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The Northwood Anchor

14 Pages | Wednesday, May 20, 2026 - No. 20 | Northwood, IA 50459



DAGEN PETERSON
Valedictorian
Iowa Bar



WESTON WILLAND
Salutatorian
Swensrud



ALEC DUCOMMUN
Swensrud
Julseth



MERRIN HANSON
Swensrud



ISAAC LUDINGTON
Swensrud



LAUREN PETZNICK
Swensrud
Moen

2026 Northwood-Kensett grads awarded $795,299.60 in college scholarships

Northwood-Kensett's class of 2026 graduated this past Sunday. During the commencement ceremony, scholarships and scholarly recognitions were announced.

This year's graduating class received $553,799.60 for their first year of college and $795,299.60 in support of their full college careers from scholarships announced on Sunday.

Of the scholarship money going to this year's graduating class, $307,500 went to 15 students from local scholarships. A total of $487,799.60 went to graduating seniors from the Worth County Development Authority's education funds.

Dagen Peterson earned the highest academic honor in his class, as the N-K Class of 2026 valedictorian. Weston Willand earned salutatorian honors.

Scholarships, see Page 2







Storm aftermath

A line of thunderstorms swept through the area Sunday evening. For a few areas, the storms arrived with damaging winds and at least one reported tornado. Pictured above is damage near Joice. At one property on Cardinal Avenue, two outbuildings were destroyed and trees and a home were severely damaged, with one reported injury. Nearby a string of several power poles were broken near the base. An overturned semi remained on its side Monday morning.

Memorial Day observed around Worth County Monday

This Monday, people throughout the nation will honor those who gave their lives serving their country. Several area communities will hold their own Memorial Day services this Monday.

Government offices and most businesses will close on Monday to allow family and friends to gather to honor the memory of their loved ones.

• In Northwood, Memorial Day services begin at 11 a.m. at the Sunset Rest Cemetery.

Musicians from the Northwood-Kensett High School band, directed by instructor Matt Alverio-Kapka, will provide patriotic music. The VFW Color Guard will provide military honors.

The speaker of the ceremony will be Reverend Clay Ellingson. Ellingson will

Memorial, see Page 2



Briefs

Bethel Women host Salad Luncheon June 3

The Bethel United Women of Faith will host a Guest Day Salad Luncheon on Wednesday, June 3, at 12 noon.

The program will feature Reverend Rhoda Preston, wife of former Bethel pastor Don Preston. Rhoda will present a program on "Pysanky-Decorative Ukrainian Eggs." The process is a centuries old Ukrainian tradition that has become an Easter tradition.

The program is open to everyone that is interested in learning more and enjoying the luncheon.



The Week's WEATHER

From National Weather Service information

Date	Hi	Lo	Prec.
Mon. May 11	69	30	
Tues. May 12	79	54	T
Wed. May 13	74	43	
Thurs. May 14	78	44	0.01
Fri. May 15	90	50	0.83
Sat. May 16	80	53	
Sun. May 17	74	60	0.59

Primary absentee voting underway

On Tuesday, June 2, Iowa voters will choose who will represent the Democratic and Republican parties in the November general election. Absentee voting in person at auditor's offices is underway.

Offices in primary elections include national, state and county elected offices.

Primary, see Page 2

High school royalty represent bands at North Iowa Band Festival Saturday

This weekend, high school marching musicians will take part in the 87th North Iowa Band Festival in Mason City, with a theme of "Bands, Birthdays and Brass!"

Each school taking part in the parade sends students to represent them as band royalty.

Sophie Rye and Zach Heiken will represent Northwood-Kensett as band royalty.

Ava Menke will represent Lake Mills as band queen.

Rye is the daughter of Carl and Janet Rye. She has performed as a part of the Concert Band and Marching Band at N-K.

Outside of music, Rye has participated in volleyball, cheerleading, golf, track, National Honor Society and Student Council.

Rye plans to attend Iowa State University to study Radiology Technology.

Heiken is the son of Adam and Sarah Heiken. Heiken has played in Concert Band, Marching Band, Jazz Band, Pep Band and Honor Band.

Heiken has also taken part in cross country, track, FFA and National Honor Society at N-K, as well as in 4-H.

Menke is the daughter of Kyle and Marie Menke. She has performed as a part of the Marching Band, Concert Band, Jazz Band and as a Drum Major at Lake Mills. She has also performed in the Choir, as Chorus President, Musical, Show Choir, All-State Choir and received the ICDA Outstanding Choral Award at Lake Mills.

Outside of music, Menke has participated on the cheerleading, track, softball and speech teams. She has also served on the Lake Mills Student Council.

Menke plans to attend Iowa State University to major in Family and Consumer Science Education and Studies.

Band Fest, see Page 2



LAKE MILLS BAND QUEEN AVA MENKE



N-K BAND QUEEN SOPHIE RYE



N-K BAND KING ZACH HEIKEN



SOPHIE RYE
Holstad
Janssen
Moen



TAYLOR FOSS
Julseth



ZACH HEIKEN
Janssen



CADEN HELGESON
Janssen



CAMRYN RHEINGANS
Janssen
Moen



ALEX TIEDEMANN
Janssen
Igou
Moen



HAYZIN JACOBSON
Igou



LOGAN MANNING
Igou



KENEDIE BERRY
Moen



Farewell to the halls that started it all

Before they graduated on Sunday, the class of 2026 paid one last visit as students to the halls of Northwood-Kensett Elementary. As the graduates-to-be walked through the elementary they were congratulated with high fives, cheers, posters and other messages of congratulations from the younger students, teachers and staff.

Primary
Cont. from Page 1

County offices that will appear on primary election ballots include the attorney, recorder, treasurer and supervisors from District 1 and District 3.

State offices on ballots will include Governor, Secretary of State, Auditor of State, Treasurer of State, Secretary of Agriculture, Attorney General and House District 60.

Two federal offices will appear on ballots. That includes U.S. Senator and U.S. Representative from Iowa's District 2, including Worth County.

Absentee ballot requests for the primary election may currently be submitted. Absentee ballots may currently be voted in the auditor's office.

June 1 is the last day to request and vote an absentee ballot in person. In person absentee voting continues at the auditor's office until 4 p.m. that day.

The primary election will take place on Tuesday, June 2. Polling places will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

The deadline for the political parties to pick candidates for county offices with no candidate in the primary is June 2. That is the deadline for candidates representing other political parties and independent candidates with no party affiliation.

That is also the deadline for those that want to appear on general election ballots for non-partisan office.

Memorial
Cont. from Page 1

also deliver opening and closing prayers.

In case of rain, the observance will be held at the N-K High School.

• Memorial Day services conducted by the VFW Color Guard will be held at the State Line Cemetery north of Northwood at 9 a.m.

In case of inclement weather, the ceremony will be held at the Gordonsville United Methodist Church.

• Memorial Day ceremonies will be held in the Kensett Community Center beginning at 9 a.m.

The ceremony will include an address by Steve O'Neil, who will also deliver the invocation and tribute to deceased veterans.

Recent N-K graduates Zach Heiken and Weston Willand will recite the Gettysburg Address and "In Flanders Field."

The ceremony will also include music provided by the N-K band.

The event is sponsored by the Kensett Lions Club.

Refreshments will be served afterwards by the Kensett Library Board.

• Memorial Day services in Manly will begin at the city park at 8:30 a.m. for those assembling to parade to the Manly Cemetery, for the Memorial Day services, which begin at 9 a.m.

The Central Springs band, directed by Cole Younger, will perform patriotic music.

The Memorial Address will be given by Neil Wheeler, Vice Commander of Edward Tosel American Legion Post #110 in Manly.

The American Legion Auxiliary will provide the decoration of the cannon. Crosses recognizing recently deceased veterans will also be in place.

The American Legion Honor Guard will provide a salute to the dead.

The Legion will present Memorial Day ceremonies in Plymouth following the Manly ceremony.

• Memorial Day services will be held at the Grafton Cemetery, beginning at 10 a.m.

Participating will be the American Legion Honor Guard. Post Commander Philip Hackbart will be conducting the services. A poem about the American flag will be read and the Pledge of Allegiance will be led by Aiden Zillgitt. Special music will be provided by Mary Jo Urbatsch. This year's guest speaker will be Sharon Hulshizer.

Sharon was raised on a farm south and east of Grafton, the daughter of the late Kenneth and Olga Borchardt. She married Randy Hulshizer in 1987 and has lived in town for the past 38 years. They have five children and nine grandchildren. Sharon is currently the Secretary of Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Grafton, where she has been a life-long member, and she has helped to organize the Memorial Day program for the last 26 years.

In case of inclement weather, services will be held inside the Grafton Community Center.

• A Memorial Day Lunch will be served at Silver Lake Lutheran Church, 705 Silver Lake Road, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The meal will include beef burgers, potato salad, pies, desserts, coffee, water and lemonade.

• Sion Lutheran Church will host a Memorial Day dinner from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., serving scalloped potatoes and ham, baked beans, salads, desserts, coffee and lemonade. The cost is $12 per adult or $5 per child, with 2 and under free.

• Elk Creek Lutheran Church will hold a dinner from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The menu includes scalloped potatoes and ham, baked beans, salads and bars for a free will donation.

Scholarships
Cont. from Page 1

Peterson was presented with the Iowa Bar Association's American Citizenship Award. The American Citizenship Award is voted on by faculty, with qualities that include being a leader, a serious student, having an informed education and being reliable.

A total of 34 students each received a scholarship for $14,229.40 from the WCDA's education funds.

The WCDA scholarship money is given to students who live in Worth County for their junior and senior years. The funds are given to the colleges where seniors attend, to be used in four years.

Northwood High School graduate and successful businessman Sidney Swensrud established the Swensrud Scholarship in 1953.

This year's Swensrud scholarship recipients include Alec Ducommun, Merrin Hanson, Isaac Ludington, Dagen Peterson, Lauren Petznick and Weston Willand.

This year's Swensrud scholarship recipients will each receive $2,000 for the coming school year. They will receive $11,000 in their second, third and fourth years of college, for a total of $35,000. This year's Swensrud scholars will receive a total of $210,000 in their college careers. In the history of the Swensrud Scholarship, 423 recipients have been awarded.

Sophie Rye was named this year's recipient of the Hellen K. Holstad Scholarship. The award is a four year renewable scholarship. Rye will receive $2,000 for each of four years, for a total of $8,000.

The Janssen Family Scholarship was established by the estate of 1954 Northwood High School graduate Don Janssen.

Zach Heiken, Caden Helgeson, Camryn Rheingans, Sophie Rye and Alex Tiedemann received the scholarship, for $2,500 for each of their first four years of college.

Kenedie Berry, Dagen Peterson, Lauren Petznick, Camryn Rheingans, Sophie Rye and Alex Tiedemann received the Richard Moen Aviation Scholarship, which is a one year award given to graduates pursuing a career in aviation, education or medicine. This year's recipients will each receive $5,000.

The Truman and Lorraine Julseth Scholarship was established in memory of avid N-K supporters Truman and Lorraine Julseth.

Taylor Foss and Weston Willand were awarded the scholarship this year, receiving $2,500 towards their college education.

Hayzin Jacobson, Logan Manning and Tiedemann were named the recipients of the Oren and Carrie Igou Scholarship. They will each receive $1,500 for their first year of college.

Band Fest
Cont. from Page 1

The band royalty and the marching bands they represent will take part in the North Iowa Band Festival Parade this Saturday, as a part of the 87th year of the "largest free marching band competition in the Midwest."

The parade begins this Saturday, May 23, at 10 a.m.

School band royalty will take place in the awards ceremony that will take place at 1:45 p.m. at the Principal Pavillion. Marching band awards will also be announced at that time.

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Viking boys track seventh at Panther Relays

By Julie Salisbury

The Northwood-Kensett Vikings boys track team traveled to Manly on Monday, May 11, for the Panther Co-ed Relays and finished in seventh place with 41 points.

In the 100-meter dash, Ethan Franck finished ninth with a time of 12.77 and Kale Bode was 15th with a time of 14.43.

The 4x100 relay team of Brady Tufte, Alex Tiedemann, Gabe Aleman and Ethan Franck finished seventh with a time of 49.11.

In the 200-meter dash, Aydan Schutz was 14th with a time of 27.21 and Keenan Davidson Jacobs was 15th with a time of 27.24.

The 4x200 relay team of Hayzin Jacobson, Tiedemann, Alec Ducommun and Franck placed sixth with a time of 1:40.14.

Henry Hanson was ninth in the 400-meter run with a time of 56.67 and Tucker Duvall was 10th with a time of 1:02.55..

The 4x400 relay team of Carson Tufte, Ducommun, Dagen Peterson and Landen Nelson placed third with a time of 3:53.25.

In the 800-meter run, Peterson placed sixth with a time of 2:19.35 and Ronan Penfold was 12th with a time of 3:21.97.

The sprint medley relay team of Ducommun, Aleman, Jacobson and Nelson placed third with a time of 1:44.65.

In the 1600 meter, Penfold finished ninth with a time of 7:04.78.

Zach Heiken placed third in the 3200-meter with a time of 12:01.12.

Kolton Robinson placed fifth in the 110-meter hurdles with a time 17.01 and B. Tufte was ninth with a time of 17.99.

The shuttle hurdle relay team of B. Tufte, Hanson, Weston Heims and Robinson placed third with a time of 1:08.34.

Heims placed sixth in the 400 hurdles with a time of 1:06.74.

Hanson placed fourth in the long jump with a distance of 18-02 and Jacobson placed sixth with a jump of 17-03..

Tiedemann placed sixth in the shotput with a throw of 37-09.25 and Max Johnson was 14th with a throw of 29-01.75.

On Thursday, May 14, the Vikings traveled to St. Ansgar for the Class 1A district/state qualifying meet.

The sprint medley team of Franck, Jacobson, Aleman and Ducommun finished 11th with a time of 1:46.54.

The 4x800 relay team of C. Tufte, Heiken, Peterson and Nelson placed fifth with a time of 8:50.96.

The shuttle hurdle relay team of B. Tufte, Hanson, Heims and Robinson placed third with a time of 1:06.17.

Davidson-Jacobs finished 21st in the 100-meter dash with a time of 12.99 and Bode was 26th with a time of 13.97.

The distance medley team of Franck, Jacobson, Aleman and C. Tufte finished 10th with a time of 4:05.05.

Hanson was seventh in the 400-meter with a time of 56.38 and Duvall was 20th with a time of 1:00.77.

The 4x200 relay team of Nelson, Tiedemann, Heims and Ducommun finished 10th with a time of 1:41.06.

Robinson placed fifth in the 110 hurdles with a time of 16.82 and B. Tufte was 14th with a time of 10.70.

Peterson was 19th in the 800-meter run with a time of 2:26.33 and Penfold was 21st with a time of 3:06.89.

Jacobson was 16th in the 200-meter dash with a time of 25.69 and Schutz was 22nd with a time of 26.64.

Robinson was 18th in the 400 hurdles with a time of 1:10.84 and Heims was 19th with a time of 1:11.60.

Heiken was eighth in the 1600-meter with a time of 5:08.21 and Penfold was 24th with a time of 7:15.87.

The 4x100 relay team of B. Tufte, Tiedemann, Ducommun and Franck finished 12th with a time of 49.94.

The 4x400 relay team of C. Tufte, Peterson, Hanson and Nelson finished ninth with a time of 3:48.95.

Tiedemann was 13th in the shotput with a throw of 36-8.75 and Johnson was 19th with a throw of 32-11.

Johnson was 12th in the discus with a distance of 107-4 and Tiedemann was 19th with a distance of 86-6.

Jacobson was eighth in the long jump with a jump of 18-2.75 and Hanson was ninth with a jump of 17-8.

West Hancock won the team title with 150 points followed by St. Ansgar with 104, Lake Mills with 88.5, Riceville with 88, GTRA with 67, North Union with 44, West Fork with 42, Bishop Garrigan with 40, North Iowa with 38, Belmond-Klemme with 31.5, Newman with 22, Northwood-Kensett with 18, and Clear Lake Classical with 8.



Viking Gabe Aleman battles during Thursday night's district meet in St. Ansgar.



Viking Landen Nelson takes the baton from Hayzin Jacobson during Monday's Panther Co-ed Relays.









N-K celebrates Earth Day

In April, students and staff at Northwood-Kensett Elementary showed how much they care about the their environment. They did so with creative crafts showing ways to take care of the planet. They also headed outdoors to help clean up the school's neighborhood, and the fairgrounds too.

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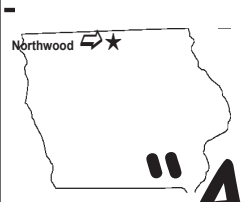
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Northwood Anchor Northwood

From the AD Desk

By Trevor Hunt and Monte DeArmoun
Northwood-Kensett Athletic Directors

The State Track Meet begins Thursday at Drake Stadium in Des Moines. Congratulations to Ivy Urbatsch who advanced in the 800, 1500 and 3000 Meter runs. She broke her own school record last Thursday at the State Qualifying Meet in the 3000 Meter run by 17 seconds.

The summer sports season is in full swing. Softball and baseball teams are scheduled to play at St. Ansgar (Tuesday, May 19), softball hosts West Central (Maynard) on Wednesday and baseball travels to Bancroft to play North Union at historic Bancroft Memorial Ballpark on Thursday. BUT PLEASE REMEMBER, with weather conditions the schedules can change. Please use the QR code or go to the school's website for an up-to-date calendar. You may also check the school's Facebook account for ticket information and changes in the schedule.

Adult Activity passes are still on sale in the office. If you're a parent, grandparent, or fan, and you're going to purchase tickets for each individual event you will spend $80 this summer. Why not stop at the office and get the pass for $50 (or $25 for senior citizens)? The passes will also be available at the May 20 and May 25 home games.

The coaching staff have held discussions about this summer's Athletic Enhancement program. Information will be sent via the school's JMC soon (if it hasn't already). Max Day is Thursday, May 28. The summer program will start Monday, June 1.

FROM THE AD DESK

SCAN FOR UPDATED INFORMATION



Transportation appreciation

At the end of April students at Northwood-Kensett Elementary showed their thanks for the drivers that transport them to and from school. The drivers were thanked for being the welcoming faces to begin students' school days and the last ones they see before they return home.



Caring for their caregivers

At the start of May, students at Northwood-Kensett showed their appreciation for the school's nurses. That included Nurse Kaitlyn, who is there when the students aren't feeling well, or when they skin a knee, lose a tooth or any other medical concern. Nurse Kaitlyn also helps organize and present programs that teach the students about how to stay safe and healthy. Also thanked was Nurse Jenny, who fills in as substitute school nurse when needed and provides other assistance.

Inspiration

By Troy Einertson
Northwood-Kensett girls track coach

Inspiration is defined in the Merriam Webster dictionary as someone that people admire and want to be like. Now you may be thinking, why is Troy writing about inspiration this week? He should be focused on State Track and getting the girls ready to roll on the Blue Oval. Well I am, but I also think that everyone needs to know some of the kids who inspire me to be a better coach every day.

I have coached Zach Hieken and Merrin Hanson now for roughly five years and this year I had the pleasure to coach Dagen Peterson as well. These three seniors amplify what the word inspiration should mean to all of us. No matter what crazy curve that has been thrown at them, they still work hard in and out of the classroom to not only make themselves better, but the others around them as well.

Now each one of these extraordinary kids has a story they could tell you about themselves, and things they have had to deal with, but you will never hear them tell those stories because they are more focused on what is happening today, and how they can make a difference tomorrow.

I have had numerous conversations with the three of them, and most of these conversations have been about what is good in our school, our sports teams and our community, and never a complaint. Well, unless we are talking about one of our workouts we were doing in XC or track! If you ask them, they will really tell you how much they love running repeats on Marks Hill Road!

The three of them inspire me every day to not only be a better coach and teacher, but a better person as well. But why inspiration, Troy? It is a good question, but one that is easily answered by telling a story about each one of these kids.

We will start off with Merrin. Now she has had to put up with me the most, and I have a million stories I could tell you about her, but the one that comes back to the word inspiration the most is the story about our track meet in North Iowa last year. Merrin was running the 3000, 1500, 4x800 and 800 for us and she did an amazing job. Shortly after this meet she started feeling a pain in her hip, and it was diagnosed that there was a small fracture.



MERRIN HANSON



DAGEN PETERSON



ZACH HEIKEN

Merrin couldn't run for quite some time after this, and to be honest, I didn't know if she would run again. Once she was cleared, she came back and worked harder than she ever had before. I had to tone it down for her numerous times during the summer because I was worried she would get hurt again. She ended up running her best times in XC and was a second team all conference runner as well.

During the XC season Merrin also conquered one of her demons by placing and winning a medal at the Lake Mills Invite. In the previous years the Rice Lake course always got the best of her. Not this year though. She went out with a purpose and not only conquered her demon, but destroyed it.

During track Merrin has continued her desire to be better and has worked extremely hard on reaching her goals. She has set personal records in the 1500 and 800, and smashed her 3000 PR by almost a minute. She has dealt with adversity throughout her track and XC career, and has come back stronger and more eager every time. INSPIRATION!

I have a lot of stories about Zach as well, but instead of a story I will just tell you about this year.

Zach has had a dream of competing at the state level since I have known him. He works extremely hard, is always looking at ways to get better and if there was a wish I could grant anyone it would be for him to be able to live that dream.

With XC there are always factors that go into how you race. Training, health, weather and so on. Zach was making a ton of strides in XC this year and his times continued to drop, but then all of a sudden things kind of started building up. Health issues, legs were getting heavy and when all of this starts going bad, the mind starts to take over. Zach kept working, kept running and kept on trying to do better not only for himself but others. The times however never came down. Did Zach give up and wallow in his sorrows? He did not. He laced his shoes up, towed the line and got after it every day. No complaints, just hard work and determination to get better and help his teammates however he could!

He worked hard all winter getting stronger, and putting on the miles that all distance runners need. Not on the treadmill, he is like me and really hates them. He braved the frigid weather outside on the gravel roads and around town. Because of all the hard work this winter he has come into the track season with a strong desire to succeed, and he is working hard to get to the Blue Oval and represent himself and his school at the state track meet. INSPIRATION.

Finally Dagen. I have known Dagen for a while now. Basically as the kid who does all these triathlons and as someone who I just wished would come run for me. When I heard he was running XC this year all that I could think of was how lucky I was, and how much better our team was going to be. What I didn't know is all that Dagen has to deal with on a daily basis.

This alone would be INSPIRATION for all of us, but this is not what inspired me, it was his constant compassion for everyone he comes in contact with. Whether it be Zach and his ribs, Merrin and the pep talks or running with Ivy he would always put others ahead of himself.

When Dagen started running XC last summer he was on a mile restriction. So we talked about it and how we could best handle this and I was like, yep this is not going to work at all. I cannot supervise everyone all the time, and with how far we were going to be spread apart, there was no way Dagen would follow these restrictions. He is a competitor, a boy and he wants to do what everyone else is doing. Well, I was wrong. Dagen followed his plan to a T, and when he was done he was always waiting for everyone else to encourage them.

Once the season started Dagen was not where he wanted to be so we changed things around a little and continued to work hard. Dagen did everything he could do, continued to improve and ended the XC season amazingly. He continued to work hard over the winter, and like Zach, he is on the verge of living a dream by running on the Blue Oval this week.

This alone is enough, but it isn't even close to why he is such an INSPIRATION. Dagen is everything that is good about what our kids represent here at Northwood-Kensett. He is the most respectful, hard working kid I have ever worked with, and to say it is an honor to coach him would be an understatement!

Merrin, Zach and Dagen are only three of the wonderful kids that we have in our school. Sometimes in this crazy world we are all living in, we all dwell on all of the negative things that are happening, and do not embrace the things that are good. Merrin, Zach and Dagen should be, and are an INSPIRATION to a lot of people, and I thank them for everything they have done! I am going to miss the three of them immensely next year, but I know there is greatness in all of their futures and I am just glad that I had the opportunity to coach them all!



Adding a book about blueberries

Worth County Farm Bureau recently presented the county's school libraries with a copy of the American Farm Bureau Book of the Year. N-K library associate Deanna Katcher is pictured with Northwood-Kensett's copy of "I Love Blueberries." The book is about growing blueberries in a classroom using hydroponics and how the students work with their community helpers to help make this happen.

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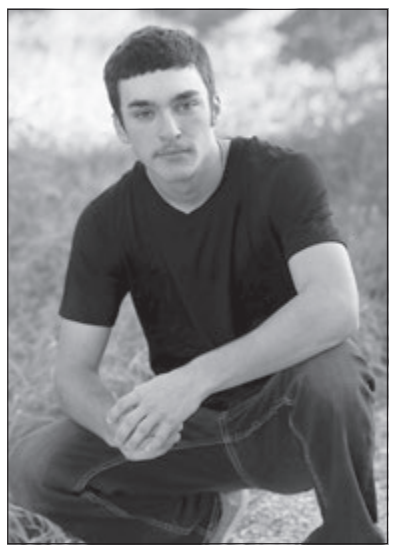

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Kensett fire hydrants painting

Northwood-Kensett kids painted the fire hydrants in Kensett on Wednesday, May 6, as a part of the school's community connection day. There were 14 students and four chaperones painting 26 fire hydrants throughout the city. It was a really cool morning, but the City of Kensett shared appreciation for the students' efforts. Nathan Julseth sandblasted the hydrants to prep them on Tuesday for the paint on Wednesday.

End of Session - Part Two



Jane Bloomingdale
Iowa House
District 60

Biggest news this week for our area —Summit Carbon Solutions' decision to discontinue its proposed pipeline routes in Worth and Mitchell counties — including connections to Absolute Energy and POET Hanlontown. This is a significant development for north Iowa landowners and communities. Summit cited efforts to streamline the project and focus on its "core" system, the larger issue has still been the use of eminent domain and the protection of private property rights. I have supported several pieces of legislation to restrict or ban the use of eminent domain for this project. Moving forward, the Legislature has an opportunity to review Iowa's eminent domain code to better balance private property rights with infrastructure development and provide clearer certainty for landowners, developers, and local communities.

Property Tax Reform (SF 2472) was at the top of the list of priorities for the last year and a half. SF2472 is a great beginning to reform, besides the 2% growth cap, this bill includes:

• An increase in the Homestead exemption so every qualifying homestead will see a reduction in property taxes. The exemption is set at 10% of taxable valuation, with a minimum of $5,500 and a maximum of $20,000, while keeping the existing military and senior exemptions. A three- year phase in will include a buy down of the school levy from $5.40 to $4.90 and all properties will see this reduction.

• Multi-residential housing property taxes will gradually increase over the next three years as rollback valuations rise by up to 6%. These properties often fall between residential and commercial classifications, and I believe these properties should have a separate classification to reflect the role of multi- residential housing.

• The elderly and disabled renters' property tax credit was increased from $1,000 to $1,500 to help offset rising housing costs.

• A cleanup and standardization of property tax statements to make them easier for taxpayers to understand, clearly showing how much each taxing entity (schools, counties, cities) is levying.

• Tax Increment Financing (TIF) will have a 23-year sunset on all future TIF districts, adds an opt-in provision for school districts, and limits perpetual TIF to 60% taxable valuation, returning the rest of the valuation to the regular tax base.

• Creates a First Home Iowa Account – Individual $2000 tax deductible contribution.

• Increases the EMS levy maximum from $.75 to $1.50 with a vote.

As we move forward into next session, it will be important to look at short term rental property—such as Airbnb or Vrbo—and how that property is classified, is it rental or homestead? We need to look at commercial property and the equalization process. I would also like to look at a Property Tax Deferment option for seniors truly being taxed out of their homes, allowing eligible homeowners to delay payment of their property taxes without shifting the burden onto other property owners.

It has been good to be back in district the last couple of weeks and spending time on the campaign trail. I appreciate all the conversations and support across the district. Remember to VOTE BLOOMINGDALE in the Republican Primary on June 2.

It is an honor to represent you in the Iowa Legislature. As always, please reach out with any questions or concerns at Jane.bloomingdale@legis.iowa.gov

Northwood Anchor Church

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

Bethlehem Lutheran, Manly
Wednesday, Newsletter Deadline, 9 a.m., Grace Circle, 2 p.m., Bethlehem WELCA Guest Night, 7 p.m.; Thursday, Bible Study at Bethlehem, 9:30 a.m.; Friday, WIC at Bethlehem, 9 a.m. - Noon; Sunday, Last Bible Study at Bethlehem, 8 a.m., Worship at Bethlehem, 9 a.m., Worship at Grace, 10:30 a.m.
Linda Johnson Prestholt, Pastor

Bethany Lutheran Church/Elk Creek Lutheran
Thursday, Manna, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m., EC Share Shoppe, 1-4 p.m.; Sunday, Bethany Worship, 9 a.m., Elk Creek Worship, 10:30 a.m.
Linda Johnson Prestholt, Pastor

Trinity United Methodist, Bolan
Thursday, UW in Faith at Lori Willert's, 2 p.m.; Sunday, Worship Services, 9:15 a.m., Coffee Fellowship, 10 a.m.
Pastor Cory Allard

Bethel United Methodist Church
Wednesday, Diner, 8:30 a.m.; Trinity UWF, 2 p.m., Church Council, 7 p.m.; Sunday, Bethel Worship, 8 a.m., Trinity Worship, 9:15 a.m., Sunday School, 9:15 a.m., Bethel Worship, 10:30 a.m.

Northwood United Methodist Church
Sunday, Worship Service, 10:45 a.m., Fellowship, 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, Maple Court Worship, 2 p.m., Choir, SH Youth, 7 p.m.; Thursday, Quilting, 8:30 a.m., Prayer Group, 9 a.m., Cub Scouts, 6:30 p.m.; Sunday, Worship Service FLC, 9 a.m., Service DCV, 10;30 a.m., JH Youth, 6:30 p.m.; Tuesday, AA-Al-Anon, 7 p.m.

Peace Lutheran Church, Northwood
Sunday Worship Service with Holy Communion at 9 a.m., Adult Bible Study 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

Sion Lutheran Church, Lake Mills
Sunday, Worship Service, 9 a.m. Sunday School and fellowship following
Pastor Mark Decker

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Friday: Closed
Monday: Chef's Choice
Tuesday: Meat Loaf, Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy, Whole Wheat Bread, Vegetable, Fruit
Wednesday: Baked Chicken Parmesan w/ Noodles, Lettuce/Spinach Salad, Frozen Fruit Cup

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"I Got You"



There was a very uplifting story on National Public Radio a few months back about two soldiers who had been in Afghanistan and were unexpectedly reunited after more than ten years. The soldiers, Roy Wilkins and Keith Melick, were involved in an IED explosion which gravely injured Wilkins. Melick was the medic who pulled him from his badly damaged Humvee, saying "I got you" as he did so. The words "I got you" stuck with Wilkins and he finally had the chance to meet the man who helped save his life some ten years later, unexpectedly, at a gym in a VA center. What was most inspiring about this story, besides the providential way in which they were reunited, were those three simple words, "I got you." We have all been in situations where we are literally helpless, and having someone reach in and pull us from the wreckage, or at least lend us a hand, makes us feel a bit less alone and vulnerable in the world. We should try to be there for the helpless and vulnerable in our community, and remember that even when it seems that we are alone, God has our back.
– Christopher Simon

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me: your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
– Psalm 23:4

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

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Northwood Anchor **Society**

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

Easy Home Cooking was a pamphlet-style, check-out counter book series that was published six times a year. "Easy, Tasty Grilling" was their June/July issue in 2001. Published by Publications International, Ltd, Lincolnwood, Illinois, this was issue #42. I've adapted the recipes as necessary. Grilling season "officially" begins with Memorial Day weekend. Since most grilling cookbooks are filled with recipes for steaks, chicken, burgers and the like, we will focus on the side dishes that complete the summer menus.

Grilled Cajun Potato Wedges

NOTE: par-baking the potato wedges before grilling insures they are cooked through without being left on the grill so long they burn.

3 large russet potatoes
1/2 teaspoon dried thyme
3/4 cup olive oil
1/2 teaspoon dried oregano
2 large cloves garlic, minced
1/4 teaspoon black pepper
1 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper
1 teaspoon paprika
2 cups small wood chips

Prepare your charcoal grill for direct cooking with medium heat. Preheat the oven to 425 degrees. Scrub the potatoes well but do not peel. Cut each one in half lengthwise and then each half into four wedges. Please in a large bowl and toss with the olive oil and minced garlic, coating well. Combine the salt, paprika and other spices. Sprinkle over the potatoes and toss again to coat evenly. Place on a baking sheet and bake for 20 minutes. Sprinkle the wood chips over the hot charcoal about 10 minutes into the baking time. Remove the potatoes from the oven reserving any oil on the baking tray. Place the potato wedges on the grill in their sides. Cover the grill and cook, over medium heat, for 15-20 minutes or until brown and fork tender. Brush with the reserved garlic oil halfway into the cooking time, turning once with tongs. Makes 4-6 servings

Roast Beef and Pasta Salad

9 oz. uncooked radiatore pasta
1 cup cherry tomato halves
6 oz. deli roast beef in one piece
1/2 cup sliced ripe olives
1 can red beans, drained
2 tablespoons minced parsley
1 can whole baby corn, drained
2 teaspoons dried oregano
1 can diced tomatoes with chiles
1/4 cup olive oil

NOTE: Rinse the red beans and baby corn after draining.

Cook the pasta according to package instructions, omitting the salt. Rinse in cold water and drain well. Slice the roast beef into thin strips. Combing the pasta, beef and remaining ingredients in a large bowl, tossing gently but well.

Summer Fruit Salad

2 cups cooked rice, room temperature
1/2 cup banana slices
1/2 cup quartered strawberries
1/4 cup pineapple tidbits
1/2 cup grape halves, red or green
2 tablespoons plain yogurt
2 kiwi fruit, peeled, sliced into quarters
1 tablespoon honey
1/4 cup pineapple juice from the tidbits

Combine the rice and fruit in a large bowl. Blend the pineapple juice, honey and yogurt in a small bowl to make a dressing. Pour this mixture over the rice and fruit. Toss gently to blend. Serve on lettuce leaves.

Once summer is in full swing, the grills, smokers, Komodos and such appear in backyards everywhere. These side dishes will dress up a hamburger or bratwurst as much as they will a thick steak. Everything seems to taste better when cooked outside. And…that's all she wrote.

Schaefer – Coyle announce engagement and upcoming wedding

Eric and Michelle Schaefer and Robin Coyle are proud to announce the engagement of their children Jenna Schaefer and Dylan Coyle.

Jenna is the daughter of Eric and Michele Schaefer of Northwood. She is the granddaughter of Helen Schmidt and the late Richard Schmidt, Osage, and the late Bob and Colette Schaefer of McIntire, Iowa.

Jenna graduated from Northwood-Kensett High School in 2016. She attended the University of Northern Iowa, graduating in 2020 with a Bachelor's degree in Family Services.

She is employed at Community Health Center of Mason City.

Dylan Coyle is the son of Robin Coyle and the late Tom Coyle, Manly. He is the grandson of Naomi Hiller and the late Darrell Hiller of Colman, South Dakota, and the late Jack and Francis Coyle, Manly.

Dylan graduated from Central Springs High School in 2012. He attended Ellsworth Community College, graduating in 2014 with an AA in Farm Management.



DYLAN COYLE AND JENNA SCHAEFER

Dylan is an owner and operator of Coyle Trucking, LLC, hauling livestock.

The couple will be married on Saturday, July 11, 2026, at Country View Acres in Joice, Iowa.

They reside in Manly, Iowa.

Seatbelts save lives

From the Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau:

The Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau (GTSB) is partnering with law enforcement across Iowa to support the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) Click It or Ticket high-visibility enforcement effort. This seatbelt-focused enforcement campaign will run through May 31.

Seatbelts remain the single best defense against serious injury, and while most Iowans take safety seriously, even one unbuckled fatality is too many. In 2025, 121 people who died in Iowa traffic crashes were not wearing a seatbelt. These unrestrained occupants accounted for 47% of all 2025 traffic fatalities, a tragic number that is entirely preventable.

"No matter the type of vehicle you're traveling in, where you're seated, or what type of road you're driving on, the best way to protect yourself in a crash is to buckle up," says Brett Tjepkes, Iowa GTSB Bureau Chief. "If this enforcement effort helps people to change their habits and start buckling up consistently, we'll consider the mission a success."

All it takes is one click and a few seconds to protect yourself and your loved ones every time you get in the car. Make safety a habit by buckling up in every seat, every time.

GTSB works with city, county, state, and local organizations to develop and implement strategies to reduce death and injury on Iowa roads using federally funded grants.

North Iowa residents should check voter registration name list for upcoming primary

By Candi Schickel, Treasurer, League of Women Voters of North Iowa

North Iowa residents who may not have voted since 2020 need to make sure they are still registered in order to vote in the June 2 Iowa primary and the November 3 general election this year. This is necessary due to a law passed in 2025 by the Iowa Legislature which removed 183,000 voters who had not voted since 2020 from the Iowa Voter Registration list.

"It is important to check because people may be unaware that their name has been removed and they are no longer registered to vote," said Candi Schickel, treasurer of the League of Women Voters of North Iowa.

Voter registration status can be checked by contacting your local county auditor's office and then updating or registering to vote as needed. Place of residence and an acceptable form of photo identification are required, such as a driver's license, nonoperator ID, or the last four digits of your social security number.

Voter registration status can also be checked online at voterready.iowa.gov by clicking on "Am I Registered?" and following the prompts. The site will show if your voting status is still "active" and your voting location. If your voting status is not active, eligible Iowans can follow the online prompts at the site to register to vote. You will need either your driver's license or non-operator ID and the last five digits of your social security number.

Registration on the day of a primary or election is also possible for eligible Iowans.

Hoofprints 4-H Club reminds 4-H'ers of upcoming horse clinics and open rides

The Hoofprints 4-H Club has been gearing up full speed for the county fair season. So far this spring, members have participated in two clinics and one open ride, with many more opportunities ahead to prepare both horse and rider for fair.

All clinics and open rides are held at the Worth County Fairgrounds Arena, Northwood, Iowa. Upcoming events include a Gaming Clinic with Ava Woltzen on May 20 at 5 p.m. Open rides are also scheduled for May 24 at 2 p.m., May 27 at 5 p.m., May 31 at 2 p.m., June 3 at 5 p.m., June 10 at 5 p.m. and June 14 at 2 p.m.

Hoofprints welcomes all 4-H'ers with horse projects to come ride with us and continue preparing for fair. Horse project members are reminded that attendance at at least one open ride or clinic is required in order to show at the fair.

Happy riding! For questions or more information, contact Emily Eilertson at meiere30@yahoo.com.

MEMORIAL DAY DINNER
Monday, May 25
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Sion Lutheran Church
4525 Finch Ave., Lake Mills
7 miles East of Lake Mills
10 miles West of Northwood
Menu includes — Homemade Scalloped Potatoes & Ham, Baked Beans, Salads, Desserts, Coffee & Lemonade
$12 per adult
$5 Children 3-10
2 & Under Free

Memorial Day Lunch
Monday, May 25
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Silver Lake Lutheran Church
705 Silver Lake Road
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Menu includes — Beef Burgers, Potato Salad, Pies/Desserts, Coffee, Lemonade & Water

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Elk Creek Cemetery
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Monday, May 25
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at Elk Creek, 4108 Killdeer Ave., Kensett
Dinner Menu consists of – Scalloped Potatoes & Ham, Baked Beans, Salads & Bars
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Guest Day Salad Luncheon
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Northwood Anchor **Opinion**

Savvy Senior

Senior travel discounts: How to save on your next trip

By Jim Miller

Dear Savvy Senior,

My husband and I are retiring later this year and hope to travel more while we're still healthy and active. Our budget will be tighter, so every dollar counts. Are there worthwhile senior travel discounts you can tell us about, and at what age do they begin?

--Ready to Roam

Dear Ready,

Retirement is the perfect time to start checking destinations off your wish list. Senior travel discounts can make a real difference. Whether it's airfare, hotels, cruises, train tickets or attractions, the savings can add up – sometimes hundreds of dollars per trip – if you know where to look and compare.

To qualify, you'll need to meet the age requirement, which varies by company. Some start as early as 50, but most don't kick in until 55, 60, 62 or 65. Knowing these benchmarks helps you plan and save as soon as you're eligible.

Ways to save

One of the best ways to uncover senior travel deals is through membership organizations. AARP, with membership starting at 50, offers the deepest travel discounts, including savings on hotels, rental cars, cruises and vacation packages. AAA also provides travel-planning services and member savings on lodging and car rentals to adults of any age.

Another simple but often overlooked strategy is to ask. Many hotels, tours and attractions don't advertise senior discounts but may offer one if you inquire. Keep in mind, though, that the "senior rate" isn't always the lowest price. Promotional sales, advance-purchase fares and seasonal specials can sometimes be cheaper, so compare before booking.

Flexibility is another powerful money-saving tool. Traveling midweek, avoiding peak holidays, booking during shoulder seasons, or adjusting your dates slightly can significantly lower costs. You may also find last-minute deals on cruises, rail trips and guided tours, especially during slower travel periods when companies are eager to fill unsold space.

Here's a rundown of some different discount deals currently available:

Airlines: Senior airfare discounts are less common than they once were, but some still exist. AARP members can get discounts on select British Airways flights, about $65 off economy and up to $200 off business class. United and Delta may offer limited senior fares, usually for travelers 65 and older, on select routes if booked by phone or using "Senior" search tools. Loyalty programs can also add value through free checked bags or seat upgrades.

Trains: Amtrak offers about 10 percent off for travelers 65-plus on many routes, with some cross-border discounts starting at 60. Rail passes and multi-city tickets may provide additional savings.

Rental cars: AARP members can save up to 30 percent with companies like Avis and Budget, often with perks like a free additional driver and reduced rates on optional coverage. Hertz offers discounts through its 50 Plus Program.

Hotels & lodging: Many hotel brands offer senior or AARP rates, typically 10 to 15 percent off. Examples include Wyndham Hotels & Resorts (Days Inn, Ramada, Super 8, La Quinta), Best Western, Choice Hotels (Comfort Inn, Quality Inn), Cambria, and Rodeway Inn. Booking directly or through AARP usually ensures the rate.

Cruises: Some lines offer discounted fares for travelers 55-plus on select sailings, including Royal Caribbean, Carnival, Norwegian, MSC, and Viking River Cruises. AARP members may receive additional onboard credits through affiliated providers. Off-peak sailings often provide the best value.

Restaurants: Many chains offer senior menus, complimentary beverages, or percentage discounts for ages 55 or 60-plus, including Applebee's, Arby's, Burger King, Chili's, Chick-fil-A, Denny's, IHOP, Boston Market, and CiCi's Pizza. Participation varies by location.

Entertainment & attractions: Museums, theaters, zoos, aquariums, and golf courses often offer reduced admission for seniors 60 or 65-plus. One of the best bargains is the America the Beautiful Senior Pass from the National Park Service. For $20 per year or $80 for a lifetime pass (available at 62), it provides access to more than 2,000 federal recreation sites.

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

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Ponderings from the Batt Cave

By Al Batt writer, speaker, storyteller and humorist.

Echoes from the Loafers' Club Meeting

What's wrong?

I lost another ball today.

You should give up bowling.

Driving by Bruce's drive

I have a wonderful neighbor named Bruce. Whenever I pass his drive, thoughts occur to me. It blew my whiskers off. A lot of farmland changed hands in May. Fierce winds moved the soil. The wind blew so hard that a hen laid the same egg twice.

When you think of Iowa, what do you think of? Was it eggs? Probably not, but Iowa is the largest egg-producing state, followed by Ohio and Indiana. My mother had the egg money she earned by selling eggs from her hens to Sibilrud's Grocery Store, which she used to buy essentials like food. No one told her how to spend her egg money. Why would we? She spent it on us.

My mother was of such a height that the sun visor in her car blocked no sunlight from her eyes. If we were leaving at noon on Friday, Mom was ready to go by 9 Thursday morning. Mom liked her coffee strong enough to float a spoon. When served decaf and creamer, John Wayne became annoyed and famously asked, "Who turned my coffee into dessert?" John would have loved my mother's coffee. Mom turned the end piece of bread toward the inside of the sandwich. She cut off the blue part of the cheese and we ate the rest. She was somebody who made everybody feel like somebody.

Do I miss talking to my mother? I never stopped talking to her. Happy Mother's Day, Mom.

You are getting older

If you can forget what you're doing while you're doing it.

If you remember driving cars with more cigarette lighters than seatbelts.

If your first-aid kit contained Band-Aids, Mercurochrome or Merthiolate, iodine and horehound cough drops. Mercurochrome, Merthiolate and iodine were used on scrapes and cuts. Iodine is an effective germicide still in use. Mercurochrome and Merthiolate were banned due to mercury toxicity. Any products sold under those names today use mercury-free ingredients. Iodine was the more effective antiseptic, and it created intense stinging. Mercurochrome was water-based and my favorite because it didn't sting. Merthiolate had alcohol, so it carried a stinging sensation. Mercurochrome and Merthiolate left bright red-orange stains, earning those products the nickname "monkey blood." Iodine left a dark yellow-brown stain. Kids blew on their treated wounds, hoping to lessen the sting or make the antiseptic dry faster. Horehound cough drops are traditional, old-fashioned herbal lozenges used to soothe sore throats and relieve coughs. Made from a member of the mint family, they feature an earthy, licorice-like flavor.

I've learned

According to the USGA, a typical 18-hole golf course covers 110 to 200 acres.

Bad jokes department

What kind of water does a cat drink? Purrified water.

A friend asked me to help round up his 37 cows. I said, "40."

My grandson swallowed a bunch of Scrabble tiles. His next trip to the toilet could spell disaster.

One-one was a racehorse. Two-two was one too. One-one won one race. Two-two won one too.

Nature notes

I watched ring-billed gulls fly invisible roads in the sky. The European Seagull Screeching Championship takes place at the Verloren Gernoare cafe near the Belgian coastal city of De Panne. Ring-billed gulls are nicknamed McGulls, dumpster gulls, landfill gulls, fast-food gulls and french-fry gulls. I associate the cries of these iconic birds with tranquil weather.

Maple helicopters aren't Mayo helicopters. The winged seeds of a maple tree are called helicopters, keys, whirlybirds, spinners, whirligigs, spinning jennies, whirlers, twisters, whirlwinds, wing nuts or samaras. Red maple samaras are red, in contrast to those of the silver maple, which are green in spring when the samaras of both the red and silver maples disperse. Norway, sugar and Japanese maples drop their seeds in the fall.

In the King James Bible, the Song of Solomon includes: "The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of the birds is come and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land," heralding the onset of spring in what is now the modern-day Middle East. Turtle derived from "turtur," imitating the cooing call of a dove. The New International Version of that text is "Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come, the cooing of doves is heard in our land." The New Living Translation of the Bible reads, "The flowers are springing up, the season of singing birds has come, and the cooing of turtledoves fills the air."

Get outside and count the dandelions.

Meeting adjourned

"Neither genius, fame, nor love show the greatness of the soul. Only kindness can do that."—Jean Baptiste Henri Lacordaire.

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Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor

I am writing to share a suggestion regarding the Northwood Fireworks Fund following the announcement in the Northwood Anchor last week.

To enhance our community display and potentially support a winter fireworks event during the December Christmas parade, I propose that the funds from both can collection bins located near the water tower be directed to the Northwood Fireworks Fund starting in June 2026.

As founder of the original "For Youth Activities in the Community" bin idea, established in 1999 during my time as Cub Master for the Northwood Cub Scouts, this project is very personal to me. It began as a community service project to reduce litter and provide a steady revenue stream for our troop, with scouts, such as Dylon Nitcher, Levi Eilertson, Jacob and Sam Krull, Dan Bruce, Mitchell Athey, Jonathon Porter, Corey Maser, Terry Hartwig, Cody Kramer, Gabe Kramer and more earning their badges through this work.

While the bin's proceeds were transferred in 2006 to support the Northwood Community Center's after-school operations under the Worth County Community Of Promise (WCCOP), the center is no longer operating under those original guidelines.

Sarah and Russ Bruce and Doug and Jennifer Krull were Scout Leaders at this time and were instrumental in developing the original can bin as well. Possibly these boys and leaders should have a say in where they would like the funds to go since this project was originated by them as well.

I believe the community deserves transparency regarding these funds, and redirecting them would better serve our current needs. I estimate this change would contribute approximately $300 to $500 per month to the fireworks fund. While we are proud of the support this project has provided the WCCOP since 2006, I believe it is now time to reallocate these resources to support our community celebrations.

Thank you for your time and for considering this proposal.

Best regards,
Noelle Kramer

Why Brad Sherman
Is the Right Choice
for Iowa Governor

Dear Editor

As an Iowan who has researched the candidates carefully, I urge my fellow citizens to vote for the true Christian conservative in the race for governor: Brad Sherman.

Brad is a man deeply rooted in Iowa values and the foundations of our republic. Well-versed in the Constitution and the moral underpinnings of our country—including the Great Awakening that helped shape leaders like Benjamin Franklin—he understands what has made America exceptional. He and his family have lived the American tradition Alexis de Tocqueville praised: a people who see freedom as the surest safeguard for securing the good things in life and enjoying them in peace. Brad has raised his children and grandchildren in that tradition while staying active at the grassroots level of the Republican Party. He endorsed Donald Trump for president and counts Mike Huckabee among his friends.

What sets Brad apart is courage where it counts. He raised his voice against the satanic display in the Capitol while others followed a governor who vetoed property rights protections. He has consistently stood against eminent domain abuse, defended the sanctity of life, and refused to settle for the status quo. Unlike candidates who waited for polls or were endorsed by the swamp, Brad Sherman has built real relationships across Iowa through years of living and working here. Brad is running out of a deep conviction to improve Iowa.

Iowans deserve a governor who will restore the foundations of freedom—not just as a slogan, but as a lifelong philosophy. Brad recognizes the challenge: a majority of voters under 40 now view socialism favorably because our education system has drifted from the Founders' vision that an informed citizenry is essential to liberty. He will work to restore strong educational standards, protect clean water and our environment, support small businesses and local economies (instead of centralizing government to Des Moines), and ensure Iowa remains a place where generations of Iowa families can thrive with good jobs and a healthy future.

Brad Sherman is not a continuation of politics as usual. He is the candidate who has stood up for what is right, even when it was unpopular. I have listened, compared the records, and made my choice. Brad Sherman for Iowa Governor has my vote, and I hope he will have yours.

Sincerely,
Colleen Lawler
Northwood, Iowa

Notice

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR WORTH COUNTY
Case No. ESPR009501
NOTICE OF PROBATE OF WILL, OF APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTOR, AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DONALD ALLAN PRESTHOLT, Deceased

To: Vince Edward Prestholt, an Heir and Person Interested in the Estate of Donald Allan Prestholt, Deceased, who died on or about February 4, 2026:

You are hereby notified that on February 17, 2026, the Last Will and Testament of Donald Allan Prestholt, deceased, bearing date of December 22, 2025, was admitted to probate in the above-named court and that Jenifer Leann Harrison was appointed Executor of the estate. Any action to set aside the will must be brought in the district court of said county within the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of the third publication of this notice to you as an heir of the decedent, or thereafter be forever barred.

Notice is further given that all persons indebted to the estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned, and creditors having claims against the estate shall file them with the clerk of the above-named district court, as provided by law, duly authenticated, for allowance, and unless so filed by the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice (unless otherwise allowed or paid) a claim is thereafter forever barred.

Dated May 4, 2026.

Jenifer Leann Harrison,
Executor of Estate

David A. Grooters,
ICIS#: A T0003058
Attorney for Executor
Pappajohn, Shriver,
Eide & Nielsen P.C.
103 East State Street,
Suite 800,
PO Box 1588
Mason City, Iowa 50402-1588

Date of third publication the 3rd day of June, 2026.

20-3t

Northwood Anchor Early Files

100 years ago

May 13, 1976

Last week saw the installation of the new drinking fountain just north of the high school building. The fountain is the gift of the class of 1923. The fountain has three drinking cups and under each cup has been placed a solid concrete block more than a foot high to enable the smaller children to drink with ease.

A force of eight men is at work putting the finishing touches on the Bayside Amusement Park on Memorial Day at Clear Lake. All the boats plying between Bayside and the Clear Lake shore are being renovated and put in shape, similarly the buildings housing the concessions and attractions are being redecorated. Manager Charles Ritz is looking forward to the park's most successful season.

Mr. and Mrs. A.C.S. Rue are the proud parents of a baby boy born at the Park Hospital in Mason City last Friday afternoon. This is the first child in the family.

Mr. and Mrs. C.I. Butler, Viola, Norma and Arthur drove to Albert Lea to attend the graduation exercises of the Naeve hospital training school for nurses. Their daughter and sister, Violet, completed a three-year course in nursing at the institution and was a member of the graduating class.

Hall Dillon was host to a party of 14 friends Saturday afternoon at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L.T. Dillon. The gathering was to celebrate the occasion of his eighth birthday. The afternoon of enjoyment was followed by a lunch time when, by the strenuous efforts of Mrs. Dillon, the appetites of the youngsters were finally satisfied.

Dreng Gunerson, who held a closing out sale on the Cleophas farm near Kensett last winter, has gone to Norway, his old home for an extended visit with his aged father and other relatives. Mr. Gunderson's three youngest children will make their home with a married sister near Hanlontown during the absence.

75 years ago

May 17, 1951

Thieves broke into Helgeson Motor Company at Lake Mills Tuesday night and took a safe weighing about 500 pounds, which contained about $3,000 in cash and checks. A lock on the rear door had been broken and the safe rolled out through the office and shop into a waiting vehicle. Sheriff Monson is investigating.

The Worth County supervisors held a special meeting Friday to open bids on the proposed new county garage and engineer's office to be erected in the courthouse square. None of the bids were accepted and any action was postponed.

The Worth County selective board has received a call for only two men in June and the men are due in Des Moines June 29. Names of the inductees have not yet been announced.

Doug Pangburn, former Standard Oil dealer, announced opening of his filling station as an independent dealer. He is affiliated with the Farmers and Merchants Oil Company.

Mrs. B.H. Osten will go to Ottumwa to attend the state P.E.O. convention as delegate from the Northwood chapter. She will be accompanied by delegates from Osage and Nashua.

Mrs. Stanley Romans, Des Moines, visited at the L.P. Madson and Peter Van Sabben homes. The three women are sisters.

Women of the Northwood Country Club elected officers for the 1951 summer. Mrs. George Lundberg is new chairman, Mrs. Howard Repert is secretary and Mrs. John Johnson is treasurer. Mrs. Wilford Huso is bridge and canasta chairman and Mrs. Don Harris golf chairman.

The Carpenter Sportsmens club has completed plans for the fourth annual coon dog trials to be held Sunday, May 27. The affair will be climaxed that evening with a walleye pike dinner which will be served at the Carpenter school gymnasium.

50 years ago

May 13, 1976

It was only natural that Amy Block's fellow bandsmen nominated her as N-K's candidate for queen of the 1976 North Iowa Band Festival. She is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Block of Northwood.

Marine Private First Class Dreng A. Gunderson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Gunderson, is currently on deployment in the western Pacific while serving with the 2nd Battalion, Fourth Marine Regiment, 3rd Maxine Division. A 1972 graduate of N-KHS, he joined the Marine Corps in December 1974.

Two Northwood students will receive diplomas at Augustana College commencement exercises May 16. Lewis J. Thompson will receive a BA degree in political science and business administration and Anne K. Bersagel a BA in elementary and special education, Magna Cum Laude.

The Vikings swept the Armstrong Relays Friday when the boys team won by 85 points over second place West Bend with 50 1/2. Jim Tatro and Mark Tilson won first in the discus and pole vault respectively for the Vikings.

Viking golfers finished in third place at the boys North Iowa Conference meet at Belmond Monday. Forest City had 325; Lake Mills 331; NK 338; Britt 358; Osage 360: Garner 368; and Belmond 370. Curt Enerson was low for the Vikings with 79; John Midtgaard had 81 and Tom Midtgaard 85.

Debbie Kelly, junior miler at N-K School, qualified for the State track meet at the district meet at Sheffield. She was second in a group of 25 schools with a time of 5:44.

Two members of the Northwood-Kensett Chapter, Future Farmers of America, have been named to the coveted "Iowa Farmer" degree, according to Al Adams, advisor. David Hengesteg, son of Mr. and Mrs. Truman Hengesteg and Gregg Walk, son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Walk, both rural Northwood, received the honors at the 48th Iowa FFA leadership conference in Waterloo, today.

25 years ago

May 16, 2001

Rural Northwood resident Jerry Hopperstad has been elected president of the Iowa Insurance and Financial Advisers Association. Hopperstad has been a Worth County Farm Bureau insurance agent for the past 23 years.

Forty-six Northwood-Kensett High School seniors will be graduate this Sunday, May 20. School board president Dr. Mike Dierenfeld will present diplomas to the graduating seniors, who have chosen cardinal red and navy blue as their class colors and the rose as their class flower.

Northland Construction workers made steady progress last week on the Worth County Veterans Memorial in Sunset Rest Cemetery. Owner Bud Kragenbrink expects the monument to the county's veterans to be substantially completed by May 28, when Northwood "Our Buddies" VFW Post 6779 officials will dedicate it in Memorial Day services.

Northwood public works department employee George Goeders fine tuned the stream of spray from the fire hydrant at the intersection of 10th Street and Second Avenue South last Friday as he and other members of the city crew wrapped up the department's annual spring chore of flushing of the municipal water mains.

Brent Schaub of Northwood has been awarded a $1,000 academic scholarship from the Association of American Agricultural Insurers. Brent is the son of Lynn and Sharon Schaub and is currently attending Iowa State University in Ames with a major in agriculture business.

Twenties Club member Laurie Harris pours as Northwood-Kensett High school seniors Kyle Hagen, Jessica Shoults and Christa Larson helped themselves to petit fours, candy-frosted strawberries and finger sandwiches last Friday afternoon during the club's annual Senior Tea. The event was held at the Pat and Nancy Mathahs home on Sixth St. N. in Northwood.

10 years ago

May 18, 2016

This year's graduating class received $334,400 for their first year of college and $517,400 in scholarship for their full college careers during commencement exercises held at Northwood-Kensett High School on Sunday.

Alex Tiedemann of Northwood wrested at Pee Wee State on Sunday, March 6, Des Moines, where he got second place in the 61 pound bracket. Tiedemann's record for the year was 27-1 with his only loss at Sate and he lost 6-2.

Two 13-year-old boys, Jake Steinman and Isaiah Anderson, both of Northwood, rode in the 44th annual and final Freeborn County Bike-a-thon as a fundraiser for the American Cancer Society. The two young men were able to complete all 100 miles of the ride complete with a sheriff escort on arrival back. The boys raised $200 to donate to ACS in a ride they'll remember for a lifetime.

N-K's Hattie Davidson easily wins the district title in the 400-meter dash, automatically qualifying the talented senior for the Iowa State Track and Field Championships. Davidson, who will be competing in her fourth state track meet, will also run in the open 400, the 4x200 and the 4x400.

Thrilled to death to just qualify for the state meet in the discus last season, where she finished 20th, the Lady Vikings' Dusti Bratrud made it her mission to make a return trip to Des Moines this season. But not only will the talented sophomore be heading back to the Blue Oval to compete in the discus, where she is ranked 18th with a throw of 109 feet, she will also be a factor in the shot put, where she is ranked ninth with a throw of 36-11.

Playing in rain and high winds N-K's Aliyah Creger chips on the green last Monday morning at the TIC East Meet in Manly. Creger shot a 146 as the Lady Vikings finished sixth with 483.

Northwood Anchor Obituaries

Lori Pepper



LORI PEPPER

Lori Jane Pepper, 67, of Northwood, Iowa, passed away on Thursday, May 14, 2026, at Pillar of Cedar Valley in Waterloo, Iowa.

Lori was born on June 12, 1959, in Kanawha, Iowa, to Howard Drevs and Beverly (Mewes) Drevs. She attended high school near her hometown and later graduated from Iowa State University. Lori devoted her career to helping others as a speech pathologist, working in the Fort Dodge school system and later in the St. Paul School District, where she made a meaningful and lasting impact on the lives of many children and families.

On August 31, 1991, Lori was united in marriage to Rex Pepper. Together, they built a life centered on family, faith and shared values.

Lori found joy in life's simple pleasures. She enjoyed listening to music, especially Norah Jones, the Eagles, and classical selections. She was an avid fan of women's basketball and followed the Indiana Fever and Caitlin Clark with great enthusiasm. Lori loved living on a farm, gardening and caring for animals. She had a special love for horses and cherished her dogs and cats.

Lori was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother, and will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved her.

Survivors include her husband, Rex Pepper; children, Sam (Misty) Pepper, Lucas (Sara) Pepper and Sarah Springer (Shane); grandchildren, Tyler Pepper, Penelope Pepper and Octavia Pepper; and siblings, Brian Drevs, Jerry Drevs, Ann (Stan) Waters and Kaye (Kathy Howell) Drevs.

She was preceded in death by her son, Benjamin and daughter, Jamie.

A funeral service for Lori will be held at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, May 20, 2026, at Hoff Celebrations – Sites Memorial Chapel in Northwood, Iowa. The visitation will take place one hour prior to the service at the chapel. Interment will be in Amsterdam Township Cemetery, rural Kanawha, Iowa.

Hoff Celebrations – Sites Memorial Chapel is assisting the family with arrangements.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to the Susan G. Komen Foundation.

Russel Tenold



RUSSEL TENOLD

Russel J. Tenold, 67, passed away unexpectedly of natural causes on Friday, May 15, 2026, at his home in rural Northwood, Iowa.

A memorial visitation for Russ will be held on Thursday, May 21, 2026, from 5 - 7 p.m. at Schott Funeral Homes Mittelstadt Chapel, 902 E. Main St. in Lake Mills and will continue on Friday at Sion Lutheran Church from 12 p.m. until service time.

The memorial service will take place on Friday, May 22, 2026, at 1 p.m. at Sion Lutheran Church, 4525 Finch Ave., Lake Mills, with Pastor Mark Decker officiating.

Inurnment will follow in Sion Lutheran Church Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to Sion Lutheran Church or to your local Ducks Unlimited or Pheasants Forever chapter. All held a special place in Russ' heart.

Schott Funeral Homes Mittelstadt Chapel has been entrusted to care for Russ and his family.

Russel James Tenold was born on November 25, 1958, in Albert Lea, Minnesota, to parents Olger and Gaylis (Borchardt) Tenold. He was baptized and confirmed at Sion Lutheran Church, rural Lake Mills, where he was a lifelong member. Russ attended and graduated from Northwood-Kensett High School in 1977. He went on to NIACC for two years and finished his Bachelors degree in Agriculture from Iowa State University.

Throughout his school days, Russ was active in many sports including basketball and golf, and he went on to play tennis and basketball for NIACC. He played the coronet, took part in many school musicals, and sang vocal solos at various events, including some weddings. His beautiful singing voice was a gift from his mom Gaylis. He was also blessed with a love for the outdoors, and the heart of a sportsman in all facets from his both father Olger and Grandpa Borchardt.

On April 14, 1984, Russ was united in marriage with Renate Slocum at Sion Lutheran Church. The family was completed in 1996 when their son Gage was born. The Tenold family has made rural Northwood their forever home.

Russ farmed both crops and livestock, and later in life worked as an estimator for multiple fabrication companies. The people and places that truly mattered were his family, his church, the outdoors and his woodworking shop. Time was always carved out for camping with Renate and Gage, helping with 4-H, and even coaching basketball for N-K when Gage was a student. At Sion Lutheran Church Russ was active with church council, serving as president multiple times, in addition to sharing his woodworking talents through items such as display cabinets, plant and flower stands and the base for the Advent wreath to name a few. Russ was a proud member of his local chapter of Ducks Unlimited, an advocate of Pheasants Forever and he carved many duck decoys and built wood duck boxes to help with local conservation efforts.

He will be remembered for his kind heart, putting others' needs before his own, his love of the Lord, affinity to sports teams in Minnesota (Go Vikings!) and his inability to read a map.

He is lovingly survived by his wife, Renate of rural Northwood; son, Gage of Urbandale, Iowa; three siblings, Nancy (John) Bein, John (Mary) Tenold and Kaaren (Bruce Hughes) Tenold; nieces, Becky (Jim) Hanson and Jennie (Ryne) Nelson; and nephew, Eric Bein. He is also survived by the Slocum family, including brothers and sisters-in-law, Robert Slocum, Robin Hunt, Rick (Trina) Slocum and Rita (Mike) Jeske; numerous nieces and nephews on Renate's side of the family; and many cousins, wonderful friends and his church family.

Russ was preceded in death by his parents, Olger and Gaylis; a niece, Sarah Bein Espinoza; parents-in-law, Elisabeth and Richard Slocum; two sisters-in-law, Regina Nelson and Rose McMullen; and a brother-in-law, Herman Baumgart.

Carol Koschmeder



CAROL KOSCHMEDER

Carol Rosemary Koschmeder of Grafton, Iowa, passed away on May 5, 2026, at MercyOne North Iowa Medical Center in Mason City at the age of 95.

A graveside service will be held at a later date in Grafton Cemetery where she will be laid to rest.

Carol was born on July 14, 1930, to Herron and Ethel Fieldmann in Chicago, Illinois.

When she was a little girl, she spent summers at her mother's family farm near Perry, Iowa. She loved Iowa, and wanted to go to art school, but couldn't afford it. So she attended Iowa State College and graduated in 1952 with a BS in Home Economics Education.

She started teaching. She married Robert "Bob" Koschmeder on June 13, 1954. After Bob's graduation from Veterinary School in 1956, they moved to Grafton. Carol continued teaching English and Home Economics at Manly until their first child was born.

She was then a home-

Koschmeder Cont. to Page 12

Notice

Notice of Sheriff's Levy and Sale
IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR WORTH COUNTY
Iowa District Court
Worth County
STATE OF IOWA
WORTH COUNTY
Case #: EQCV013056
Civil #: 26-000086

U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO LASALLE BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE UNDER THE TRUST AGREEMENT FOR THE STRUCTURED ASSET INVESTMENT LOAN TRUST SERIES 2004-4

vs

VICKI L. HARRINGA; ROBERT A. HARRINGA; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA- DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY-INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

Special Execution

As a result of the judgment rendered in the above referenced court case, an execution was issued by the court to the Sheriff of this county. The execution ordered the sale of defendant (s)

Real Estate

Described Below

To satisfy the judgment. The Property to be sold is

A TRACT OF LAND LOCATED AND BEING IN THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER (SW 1/4) OF SECTION THIRTEEN (13), IN TOWNSHIP NINETY-EIGHT (98) NORTH, OF RANGE TWENTY-TWO (22), WEST OF THE 5TH P.M., WORTH COUNTY, IOWA, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER (NW COR.) OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER (SW 1/4) OF SAID SECTION THIRTEEN (13); THENCE 90 DEGREES 00'00" E, SIX HUNDRED EIGHTY-EIGHT AND TEN HUNDRETHS (688.10) FEET ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER (SW 1/4) OF SAID SECTION THIRTEEN (13); THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 20'0011 E, FIVE HUNDRETHS EIGHTY-NINE AND FORTY-ONE HUNRETHS (589.41) FEET; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 21 '4411 W, SIX HUNDRED NINETY-TWO AND THIRTY-TWO HUNDRETHS (692.32) FEET; THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 04'2411 E, FIVE HUNDRED EIGHTY-ONE AND SIXTY-NINE HUNDRETHS (581.69) FEET ALONG THE WEST LINE OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER (SW 1/4) OF SAID SECTION THIRTEEN (13) TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, CONTAINING 9.28 ACRES, SUBJECT TO EASMENTS OF RECORD. NOTE: THE NORTH LINE OF THE SW 1/4 OF SAID SECTION 13-98-22 IS ASSUMED TO BEAR 90 DEGREES 00'0" E

Property Address: 609 375TH ST, HANLONTOWN, IA 50444

The described property will be offered for sale at public auction for cash only as follows:

Sale Date: 06/16/2026; Sale Time: 10:00; Place of Sale: WORTH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, 1000 CENTRAL AVE, NORTHWOOD, IA50459

Homestead: Defendant is advised that if the described real estate includes the homestead (which must not exceed 1/2 acre if within a city or town plat, or , if rural, must not exceed 40 acres), defendant must file a homestead plat with the Sheriff within ten (10) days after service of this notice, or the sheriff will have it platted and charge the costs to this case.

This sale not subject to Redemption.

Judgment Amount: $113,083.92; Costs: $16,833.46; Accruing Costs: PLUS; Interest: $3,754.39; Sheriff's Fees: Pending; Attorney: ARLET COSTILLA, 4601 WESTOWN PKWY SUITE 25, WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266, (515) 223-7325; Date: 04/13/2026; JESSE LUTHER, WORTH COUNTY SHERIFF

20-2t

Legal

Notice

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR WORTH COUNTY
CASE NO. ESPR009509
NOTICE OF PROBATE OF WILL, OF APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTORS, AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF KENNETH BLOCK, Deceased

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of Kenneth Block, Deceased, who died on or about April 12, 2026:

You are hereby notified that on April 23, 2026, the Last Will and Testament of Kenneth Block, deceased, bearing date of July 20, 2022, was admitted to probate in the above-named court and that Stephanie Hannon and Jennifer Cooper have been appointed Co-Executors of the estate. Any action to set aside the will must be brought in the district court of said county within the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice to all heirs of the decedent and devisees under the will whose identities are reasonably ascertainable, or thereafter be forever barred.

Notice is further given that all persons indebted to the estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned, and creditors having claims against the estate shall file them with the clerk of the above-named district court, as provided by law, duly authenticated, for allowance, and unless so filed by the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice (unless otherwise allowed or paid) a claim is thereafter forever barred.

Dated this May 1, 2026

Stephanie Harmon,
Co-Executor of Estate
999 450th St.
Northwood, IA 50459

Jennifer Cooper,
Co-Executor of Estate
1039 Manor Drive
Mason City, IA 50401

Timothy A. Casperson,
ICIS#: AT0001472
Attorney for Executors
Casperson Law Office, PLC
102 N. 2nd Ave. W.
P.O. Box 145
Lake Mills, IA 50450

Date of second publication the 20th day of May, 2026.

19-2t

City Council

The Council of the City of Northwood met in regular session at City Hall on May 11, 2026 at 6:00 pm with Mayor Moehle presiding and the following council members present:

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

Motion to approve the agenda. Unam.

Motion to approve the following under Consent Agenda: Meeting Minutes of April 27, 2026; Treasurer Report; Claims as follows:

Payable to: For: Amount
Principal, Insurance..... $706.20
NSB, Monthly ACH Fee $20.00
Iowa Department of Revenue
Sales Tax $539.86
Iowa Department of Revenue
WA Excise Tax $1,261.41
Verizon Wireless
Cell Phones-tr,fd $107.04
Visa, Supplies-pool, cc..... $562.95
Wellmark BCBS
Insurance..... $9,267.96
Wellmark BCBS
Insurance..... $786.60
Payroll, Wages..... $22,841.09
Alliant Energy
Utilities..... $12,223.80
USPS, Mailing-cc $402.60
Petty Cash, Pool $200.00
Payroll, Wages..... $24,583.56
Ace Professional Cleaning
Services-cc $50.00
Amber Julseth, Mileage-cc$317.10
Badger Meter, Services..... $76.24
Brick Gentry, P.C.
Legal Services $800.00
CarQuest, Supplies-pw $94.16
Cemstone, Supplies-pw.... $672.50
Chamber of Commerce
City Celebration Grant .....
..... $4,000.00
Clear Lake Sanitary District
Testing-pw..... $232.50
Core & Main, Supplies-pw$632.37
D&D Sales, Sign..... $550.00
Falkstone, Supplies-pw. $1,441.26
Hawkins, Supplies-pw $20.00
Huber Supply Co
Supplies-pw $58.50
In Control
SCADA Sewer-pw $7,018.50
In Control
SCADA Water-pw $5,499.90
JJ's Hardware
Supplies-rec,pw $1,043.15
J & L Autobody
Services-pw..... $714.93
John Deere
Freight, Supplies-pw... $1,357.40
Jonah Trenhaile
Soccer Ref-rec $120.00
Kathy Fowler
Rental Refund-or..... $75.00
Kevin Springer Const.
Services-pw..... $1,670.98
Kibble Equipment
Mower-park $10,415.00
Knudtson Auto Serv
Services..... $163.89
Knudtson Oil Co.
Fuel-tr,pw..... $4,920.40
Landfill of NI
Clean-up TV's..... $325.00
Larsen Plumbing & Heating
Repairs-pool..... $2,433.56
Linca Scarlet
Soccer Ref-rec $120.00
Matt Tufte
Soccer Ref-rec $120.00
Metal Culverts
Supplies-pw $371.19
Microbac Labs
Testing-pw..... $972.18
Mid American Research
Supplies-pw $371.33
NIACOF
Lease Fee, Insurance-tr.....
..... $9,145.90
Northwood Chiropractic
DATA-pw $130.00
Northwood Sanitation
Services..... $11,426.00
Northwood Sanitation
Spring Clean-Up Days $8,583.57
Northwood Senior Center
Monthly Donation $800.00
Northwood Waterworks
WA Deposit Transfer-cc... $32.80
Northwood Waterworks
WA Deposit Transfer-cc... $50.00
Plunkett's Pest Control
Services-cc $401.55
Proline, Dist, Supplies-pw . $91.79
Rieley Gordon
Cleaning Services-cc,lib . $200.00
Tellma Engineering
Supplies-pw $750.00
The Rustic Thread
BB/SB Shirts-rec..... $1,334.00
USA Blue Book
Supplies-pw $67.08
WCTA, Phone/Internet $667.42
Worth Lumber Co.
Supplies-pw $570.23
Worth Sheriff Office
28E Law Enforcement .....
..... $34,061.08
Library
Alliant Energy, Utilities .. $370.21
Visa, Supplies, Materials. $817.32
Ace Professional Cleaning
Services..... $60.00
Center Point Large Print
Materials $186.34
Ingram Library Services
Materials $953.86
Marco, Services $90.72

Summary of April 2026 receipts by fund type: General - $337,972.12; Special Revenue-$107.315.21; Debt Service - $85,637.00; Capital Projects-$0; Enterprise- $109,348.69; Trust & Agency - $234.00.

Summary of April 2026 disbursements by fund type: General - $93,455.51; Special Revenue-$16,049.65; Debt Service-$0; Capital Projects-$0; Enterprise-$75,678.02; Trust & Agency - $0.

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

Following the public hearing, there was a motion to approve Resolution No. 2605-06 Approving FY26 Budget Amendment. Unam.

Motion to approve Resolution No. 2605-07 Approve Asphalt Street Improvement Project Change Order. Unam.

Motion to approve Resolution No. 2605-08 Approve Transfer of Funds into Water Tower Painting CD. Unam.

Motion to introduce and approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 203 Amending Provisions Pertaining to Water Rates. Aye: George-Zenz, Reeder. Nay: Bode. Absent: Peterson, Schreiber. Ordinance died for lack of three affirmative votes.

Motion to adjourn. Unam.

Doug Moehle, Mayor
Amber Julseth
City Administrator/Clerk

Supervisors

May 11, 2026
Twentieth Day

The Worth County Board of Supervisors met pursuant to adjournment with Mark Smeby, A.J. Stone and Enos Loberg, present. All members voting "AYE" unless noted.

Meeting called to order by Loberg, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion Smeby/Second Stone to approve today's agenda and May 4, 2026 minutes. Motion carried.

Motion Smeby/Second Stone to approve work order for DD #11-G as submitted by the Charles E. Stoffregen Trust. Motion carried.

Motion Stone/Second Smeby to accept the petition to annex private lateral in DD #11 as submitted by Doug Meyer. Motion carried.

Motion Smeby/Second Stone to accept the DD #46 Outlet report filed by Jon Rosengren, Bolton & Menk, Inc and to get estimates to clean ditch to the state line. Motion carried.

Motion Smeby/Second Stone to accept the DD #18 Amendment No. 3 filed by Jon Rosengren, Bolton & Menk, Inc. Motion carried.

Motion Smeby/Second Stone to set the DD #18 hearing date for June 29 at 9:30 A.M. Motion carried.

Chairperson Loberg recessed the regular session at 9:14 A.M.

Chairperson Loberg reconvened the regular session at 9:17 A.M.

Motion Stone/Second Smeby to approve claims in the amount of $393,789.11 per the following schedule. Motion carried.

Access Systems Leasing
Service-Dap, Eng & Asr.....
..... 1,071.07
Activated Insights
Service-Phd..... 197.88
Agvantage Fs Inc
Fuel-Eng 8,953.80
Ahlers & Cooney, P.C.
Service-Shf & Sup 3,722.50
Albert Lea Seed House Inc
Supplies-Eng 1,486.00
All Flags, Llc, Supplies-Vaf . 43.61
Alliant Energy, Service-Eng.. 3.00
Amazon Capital Services
Supplies 3,918.49
At&T Mobility, Service-Shf 889.41
Auditor Of State
Fee-Ndp 625.00
Axon Enterprise, Inc.
Supplies-Shf 400.80
Bauer Built Tire Inc
Service-Eng 1,145.45
Bcn Telecom, Service-Gsr .. 193.73
Black Hills Energy Inc
Service-Eng 1,012.41
Bmc Aggregates Llc
Rock-Eng 7,022.94
Brian M. Kuchay, Md
Ems Contract 100.00
Brightree Home Health & Hospice Llc, Service-Phd 3,518.44
C J Cooper & Associates Inc
Service-Eng 55.00
Carquest Auto Parts Inc
Supplies-Eng 1,281.54
Central Ia Distributing Inc
Supplies-Con 4,686.00
Centurylink, Service-Eng .. 148.44
Cerro Gordo Co Treasurer
Service-Juj 2,845.65
Cintas Corporation
Supplies-Eng 325.67
City Of Carpenter
Rutf-Eng 26.44
City Of Fertile, Rutf-Eng 1,741.73
City Of Grafton, Rutf-Eng . 988.91
City Of Hanlontown
Rutf-Eng 431.04
City Of Joice, Rutf-Eng... 1,188.32
City Of Kensett, Rutf-Eng . 549.60
City Of Manly, Service-Eng. 59.85
City Of Northwood
Service-Gsr 526.60
Crazy Clean, Service-Gsr 1,850.00
Croell, Inc., Service-Eng 16,613.87
Culligan Of Mason City
Service-Gsr 125.90
Dave Syverson Inc
Service-Eng 9,990.45
Don's Truck Sales, Inc.
Equip-Eng..... 179,132.00
Electric Pump Inc
Service-Wat 1,602.00
Electronic Engineering
Service-Eng 734.45
Eurofins Test America
Service-San..... 410.00
Falkstone Llc, Rock-Eng15,915.52
Five Star Cooperative
Fuel-Eng 164.10
Forest City Veterinary Clinic, Llc
Service-Shf..... 233.28
Frank Stearns
Service-Mex 225.00
Freeborn County Coop Oil
Fuel-Eng 6,163.20
Gardiner + Company
Service-Ndp 10,800.00
Grafton Welding
Service-Eng 320.00
Greve Law Office
Rent & Payroll-Aty 7,311.33
Hartland Lubricants & Chemicals
Supplies-Eng 2,495.42
Heartland Power Coop
Service-Wwt 3,401.09
Huber Supply Co Inc
Supplies-Eng 326.50
Ia Law Enforcement Academy
Edu-Shf..... 150.00
Ia Prison Industries
Supplies-Eng 4,673.20
Institute Of Ia Cert Assessors
Edu-Asr..... 965.00
Ip Pathways, Service-Dap . 895.81
J&L Autobody And Customs Llc
Service-Shf..... 200.00
Jj's Hardware
Supplies-Eng 122.92
Joe's Collision & Performance Inc
Service-Shf..... 96.95
Kevin Springer Construction
Service-Gsr 3,683.92
Knudtson Automotive Service
Service-Eng 1,278.05
Kruger Electric Llc
Service-Gsr 85.00
L & D Ag Services Inc
Parts-Eng..... 17.16
Larsen Plumbing & Heating Inc
Service-Gsr 132.00
Lawson Products Inc
Parts-Eng..... 215.46
Lea Mobile Glass Inc
Service-Eng 150.00
Lexisnexis, Service-Aty..... 244.00
Mark's Tractor Inc
Parts-Eng..... 969.58
Mid-American Research Chemical
Supplies-Eng 231.82
Nassco Inc., Supplies-Gsr .. 329.60
Nelson Family Trust
Rent-Shf..... 300.00
Niacc, Edu-Shf..... 150.00
Niacog, Service-Tra..... 9,273.90
North Central District Of Assessors, Dues-Asr 550.00
North Central International
Service-Eng 60.32
Northeast District Isaa
Edu-Asr..... 300.00
Northwood Sanitation Llc
Service-Gsr 623.00
Plunkett's Pest Control Inc
Service-Shf..... 111.73
S&H Environmental Services Llc
Service-Wat & Wwt..... 20,218.34
Shane Batton
Service-Gsr 220.00
Shred Right, Service-Gsr..... 73.56
Singelstad's Hardware
Supplies-Eng 55.98
The Timbers, Election-Aud 100.00
T-Mobile, Service-Shf..... 1,699.95
Truck Center Companies
Parts-Eng..... 690.06
Veenstra & Kimm, Inc
Service-Cap..... 19,627.70
Vestis, Service-Eng 120.38
Wageworks, Inc.
Service-Ndp 71.10
Waste Management Of Iowa Inc
Service-Sdp..... 3,100.00
Wex Bank, Service-Tra ... 2,081.74
Whks & Co, Service-Eng.... 790.00
Winnebago Coop Telephone Assn
Service-Gsr 3,747.26
Worth County Engineer
Fuel-Shf..... 7,581.13
Worth Lumber Co
Supplies-Sdp..... 65.19
Ziegler Inc, Parts-Eng..... 763.87
Grand Total 393,789.11

Motion Stone/Second Smeby to approve the sheriff and clerk of court's monthly reports. Motion carried.

Motion Smeby/Second Stone to approve seasonal employee Randy Majewski at $19.00/hour effective May 15, 2026 and Scott Stumo at $19/hour effective June 1, as submitted by secondary roads. Motion carried.

Motion Smeby/Second Stone to approve ownership update to Class "E" Retail Alcohol license for Maverik Group, LLC. Motion carried.

Motion Smeby/Second Stone to approve fireworks permit for Willert & Drenth wedding reception on June 6 at 4211 Tulip Lane, Kensett. Motion carried.

Motion Smeby/Second Stone to approve the tentative agreement regarding the Worth County Contract Extension – AFSCME 2026. Motion carried.

Motion Smeby/Second Stone to set the date for the FY26 Budget Amendment Hearing for May 26 at 9:00 A.M. Motion carried.

Motion Stone/Second Smeby to approve the Engagement of Northland Securities as Underwriter agreement. Motion carried.

Motion Smeby/Second Stone to approve the Cost Advisory Serivces, Inc. Contract to Provide Professional Consulting Services to Worth County, Iowa. Motion carried.

Motion Stone/Second Smeby to adjourn at 9:34 A.M. Motion carried.

Jacki A. Backhaus, Auditor
Enos Loberg, Chairperson

N-K School

The Northwood-Kensett Board of Directors met in a Regular Meeting on Thursday, May 14, 2026 at the Administrative office at 6:00 p.m.

Members present: Bradley Christianson, Cindy Byrne and Naomi Gudmonson Absent: Jami Nelson and Shana Brunsvold

Also present: Superintendent Tony Hiatt; Board Secretary Kim Hengesteg; Elementary Principal Brian Costello; Secondary Principal Keith Fritz and Kris Kenison Northwood Anchor

(3-0) approve the Agenda for Thursday, May 14 2026 Recognition of Visitors/Public Comments: None

Public Hearing for 2025-2026 Budget Amendment

President Christianson opened the public hearing at 6:00 pm Comments: no written or verbal comments received

Public Hearing closed at 6:01 pm

Reports:

Elementary Principal: 1) Elementary Track and Field Day 2) Kindergarten Orientation was May 1st 3) 2026-2027 Student Teachers in Mrs. Gordon's and Ms. Hagen's rooms 4) Conditions of Learning Survey 5) Preschool Advisory Meeting 6) Preschool Enrollment

Secondary Principal: 1) Continued discussion of Conditions for Learning Survey 2) Graduation Ceremony 3) Student Teacher from Waldorf in Mrs. Patterson and one with Mrs. Cronbaugh/Mr. Hunt

Superintendent: 1) Administration reviewed concerns raised during public comments and reflected on actions taken since August 2025: Ongoing professional development will continue in 2026-27, The administrative team has studied behavior and disciplinary frameworks aligned with state law, board policy and Character Strong. Continued work will focus on aligning behavior supports, expectations, and disciplinary practices. 2) Emergency Management meeting on May 26th 3) SIAC meeting also on May 26th

School Board: Next regular school board meeting on June 11, 2026 at 6:00 pm

Consent Agenda

(3-0) to approve the Consent Action Items which included the following:

• Minutes from the April 6, 2026 Special Board Meeting and April 16, 2026 Regular Board meeting
• May Bills for payment
• April 2026 Financial Report
• Approve Addison Waller – Assistant Business Manager @ $40,000
• Approve Brooklynn Heneman – Art Teacher @ $50,000
• Accept resignation Joleen Hansen – Secondary Special Ed Teacher
• Accept resignation Kylie Ouverson – Secondary Associate

Old Business: Fundraisers – none

Update on Elementary roof project – timeline has been moved up to May 21 start with the NW section of the elementary school in order to start early with hopes of completing the roof by the end of June, weather permitting. This will allow the solar panel installation to begin in July.

School playground will be closed for construction all summer Summer lunch program will be held at First Lutheran Church

New Business:

School Board members were presented with a certificate from Iowa Association of School Boards for their service to our community and Northwood-Kensett Community School District.

(3-0) to approve the 2025-2026 Budget Amendment as presented

(3-0) to approve the Audit Scope and Objectives by Barr and Company

(3-0) to approve consultant agreement with Ed Klamfoth from edk consulting LLC

(3-0) to approve review of the following policies: 900, 901, 902.1, 902.2, 902.3, 902.4, 903.1, 903.2, 902.3, 903.4, 905.5, 903.5R1

(3-0) to approve Memorandum of Understanding with Luther College for student teaching

(3-0) to approve Memorandum of Understanding with Waldorf University for student teaching

(3-0) to approve service agreement with Trane for Elementary and Secondary Buildings, AHU-1 freezstat replacement and tracer SC controller upgrade at the Elementary Building as presented

(3-0) to approve Central Rivers AEA contract for IT School Technology Partnership

(3-0) to approve GeoComm services which provides mapping of school building in the amount of $1,220.00

(3-0) to adjourn the meeting at 6:38 pm

Northwood-Kensett Community School District
Vendor Name, Vendor Description, Amount
43 North Iowa, service 139.92
AGVANTAGE FS, INC
propane..... 661.77
AHLERS & COONEY, P.C.
legal services 71.00
ALLIANT ENERGY
ELECTRICITY..... 4,079.44
Amazon Capital Services
SUPPLIES..... 563.28
America's Drain Cleaning LLC
service..... 237.50
Barr & Company, LLC,
audit service 9,875.00
Beland Tree Service LLC
tree removal 75.00
CARQUEST AUTO PARTS
SUPPLIES..... 77.37
CITY OF NORTHWOOD
water/sewer 860.26
DICK'S PLACE
TOWING..... 750.00
DRIVEWISE, service 1,505.00
EILERTSON REPAIR
Auto Repair Shop..... 569.30
FALLGATTER'S MARKET
SUPPLIES..... 167.90
HENGESTEG, KIM
travel..... 211.70
Hiatt, Tony, travel 130.50
HOVEY'S LAWN AND GARDEN
LLC, LAWN CARE 2,500.00
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
medicaid..... 1,352.57
IOWA PUPIL TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION
dues..... 300.00
Iowa Water Management Company, boiler service 235.50
JJ's Hardware, supplies..... 619.62
Katcher, Deanna
reimburse supplies..... 60.00
Krampitz, Marty
cleaning supplies..... 264.94
LARSEN PLUMBING & HEATING, INC., service..... 3,811.01
LEA MOBILE GLASS, INC.
glass service..... 220.00
Maroo, Mackensie
reimburse supplies..... 34.22
MARTIN BROTHERS
supplies..... 490.20
Martin, Stacy
Reimburse travel..... 20.00
MENARDS, SUPPLIES..... 29.98
Mid-American Research Chemical Corp, supplies..... 253.14
NIACC Continuing Ed Dpt
bus class..... 40.00
NORTHWOOD CHIROPRACTIC PC,physical..... 100.00
NORTHWOOD ELECTRIC
ELECTRICAL SERVICES .....
..... 1,376.57
NORTHWOOD SANITATION
garbage 650.00
RelayHub, LLC
Medicaid Billing..... 136.42
SCHILLING SUPPLY COMPANY, supplies 1,779.11
School Bus Sales
school bus 968.23
SCHUMACHER ELEVATOR COMPANY, inspection 803.40
Security & Communication Professionals
security services..... 495.00
TOP OF IOWA CONFERENCE
registration..... 50.00
Trane US Inc, repairs 1,230.50
VISA, service 2,876.79
WORTH COUNTY ENGINEER
diesel/gas 3,464.26
WORTH COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH, services 18.00
Worth Lumber Company
supplies..... 100.75
Fund Number 10..... 44,255.15
Buehrer, Kyle
photo services..... 400.00
CENTRAL SPRINGS CSD
entry fee..... 200.00
CHARLES CITY CSD
entry fee..... 150.00
Cheer Buttons and Bows
supplies..... 280.65
DECKER SPORTING GOODS
supplies..... 603.00
GARNER-HAYFIELD-VENTURA CSD, awards..... 695.00
HIGHLAND PARK GOLF COURSE, entry fee 60.00
Hulshizer, Ryan
Accompanist 425.85
JJ's Hardware
supplies..... 38.99
LAKE MILLS CSD
entry fee..... 80.00
N-K Wrestling Boosters
reimburse..... 228.00
NASHUA-PLAINFIELD CSD
entry fee..... 110.00
North Union School
entry fee..... 250.00
OSAGE CSD, entry fee 270.00
Pioneer Town & Country Club
Fees/meals 96.00
RICE LAKE GOLF COURSE
Fees/meals 23.00
Ridge Stone Golf Course
Fees/meals 60.00
South Hamilton CSD
entry fee..... 125.00
Tequilas Mexican Bar
meals..... 1,040.00
Turkey Valley CSD
Fees/meals 120.00
VISA, supplies..... 3,681.43
Waldorf Volleyball
registration..... 1,860.00
Fund Number 21..... 10,796.92
Atura Architecture
architecture services..... 542.05
MID-WEST ROOFING COMPANY
Elementar Roof 366,175.00
Fund Number 33..... 366,717.05
ACCESS SYSTEMS INC
copier lease 1,346.97
School Bus Sales
school bus 19,063.59
Software Unlimited, Inc
accounting software 8,150.00
TimeClock Plus
time clock system..... 5,661.45
Turf Tank, field painter.. 7,500.00
Fund Number 36..... 41,722.01
ANDERSON ERICKSON DAIRY
MILK 694.83
EMS DETERGENT SERVICES
SUPPLIES..... 238.00
GlacierGrid Inc, service 8.50
Holstad, Sasha
Refund Lunch 90.70
MARTIN BROTHERS
Food/Supplies 16,308.96
PAN-O-GOLD BAKING CO
BREAD 590.08
VISA, Registration..... 411.50
Wheeler, Jayne
Reimburse Supplies 54.99
Fund Number 61..... 18,397.56

PROFESSIONAL CARD
Business Announcements

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

PHYSICIANS
MERCYONE
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

Alcoholics Anonymous Alanon
Regular meeting each Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
Beginners/12 Step meeting 7:30 p.m. Thursday
First Lutheran Church
For more information call 324-3070

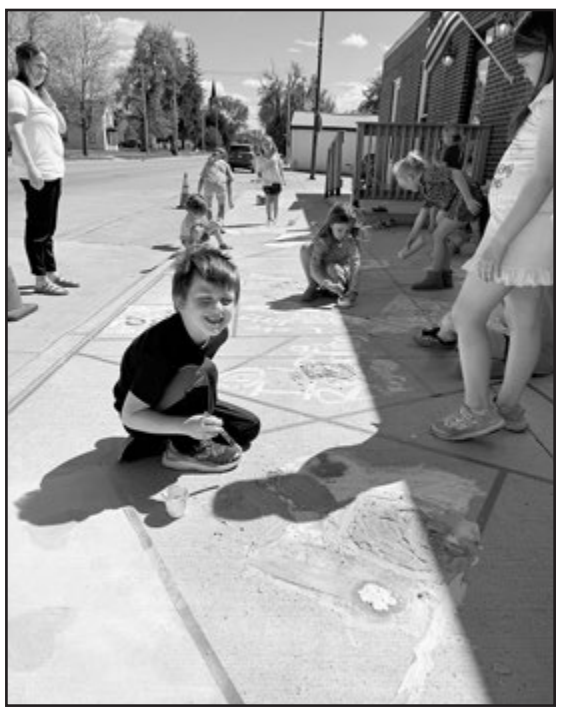
Congregate Meals
MEALS ON WHEELS
324-1244

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641-324-1340

Northwood Dental
DAVID PENFOLD, DDS
Mon. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Tues. 7 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Wed. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.,Thurs. 7 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Fri. 8 a.m. - Noon
641-324-1364
www.northwooddentistry.com
802 9th Ave. North
Northwood, Iowa 50459

Lake Mills News





Chalking it up

Last week kids in the Lake Mills Library's after school program added some artwork to the sidewalks near the library. The young people shared their creativity using three different types of chalk or paint for their artistic endeavors.







Transitional education

Several students in grades 10-12 at Lake Mills High School recently took part in the Next Steps Transition/Life Skills & Career Exploration Fair at NIACC. The students had the chance to explore post-high school opportunities, while learning more about resources available to them. The students also practiced some job and workplace skills to help prepare them for life after graduation. LMHS work experience coordinator Tiffany Kesler helped make the experience possible for the students

Seniors recognized at awards night

Before Sunday's commencement ceremony, Lake Mills graduates were recognized during 2026 Awards Night.

Following are the awards handed out and announced that evening:

Booster Club Senior Awards

LMHS Choral Director's Award- Avah Klebsch

National School Choral Award -Ava Menke

ICDA Outstanding Senior Choral Member Speech Student of the Year Award- Ava Menke

Iowa Bandmasters Association Award of Merit - Teyla VanHeiden

National Marching Band Award- Reagan Ham

John Philip Sousa Band Award- Ava Menke

Atty Nelson Cheerleading Award- Ava Menke

E. Wayne Cooley Award- Reagan Ham

Bernie Saggau Award- Mason Gaetzke

Lisa Brinkmeyer Award- Kate Bechtel

Thune Female Athlete of the Year Award- Reagan Ham

Okland Male Athlete of the Year Award- Steve Brandenburg

Top of Iowa Athletic All-Academic Team Awards

Top of Iowa All Conference Curriculum Awards

Student of the Year Award- Kate Bechtel

"A" Scholarship Program, Farmers Trust & Savings- Jasmine Schwaratz

American Legion Post 317, Emmons- Austin Mannes, Hailey Jensen, Gracie Pederson, Hayden Thompson

American Legion Post 235, Lake Mills- Noah Brunsvold, Sam Grothe, Ella Thompson

Roy Bendickson Scholarship- Caden Hunter, Gavin Huston

Travis Hoffman Memorial Scholarship- Emerson Bechtel, Hannah Maas

Dekalb Award- Mya Pederson

Glenn & Delia Bergland Scholarship- Jasmine Schwartz

Reuben & Helen Cornelius Memorial Scholarship- Nash Delger, Emerson Bechtel, Hannah Maas, Zach Stene

Lake Mills Education Association- Jersey Budach

Barb Nickson Memorial Scholarship- Reagan Ham

Senior Citizens Club Scholarship- Mason Gaetzke, Samuel Grothe, Piper Kjeldahl, Jasmine Schwartz

Franklin Dahn Memorial Scholarship- Ava Menke, Teyla VanHeiden

FFA Alumni Chapter, Lake Mills- Mya Peterson, Royce Peterson, Austin Mannes, Abby Koeppen, Reagan Ham

Todd Holst Memorial Scholarship- Steve Brandenburg

Dairyland Municipal Utilities- Hayden Thompson

Dave Kvam Memorial Scholarship on behalf of Sons of American Legion (Emmons, MN)- Sam Grothe

Delores Nelson Memorial Scholarship- Knute Rogne

Betha Larson Memorial Music Scholarship- Teyla VanHeiden

Iowa State Bar Assoc Citizenship Award- Reagan Ham

Gena Nelson Memorial- Ava Menke

NIACC Foundation Scholarship- Ella Thompson

Ohme Memorial Scholarship- Reagan Ham

Dan Twito Memorial Scholarship- Piper Kjeldahl

John Rygh Memorial Scholarship- Avah Klebsch

Worth County Development Authority- Mason Gaetzke, Gavin Huston, Olivia Kaufmann, Abby Koeppen, Knute Rogne, Teyla VanHeiden

Lake Mills Scholarship Foundation Scholarships:

Scholbrock Scholarship- Mason Gaetzke

The Gaskill Family Scholarship- Rian Cardona

The Vietnam Vetrans Scholarship-Sam Grothe, Jersey Budach

MBT Scholarship- Hayden Thompson

Lions Club Scholarship- Kate Bechtel, Grace Bechtel

Hanson Foundation- Reagan Ham

WCTA- Reagan Ham, Jasmine Schwartz, Landyn Christian, Sam Cannon

Professional Trades Scholarship- Nash Delger, Emerson Bechtel

Huntley Scholarship- Austin Mannes, Isiah Torres

Knights of Columbus- Steve Brandenburg, Knute Rogne

Briefs

VBS at Winnebago Lutheran in Lake Mills set for June 1-4

Winnebago Lutheran Church at 40029 210th Avenue in Lake Mills will host Vacation Bible School from Monday through Thursday, June 1-4 from 9 - 11 a.m.

There will be fun snacks, great crafts, incredible music and surprising adventures.

This year's theme is "Snowball Mountain Challenge, Find Your Strength in God." VBS is for ages four years old to sixth grade.

Registration forms are available in the May newsletter, on the website, Facebook page and in each of the Narthexes.

New and old friends are welcome.

Quisling named to SNHU President's List

Kassidy Quisling of Lake Mills has been named to Southern New Hampshire University's (SNHU) Spring 2026 President's List. The spring terms run from January to May.

Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.700 and above for the reporting term are named to the President's List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits over each 16-week term or paired 8-week terms grouped in fall, winter/spring, and summer.

LM students, businesses benefit from Work Experience Program

Businesses and community supporters were recently recognized for their part in providing an on the job learning experience for students at Lake Mills High School.

The Work Experience Program provides real-life experiences for students who may not otherwise have the opportunity to take part in on-the-job training and learning.

Workplaces that hosted LM students as employees were invited to a breakfast on May 7, where the students and their teachers recognized the business owners and employees that make the program a success.

"The Work Experience Program is designed to connect classroom learning with real-world application by placing students in authentic workplace settings throughout the community," said Tiffany Kesler, Work Experience Coordinator working with students in the Lake Mills, Central Springs, Northwood-Kensett, St. Ansgar and Rudd-Rockford-Marble Rock districts.

"Through these experiences, students develop essential employability skills including communication, responsibility, teamwork, problem-solving and time management. The program helps students build confidence, independence and a clearer understanding of future career pathways while increasing engagement in school and readiness for post-secondary education or employment opportunities.

"The program also benefits local businesses by creating opportunities to help develop the future workforce. Employers are able to work directly with students, observe their skills firsthand, and provide meaningful mentorship and guidance. Employees naturally step into leadership and mentoring roles, strengthening workplace culture while helping students gain valuable hands-on experience.

"Overall, the Work Experience Program creates a strong partnership between education and the workforce, delivering meaningful outcomes for both students and the local community."

Students working at Lake Mills businesses and their experiences included:

David's Marketplace – Students assisted with stocking shelves, organizing merchandise, facing products, operating the cash register and assisting customers at checkout, bagging groceries and helping maintain a clean and welcoming store environment.

Lake Mills Preschool and Daycare – Student supported teachers and childcare staff by helping prepare activities, organizing materials, cleaning play areas, and interacting with young children during daily routines.

Lake Mills Lumberyard – Students helped organize inventory, stock materials, clean work areas and assist staff by helping fill lumber orders for customers and preparing materials for pick-up.

Don's Motor Mart – Student performed light cleaning duties, stocked merchandise, organized displays, placed stickers on packaging, assembled pizza boxes, learned basic pizza preparation, helped with dishes and assisted with keeping the convenience store and gas station areas neat and orderly.

Lake Mills Public Library – The student assisted library staff with maintaining a welcoming environment for visitors.

Grothe's Diner – The student helped with table cleaning, dishwashing, stocking



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supplies and other kitchen and dining room support tasks.

Teluwut – The student assisted restaurant staff with food prep, cleaning tables and maintaining a clean dining environment.

School kitchen – Students supported kitchen staff by helping monitor tray return stations, collecting trays and bringing them to the dishwasher area, distributing condiments to elementary students, washing dishes and cleaning work areas.

Lake Mills Elementary classroom – The student assisted teachers with classroom organization, preparing materials, supporting younger students and helping maintain a positive learning environment.

Cavett's Lawn and Garden – Students assisted with washing lawn mowers, performing light mechanical duties such as oil changes and spark plug replacement and learning additional skills needed to service lawn mowers and other small-engine equipment.

"We greatly appreciate all of the local businesses and community partners who have supported our students through the Work Experience Program over the years. Their willingness to provide hands-on learning opportunities helps students build valuable job, communication and life skills while gaining confidence in real workplace settings.

"The Work Experience Program is always looking to build additional partnerships with local businesses. Our students bring a wide variety of talents and skills that can contribute to many different workplace settings and we welcome opportunities to connect students with meaningful community experiences."



MRS. REBECCA MAY

Lake Mills track sending multiple athletes to state

By Julie Salisbury

The Lake Mills Bulldogs are hitting the blue oval in Des Moines with quite a contingent of runners. The boys are qualified in five events and the girls are qualified in nine events.

On the first day, Thursday, May 21, the girls shuttle hurdle relay team of Tatum Sauer, Faith Stene, Ari Stensrud and Cora Sauer will compete in the preliminaries at 9 a.m. with the finals taking place on Saturday, May 23, at 11:40 a.m. The alternates are Ellie Mondt, Alana Throne, Jaselyn Islas and Kenlie Greenfield.

At 10:10 a.m. on Thursday, Knute Rogne and Hayden Thompson will compete in the finals of the 3200-meter run.

At 10:40 a.m. on Thursday, Regan Eastvold will run in the 200-meter preliminaries with the finals scheduled for Saturday, May 23, at 2:20 p.m.

At 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, Mackenzie Budach competes in the finals of the long jump.

On Thursday at 12:50 p.m., Jacky Gallardo will run in the 100-meter preliminaries with the finals scheduled for 12:55 p.m. on Saturday, May 23.

On Thursday at 1:05 p.m., Zach Stene will run in the 100-meter preliminaries with the finals scheduled for 1:05 p.m. on Saturday, May 23.

On Friday, May 22, at 9 a.m., Ava Menke will compete in the discus finals.

On Friday the boys distance medley finals will run at 9:40 a.m. The relay team is made up of Nash Delger, Landyn Christian, Zach Stene and Knute Rogne with the alternates being Josiah Kjeldahl, Asher Stensrud, Lane Rygh and Royce Peterson.

At 11 a.m. on Friday, the girls 4x200 relay final will run. Making up the relay team are Tatum Sauer, Cora Sauer, Mak Budach and Regan Eastvold with alternates being Jacky Gallardo, Ellie Mondt, Ari Stensrud and Reese Delger.

Mackenzie Budach will compete in the high jump finals on Friday at 11:30 a.m.

At 12 noon on Friday, Cora Sauer will run in the 400-meter hurdle finals.

The girls sprint medley relay finals will start Saturday off at 9 a.m. Relay members are Jackie Gallardo, Ellie Mondt, Regan Eastvold and Tatum Sauer with the alternates being Hillary Hanson, Kendall Leonhardi, Ari Stensrud and Reese Delger.

At 11:05 a.m. on Saturday, Knute Rogne will run the finals of the 800-meter run.

Competition for the Bulldogs will wrap up on Saturday at 3:10 p.m. when Knute Rogne and Hayden Thompson run in the 1600 meter finals.

Good luck to all the Lake Mills Bulldogs competing in the Class 1A State Track & Field Meet!

LMCS students volunteer at Black Hills Energy Power of Trees planting at local sports complex

On Tuesday, May 12, Black Hills Energy employees, Lake Mills city employees and fifth graders at Lake Mills Elementary volunteered at the Power of Trees planting located at the Leonard Fjelstad Memorial Sports Complex.

Jeff Jensen with Trees Forever, Sarah Paulsen with Black Hills Energy and Braden Wempen from Lake Mills Public Works opened the day with a few remarks and a planting demonstration. In addition to the 42 fifth graders in Mrs. Boehmer's class, several high school students provided assistance planting the six different trees near the trail.

"Having had the opportunity to speak to the students in classrooms yesterday about the importance of trees and the correct way to plant and care for them, it's exciting to be able to offer an opportunity today where they can apply that learning in a hands-on way," said Jensen, Trees Forever Director of Community Programs.

Power of Trees is a partnership between Black Hills Energy and Trees Forever, offering grants to Iowa communities in the Black Hills Energy service area to fund tree plantings, with the goal of helping save energy, beautify communities and enhance the environment.

"Lake Mills has been a long-standing community partner of our Power of Trees program and are great caretakers of the trees they are provided," said Paulsen, Black Hills Energy Efficiency Program Coordinator. "These six new trees join a batch of trees planted last year through the Power of Trees program and will provide great shade cover for the sports complex in years to come."



Black Hills Energy provides grants up to $5,000 for community-based tree projects and the projects are administered by Trees Forever. To learn more about this program, visit treesforever.org/power-of-trees.

LMCS District audit report released

Nolte, Cornman & Johnson P.C. recently released an audit report on the Lake Mills Community School District in Lake Mills.

The District's revenues totaled $10,744,330 for the year that ended June 30, 2025, a 0.72% increase from the prior year. Expenses for District operations for the year that ended June 30, 2025, totaled $10,432,004, a 4.37% increase from the prior year. Revenues from property tax increased $273,393, which was the primary reason for the increase in total revenues. Instruction expenses increased $250,225, which was the primary reason for the Increase in total expenses.

Nolte, Cornman & Johnson P.C. reported one finding found on page 63 of this report. The finding addresses issues related to segregation of duties. Nolte, Cornman & Johnson P.C. provided the District with recommendations to address the finding.

The finding discussed above is repeated from the prior year. The Community School District's Board of Education has a fiduciary responsibility to provide oversight of the Community School District's operations and financial transactions. Oversight is typically defined as the "watchful and responsible care" a governing body exercises in its fiduciary capacity.

A copy of the audit report is available for review on the Auditor of State's web site at https://auditor.iowa.gov/audit-reports.

Koschmeder Cont. from Page 9

maker, and an all around community volunteer. In 1977 she returned to school to recertify as a teacher, and taught briefly in the St. Ansgar school system. Later in life she took over as Bob's secretary and surgery assistant, until his passing in 2005.

Carol is survived by her children, Curtis (Teresa) of Indiana and their children, Nicole, Jenna, Emily and Hannah; Linda of Grafton; and Kevin (Sarah Adams) of Wisconsin and their children, Angus (Isa) and Lauren.

She loved school, taking classes and learning. Over the years, she took many classes at the MacNider Art Museum, producing pottery and paintings cherished by her family.

She was very involved with Grafton Community Action; working on and recording projects that received awards from the Iowa Community Betterment Program. She helped establish Grafton's first library and volunteered there many years. She helped in designing Grafton's parks and spent many hours in the gardens there. She decorated the tables in the fellowship hall at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, and she compiled the SCOOP, Grafton's town newsletter. These two volunteer projects were the last she enjoyed.

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N-K Girls Track team

Members of the Northwood-Kensett 2026 girls track team include (front row, from left) Ariah Bode, Ivy Urbatsch, Kenly Solberg, Lexi McHenry, Chloe Woods, True Hackenmiller, (second row) Harley Logeman, Lilly Strand, Ashlyn Skellenger, Rylee Schoon, Anna Marie Block, Logan Manning, Madeline Christianson, (back row) Taryn Jackson, Casey Gentz, Miley White, Maggie Rye, Merrin Hanson, Mia Fierova, Bria Kluver and Sophie Rye.



N-K Boys Track team

Members of the Northwood-Kensett 2026 boys track team include (front row, from left) Weston Heims, Jacob Thomas, Brady Tufte, Kale Bode, Tucker Duvall, Ronan Penfold, Dagen Peterson, (second row) Ethan Franck, Kolton Robinson, Gabriel Aleman, Brekken Haberman, Konner Dowd-Mincks, Keenan Davidson-Jacobs, Zachary Heiken, Henry Hanson, (third row) Max Johnson, Aydan Schutz, Hayzin Jacobson, Landen Nelson, Alex Tiedemann, Carson Tufte and Alec Ducommun.

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The Northwood Anchor

District Week

By Troy Einertson
N-K Girls Track Coach

This is the week that all of the girls have been working towards all year. When we started track in late February, I had three meets that we really wanted to focus on, and districts was one of them. We talked all year about how we wanted to "Be Somebody" and this was our time to show everyone what that meant.

Before our big district meet in St. Ansgar on Thursday, we had a tune up meet in Manly on Monday. The girls were only in a handful of events and I just wanted to try and get everyone through the meet injury free!

Our 4x800 team of Anna Block, Ivy Urbatsch, Merrin Hanson and Maggie Rye ran a wonderful race for us. They placed third, and Anna Block continued to lower her time in the 800. She has had an amazing year so far, and the more experience she gets the faster she runs!

The 4x100 team of Lexi Mchenry, Mia Fierova, True Hackenmiller and Hixton Krambeer also ran an impressive race finishing third as well.

I really try to keep this meet as stress free as I can, but because I needed to work out another hurdler, I put Sophie Rye in the 100 hurdles. So the stress went from 0-100 real quick. Sophie hurdled a little when she was a sophomore, but not much since. I asked her about two weeks ago and in true Sophie fashion she said, "Anything for the team Troy!" We worked hard for a couple of weeks, and after a great Friday practice, I thought she was good to go. I have told the story many times on how I very rarely watch the hurdlers hurdle at the meets. When Sophie lined up to go, I decided I had better. She had a great start, worked the hurdles perfectly, and ran a great race! She finished sixth overall, but most importantly, she finished with a smile on her face!

Sophie has been through a lot during her three years of track, and this year she has made it through injury free! She has done more for this team than she knows! From running open 100s and the high jump to the 4x800 there is nothing she will not do for us. It is athletes like Sophie that make our team what it is today. We are not going to come out there and blow you away, but I guarantee we are going to come out there with heart and sheer grit and we will get after it!

We have a lot of kids like Sophie on the team. Girls that just work hard, and want to just compete for their school and team.

Girls like Bria Kluver and Kenly Solberg, who give you everything they have every day of the year. Bria has had a bad foot all year long, never complains and just gets after



IVY URBATSCH

it and always wants to do more. While Kenly is a true leader, and is one of those kids who is an inspiration to others. I have been blessed with a group of amazing kids and parents this year and If I haven't told you all this before, I love my job!

With all this said, we made it though the Central Springs meet unscathed, and were ready to get after it at the district meet in St. Ansgar on Thursday!

The district meet is one of those meets I love and hate all the same. I love it because it is a meet that we have worked on all year, and I hate it because it is the last time I get to work with some of the kids for a while. Josie and I had a plan in place, and the girls all knew what they had to do!

Our field event kids started us off, and they really put on a show for us. Taryn finished sixth in the shot with a throw of 32.5, while placing eighth in the discus with a throw of 93.1 Both her throws were personal bests for her.

Not to be outdone, Hixton jumped 14' 10.75 for a fifth place finish and a PR, while Lexi jumped 13' 4.5 for an eighth place finish! Just a great way to start the meet!

While they were throwing and jumping, our girls hit the track for their running events.

Ivy and Merrin both towed the line in the 3000 and they got after it right away. Ivy ran with the lead pack the entire time, and followed our plan exactly the way we planned. Her time of 10:53 was good for fourth place, and with this time I was sure she was golden for state. Merrin ran a very well planned race as well. Her time of 12:47 was good for eighth place. Merrin didn't get much rest because her next race was the 4x800 and was up next.

This race was another great race for us with an unexpected finish. Anna Block led off the race with a PR of 2:40, and Sophie, Maggie Rye and Merrin kept us in the race the entire time. When Maggie crossed the finish line in fourth place I couldn't have been happier for them. This was two places better than I thought, and all of the hard work had paid off! After our 30 minute state mandated break, a storm moved through and the 30 minutes ended up being two hours. Needless to say, spending two hours in a gym with 200 kids was not what I had expected to be doing during this time!

Well we finally got out of the gym, and the girls got back after it. Our shuttle hurdle team of True, Ariah, Maddie and Mia finished fourth, and even though it wasn't the place we were hoping for, the girls did their best and really had a great race.

Up next was the 100, and Hixton got out very well and ran a PR of 14.05, which was good for fifth place.

The distance medley team of Maddie, Mia, Anna and Ivy finished in sixth place, and in this race Anna ran her best ever time in the 400 of 1:07!

Next up were Maggie and Ashlyn in the 400. Maggie finished eighth in a time of 1:07, which was a PR for her, while Ashlyn ran her best time of the year as well!

Mia and True placed seventh and fifth respectfully in the 100 hurdles, and this capped off a great year for both of these girls. They have placed in the shuttle and the 100 hurdles all year, and it is going to be fun watching them the next couple of years.

Ivy was up next in the 800, and she got after it right away. She took the lead and held it to the 750 mark and ended up finishing second with a time of 2:25. This time was also good enough to punch her ticket to the state track meet.

Ivy and Merrin were up again in the 1500 a couple races later, and both of them got after it again! Ivy again ran with the lead pack and came through in 5:06 for a fourth place finish while Merrin ran another impressive race and finished in 6:09. Ivy's time of 5:06 was also good enough to qualify for the state meet.

In a race that is normally done at 8:30, the girls lined up for the 4x100 at 11:10. The team of Lexi, Mia, True and Hixton finished in seventh place, which was another unexpected placement for us!

Overall we scored 53 points and finished in sixth place of a loaded district.

Ivy Urbatsch qualified for the state meet in the 3000, 1500 and the 800 and will be our first freshman to run on the Blue Oval in these three events! Just an amazing accomplishment for our talented freshman!

Finally, this was the last meet for our seniors. Merrin Hanson, Sophie Rye, Miley White and Logan Manning. Merrin, Sophie and Logan have been with me for awhile now, while this was Miley's first year. These four seniors will be missed, and it has been a pleasure coaching all of them!

Three Vikings earn TIC All-Conference golf honors

By Julie Salisbury

On Monday, May 11, the Viking boys traveled to Manly for the Top of Iowa Conference East meet at Pioneer Town & Country Club.

St. Ansgar took top honors with a team score of 326, Osage was second with a score of 333, West Fork was third with a 336, Nashua-Plainfield was fourth with a 341, Northwood-Kensett was fifth with a 341, Central Springs was sixth with a 350, Newman was seventh with a 353 and North Butler was eighth with a 375.

Earning Top of Iowa All-Conference honors were Caden Helgeson, who placed fourth overall with a score of 81, and Bowan Behne, who tied for 10th with a score of 84.

Other Viking scores were Tyce Helgeson who was 22nd with a score of 87, Owen Binnebose was 26th with an 89, Caysen Chodeur was 36th with a score of 93 and Weston Willand was 45th with a score of 100.



Viking Caden Helgeson advanced to the district meet, which was scheduled to be held at Rice Lake in Lake Mills on Monday, May 18.



Viking Hallie Hanson tees off at Ridge Stone Golf Course during Monday's Top of Iowa Conference meet.



Viking Quinn Schroeder tees off at the TIC meet in Sheffield on Monday, May 11.



Viking Kinley Stambaugh gets ready to send a long putt during action on Monday in Sheffield for the conference meet.

The girls TIC meet was held at Ridge Stone Golf Course in Sheffield on Monday, May 11, with Newman winning the team title with a score of 374. St. Ansgar was second with a 417, North Butler was third with a 431, West Fork was fourth with a 439, Osage was fifth with a 439 and Nashua-Plainfield was sixth with a 475. Central Springs and Northwood-Kensett did not compete for a team score.

Leading the Vikings was Kinley Stambaugh, who earned TIC All-Conference honors with an eighth place overall finish and a score of 96. Hallie Hanson finished with a score of 115, with a personal best nine hole score of 57, and Quinn Schroeder finished with a score of 139.

On Wednesday, May 13, the Viking boys traveled to Jackson Heights Golf Course in Jackson Junction for the Class 1A Sectional meet.

South Winneshiek won the team title with a 314, Central Elkader was second with a 332, Turkey Valley was third with a 340, Lake Mills was fourth with a 350, N-K was fifth with a 357, North Iowa was sixth with a 373 and Riceville was seventh with a 400.

C. Helgeson placed eighth with a score of 81 and advanced to the district meet to be held in Lake Mills on Monday, May 18, (see next week's issue for results). Binnebose finished 18th with a 90, T. Helgeson was 22nd with a score of 92, Behne was 26th with a 94, Chodur was 27th with a 95 and Willand was 38th with a 112.

On Friday, May 15, the Viking girls traveled to Mason City to golf in the regionals at Highland Golf Course, and had their season come to an end.

Stambaugh finished ninth with a 91, Hanson was 31st with a 119 and Schroeder was 32nd with a score of 120.



