

Briefs

Absentee voting underway for election

On Tuesday, November 4, voters will choose who will represent them in city government and on school boards. Also on ballots in three areas will be public measures regarding school funding and a hotel tax.

Those that would like to vote by absentee ballot can currently do so in person at auditor's offices, until Monday, November 3.

Polls will be open on election day, Tuesday, November 4, from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Winifred hosts murder mystery party Saturday

Waking Miss Winifred will hold a murder mystery party this Saturday, October 25, in the Beehive Ballroom above Worth Brewing.

The event, "Wanted in the Wild, Wild West," will include cocktails, appetizers, dinner, dessert and the show.

The interactive show will feature a murder mystery set in the Wild West.

Those taking part are encouraged to come in costume, including cowboy boots and hats.

Tickets are \$60 per person or \$300 for a table of six.

Those interested may call 641-390-0474 or go online to tinyurl.com/2w6s6rav.

Funds raised will go towards Hotel Winifred improvements.

Grafton hosts Halloween events

Grafton will host some haunting Halloween fun this Sunday, October 26, with events at the depot, trunk treating and trick or treating.

The Grafton Depot will

Grafton, see Page 2



The Week's

WEATHER

From
National Weather Service
Information

Date	Hi	Lo	Prec.
Mon. Oct. 13	65	43	
Tues. Oct. 14	54	47	0.28
Wed. Oct. 15	55	49	0.33
Thurs. Oct. 16	72	55	0.02
Fri. Oct. 17	74	51	
Sat. Oct. 18	65	43	0.02
Sun. Oct. 19	60	35	



N-K walks to stay healthy

Northwood-Kensett Elementary students started the month with an healthy activity, walking around or near their school. The Northwood-Kensett National Honor Society organized an event as a part of the Healthiest State Walk in Iowa. This was the 15th year of the event, where people across the state are invited to spend 30 minutes walking, as a way to start a habit of getting healthy exercise. At N-K, the 10 members of the NHS students joined elementary students to walk for half an hour at the school, at the fairgrounds and in between.

Northwood-Kensett school board discusses elem. roofing, state profile results

The Northwood-Kensett Elementary School building is in need of a new roof, as discussed by the school board at their October regular meeting. Also discussed was how the district staff will use recent state assessments to focus on student

learning.

Heavy rainfalls earlier this year reinforced the need for a project to address issues with the elementary building roofing.

The roof, in place for 26 years, with an expected

lifespan of 20 years, showed its age and issues when the summer's rainfall let to 27 leaks springing at one time in the building.

With that in mind, school representatives reached out to and met with roofing

N-K, see Page 2

New county office facility planning approved

The Worth County supervisors recently approved the beginning process for the construction of a new building for the offices of county departments.

At their meeting on October 13, the supervisors discussed an agreement with Veenstra & Kimm, an

engineering firm, for the design and engineering of an administration offices building project.

The building follows on a process that took place in 2021, where another company assessed county facilities, worked with county officials and held meetings

to give the public input on aspects of the project.

At that time, the FEH Design company had presented a recommendation for a \$14.1 million building, which would house county offices, sheriff's offices, jail and court facilities.

Facility, see Page 2

News from N-K - Therapy dogs at N-K

By Amy Hansen and Kelly Bowman

Northwood-Kensett school counselors

To understand how and why two therapy dogs grace the halls near-daily at Northwood-Kensett, you'd have to go back to an Iowa School Counselor's Conference in the fall of 2015.

Mrs. Amy Hansen sat in, mostly out of curiosity, on a session called "Therapy Dogs in the School Setting," in which a school counselor from Cedar Rapids Community Schools discussed their extensive therapy dog program. (Cedar Rapids, at the time, boasted an average of more than one therapy dog per school building.) Amy left with the guest speaker's words ringing in her head: "It's hard to measure or to explain, but if you

add a dog to your building, your school culture will improve."

When Amy considered getting a dog of her own, she did so under the scope of training her to be a therapy dog. After all, who doesn't want their school to be the best it can be? A counselor friend recommended a goldendoodle because of their happy, smart temperaments. When Bernice came to live in Northwood at eight weeks old, she only had about a month before she took her first Puppy Kindergarten class. It wasn't smooth sailing at first-- Bernice would rather socialize with the other people and dogs in class than to "Come!" on command. Eventually, Bernice passed her Canine Good Citizen test in Intermediate Obedience at

Canine, see Page 3



KELLY BOWMAN AND AMY HANSEN -NORTHWOOD-KENSETT SCHOOL COUNSELORS

Supervisors approve bond for construction projects

In a meeting on October 15, the supervisors approved the funding source for the county's new conservation, engineer and secondary roads buildings.

The County purchased a building and nearby farmland at the end of 2023 and start of 2024. The building is being renovated to become a new facility for Worth County Conservation. The farmland is the site for a new office building shared between the County's conservation and engineer/secondary roads departments, as well as a new secondary roads facility.

Plans and construction bids for the new office building and roads building were approved at the July 28 supervisors meeting.

Bond, see Page 2

Council discusses stop sign, street light power, pool finances

At their October 13 regular meeting, the Northwood city council discussed a new stop sign, keeping street lights on and the financial results of the past summer's pool season.

The Worth County Sheriff's Office brought a recommendation for a stop sign near the north entrance to the Northwood-Kensett Middle/High School, next to the new Knudtson Automotive building.

The stop sign would help alleviate traffic concerns on

Seventh Street North, the road that travels in front of the school.

In recent years, the school redirected the flow of traffic, with the entrance on the north side of the campus. With the construction of the new automotive building, and the nearby Dollar General store, there are visibility concerns for those turning onto Seventh Street, and for young people that will become drivers in the next few years.

There are currently no

Council, see Page 2

Ashland exhibits at Gallery 818 Friday

This Friday, October 24, Gallery 818 in downtown Northwood will host an exhibit featuring the art of Marlyn Ashland.

Ashland is a Northwood

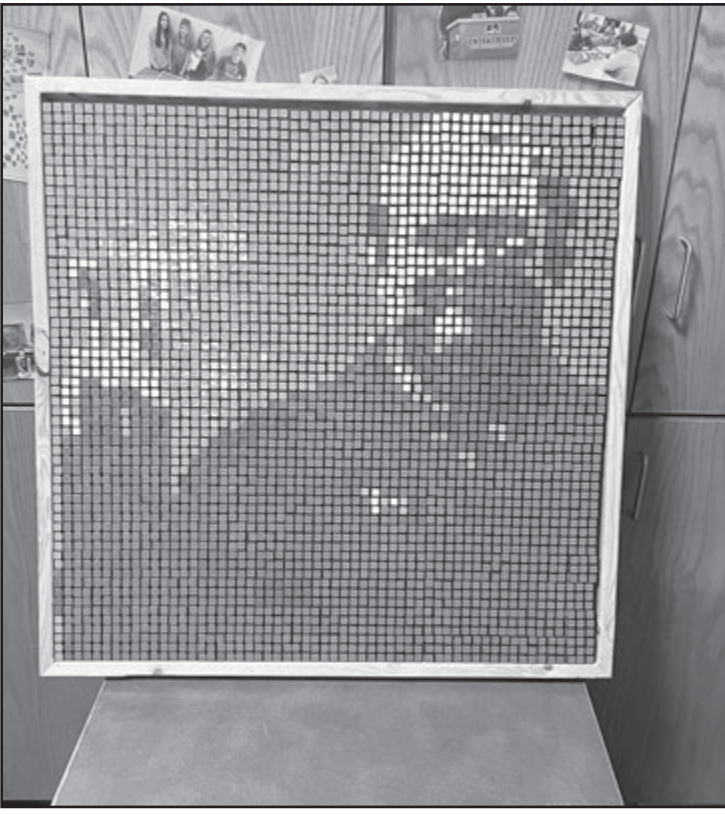
native who survived a football injury that resulted in a staph infection that left him with stroke-like side effects, including the limited

Ashland, see Page 2



A cubical creation

Northwood-Kensett Middle School students once again created a cubical tribute to one of their teachers. The students began with an image of social studies teacher Cade Hengesteg and plotted how to recreate that picture with Rubik's cubes. The students twisted 400 cubes into the right shapes to make the image pictured at right. Pictured above with Mr. Hengesteg, the real one and the cubed version, are (from left) Graham Holstad, Brooks Fierova, Gabe Hulshizer, Jonah Trenhaile, Max Rugland and Kendall Krull.



N-K Cont. from Page 1

companies to take a look at the elementary's condition and to get an idea of how to best fix the building's issues.

Besides repairing, covering or potentially replacing the roofing, the district is also considering installing a solar energy system.

Walt Jordan, with dGen, a company that offers roofing and solar options, explained the early processes offered by his company to help advise the district about how extensive their roofing project should be.

Jordan described the tests that would be done to find out how well a new roof coating could adhere to the existing roof, scan for moisture to see if roofing materials would need to be replaced, core tests to determine how extensive the roof is damaged by age and elements and a pull test, to determine the best way to attaching solar infrastructure to the roof.

Jordan said his company would perform the tests for \$3,000, which would be waived if they were hired for the overall roofing project.

Jordan said that the tests would help the district consider which approach would be best and to look for cost savings, whether coating, resurfacing or replacing the roof.

With any of the options expected to be over \$209,000, by state law the district will need to hire an architecture firm to advise and guide the process.

The architect requirement was not an issue, with board members and administrators agreeing it would

help them look at the specifications and compare bids for the project when the time comes.

If the district proceeds with the solar project for the roof, the project would have to proceed with a timeline to meet clean energy credits, which are set to expire sooner than had been planned, due to changes in the federal "One Big Beautiful Bill Act."

To qualify for the energy incentives, the district will have to have spent at least 5% of the project's construction costs by July 2026. The district will have until December 2027 to have permission from the local utility, Alliant, to operate the system.

Superintendent Tony Hiatt said the district would look to use PPEL funds to pay for the project.

Hiatt also said that the district could benefit from the utility savings from having solar in place to help offset general fund concerns for the future.

Elementary principal Brian Costello and secondary principal Keith Fritz talked about the results of the State School Performance Profile.

The profiles are compiled using data from a number of sources, including statewide student testing.

Both school buildings received the "acceptable" designation based on their scores. The middle/high school remained on a list of districts with "targeted" support due to the difference in scores between all students and students with

disabilities.

The elementary school met or exceeded the state average in growth in mathematics and proficiency in math. N-KMHS met or exceeded the state in attendance growth; graduation rates; language arts, science and math proficiency; and post-secondary readiness and work-based learning.

The elementary fell below state averages in attendance growth, chronic absenteeism, growth in language arts and proficiency in language arts.

The elementary was at nearly the state average in proficiency in science. N-KMHS fell below the state average in mathematics growth and language arts growth.

Costello noted that while the district uses the results to look at potential areas to improve, the profile is based on one week of testing and may not accurately reflect student performance as a whole.

According to Hiatt, new tools are available this year from the State to help districts look at the data in the profiles, and help determine why certain students or groups of students are testing lower, and how to help them improve.

Hiatt also said that growth would be a focus for the district, based on the results. He said that it is great to have students proficient in their subjects, but as a district they want to see more of their students growing in those subjects based on their time in classrooms.

Bond Cont. from Page 1

The shared building would include offices, break rooms and meeting and conference spaces for Worth County Conservation and Secondary Roads.

The secondary roads maintenance building would include areas for vehicle washing and maintenance, labs, showers and other areas that would be adapted for a variety of uses.

The projects are underway and have a completion date of October 2026.

At the July meeting, the supervisors approved bids of \$1,335,655 for the construction of the office building and \$2,857,181 for the secondary roads maintenance building project. For the two new construction projects, the total would be \$4,192,836. The bid for the renovation of the shed adjacent to the two new buildings was \$855,000. That was a total of \$5,047,836 for all three projects.

At their meeting on October 15, the supervisors discussed and approved a resolution to borrow up to \$6 million.

The area has been added to the County's Urban Renewal Plan. That would allow the county to use money that has been borrowed and could be borrowed against future property tax revenue on wind turbines in the county.

Facility Cont. from Page 1

Since then, a number of changes and other projects have progressed, which decreases the scope and estimated price of the of administrative offices project.

At the time in 2021, the project could have included space for more county departments, including conservation, engineering, jail and deputy spaces.

In early 2024, Worth County began an agreement with Mitchell County to house inmates. While Worth County still has a need for temporary inmate cells, the jail at the full size of the current facility may not be necessary.

Also in 2024, the County purchased a building and nearby land to renovate and build new conservation and engineer/secondary road buildings.

The building has been renovated for use by the Conservation department.

Construction is in the beginning stages for a shared office building for the County engineer, secondary roads and conservation departments. Also under construction is a secondary roads equipment/vehicle facility.

Once the conservation department moves to its new facilities, the plan is for the current buildings to be repurposed to house other departments' vehicles and equipment.

The current conservation office would also be used as a new location for the Worth County Sheriff's deputies.

With the construction and relocation of other

Council Cont. from Page 1

stop signs at the intersections on Seventh Street north of Fifth Avenue North.

With that in mind, Sheriff Jesse Luther and deputies recommended that a stop sign be placed on Eighth Avenue North, near Knudtson Auto, along Seventh Street.

The council agreed. Stop sign locations require an update to the City's ordinances, including up to three readings. The first reading would appear at a future meeting.

City superintendent Dirk Van Ryswyk shared an update on why some of the city's downtown streetlights were not remaining on all night long. They have been going on after 5 p.m. and turning off around 11 p.m.

Van Ryswyk said that there are problems with outdated timers. While they have been replaced, they are losing power.

Van Ryswyk said that Alliant Energy was set to look at the issue.

Northwood Electric had also recommended that the boxes with the timers be redone, and to replace the timers with sensors that would turn the lights on from sun down to sunrise.

The council also received a look at the 2025 pool sea-

son's financial results.

Northwood's pool, like most public pools, once again operated at a loss for the year. However, the net loss was lower than in recent years.

Part of this year's decreased net loss came with the highest receipts since the pool opened.

This year, the pool brought in \$33,001 in admissions and \$6,750 in swim lessons, the highest totals for each in 10 years. The pool received \$14,068.15 in concessions this year, the highest since 2022, and the third highest in 10 years.

Total receipts in 2025 were \$53,819.15. That was up \$6,605.7 or 13.99% from 2024.

Pool expenses were down from last year, totaling \$113,534.81. That was down \$1,150.33 from last year.

Expenses were up from last year in four categories, salaries, repairs, supplies and utilities.

While admissions were up for the year, season ticket sales were down slightly from last year, with 116 sold in 2024 and 113 sold in 2025.

There were 15 less family season tickets and 1 less individual. There were 5 more aerobics season tickets, 3 more nanny and 5 more punch passes sold this year.

Grafton Cont. from Page 1

host Halloween activities from 4-6:30 p.m. That will include games, spooky tunes, hot dogs and drinks.

The Reptile Zoo will be at the Depot from 4:30-6:30 p.m.

There will also be a pumpkin carving contest, with prizes for kids in different age groups, as well as adults. Pre-carved pumpkins should be taken to the depot by 4 p.m.

From 5-7 p.m., area businesses and people from the area are invited to decorate the trunk of their vehicles and taken them to Main Street for Trunk or Treating.

Other trick or treating at homes in Grafton will also take place from 5-7 p.m.

Ashland Cont. from Page 1

use of the right side of his body. Ashland is also blind in one eye.

Ashland's limited sight and mobility have given him a unique perspective that he credits for his unique approach to his art.

Ashland has lived in Clear Lake for most of his life, but will return to his hometown for the upcoming exhibit.

Ashland has donated a number of artworks to raise funds for Art Farm Iowa. That includes paintings, drawings, landscapes, sketchbooks, greeting cards and more.

"Prodigal Son: The Art of Marlyn Ashland," at Gallery 818 in downtown Northwood, will be open this Friday, October 24, from 5-7 p.m.

October SPECIALS

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Elementary students are Character Strong

The Northwood-Kensett Elementary held its first assembly of the year at the end of September. Each month during the school year, the school will recognize traits that make students Character Strong. Teachers submit students to be recognized when they display that trait. The students are then selected randomly to be Students of the Month and play a game during the monthly Character Strong assembly. This year, fifth grade students are helping counselor Kelly Bowman organize the games. September's Assembly Ambassadors were Peyton Lichman, Ruby Hanson, Caleb Heiken, and Lane Brown. Selected as students of the month were Ava Wurtzel, Millie Patterson, Stella Dagestad, Tatum Gordon, Colson Anderson, Piper Lichman, Jace Bachtle, Cambry Schulz, Henry Robb, Cambria Schreiber, Athena Modica, Evan Krull, Kole Moretz, Travis Heiken and Ellery Hanna.



Canine Cont. from Page 1

the Freeborn County Kennel Club and subsequently passed her Alliance of Therapy Dogs Therapy Dog test in Rochester, Minnesota.

That was a week before the COVID-19 pandemic put the state of Iowa into a lockdown. In an uncertain world, The Alliance of Therapy dogs asked handlers and their dogs to cease therapy visits for a while, because no one was sure how the illness spread, and they weren't sure if people could get sick from petting the same dog as an infected person, so Bernice's school appearances were delayed. She did make a few visits in times of school crisis, where she showed her ability to calm students that no human could rival.

Bernice made her "official" debut school appearance in the first days of school in the fall of 2021. Immediately, she was a popular part of students' school experience, evidenced by comments like, "I love that our school has a dog!" or "Bernice is my favorite." Bernice regularly visits with up to 100 students per day, whether that's in the

school counseling office, in the hallways and student center, a classroom or in study hall. Bernice is now in her fifth year at N-K; she still runs to put on her therapy vest every morning, and looks disappointed if she can't go to school with Mrs. Hansen.

Ms. Kelly Bowman's journey to becoming a school counselor began in 2013 while she was pursuing a teaching degree in secondary ELA/reading. While completing her student teaching placements at the end of her schooling, she began wishing she would have gone for school counseling instead of teaching. As much as she loved being in the classroom, she found that forming deeper connections with students and helping them in times of crisis were what she was most passionate about. Ms. Bowman's first child was born a few months later and, due to a lack of child care options, she opened a licensed in-home daycare. Over the next 10 years, she raised three children and continued running the daycare business, but school counseling never left her

mind.

Ms. Bowman returned to school once again and received her MSEd in professional school counseling in May 2025. She began her career at N-K Elementary during her final year of grad school. When she heard about Bernice, she was excited and happy that the district had implemented a therapy dog! Ms. Bowman began thinking about how her own dog, a golden retriever named Chloe, would make a great candidate for the elementary building, due to her calm and gentle temperament. In Ms. Bowman's daycare, Chloe could always be found snuggled up to a child, especially if they were upset. After discussing the process with Mrs. Hansen and receiving admin. and board approval, Ms. Bowman began taking the necessary steps to get Chloe certified. Over the next couple months, Chloe obtained her Canine Good Citizen and certification with Alliance of Therapy Dogs (the same two certifications that Bernice holds).

Chloe's journey to becoming a therapy dog started

out a little differently than Bernice's. Ms. Bowman met Chloe in 2019 when she was three years old and belonged to a mini goldendoodle breeder. Ms. Bowman's veterinarian had asked if she would be interested in having Chloe live with them as part of the breeder's guardian home program (Chloe would still belong to the breeder, but would live with Ms. Bowman whenever she wasn't having puppies). When Ms. Bowman arrived at the farm to meet her, Chloe ran out of the barn, leaned against Ms. Bowman's legs, and rolled over for a belly rub. She went home with Ms. Bowman that day and the rest is history. When Chloe turned five years old, she retired from breeding and became a permanent member of Ms. Bowman's family.

How do Chloe and Bernice improve the quality of life at Northwood-Kensett? Day-to-day, they make people smile, whether it is students, teachers, or other staff. Dogs are always doing funny, cute things, and these dogs are no exception. If a person is having a rough day, they can usually

get turned around with a quick visit with Bernice or Chloe. As Mrs. Hansen often says, "It's hard to be upset when you are petting a happy dog." A well-behaved dog has the ability to bring down stress levels in a roomful of people and one-to-one. The N-K therapy dogs demonstrate this on a regular basis and our buildings just wouldn't be the same without them!

Each year, elementary and sixth grade students and parents receive a short presentation on how to best interact with the therapy dog in their school. All other secondary students view a refresher video. Students are not required to interact with either dog and an "opt out" option is also shared with all parents in the event they do not want their child to have close contact. If parents elect to opt their student out of our therapy dog program, the dogs will not be led up to them for interaction, but they may still occasionally see the dog in common areas of the building.

It is no surprise that Bernice and Chloe have inspired other therapy dog

programs in the area! Both Forest City and St. Ansgar educators have contacted Northwood-Kensett to learn more about certifying a therapy dog for their respective schools. Students from both Central Springs and Lake Mills have contacted Mrs. Hansen for project proposals trying to bring a therapy dog to their schools. Aside from their work in the N-K schools, Bernice and Chloe also regularly visit the Lutheran Retirement Home in Northwood, where, as you can imagine, they receive lots of love and affection from both the residents and staff. Seeing their dogs brighten the faces of people young and old over the years has brought Ms. Bowman and Mrs. Hansen so much joy!

If you have questions about the therapy dogs at Northwood-Kensett or would like to schedule a time to meet them, you can reach out to either Kelly Bowman or Amy Hansen to learn more. Thank you for your continued support of N-K students' mental health and well-being.

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Displaying CharacterStrong Curriculum: Respect

By Troy Einertson,
Northwood-Kensett
fourth grade teacher

In a time when kindness and respect can sometimes be overlooked, one student is standing out for all the right reasons. Kole Mortz, who is a fourth grade student in Mr. Einertson's fourth grade, has become a role model in the school for his unwavering respect toward teachers, classmates and school staff.

This month Kole and the rest of our class have been working on respect in our CharacterStrong Curriculum.

The kids have spent the majority of their time working on conflict resolutions, and talking about the Tree of Choices. We discussed how there is always a Root to the problem: Is it a big problem or a small problem? The Heart of the Problem: This is where we name our problem, and finally the Branches of the problem: This is where you make a choice of how you will handle the problem. You can either Talk it Out, Breathe it Out, or Move it out.

The class went through numerous scenarios on how to handle problems, and practiced the choices that they could make. We also talked about ways to show respect to others.

Kole is one of those kids who understands what it means to be respectful. Whether it's working in groups, participating in class discussions or just eating lunch in the lunchroom, Kole makes sure his classmates feel valued and included. Kole always listens when others speak. He never interrupts, never puts anyone down, and always encourages others. It makes a huge difference in how our classroom feels every day.

When I talked to other kids about Kole they all said the same thing. He treats everyone the same, plays with anyone and everyone at recess and he always says nice things when others are nervous to answer in class. Kole makes you feel like your ideas matter. His respectful attitude has had a ripple effect in class. More students are working together, arguments have decreased, and the overall classroom energy is more positive and cooperative.

At a recent school assembly, Kole was recognized with the CharacterStrong Respect Student of the Month award not just for his grades or achievements, but for the way he consistently uplifts and respects others. His story reminds us that respect isn't just a rule, it's a choice we make every day, and one that can truly change a classroom, one classmate at a time.



KOLE MORETZ



Strong character at N-K Middle School

Every month students at Northwood-Kensett Middle School are recognized as Character Strong Students of the Month. The students are chosen by teachers based on a different character trait each month. In September, that was being trustworthy. The Students of the Month were Olivia Urbatsch, Rylann Risvold, Henry Houg, Hayzelei Henderson, Erica Heims, Nora Hanna, Ryder Duvall, Lola Cronbaugh, Isabel Butler, Callan Brunsvold, and Baylor Abrams.

Opening Reception

Prodigal son: The Art of Marlyn Ashland



Friday, October 24 • 5 to 7 p.m.
Gallery 818
818 Central Ave., Northwood, IA

Overcoming the odds to become a successful artist, former resident Marlyn Ashland will have his first exhibit in Northwood.

Artworks have been donated by Marlyn Ashland in support of Art Farm Iowa and are affordably available.

Thanks to Marlyn Ashland and to the collaboration with the Clear Lake Arts Center.

For information, call Steve Hanson at 602-430-7246.



Iowa's Low-Income Telephone & Broadband Assistance Programs

Programs are available in Iowa offering discounted phone and Broadband service if a subscriber or member of the subscriber's household meets certain qualifying criteria. This program is also called "Lifeline".

An application must be completed along with proof of participation in one of the qualifying programs and sent to Winnebago Cooperative Telecom Association.

The Low-Income program offers discounts of up to \$9.25 per month depending on the rate of your local phone company. See Winnebago Cooperative Telecom Association for an application form.

Qualifying Criteria for Low-Income Program

An individual is eligible if he or she participates in one of the following programs:

- Federal Public Housing Assistance
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Medicaid
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Tribal Programs
- Veterans & Survivors Pension Benefit

In addition, a consumer may be eligible if his or her household income is at or below 135% of the federal poverty guidelines. You may only receive low-income assistance from one wireline or wireless telephone, or one broadband service provider per household. See Winnebago Cooperative Telecom Association at 704 East Main St., Lake Mills, IA 50450 (800-592-6105) for Iowa guidelines.



800-592-6105 www.wctatel.net

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N-K FALL SPORTS



N-K Football Team

Members of the Northwood-Kensett Football team include (front row, from left) Tegan Trenhaile, Owen Binnebose, Tucker Duvall, Aden Overson, Tyce Helgeson, Bryck Abrams, Weston Willand, (second row) Henry Hanson, Gabe Aleman, Weston Heims, Haven Thompson, Quinton Butler, Brady Tufte, Aydan Schutz, Jaxon Reyerson, Kolton Robinson, (third row) Alex Tiedemann, assistant coach Tristan Rothove, assistant coach Christian Miller, coach Cade Hengesteg, assistant coach Trevor Hunt, assistant coach Ryan Parker, Hazin Jacobson, Brekken Haberman, (back row) Alec Ducommun, Brady Christianson, Carson Tufte, Dominic Mueller, Max Johnson, Bowan Behne and Bronson Ducommun.

2025 N-K JV Football Team

Members of the Northwood-Kensett Junior Varsity Football team include Bryck Abrams, Gabriel Aleman, Dominick Authier, Owen Binnebose, Tucker Duvall, Brekken Haberman, Henry Hanson, Weston Heims, Tyce Helgeson, Max Johnson, Joshua Leerar, Aidan Ouverson, Kris Quam, Jaxon Ryerson, Aydan Schutz, Haven Thompson, Tegan Trenhaile and Brady Tufte.



N-K Cheerleading Squad

Members of the Northwood-Kensett Cheerleading Squad include (front row, from left) Ashlyn Skellenger, Sophie Rye, Sophia Butler, Camryn Rheingans, Lexis McHenry, (back row) Ivy Toresdahl, True Hackenmiller, Kenly Solberg, Madeline Christianson and Maggie Rye.



N-K Volleyball Team

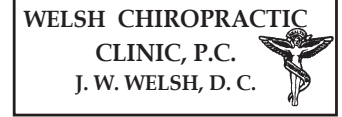
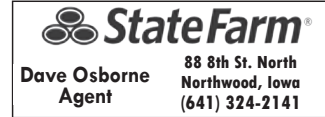
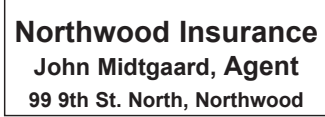
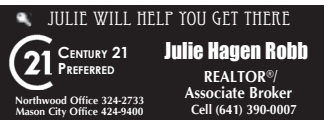
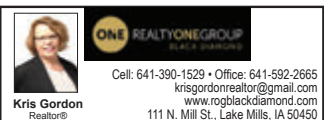
Members of the Northwood-Kensett Volleyball team include (front row, from left) True Hackenmiller, Sophia Butler, (middle row) Mia Fierova, Ashlyn Skellenger, Kenly Solberg, Camryn Rheingans, Sophia Rye, (back row) Hallie Hanson, coach Sam Hunt, coach Ashley Haxton and Kenedie Berry.



N-K Cross Country Team

Members of the Northwood-Kensett Cross Country team include (front row, from left) Madeline Christianson, Ivy Urbatsch, Maggie Rye, Merrin Hanson, (back row) Landon Nelson, Dagen Peterson, Jacob Thomas, Ayden Clark and Zachary Heiken.

These businesses support you all the way!





An apple one day

Northwood-Kensett kindergarten classes recently traveled to the Otter Creek Orchard to learn about the apples and other favorites they grow there, including pumpkins and sunflowers. The students took a wagon ride to see the trees, patches and fields before they played, enjoyed lunch and apple donuts. They ended the day picking an apple to take back to the school with them.



Northwood Anchor

Fertile Lutheran Church

Sunday, Worship Service, 9:30 a.m., Sunday School & Confirmation, 10:30 a.m.

Bethlehem Lutheran, Manly

Wednesday, WAGS, 5:30 p.m., Confirmation at Elk Creek, 5:30 p.m.; Saturday, Men's Group at Bethlehem, 8 a.m., Family Game Night at Bethlehem, 4 p.m.; Sunday, Grace Worship, Bethlehem Adult Bible Study, Sunday School at Bethlehem, 9 a.m., Bethlehem Worship, 10:30 a.m., WAGS Wednesdays at Grace School, Meal, 5:30 p.m., Lesson, 6 p.m., Confirmation at Bethlehem, Reformation Sunday wear red; Monday, WIC at Bethlehem, 9 a.m. - Noon

Bethany Lutheran Church/Elk Creek Lutheran

Thursday, Manna, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m., Elk Creek Quilting; Thursday, Elk Creek Quilting; Sunday, Bethany Service, 9 a.m., Elk Creek Service, 10:30 a.m., Bethany WELCA after Worship; Monday, Manna Open, 9 a.m. - Noon

Linda Johnson Prestholt, Pastor

Trinity United Methodist, Bolan

Sunday, Worship Services, 9:15 a.m., Coffee Fellowship, 10 a.m.

Bethel United Methodist Church

Wednesday, Diner, 8:30 a.m., WOW Mini Choir, 4:30 p.m., Mini Bells, 5 p.m., Meal, 5:15, Worship, 5:50 p.m., Activities, 6:05 p.m., Confirmation, 6:30 p.m., JuBELLee Ringers, 6:15 p.m., Adult Choir, 7 p.m., HS Youth Group; Thursday, Pastor at Circuit, 9 a.m., Pastor at Transformational Church Gathering, Girl Scouts; Sunday, Bethel Worship, 8 a.m., Trinity Worship 9:15 a.m., Sunday School, 9:15 a.m., Bethel Worship, 10:30 a.m., Frog & Toad Party

Northwood United Methodist Church

Wednesday, N-K Early Out Program; Sunday, Worship Service, 10:45 a.m., Fellowship,

Church

11:45 a.m.; Tuesday, Pastor Fellowship Grothe's Diner, 10 a.m.

Rev. Rob Lanphere

One In Christ Lutheran Parish

Sunday, Worship Services 10:30 a.m. available online at "One in Christ Lutheran Parish" Facebook Page and YouTube under "One in Christ Lutheran Parish." Sunday Worship Services, 9 a.m., Silver Lake, 705 Silver Lake Rd., Northwood, 641-293-5556; 9 a.m., Bethany, 201 Franke St., Joice, 641-588-3366; 9 a.m., Lunder, 14982 735th Ave., Albert Lea; 10:30 a.m., Winnebago, 40029 210th Ave., Lake Mills.

First Lutheran Church, Northwood

Wednesday, Confirmation, 4 p.m., Inspire, 6:15 p.m., Choir, SH Youth, 7 p.m.; Thursday, Quilting, 8:30 a.m., Prayer Group, 9 a.m., Taekwondo, 6:30 p.m.; Sunday, Service with N.O., 9 a.m., Sunday School, 10:10 a.m., DCV, 10:30 a.m., JH Youth, 6:30 p.m., Couples Session, 6:30 p.m.; Tuesday, Staff Meeting, 1 p.m., AA-Al-Anon, 7 p.m.

Peace Lutheran Church, Northwood

Sunday Worship Service with Holy Communion at 9 a.m., Adult Bible Study and Children's Sunday School following service.

Rev. Barbara M. Wills, Pastor

Sacred Heart Church, Manly

Mass Wednesday, 8 a.m.; Mass Saturday, 5:30 p.m.

Fr. Dave O'Connor, Pastor

Fr. Ben Valentine, Associate Pastor

www.sacredheartmanly.org

Faith Lutheran Church, London

Sunday School and Adult Bible Class, 9:30 a.m. (Fall through Spring); Sunday, Worship, 10:30 a.m.

Pastor Kent Otterman

First Shell Rock Lutheran Church, Northwood

Sunday, Worship Service,

10:45 a.m.

Pastor Theodore Gullixson

Iowa voters cautioned of fraudulent election messages

Iowa Secretary of State Paul Pate released the following statement regarding an emerging situation in multiple Iowa counties:

"My office is aware of reports that an individual or group is sending mass texts to Iowa residents impersonating local elected officials and candidates. These messages are not authentic and were not sent by the officials or candidates named.

The reported impersonated messages read:

Hello, [NAME]. I'm [NAME], your [CITY NAME] [GOVERNMENT ROLE OR

OFFICE SOUGHT], and I'm listening to residents about what matters most in our community. What issues do you think should be our top priority? Reply with your thoughts or text STOP to opt out.

Impersonating public officials and candidates is unacceptable and must stop immediately. We have advised the county auditor's offices to report to local law enforcement.

Iowa voters should remain vigilant about messages claiming to be from officials or candidates. With the contin-

ued rise of election-related misinformation, we remind Iowans to always verify information through trusted sources: the Iowa Secretary of State's Office or your local county auditor.

I also want to remind Iowans that it is election season, and candidates are also conducting legitimate outreach. Legitimate outreach from candidates and pollsters will not ask for sensitive information. We urge Iowans not to provide sensitive information over text, and if making plans to donate, to navigate separately to the candi-

date's official donation channels. If Iowans have any questions, we encourage them to turn to trusted sources of information and reach out directly to campaigns to validate any outreach.

Iowans who receive suspected messages appearing to be impersonations should immediately report them to local law enforcement, their county auditor's office, and our office at elections@sos.iowa.gov.

Confirmed reports have come from Franklin, Johnson, and Madison Counties at the time of distribution.

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Enjoying the Little Things

Many find the imagery of fall to be quite comforting, whether it be the colorful leaves falling from trees or bountiful pumpkin patches and apple farms. During these times, we should truly learn to appreciate the comfort we may receive from little things like a crisp fall breeze or a fall weekend trip with family or friends. We should also make a habit of taking account of all the little things we appreciate in our lives, generally. Fall is a great time to begin this habit when considering the season's nature. Depending on where one lives, the fall may be a time of calm before regular snowfall is encountered, which may make some feel a bit dreary. If someone lives in a climate that has a high temperature all year round, one may find comfort in the fall as a brief period away from this strong heat. For these reasons, the fall works as a great frame of reference for why we should appreciate the little things in life, while also functioning as a great starting point to make this a habit. - James Stone



I know that there is nothing better for people than to be happy and to do good while they live. That everyone may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all their toil - this is the gift of God. - Ecclesiastes 3:12-13 (NIV)

The Sponsors of this feature do so with the hope that more people will attend the church of their choice on a weekly basis

TERRY AND JOANNE STEINMETZ

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Cook Bookin'

We may live without poetry, music and art; We may live without conscience and live without heart; We may live without friends; we may live without books; But a civilized man cannot live without cooks.
Bulwer Lytton,
Edward Robert

by Sandy Olson



To contact Sandy Olson for comments or suggestions, please email her at: midwestfoodie@gmail.com

Hope Community Church in Dallas is a non-denominational congregation. They were formed to give people a place to worship God who might not otherwise attend church or feel welcome there. Inspired Recipes from Hope Community Church (2000, Cookbook Publishers Inc., Lenexa, Kansas) was a fundraiser project. I love church and community recipe collections as they are always home cooks very best efforts. The following recipes are adapted from the chapter titled “Main Dishes.” Notice the Southwestern flavors!

Fideo Mexicano (Mexican Vermicelli)

NOTE: in Mexican grocery stores you can find packages of fideo pasta that is perfect for this dish.

- 1 package (5oz) Fideo vermicelli OR 5 oz. angel hair pasta broken in half to it will fit into the skillet
- 3 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 2 cups water
- ½ large yellow onion, chopped
- ½ teaspoon garlic powder
- ½ green bell pepper, chopped
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1 can (8oz) tomato sauce
- ½ teaspoon black pepper
- Dash of ground cumin

In a large, heavy skillet, heat the oil. Brown the vermicelli, stirring frequently as it will brown quickly. Add the chopped onion and bell pepper. Sauté well, again stirring to avoid burning. Add the remaining ingredients and bring to a boil. Cover and simmer for 8-10 minutes. Serves 6 as a side dish. NOTE: you can substitute chicken broth for the water to give a heartier flavor if desired.

Chipotle Black Bean Chili..Spicy!

- 1 teaspoon olive oil
- ¼ teaspoon black pepper
- 1 cup finely chopped yellow onion
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- 6 large garlic cloves, chopped
- 2 tablespoons chili powder
- 2 cans (15oz each) black beans

Canned chipotle in adobo sauce
2 cans (14.5oz each) chopped green chiles

NOTE: the green chiles are usually sold in 4oz cans so use 4 of them to approximate the 2 larger cans.

Drain and rinse the black beans. Mince enough canned chipotle in adobo sauce to make 1 teaspoon. IF you like really spicy chili, use more to taste and include some of the sauce. Heat the oil in a large, heavy saucepan over medium-high heat. Add the onion and garlic. Gently sauté until tender; don't let the garlic burn as it will ruin the dish. Add the chili powder and stir it in, letting it cook for a few seconds. Add the remaining ingredients. Bring the chili to a boil, reduce heat, cover and let it simmer for 15 minutes. Makes 4 servings.

South-Of-The-Border Chicken Sopa

- 4 boneless, skinless chicken breasts
- 2 cans Rotel® tomatoes, original
- 1 pound sharp Cheddar, shredded
- 1 large yellow onion, minced
- 1 package (12 count) corn tortillas

Cut the tortillas into quarters. Gently simmer (poach) the chicken breasts in some chicken broth until tender. When cooled, shred it and set aside. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Grease a 9x13-inch baking dish and put in a layer of some of the tortilla pieces. Top with chicken, then cheese, some onions and some of the canned tomatoes with chilies. Repeat the layers until the dish is filled. Top with extra cheese; you can also use a Mexican blend for the top layer. Bake for 1 hour.

Having spent 15 winters in deep South Texas, I really enjoy the flavor and ingredients used in this style of cooking. Green chiles are usually milder than reds. Either way the flavor of chiles, not the heat, is what stands out in recipes that use them. A visit to a Mexican grocery store is a major adventure even if I don't purchase much. And...that's all she wrote.

Northwood Anchor

Society



Speaking for 4-H

The Northwood-Kensett Middle School classes recently welcomed visitors there to tell them about 4-H. There to speak to the students were Addyson Runde (pictured), Paige McClure and Worth County Extension Education Specialist Dennis Johnson. They talked about the programs, activities and opportunities presented in 4-H, and gave the students information about how to join.



Pumpkins for kindergartners

Northwood-Kensett kindergarten students took home a fall staple recently, courtesy of Knudson Automotive Services. Students in Mrs. Landers' kindergarten class are pictured with their pumpkins.

Reconnect 720 hosts maid rite lunch

Reconnect 720, Northwood's senior center, at 720 Central Avenue in Northwood will be hosting a maid rite lunch on Sunday, November 2.

Serving will begin on Sunday, November 2 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. or until gone.

Besides the maid rites there will be a pasta salad, cole slaw and delicious bars for dessert.

Reconnect 720 organizers hope to make the meal an annual event for everybody in the community.

When arriving, people will drive up, place an order

and they will run a lunch out to people.

A free will offering will be accepted.

Proceeds will go to support the many activities available for those over 60 years young at Reconnect 720.

18th Annual Crop for the Cure

Nearly 100 women from southern Minnesota and northern Iowa will be scrapbooking and card-making their way to finding a cure for cancer at the 18th Annual “Crop for the Cure.”

This year's event is slated for November 7-9 at the Carpenter Community Center. Over the last 17 years, this crafty, memorable weekend has raised more than \$168,000 for the Lyle Area Cancer organization, a non-profit that raises money for cancer research.

“Our goal is to reach the \$185,000 milestone this year!”

Those interested may register by visiting the Facebook page, call or

email one of the coordinators listed on the fundraiser event flyer. The updated T-shirt add-on deadline is October 23. There are options to attend one, two or three days. Wi-Fi will be available for digital scrapbooking or organizing photos.

“Join us, bid on silent auctions and come out to get organized and enjoy yourself surrounded by friends, family, fun, and memories!”

The Crop for the Cure Facebook Page can be found online at www.facebook.com/CropfortheCureLAC.

Donations are requested for he silent auction. Another way to support the event is donating to

be a table sponsor for \$100. Those that would like to donate an auction item, food supplies or be a table sponsor may contact organizers.

“With our community's support, November 2025's Crop will be a successful weekend of raising funds in the fight against cancer.”

The committee is made up of four women who have each lost numerous family members and friends to this devastating disease. “We honor the memory of those we've lost, celebrate the strength of survivors around us, and continue to fight for a future free from cancer.”

Annual Rate Notice - Iowa

Winnebago Cooperative Telecom Association is a telecommunications provider who provides basic and enhanced services within its service territory. Basic services are offered at the following rates and charges:

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Toll Blocking is available at no charge for low income customers who qualify.

If you have any questions regarding the company's services and rates/charges, please contact us by visiting Winnebago Cooperative Telecom Association, 704 E. Main St., Lake Mills, IA 50450, or by calling 800-592-6105.

*In the Ledyard, Manly, Northwood, Mason City, Britt, Garner, and Forest City Urban exchanges, the rates may vary from the listed rate.



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Josh Olson
Agent

Northwood
Anchor

Opinion

Savvy Senior

How to use Medicare’s star ratings system during open enrollment

By Jim Miller

Dear Savvy Senior,

What does Medicare factor into their star rating system? I need to find a new Medicare plan during the open enrollment period and want to get it right this time.

Medicare Shopper

Dear Shopper,

If you’re shopping and comparing Medicare Advantage plans (the alternative to original Medicare) or Part D prescription drug plans during the open enrollment (Oct. 15 – Dec. 7), you’ll likely find a dizzying number of options to choose from. The Medicare star rating system is a terrific tool to help you narrow down your choices. Here’s what you should know.

Understanding Star Ratings

The Medicare star ratings, which you’ll find in the Medicare’s online Plan Finder tool at Medicare.gov/plan-compare, offers a shorthand look at how Medicare Advantage and Part D plans measure up for quality and member experience.

In this annual rating system, five stars means excellent, four means above average, three means average, two means below average, and one means poor.

Medicare Advantage plans (but not Part D plans) that get at least a four-star rating get bonus payments from Medicare, which they can use to provide extra benefits.

You should also know that plans that get fewer than three stars for three consecutive years, can be terminated by Medicare, so plans are incentivized to keep their quality up. Such low-performing plans show up on Plan Finder with an upside-down red triangle that has an exclamation point inside.

People in these low-performing plans can switch to ones rated three stars or better during Medicare’s Special Enrollment Period for Disenrollment, which is between Jan. 1 and Dec. 31.

How Ratings Are Comprised

Part D and Medicare Advantage star ratings comprised up to 40 or 30 quality and performance measures, respectively. Ratings for both types of plans are based partly on member experience, customer service, and plan performance.

Part D ratings also assess prescription drug safety and pricing, while Medicare Advantage ratings also look at whether members are staying healthy and if ones with chronic conditions get the tests and treatments typically recommended to them.

Be aware that five-star plans are few and far between. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has revised the Medicare star rating methodology in recent years, making it extremely hard for a plan to earn five stars.

In 2025, just 2 percent of people with Medicare Advantage/Part D plans and 5 percent in stand-alone Part D plans have five stars. Four-star plans are much easier to find, as more than 70 percent of people with Medicare Advantage are enrolled in them.

Shopping Tips

Here are some tips to consider when evaluating Medicare Advantage and Part D star ratings during open enrollment:

- Don’t choose or reject a Medicare Advantage or Part D plan only because of its star rating. Costs and access to services or health providers should be your top priority when choosing a plan. But a star rating could be your deciding factor when choosing between two plans with similar out-of-pocket costs and coverage.
- Don’t panic if a plan’s 2026 star rating is slightly lower than its 2025 rating. The downgrade could be due to a blip in the way the ratings are computed from year to year. It’s best to look at a plan’s star-rating history over several years.
- If you’re fine with the cost and coverage of a plan but concerned about its star rating, click through the Medicare Plan Finder for the star ratings subcategories. You’ll be able to see how the plan scored in the specific quality and member satisfaction yardsticks that matter to you.

If you have questions or need help choosing a plan, contact your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (877-839-2675, ShipHelp.org), which offers free unbiased Medicare counseling in person or over the phone.

Send your questions or comments to questions@savvysenior.org, or to *Savvy Senior*, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070.

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Echoes from the Loafers’ Club Meeting

The traffic was terrible this morning. It was backed up for miles, and every driver was honking a horn.

What caused that?

I couldn’t tell. They were all behind me.

Driving by Bruce’s drive

I have a wonderful neighbor named Bruce. Whenever I pass his drive, thoughts occur to me. It’s the beginning of the heated car seat season. As farm equipment rushed around to counteract its fear of rusting, I recalled speaking at a thing in McAllen, Texas. Lyle “Rocky” Bergner, a former teacher, coach and ex-Marine, was wintering in the Lower Rio Grande Valley due to his fear of rusting, and told me he’d planned to attend my talk. That was until he learned the tickets were \$150 each. He told me he’d heard enough from me when he’d taught and coached me.

My family had an outhouse. We were recyclers before we knew recycling was a thing. Sears, Monkey Wards, Penney’s and Herter’s catalogs found a second use as toilet paper. Using catalogs wasn’t without peril. I still get nervous when I walk past a box of staples in an office supply store.

I’ve learned

I was in Florida on a hot, nervous day. I could tell by the trees. Sweaty palms.

During a recent surgery, I did all my own stunts.

I talked to Nancy and Linda, and we bemoaned the lack of young girls named Nancy and Linda. There aren’t many little boys named Al, either. Parents fear they’d become known as Artificial Intelligence (AI).

A MarketBeat survey (<https://www.>

Ponderings from the Batt Cave

By Al Batt writer, speaker, storyteller and humorist.

marketbeat.com/originals/which-national-chains-do-people-wish-were-in-their-state/) found that what Minnesotans most wanted to see in the Gopher State was an In-N-Out Burger. The second most desired brand was Bojangles, followed by a desire to bring an H-E-B grocery store to Minnesota. Iowans would most like Shake Shack to open in their state.

My fear of tsunamis comes in waves.

Muffins spelled backward is what we do when they come out of the oven.

When you open the fridge and no light escapes, it’s time to clean it.

Interested is interesting.

Bad jokes department

If I die before you, I want you to marry Rupert.

What? I thought you hated Rupert? I do.

“Which tomato smells the most?” A Roma.

Old age is a thing. Last night. I was in bed for 20 minutes when I heard the pizza guy cough. Then I remembered I’d gone into my bedroom to get my wallet.

Nature notes

The Grasshopper Plague occurred in 1873–1877, beginning when southwestern Minnesota farmers saw what looked like a snowstorm coming from the west. There was a roar of grasshopper wings. In 1876, grasshoppers destroyed 500,000 acres of wheat, oats, corn and barley in 40 counties. Scientists called them Rocky Mountain locusts. Farmers destroyed grasshopper eggs, beat grasshoppers with flails, dragged heavy ropes through their fields, plowed and burned fields, raised chickens to eat the grasshoppers, dug ditches they hoped grasshoppers couldn’t traverse and filled those ditches with coal tar and set them on fire, hoping the smoke might discourage

them. Farmers made hopper dozers of sheet metal covered in coal tar or molasses, which they dragged through the fields. County governments made efforts to rid the state of grasshoppers, but were less prepared to help people experiencing poverty than were cities. The state provided small sums of state-funded relief but focused its efforts on encouraging charitable giving. Governor John S. Pillsbury didn’t call for state-funded relief for farmers, believing poverty was a fact of life and providing relief would make farmers dependent on the state. Pillsbury focused efforts on eradicating the grasshoppers, which included a bounty measure requiring every able-bodied man in affected counties to destroy grasshopper eggs one day a week for five straight weeks. In the summer of 1877, the grasshoppers left. An April snowstorm damaged their eggs, but many attributed the end of the plague to divine intervention since Pillsbury had proclaimed April 26 a day of prayer. The grasshopper plagues left a mark on Minnesota culture, inspiring fiction like Laura Ingalls Wilder’s “On the Banks of Plum Creek” and Ole Edvart Rølvaag’s “Giants in the Earth.” The Rocky Mountain locust species is evidently extinct, as the last recorded sighting of a live specimen was in 1902 in Canada.

Research from West Texas showed cattle prefer to graze where prairie dogs live, refuting persistent beliefs. Prairie dogs prevent larger plants from encroaching on grasslands by nibbling on woody shrubs, their constant digging aerates the soil, and their scat returns nutrients to the ground.

Meeting adjourned

“The time is always right to do what is right.”—Martin Luther King, Jr. Be kind.

©Al Batt 2025

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Consolidating power, re-writing the constitution, silencing critics. All this could be said of any foreign dictator. But we have a president now who poses a clear threat to democracy. As well as to life as we know it.

This is not a political issue for me. I favor tax cuts and oppose abortion. I consider myself a moderate conservative. But when you surround yourself with people who will do your bidding,

no matter what, all the while continually stroking your ego, bad decisions can result which can put our country at risk. And our Republican-led Congress will do or say whatever the president asks in order to keep their jobs secure.

So wake up, people, once this man has been given complete control, by eradicating his political enemies, what’s to stop him from targeting you or me, anyone who dares to openly

question his motives simply by expressing our God-given fundamental right to free speech.

I hope and pray I’m wrong, but what other conclusion can be made?

Our nation will no longer be free but will instead become just another dictatorship, run by an out-of-control dictator.

Gregory Nystuen
Northwood

Fit to print...

100 years ago this month: Historical events from October 1925

The month of October has been home to many historical events over the years. Here’s a look at some that helped to shape the world in October 1925.

- Three workers are burned alive when the Church Hill Tunnel in Richmond, Virginia, collapses on October 2. The tragedy is partly responsible for the emergence of an urban legend known as the “Richmond Vampire” more than 80 years after the tunnel’s collapse.

- The Soviet Union removes all restrictions on the alcohol content of beverages on October 4. Alcohol had been prohibited on a limited basis for 11 years prior to the removal of the limitation.

- Legendary baseball pitcher Christy Mathewson dies of tuberculosis on October 7. Mathewson, who notched 373 wins and five National League ERA titles during his career, developed tuberculosis after being exposed to chemical weapons during World War One.

- On October 9, the Italian state prosecutor absolves 24 officials of any responsibility for the June 1924 murder of Giacomo Matteotti. Matteotti was an Italian socialist politician who accused the fascists of fraud shortly before he was kidnapped and killed by police affiliated with fascist leader Benito Mussolini.

- Federal Bureau of Investigation agent Edwin C. Shanahan is killed on October 11. Shanahan is the first FBI agent to be killed in the line of duty.
- Six hundred American troops

enter Panama on October 12. The troops enter at the request of Panamanian President Rodolfo Chiari, who was hoping to put down a renter’s strike.

- Margaret Hilda Roberts is born in Grantham, Lincolnshire, England on October 13. Roberts would come to be known as Margaret Thatcher and serve as the Prime Minister of England from 1979 to 1990.
- The Pittsburgh Pirates win the World Series on October 15. The Pirates defeat the Washington Senators 9-7 in the decisive seventh game of the series. The Senators had opened the series winning three of the first four games.

- Rebels invade Damascus during the Great Syrian Revolt on October 17. The rebels set several colonial French buildings on fire and take control of Azm Palace during the revolt.
- Hungarian-American explorer and amateur archaeologist Bryon Khun de Prorok begins excavating the Tin Hinan Tomb in the Sahara Desert in French Algeria on October 18. Prorok begins the excavation despite objections from the local Tuareg Berber community.

- “The War of the Stray Dog” between Bulgaria and Greece begins on October 19. The killing of a Greek captain and a sentry by Bulgarian soldiers was one reason given for the start of the conflict.
- John William Carson is born in Corning, Iowa, on October 23. Carson would grow up and host “The Tonight

Show Starring Johnny Carson” for three decades, ultimately earning the nickname “The King of Late Night.”

- Seven of 23 U.S. Navy Curtiss CS-1 seaplanes are destroyed by wind gusts on October 25. The planes had been brought to Maryland to compete in the Schneider Cup.
- Nicaragua President Carlos José Solórzano acquiesces to former president Emiliano Chamorro Vargas’s day-old demand to make him Minister of War on October 26, effectively ceding control of the country.

- American inventor Fred Waller receives a patent for the water ski on October 27.
- The remains of Egyptian pharaoh Tutankhamun are found on October 28. English Egyptologist Howard Carter had discovered Tutankhamun’s tomb nearly three years before discovering the remains, which had been covered by a death mask made of gold.

- An armored truck is hijacked and robbed of \$93,000 in cash in Buffalo, New York, on October 29. The money is never recovered and Richard Reese Whitmore, who was indicted for the holdup, was never convicted of the crime after a jury could not agree that he was guilty.

- The Persian Parliament formally deposes the exiled Shah of Persia on October 31. The deposition officially ends the Qajar dynasty, which began in 1789.

Northwood Anchor

Early Files

100 years ago

October 22, 1925

If the weather permits it is expected one of the largest crowds seen in Northwood for some time will be here next Thursday when a combination street sale and Booster Bargain day will be held.

The population of Northwood received a healthy boost last Sunday night when twins, a fine boy and a girl just as fine, were born to Mr. and Mrs. B.I. Carey. “Barney” is justly proud of the pair and spends as much time at the hospital as his

business will permit him to be away.

Handford S. MacNider of Mason City, former national commander of the American Legion, was named assistant secretary of war by President Coolidge.

Arthur Rye was host to a number of his young friends at a party in honor of his birthday.

The Bolan band will give a concert in the Bolan church and basket social in the church basement Friday evening.

Shadow box social at Hartland No. 4 school Friday evening. Everyone is invited. Lenore Kension, teacher.

John Ellingson, west of town, had his leg broken in

two places as the result of a mis-step while cleaning off the separator of his threshing rig. They had just finished threshing at the Tom Lunde place four miles west of Northwood and were cleaning up before moving out when the accident occurred.

Misses Hazel Reyerson and Evelyn Sime, who attend high school at Northwood, spent the weekend at their parental homes in Hartland township.

Here are the husking mitts you’ll like. Thousands of middle west farmers use Gildner husking mitts and gloves. Get your supply now. Twelve ounce single thumb mitts and ten ounce two-thumbs mitts. Adv.



75 years ago

October 26, 1950

JoAnne Smith, sophomore daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Smith of northwest of Northwood, was crowned homecoming queen at the Northwood-Buffalo Center football game Friday, in a between-halves ceremony.

A United Nations flag was presented to Northwood high school Tuesday morning by Smith-Perry unit of the American Legion auxiliary. All students were present at the ceremony, held in connection with the dedication in Berlin of the World Freedom bell and the annual

observance of UN day.

The 21 pupils of the Boland school and their teacher, Mrs. Clarence Huus plan to spend all day Friday visiting various industrial concerns and other points in Mason City. Among the points on their itinerary are the sugar beet factory, the airport, police station, fire station, State Brand creameries and radio stations.

The residence of the late E.M. Sabin on north Sixth street was sold Saturday to John Kuchera of Mason City. Mrs. Sabin and daughter, Mrs. E.P. Freeman of St. Paul, were here Saturday to complete the deal. They came with Miss Irene Page of Hibbing, Minn., and they all spent the weekend in the home of Mrs. J.J. Page.

Mr. and Mrs. A.S. Lund and daughter Ruth are moving this Thursday to Albert Lea where they have rented a home. Mr. Lund has been executive in charge of the Security State Bank at Albert Lea for several years, but the family has continued to make their home in Northwood.

Funeral services were held Tuesday afternoon at the Manly Lutheran church for Dr. S.S. Westly, 69, a Manly physician for the past 41 years. The Rev. David Funk officiated at the rites, and burial was at the Manly cemetery. The Bride funeral home was in charge. Dr. Westly had been in failing health for some time but had continued his practice until his death.



Fifth graders flint knapping

Northwood-Kensett fifth graders recently spent time learning flint knapping with Worth County naturalist Owen Burrack. Flint knapping is a technique used by Native Americans for thousands of years. It was used to craft weapons and tools, such as knives, blades and arrowheads.

50 years ago

October 23, 1975

Northwood’s initial community betterment project for 1976 is already on the drawing board, with the purchase last week of the corner lot at the intersection of Central Ave. and Eighth North. No tax money was involved in the purchase.

Five N-K music students will participate in try-outs for All-State Band at Mason City, Saturday. They are James Wilson, trombone; Marianna Vorland, flute; Sandy Gangstad, oboe; Terri

Angell, saxophone and David Davidson, tuba. Mrs. Donna Angell is instrumental director for N-K elementary and high school.

Mr. and Mrs. Nick Stricker are the parents of a daughter, Julie Ann, born Saturday October 18, in Mercy Hospital, Mason City. The 9 lb., 2 oz. infant has a brother, Joey. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Ron Stricker, Northwood; Adeline Beinke, Mason City. Mrs. Nellie Kirchoff, Mason City, is a great-grandmother.

Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Sutton, Kensett, will observe their 40th wedding anniversary Sunday, Nov. 2, with a reception in the Kensett Methodist Church from 2 to 5 p.m.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Hoppersatd, rural Northwood, announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Vicky Lenay, to Mr. Gary Schmidt of Minneapolis. A Nov. 1 wedding is planned in Silver Lake Lutheran Church, rural Northwood.

Belmond hosted N-K Oct. 17 and improved its conference record to 5-1 and 6-1 overall at N-K’s expense with a 72-0 win. The Vikings meet the unbeaten Forest City Indians at Forest City Friday night for the final game of the season. The Indians are 7-0 for the season, the best since 1950 when they posted 7-0-1 record. They downed Lake Mills 32-0 last week.



25 years ago

October 25, 2000

Finding no crows or other vermin to chase away from his personal pumpkin patch, this scarecrow took an afternoon siesta recently at the Dean and Deb Mueller residence in Hartland Township.

Northwood eight-year-old Dana Aswegan underwent a successful double-lung transplant Sunday morning at Barnes Hospital in St. Louis, Missouri. Dana was diagnosed with cystic fibrosis at the age of nine months. She and her mother, Joann Aswegan, journeyed to the Ronald McDonald House in St. Louis earlier this month

to await the transplant. “They got the call late Saturday night and Dana went into Surgery early Sunday,” said Northwood resident John Weitzel, Dana’s uncle.

No new homes were built in Northwood during the first nine months of 2000. But the Lutheran Retirement Home in late September obtained a building permit for a new 16-bed Alzheimers unit, which boosted the value of new construction here in the first three quarters of the year to \$1,348,120.

Holly Adams shows off some of the quilts that make her Heart and Sew Quilts shop on the north edfe of Kensett one of the most colorful shops in Worth County. Adams retails quilts in a wide variety of patterns and she machine pieces and

hand stitches custom quilts to order.

Northwood-Kensett Junior High Eighth graders Jenny Johnson, Vance Helgeland, Nathaniel Julseth and Garrett Reeder put two remote-control robots through their paces last Wednesday morning during a session in the CHIP instructor Deb Nagle’s classroom. The Iowa State University “Technology Youth Initiative” provided the robots to N-K for a four-week course in creative problem solving.

Cal Brown of Grafton was chosen by Golden Seed Company L.L.C. as the 1999-2000 District I Golden Harvest Dealer of the Year during the annual Goal Winners Weekend held September 8-10, in Davenport, Iowa.



OBITUARIES

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Lake Mills Halloween events

With Halloween just a few weeks away, events are planned for the community of Lake Mills.

Salem Lutheran Church will hold its annual Trunk or Treat event this Sunday, October 26, from 4-5:30 p.m. in the church parking lot.

Volunteers are needed to host trunks for the event. Those interested may contact Marci Prescott at Salem Lutheran Church at salem.lutheran.lakemills@gmail.com

The Lake Mills Care Center Mills Harbour Assisted Living will welcome costumed visitors with a lighted courtyard walk for trick or treating.

The courtyard walk will be held on Halloween, October 31, from 5-6 p.m.

Trick or treating in Lake Mills will be held on Halloween, Friday, October 31, from 5-7 p.m.

Lake Mills football finishes with highlights

By Matt Pfalzgraff

The Lake Mills football team closed out its season this past Friday night with a road game at West Fork. The Bulldogs fell 12-55 in their final contest of the year.

Lake Mills' first score came in the fourth quarter. Facing a fourth down in the red zone, senior Zach Stene took the sweep heading toward the Lake Mills sideline. As the West Fork defense closed in behind the line of scrimmage, Stene revealed the play's true design: trickery. He launched a perfect pass to fellow senior Landyn Christian, who caught it from 13 yards out for his first career touch-



Junior Kara Renneker finished 14th in the Top of Iowa Conference meet, earning All-Conference honors. Photo - Julie Helgeson.

down, putting the Bulldogs on the scoreboard.

The Bulldogs' final score came with less than a minute left, marking the end of the season and, for some, their high school careers. Senior lineman-turned-running back Josiah "Joey" Kjeldahl has been a powerful, tumbling runner all season, and this was his moment to shine. On the opposite 27-yard line with 1st-and-10, Kjeldahl received the hand-off and was immediately swarmed by four West Fork defenders. At first glance, it looked like a 10-yard gain, but Kjeldahl had bigger plans, rumbling and stumbling to the meadowlands.

He fought through the defenders, churning yard by yard, breaking two more tackles, and fending off another before outrunning the Warhawk defense for a 73-yard rushing touchdown, his final touch of his final season.

Seniors Isiah Torres, Austin Mannes, Nash Delger, Landyn Christian, Josiah Kjeldahl, and Zach Stene wrapped up their Lake Mills football careers on Friday, leaving with memories they will cherish.

The Bulldogs (0-8) will return to the drawing board as they prepare for a new season next year.



Senior Josiah Kjeldahl finishes his season as the leading tackler on the team and one of the top tacklers in Class A football. Photo - Knute Rogne



Seniors Hayden Thompson (left) and Knute Rogne (right) have built a career together and will look to finalize it on top with the State Qualifying meet, then their final meet, the State meet. Photo - Julie Helgeson.

Boys take conference crown: Renneker earns All-Conference

By Matt Pfalzgraff

In the final week of the regular season, the Lake Mills cross country team doubled up with the Forest City Invitational last Monday and the Top of Iowa Conference Championships at NIACC on Thursday.

The week opened strong at the Forest City Invitational, where the Lake Mills girls placed sixth overall in a tough field.

Kara Renneker led the Bulldogs with a 13th place finish in 22:21, followed by Kaylie Sylvara in 29th at 23:42. Tori Holtan crossed in 39th with a time of 24:39, while Katie Machin (50th, 25:58), Gaby Santiago (62nd, 28:03), Kylie Schulz (64th, 28:40) and Laylah Ingledue (68th, 30:49) rounded out the varsity seven.

The boys team continued what they have been doing all season, taking first place overall.

Hayden Thompson and Knute Rogne paced the field together, both finishing in 16:28.7 to claim the top two spots. Steve Brandenburg secured third in 17:18, while Lane Rygh (10th, 17:44) and Royce Peterson (14th, 18:06) finished strong, holding off any hopes for other teams.

Caleb Skogen (24th, 19:27) and Brayden Eden (26th, 19:42) rounded out the Bulldog lineup.

On Thursday, the cross country teams traveled to NIACC for the Top of Iowa Conference Championships, where the boys swept the event, capturing the Conference Team Championship and several major awards. Knute Rogne was named Runner of the Year, and head coach Beth Van Roekel earned Coach of the Year honors.

Rogne and Hayden Thompson again finished side by side, placing first and second in 16:52. Steve Brandenburg (9th, 17:47) and Royce Peterson (10th, 17:50) added top-10 finishes and Lane Rygh placed 14th at a time of 18:02. Caleb Skogen (33rd, 19:27) and Brayden Eden (37th, 19:46) were the next two for Lake Mills.

"Today we focused on places versus times," said Coach Van Roekel. "There was a pretty strong wind today, and with really no wind block, I told the kids to focus on their places, their positions among the teams/individuals we needed to be near to hit our goals.

The boys knew where they should be and exceeded their goals with having our top 5 place in the first 15."

Van Roekel also praised Royce Peterson, noting, "Royce Peterson came out and ran one of the best races of his career! He placed 10th, when he was projected to come in at 19th, running a very good race!"

On the girls side, Kara Renneker earned First Team All-Conference honors, placing 15th in 22:09. Kaylie Sylvara (32nd, 23:28) and Tori Holtan (47th, 24:59) followed, with Lily Young, Katie Machin, Gaby Santiago and Kylie Schulz completing the varsity lineup.

"Kara knew her place throughout the race, and finished achieving her goal of first team all conference," said Van Roekel. "Our girls look to go out and compete hard, having a good end of the season to focus on before going into working on big goals for next year."

Looking ahead, the Bulldogs will compete at the State Qualifying Meet on Thursday, October 24, at NIACC, with the girls race at 4 p.m. and the boys race to follow.



Junior Makenzie Budach had a strong showing at the home quad this past Tuesday. The team looks to move together into the postseason. Photo - Julie Helgeson

Lake Mills sweeps home home quad

By Matt Pfalzgraff

Lake Mills volleyball faced plenty of competition last week. On Tuesday, the Bulldogs hosted North Butler, Hampton-Dumont-CAL and Nashua-Plainfield in a quad rotation, coming away with a clean sweep, taking each match in two sets.

The first matchup was against North Butler, with Lake Mills winning 25-12 and 25-11

Reagan Ham led the team with 3 aces and 13 digs. Betsy Byars contributed 2 blocks, while Makenzie Budach and Reese Delger added 1 each. Budach and Delger also led in kills with 8 and 4, respectively. Kaydence Barden, Tori Sterrenberg and Byars each tallied 3 kills, while Regan Eastvold had 2 kills and 18 assists. The team served 48 of 50 attempts successfully, an impressive 96% clip.

Next up was Class 3A Hampton-Dumont-CAL. Lake Mills secured a 25-12, 25-19 victory. Serving efficiency increased slightly to 96.2% with 50 of 52 successful serves.

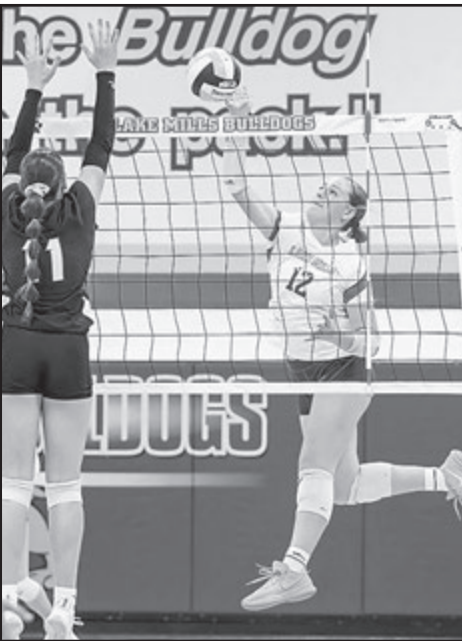
Hailey Jensen and Eastvold each had 3 aces, while Budach added 1. Budach again led in kills with 7, followed by Sterrenberg with 5. Byars, Delger, and Eastvold finished with 3 kills apiece, and Barden contributed 2. Eastvold recorded 16 assists and a match-high 9 digs. Ham added 8 digs, and Cora Sauer had 4. Budach, Delger, and Sterrenberg each recorded a block.

The final match of the night against Nashua-Plainfield ended 25-16, 25-13 in favor of Lake Mills.

Eastvold led the team with 16 assists, and Faith Stene added 8. Budach reached double digits in kills with 11, followed by Delger (7), Byars (5), Sterrenberg (4), and Eastvold (3). Lake Mills recorded 1 total block, a combined effort from Budach and Sterrenberg. Ham led in digs with 15 and contributed 2 aces, while Jensen and Barden each had 2 aces. Budach and Byars added 1 ace apiece.

With the wins, Lake Mills improves to 23-6 as they prepare for the postseason. The Bulldogs hosted North-

wood-Kensett (2-19) on Monday, with the winner advancing to face the victor of North Iowa (13-14) vs. Riceville (11-19) on Wednesday. All matches begin at 7 p.m.



Betsy Byars
Photo by Chet Yost Photography

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Bolan

The Pancakes, Pumpkins and Pumpkin Pie event held at the Bolan Schoolhouse recently was a great success. Many pumpkins came out of the patch, pancakes eaten and pie enjoyed.

The Bolan UM Women met after church services to start planning their upcoming drive in – take out dinner to be held on Sunday, November 16.

Twenties Club

Twenties Club members met Monday, Oct. 13 at the home of Delores Knudson with 14 members in attendance. Deanna Luedtke called the meeting to order with Becky Tews, secretary, doing roll call and reading the minutes from the last meeting. Delores Knudson, treasurer, gave her report with all dues paid. Deb Nagle, Historian/Sunshine, reported that a get well card had been sent to Sharyl Lunde.

In old business senior tea was discussed with the tea on Wednesday, April 15

at the Olson Building. Meeting was adjourned with a motion by Sandy Olson and second by Carol Kragenbrink. The program was presented by Team Knudson: Delores Knudson, Gloria Fallgatter and Connie Hogen. The team's program was about The Beverly Hillbillies with the group singing the theme song and also a quiz about the TV show. To go with the theme of The Beverly Hillbillies, hostess Delores Knudson had made sweet potato pie for dessert.

Legal People's Right To Know

Supervisors

October 15, 2025 Special Meeting
The Worth County Board of Supervisors met pursuant to adjournment with A.J. Stone, Enos Loberg and Mark Smeby, present. Also present was Jacki Backhaus, county auditor. Heidi Kuhl, Director, Northland Securities was present via Zoom.
Motion Loberg/Second Stone to approve today's agenda. Motion carried.
Motion Stone/Second Loberg approve Resolution 2025-40 – Ap-

proving a Bond Purchase Agreement for the sale of General Obligation Urban Renewal Bonds, Series 2025 A. Roll call vote: AYES: Stone, Loberg, Smeby; NAYS: None. Motion carried. *(Full text available in the auditor's office).*
Motion Loberg/Second Stone to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 A.M. Motion carried.
Jacki A. Backhaus, Auditor
Mark Smeby, Chairperson

Supervisors

October 13, 2025 Forty-first Day	
The Worth County Board of Supervisors met pursuant to adjournment with A.J. Stone, Enos Loberg and Mark Smeby, present. All members voting "AYE" unless noted.	
Meeting called to order by Smeby, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.	
Motion Stone/Second Loberg to approve today's agenda and October 6, 2025 minutes. Motion carried.	
Motion Loberg/Second Stone to approve claims in the amount of \$401,158.87 per the following schedule. Motion carried.	
Activated Insights, Service-Phd.....	197.88
Agvantage Fs Inc, Fuel-Eng.....	29,617.08
Ahlers & Cooney, P.C., Service-Sup.....	2,296.00
Alliant Energy, Service-Gsr.....	5,680.20
Amazon Capital Services, Supplies.....	3,673.65
At&T Mobility, Service-Shf.....	1,720.41
Bcn Telecom, Service-Gsr.....	189.16
Bice Electric Llc, Service-Aud.....	750.00
Black Hills Energy Inc, Service-Eng.....	74.23
Bmc Aggregates Llc, Rock-Eng.....	798.82
Brett Trenhaile, Well-San.....	470.53
Brian M. Kuchay, Md, Ems Contract.....	100.00
Brightree Home Health & Hospice Llc, Service-Phd.....	3,396.71
C J Cooper & Associates Inc, Service-Eng.....	110.00
Carquest Auto Parts Inc, Supplies-Eng.....	1,559.87
Cemstone Concrete Materials, Llc, Supplies-Eng.....	14,614.50
City Of Carpenter, Rutf-Eng.....	35.39
City Of Fertile, Rutf-Eng.....	2,302.17
City Of Grafton, Rutf-Eng.....	1,323.57
City Of Hanlontown, Rutf-Eng.....	576.90
City Of Joice, Rutf-Eng.....	1,561.00
City Of Kensett, Rutf-Eng.....	809.14
City Of Manly, Service-Eng.....	58.48
City Of Northwood, Service-Eng.....	507.83
Cnh Industrial Capital, Service-Con.....	192.00
Colwell Motors, Service-Eng.....	99.23
Conner Colonial Chapel, Service-Soc.....	2,000.00

Crazy Clean, Service-Gsr.....	1,050.00
Croell, Inc., Supplies-Eng.....	10,370.00
Culligan Of Mason City, Service-Gsr.....	188.65
D & L Equipment, Parts-Eng.....	264.78
Dan Corbin Inc, Service-Dap.....	4,850.00
Dave Syverson Inc, Parts-Eng.....	41.93
Deano's Road Dust Control, Service-Eng.....	269.50
Eilertson Repair, Service-Con.....	298.98
Electric Pump Inc, Service-Wat.....	4,459.22
Eurofins Test America, Service-San.....	984.00
Falkstone Llc, Rock-Eng.....	9,291.77
Fastenal Company, Parts-Eng.....	156.00
Frank Stearns, Service-Mex.....	450.00
Freeborn County Coop Oil, Fuel-Eng.....	9,446.15
Galls, Llc, Supplies-Shf.....	378.23
Gierke Robinson Company, Inc., Supplies-Eng.....	272.75
Greve Law Office, Rent & Payroll-Aty.....	7,313.83
Halock Security Labs, Service-Dap.....	8,350.68
Hartland Lubricants & Chemicals, Supplies-Eng.....	1,163.85
Heartland Business Systems, Llc, Service-Dap.....	2,108.97
Heartland Power Coop, Service-Wwt.....	2,613.39
Heartland Tire, Supplies-Shf.....	820.00
Henry M. Adkins & Son Inc., Service-Aud.....	7,951.55
Hertel Custom Builders, Llc, Service-Aud.....	3,244.38
Hogan Bremer Moore Col Chapels, Service-Mex.....	1,506.00
Hovey's Lawn & Garden, Service-Con.....	2,250.00
Huber Supply Co Inc, Supplies-Eng.....	326.50
135/105 Welcome Center Inc., Ry26 Aug H/M Tax-Ndp.....	2,534.37
Ia Dept Of Natural Resources, Service-San.....	100.00
Ia Dept Of Natural Resources, Fees-Wat.....	115.00
Ia Dept Of Public Safety, Service-Shf.....	1,609.50
Ia Prison Industries, Supplies-Shf.....	548.24
Imwca, Wk Comp Prem-Ins.....	12,108.00
Iowa Communications Network, Service-Dap.....	678.00
Ip Pathways, Service-Dap.....	1,917.09
Isaca, Edu-Aud.....	275.00
Isecta, Edu-Trs.....	100.00
Jj's Hardware, Supplies-Eng.....	457.54

Joe's Collision & Performance Inc, Service-Shf.....	199.99
Kevin Springer Construction, Service-Gsr.....	656.00
Kimberly Bode, Reimb-Eng.....	218.25
Kiow, Service-Phd.....	400.00
Knudtson Automotive Service, Service-Eng.....	1,361.03
Kruger Electric Llc, Service-Wwt.....	3,957.25
Larsen Plumbing & Heating Inc, Service-Gsr.....	386.78
Lawson Products Inc, Parts-Eng.....	284.80
Lexisnexis, Service-Aty.....	244.00
Luckason Tractor Repair, Service-Dap.....	1,710.00
Mail Services Llc, Service-Trs.....	377.91
Manly Junction Signal, Service-Sup.....	443.05
Marco Technologies Llc, Service-Dap & Asr.....	617.08
Mason City Red Power, Inc., Supplies-Eng.....	95.40
Menards Inc, Supplies-Eng.....	670.43
Metal Culverts Inc, Supplies-Eng.....	8,005.50
Mitchell Co Sheriff, Service-Shf.....	4,680.00
Nasco Inc., Supplies-Gsr.....	327.34
Neapolitan Labs Llc, Service-Aud.....	1,000.00
Nelson Family Trust, Rent-Shf.....	300.00
Nelson Septic Services Llc, Service-Con.....	425.00
Nena, Edu-911.....	152.00
Newburg Fabrication, Llc, Service-Eng.....	957.50
Nexus Cooperative, Supplies-Eng.....	445.91
North Central International, Service-Eng.....	10,807.41
North Iowa Broadcasting Inc, Service-Phd.....	1,120.00
North Iowa Custom Seamless Guttering, Service-Gsr.....	1,920.00
Northwood Anchor Inc, Service-Sup.....	548.65
Northwood Sanitation Llc, Service-Gsr.....	236.50
Nsb Bank, Service-Dap.....	227.50
Plunkett's Pest Control Inc, Service-Shf.....	221.35
Printing Services Inc, Supplies-Sdp.....	119.09
Renodry Usa Llc, Service-Cap.....	72,000.00
Reserve Account, Postage-Trs.....	1,636.03
S&H Environmental Services Llc, Service-Wat & Wwt.....	20,218.34
Safety Solutions, Service-Eng.....	500.00
Shane Batton, Supplies-Eng.....	305.00

Service-Gsr.....	305.00
Shi International Corp, Supplies-Dap.....	1,975.33
Singelstad's Hardware, Supplies-Eng.....	23.58
St Ansgar Plumbing & Heating, Inc, Service-Con.....	255.00
The Charles City Press, Service-Sup.....	272.00
T-Mobile, Service-It/Gis & Asr.....	1,817.24
Trading Post, Supplies-Eng.....	786.02
Truck Center Companies, Parts-Eng.....	83.02
Van Diest Supply Company, Supplies-Eng.....	10,187.60
Veenstra & Kimm, Inc, Service-Cap.....	426.00
Vestis, Service-Eng.....	105.87
Wageworks, Inc., Service-Ndp.....	59.25
Waste Management Of Iowa Inc, Service-Sdp.....	2,850.00
Westech, Service-Wat.....	6,631.85
Wex Bank, Service-Tra.....	1,657.19
Whks & Co, Service-Eng.....	4,755.00
Winnebago Coop Telephone Assn, Service-Gsr.....	3,826.85
Winn-Worth Betco, Ry26 2nd Qtr-Org.....	16,266.06
Worth Co Emergency Mgmt, 2nd Qtr Pymt-Dis/Ema.....	22,693.25
Worth Co Historical Society, Ry26 Aug H/M Tax-Ndp.....	2,534.37
Worth County Engineer, Fuel-Shf.....	5,978.84
Worth County Fair, Ry26 Aug H/M Tax-Ndp.....	3,801.56
Worth Lumber Co, Supplies-Eng.....	819.30

Grand Total..... 401,158.87
Motion Stone/Second Loberg to approve the clerk of court's monthly and recorder's quarterly reports. Motion carried.
Motion Loberg/Second Stone to approve the Special Class C Retail Native Wine license for Lazy Acre, L.L.C. Motion carried.
Motion Stone/Second Loberg to approve the annual Flex Benefit Agreement with Health Equity for calendar year 2026. Motion carried.
Motion Stone/Second Loberg to approve the professional services agreement between Worth County and Veenstra & Kimm Inc. for the Administration Offices Building Project. Motion carried.
Motion Loberg/Second Stone to adjourn at 8:57 A.M. Motion carried.
Jacki A. Backhaus, Auditor
Mark Smeby, Chairperson

ELECTRIC POWER LINES AND GRAIN BINS DON'T MIX!

Please contact your local electric cooperative/utility if you plan to build a grain bin in the vicinity of an electric distribution line or electric transmission line.

Dairyland Power Cooperative owns and operates transmission lines in Northeastern Iowa, which provide electrical energy to local rural electric cooperatives and municipalities. Those transmission lines are operated at voltages that greatly exceed local distribution and service lines that may be located on your property. Dairyland will provide assistance in planning the placement of the grain bin near our transmission line to provide a safe environment for everyone working and living around grain bins.

The State of Iowa requires specific clearances for electric lines around grain bins, with different standards for those filled by portable and permanent augers, conveyors and elevators. The drawings show specific clearances required for each scenario.

Clearance Envelope for Grain Bins Filled by Permanently Installed Augers, Conveyors, or Elevators

Source: American National Standards Institute (ANSI) C2-2017 "National Electrical Safety Code," Rule F-234-4(a), Page 138

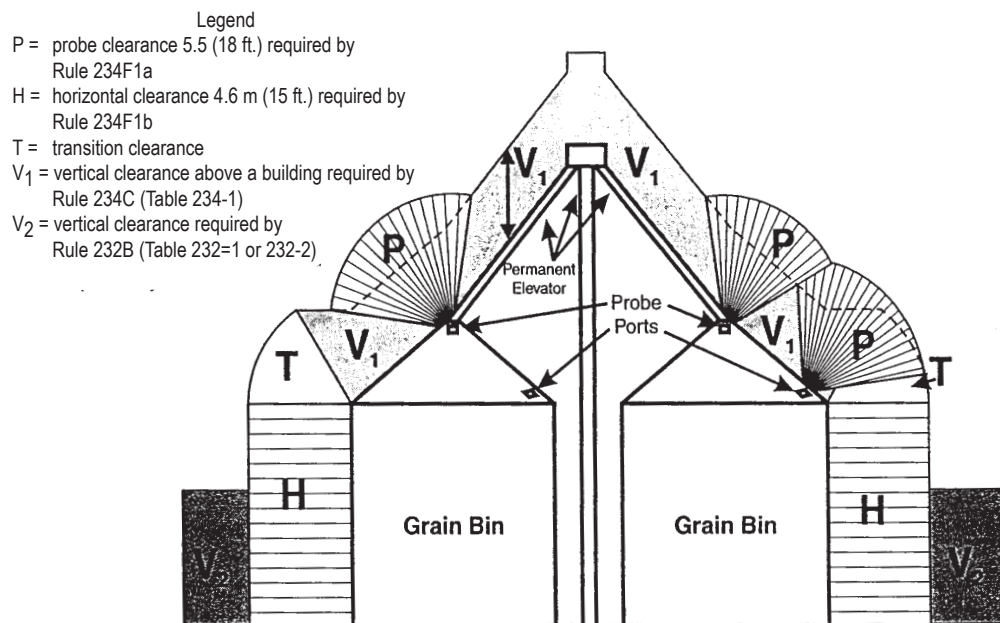


Figure 234-4(a) – Clearance envelope for grain bins filled by permanently installed augers, conveyors, or elevators

Clearance Envelope for Grain Bins Filled by Portable Augers, Conveyors, or Elevators

Source: American National Standards Institute (ANSI) C2-2017 "National Electrical Safety Code," Rule F-234-4(b), Page 139

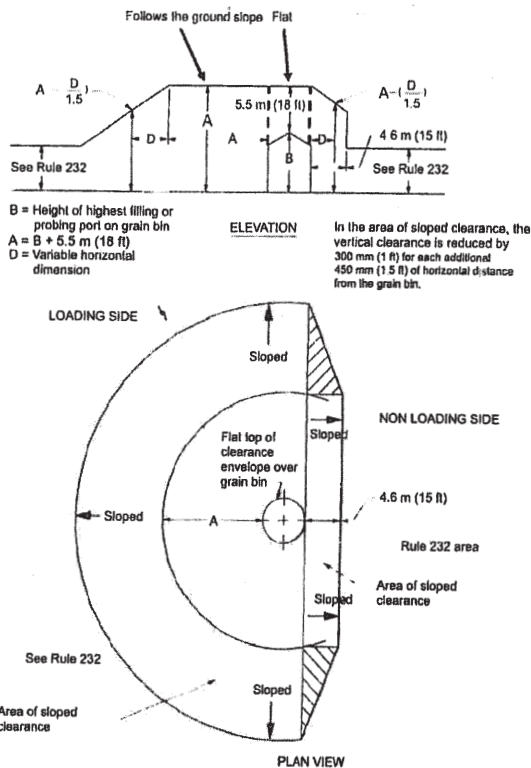


Figure 234-4(b) – Clearance envelope for grain bins filled by portable augers, conveyors, or elevators

According to the Iowa Electric Safety Code found in Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 199 – 25.2(3)b., your local electric utility may refuse to provide electric service to any grain bin built near an existing electric line which does not provide the clearances required by The American National Standards Institutes (ANSI)C2-2017 “National Electrical Safety Code,” Rule 234F. This Paragraph “b” shall apply only to grain bins loaded by portable augers, conveyors or elevators built after September 9, 1992, or to grain bins loaded by permanently installed augers, conveyors or elevator systems installed after December 24, 1997. (As adopted by the Iowa Utilities Commission)

Dairyland Power Cooperative is required by the Iowa Utilities Commission to provide this annual notice to farmers, farm lenders, grain bin merchants, and city and county zoning officials. If you have any questions concerning clearance regulations, please call our Real Estate and Right of Way Department, Monday through Friday, from 8 am to 4 pm, at 608-788-4000. You may also write to us at the following address: DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE, Attn: Real Estate Dept., 3200 East Avenue South, P.O. Box 817, La Crosse, WI 54602-0817.



City Council

The Council of the City of Northwood met in regular session at City Hall on October 13, 2025 at 6:00 pm with Mayor Moehle presiding and the following council members present:

George-Zenz, Bode, Schreiber, Reeder. Absent: Peterson.

Motion to approve the agenda. Unanim.

Motion to approve the following under Consent Agenda: Meeting Minutes of September 22, 2025; Treasurer Report; Liquor License Renewal – TUNE The Timbers, Northwood’s Event Center; Mayor Appointment to the Library Board - Ann Nagle; Claims as follows: Payable to: For: Amount

Principal, Insurance..... \$ 709.67

NSB, Monthly ACH Fee..... \$ 20.00

Iowa Dept. of Revenue, WA Excise Tax..... \$ 1,185.83

Iowa Dept. of Revenue, Sales Tax..... \$ 423.24

Wellmark BCBS, Insurance..... \$ 8,344.83

Wellmark BCBS, Insurance..... \$ 295.68

Payroll, Wages.....\$23,121.33

Payroll, LL Grounds Keeper-rec \$ 600.00

Verizon Wireless, Cell Phones, router-tr.fid \$ 107.07

Visa, Conference, Supplies-cc.lib..... \$ 460.03

Wellmark BCBS, Insurance..... \$ 8,344.83

Wellmark BCBS, Insurance..... \$ 734.40

Payroll,

Wages.....\$22,997.29

Alliant Energy, Utilities.....\$14,794.45

USPS, Mailing-cc..... \$ 411.14

Payroll, Wages.....\$25,718.45

Ace Professional Services, Services-cc..... \$ 50.00

Amber Julseth, Mileage-cc..... \$ 232.40

AgVantage FS, Supplies-pw..... \$ 4.00

Alyssa Peterson, Gazebo Expenses-park.. \$ 863.18

Badger Meter, Hosting-pw..... \$ 66.64

CarQuest, Supplies-pw..... \$ 346.93

Carrico Aquatic Resources, Supplies-pool..... \$ 1,878.75

Clark’s Mosquito Control, Supplies-pw..... \$ 12.06

Clear Lake Sanitary, Testing-pw..... \$ 232.50

Core & Main, Supplies-pw..... \$ 570.00

Croell, Inc., Supplies-pw..... \$ 302.00

D & L Equipment, Supplies-pw..... \$ 45.72

Decker Sporting Goods, Supplies-rec..... \$ 248.00

Doug Moehle, Mileage..... \$ 35.00

Eilertson Repair, Tire-pw..... \$ 1,197.18

FC Solar Solutions, Solar Phase IV Final \$57,323.50

Falkstone, Supplies-pw..... \$ 1,120.97

Hawkins, Supplies-pw..... \$ 30.00

Huber Supply, Supplies-pw..... \$ 58.50

In-Control, Service-pw..... \$ 2,171.25

IA DNR, Water Use Fee..... \$ 115.00

Iowa One Call, Services-pw..... \$ 23.50

JJ’s Hardware, Supplies-pw.cc.pool..... \$ 752.25

John Deere Financial, Supplies-pw..... \$ 63.19

John Greve, Services..... \$ 500.00

Knutson Oil Co., Fuel..... \$ 1,467.40

Marco, Services-cc..... \$ 778.62

Marsh Painting, Repairs-pool..... \$ 190.00

Microbac Lab, Testing-pw..... \$ 1,012.25

Municipal One..... \$ 1,036.00

Web Annual Support-cc..... \$ 329.07

Northwood Anchor, Publications..... \$ 329.07

Northwood Chiropratic, DATA-pw..... \$ 70.00

Northwood Electric, Repairs-pw..... \$ 282.69

Northwood Sanitation, Garbage Services..... \$ 7,696.00

Northwood Sanitation, Bags..... \$ 580.00

Northwood Senior Center, Monthly Donation..... \$ 800.00

Northwood Waterworks, WA Deposit Transfer..... \$ 50.00

Northwood Waterworks, A Deposit Transfer..... \$ 50.00

Northwood Waterworks, WA Deposit Transfer..... \$ 50.00

OPD Business Solutions, Supplies..... \$ 60.09

Plunkett’s Pest Control,

Services-lib..... \$ 101.10

Storey Kenworthy, Supplies-cc..... \$ 460.04

Three Oaks Greenhouse, Trees..... \$ 2,509.50

Titan Machinery, Parts-pw..... \$ 230.41

Trading Post, Supplies-pw..... \$ 24.59

USA Blue Book, Freight-pw..... \$ 19.29

VanDiest Supply Co., Supplies-pw..... \$ 2,145.70

Wade Flattum, Work Boot Expenses-pw \$ 222.60

WCTA, Phone/Internet..... \$ 683.81

Worth Co. Sheriff, Police Services.....\$34,061.08

Worth Lumber Co. Supplies..... \$ 241.21

Ziegler Co., Main. Agreement-pw \$15,006.82

Library: Alliant Energy, Utilities..... \$ 321.12

Visa, Services..... \$ 92.05

Ace Professional Services, Services..... \$ 60.00

Baker Taylor, Materials..... \$ 163.96

Blackstone Publishing, Materials..... \$ 197.11

Center Point Large Print, Materials..... \$ 112.37

Globe Gazette, Materials..... \$ 630.99

JJ’s Hardware, Supplies..... \$ 57.44

Marco, Services..... \$ 80.98

Northwood Anchor, Ad..... \$ 107.20

Northwood Electric,

Services.....\$ 86.98

Summary of September 2025 receipts by fund type: General - \$92,237.71; Special Revenue-\$66,272.40; Debt Service - \$14,271.23; Capital Projects-\$0; Enterprise- \$97,922.79; Trust & Agency - \$271.71.

Summary of September 2025 disbursements by fund type: General - \$146,793.26; Special Revenue-\$36,800.06; Debt Service-\$0; Capital Projects-\$0; Enterprise-\$77,901.29; Trust & Agency - \$0.

Roll was called and the following voted aye: George-Zenz, Bode, Schreiber, Reeder. Absent: Peterson.

Motion to approve Resolution No. 2510-21 Transfer of funds from 28E Casino Fund to New Business Development/Commercial Revitalization Fund. Unanim.

Motion to approve Resolution No. 2510-22 Transfer of Funds from Water Deposit Fund to Water Utility Fund. Unanim.

Motion to approve Resolution No. 2510-23 Transfer of Funds from Garbage Deposit Fund to Garbage Fund. Unanim.

Motion to purchase a 2026 Ford F150 pickup not to exceed \$36,806 from Stivers. Unanim.

Motion to adjourn. Unanim.

Doug Moehle, Mayor

Amber Julseth City Administrator/Clerk

Lake Mills School minutes

Meeting Minutes
Board of Directors
Lake Mills Community
School District
October 13, 2025

Regular meeting of the board:

President Ryan Joynt called the regular meeting to order at 5:00 P.M. in the Library–Media Center at 102 South 4th Avenue East, Lake Mills, Iowa, and determined a quorum. The following board members were present: President Ryan Joynt, Vice President Casey Singelstad, and Kari Osheim. Stephanie Storby and Kristin Wempen were absent. Others present included Superintendent Chris Rogne, Elementary Principal Connor Kem, Board Secretary Drake Abbey, TLC Coordinator Nathan Sletten, Instructional Coach Brianna Baumann, Transportation Director Michael Wallin, and guests.

Agenda:

Osheim moved to approve the agenda. Singelstad seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes.

Administrative and other reports:

Mr. Rogne commented on announcements and celebrations. Mr. Kem gave a building-level report. Mr. Wallin gave a transportation report. Mr. Sletten and Ms. Baumann gave an academic achievement report. Mr. Sletten gave Mr. Madson’s building-level report. Mr. Rogne gave a system-wide update and facilities report.

Consent agenda:

Osheim moved to approve all items as presented on the consent agenda. Singelstad seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes.

1. Approval of previous minutes

2. Approval of officials

3. Approval of fundraisers: high school wrestling (clothing); football cheerleading (Pom Pups and cheer bows); chorus and band (cookie walk, Butter Braid frozen pastries, Club’s Choice, and chocolate bars); entrepreneurship class (candles and fire pit sales); Coach-es vs. Cancer (Volleyball Pink-Out Night with free-will offering and coffee options); FBILA (T-shirts for student enterprise collaboration between art and business throughout the school year)

4. Approval of financial reports

5. Acceptance of donations

6. Approval of personnel items

a. Resignations: Patricia Berry (from part-time kitchen); Kathleen Grunhvd (from route bus driver)

b. New hires, appointments, and adjustments: Max Deeter (for assistant high school track coach); Brooke Bergo (for middle school girls’ basketball coach); Jared Finer (for high school assistant boys’ JJV basketball coach); Brad Evenson (for route bus driver)

7. Approval of open enrollment requests

a. In: Suzanne Robinson requests her transitional kindergarten, kindergartener, and 1st grader attend from Forest City

b. Out: Andrew and Brittany Hall request their 9th grader attend Forest City

8. Approval of partnerships: inter-agency contract for special education instructional program with Mason City Schools; inter-agency contract for special education instructional program with Clear Lake Schools; services acknowledgement with planwith-ease.com for 403(b) administrative services

New business:

1. Singelstad moved to approve the first reading of IASB Policy Primer updates. Osheim seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes. The policies affected by this update include 208, 208R1, 208E1, 401.01, 502.07, 507.05, 708, 710.1E1, 507.02, 607.02, 802.02, and 804.05.

2. Mr. Rogne presented the 2024-2025 special education deficit. Singelstad moved to authorize administration to submit a request to the School Budget Review Committee for a modified supplemental amount of \$466,356 for the 2024-2025 special education deficit. Osheim seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes.

3. Mr. Rogne presented the 2024-2025 excess costs of the English learner program. Osheim moved to authorize administration to submit a request to the School Budget Review Committee for a modified supplemental amount of \$39,833 for excess costs of the 2024-2025 English learner pro-

gram. Singelstad seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes.

4. Mr. Wallin presented school bus bids received. The bids were for a diesel school bus to be primarily used for activity trips. Singelstad moved to accept the bid to purchase a diesel school bus from School Bus Sales for \$172,855. Osheim seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes.

5. Mr. Rogne presented information about litigation related to a PowerSchool data breach in December 2024. Osheim moved to approve the superintendent’s recommendation to approve an engagement agreement with Frantz Law Group related to PowerSchool litigation. Singelstad seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes.

6. The board briefly discussed potential attendance at the upcoming IASB BoardCon in November but took no formal action related to it.

7. Singelstad moved to appoint Kari Osheim to represent LMCS at the IASB Delegate Assembly. Osheim seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes.

Presentation and approval of bills:

1. Singelstad moved to approve payment of payment application number 1 for the weight room, art room, and STEM room renovation project. Osheim seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes.

2. Osheim moved to approve payment of the list of bills as presented. Singelstad seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes.

Next meeting:

The next regular board meeting is scheduled to be held in the Library–Media Center on Monday, November 10, 2025, at 5:00 P.M.

Superintendent evaluation:

Singelstad moved to table the superintendent evaluation until November. Osheim seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes.

Adjournment:

Singelstad moved to adjourn the meeting. Osheim seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes. The meeting adjourned at 6:14 P.M.

Ryan Joynt, Board President

Drake Abbey, Board Secretary

List of bills:

Vendor Name, Description, Amount	
Fund Number, 10 General Fund A&W Restaurants, Chorus workshop lunch.....	47.85
Access Systems, Supplies.....	319.98
ACDA-American Choral Dir. Assoc., Fees.....	330.00
Adobe, Subscription.....	419.88
AgVantage FS, Inc., Fuel; tank.....	3,354.36
Ahlers & Cooney, P.C., Legal services.....	55.00
Albert Lea Newspapers, Inc., Publications.....	196.00
Algona Community School District, Registration.....	175.00
Amazon Prime, Supplies.....	3,167.28
Arnold Motor Supply, Bus parts.....	8.59
Art Educators of Iowa, Registration.....	152.00
Bell’s Fire Stop, Inc., Service.....	190.00
Black Hills Energy, Natural gas.....	1,187.55
Bodenham, Dawn, Supplies.....	297.91
Brandt, Cindy, Mileage.....	109.20
Cengage Learning, Inc., Supplies.....	3,104.60
Central Rivers AEA, Lamination & printing.....	169.44
Central Rivers AEA, Transfer of state funding.....	16,680.10
City of Lake Mills, Utilities.....	11,577.76
Coloff Digital, LLC, Website support.....	200.00
Coloff Media, Publication.....	135.00
Comprehensible Classroom, The, Curriculum.....	70.00
Comprehensive Sound Services Rick Chitty, Music.....	36.00
Crisis Prevention Institute, Inc., Recertification course and materials.....	5,036.88
David’s Foods, Supplies.....	98.91
Dept of Inspections, Appeals & Licensing, Inspections.....	420.00

Des Moines Register #1150, The, Subscription.....	57.75
Don’s Motor Mart, Fuel.....	35.00
Donovan Group I, LLC, Services.....	3,500.00
Education.com, Inc., Subscription.....	119.88
Eocene Environmental Group, Inc., Asbestos training.....	150.00
ESGI, LLC, ESGI license.....	1,036.00
Fiserv, Processing fees.....	17.65
Forest City Community School, Four Oaks NITC.....	19,750.50
Generation Genius, Inc., Subscriptions.....	524.00
Gimkit, Subscription.....	59.88
Grizzly Industrial, Equipment.....	763.00
Groe Electric, Inc., Supplies.....	1,201.60
Harris School Solutions, Fees.....	127.50
Hillyard / Hutchinson, Supplies.....	5,092.11
Hispanic Flamenco Ballet, Admission.....	245.00
Huber Supply Company, Inc., Cylinder rental.....	241.00
ICDA, Pre-All-State Chorus Clinic.....	35.00
Iowa Assoc. of School Business Officials, Conference registration.....	290.00
Iowa High School Music Association, Registration fees.....	419.00
Iowa Technology and Education Connection, Conference registration.....	250.00
ISEBA, Insurance.....	7,054.82
J.W. Pepper & Son, Inc., Supplies.....	749.96
Knapp, Kehan, Design, rehearsals, & performances.....	2,765.00
Lake Mills Lumber Company, Supplies.....	68.88
Levine, Claire, Choreography.....	375.00
Madson, Steven, Meal reimbursement.....	14.97
Manufacturers Bank & Trust Company, Bank fee.....	86.40
Martin Brothers Distributing, Supplies.....	40.68
Matheson Tri-Gas, Inc., MIG welder.....	3,997.02
McGraw-Hill LLC, Supplies and subscriptions.....	579.30
Medical Enterprises, Inc., Supplies.....	41.00
Menards - Mason City, Supplies.....	203.24
Mock, Richard, Piano tuning.....	420.00
NAPA Auto Parts, Supplies.....	215.73
Nasco, Art supplies.....	267.96
NCIBA, Membership and registration.....	140.00
Nelson Septic Services LLC, Portable restroom rentals.....	250.00
Nelson, Mike, Meal reimbursement.....	9.14
Next Generation Technologies, LLC, Monthly support.....	219.00
NIACC, Bus driver annual training.....	40.00
North Central International LLC, Supplies.....	1.74
Northwood Anchor, Publications.....	373.90
OneSource, Background checks.....	73.50
opusevent.com, Opus auditions.....	48.00
Peterson Sanitation, Inc., Trash pickup.....	740.00
Pitseo Education, LLC, Supplies.....	91.99
R Comm Wireless, Batteries.....	285.00
Rieman Music Inc., Supplies.....	256.70
Robolink, Inc., Supplies.....	105.13
Rogne, Christopher, Physical.....	70.00
Scheitel’s Music Inc., Services.....	636.00
Schilling Supply Company, Supplies.....	44.71
Scholastic Inc., Supplies.....	1,741.90
School Bus Sales Co., Bus parts.....	2,266.48
School Datebooks, Supplies.....	533.03
School Health Corporation, Supplies.....	67.21
School Specialty, Supplies.....	51.50
Singelstad Do It Best Hardware, Supplies.....	1,523.22
Southern Lock & Glass LLC, Cabinet locks.....	271.80
Sweetwater Sound, Supplies.....	448.93
Synergy 1 Group, Inc., Subscription.....	248.99
Teacher Synergy LLC, Supplies.....	158.61

ThriftBooks, Books.....	10.91
Tower Garden, Equipment.....	670.00
Turf Trimmers Plus, LLC, Lawn care.....	11,142.87
Verizon Wireless, Hotspot.....	80.02
Walmart.com, Sewing machines.....	2,000.00
Wex, Inc., Fuel and repairs.....	433.88
Winnebago Cooperative Telecom Association, Telephone and Internet.....	1,023.19
WM Corporate Services, Inc., Recycling.....	1,231.32
Young Plumbing & Heating, Service calls.....	2,795.44
Fund Number 10.....	128,418.23
Fund Number 19, Non-Fiduciary Scholarship Fund NIACC, Scholarship.....	220.00
Fund Number 19.....	220.00
Fund Number 22, Management Levy Fund EMC Insurance Companies, Insurance.....	1,067.00
ISEBA, Retiree insurance.....	991.38
Lake Mills CSD - Self-Insurance Fund, Retiree insurance.....	117.62
Fund Number 22.....	2,176.00
Fund Number 71, Self-Insurance Fund Advantage Administrators, Services.....	2,926.56
Fund Number 71.....	2,926.56
Fund Number 21.....	
Student Activity Fund Accola-Sabin, Andrea, Officiating.....	125.00
Adams, Tony, Officiating.....	173.60
Amazon Prime, Supplies.....	358.70
Anderson, Steven, Officiating.....	85.00
Band Shoppe, Supplies.....	259.65
Biz Wiz Marketing, LLC, Supplies.....	129.00
Bohl, Terry, Officiating.....	150.00
Central Rivers AEA, Printing.....	25.18
Central Springs Community School, Entry fees.....	230.00
Clear Lake High School.....	
Entry fees.....	200.00
Dahle, Tony, Officiating.....	100.00
DeArmoun-Moretz, Paige, Officiating.....	80.00
Decker Sporting Goods, Supplies.....	669.50
Dehrkoop, Mike, Officiating.....	85.00
Dingman, Dan, Officiating.....	100.00
Drake, Brenda, Officiating.....	150.00
Eichmeier, Larry, Officiating.....	255.00
Fair, Ryder, Officiating.....	80.00
FloSports, Inc., Subscription.....	127.00
Forest City High School, Entry fees.....	300.00
Garner-Hayfield-Ventura Schools, Entry fees.....	150.00
Gerber Tours, Inc., Chorus trip.....	13,200.54
Greiman, Todd, Officiating.....	255.00
Halsted, Tony, Officiating.....	100.00
Iowa Basketball Coaches Assoc., Dues.....	150.00
Iowa HS Baseball Coaches Assoc., Dues.....	38.00
Iowa Wrest. Coaches/Officials Assoc., Fees and dues.....	255.00
Johnson, Tracy, Officiating.....	80.00
Jostens, Inc., Yearbooks.....	750.94
Kibbee, Randy, Officiating.....	210.00
Koob, Brian, Officiating.....	150.00
Ludwig, Dale, Officiating.....	80.00
Mason City High School, Entry fees.....	305.00
McColloch, Daniel, Officiating.....	85.00
Meinders, David, Officiating.....	125.00
Nalan, Mark, Officiating.....	150.00
Nevada High School, Entry fees.....	125.00
New Hampton High School, Entry fees.....	120.00
Nuehring, Caleb, Officiating.....	165.20
O’Connell, Michael, Officiating.....	280.00
O’Hern, Troy, Officiating.....	85.00
Osage High School, Entry fees.....	120.00
Paulson, Alex, Officiating.....	150.00
Pearce, Brian, Officiating.....	150.00
Pike, Travis,	

Officiating.....	100.00
Porta Phone, Supplies.....	307.15
Reiter, Sam, Officiating.....	130.00
Riles, Brody, Supplies.....	191.02
Shannon Wrestling and Timing, LLC, XC meet timing.....	1,083.60
Simpson, Roger, Officiating.....	150.00
Slater, Jason, Officiating.....	210.00
Smith, Troy, Officiating.....	150.00
SportBoardz, Supplies.....	10.50
Sudol, Collin, Officiating.....	150.00
Sullivan, Tom, Officiating.....	255.00
Suntken, Christopher, Officiating.....	120.00
Tesar, Mark, Officiating.....	130.00
Thein, Sarah, Officiating.....	125.00
Three Oaks Greenhouse, Supplies.....	179.00
Tigges, Sandra, Officiating.....	260.00
Trees, Eric, Officiating.....	150.00
Trophies Plus, Inc., Supplies.....	427.86
Welter, Meaghan, Entry fee.....	159.00
Wentz, Larry, Officiating.....	150.00
Whitehill, Scott, Officiating.....	100.00
Wooldridge, Karl, Officiating.....	80.00
World’s Finest Chocolate, Inc., Supplies.....	3,820.00
Fund Number 21.....	29,400.44
Fund Number 36, Physical Plant & Equipment Levy Fund Access Systems Inc., Copier lease.....	6,776.44
Forest City Community School, Four Oaks NITC.....	1,413.24
Garner-Hayfield-Ventura Schools, IT ticketing software.....	640.00
Groe Electric, Inc., Equipment; receptacles.....	6,131.33
H2I Group, Basketball hoop repairs.....	2,850.00
Jamf Software, LLC, Software renewal.....	2,691.00
Kindland Construction Services, Weight & art room renovation.....	6,111.00
Koch Landscapes LLC, Baseball bullpen area and concrete.....	15,000.00
Martin Gardner Architecture, P.C., Architecture services.....	6,649.94
Quadiant Leasing USA, Inc., Postage machine.....	519.42
Rygh, William, Concrete work.....	2,650.00
SBS Innovations, Auditorium lighting project.....	26,737.46
Young Plumbing & Heating, HVAC system.....	6,267.80
Fund Number 36.....	84,437.63
Fund Number 10.....	General Fund Fiserv, Processing fee.....
Fund Number 10.....	255.09
Fund Number 61.....	
School Nutrition Fund Burkholder-Nason, Sydney, Refund.....	20.00
David’s Foods, Supplies.....	35.42
Koppen, Marisa, Refund.....	100.65
Lake Mills CSD - General Fund, Payroll.....	20,416.60
Martin Brothers Distributing, Supplies.....	21,977.62
Sanchez, Yudelkys, Refund.....	7.15
VanderPlas, Courtney, Refund.....	3.30
Fund Number 61.....	42,560.74

List of officials:

Larry Eichmeier, V Volleyball Quad, 10/14/2025.....	\$130.00
Todd Greiman, V Volleyball Quad, 10/14/2025.....	\$130.00
Tom Sullivan, V Volleyball Quad, 10/14/2025.....	\$130.00
Mark Tesar, V Volleyball Quad, 10/14/2025.....	\$130.00
Randy Kibbee, JV Volleyball Tournament, 10/18/2025.....	\$120.00
Michael O’Connell, JV Volleyball Tournament, 10/18/2025.....	\$120.00
Larry Wentz, JV Volleyball Tournament, 10/18/2025.....	\$120.00
Tracy Johnson, MS Volleyball, 10/20/2025.....	\$80.00
Linda Keifer, MS Volleyball, 10/20/2025.....	\$80.00
Adrain Simonson, MS Football, 10/21/2025.....	\$85.00
Monte Moore, MS Football, 10/21/2025.....	\$85.00
Steve Staudt, MS Football, 10/21/2025.....	\$85.00

Legal

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PROFESSIONAL CARD Business Announcements

VETERINARIAN WORTH COUNTY VETERINARY SERVICE Michael E. Dierenfeld, D.V.M. Clinic: 324-1084 Home: 324-1147

PHYSICIANS MIERCYONE

803 9th Avenue North Northwood, IA 50459 641-324-1221

NORTHWOOD INSURANCE AGENCY John Midtgaard, Agent 91 9th St. S., Northwood, IA Office 641-324-9844 Fax 641-324-9844

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Study shows Iowa food farmers had a \$66.5M economic output

By Cami Koons
Iowa Capital Dispatch
www.iowacapitaldispatch.com

A survey of the commercial horticulture food crops industry in Iowa showed direct specialty crop sales of more than \$79 million in 2022 and even higher figures of economic output attributable to the industry.

Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship announced the results of the 2023 survey Wednesday and said it shows the local produce industry is “diverse, growing, and making a significant contribution to Iowa’s economy and agricultural identity.”

The survey was sent to Iowa specialty crop producers who grow edible crops like vegetables, fruits, berries, nuts, honey, maple syrup, herbs, mushrooms and pumpkins.

According to a news release from IDALS, this is the first “comprehensive look” at the industry since 2015.

More than 850 specialty farmers participated in the survey, which found that a total of 11,650 acres of specialty crops were grown in 2023.

Sales from these farms had a statewide economic output of \$66.5 million in 2023 and supported \$29.9 million in labor.

Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Mike Naig said the survey “confirms the economic strength of specialty crop producers.”

“Iowa’s horticulture food crops sector is an important part of our agricultural economy and a defining feature of the diversity and vibrancy of Iowa agriculture,” Naig said.

Most of these farms are small, grow multiple products and sell directly to consumers.

These farmers skew young with nearly 50% of respondents below the age of 35.

The survey found the average age of Iowa specialty crop producers was 57.2 years, which is lower than the national average, 58.1 years, of producers in the U.S. according to the latest Census of Agriculture.

The majority of specialty farm producers responded that they also work-off farm jobs and 37% responded they work full-time jobs off the farm in addition to running the farm.

The average farm size for these edible crops was 7.8 acres, though many farms are quite a bit smaller considering the median farm size was just 2.8 acres. The survey also found that just 4% of farms had crop insurance.

From 1989 to 2000, the number of specialty farms in Iowa declined from 1,400 farms to 938 farms, according to the survey results. The industry has since rebounded, with 1,680 farms counted in 2023.

The results show the total number of sales of edible specialty crops increased by 73% from 2012 to 2022, with inflation-adjusted figures. The survey results show direct edible specialty crop sales amounted to \$79 million in 2022.

In addition to growing on average 3.8 distinct specialty crops, farmers also diversify their operations with on-farm activities. Nearly 60% of surveyed farms participate in some form of agritourism, which they reported generated \$6.6 million in income.

Farmers also increase their sales with value-added products, or products that have been processed in some way, like canned vegetables or wine. The survey

results show edible specialty crop farms sold an estimated \$11.3 million in value-added products in 2023.

Naig said he believes the Iowa edible specialty crop industry will continue to grow, especially with the expansion of the department’s marketing service, Choose Iowa. Naig said these farmers also help connect Iowans to their food sources.

“With the continued expansion of the Choose Iowa program, I believe this sector is well-positioned for even greater growth in the years ahead,” Naig said. “Horticulture food crops bring opportunities not just for established farms but also for beginning farmers who are shaping the future of our industry.”

Honey, peppers, apples, tomatoes and lettuce were the top edible specialty crops grown in Iowa. According to survey results, the number of honey producers in the state has “dramatically increased” as there were fewer than 200 producers in 1997 and there were 1,229 in 2022.

The other top crops had between 400 and 550 producers each in 2022. Producers who sold through Community Supported Agriculture programs or at farmers markets were more likely to grow a higher variety of crops.

According to the release from IDALS, the report, which was produced primarily by the department and staff from Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, will help lawmakers and department leaders to “better support specialty crop farmers and help them overcome challenges, seize new opportunities, and sustain growth.”

Tools that talk: How assistive technology is opening doors for students

By Sarah Nelson
Director of Information Technology and Special Programs with Central Rivers Area Education Agency

Imagine a classroom where every student, no matter their ability, can fully participate, talk, and learn. Thanks to new developments in assistive technology (AT), this idea is becoming real across the schools served by Central Rivers Area Education Agency (AEA). These tools—like text-to-speech, speech recognition, or AAC (tools that help people communicate in different ways)—are giving students new ways to access learning, be independent, and share their thoughts.

What Do “Talking” Tools Do?

Talking tools include technologies that change text into speech and speech into text, help with speaking, or assist with reading and writing. Some examples are:

Text-to-speech (TTS): This software reads digital text out loud for students who have trouble reading words.

Speech-to-text/dictation: Students speak, and the tool changes their speech into written words.

AAC devices or apps: For students who can't speak or have trouble speaking, these simple or advanced tools offer other ways to communicate.

These tools help remove obstacles to learning and participating, so students can focus on what they're learning, how they express themselves, and their thinking, instead of just the basic skills.

Why It Matters



SARAH NELSON

Students with dyslexia (a learning difficulty that affects reading), language processing problems, physical difficulties, or speech problems benefit directly. But also, students who struggle with reading, those learning English, and students with temporary injuries can also benefit from richer, more inclusive learning environments. Using AT often leads to students being more involved, having more confidence, and doing better in school.

Putting Accessibility & AT Together

While assistive technology gives students a voice, accessible design makes sure that the learning materials they use are easy to use from the start. The National Center on Accessible Digital Educational Materials & Instruction (NC-AEMI) lists nine important skills in its "Accessibility Basics" guide. These skills include using proper headings, making sure colors contrast enough, adding captions, and writing alt text (descriptions of images) to make digital materials more welcoming and accessible. When teachers create materials with

these practices in mind, students using assistive tools face fewer problems and can learn more smoothly.

Central Rivers AEA's Role & Next Steps

Central Rivers AEA works with schools to make sure students have the right assistive technology tools and support. Our team offers:

Working together to review information and assess what AT students need.

Suggestions for tools and chances to try them out to find the best fit.

Support for creating accessible educational materials that follow the best practices.

As AT becomes more powerful and digital materials are designed to be used by everyone, every student's chance to participate and succeed grows. At Central Rivers AEA, we're working hard to make sure all learners have the access, participation, and tools they need to be heard.

To learn more or ask for help, visit www.central-riversaea.org and search for “assistive technology.”

Sarah Nelson is the Director of Information Technology and Special Programs with Central Rivers Area Education Agency based in Cedar Falls. She can be reached at snelson@central-riversaea.org. Central Rivers AEA helps over 5,000 K-12 teachers in 18 counties of north central Iowa improve results for over 60,000 students. Learn more at www.central-riversaea.org.

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