made it up to where that loose wire crossed the ditch. Later on Dawn told me she had heard a calf holler like it had been shocked. Usually that means it learned.

I went to check on them and the calf was under the fence in the tall grass. I went back again after a while and it was still there. It had been long enough so I reached under and drug the calf out to be by his mom. He couldn't stand up. I stood him up and he just stood there and didn't suck. We decided to load him in the Ranger, take him home, and try feeding or otherwise check why he seemed so dumb. After a few trips to the pasture and back we left him standing in a pen and went to the Municipal Band Concert. When we

returned he was still standing. He didn't know how to lie down.

Eventually, the calf died. We decided that the electric fence had damaged his brain. Having that wire so loose had allowed it to tangle on the calf rather than causing him to simply back off. The New Zealanders say Americans over-build and under-power. I still believe that and it saves a lot of labor building fences. But everything needs to be viewed as a complete package. And having tight wires was more necessary than I thought. We were heartbroken.

Last summer the calves were walking under the fence and into the road ditch like they were immune to the shock. It actually changed our lifestyle somewhat. The road isn't

busy and the calves always go back in with their moms after dark so there was little chance of them being hit. Doris, our blue heeler, loved it. We would take the Ranger down the road and when we got to the errant calves I'd say "Okay!" and Doris would jump out and put the calves back in. Great fun... for her.

We bought more wire in order to add one on the perimeter fence, thinking that might help. Well duh. As my machinery mentor, Tim Gansen, would say, "Read the book!" Apparently the ground rods had corroded, inhibiting soil contact. Thinking outside the box and reading the fencer instructions would have saved us a lot of trouble. We bought shiny new ground rods and when we had a calf out after

that installation, that calf wouldn't go within 10 feet of the wire.

Our neighbor was building a five-wire barbed wire fence and I told him two hot wires were just as good. I got pretty humble when we had calves out all the time. Then the discovery of the poor grounding proved me right.

All summer when we took the Ranger out to check cows Ghostie would run to us like we were bringing her baby back. Mistakes can really hurt. We learn.

Last year Ghostie had a healthy calf who seldom left her side.

Got something to add? Try a letter to the editor or just to me at 4selfgovernment@gmail.com.

Guest Editorial (Part 2 of 3)

Iowa School Finance: How Iowa Legislature Equalizes Per Student Funding Statewide/Every Student Has Access to Quality Education



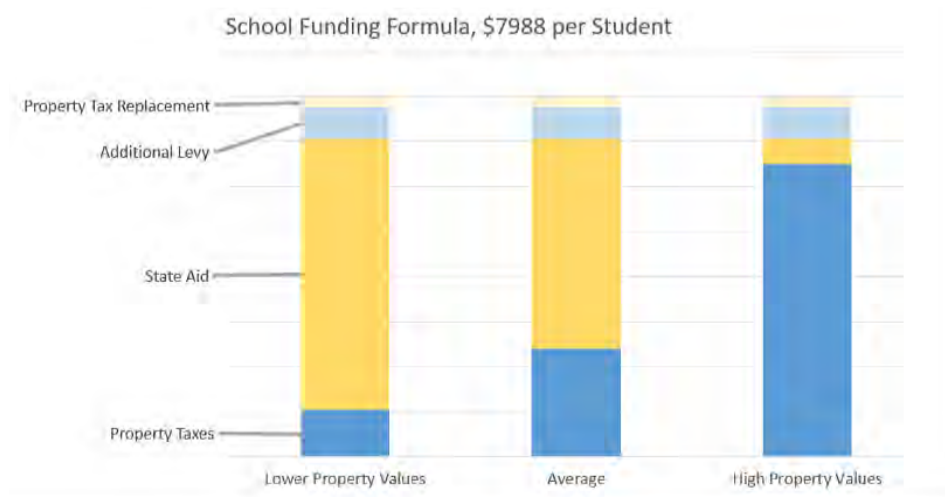
TIM FELDERMAN
SUPERINTENDENT
HAMPTON - DUMONT
COMMUNITY
SCHOOLS

How does Iowa spend the \$6.1 billion earmarked for the state's public education system? Last week, the Hampton Chronicle ran the first in a series of articles dedicated to helping taxpayers understand how those dollars are being spent to educate about 496,000 Iowa students in preschool through grade 12. Today, we'll discuss how those dollars are used.

The state legislature tries to ensure that all children receive a quality education

by allocating roughly the same amount of funding per pupil across the state. Iowa's school finance formula relies on a combination of state aid and property taxes to fund education. The amount of state aid each district receives depends on how much it brings in through local property taxes. If the state relied solely on property taxes to fund schools, some districts would be able to raise a lot of money with a very low property tax rate, while others would raise a smaller amount with a much higher property tax rate, depending on the property values and mix of property in their local communities.

This was exactly the situation Iowa found itself in during the early 1970s, when school districts relied primarily on property taxes for school funding. Due to the wide range of property tax rates across districts and concern over the disparity in funding per child, lawmakers instituted a formula to address both



issues, setting a maximum and an "equal" cost per student. Now, all districts are required to levy a Uniform Levy of \$5.40 per \$1,000 of net assessed property value on all property in the district, and then the state funds an additional amount up to a certain level (called the Foundation Level). Beyond that foundation level, local property taxes are levied to fund a fixed amount per student, with state aid providing additional sup-

port for the remainder.

The School Finance Director at Iowa School Finance Information Services (ISFIS), Kenneth Sturgis, explained that school funding per student has several layers for the 2025-26 school year. "The first is your uniform levy of \$5.40 per \$1,000 of net assessed property value. Then you have state aid, which funds the per student cost up to 88.4%. On top of that, you have an additional levy of

\$685 per student, which is all property tax. Finally, there are Property Tax Replacement Payments, which are paid out of state funding that covers the last \$242 per student."

The following chart compares a district with below-average, average, and above-average per-pupil property tax valuations. For the Hampton-Dumont School District, our "property valuation per pupil" is below the state average,

meaning our Uniform Levy of \$5.40 generates fewer dollars and we get less state aid. However, our Additional Property Tax Levy rate is higher than the state average because our additional levy rate must be higher to generate the same dollars as other districts.

While the state partially equalizes tax rates through the school finance formula, deviations still affect how much each district receives from the state. For the 2025-26 school year, the lowest combined tax rate for a school district is \$7.43 in the current fiscal year, and the highest is \$19.08, making the difference \$11.65 per thousand.

Regardless of the local school district's financial situation, a large portion of the district's tax rate is already set. While school board members or administrators have some control, most of the property tax rates are set by the school finance formula and the Legislature.

H-D-CAL Attends District Speech Contest

BY LEE NELSON

H-D-CAL students and coaches traveled to Forest City High School to participate in the Northeast Individual Event District Contest on Saturday, February 28.

Of the 61 events entered, 46 received a Division I rating. Those receiving a division I rating will advance to the northeast Iowa state contest to be held at Maquoketa Valley High School on Saturday, March 14.

Students receiving Division I ratings in the following events:

- Milly Aquilar - Storytelling
- Jovanny Camerillo-Calles - Expository Address
- James Chambers - Acting and Storytelling
- Kinlee Chaplin - Literary Program
- Emma Dietz - Prose and Public Address
- America Dominguez - Original Oratory and Prose
- Nora Dunwald - Literary Program and Storytelling
- Kendall Eilderts - Expository Address
- Gabe Espejo - Review
- Noe Flores - Videocasting
- Ruby Garcia - After Dinner
- Arnold Guervara - After Dinner
- Keaton Gunderson - Musical Theater
- Christina Hernandez - Poetry and After Dinner
- Catelena Hernandez-Gomez - Poetry
- Emmanuel Iddirisu - Expository Address
- Kendall Klein - Review
- Marlee Maas - Poetry and Radio News
- Ryne Magner - Literary Program and Original Oratory
- Reed Masters - Improv Acting and Spontaneous Speaking
- Avalon Mulford - Improv Acting
- Jackson Opperman - Public Address and Videocasting
- Klayton Plagge - Expository Address and Videocasting
- Anna Robles - Acting and Literary Program
- Tegan Ronney - Improv Acting



H-D-CAL speech team members gather for a group photo during district speech at Forest City High School, celebrating a day of performances.



H-D-CAL students traveled to Forest City for a district speech contest held February 28. 46 events received a Division I Rating and will advance to the NE IA state contest at Maquoketa Valley High School on March 14.

- LilyAlice Rosenberg - Original Oratory and Public Address
- Bella Salinas - After Dinner and Spontaneous Speaking
- Maren Subbert - Musical Theater and Poetry
- Azalea Thomson - After Dinner
- Elijah Weinandy - Expository Address
- Sariah Whalen - Flores - Reviewing and Poetry

Division II ratings received:

- Genesis DelRio - Poetry and Review
- Kendall Eilderts - Public Address
- Noe Flores - Musical Theater

- Arnold Guevara - Review
- Matthew Hartkopp - Spontaneous Speaking
- Autumn Janssen - Storytelling and Prose
- Kendall Klein - Prose
- Avalon Mulford - Radio News
- Lincoln Powers - Prose and Improv Acting
- Brandon St. John - Expository Address
- Elijah Weinandy - Radio News

"We really had to persevere preparing for the competition as we dealt with many illnesses, some bad weather, and navigated a new speech event called Videocasting,"

said Coach Sam Magner. "Even though some of the students didn't get the results they wanted, we are proud of them for moving forward and showing the Northeast District what being a Bulldog is all about."

"The best part of districts for me," said speech team member Reed Masters, "is the people. Not just the people I know, but the people I meet. The Iowa High School Speech Association is a big family, and everyone in it matters."

H-D-CAL speech coaches are Wendy Buseman, Emileigh Eilderts, and Sam Magner.



Members of the H-D-CAL speech team at the district speech contest in Forest City on Saturday, February 28, left to right, Arnold Guevara, Elijah Weinandy, Nora Dunwald, Marlee Maas, Kinlee Chaplin, and Ruby Garcia.



America Dominguez, Emma Dietz, and Coach Wendy Buseman with "JM" the good luck guy from when Wendy did her first speech contest.

LATHAM: FROM PAGE 4

• HF 2508 extends the summer noncontact period to 10 days and creates a fall, winter and spring noncontact period. This applies to club sports.

Health and Human Services

• HF 2292 doubles the beds at state Institutions for Mental Diseases (IMD) in Cherokee and Independence one year after federal approval of the IMD waiver. This will add 92 beds. Because I've been contacted by constituents whose family members have complex behavioral health needs — and have difficulty getting their loved ones into Independence — I was glad to see this bill pass off the House floor.

• HF 2468 establishes a fund with the state for all

monies received from the One Big Beautiful Bill Rural Health Transformation Program. It requires the Department of Health and Human Services to provide regular reports on expenditures from the fund and what cities in Iowa have received those funds.

Higher Education

• HF 2310 creates a Pediatric Cancer Research program at the University of Iowa.

• HF 2466 provides more clarity to apprenticeship training providers. It also creates the Career Training Physical Expansion Program to provide financial assistance for the construction of new facilities that will expand the capacity of community colleges and private sector apprenticeship programs

for education and training in high-demand fields in Iowa.

Judiciary

• HF 2542 creates a system of points for individuals with criminal convictions. Felonies and some aggravated misdemeanor convictions result in one point; most aggravated misdemeanors and some serious misdemeanors result in half a point. Once a person has three points, they must serve a minimum of 20 years in prison. However, if the sentence for the crime is longer than 20 years, they shall serve that sentence.

• HF 2599 clarifies that a service animal in training is allowed where a service animal is allowed under state or federal law. This already exists else-

where in code and the addition in this bill ensures that a person who is training a service animal does not have to pay a pet fee or other upfront animal fees required in a living situation, just like those who have service animals.

Stay in Touch

As I always say, I can't represent you if I don't hear from you. I welcome visits from constituents at the statehouse. Feel free contact me about issues of interest to you. You're welcome to message me through social media, email me at shannon.latham@legis.iowa.gov, or call the Iowa House switchboard at (515) 281-3221.

WORDS OF WISDOM



Last week's trivia questions:

What country has the most islands? Answer: Sweden has over 260,000 islands, and approximately 220,000 of those islands have names. Less than 1,000 of those islands are inhabited, however.

What country has the most lakes? Answer: Canada has over 60 percent of the lakes in the world, with approximately 900,000 lakes. Russia is second with around 200,000 lakes, and the United States has approximately 100,000.

March is National Nutrition Month, National Peanut Month, National Celery Month, National Craft Month, National Flour Month, National Frozen Food Month, National Noodle Month, National Women's History Month, National Kidney Month, National Athletic Training Month, Red Cross Month, Music in our School Month, National Reading Month, and Dolphin Awareness Month.

March 4 is National Marching Band Day, and National Snack Day; March 5 World Information Architecture Day; March 6 is National Dentist Day, National Frozen Food Day, World Day of Prayer, and National Oreo Cookie Day; March 7 is National Cereal Day; March 8 is International Women's Day, National Preschooler's Day, National Retro Video Game Day, and Daylight Savings (Clocks move forward one hour!); March 9 is National Barbie Day, and World Kidney Day; March 10 is National Freelancers Day, and National Skirt Day.

This week is Sea Week, Chocolate Chip Cookie Week, and Celebrate Your Name Week.

This week's trivia questions:

What country became a nation on Jan. 1, 1901, when its six colonies joined together to become a commonwealth?

On June 17, 1944, the country of Iceland became a republic, gaining full independence from what country?

"The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound." - Isaiah 61:1

"The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed; To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD." - Luke 4:18

"Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God." - 1 Peter 2:16

Quotes from Olympic athletes:

"Winning doesn't always mean being first. Winning means doing better than you've ever done before." - Bonnie Blair (American speed skater and gold medalist)

"You have to believe in yourself when no one else does - that makes you a winner right there." - Serena Williams (American gold medalist tennis player)

"Falling down doesn't mean you're a poor skater. The truth is that when one stops falling, he has probably stopped improving." - Dick Button (American gold medalist skater)

"Failure I can live with. Not trying is what I can't handle!" - Anonymous

Norway won the medal count at this year's Winter Olympics with 18 gold medals and 41 total medals. USA was second with 12 gold medals and 31 total medals.

The USA men's and women's hockey teams both defeated Canada with identical 2-1 overtime scores to win the gold medal.

The Amazon River in South America, despite being around 4,000 miles in length, has no bridges across it. (All 10 million people who live on the banks of the Amazon River can only cross the freshwater flow by boat).

The Nile River flows through 11 different countries in Africa, including Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya, Ethiopia, Eritrea, South Sudan, Sudan, and Egypt.

March 4th is the only day of the year that gives a command. (March forth!)

What's At The Windsor

BY JIM DAVIES
WINDSOR THEATRE
MANAGER

Hoppers is scheduled to be released in the United States on March 6, 2026, and will show for two weeks at the Windsor Theatre from Friday, March 6, through Thursday, March 19.

Regular showtimes are Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Wednesday and Thursday at 7:00 PM, with matinees on Sunday at 1:00 PM and Wednesday at 2:00 PM.

Hoppers is an upcoming American animated science fiction comedy film produced by Pixar Animation Studios for Walt Disney Pictures. Directed by Daniel Chong and written by Jesse Andrews, the film stars the voices of Piper Curda, Bobby Moynihan and Jon Hamm.

It follows an animal lover named Mabel whose mind is transferred into a lifelike robotic beaver to communicate with animals and save their habitat from destruction.

Hoppers premiered at the New York International Children's Film Festival on February 28, 2026, and will be released in theaters in the

United States on March 6.

Distributed by Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures, the film is rated PG for action/peril, some scary images, and mild language. Running time is 104 minutes.

Regular movie ticket prices are \$6 for adults and \$4 for youth age 16 and under. Seniors (60 and over) receive a discounted price of \$4 on Sundays. All tickets are \$4 for the Wednesday matinee and the Thursday evening show.

Tickets are available for purchase at the door or online at www.windsortheatre.com. Credit cards are accepted.

Enjoy the fresh taste of Windsor Theatre popcorn? Purchase a \$100 popcorn card for one free large popcorn and one free refill each day. Cards expire March 1, 2027. Stop by when the the-

atre is open. You do not have to purchase a ticket to attend a



movie to visit the concession stand.

The Windsor Theatre has gift certificates (Windsor bucks) in denominations of \$5 and \$1 to use for admission or concessions. Movie passes can be purchased and given as gifts--\$6 for adults and \$4 for youth (age 16 and under).

For the regular movie-goer, a punch card is available. Each punch card has

25 punches for \$20, a 20% discount. One punch equals one dollar good for admission only.

Want to create goodwill with others and help Windsor Theatre attendance? Sponsor a movie! The cost is \$300. The sponsor will receive 100 tickets to give away

For more information or to contact the Windsor Theatre, visit www.windsortheatre.com or call or text theatre manager Jim Davies at 641-425-4707.

Upcoming Movies
(Subject to Change)

- March 20 – Goat
- March 27 – Reminders of Him*
- April 3 - The Super Mario Galaxy Movie (2 weeks)
- April 17 – Project Hail Mary
- April 24 – The Pout-Pout Fish
- May 1 – The Devil Wears Prada 2 (2 weeks)

*The film adaptation of Colleen Hoover's 2022 novel, Reminders of Him, is the



second featured title 'Read the Book Before You See the Movie' promotion. To check out a copy of the book, contact the Hampton Public Library.

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Adults \$6, Youth \$4 Senior Sunday (60&over) \$4
Wednesday matinee \$4 Thursday \$4
Credit and debit cards are now accepted.
UPCOMING MOVIES:
Visit www.windsortheatre.com for details.
Tentative schedule for upcoming movies, FYI. Schedule may change.
March 20: Goat
March 27: Reminders of Him (read the book, see the movie promotion)
April 3: The Super Mario Galaxy Movie (2 weeks)
April 17: Project Hail Mary
April 24: The Pout-Pout Fish
May 1: The Devil Wears Prada 2

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Classified display ads, per column inch minimum: \$8.00
Service charge for blind ads per week: \$5.65

News Editor: Jennifer Burnham
Marketing/Sales Representative: Nikki Vega
Hampton Chronicle Staff: Jennifer Burnham, Nikki Vega, Beth Farrell, Evan Pharr & Noah Regan
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Readers of the Week at the Hampton Public Library



BY BRENDA VAN WERT
CHILDREN'S LIBRARIAN

Reader of the Week at the Hampton Public Library is Jett Morton, age 10. Jett is the son of Sarah and Brandon Morton.

His favorite book is *The Lemonade War* by Jacqueline Davies. Jett is one of our 4th grade volunteers this winter.



OPINION

Martha and the Maze



reading between the lines

with Amanda Rink

AMANDA RINK

“Were it left to me to decide if we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter.” - Thomas Jefferson

I’m about to take you on a short journey, one where I do invite you to imagine, but not to close your eyes because you clearly need to read what I’m saying. Anyway, let’s get it started.

Imagine Martha, a 72-year-old woman who is sharp as a tack but not exactly a digital pro. This is common. Imagine her sitting in front of the glowing, aging computer at the library.

She scrolls through what feels like a maze of government websites, PDFs, and dropdown menus, muttering about locating the public notices. Next to her sits a thin newspaper, only a few pages published now.

Beside her, the librarian would love to help, but with budget cuts and half the staff gone, she can hardly keep the wifi up and running.

Martha’s fingers hover

over links for tax notices, zoning hearings, probate, and sheriff’s sales. Each click leads to another maze of confusing documents, pop-ups, or dead-end pages. Martha sighs, Jenna groans; both of them are trapped in a digital purgatory.

This isn’t just a short fictionalized story. Martha represents a very real example in rural Iowa. Many residents, especially older adults, rely on libraries or shared computers. Internet access isn’t universal, and navigation is tricky if you didn’t grow up with it always around.

Enter Iowa Senate Bill 3175. If passed, it would move all legally required public notices, which can normally be found in the newspaper you’re reading right now, online, to a statewide site and to local government websites. Print would no longer be the default. Local governments could decide whether to keep printing in their local newspaper at all.

On paper, it sounds modern, fast, and cost-effective. But for rural areas like ours? Reliable internet isn’t always a given, believe

it or not... not everyone has a smartphone in their pocket. And not everyone wants to learn a new government website just to check if the city council changed a local rule.

Public notices aren’t just filler in your local newspaper. They’re a lifeline for small newspapers like The Wright County Monitor. That revenue allows me to cover school boards, city councils, local courts, county supervisors, and Martha’s award-winning pie at the local fair. Without that revenue from public notices, the stories get a lot harder to tell. Local newspapers aren’t getting ad revenue like they used to... once again, this is an example of something the internet has taken from us.

There’s also permanence to consider. Printed notices stick around. They’re verifiable, publicly accessible, and archived. Online postings? They can vanish or change in an instant. Centralizing notices under government control might save a few bucks, but it also raises questions about accountability, history, and trust.

At the time of writing, SSB 3175 had moved quickly through committee, introduced on February 17 and approved just two days later. Forcing it through the funnel week. It’s now headed to the full Iowa Senate. Lawmakers will have to weigh modernization and cost savings against the very real consequences for rural media, transparency,

and public access.

For readers like you, here’s the takeaway: your small-town newspaper isn’t just ink on paper that is read once and recycled or given to the school’s art room, which I do recommend you do that.

I feel like I’ve had to share the importance of newspapers since I began work at The Wright County Monitor. Newspaper writers are documenting your town, your commu-

nity, your history. Having information in a reliable, accessible way matters... knowing what’s happening in your own backyard shouldn’t be a struggle.

Your local newspaper is a record of your town. And that’s worth protecting, regardless of what overreaching lawmakers think.

Amanda Rink is the Editor of The Wright County Monitor and a children’s book author. Her

award-winning (mostly) weekly column is published in The Wright County Monitor and The Hampton Chronicle. She writes about everyday life in rural Iowa through a unique lens filtered through motherhood and other life experiences. 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.

SHRIMP: FROM PAGE 2



(Above) One of the large tanks in the shrimp farm. (Left) Joann Hoover checking on her shrimp.

<p>DUMONT IMPLEMENT SALES PHONE 857-3216 SERVICE DUMONT, IOWA 50625</p> <p>KUHN GEHL HARVEY FINCHAM</p>	<p>Do it best with Dumont Harken Lumber 641-857-3842 • Dumont, IA</p>
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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

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MISCELLANEOUS
 Does your basement or crawl space need some attention? Call Thrasher Foundation Repair! A permanent solution for waterproofing, failing foundations, sinking concrete and nasty crawl spaces. FREE Inspection & Same Day Estimate. \$250 off ANY project with code GET250. Call 1-866-554-1730

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 Want statewide coverage with your classified? The Chronicle can do it for you for one price. Ask our sales reps. Contact the Hampton Chronicle, 9 Second St. NW, Hampton, 641-456-2585 or 1-800-558-1244.

MISCELLANEOUS
 Safe Step. North America's #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-844-376-4154

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 YMT Vacations. Over 50 guided tours available. Affordable, social and stress-free travel designed for mature travelers. Our tours include accommodations, transportation, baggage handling, sight-seeing, entrance fees, a professional Tour Director and select meals. For a limited time SAVE \$250 on all tours. Call YMT today. 1-888-519-0174

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HighPointLandCompany.com

BIDS WANTED
 The CITY OF DUMONT is taking sealed bids for **SEXTON** and also **CARETAKER** of the Dumont Cemetery for 2026. For more information call 641-857-3411 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Deadline for bids is 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 12, 2026. The City of Dumont reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids.

HELP WANTED
HELP WANTED: The City of Hampton is accepting applications for part-time seasonal employment at the Compost/Brush Site for varied weekday and weekend schedules. Applications available at City Hall, Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. or online at www.hamptonia.us. Application deadline is Wednesday, March 18, 2026. EOE. Contact Doug Tarr, Public Works Director, with inquiries at City Hall or call 456-4853.

CURRENTLY ACCEPTING LAWN MOWING BIDS
 The City of Coulter is now accepting bids for lawn mowing. Bids should be for the annual cost of mowing and trimming for the 2026 season. Two different parcels of City owned property will need to be bid on. 1) Coulter Cemetery and Freedom Rock Corridor Park and 2) City owned property. Contact Mayor Myron Lawler for details at (515) 689-7626. Proof of insurance must be provided if hired. Bids should be submitted by March 9th, 2026 to City of Coulter, PO Box 5, Coulter, IA 50431, or emailed to CoulterCityHall@yahoo.com. Any and all bids can be rejected.

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 Must be a MidAmerican residential electric customer in Iowa or Illinois.

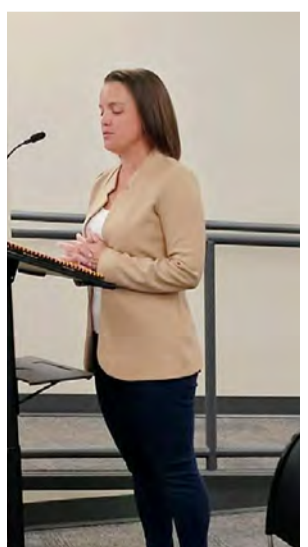
COUNCIL: FROM PAGE 3

Ave, and 1st St SE, from 5th Ave to the south end, as the second bid alternate; and the two curb and gutter only projects (3rd St NE, from 1st Ave to 2nd Ave, and 1st Ave SE, from 3rd St to 4th St), as the third bid alternate.
 "As the bids are received, based on the city's available budget, we will award any or all of the bid alternates," Crawford said. "City staff and I feel this is a good solution to move forward with. It addresses the concerns that we've talked about at past meetings and it allows the city quite a bit of flexibility from the bidding and contract award perspective. We have a series of alternates that could be awarded based on their prices and how they fit in with the overall budget for the project."
 The council approved the program overview after deciding to strike 1st St SE, from 5th Ave to the south end, from the second bid alternate.
 After this, the claims as submitted by the staff in the amount of \$192,760.24 were approved by the council.

There were no resolutions or ordinances for consideration during this meeting.
Reports
 For his report, Hampton Police Chief Mark Morrison said they currently have twelve nuisance property cases in court, along with another eleven they had submitted earlier that day. He added that six cases had recently been moved to March 5. He also reported that one of their police officers recently resigned and that they would start taking applications in the near future.
 Hampton Public Works Director Doug Tarr said that one of his court cases was continued earlier that day and that it will more than likely be dismissed as there was a change of ownership. He said a number of residents will receive snow removal notices and that they will make sure to check up on those. His department is also continuing work on tree removal at the cemetery, as well as stump removal, snow removal and equipment maintenance. They are also working on a gate repair at the waste wa-



Mark Crawford with Crawford Engineering presenting an overview of the Fiscal Year 2027 HMA street improvement program during the meeting.



Franklin County Auditor Katy Flint addressing city council during their Feb. 26 meeting.

ter treatment plant.
 Tarr added that his department will be meeting with the Chamber staff on March 9 to discuss their annual city-wide cleanup project.
 City Manager Ron Dunt had no report for the evening.
 City Councilors Jeanne Fay, Jerre Greffe, Kristin Roode and Barry Lamos also had no reports for the

by Lili Velasco to collaborate with the Extension Office on a project where they focus on the walkability of the area.
 "This is a new initiative and they are trying to get more elected officials to participate in the process and they are looking for partners from public health, from transportation, from economic development and elected leadership who are ready to help make our community more walkable and connected," Holmstrom said. "The goal is to come up with an action plan that the community can start using right away."
 During the mayor's report, Mayor Steve Birdsall commented on the nuisance reports that used to be on agenda.
 "Some time ago, it was suggested that we put the nuisance report on our agenda so we stay up on it because there is a lot of stuff going on," he said. "Mr. Tarr and Chief Morrison continued to provide updates on nuisance properties and keep us up to date on any progress that is being made. I want to add that they have done

an exceptional job keeping up with and mitigating any blighted properties in our community. As we all know, we can't just snap our fingers and make them go away, so I ask that the council and the residents of the community remain patient as we work through the process of continuing to clean up these [properties]. And we ask that everyone keep a positive attitude and keep moving forward, or as I like to say, keep putting one foot in front of the other."
 Birdsall added that they will make a couple changes to how they address nuisance properties on their workshop agendas.
 "We've recently changed how it appears from nuisance to police and public works report, so in the name of positivity, we will be removing both reports from the agenda, as both Mr. Tarr and Chief Morrison currently provide their respective reports at the end of each council meeting."
 Birdsall said addressing nuisance properties in Hampton remains a top priority.



March Events Program



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FISH FRY, 5 p.m. until the fish is gone, St. Patrick's Catholic Church, 1405 N. Federal St., Hampton.

GREATER FRANKLIN COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE QUARTERLY COFFEE, 8 a.m., Reborn Ranch, 1518B Hwy. 65, Hampton.



YOUNG PERFORMING ARTIST CONCERT BENEFACTOR, The deadline to be a Young Performing Artist Concert Benefactor for the upcoming Franklin County Arts Council scholarship benefit concert on Sunday, March 21 at 2 p.m. at the Faith Baptist Church. Contact FCAC treasurer Jim Davies at 641-425-4707 for details.



BRIDGE OF HOPE TRIVIA NIGHT AT CHURCH OF THE LIVING WORD, starting at 7 p.m.



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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

Did you know it is the law that your dog is registered in the state of Iowa?

The City of Hampton is offering **FREE** registration for one year (9-25-25 thru 9-24-26). Registration forms available at City Hall, Center One, Post Office and Library.



CIVIC CALENDAR

FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

DETAILS:
Monday 8:30 AM
Franklin County Courthouse

FRANKLIN COUNTY TOURISM BOARD:

DETAILS:
Second Thursday,
4:30 PM,
Center 1

FRANKLIN COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD:

DETAILS:
Second Monday of month,
6:30 PM
Maynes Grove Shelter

FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

DETAILS:
Second Monday every other month
(usually) February 13th 4:00 PM

GREATER FRANKLIN COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE:

DETAILS:
3rd Monday of the month at noon
at Center 1.

ACKLEY CITY COUNCIL MEETING:

DETAILS:
Second Tuesday

ALEXANDER CITY COUNCIL:

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

COULTER CITY COUNCIL:

DETAILS:
Second Wednesday of the month,
6:30 PM

DOWS CITY COUNCIL:

DETAILS:
First Monday of every month
6:00 PM

DUMONT CITY COUNCIL:

DETAILS:
Second Thursday
7:00 PM
At EMS Center Dumont

GENEVA CITY COUNCIL:

DETAILS:
Second Tuesday of every month
6:30 PM

HANSELL CITY COUNCIL:

DETAILS:
Second Wednesday every month,
Community Center 7:00 PM

LATIMER CITY COUNCIL:

DETAILS:
Second Wednesday,
6:30 PM

SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL:

DETAILS:
Every second Monday
of the month at 6 PM

FRANKLIN COUNTY VETERANS AFFAIRS:

DETAILS:
First Tuesday of the Month
4:00 PM,
Franklin County Veterans Affairs
Office

ALEXANDER LIBRARY BOARD:

DETAILS:
Third Wednesday of every month

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.

DUMONT LIBRARY BOARD:

DETAILS:
Dumont Public Library
Second Wednesday of every month

HAMPTON DUMONT SCHOOL BOARD:

DETAILS:
Fourth Monday of the month
6:00 PM

WEST FORK SCHOOL BOARD:

DETAILS:
Third Monday of the Month,
5:00 PM,
West Fork High School Sheffield

CAL SCHOOL BOARD:

DETAILS:
2nd Thursday of the month
at 5:30 PM

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT:

DETAILS:
5:30 PM
City Council Chambers

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 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMISSION:

DETAILS:
First Wednesday of month,
7:00 PM
Franklin County Law
Enforcement Center

FRANKLIN COUNTY EXTENSION COUNCIL :

DETAILS:
Franklin County Extension Council
ISU Extension & Outreach 6 2nd St.
NW, Hampton 50441
Council members help determine
local priorities for agricultural,
youth (4-H), health and human
science, and community/economic
development program areas.

H-D-CAL Senior Signs on With Trinton Cheer Squad

BY JENNIFER BURNHAM HAMPTON CHRONICLE

On Monday, March 2, H-D-CAL senior Nick Quasdorf signed on with

the Triton cheerleading squad at Iowa Central Community College.

Quasdorf, who's been cheering at the high school for the last three years, plans on attending ICCC next fall to pursue a degree

in accounting.

His coach at H-D-CAL, Emileigh Eilderts, told the Chronicle that Nick has worked hard for this.

"He has been working hard the last three years to improve his cheerlead-

ing knowledge and skills," she said. "He goes to everything he can, including stunt clinics at many different colleges. He is the kind of athlete you just want on your team. I can't wait to see how much

he continues to grow next year at the college level!"

During the signing, Nick was joined by his principal, athletic director, current cheer coach and family, including his mother, Amanda Fender;

his father, John Quasdorf; his bonus mom, Kelly Quasdorf; his grandma, Barb Quasdorf; his grandpa, Jim Quasdorf; and his aunt, Sarah Baird.



Emileigh Eilderts taking a photo of Nick with ICCC Cheer Coach Murphy.



From left to right, Barb Quasdorf, John Quasdorf, Nick Quasdorf and Amanda Fender on Monday morning, March 2.



Senior Nick Quasdorf and his H-D-CAL cheer coach Emileigh Eilderts after he signing on with the ICCC cheerleading squad.



Caden Woods with the ball.

Bulldogs Boys' Season Ends with Loss to Comets

BY EVAN PHARR HAMPTON CHRONICLE

ALLEMAN - The Hampton-Dumont-CAL boys basketball team's season has come to an end after a 78-50 loss to the North Polk Comets in the first round of the Class 3A District 2 tournament on Monday, Feb. 23. The Bulldogs fell behind 19-4 at the end of the first quarter and were never able to recover. Despite the season coming to an end, the Bulldogs improved their win total from four wins last season to seven wins this season. Bulldogs' head coach Matt Lokenvitz was proud of how his team improved throughout the year.

"We knew coming into the season that it was going to take some time to implement the new system both offensively and de-

fensively," Lokenvitz said. "As the players got more comfortable in that system and their roles on the team, we were able to start competing with top teams in our conference. I'm proud of the way they competed and look forward to building on that in the seasons to come."

Senior Brady Harr recorded another double-double in the final game of his career, as the Iowa State football commit scored 23 points on 7-of-11 shooting and pulled down a game-high 16 rebounds. Harr made 9 of his 11 free throw attempts and lead the Bulldogs with three assists. Senior Caden Woods scored 10 points on a perfect 5-of-5 shooting in his final game in a Bulldogs' uniform.

With the season coming to an end and the Bulldogs losing a lot

of senior production, coach Lokenvitz knows next season will be a challenge.

"Next year will look completely different than this season," he said. "We will return two starters and a few off the bench, but we won't have a 6'8 post player to build an offense around. We understand that we are going to have to shoot better next year and be able to take care of the ball if we want to be successful. I'm excited to see what we can accomplish next season and can't wait to get started this summer in learning some new skill sets."

The Bulldogs end the year with a record of 7-15 and 5-9 in conference play. With the Bulldogs losing nine seniors from this year's team, they will have to replace a lot of production to take the next step as a program.

Maas Wins American Rivers Conference Championship

BY EVAN PHARR HAMPTON CHRONICLE

Wartburg track star and Hampton-Dumont-CAL graduate Lydia Maas won the American Rivers Conference Championship in the women's 5000 meter race on Friday, Feb. 27. Maas beat out 18 other runners with a time of 18 minutes, 3.85 seconds and helped Wartburg win the team conference championship. Maas discussed how she was able to win a conference championship in just her sophomore season.

"Running in college is a lot more consuming than it was in high school, and the biggest difference is committing to the lifestyle," Maas said. "Making a conscious effort to fuel your body, sleep eight hours a night and make decisions to prioritize your physical health all add up."

Maas also expressed her excitement in helping the team take home a conference championship.

"I love Wartburg, and I am so lucky to have a culture of women who are equally committed to bettering themselves around me," she said. "It feels so amazing to have



Lydia Maas conference championship graphic. Photo from Wartburg College.

helped the team win and be able to represent that culture and the Wartburg women as a program."

FH FRANKLIN GENERAL HOSPITAL March is Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month

The American Cancer Society stresses the importance of beginning colonoscopy screenings at age 45.

In the United States, colorectal cancer is the **third-leading cause** of cancer-related deaths in **men** and the **fourth leading cause** in **women**. Regular colorectal cancer screening is one of the most powerful tools against colorectal cancer.

Dr. Wilson and Dr. Van Buren perform colonoscopies on **Fridays** at Franklin General Hospital.

Contact your provider to schedule your colonoscopy at FGH!



Dr. Alison Wilson



Dr. Stephen Van Buren



Wind works here

Our first project in Franklin County went into service in 2009. Since then, investments in homegrown wind energy have generated more than \$41 million in tax revenue to support roads, schools and emergency response services.

Partnerships provide steady income for participating landowners and support for the community. Wind energy fuels the local economy, strengthens the grid and provides reliable power for generations to come.

Safe, resilient, reliable – wind works here.



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Madison Heilskov and MacKenzy Valley Earn All-Conference Selections



Member of the North Central Conference All-Conference third team, Madison Heilskov. Photo by Evan Pharr.



Member of the North Central Conference All-Conference second team, MacKenzy Valley. Photo by Evan Pharr.

BY EVAN PHARR
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

Two members of the Hampton-Dumont-CAL girls basketball team earned North Central Conference All-Conference honors for the 2025-2026 season. Sophomore MacKenzy Valley was selected to the second team all-conference while junior Madison Heilskov was selected to the third team all-conference.

Valley led the Bulldogs with 16.5 points per game, 2.5 assists per game, 6.7 rebounds per game, 3.5 steals per game and 2.3 blocks per game. She shot 31.6 percent from the field, 22.8 percent from three-point range and 62.3 percent from the free throw line. Bulldogs head coach Miranda Stafford spoke on the leadership Valley showed on the court this year.

"MacKenzy did a great job being a floor leader for our team this year and earned her all-conference second team selection," Stafford said. "I am proud of her transition as a role player last

year to our main scorer this year and show she continued to grow throughout the year into that."

Heilskov was second on the Bulldogs with 7.5 points per game, 6.1 rebounds per game, 1.9 steals per game and 0.6 blocks per game. Heilskov also averaged one assist per game while shooting 24.7 percent from the field and 40 percent from the free-throe line. Coach Stafford discussed Heilskov's improvement this season.

"Madison making third team all-conference shows her growth throughout the year and her pure athleticism," she said. "She was often outsized in the post and did a great job of using her quickness to defend bigger post players. I'm excited to see what she does in the off season and with the experience she got this year to continue to make strides as a basketball player this year."

Both Heilskov and Valley will return next season and will look to improve as players to help the Bulldogs get back to making deep playoff runs.

Three Warhawks Selected to Top of Iowa-East All-Conference Teams

BY EVAN PHARR
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

Three members of the West Fork girls basketball team were selected to the Top of Iowa-East All-Conference teams. Senior Brylee Dickman and sophomore Zada Huff were selected to the second team all-conference, while junior Evelyn Hitzhusen was selected to the honorable mentions team.

Brylee Dickman led the Warhawks with 6.5 rebounds per game and 0.7 blocks per game and was second on the team with 10.7 points per game. Dickman also averaged 1.3 steals per game and two assists per game. She shot 35.2 percent from the field, 30 percent from three-point range and 58.3 percent from the free throw line. Warhawks' head coach Rodney Huber discussed Dickman's leadership this season.

"Brylee has been a great leader," Huber said. "She does anything we need her to. She played some point forward for us this year and really expanded her game. She has led our team in charges each of the



Top of Iowa-East second team selection Brylee Dickman. Photo by Evan Pharr.

past two seasons and her toughness will really be missed."

Zada Huff led the Warhawks with 12.9 points per game. Huff was second on the team with 2.6 steals per game, while also averaging 2.1 assist per game, 3.4 rebounds per game and 0.1 blocks per game. She shot 35.9 percent from the field, 29.8 percent from three-point range and

58.3 percent from the free throw line. Coach Huber spoke on how Huff's hard work has paid off.

"Zada is a tireless worker," he said. "She is always in the gym. She started the year just being a catch and shoot three-point shooter, and when teams started taking that away she found other ways to score. The second part of the season, she really upped her

scoring and aggressiveness on defense. She has a really bright future. To be a second teamer as a sophomore is a really impressive accomplishment."

Evelyn Hitzhusen led the Warhawks with 3.5 assists per game and 3.6 steals per game. Hitzhusen was second on the team with 5.8 rebounds per game and also recorded 10.1 points per game

and 0.3 blocks per game. She shot 34.7 percent from the field, 25 percent from three-point range and made all 26 of her free throw attempts. Coach Huber discussed Hitzhusen's impact on the team this season.

"Evie played the point for us this year," he said. "She is a great athlete and learned to take care of the ball and how to get

her teammates shots. She was among our leaders in scoring and led our team in assists. Unfortunately, a knee injury derailed her season, but I am excited about her potential next year."

While Dickman has played her last game with the Warhawks, Hitzhusen and Huff will look to take on the leadership role and lead the team next season.



Top of Iowa-East Honorable Mentions team selection Evelyn Hitzhusen. Photo by Evan Pharr.

Using our skills & resources to benefit others.

First Security is committed to living out our core values of collaboration and service to make a difference in our communities.

Recently, 65 members of the First Security team volunteered with Meals from the Heartland, helping package 46,000 shelf-stable meals for those in need. These meals will reach food pantries across Iowa and around the world.

First Security Bank & Trust has locations across North Central Iowa.



Top of Iowa-East second team selection Zada Huff. Photo by Evan Pharr.

Readers!

We need YOUR HELP!

Please submit any stories or events to us at news@hamptonchronicle.com

Lets keep our community informed!

Ag Innovation: Helping Farmers Prepare for What's Next

BY LAURA STERNWEIS
ISU EXTENSION AND OUTREACH OFFICE

AMES – Drones over crops and collars on cattle are signs of agricultural innovation that Iowa farmers and ag industry professionals are exploring with help from Iowa State University Extension and Outreach. They want practical, experience-based learning so they can optimize these and other innovative ag technologies for greater efficiency and profitability.

Optimizing planter, drone and combine technology

Annually since 2022, extension field agronomists have been collaborating with specialists in the ISU Digital Ag Innovation Lab to deliver Planter University workshops at five locations across the state. The extension workshops are just one part of the lab's broader Planter University training program.

"The Digital Ag innovation Lab is a group of researchers here at Iowa State and we do everything from software and sensor development to controls," said Levi Powell, an instructor with the Digital Ag team. Planter University was created as a way to bring advanced technology research to growers, as well as share the team's knowledge and expertise.

Farmers and ag industry professionals who participate in extension's Planter University workshops learn how to evaluate planting performance and improve planter efficiency for greater success during the growing



season and increased profits for their farming operations. They value the education they gain as worth \$10-\$20 per acre. The estimated economic impact of the extension sessions is more than \$3.3 million over the past four years.

Another collaborative effort delivers practical knowledge and hands-on experience with drones to farmers, custom applicators and agribusiness professionals. In 2025, 82% of Spray Drone Essentials University participants indicated they gained knowledge, tools or connections they could apply in their work.

Combine University launched in 2025. In the inaugural workshop, 35 growers explored key aspects of combining corn and soybean, as well as grain elevator performance. Their input will help improve Combine University content for 2026.

These educational offerings provide "a really useful opportunity for farmers to learn more," said Meaghan Anderson, an ISU Extension and Outreach field agronomist.

"This program has really shown the ability to reach farmers and others in the agricultural community where they need

it," Anderson said. "We can hopefully harvest higher yielding crops at the end of the growing season, which is going to be good for all of our communities across the state."

What the cattle are wearing

Livestock producers also seek extension expertise and hands-on learning opportunities with virtual fencing and other emerging precision beef technologies to aid their real-time decision-making. They were interested in several emerging precision beef technologies demonstrated at an Iowa Beef Center fall field day held in partnership with South Dakota State University Beef Extension. Matt Vermeersch hosted the field day at his farm near Red Oak.

"This field day was really a joint effort to bring some of the resources to the producer out into the field," said Erika Lundy-Woolfolk, an ISU Extension and Outreach beef field specialist.

Producers were able to get hands-on with the technology-bearing collars that allow cattle to be contained by virtual fencing. The collars and virtual fencing provide opportunities to more conveniently utilize forage resources.

"We have the flexibility to change those paddocks, to rotate those cows, at a time when maybe we're not physically in the pasture. Maybe it's in the evening

while we're sitting on the couch, or maybe it's at our day job, sitting at our desk over our noon lunch hour," Lundy-Woolfolk said.

Field day host Matt Vermeersch grazes his cattle on cover crops. He said, "We have all these different seedings, different times we're planting them, different times we're grazing them. In the past we'd have to have fencing set up between them to keep the cows out of the fresh planting and keep them where they belong. Well now, I don't have to do that. I can use the virtual fencing, keep the cows where I want them to stay and not have to worry about them getting out and going to the place where I don't want them."

He noted that his cattle are wearing their collars all the time. "They're collecting the data; it's just like your Apple watch tracking your steps. It's the same thing. We can see what's going on with the cows," he said.

Without the collars and virtual fencing system, "You might check the cows once a day, seeing them for 10 minutes. Everything looks fine in that 10 minutes," he said. However, the collars and virtual fencing system collect data 24/7.

"You truly know what's going on," Vermeersch said. "We use that data to make the right decisions at the right time."

Participants at the fall field day also learned about cybersecurity awareness, ongoing Iowa State research on digital cattle ear tags for monitoring grazing behaviors, and other technologies that aid real-time farm decision-making. A second field day is planned for spring 2026 to provide more hands-on learning experiences with available beef precision technologies.

When Iowa farmers and ag industry professionals can make more informed decisions about optimizing technology, farm efficiency and profitability improve – boosting the farm economy and helping rural communities thrive.

Solitary Pollinators and More!: Educational Class at Calkins Nature Center

PRESS RELEASE

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Hardin County, in conjunction with Iowa Falls Trees Forever, is pleased to announce an upcoming program focused on planting pollinators in your home landscape. This informative session is scheduled for March 11, 2026 at 6:00 PM at the Calkins Nature Center, located at 18335 135th St., Iowa Falls, IA 50126.

Open to the public, this event promises an enlightening experience with distinguished guest speaker, Sheila Sartorius.

Sartorius is a Master Gardener from Iowa State University Black Hawk County Extension and Outreach who recently retired as the Horticulture Assistant. Her passion was managing the Dick Young Greenhouse for 10.5 years while providing horticulture education for youth, master gardeners, the community, and STEM booths for fairs and the Eastern Iowa Home and Landscaping Show at the Waterloo Convention Center, Waterloo, Iowa. Her mantra is to demonstrate horticulture and how to do it on "a shoestring budget" from seed to harvest, soil and pest management, types of propagation, garden design, natural companion planting, supporting conservation, hydroponics, and raising monarchs. Her presentation will be to identify native pollinators, how to provide their needs, to attract them, and provide nesting areas with native plants in the home landscape with trees, shrubs, flowers, and ground covers.

The class provides a unique opportunity for community members to connect with an expert and expand their knowledge of horticulture. This program also counts for 2 hours of Master Gardener continuing education.

Mark your calendars and join us for an engaging and educational class at Calkins Nature Center on March 11th at 6:00 PM. For further information, please contact ISU Hardin County Extension at 641-648-4850.

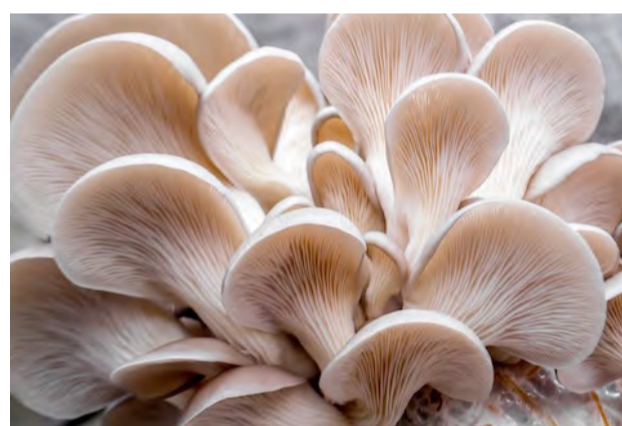


Photo Courtesy: ISU Extension and Outreach Office

Grow Your Own Mushrooms: Iowa State University Extension and Outreach to Host Spring Cultivation Workshops

BY GINA BUELOW AND ALAINA FRIESLEBEN
ISU EXTENSION AND OUTREACH OFFICE

AMES – Iowans with an eye for fungi are invited to participate in upcoming Mushroom Cultivation Workshops in central and eastern Iowa this spring. Hosted by Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, the workshops are open to anyone interested in learning how to grow mushrooms at home.

Each participant will create a two-gallon bucket oyster mushroom grow kit to take home and nurture. The workshop will cover fungi basics, their roles in Iowa ecosystems and common ways people cultivate mushrooms in their own homes and backyards.

Gina Buelow, natural resources field specialist with ISU Extension and Outreach, has led mushroom foraging programs for several years and frequently receives questions about mushroom cultivation. This workshop provides an opportunity for participants to build foundational knowledge, get their questions answered and potentially begin a new hobby.

"Mushroom cultivation is a great way to observe mushrooms, and it is generally the safest way to do so. You pick out what strain of mushroom you want to grow, and if you do everything correct, that is exactly what you are going to get growing from your bucket," she said. "We will be growing our native species of oyster mushrooms at these workshops."

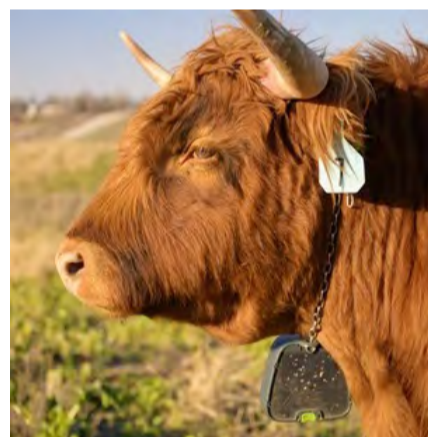
Workshop locations and dates

- March 16: Big Grove Brewpub, Solon.
- March 24: Big Grove Brewery, Des Moines.
- April 6: Big Grove Brewery, Des Moines.

All workshops will be held from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the listed locations. Registration is \$35 per participant.

The workshops are supported by the Big Grove Brewery Big Grove for Good Foundation.

For more information, contact Buelow at gbuelow@iastate.edu.



Words on Wellness

Loving Lentils

Lentils are small but mighty members of the legume family. They come in various colors—green, brown, red, and black—and are known for their earthy flavor and versatility in cooking. Lentils are packed with plant-based protein, fiber, and essential nutrients, making them a smart choice!

A ½ cup of cooked lentils contains about 115 calories, 9 grams of protein, 20 grams of carbohydrates, and 8 grams of fiber. They're also a good source of iron, folate, potassium, and magnesium.

Health Benefits of Lentils

- **Weight management:** Fiber and protein help you feel full longer, which can support healthy weight goals.
- **Heart health:** Potassium and magnesium help regulate blood pressure, and fiber supports healthy cholesterol levels.
- **Blood sugar control:** Lentils do not raise blood sugar quickly, which is good for people with diabetes.
- **Digestive health:** Fiber promotes regular bowel movements and supports a healthy gut microbiome.



Nutritious, affordable, and easy to prepare, lentils are a simple way to add more plant-based power to your plate. Whether in soups, salads, or stews, lentils prove that small foods can have a big impact.

Sources: Cleveland Health, go.iastate.edu.

Lentil Tacos

- Serving Size: 2 tacos | Serves: 6
- Ingredients:
- 1 tablespoon oil (canola or vegetable)
 - 1 onion, diced
 - 2 cloves garlic, diced
 - 1 cup dried lentils
 - ½ package (1.25 ounces) of 40% less sodium taco seasoning
 - 3 cups water
 - 12 corn tortillas
 - 1 cup salsa
 - 1 cup cheddar cheese, shredded
 - 2 cups lettuce, shredded

Directions:

1. Heat oil in a skillet over medi-

um high heat. Add onion and garlic; cook for 4-6 minutes or until soft and fragrant. Stir several times during cooking.

2. Add lentils and seasoning. Stir until seasoning is mixed in.

3. Slowly add water and bring to boil. Reduce heat to medium low and cover. Cook for 30 minutes or until lentils are tender.

4. Uncover and cook for 5 minutes more until mixture has thickened and liquid is absorbed. Mash slightly with a fork.

5. Heat corn tortillas according to package directions.

6. Spread ¼ cup lentil mixture

onto each tortilla.

7. Serve with salsa, cheese, and lettuce.

Nutrition information per serving:

350 calories, 11g total fat, 4g saturated fat, 0g trans fat, 20mg cholesterol, 480mg sodium, 51g total carbohydrate, 8g fiber, 4g sugar, 16g protein

This recipe is courtesy of ISU Extension and Outreach's Spend Smart. Eat Smart. website. For more information, recipes, and videos, visit SpendSmart.EatSmart.com, spendsmart.extension.iastate.edu.

**In loving memory of
Elna Meyer
1928-2026**



Elna Meyer, 97, of Latimer, passed away on Friday, February 27, 2026, at the Rehabilitation Center of Hampton. Funeral services are pending with the Sietsema-Atkinson Funeral Home in Hampton.

Elna Mae Davidsen Meyer was born in Latimer, Iowa, on July 27, 1928 to Peter Davidsen and Hannah (nee Jorgensen) Davidsen. She attended Latimer Elementary and High Schools and is a graduate of North Iowa Area Community College.

She married Ivan Meyer of rural Latimer on Sept. 8, 1945 and moved to the family Century Farm north of Latimer, where she lived for 75 years. They had three children: Gene, Loraine and Eric. She also hosted grandsons Sean and Lucas for many childhood summers at the farm. In addition, she enjoyed a special relationship with her niece Sharon Freie Parks, and her grandnieces who also lived on the farm site, and their families.

She enjoyed knitting, sewing, home decorating and horseback riding. She was a voracious lifelong reader, particularly of books on history. She enjoyed learning languages, particularly Danish and German, which she used to pursue a passion for compiling family genealogies. She loved music, played the piano, and encouraged her children to develop their own musical interests too. She relished family reunions, church and community celebrations and holiday parties at the farm.

She loved to travel. She and Ivan took what was her first cross-country drive to Washington, D.C. - a honeymoon trip seven years after they married. She and Ivan continued to travel throughout their lives, camping with children or grandchildren throughout the Midwest and from coast to coast. Elna also traveled to Europe, particularly enjoying Denmark and Germany with their ties to family genealogy.

Elna did bookkeeping for the family farm, worked as a paraprofessional librarian in the CAL Community Schools and was a secretary and mediator with the Iowa Mediation Service. She also was church secretary at Zion Reformed Church, Sheffield.

She is survived by her children and children-in-law Gene and Jan Meyer of Overland Park Kansas; Loraine Stiles and Edward Stiles of Tours, France, and Eric Meyer of Longmont and his former wife Martha Rosner of Boulder, both in Colorado. She also is survived by two grandsons, Sean (Chris) Meyer of Lenexa, Kansas and Lucas Meyer of Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. She also leaves behind a niece, Sharon Freie Parks of Hampton; two nephews, Keith (Nancy) Freie of Hampton and Curtis (Shellie) Freie of Sheffield and their families.

Elna was preceded in death by her husband, Ivan, in 2011; by an infant brother Robert Davidsen, by her sister Jeanette Freie and brother-in-law Glenn Freie; by her brother-in-law Ervin Meyer and sister-in-law Margaret Meyer, her nephew Lawrence Meyer and niece Marianne Armento, and by her niece Carol Borcharding.

**In loving memory of
Robert S. Jacobsen
1929-2026**



Robert S. Jacobsen passed away on February 24, 2026, at the age of 96. Visitation will be held from 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM on Sunday, March 1, 2026 at Ewing Funeral Home, 111 Luick's Lane South in Belmond.

Funeral services will be held at 10:00 AM on Monday, March 2, 2026 at Peace Reformed Church, on Highway 69 South of Garner, with Rev. Matthew Dawn officiating. Burial will be in the Peace Reformed Church Cemetery.

Robert Sigurd, son of Sigurd and Bertha (Olson) Jacobsen was born on the family farm near Dows, Iowa. Robert grew up on the farm, attended country school and graduated from Dows High School. He furthered his education at Iowa State University (then known as Iowa State College) in Ames, Iowa.

He was drafted into the United States Army in 1951 during the Korean War. After his honorable discharge in 1953, he engaged in farming with his father.

On January 30, 1954, he was united in marriage to Abigail Hueneman at Peace Reformed Church (RCUS) in Garner, Iowa. They were blessed with two children: David and Victoria (Vikki). In 2026, they celebrated 72 years of marriage together.

They made their home on the grain and livestock farm where they lived and worked for 70 years. In recent years, they resided at Belle Haven Independent and Assisted Living in Belmond. Robert was a farmer at heart and remained committed to the work and responsibilities of the farm throughout his life. He specialized in cattle feeding as part of the family's livestock operation. He approached both his work and his relationships with dedication and integrity. He had a friendly demeanor and enjoyed visiting with others at church, in town and over coffee.

In addition to his farming operation, Robert was involved in serving his community. He served as President of Franklin County Soybean Association, Trustee on the Morgan Township Board of Trustees, Director on the Dows Farmers Cooperative Board, Deacon on the Peace Reformed Church Consistory, Club Leader of the Morgan Township 4-H, Director on the Franklin County 4-H Committee, member of the Franklin County Cattleman's Association, Franklin County Farm Bureau, Dows Lion's Club, and Dows American Legion.

Robert is survived by his wife of 72 years Abigail Jacobsen; son David Jacobsen (fiancé Kathy Arends); daughter Vikki (Scott) Ooms; grandchildren Kandice (Brock) Bonnicksen and their daughter Kelli, Jacki (Matt) Nail and their daughter Nora, Jonathan (Carly) Ooms and their children Rush, Skylar, and Jace, Rachel (Elliott) Van Stelle and their children Ava, Mason, Cora, and Nola, Justin Ooms, and Joel (Hannah) Ooms and their children Roan and baby on the way.

He is preceded in death by his parents Sigurd and Bertha; and daughter-in-law Kristin Jacobsen.

**In loving memory of
Terry B. 'Buck' Heilskov
1951-2026**



Terry B. "Buck" Heilskov, 75, of Hampton, Iowa, passed away Sunday at his home in Hampton. Funeral services will be held on Thursday, Feb. 26, 2026, at 10:30 AM at the Hampton United Methodist Church in Hampton. Visitation will be held on

Wednesday from 4:00 to 7:00 PM at Woodley Funeral Home in Hampton. Burial will take place at the Hampton Cemetery in Hampton. Woodley Funeral Home of Hampton is caring for Buck and his family.

Terry "Buck" Heilskov, 75, passed away peacefully at his home on February 22nd, 2026, surrounded by his loved ones. He was born on January 10, 1951, to Ove and Ingrid (Christensen) Heilskov in Hampton, Iowa. He grew up on a farm in Hampton and graduated from Hampton Community High School in 1969.

He was united in marriage to Marsha Missildine on September 26, 1970, and to this union three beautiful, talented daughters were born. Terry was devoted to his family and had a rare gift for making everyone around him feel special. If you spent even a few minutes with him, you walked away feeling seen, valued and probably smiling. He lived life to the fullest, had a fun-loving nature, as well as a sensitive side—especially when it came to the people he loved most.

A loyal farm boy at heart, Terry was a hard worker who took great pride in the business of 38 years that he built through dedication, grit and integrity. He was generous with his time, his talents, and his heart, always willing to lend a helping hand without expecting anything in return.

Faithful, loyal, kind and deeply rooted in family, Terry treasured time spent together and held those moments close. His legacy lives on in the lessons he taught, the laughter he shared and the countless lives he touched simply by being himself. He will be deeply missed and fondly remembered by all who had the privilege of knowing him.

Terry is survived by his wife of 55 years, Marsha; daughters, Corey (Greg) Dombrowski, Heather (Aaron) Mara and Holly (Jay) Kitzman; grandchildren: Caitlin (Mario) Pena, Halie (Nolan) Dombrowski, Carter (Mallory) Murphy, Cameron Murphy, Ella Murphy, Aidan Stickler, Sam Kitzman and Ivey Kitzman; sister, Judy (Zane) Juncker; brother, Jim (Bert) Heilskov; sister, Kathy (Dave) Kakacek; brother-in-law, Ron (Patricia) Missildine; along with several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Terry was preceded in death by his parents, Ove and Ingrid and sisters-in-law, Linda (Marv) Shoemaker and Jane Johnson.



**Family Welcomes
Baby Boy**

*Austin Chaney and Tabatha Roquet announce the birth of their son,
Atlas Austin Chaney*

Atlas was born on February 24, 2026, at Iowa Specialty Hospital in Clarion. He weighed 6 pounds and 14.6 ounces.

His Grandparents are Mike and Jamie Chaney in Popejoy, Crystal Roquet of Dows and Tyson Larsen of Dows.

Great grandparents are Ginger Marker of Popejoy and Tracie and Josh Bolhuis of Dows.



**Family Welcomes
Baby Girl**

*Hannah and Derek Schulze of Sheffield announce the birth of their daughter,
Ada Mae Schulze*

Ada was born on February 24, 2026, at Iowa Specialty Hospital in Clarion. She weighed 6 pounds and 3 ounces.

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BAPTIST

Faith Baptist
Lead Pastor: Robert Anderstrom
 Address: 1701 Central Ave E., PO Box 515, Hampton, IA 50441
 Telephone: 641-456-4887
 Website: faith-hampton.com
 Facebook: FBC-Hampton
 • Wednesday, March 4, 8:30 a.m. Men's Prayer; 6:45 p.m. Youth Mentor Groups
 • Sunday, March 8, 9:30 a.m. Worship Service; 10:45 a.m. Sunday School Classes
 • Tuesday, March 10, 9:30 a.m. Women's Prayer
 • Wednesday, March 11, 8:30 a.m. Men's Prayer; 6:45 p.m. Youth Mentor Groups

CATHOLIC

St. Mary's Catholic
 611 Sherman Ave., Ackley
Fr. Kevin Earleywine, Priest
 • Sunday, 8 a.m.

St. Patrick's Catholic
 1405 N. Federal St., Hampton
Fr. Kevin Earleywine, Priest
 Tuesdays 8:30 AM
 Thursdays 5:30 PM with Adoration at 6:00 PM
 Sunday 10:30 AM English
 5:30 PM Spanish

LATTER DAY SAINTS

The Church of Jesus Christ Of Latter Day Saints
 Hampton / Miguel Sosa Garcia, Branch President
 • Sunday, April 6, 10:30 a.m. Worship Service; Food Pantry Sunday

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, March 4, 8:30 a.m. ZSJ Quilters; 5:15 p.m. **Lenten Supper by ZSJ Youth & 7-8 Confirmation Class**; 6 p.m. ZSJ Handbell Rehearsal; 7 p.m. Lenten Midweek Worship Service "Return to the Lord"; 7:45 p.m. ZSJ Chancel Choir Rehearsal
 • Thursday, March 5, 2 p.m. West Fork Food Pantry
 • Saturday, March 7, 10 a.m. **World Day of Prayer at Zion Reformed; West Fork Food Pantry**
 • Sunday, March 8, 9 a.m. Sunday Lenten Worship Service; 10:15 a.m. Fellowship & Sunday School
 • Wednesday, March 11, 8:30 a.m. ZSJ Quilters; 6 p.m. ZSJ Handbell Rehearsal; 7 p.m. Lenten Midweek Worship

Service "Return to the Lord"; 7:45 p.m. ZSJ Chancel Choir Rehearsal

St. Paul's Lutheran
 304 W Main, Latimer
Reverend Joel Peter Wagner
 • Wednesday, March 4, 8:05 a.m. Matins; 6:30 p.m. **Midweek Lenten 2 Service**
 • Thursday, March 5, 9 a.m. **Sewing; Full School Day**
 • Friday, March 6, 8:45 a.m. - 1 p.m. **Grandparent's Day**
 • Sunday, March 8, 9 a.m. Divine Service; 10:30 a.m. Family Bible Study & Sunday School; **Third Sunday in Lent**
 • Monday, March 9, **No School - Spring Break**
 • Tuesday, March 10, **No School - Spring Break; Pastor at Winkler**
 • Wednesday, March 11, 8:05 a.m. Matins; **No School - Spring Break**; 6:30 p.m. **Midweek Lenten 3 Service**

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 - Tyler Linneman, Rev. Karl C. Bollhagen, Pastor
 • Wednesday, March 4, 7 p.m. **Midweek Lenten Service**
 • Sunday, March 8, 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
 • Wednesday, March 11, 7 p.m. **Midweek Lenten Service**

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church - Vilmar
Rev. Tamara J. K. Keen, Pastor
Rev. Karl C. Bollhagen, Pastor
 • Wednesday, March 4, 7 p.m. **Midweek Lenten Service**
 • Sunday, March 8, 8:45 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. Sunday School; 9:15 a.m. Choir Practice; 10 a.m. Worship Service; 11 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship

First Lutheran Church - Dows
 206 W Ellsworth St, Dows
 • Wednesday, March 4, 5:30 p.m. - 6:15 p.m. **Lenten Meal**; 6:30 p.m. **Lenten Worship Service**
 • Sunday, March 8, 9 a.m. Sunday School, Confirmation, & Coffee; 10 a.m. Worship Service
 • Wednesday, March 11, 5:30 p.m. - 6:15 p.m. **Lenten Meal**; 6:30 p.m. **Lenten Worship Service**

METHODIST

Ackley United Methodist
 416 Hardin St., Ackley
Pastor Kalvin 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
 • Sundays, 9:30 a.m. Sunday School; 10:30 a.m. Worship

Hampton United Methodist
 100 Central Ave. E, Hampton
Pastor Dennis Burns
 • Wednesday, March 4, 5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal, Wacky Wednesday, & Confirmation Class
 • Thursday, March 5, 9:30 a.m.

BeFriends

• Saturday, March 7, 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. **CleanUp Closet**; 5 p.m. Worship Service
 • Sunday, March 8, 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
 • Monday, March 9, 1:30 p.m. God's FLOCK
 • Tuesday, March 10, 1:30 p.m. Faithful Stitches
 • Wednesday, March 11, 5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

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 Brian Rihner
 www.clwhampton.org
 • Sundays, 10 a.m. Worship
 • Sunday: 9AM - Adult Sunday school
 • Wednesday: 5:30PM- PK - Grade 6 WOW! and Adult Bible Study, 6:30PM: MS & HS Youth, 7:00PM - Adult Bible Study.
 • 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.sgedows.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, March 4, 7 p.m. RCYF
 • Thursday, March 5, 7 p.m. **Hope Circle**
 • Saturday, March 7, 10 a.m. **World Day of Prayer at Zion**
 • Sunday, March 8, 9:15 a.m. Worship Service; 10:30 a.m. Sunday School; 7 p.m. **JOY Circle; Clocks Spring Ahead**
 • Monday, March 9, 1:30 p.m. **Vesper Circle**
 • Wednesday, March 11, 9 a.m. **Sunrise Circle**; 7 p.m. RCYF

Hampton Seventh Day Adventist Church
 605 4th St. NE, Hampton
Pastor Steven Shafer
 Phone: 641-424-3055
 Email: SDAHamptonIA@gmail.com
 • Sunday, 9:15 a.m. Sunday School; 10:30 a.m. Worship Service with Communion

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, March 4, **Pastor Peggy will provide worship at Leahy Grove Assisted Living**; 6 p.m. **Lenten Soup Supper**
 • Sunday, March 8, 9:15 a.m. Sunday School; 10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship Service; 11:30 a.m. **Coffee Fellowship**
 • Wednesday, March 11, 6 p.m. **Lenten Soup Supper**

Immanuel U.C.C.
 204 E. South St., Latimer
Pastor Joe Dunnwald
 • Sunday, March 8, **NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**; 10:30 a.m. Worship Service with B. Bank/ New Members; Fellowship Coffee

St. Peter's United Church Of Christ - Geneva
 496 Raven Ave # B, Geneva, IA 50633
 • Sunday, March 8, 9:30 a.m. Worship Service

In loving memory of
Mary Johnson
 1938-2026



Mary Johnson, 87, of Belmond, passed away Monday, February 23, 2026, at the Iowa Specialty Hospital in Belmond.
 Funeral services for Mary Johnson will be held at 11:00 AM on Monday, March 9, 2026, at Trinity Lutheran Church, 304 3rd Avenue Northeast in Belmond, with Pastor Katie Pals officiating. Burial will be in the Belmond Cemetery.

Visitation will be held 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM on Sunday, March 8, 2026, at Trinity Lutheran Church, 304 3rd Avenue Northeast in Belmond and will continue one hour prior to the service at the church on Monday.

Mary Louise Carlson was born November 7, 1938, in Leland, IL, to the Reverend Walter E. Carlson and Solveig (Moen) Carlson. She graduated from Stanhope High School in 1956 and continued her education at Waldorf College in Forest City, IA, where she sang in the concert choir and received her teaching degree. While attending Waldorf, Mary met the love of her life, William R. (Bill) Johnson. They were united in marriage on June 4, 1960, in Stanhope, IA, by her father, Reverend Walter Carlson.

Mary taught 4th grade in both Algona and Belmond. She and William made their home in Belmond for the 65 years of their life together and raised three daughters: Susan, Melanie, and Sally. For 10 years, Mary was an outstanding 4-H leader of the Pleasant Peppy Pals 4-H Club. She was a natural teacher of culinary skills, sewing, and home improvement, and her club produced numerous state fair exhibitors. She was also a gracious hostess, making everyone feel special and welcome.

Throughout her life in Belmond, Mary was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church. She was active in Trinity Lutheran Church Women, Circle and study clubs, choir, Sunday and Bible school, and the annual Kaffe Lag. Mary was also a lifelong supporter of Waldorf University and an active Alumna, who traveled with the Waldorf Choir to Europe.

Together, Mary and Bill generously support the Waldorf scholarship program, campus beautification projects, and made possible Waldorf's return to a non-profit, faith-based university. Through the years they traveled the country and abroad on numerous Lutheran Brotherhood award trips, as well as journeys to Scandinavia and northern Europe. They enjoyed many winters in the Cave Creek area of Arizona.

Mary is survived by her husband William (Bill) and three daughters, Susan (Mark) Weigenant of Hager City, WI, Melanie (Todd) Steinkamp of Carroll, IA, Sally (Manny) Manzano of Golden Valley, MN; grandchildren, Emily (Quinton) Welsh Meece, Garrett Welsh, Oliver Schindler, and Zoe Schindler; brother Walter Carlson; and many nephews, nieces, cousins, and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents, Reverend Walter and Solveig Carlson, sister, Diane Schroeder, and sister in law, Claudette Carlson.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Trinity Lutheran Church Memorial Fund, the Belmond-Klemme Scholarship Foundation II, or the charity/organization of your choice. Cards and memorials may be sent to: The Family of Mary L. Johnson, c/o Ewing Funeral Home, 111 Luick's Lane South, Belmond, IA, 50421.

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 Trust can sometimes be a difficult thing to navigate within our relationships. While we certainly acknowledge the different levels of trust that we assign on an individual basis, a deeper point for reflection is thinking about where this trust comes from. Notably, we may trust someone based on feelings of love or comfortability, and we may tend to distrust based on feelings of distance or resentment. As we reflect upon these matters, we should consider ways in which we can become more trusting people. While this does not have to entail the reveal of any extra personal information, it does mean becoming a trusting presence in the lives of others, allowing them to confide in us as we consider the very reasons that we confide in our most trusted friends and loved ones.
 -James Stone

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FROM THE LOG

Franklin County

Traffic: Traffic: Frank Edward James Elverum, of River Falls, Wisconsin, maximum gross weight violation;

Jacob Daniel Maglott, of Cape Coral, Florida, speeding; Thomas Henry Macdonald, of Fort Dodge, speeding; Hunter Donald Julson, of Northwood, speeding; Mike F Perez, of Grand Island, Nebraska, maximum group axle weight violation – 1001 to 2000;

Branton Perry Wagner, of Isanti, Minnesota, speeding; Lydia Kathleen Kaiser, of Geneva, maximum gross weight violation – 6001 to 7000;

Shae Larcenia Wells, of Olathe, Kansas, speeding; Mustafa Camdzic, of Shakopee, Minnesota, improper use of median, curb, or access facility;

Sage Menne, of Dumont, employee providing tobacco/vapor product to person under 21;

Donald D Osborn, of Grand Island, Nebraska, failure to comply with safety regulations rules;

Civil: Brooke Gordon, of Geneva, versus Nicholas Dean Freitag, of Readlyn, order setting hearing;

Andrew John Vantil, of Eldora, versus Andrea R Grimm, of Jackson County, motion to dismiss;

Rocket Mortgage, LLC F/K/A/ Quicken Loans LLC, versus Midland Funding LLC, Morts INC, parties in possession, Amber Rhea Rodgers, Jamie Lee Rodgers, State of Iowa, United States of America, Secretary of Housing, petition filed;

OWI: Charles Lee Schrage, of Parkersburg, order setting trial; order setting trial, April 9, 9 a.m.;

Tomas Cavazos, of Hampton, order of disposition; pled guilty for operating while intoxicated – first offense, serving 2 days jail time and \$1,250 fine;

Small Claims: Quad Corporation INC, of Davenport, versus Lilianna Moreno Dohlman, of Hampton, Nathan Andrew Dohlman, of Hampton, dismissed without prejudice;

Jacqueline Lee Erslund, of Alexander, versus Morgan Lee Erslund, of Dows, Gene Alan Hennick Jr., of Dows, writ of replevin;

Capital One NA, of Des Moines, versus Silvano Calles, of Hampton, judgment default, \$3,600.59 fine;

Capital One NA, of Golden Valley, Minnesota, versus April S Gerber, of Hampton, judgment default, \$2,315.56 fine;

Quad Corporation INC, of Davenport, versus Chad Hanson, of Bristow, Deana Louise Hanson, of Bristow, judgment default, \$2,384.71 fine;

Midland Credit Management INC, of West Des Moines, versus Larry Jo Meyer, of Hampton, original notice;

Midland Credit Management INC, of West Des Moines, versus Abraham Maske, of Sheffield, original notice;

Midland Credit Management INC, of West Des Moines, versus Joshua John Baker, of Sheffield, original notice;

Midland Credit Management INC, of West Des Moines, versus David Daniel Stalker, of Iowa Falls, original notice;

Hauge Associates INC, of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, versus Jeffery J Wise, of Greene, original notice;

Criminal: Marck Anthony Jose Roque, of Coulter, order for arraignment; arraignment, March 9, 9:30 a.m.;

Laia Amber Pates, of Eldora, order setting hearing;

Joshua Michael Rapp, of Coulter, guilty plea;

Victor Yaniel Ortiz Garcia, of Forest City, non guilty plea;

Juan Vazquez Aldaba, of Hampton, criminal complaint and hearing for initial appearance;

Amarjot Singh, of Toccoa, Georgia, order setting trial; order setting trial, May 14, 9 a.m.;

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

Charles Lee Schrage, of Parkersburg, order setting trial; order setting trial, April 9, 9 a.m.;

Tyler Michael Bessette, of Alden, order for arraignment; arraignment, March 9, 8:45 a.m.;

Victor Yaniel Ortiz Garcia, of Forest City, order of arraignment; order setting trial, May 14, 9 a.m.

Police & Sheriff report 2-26 to 3-1

Hampton Police Reports

Thursday, February 26: 12:00 a.m.: Report of trespass in the 300 block of Central Ave W in Hampton.

2:56 a.m.: Welfare check in the 3rd Avenue NW area of Hampton.

3:59 a.m.: A report of a no contact violation order in the 700 block of 1st St NE in Hampton.

4:01 a.m.: Report of an alarm going off in the 200 block of 1st Ave NW in Hampton.

7:22 a.m.: EMS dispatched to the 700 block of 2nd St SE in Hampton.

10:49 a.m.: EMS dispatched to the 300 block of 16th Ave NE in Hampton.

11:41 a.m.: Report of a parking ordinance violation in the north city parking lot in Hampton.

11:45 a.m.: Report of a parking ordinance violation in the north city parking lot in Hampton.

4:20 p.m.: Report of harassment in the 400 block of 4th St SE in Hampton.

6:57 p.m.: Report of an alarm going off in the 100 block of 1st Ave SW in Hampton.

Friday, February 27: 10:14 a.m.: EMS dispatched to area in Highway 3 in Hampton.

2:58 p.m.: Phone call to return in Hampton.

2:59 p.m.: Phone call to return in Hampton.

5:14 p.m.: Report of trespass in the 300 block of 1st Ave NW in Hampton.

6:14 p.m.: Report of harassment in the 200 block of 2nd Ave NW in Hampton.

10:28 p.m.: Report of a disturbance at Scheideman Gym in Hampton.

Saturday, February 28: 12:24 a.m.: Traffic stop in the 600 block of 1st St NW in Hampton.

7:16 a.m.: Request for a welfare check at city cemetery.

12:07 p.m.: Traffic stop in the 805 Pizza & Chicken parking lot.

2:28 p.m.: Traffic stop in the 10 block of 3rd Ave NW in Hampton.

Sunday, March 1: 9:29 a.m.: Motorist assist along Highway 3, near the railroad tracks, in Hampton.

10:30 a.m.: Report of theft from La Amiguita in Hampton.

12:12 a.m.: EMS dispatched to the 700 block of 2nd St SE in Hampton.

1:24 p.m.: Motorist assist in the 900 block of 1st St NE in Hampton.

2:46 p.m.: Report of harassment in the 300 block of Central Ave W in Hampton.

8:12 p.m.: Traffic complaints in northbound Highway 65 and 70th St.

Franklin County Sheriff Reports

Thursday, February 26: 2:37 a.m.: Traffic stop along Highway 3 and Mallard Ave.

10:01 a.m.: Report of a controlled burn along Heather Ave in Latimer.

10:35 a.m.: Report of vehicle off roadway along Violet Ave and 125th St in Geneva.

11:38 a.m.: Call regarding warrants/other on W. Corry St. in Mount Pleasant.

2:24 p.m.: Traffic stop in the 2200 block of Highway 3 in Hampton.

2:39 p.m.: Traffic complaints along I-35 and 170 northbound in Latimer.

7:25 p.m.: Traffic stop in the 1600 block of Highway 65 in Hampton.

7:57 p.m.: Traffic stop in the 700 block of 160th St in Latimer.

8:06 p.m.: Traffic stop along Highway 3 and Gull St in Latimer.

8:22 p.m.: Traffic stop in the 1400 block of Mallard Ave in Hampton.

9:21 p.m.: Traffic stop in the 1100 block of Highway 3 in Hampton.

10:55 p.m.: Traffic stop in the 200 block of Heather Ave in Iowa Falls.

Friday, February 27: No information received for this day.

Saturday, February 28: 7:26 a.m.: Report of debris on roadway/right-of-way along Interstate 35 northbound 170-174 in Latimer.

8:36 a.m.: Traffic complaints along Grouse and 1250th St westbound in Sheffield.

8:43 a.m. Report of vehicle off roadway in the 1300 block of Highway 3 in Hampton.

8:50 a.m.: Report of harassment in the 200 block of Villa Ave in Alexander.

1:48 p.m.: Request for medical assisted in the 1300 block of 70th St in Bradford.

3:09 p.m.: Report of controlled burn in the 800 block of Mallory Dr in Hampton.

5:02 p.m.: Traffic stop along Highway 3 and Indigo Ave in Latimer.

5:21 p.m.: Traffic stop along Main and Donovan St in Latimer.

5:54 p.m.: Traffic complaints along Grouse Ave in Latimer.

6:27 p.m.: Report of a controlled burn in the 1800 block of Eagle Ave in Alexander.

7:34 p.m.: Traffic complaints along Highway 65 and 255th St in Sheffield.

Sunday, March 1: 9:26 a.m.: Traffic stop in the 800 block of Heather Ave in Coulter.

10:08 a.m.: Report of motor vehicle theft in the 800 block of Lark Ave in Hampton.

1:15 p.m.: Report of trespass at 90th St, east of Cardinal Ave, in Latimer.

4:58 p.m.: Report of suspicious noise/firework in the 1500 block of Highway 65 in Hampton.

6:06 p.m.: Traffic stop in the 1100 block of Highway 3 in Hampton.

6:43 p.m.: Traffic stop along Highway 3 and Gull St in Latimer.

7:09 p.m.: Traffic stop along Highway 3 and Gull St in Latimer.

Butler County Sheriff Reports

Monday, February 23:

Officers assisted with three medical calls, assisted eight motorists, received a report for three controlled burns and received three general calls.

1:31 a.m.: Officers conducted a business door check in the 900 block of Parriott St.

9:51 a.m.: Report of dog/deer/livestock in the 300 block of N Main St.

10:58 a.m.: Report of dog/deer/livestock in the 300 block of N Main St.

10:58 a.m.: Report of dog/deer/livestock in the 20100 block of Newell Ave.

11:03 a.m.: Report of weapon permit issue in the 400 block of 6th St.

11:04 a.m.: Report of weapon permit issue in the 400 block of 6th St.

11:06 a.m.: Report of weapon permit issue in the 400 block of 6th St.

12:30 p.m.: Report of weapon permit issue in the 400 block of 6th St.

12:32 p.m.: Report of weapon permit issue in the 400 block of 6th St.

3:20 p.m.: Report of carbon monoxide in the 500 block of N 1st St.

5:21 a.m.: Report of civil department requests in the 1400 block of Hwy 57.

5:43 p.m.: Report of civil department requests in the 200 block of 3rd St.

6:03 p.m.: Report of civil department requests in the 15800 block of Kilpatrick St.

7:14 p.m.: Report of jail inquiries in the 300 block of W Prospect St.

7:34 p.m.: Officers conducted a citizen assist in the 200 block of 4th St.

7:59 p.m.: Report of a suspicious vehicle/person/activity in the 600 block of 3rd St.

8:34 a.m.: Report of dog/deer/livestock in the 10000 block of Vail Ave.

Tuesday, February 24:

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

12:21 a.m.: Report of return calls/follow-ups in the 1200 block of Florence St.

6:46 a.m.: Report of jail inquiries in the 400 block of 6th St.

8:08 a.m.: Report of probation calls in the 400 block of 6th St.

8:16 a.m.: Report of probation calls in the 400 block of 6th St.

8:28 a.m.: report of maintenance in the 400 block of 6th St.

8:37 a.m.: Report of missing person in the 700 block of Howard St.

10:03 a.m.: Officers conducted an arrest warrant in the 300 block of W Main St.

10:41 a.m.: Report of officer personnel calls in the 100 block of W Superior St.

10:43 a.m.: Report of weapon permit issue in the 400 block of 6th St.

12:20 p.m.: Charles Joseph Raggo JR, 65 of Shell Rock, arrested on a court ordered hold, jailed.

12:33 p.m.: Report of a weapon permit issue in the 200 block of S Ely St.

12:34 p.m.: Report of a transport in the 400 block of 6th St.

1:18 p.m.: Report of a test in the 400 block of 6th St.

1:32 p.m.: Report of civil

department requests in the 14000 block of West Brook St.

1:58 p.m.: Report of transport in the 300 block of 9th SW St.

2:06 p.m.: Report of a 911 call in the 100 block of 4th NE St.

3:09 p.m.: Report of juvenile problems in the 500 block of Beaver St.

3:59 p.m.: Report of a weapon permit issue in the 400 block of 6th St.

4:16 p.m.: Report of return calls/follow-ups in the 21000 block of Keystone Ave.

Wednesday, February 25:

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

5:05 a.m.: Report of dog/deer/livestock in the area of Trapper Rd and Union Avce.

7:10 a.m.: Report of a test in the 400 block of 6th St.

7:12 a.m.: Report of dog/deer/livestock in the area of 175th St and Hwy 188.

7:50 a.m.: Report of dog/deer/livestock in the 29400 block of Union Ave.

9:03 a.m.: Report of probation calls in the 400 block of 6th St.

10:04 a.m.: Report of scams in the 100 block of Saratoga St.

10:59 a.m.: Report of a weapon permit issue in the 400 block of 6th St.

1:22 p.m.: Report of probation calls in the 600 block of Main St.

1:26 p.m.: Report of juvenile problems in the 17500 block of Newell Ave.

5:10 p.m.: Report of transport in the 400 block of 6th St.

6:27 p.m.: Report of return calls/follow-ups in the 700 block of 4th Ave.

8:08 p.m.: Report of fire alarm in the 300 block of Main St

9:22 p.m.: Report of a suspicious vehicle/person/activity in the 700 block of N public Rd.

9:45 p.m.: Officers conducted a welfare check in the 400 block of 6th St.

Thursday, February 26:

no reports

Friday, February 27:

Officers executed two traffic stops, assisted with three medical calls, assisted 11 motorists, received a report for one controlled burn, and received three general calls.

2:45 a.m.: Officers conducted a business door check in the 900 block of Parriott St.

7:08 a.m.: Report of road debris in the area of 230th St and Hwy 14.

7:09 a.m.: Report of road debris in the area of Evergreen Ave and Hwy 3.

7:30 a.m.: report of juvenile problems in the 500 block of Beaver St.

7:44 a.m.: Report of return calls/follow-ups in the 500 block of Beaver St.

8:00 a.m.: Report of probation calls in the 400 block of 6th St.

9:00 a.m.: Report of a weapon permit issue in the 400 block of 6th St.

9:15 a.m.: Report of a transport in the 400 block of 6th St.

9:16 a.m.: Report of a weapon permit issue in the 400 block of 6th St.

10:59 a.m.: Report of return calls/follow-ups in the 28400 block of Douglas Ave.

11:47 a.m.: Report of a 911 call in the 600 block of Lincoln St.

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

12:14 p.m.: Report of civil department request in the 400 block of 6th St.

12:20 p.m.: Report of vandalism/criminal mischief in the

400 block of 6th St.

12:31 p.m.: report of a suspicious vehicle/person/activity in the 100 block of Sunnyside Ave.

12:39 p.m.: Report of a test in the 500 block of N Cherry St.

12:40 p.m.: Report of a test in the 1000 block of Commerce St.

12:41 p.m.: Report of test in the 300 block of Packwaukee St.

12:42 p.m.: Report of test in the 100 block of W Superior St.

1:43 p.m.: Report of a weapon permit issue in the 31300 block of 110th St.

1:51 p.m.: Report of a suspicious vehicle/person/activity in the 21200 block of Douglas Ave.

2:14 p.m.: Report of office personnel calls in the 400 block of 6th St.

2:30 p.m.: Report of a weapon permit issue in the 400 block of 6th St.

2:31 p.m.: Report of a weapon permit issue in the 400 block of 6th St.

2:32 p.m.: Report of a weapon permit issue in the 400 block of 6th St.

2:33 p.m.: Report of a weapon permit issue in the 400 block of 6th St.

2:47 p.m.: Report of a weapon permit issue in the 400 block of 6th St.

3:28 p.m.: Report of dog/deer/livestock in the 300 block of Main St.

5:38 p.m.: Report of dog/deer/livestock in the 1200 block of Wemple St.

5:39 p.m.: Report of a civil department requests in the 22700 block of Vail Ave.

5:42 p.m.: Report of a weapon permit issue in the 400 block of 6th St.

7:34 p.m.: Report of dog/deer/livestock in the area of Grand Ave and Hwy 57.

7:55 p.m.: Report of dog/deer/livestock in the 900 block of Grant St.

9:31 p.m.: Report of dog/deer/livestock in the 300 block of E Grove St.

10:42 p.m.: Report of harassment in the 100 block of Railroad St.

11:44 p.m.: Report of property damage in the area of Grand Ave and Hwy 3.

11:55 p.m.: Report of a suspicious vehicle/person/activity in the 200 block of 2nd St.

Saturday, February 28:

Officers executed two traffic stops, assisted with five medical calls, assisted two motorists.

8:10 a.m.: Report of fire-works in the 28900 block of 270th St.

12:44 p.m.: Report of dog/deer/livestock in the 20500 block of 100th St.

1:05 p.m.: Report of a 911 call in the 1000 block of 7th St.

3:05 p.m.: Report of property damage in the 200 block of S Main St.

3:49 p.m.: Report of dog/deer/livestock in the 200 block of 2nd St.

5:37 p.m.: Report of civil department requests in the 13400 block of 110th St.

5:49 p.m.: Report of return calls/follow-ups in the 300 block of 1st St.

6:24 p.m.: Report of vandalism/criminal mischief in the 600 block

Latimer: Budget Amendment FY 26

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING - AMENDMENT OF CURRENT BUDGET				
City of LATIMER				
Fiscal Year July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026				
The City of LATIMER will conduct a public hearing for the purpose of amending the current budget for fiscal year ending June 30, 2026				
Meeting Date/Time: 3/11/2026 06:30 PM		Contact: Melissa Simmons		Phone: (641) 579-6452
Meeting Location: Latimer City Hall				
There will be no increase in taxes. Any residents or taxpayers will be heard for or against the proposed amendment at the time and place specified above. A detailed statement of: additional receipts, cash balances on hand at the close of the preceding fiscal year, and proposed disbursements, both past and anticipated, will be available at the hearing. Budget amendments are subject to protest. If protest petition requirements are met, the State Appeal Board will hold a local hearing. For more information, consult https://dom.iowa.gov/local-gov-appeals .				
REVENUES & OTHER FINANCING SOURCES		Total Budget as Certified or Last Amended	Current Amendment	Total Budget After Current Amendment
Taxes Levied on Property	1	230,207	0	230,207
Less: Uncollected Delinquent Taxes - Levy Year	2	0	0	0
Net Current Property Tax	3	230,207	0	230,207
Delinquent Property Tax Revenue	4	0	0	0
TIF Revenues	5	0	0	0
Other City Taxes	6	46,321	0	46,321
Licenses & Permits	7	375	0	375
Use of Money & Property	8	2,000	0	2,000
Intergovernmental	9	112,115	0	112,115
Charges for Service	10	224,300	0	224,300
Special Assessments	11	0	0	0
Miscellaneous	12	26,500	9,000	35,500
Other Financing Sources	13	0	0	0
Transfers In	14	57,000	0	57,000
Total Revenues & Other Sources	15	698,818	9,000	707,818
EXPENDITURES & OTHER FINANCING USES				
Public Safety	16	103,300	0	103,300
Public Works	17	127,700	2,000	129,700
Health and Social Services	18	2,000	0	2,000
Culture and Recreation	19	25,950	14,500	40,450
Community and Economic Development	20	1,250	0	1,250
General Government	21	84,600	2,400	87,000
Debt Service	22	91,850	0	91,850
Capital Projects	23	0	0	0
Total Government Activities Expenditures	24	436,650	18,900	455,550
Business Type/Enterprise	25	202,050	25,250	227,300
Total Gov Activities & Business Expenditures	26	638,700	44,150	682,850
Transfers Out	27	57,000	0	57,000
Total Expenditures/Transfers Out	28	695,700	44,150	739,850
Excess Revenues & Other Sources Over (Under) Expenditures/Transfers Out	29	3,118	-35,150	-32,032
Beginning Fund Balance July 1, 2025	30	1,924,879	0	1,924,879
Ending Fund Balance June 30, 2026	31	1,927,997	-35,150	1,892,847

Explanation of Changes: Increase in revenue brought in from RAGBRAI and additional money from Franklin County for Road Use money. Increase in expenses for the expenses incurred during RAGBRAI, Election expenses, Insurance expenses, and the Sewer Operational Equipment for the lagoon.

Published in the Hampton Chronicle on March 4, 2026

CAL FY27 Proposed Tax Notice - Hearing 1

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING -PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX LEVY			
Proposed CAL Property Tax Levy Fiscal Year July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027			
Location of Public Hearing: CAL Elementary Learning Lab (CELL) 1441 Gull Ave Latimer, IA 50452	Date of Public Hearing: 3/20/2026	Time of Public Hearing: 04:00 PM	
Location of Notice on School Website: https://www.cal.k12.ia.us/district-budget-and-funding			
At the public hearing any resident or taxpayer may present oral or written objections to, or arguments in favor of the proposed tax levy. After the hearing of the proposed tax levy, the Board will publish notice and hold a hearing on the proposed budget.			
	Current Year Final Property Tax Dollar Levy FY 2026	Budget Year Effective Property Tax Dollar Levy (No change in Property Tax Dollars Levied) FY 2027	Budget Year Proposed Property Tax Dollar Levy FY 2027
General Fund Levy	1,595,626	1,595,626	1,810,839
Instructional Support Levy	99,402	99,402	105,698
Management	0	0	0
Amana Library	0	0	0
Voted Physical Plant and Equipment	174,514	174,514	206,772
Regular Physical Plant and Equipment	65,446	65,446	75,044
Reorganization Equalization	0	0	0
Public Education/Recreation (Playground)	0	0	0
Debt Service	0	0	0
Grand Total	1,934,988	1,934,988	2,198,353
	Current Year Final Property Tax Rate FY 2026	Budget Year Effective Property Tax Rate (No change in Property Tax Dollars Levied) FY 2027	Budget Year Proposed Property Tax Rate FY 2027
Grand Total Levy Rate	9.75686	8.50902	9.66714
Property Tax Comparison	Current Year Property Taxes	Proposed Property Taxes	Percent Change
Residential property with an Actual/Assessed Value of \$100,000/\$110,000	463	474	2.38
Commercial property with an Actual/Assessed Value of \$300,000/\$330,000	2,011	2,212	10.00

Note: Actual/Assessed Valuation is multiplied by a Rollback Percentage to get to the Taxable Valuation to calculate Property Taxes. Residential and Commercial properties have the same Rollback Percentage at \$150,000 Actual/Assessed Valuation. The Proposed Property taxes assume a 10% increase in property values for the year as a comparison to the current year.
Reasons for tax increase if proposed exceeds the current:
Rising operating costs within the district that are outpacing the revenue allocated to us. As a result, the district has relied more heavily on the cash reserve levy to meet financial obligations.

Published in the Hampton Chronicle on March 4, 2026

Public Hearing Proposed Tax Notice 3/23/26

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING -PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX LEVY			
Proposed WEST FORK Property Tax Levy Fiscal Year July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027			
Location of Public Hearing: West Fork CSD Rockwell Campus - Band Room 210 2nd St. S. Rockwell, IA 50469	Date of Public Hearing: 3/23/2026	Time of Public Hearing: 04:30 PM	
Location of Notice on School Website: https://sites.google.com/westforkschool.org/budgettax-information/home			
At the public hearing any resident or taxpayer may present oral or written objections to, or arguments in favor of the proposed tax levy. After the hearing of the proposed tax levy, the Board will publish notice and hold a hearing on the proposed budget.			
	Current Year Final Property Tax Dollar Levy FY 2026	Budget Year Effective Property Tax Dollar Levy (No change in Property Tax Dollars Levied) FY 2027	Budget Year Proposed Property Tax Dollar Levy FY 2027
General Fund Levy	3,803,695	3,803,695	4,594,095
Instructional Support Levy	440,415	440,415	303,163
Management	393,539	393,539	344,909
Amana Library	0	0	0
Voted Physical Plant and Equipment	333,113	333,113	363,257
Regular Physical Plant and Equipment	164,071	164,071	178,918
Reorganization Equalization	0	0	0
Public Education/Recreation (Playground)	0	0	0
Debt Service	1,143,522	1,143,522	1,247,002
Grand Total	6,278,355	6,278,355	7,031,344
	Current Year Final Property Tax Rate FY 2026	Budget Year Effective Property Tax Rate (No change in Property Tax Dollars Levied) FY 2027	Budget Year Proposed Property Tax Rate FY 2027
Grand Total Levy Rate	12.79234	11.69082	13.09925
Property Tax Comparison	Current Year Property Taxes	Proposed Property Taxes	Percent Change
Residential property with an Actual/Assessed Value of \$100,000/\$110,000	607	642	5.77
Commercial property with an Actual/Assessed Value of \$300,000/\$330,000	2,637	2,997	13.65

Note: Actual/Assessed Valuation is multiplied by a Rollback Percentage to get to the Taxable Valuation to calculate Property Taxes. Residential and Commercial properties have the same Rollback Percentage at \$150,000 Actual/Assessed Valuation. The Proposed Property taxes assume a 10% increase in property values for the year as a comparison to the current year.
Reasons for tax increase if proposed exceeds the current:
Due to low funding increases from the state and mandated special education services, our special education deficit has grown and is paid entirely with property taxes. In addition the district passed a bond issue.

Published in the Hampton Chronicle on March 4, 2026

Anna Juliana Elizabeth Boylan Estate

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR Franklin COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF Anna Juliana Elizabeth Boylan, Deceased Probate No. ESPR502089 NOTICE OF PROBATE OF WILL, OF APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTOR, AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of Anna Juliana Elizabeth Boylan, Deceased, who died on or about January 5, 2026. You are hereby notified that on February 13, 2026, an authenticated copy of the Last Will and Testament of Anna Juliana Elizabeth Boylan, deceased, bearing date of August 1, 2012, was admitted to probate in the above-named court and that Kimberly Orr was appointed Executor of the estate. Any action to set aside the Will must be brought in the District Court of said county within the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice to all heirs of the decedent and devisees under the Will whose identities are reasonably ascertainable, or thereafter be forever barred. Notice is further given that all persons indebted to the estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned, and creditors having claims against the estate shall file them with the clerk of the above-named District Court, as provided by law, duly authenticated, for allowance, and unless so filed by the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice (unless otherwise allowed or paid) a claim is thereafter forever barred.

Dated February 13, 2026.

Kimberly Orr, Executor of Estate
1618 Quail Ave.
Hampton, IA 50441

Brent Symens, Attorney for Executor
Symens Law Firm
P.O. Box 315
Hampton, IA 50441

Published in the Hampton Chronicle on February 25, and March 4, 2026

Hansen Trust Notice

TRUST NOTICE IN THE MATTER OF THE RICKIE R. HANSON REVOCABLE TRUST DATED MAY 5, 2020, AS AMENDED ON JULY 19, 2024, AND AS FURTHER AMENDED ON NOVEMBER 6, 2025:

To all persons regarding Rickie R Hansen, deceased, who died on or about December 13, 2025. You are hereby notified that the trustees listed below are the trustees of the Rickie R. Hanson Revocable Trust dated May 5, 2020, as amended on July 19, 2024, and as further amended on November 6, 2025. Any action to contest the validity of the trust must be brought in the District Court of Franklin County, Iowa, within the later to occur of four (4) months from the date of second publication of this notice or thirty (30) days from the date of mailing this notice to the spouse of the decedent settlor, and to all heirs of the decedent settlor whose identities are reasonably ascertainable. Any suit not filed within this period shall be forever barred. Notice is further given that any person or entity possessing a claim against the trust must mail proof of the claim to the first named trustee at the address listed below via certified mail, return receipt requested, by the later to occur of four (4) months from the second publication of this notice or thirty (30) days from the date of mailing this notice if required or the claim shall be forever barred unless paid or otherwise satisfied.

Dated January 28, 2026
John E. Coonley #00007542 Attorney for Co-Trustees Coonley & Coonley
121 First Ave. N.W.
P.O. Box 397
Hampton, Iowa 50441
Larry J. Hansen, Co-Trustee
974 Killdeer Ave.
Hampton, IA 50441
Troy Aron Hansen, Co-Trustee
1148 Mallard Ave.
Hampton, IA 50441
Nate Owen Hansen, Co-Trustee
1145 Killdeer Ave.
Hampton, IA 50441
Dana Rae Crutchfield, Co-Trustee 6303 S.W. Fairview Blvd.
Bentonville, AR 72713

Published in the Hampton Chronicle on February 25, March 4, 2026

Elaine Parks Estate

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR Franklin COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF Elaine C. Parks, Deceased CASE NO. ESPR502092 NOTICE OF PROBATE OF WILL, OF APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTOR, AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of Elaine C. Parks, Deceased, who died on or about January 25, 2026. You are hereby notified that on February 24, 2026, the Last Will and Testament of Elaine C. Parks, deceased, bearing date of March 30, 1976, was admitted to probate in the above-named court and that Steven B. Parks was appointed Executor of the estate. Any action to set aside the Will must be brought in the district court of said county within the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice to all heirs of the decedent and devisees under the will whose identities are reasonably ascertainable, or thereafter be forever barred. Notice is further given that all persons indebted to the estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned, and creditors having claims against the estate shall file them with the clerk of the above-named district court, as provided by law, duly authenticated, for allowance, and unless so filed by the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice (unless otherwise allowed or paid) a claim is thereafter forever barred.

Dated February 27, 2026.

Steven B. Parks
9549 E Princess Drive
Mesa, AZ 85207
Executor of Estate

G. A. Cady III, ICIS#: AT0001386
Attorney for Executor
Cady & Rosenberg Law Firm, P.L.C.
9 First Street SW
PO Box 456
Hampton, IA 50441

Published in the Hampton Chronicle on March 4, and 11, 2026

Dumont Council Budget Workshop 2.11.26

February 11, 2026
The Dumont City Council met in special session Wednesday, February 11, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in the Dumont EMS Building with Mayor Carson W. Freese presiding. Present were Council Members Marty Evans, Valerie Menken, Wayne Pecha and Lukas Smith. Mike Day was absent. Visitor in attendance was Lanette Day.
The Clerk went through the proposed budget numbers for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 with the Council. Pecha/Menken moved to approve the budget as discussed and for the Clerk to prepare the budget for submission to the State of Iowa. Roll call: Ayes-Evans, Menken, Pecha, Smith; Absent-Day. Motion carried.
Pecha/Smith moved to set the date for the Public Hearing on our Proposed Property Tax Levy for Thursday, March 26, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. Roll call: Ayes-Evans, Menken, Pecha, Smith; Absent-Day. Motion carried. Smith/Evans moved to adjourn. Motion carried, ayes all.

Carson W. Freese, Mayor
Rhonda L. Schmidt, Attest
Jodi L. Angstman, Attest

Published in the Hampton Chronicle on March 4, 2026

Coulter Council Sp Minutes 2.20.26

City of Coulter Unapproved Minutes of February 20, 2026 Special Council Meeting
City of Coulter Special Council Meeting at Coulter City Hall called to order at 6:30pm on February 20, 2026 by Mayor Myron Lawler. Council members present: Cheryl Engels, Alan Larsen, Nicole Martinson, Dennis Sandin and Ann Schulz. Sandin motioned to approve the Agenda, Schulz second. All ayes, motion carried. Motion to accept offer of \$21,500 from Chad Mulford to purchase Old Fire Station building made by Larsen, second Schulz. Discussion followed. Vote: Engels: aye, Larsen: aye, Martinson: aye, Sandin: aye, Schulz: aye. Motion carried. Larsen motioned to adjourn, Schulz second. Special Meeting adjourned at 6:45pm.
ATTENT:
Myron Lawler, Mayor
Jory Rapp, City Clerk

Published in the Hampton Chronicle on March 4, 2026

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

H-D Minutes & Claims 2/23/2026

HAMPTON-DUMONT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 23, 2026

1. The Hampton-Dumont Board of Education met in a Regular Meeting on February 23, 2026, in the District Boardroom. President Erran Miller called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm. Board members Erran Miller, Steve Severs, Matt Showalter and Stephanie Powers were present. Board member Mark Morrison arrived late. Board members Elisa Van Wert and Brent Hansen were absent. Also present were: Superintendent Tim Felderman; Principals Matt Trosky, Beth Frenchick and Tony Spradlin; High School Assistant Principal and Activities Director Lance Thompson; Director of Academic Services Jen Koenen; Business Manager Lisa Lewis; Maintenance Director Marlin Smith; Transportation Director Dan Schipper; Technology Director Dustin Epple; Child Nutrition Director Sarah Bohmke; Human Resources Manager Anne Lewis and Board Secretary Amanda Heiden
Visitors were Cynthia Krull, Denielle Conlon, Dan Aalbers, Alexis Vosburg and Wren of the Hampton Chronicle.

2. Motion was made by Powers, seconded by Severs, to approve the agenda as presented. All ayes. Morrison was not present at time of vote.

3. The board reviewed donations received by the district.

4. The Hampton-Dumont Education Association presented its initial proposal for negotiations for the 2026-2027 school year which included a 4.94% total package increase.

5. Board member Mark Morrison arrived at 4:35 pm. Motion was made by Powers, seconded by Severs, to approve the consent agenda as presented. All ayes. The minutes of the January 26, 2026, Regular Meeting minutes were approved. The board approved the treasurer's reports and to allow for payment of the bills listed. Contracts were approved for: Tara Soesbe as Special Education Teacher. Contract Amendments were approved for: Hilda Calles to receive 25 cent per hour increase for interpreting. Resignations/retirements were accepted from: Flor Cavazos as South Side Administrative Assistant; Teaya Dickerson as North Side Associate; and Karlie Lee as North Side Associate. The board reviewed one open enrollment application out of the district to CAM for Iowa Connections Academy. The board approved the Student Council Blood Drive in March.

6. There were no items removed from the consent agenda.

7. The board reviewed written reports provided with the agenda and heard the following: Activities: Lance Thompson gave updates on winter activities and informed the board that the student council would hold a blood drive on March 3rd. Transportation: Dan Schipper stated the district is looking for bus drivers for route and activities. Technology: Dustin Epple gave updates on network upgrades for South Side, e-rate application, and board emails. Maintenance: Marlin Smith stated the construction work to prepare the damage to the front of the high school should begin soon. Child Nutrition: Sarah Bohmke introduced herself and informed the board that work was being done to plan summer food program and grant allocations for next year. Academic Services: Jen Koenen gave a shout out to English Language Learner Teachers for all their work on ELPA testing and gave up dates on the Wellmark grant. Elementary: Beth Frenchick stated preschool applications are open for next year and Read Across America is planned for the following week. High School: Matt Trosky informed the board of the success and many opportunities in work-based learning. Superintendent: Tim Felderman stated work is being done to come up with a written formal hard surface only plan and the district is anticipating property insurance to go up nine percent.

8. Teacher Denielle Conlon gave a quick presentation on all the great things happening at North Side.

9. There was no old business.

10. New Business.

a. The Hampton-Dumont Board of Education presented its initial proposal for negotiations for the 2026-2027 school year which included a 2.13% total salary increase.

b. Motion was made by Powers, seconded by Morrison, to set a public hearing on the 2026-2027 fiscal year budget on March 23, 2026. All ayes.

c. Motion was made by Powers, seconded by Morrison, to set a public hearing on the 2026-2027 school calendar on March 23, 2026. All ayes.

d. Motion was made by Morrison, seconded by Powers, to approve the quote from Ideal Floors for the North Side cafeteria flooring. All ayes.

e. Motion was made by Morrison, seconded by Severs, to approve the quote from Ideal Floors for the 5th and 6th grade pod flooring. All ayes.

f. Motion was made by Morrison, seconded by Severs, to approve the quote from Ideal Floors for the 7th and 8th grade pod flooring. All ayes.

g. Motion was made by Showalter, seconded by Severs, to table approving the quote for the remodel of the high school west restrooms. All ayes.

h. Motion was made by Morrison, seconded by Severs, to approve the contract with Lightning Productions Pro DJ to perform DJ services for the prom. All ayes.

i. Motion was made by Powers, seconded by Severs, to approve the facility use agreement with American Red-Cross as presented. All ayes.

j. Motion was made by Morrison, seconded by Severs, to approve the memorandum of understanding with Franklin County Emergency Management as presented. All ayes.

k. Motion was made by Morrison, seconded by Severs, to approve the field experience in education administration agreement with Dordt University as presented. All ayes.

l. Motion was made by Morrison, seconded by Severs, to establish a Fund 82 account for staff beverage vending. All ayes.

m. The board held second readings and a motion was made by Powers, seconded by Morrison, to approve the following policies: 501.15 Open Enrollment Transfers - Procedures for Receiving District; 505.05 Graduation Requirements; 603.06 Physical Education; 802.02 Requests for Improvements. All ayes.

11. There were no discussions.

12. The next Regular Meeting was scheduled for March 23, 2026, at 5:30 pm in the District Boardroom.

13. Motion was made by Showalter, seconded by Severs, to adjourn the Regular Meeting. All ayes. The meeting was adjourned at 5:14 pm.

14. The board held an Exempt Session for negotiations.

HAMPTON-DUMONT CSD CLASSIFICATION FOR PRESENTATION
BOARD MEETING DATE: 2/22/2026
GENERAL/AF/MGMT/SAVE/PPEL/CHILD

VENDOR NAME	DESCRIPTION	PAID
A & M Electric	Elec. for new gym flag	\$695.37
AGVantage FS	Route Gas	\$3,667.66
AGWSR Community Schools	AGWSR 1st Sem OE HS Tuition	\$25,605.75
Ahlers & Cooney P C	Legal Services	\$1,337.25
Alex Bohl	Officials Pay	\$0.00
Alex Bohl	G/B Basketball 2.3.26	\$150.00
Anderson Erickson Dairy	Milk	\$4,870.76
Anderson Erickson Dairy	Milk	\$7,827.83
Anne M. Lewis	Postage	\$6.06
Anthony D Dahle	G/B Basketball 2.10.26	\$150.00
Aplington-Parkersburg CSD	Boys wrestling entry fee (JV and V)	\$175.00
Atlantic Coca-Cola Bottling Company	Concession stand items	\$4,224.44
Auto Parts Whse Inc	battery	\$148.12
Auto Parts Whse Inc	Antifreeze bus 14-1	\$122.43
Baker, Jonathan	Basketball	\$150.00
Ben Boerjan	Basketball	\$150.00
BENNETT SUNTKEN	Basketball	\$150.00
Bio Corporation	Dissection specimens and materials	\$150.00
Blick Art Materials	Barkema grant art	\$2,662.36
Bluum Of Minnesota LLC	Clevertouch box updates	\$18,549.47
Brandon Jenson	G/B Basketball 1.22.26	\$150.00
BSN Sports, LLC	Boys basketball Uniforms (home and away)	\$3,232.00
Butler County Auditor	Board Election	\$1,889.79
Capital Sanitary Supply	Dishwasher	\$449.02
Carolee Franta	Speech Judge	\$0.00
Carr, Marvin	G Basketball 2.3.26	\$80.00
Cedar Valley Instrument Repair	repairs	\$3,297.05
Central Rivers AEA	Full Sport Posters	\$204.00
CENTURYLINK	District Telephone	\$0.66
Chris Thomas	G/B basketball 2.3.26	\$150.00
Christopher Sunkten	Basketball	\$150.00
CITY OF HAMPTON	Water Bill	\$1,851.00
Claron-Goldfield-Dows High School	SPED OE-Level 3	\$24,675.18
Claron-Goldfield-Dows High School	Boys Wrestling entry fee	\$100.00
Claron-Goldfield-Dows School District	CGD 1st Sem OE Tuition	\$4,541.26
Cole Willert	Basketball	\$230.00
Cole Willert	G/B Basketball 1.22.26	\$150.00
Column Software PBC	Minutes & Claims	\$285.86
Culver-Hahn Electric Supply	replacement bulbs	\$2,301.00
Culver-Hahn Electric Supply	raceway	\$1,277.45
Dale Johnson	Basketball	\$80.00
Dale Johnson	Girls Basketball 1.22.26	\$80.00
Dale Johnson	B. Basketball 2.10.26	\$100.00
DALE LUDWIG	G. Basketball 2.10.26	\$80.00
Dan Dingman	G/B Basketball 2.10.26	\$150.00
Dan Schuknecht,	Basketball	\$150.00
David Meinders	MS Officiating 2/9/26	\$95.00
Decker Sporting Goods	Shipping for Volleyball Items	\$120.00
Decker Sporting Goods	Volleyballs/Carts-MS	\$2,266.70
Dion King	Basketball	\$80.00
Dolores Cicio	Speech Judge	\$0.00
Drew Mourlam	MS Officiating 1/15/26	\$175.00
Drew Mourlam	BOY BASKETBALL 1.22.26	\$195.00
Drew Mourlam	MS Officiating 1/29/26	\$95.00

East Iowa Speech & Debate	
Elite Exteriors LLC	
Emmetsburg High School	
EMS Detergent Services Co.	
Ethan Lambert	
Everbloom Flower Co LLC	
Fareway Stores	
Fareway Stores	
Fareway Stores	
Fareway Stores	
Fareway Stores	
First Book	
Franklin Co Extension	
Franklin Wellness Center	
Goodwin Tucker	
Greater Franklin Co Chamber Of Commerce	
Hampton Hardware	
Hampton-Dumont Activity Fund	
Hampton-Dumont Child Nutrition	
Hampton-Dumont General Fund	
Hampton-Dumont General Fund	
Hampton-Dumont General Fund	
Hampton-Dumont Ins Account	
Hewett Wholesale	
Holl R Oates	
Honey Creek Furniture	
Hope Squad, Inc	
Humboldt High School	
IASBO	
IASBO	
IGCA	
IHSA	
Iowa Communications Network	
Iowa Falls CSD	
Iowa Falls CSD	
Iowa Food Hub	
Iowa Food Hub	
Iowa Food Hub	
James P Miles Jr	
Jerry Vallecillo	
Jones Appliance & Tv INC.	
Joseph Otten	
Joseph Scott Whitehill	
Jostens Inc	
JW Pepper	
JW Pepper	
Kobe Risse	
Legacy Golf Course at the Nineteen, LLC	
Lightning Productions Pro DJ	
Marco	
Marco	
Maria Pacheco Gonzales	
Mark Nalan	
Mark Nalan	
Martin Bros Dist Co	
Martin Bros Dist Co	
Martin Bros Dist Co	
Martin Bros Dist Co	
Martin Flag Company	
Mason City Community School District	
MCKADE EISENTRAGER	
Michael Dehrkoop	
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY	
Mike Arndorfer	
Mike Arndorfer	
Mike aaley	
MN-IOWA ELEC MOTORS EQUIP	
Morie Corporation	
MP Backhoe LLC	
MP Backhoe LLC	
Murphy Heating & Plumbing	
Nassco Inc	
NCIBA	
Nick Pappas	
Nick Pappas	
Nick Pappas	
North Butler CSD	
Oelwein Community School District	
One Source The Background Check Company	
Orkin Pest Control	
Orkin Pest Control	
Osage Community School	
Paulovich, Jeff	
Phil Frenchick	
Phillip Scott O'Brien	
Phillip Scott O'Brien	
Phillip Scott O'Brien	
Phillip Scott O'Brien	
PNC Bank c/o ParentSquare, Inc.	
Pro Wall Construction Inc	
ProEdge Building Solutions	
Randall Jaden	
Rapids Wholesale Equipment Co	
RHT Technologies, LLC	
Rockwell Cooperative Telephone	
Rod Hungerford	
Rod Hungerford	
Rod Hungerford	
Roland-Story High School	
Rona M Campbell	
Sarah E Hounga	
Scholastic Store Online	
School Bus Sales Co	
Segra	
Southeast Polk High School	
Summit Fire Protection	
Swart Tire Service	
Team Concrete & Construction LLC	
Terracon Consultants, Inc.	
The Shredder - Medshred	
Tiffany Miller	
Tim Felderman	
Tim Felderman	
Tim Felderman	
Todd Greiman	
Tony Halsted	
Tracy Johnson	
TRANE U.S. INC	
Trey Pierson	
Trophies Plus Inc	
U S Cellular	
VISA 6901	
VISA 6992	
VISA 7008	
Visa6928	
VISA6901	
Visa6927	
Visa6976	
Visa6984	
Visa7024	
VISA7040 SS General	
VISA7057 MS General	
VISA7057 MS General	
VISA7065 MS ACTIVites	
VISA7073 Business Manager	
VISA7081 Maintenance	
VISA7107 Board Sectary	
VISA7123 HS Activity Director	
VISA7131 MS Principal	
Waddingham Engineering and Land Surveying	
Warburg College	
Waverly-Shell Rock Schools	
West Fork CSD	
West Marshall CSD	
Zandrea Erdman	
GRAND TOTAL PAID	

Nat Quals Registration for	\$50.00
Speech and Debate	
HS Pressbox Repairs/Const	\$48,600.00
Girls wrestling entry fee	\$125.00
Supplies	\$2,142.50
Wrestling	\$175.00
Wrestling Senior Night (Cheer and Wrestlers)	\$49.50
Life Skills Class	\$627.55
CareWare	\$2,392.67
Life skills class	\$95.32
Foods	\$1,535.68
Concession Stand Items	\$1,553.04
Concession stand items	\$2,480.25
Books	\$212.15
Spraying course	\$45.00
Use of Wellness Center for Girls Wrestling	\$33.00
Service call - steamer	\$793.15
Membership Fees	\$1,030.00
rope, bolts	\$154.92
DEPOSIT	\$1,893.95
Deposit error	\$600.00
Refund	\$28.60
Deposit Error	\$554.00
Fail 2025 EE Workers	\$2,423.77
Escrow Expenses 10/27/25-01/29/26	\$32,149.08
Concession stand items	\$1,916.10
Boys Basketball 2.3.26	\$100.00
HS OFFICE FURNITURE	\$13,819.50
Hope Squad Training	\$4,400.00
Girls wrestling entry fee	\$150.00
ISFLIC Registration	\$350.00
Spring Conf Reg	\$290.00
IGCA basketball scrimmage fee	\$60.00
District Reg Fees	\$373.00
Long Distance	\$49.45
1st Sem MS OE Tuition	\$31,427.29
Girls wrestling entry fee	\$150.00
Purchased Food	\$1,207.65
Food	\$1,257.95
Boys Basketball	\$100.00
Reimbursement-Lost Book	\$10.00
Oven repair	\$189.99
Officials pay	\$0.00
Basketball	\$350.00
diploma covers	\$1,133.20
music	\$314.93
music	\$657.44
MS Officiating 2/9/26	\$95.00
Golf Fees	\$264.00
DJ for Prom	\$750.00
Printer supplies	\$389.49
EQUIP COPIER LEASE	\$1,847.28
Lunch Refund	\$11.15
Basketball	\$80.00
MS Officiating 1/26/26	\$175.00
Purchased Food	\$25,340.66
Food/Supplies	\$32,153.97
Cafe	\$579.77
Supplies	\$434.26
Motorized Flag in New Gym	\$5,319.00
MC 1st Sem OE Tuition	\$11,333.04
Basketball	\$350.00
Basketball	\$150.00
Utilities	\$23,359.61
Basketball	\$100.00
B. Basketball	\$100.00
G/B Basketball 2.3.26	\$150.00
Fan Motor	\$241.89
NIDM	\$105.00
sanding lots	\$1,200.00
Sanding Parking Lots	\$3,200.00
repair water line	\$180.82
paper towels	\$149.25
registration	\$30.00
Basketball	\$100.00
MS Officiating 2/2/26	\$95.00
MS Officiating 2/5/26	\$95.00
SPED OE OUT 1ST SEM BILL	\$19,484.10
OELWEIN 1st Sem OE Tuition	\$6,069.76
January 2026 BG Checks	\$224.00
Pest Control	\$2.84
Pest Control	\$5.14
Boys Wrestling entry fee	\$350.00
Wrestling	\$175.00
Elementary Piano Tuning	\$240.00
MS Officiating 1/15/26	\$95.00
B/G BasketBall 1.22.26	\$100.00
MS Officiating 1/29/26	\$95.00
G. basketball 2.10.26	\$80.00
Additional Website Page Migration	\$375.00
HS Repair/Accident	\$500.00
paint brush	\$6.99
Basketball	\$150.00
Microwave	\$114.35
AP installation	\$854.80
District Internet	\$104.95
Basketball	\$80.00
MS Officiating 2/2/26	\$95.00
MS Officiating 2/5/26	\$95.00
Boys Wrestling entry fee	\$325.00
VB Scorebook	\$75.00
Mileage FY 26	\$68.83
Books	\$7.35
New front springs 14-1	\$2,728.30
EWAN	\$364.44
Boys wrestling entry fee	\$125.00
Repair fire ext	\$50.00
14-1 flat tire on route	\$599.34
Softball Construction	\$19,775.00
Site Study	\$1,500.00
District Shredding	\$133.27
CPR Class Refund	\$39.59
Reimbursement	\$270.65
Reimbursement	\$13.50
Mileage	\$592.20
Basketball	\$150.00
G/B Basketball 2.10.26	\$150.00
G. Basketball 2.3.26	\$80.00
Shop heater parts	\$1,258.52
G/B Basketball 1.22.26	\$150.00
Medals (track and golf)	\$1,346.70
Phone Bill	\$731.20
CTE SUPPLIES	\$204.51
SUPPLIES	\$1,601.71
SUPPLIES	\$176.32
NIACC books	\$1,330.15
SUPPLIES	\$114.35
XL gloves	\$231.41
Supplies	\$466.32
Supper State Dance	\$482.58
Supplies	\$52.91
South Side Stem Carts- Barkema Grant	\$3,385.87
MS Supplies	\$274.13
Meal Giveaway Supplies-MS	\$160.32
FBIS 7th/8th	\$8.42
Buildog Cafe Scanner	\$363.41
vac.hoses	\$613.94
ELL bks	\$197.70
Student Council Supplies	\$104.93
Postages	\$234.00
Field Study	\$950.00
Student Registration	\$343.00
Boys Wrestling entry fee	\$300.00
Concurrent Enrollment	\$143.78
Girls wrestling entry fee	\$150.00
VB Scorebook	\$75.00
GRAND TOTAL PAID	\$471,537.06

Published in the Hampton Chronicle on March 4, 2026

Hampton City Council Minutes/Claims 2.26.26

HAMPTON CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION MINUTES THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2026, at 6:00 P.M.
The Hampton City Council Regular Session Meeting was called to order at the Hampton City Council Chambers by Mayor Birdsall at 6:00 p.m. Council members in attendance were James Davies, Jeanne Fay (Zoom), Jerre Grefe, Bill Holmstrom, Barry Lamos and Kristin Roode. Also present were City Manager Ron Dunt, Police Chief Mark Morrison and Public Works Director Doug Tarr. Mayor Birdsall invited those present to join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. flag.
Mayor Birdsall called for a motion to **approve the agenda**. Motion by Holmstrom, second by Roode to approve the agenda. Motion approved unanimously.
Mayor Birdsall read the **City Leadership Statement**.
Council Workshop Report. None.
Public Comment: None.
Public Hearing: None.
Old Business: None.
New Business: Katy Flint, Franklin County Auditor presented a request for council **approval of urban renewal joint agreement**. Motion by Davies, seconded by Lamos to approve Franklin County Urban Renewal Joint Agreement. Motion approved unanimously.
City Manager Dunt, presented a nomination for the **February 2026 Image of Pride Award** to Jerrod Wikert at 1020

Latimer: Resolution 2026-02

RESOLUTION NO.: 2026-02
WHEREAS, City of Latimer, Iowa proposes to convey a lot located in the City of Latimer to Latimer Development Corp. the following described real estate:
 Lot 1, Block 1, Harriman's First Addition to Latimer, Franklin County, Iowa, for the sum of \$1.00.
WHEREAS, this conveyance is subject to all easements on record including any and all utilities. **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the City of Latimer, Iowa as follows:
Section 1: A public hearing shall be conducted on the 11th day of March, 2026 by the counsel at the city hall chambers in Latimer, Iowa located at 200 N Akir, Latimer, Iowa. The purpose of this hearing shall be for the city to declare its intent to consider disposition of the real estate above described to Latimer Development Corporation for the sum of \$1.00. Following the public hearing, the city council may accept or reject the proposed conveyance and adopt a resolution authorizing the sale of the property in whole or in part.
Section 2: The City Clerk is hereby directed to publish one time, not less than four (4) nor more than twenty (20) days prior to the date fixed for set hearing on the Latimer City Communication Board, a notice of intention to vacate city right-of-way in substantially the same form:
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

ON INTENT TO CONVEY REAL ESTATE
 Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be conducted before the Latimer City Council at the Latimer City Hall in Latimer, Iowa located at 200 N Akir, Latimer, Iowa at 6:30 pm on March 11, 2026 on the intent to convey the following described real estate to Latimer Development Corporation for \$1.00, to-wit:
 Lot 1, Block 1, Harriman's First Addition to Latimer, Franklin County, Iowa.
 All persons who appear at the hearing shall be given an opportunity to express their views for or against the proposal to sell the real property. After the hearing or any adjournment thereof, the City Council will consider adoption of a resolution to sell the real property.
Section 3: That the administrative persons of the City of Latimer are hereby authorized to take such further action as may be necessary to carry out the intent to convey real estate.
Section 4: All resolutions or orders or parts thereof, in conflict herewith, are to the extent of such conflict, hereby repealed and this resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its adoption.
 Dated this 11th day of February, 2026.
 Melissa Simmons, City Clerk

Tulip Vacate

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
 Franklin County

The Franklin County Board of Supervisors, acting under the authority of Iowa Code Chapter 306, proposes to vacate a section of Franklin County Secondary Road, described as follows:

That portion of Road No. 89 recorded in Road Record Book A, Page 99 located in the Northwest Quarter (NW 1/4) of the Southeast Quarter (SE 1/4) and that portion of Easement #3664 recorded in Original Easement Files, Page 25 located in the Northwest Quarter (NW 1/4) of the Southeast Quarter (SE 1/4) all in Section 28, T90N, R19W; excluding the west 40 feet of the Northwest Quarter (NW 1/4) of said Southeast Quarter (SE 1/4).

A hearing will be held by the Franklin County Board of Supervisors in their office, Franklin County Courthouse, Hampton, Iowa 50441, at 9:15 am on Tuesday, March 17, 2026. Any person owning land abutting on the road proposed to be vacated and closed shall have the right to file, in writing, a claim for damages at any time on or before the date and time fixed for the hearing.

Published in the Hampton Chronicle on March 4, 2026

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NEWS

Jack Hindin Raises Money for 4-H Trip

Sophomore Jack Hindin raised money for his 4-H exchange trip to Japan this summer on Saturday, Feb. 28, at the Youth for Christ building. The fundraiser started with lunch, before their cribbage tournament commenced at 1 p.m. Prizes were donated by local businesses and individuals.



Jack with his grandma, Sonja Vosburg, before the fundraiser kicked off.



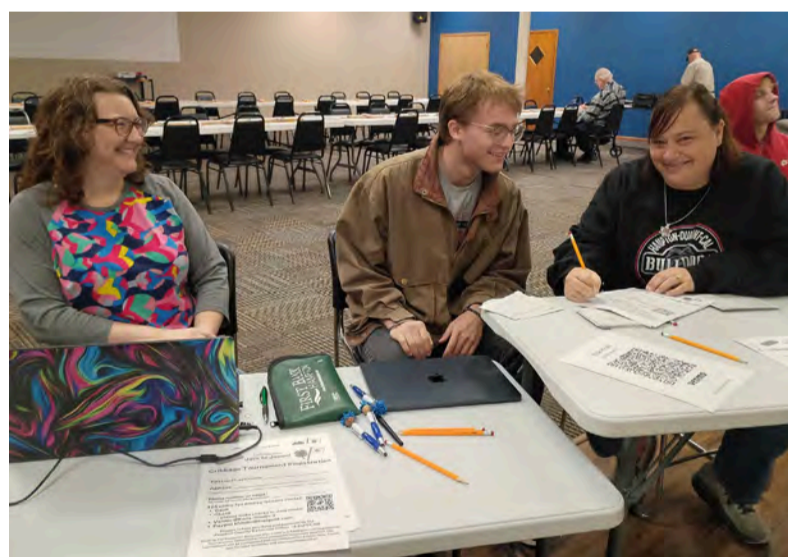
Kate and Jack Hindin take a break from a quick photo for the Chronicle.



Miles Duck and Nancy Richard excited to start playing.



A number of local businesses and individuals donated gifts, certificates and cash for Jack's cribbage tournament.



Mandy Strother, Isaac Vosburg and Alexis Vosburg ready to help people at the registration table.



Joslyn Stock with her parents, Marcia and Randy Burt, after a delicious lunch before cribbage kicks off.



Pizza, pizza and more pizza!



There were plenty of desserts and appetizers for those who stopped by.

RECORDS






PROPERTY TRANSFERS

Change of Title: Sarah A Perez Estate to Delbert J Perez; Hamp Orig Blk 46 Lot 6
Warranty Deed: Delbert J Perez to Joseph Perez Trustee, Krista Carlson Trustee, Mandy Chaney Trustee, Delbert J Perez Irrevocable Trust; Hamp Orig Blk 46 Lot 6
Change of Title: Vern T Lauffer Jr. Estate to Deanna L Lauffer; 28-93-20 NW SW Part, 6-92-20 Tract, Chap Chapin Station Beed's Lot 89, Chap Chapin Station Beed's Lot 90, Chap Chapin Station Beed's Lot 91, Chap Chapin Station Beed's Lot 92, Chap Chapin Station Beed's Lot 93, Chap Chapin Station Beed's Lot 94, Chap Chapin Station Beed's Lot 95, Chap Chapin Station Beed's Lot 96, Chap Chapin Station Beed's Lot 97
Quit Claim Deed: Deanna L Lauffer to Brandon M Lauffer; 28-93-20 NW SW Part
Affidavit of Transfer: Nicholas D Schoewe Manager, DKA Investments LLC, Fireside Investments LP to DKA Investments LLC; 29-93-19 E2 W2, 20-93-19 SW SE, 20-93-19 E2 SW, 20-93-19 SE NW, 29-93-19 W2 E2
Quit Claim Deed: Koch Aileen E Duvall Trustee, Aileen E Duvall Koch Trustee, Aileen E Duvall Koch Revocable Living Trust, Koch Aileen E Duvall Revocable Living Trust to Sherwin L Koch Trustee, Sherwin L Koch Revocable Living Trust; 10-92-22 NW NW Part Undiv 1/2 Int, 10-92-22 NW SW Part Undiv 1/2 Int, 10-92-22 SW NW Undiv 1/2 Int
Quit Claim Deed: Koch Aileen Duvall, Aileen Duvall Koch to Koch Lakes LLC; 18-92-21 NW NE Part
Change of Title: Susan M Symens Estate to Brian L Symens; 15-92-21 SE Part
Warranty Deed: SS&R Properties LLC to Coulter Apts LLC; Coul Coulter Original Town Blk 16 Lot 1 & 12 Including PT Row/Alley
Change of Title: Dana Marie Sanchez, Daniel Sanchez Solano, Daniel Solano Sanchez to Dana Marie Vanlangen; 6-91-20 SW Tract
Warranty Deed: Alejandro Vidal, Alejandro Gutierrez Vidal, Alejandro Vidal Gutierrez, Elsa Ynfanzon Da Presentacion to Alfonso Hernandez Jr., Maria L Machuca; Hamp Orig Blk 4 Lot 2 Part, Hamp Orig Blk 4 Lot 1

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Stories from Franklin County's Past: One of Hampton's First Physicians and The Builder of the Harriman-Nielsen House

BY CAROL SENSOR
FRANKLIN COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
VOLUNTEER

On June 28, 1882, a small article in the Franklin County Recorder stated: "Dr. O.B. Harriman's new residence at Evergreen Park is rapidly nearing completion. When finished, it will be a decided ornament to that part of our city." Dr. Harriman, known in the community as Oscar or O.B., purchased the land in 1881. The house Dr. Harriman built is known today as the Harriman-Nielsen Historic Farm. Today's article is about a young man who came to Hampton in 1865 and had a significant impact on the growing community.

Oscar Bryon Harriman's family story in the United States began in 1638 when his orphaned fifth-great-grandfather, Leonard, immigrated to Salem, Massachusetts, with a group of 60 Puritans led by Rev. Ezekiel Rogers. His great-grandfather, Moses, served in the Revolutionary War with Col. Samuel Johnson's regiment at Lexington. Moses' wife, Jane Hale, was the first cousin of famed revolutionary patriot Nathan Hale.

Oscar's father, John, was born in 1808 in Henniker, New Hampshire, and married Jane Colby in 1835. They had the following children: Oscar Byron, 1836; Edward, 1838; Walter Franklin, 1841; Henry, 1844; Clara, 1846; and Charlotte, 1848.

John and Jane with all their children except Oscar Byron came to Iowa in



Dr. Oscar Byron Harriman



Ellen Donavon Harriman



Ad for Harriman Hall

1860. They came by train to Dubuque and then by wagon to Rockford, Iowa, where they stopped at a large stone hotel. Having a large family and no house, John purchased the hotel where they lived for some time. John purchased land for each of his sons in Iowa. John died in Hampton in 1875; Jane died in Rockford in 1864. They are both buried in

Rockford in the cemetery created on land donated by John.

Before he left Warner, New Hampshire, in the early 1850s, Oscar taught school and was his town's superintendent at the age of 22. In 1857 he began medical training. Oscar was attending Dartmouth Medical College when his parents moved to Iowa. He took post-graduate

studies in New York and at the Chicago Polyclinic. For several months he was employed in the Federal Hospital Service at Keokuk and later practiced medicine in Rockford and Marble Rock.

He came to Hampton in 1865 and became a well-respected and sought-after physician.

Oscar's brothers, Henry and Walter, also came to

Hampton and had successful careers. Walter was an attorney, became State Senator, and was a candidate for Governor at one time. He served on the Iowa State Fair Board, served as county attorney, and was mayor of Hampton. Henry established a successful real estate business in Hampton. After his death, his widow, Helen, donated ten acres of land on the north side of Hampton for a park we all know as Harriman Park.

Oscar was a well-respected member of his profession and heavily involved in the development of Hampton. He was chosen president of the Franklin County Medical Society at its creation 1876. He was also a member of Austin Flint Medical Society, Iowa State Medical Society, Iowa State Association of Railway Surgeons, and the Board of Iowa State Medical Examiners (1895). He served as the county coroner six years, county physician for four years, and head of the Hampton Board of US Pension examiners.

O. B. Harriman was also an early civic leader in Hampton. He was the mayor of Hampton three times, served on the city council and was postmaster during President Grover Cleveland's first administration. In February of 1891, he, along with other town leaders, founded the Hampton Globe and was the senior editor of the paper. It was the first Democrat paper in Hampton. In 1892 he was a delegate to the National Democratic Convention. In lodge circles, he was prominent in the Masonic order, Knights Templar Commandery, and Odd Fellows.

In 1870, Dr. Harriman built Hampton's first drug store on Main Street east of the courthouse square. By the end of that decade, he built Harriman Hall on the corner of Main and Fourth streets, one of the most imposing buildings in town. The first floor was four storefronts wide and housed his offices. The second floor

held the Harriman Opera House, which seated 700 people and offered live performances each month. The block of buildings was called Harriman Hall. In addition, Dr. Harriman owned One-Mile Horse Track, where horse racing was a popular activity. The area is now the home of the high school football field and track.

On a personal level, he married Ellen J. Donavan in Maysville on April 13, 1868. She was a schoolteacher who was born in New York. Her mother, Minerva Hazeltine, lived with the Harriman family until her death in 1887.

Oscar and Ellen had the following children:

- John Edwin 1869
- Jennie Ellen 1870
- Dick 1872 - died at 1 1/2 years after a brief illness (June of 1873)
- Lillian 1875
- Lura 1876 - died March 21, 1885
- Vera 1879
- Dea 1880
- Oscar Byron 1882-Nov 1884
- Bessie March 1884 - died Sept of 1884

Ellen died on December 3, 1886. Dr. Harriman continued to live in the house he had built until his death on July 8, 1905 from a stroke. His funeral was held on the lawn of his home. It was so well attended that the funeral cortege was reported as five blocks long.

How do we remember this pioneer who was so instrumental in the development of Hampton?

O.B. Harriman was known as a man of knowledge, compassion, integrity, vision, humility and great strength. "While the house in Evergreen Park is the only surviving building associated with his productive life, Dr. Oscar Byron Harriman left an enduring legacy as a man who cared deeply about his community and dedicated his life to helping it grow and prosper." Brian Thies, FCHS Newsletter July 2011.

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CenturyLink participates in the Lifeline program, which makes residential telephone or qualifying broadband service more affordable to eligible low-income individuals and families. Eligible customers may qualify for Lifeline discounts of \$5.25/month for voice or bundled voice service or \$9.25/month for qualifying broadband or broadband bundles. Residents who live on federally recognized Tribal Lands may qualify for additional Tribal benefits if they participate in certain additional federal eligibility programs. The Lifeline discount is available for only one telephone or qualifying broadband service per household, which can be either a wireline or wireless service. Broadband speeds must be at least 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload to qualify.

A household is defined as any individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses. Services are not transferable, and only eligible consumers may enroll in these programs. Consumers who willfully make false statements to obtain these discounts can be punished by fine or imprisonment and can be barred from these programs.

If you live in a CenturyLink service area, visit <https://www.centurylink.com/aboutus/community/community-development/lifeline.html> for additional information about applying for these programs or call 1-800-201-4099 with questions.

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The Hampton Chronicle
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Garage Sale at First Congregational United Church of Christ

First Congregational United Church of Christ held their annual two-day garage sale on Friday and Saturday, selling everything from pillows and artwork to toys and clothing. There were plenty of baked goods, too. All proceeds will be used as general funds for the church, including building maintenance.



A customer checking out the games.



Sandy Eckhardt with Bumble Bees & Beyond.



Lynette Erickson with All Stacked Up.



Beth Bobenmoyer with Caring Farms.



Madison Bell with her array of products.



Julia Lutz with Happy Does Goat Milk Soap.



Patti Walker looking for fun finds.



Paula Meyer with their assortment of baked goods.



Pat O'Donnell excited for his homemade bread.



First Congregational United Church of Christ Pastors Peggy Allison and Karen Koenig.



Caroline Gyver and Kelli Masters with their collection of vintage finds.



Mary Barnes, Ella Butler and Becky Laipple.



There was no shortage of toys and school supplies.



Jolynne Husz with her canvas artwork.




Jolynne Husz's canvas artwork.



Kim Brocka with Kreative Images Made Special and Pat Sackville.



There was a little bit of everything at the garage sale, including home decor.



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Hampton Lions Hold Annual Pancake and Sausage Fundraiser

The Hampton Lions Club held their annual pancake and sausage supper on Thursday evening, Feb. 26. All proceeds will go towards supporting Lions projects, such as scholarships for area students and vision screenings for local children. Check out photos from their fundraiser.



Michelle Schaefer serving up seconds.



The Koenig family enjoying dinner.



Ron Hankom and Jan preparing the beverages and silverware.



Randy Sanders eager to chow down.



Randy DeVries flipping pancakes.



Susan Zacharias and Judy Hankom ready to serve breakfast for dinner.



Full after filling up on pancakes and sausages.



Larry Alquist, who was tasked with taking and selling tickets that evening.



Craig Semler pouring cups of coffee.



From left to right, Jim Zacharias, Michelle Schaefer, Jay Bushbaum, Todd Sabin, Bob Schaefer, Randy DeVries and Dustin Abbas.

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