The Northwood Anchor

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Briefs

Grafton hosts trick/treating Saturday

Grafton will host a Trick or Treat event this Sunday, October 25.

The event begins with trunk or treat on Main Street, with people decorating the trunk of their vehicles and offering a treat for visitors. This will be held from 4-6 p.m.

The Reptile Zoo will also be at the Grafton Heritage Depot at the same time.

Citywide trick or treating will be held that night from 5-7 p.m.

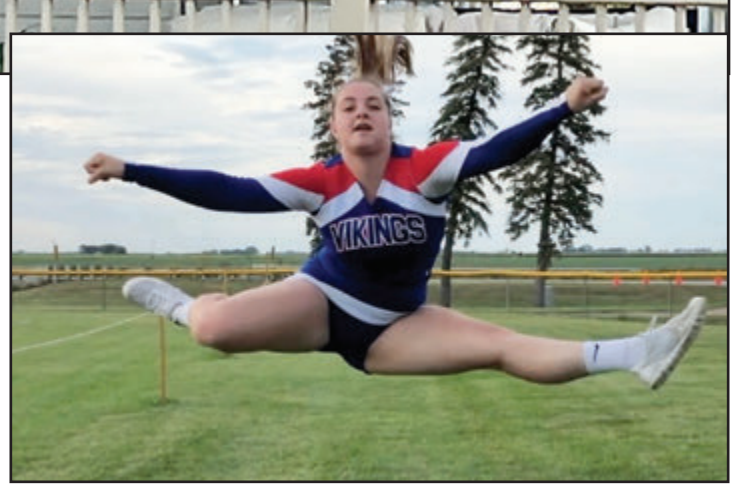
N-K FFA hosts trunk or treat Oct. 30

Northwood-Kensett's FFA chapter will host a Halloween Trunk or Treat event on Friday, October 30, at 6 p.m.

Vehicles with decorated trunks will be in the N-K High School parking lot. Young people are invited to visit to trick or treat at the vehicles.

FFA students will have Halloween activities and prizes and hand out candy.





A school spirit

With Halloween on the way, a unique lawn decoration can once again be found at the home of cheerleading coach Cindy Byrne. This year's skeletal cheerleader recreates the airborne acrobatics of N-K cheer alum Kennedy Eskildsen, class of 2020.

Items taken from unlocked cars

This past weekend, there were several reports of items stolen from unlocked cars in Northwood.

According to information shared on social media, a suspect described as a while male dressed all in black, with a shoulder strap bag, was seen on door and security cameras at several properties. The man was caught on camera checking car door handles and taking cash, change and items from unlocked vehicles. He reportedly did not have any tools to break into the cars.

Those that had their cars rummage through, items stolen or who may have footage of the suspect are asked to call the Worth County Sheriff's Office at 641-324-2481.

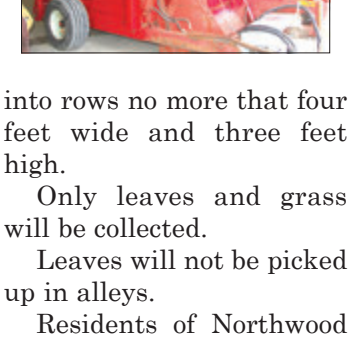
Northwood residents asked to use leaf burning alternatives

The City of Northwood is asking residents to avoid burning leaves and use alternative options offered by the City.

In an effort to show concern for residents with respiratory or heart difficulties, the City is asking people in Northwood to refrain from burning leaves.

Instead, the City offers two other options.

The City will once again pick up leaves with its baler. All leaves must be placed on the hard surface of the roads.



Piles should be raked into rows no more that four feet wide and three feet high.

Only leaves and grass will be collected.

Leaves will not be picked up in alleys.

Residents of Northwood may also haul leaves to the dump site on Nettle Avenue seven days a week.

Supervisors hear from public about new administration building project

A hearing was held at the October 12 Worth County supervisors meeting, with the public getting a chance to weigh in on plans to borrow up to $6 million for the construction of a new administration office building.

The project would build a new facility for County offices currently located in the courthouse, as well as the treasurer's office.

The administration building is planned to be built on the northeast corner of the courthouse property, from the open yard area, to the area currently occupied by the garages and engineering/secondary roads office structure in the courthouse parking lot. Those offices are being relocated to the new shared building located east of the railroad tracks in Northwood.

A public hearing was set for the October 12 meeting, as the supervisors plan to borrow up to $6 million to pay for the new building. The hearing allowed the public to ask questions or make comments about the financing or the project.

Don Anderson, of Northwood, shared concerns about the buildings that would be left empty after county offices relocate to the new structure.

Anderson shared his opposition to leaving the courthouse offices empty. He said that the County needs to save the courthouse, no matter the cost, calling it a cornerstone of the Northwood community.

Anderson said that he had heard that there were no plans to demolish the courthouse at this time, but that he knew there would be a big push back from the community if it is ever discussed.

Anderson said that while it may not be the plan to demolish the courthouse now, he questioned if that would be the same decision later if there are no county offices in the building and it gets increasingly costly to maintain.

Anderson shared his opposition to the new building, asking the supervisors to consider spending the money to maintain the courthouse and keep the county offices there instead.

Supervisor AJ Stone said that the courthouse will not be left empty. While the county offices of the auditor, assessor and recorder, as well as IT and supervisor meeting rooms will be

Supervisors, see Page 2

Relay hosts Halloween Boos, Booze & Bingo

The Relay For Life of Worth County will hold its annual Boos, Booze & Bingo event on Halloween, Saturday, October 31, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Nordic Lanes in Northwood.

The event will include games of bingo with cash and other special donated prizes; as well as a bloody Mary bar, bake sale, costume contest, raffle, burger or chicken strip baskets and silent auction.

Those that have donations for prizes or auction items may contact Kris Woltzen at Olson Insurance.

Funds raised support the Relay For Life of Worth County.

Absentee voting underway

Absentee voting is underway for the November 3 general election, with county, state and national offices on ballots.

In person absentee voting at the Worth County auditor's office is currently underway. The deadline to request and vote an absentee ballot in person at the auditor's office is Monday, November 2.

The general election will be held on Tuesday, November 3, with polls open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

County offices and candidates appearing on ballots will include District 1 Supervisor, Republican Marena Henkle and Amy Jorgensen; District 3 supervisor, Republican Mike Hanson; treasur-

Absentee, see Page 2



Fall foliage

With fall in full swing, trees throughout the area have had their leaves become much more colorful, before they live up to the name of the season.

Halloween parade, costume contest in Northwood

Activities set for Halloween in Northwood include a parade and a costume contest for kids, before the trick and treating begins.

Trick or treating begins in Northwood at the Lutheran Retirement Home and Northwood Pines Assisted Living, from 4:40-5:30 p.m.

The Northwood Area Chamber of Commerce will once again sponsor the annual Halloween parade and costume contest for children up to 10 years old.

The parade begins at the City Hall parking lot at 5 p.m. on Halloween, Saturday, October 31.

The costumed kids, and their accompanying adults, costumed or otherwise, will parade to the basketball courts in Central Park.

At the park, a costume contest will be held, with prizes going to the top three winners in three age groups, children three and under, 4-6 and 7-10.

All kids under the age of 10 taking part will receive a bag of candy, while supplies last.

Following the parade, from 5-8 p.m., children will be trick or treating throughout Northwood.

Those handing out candy are asked to turn on their porch lights to signal that they are welcoming trick or treaters.



The Week's WEATHER

From National Weather Service information

Date	Hi	Lo	Prec.
Mon. Oct. 12	90	59	
Tues. Oct. 13	90	54	
Wed. Oct. 14	68	48	
Thurs. Oct. 15	69	48	0.06
Fri. Oct. 16	55	44	1.10
Sat. Oct. 17	53	31	0.08
Sun. Oct. 18	60	31	

Local schools take part in German exchange program



St. Ansgar and Northwood-Kensett schools recently welcomed some visitors from overseas as a part of a unique exchange program.

As a part of the German American Partnership Program (GAPP), students and staff at American and German schools welcome their counterparts for educational and cultural exchanges.

Over the course of a little over two weeks, 10 students, two faculty members and principal Jürgen Boy visited North Iowa from Oldenburg, Germany.

St. Ansgar has taken part in the GAPP exchanges in the past, but for superintendent Tony Hiatt, in his second year as the superintendent of St. Ansgar and Northwood-Kensett schools, this is his first year taking part.

This year, Jürgen said that he was excited when his colleague found St. Ansgar for the exchange program.

Their trip began with sightseeing in South Dakota, taking in destinations like Mount Rushmore before traveling to North Iowa.

While in this area, the students stayed with other students and their families, teachers stayed with other teachers and Jürgen stayed with Hiatt.

The students took part in classes, while the adults shadowed and learned from their counterparts.

For Jürgen, that included the chance to visit both St. Ansgar and N-K schools.

Jürgen learned more about Hiatt's job as a superintendent, but also spent time with N-K's principals, Brian Costello and Keith Fritz, learning about how their jobs compared to his role in Germany.

"It's all a part of getting to know the American way of life, and learning about each other," Jürgen said. "And fortunately, we've found that everyone in this area of the U.S. is very kind and very friendly. Tony has been a great host and the kids and my colleagues have said the same about the families they've been staying with."

Jürgen said that while the whole system of administration, school boards and personnel is a bit different between the countries, the kids are pretty much the same, with the same opportunities and challenges in classrooms in each country.

"Kids behave the same and have the same problems. But it's in a different atmosphere. It's much calmer and quieter in America."

Jürgen said some of that comes down to the school and community's involvement and support of extracurriculars.

"Schools here have more school spirit and team spirit, and it extends into the community. There's less of that in Germany. I would like to see more of that back home."

Sports back home, Jürgen said, are not as dominant and not as much a part of school life. Young people do have the opportunities, with sports for his students including soccer and ice hockey, as well as basketball. However, they would only have about 90 minutes in their week for sports activities.

There is even some support for American football, with leagues that have developed from Americans stationed nearby.

Another difference is technology. At the North Iowa schools, each student has access to laptops and computers and that is highly integrated into learning.

Jürgen said that is just getting started in Germany. He said that he can see the good and bad of that, noting the benefits of the learning resources, but also the downsides that can come with access to the internet and social media, particularly for young people.

At N-K, Jürgen enjoyed some unique activities. He saw how involved the ag industry is in the community and in the schools. He donned the suits and took part in beekeeping with ag teacher Christian Miller. He toured and learned more about the Ramsey Nature Center. He learned about how different school security is in Iowa, and about the unique way that casino revenue has gone towards school improvements.

And Jürgen learned about how local volunteers fight fires and respond to medical emergencies, as the Northwood Fire & EMS department visited classrooms and then gave him and the kindgarten students a ride to the station for tours of their building and vehicles.

For the visiting German students, one difference has been particularly appreciated.

"The students have really liked the differences in the lunchroom. They love the food they have eaten here, with hamburgers and fries at lunch. German school meals are much more healthy and organic."

Jürgen has also appreciated the culinary options, whether that be Italian and Bavarian meals prepared in the host homes, or visits to favorite local restaurants, for American and Mexican food favorites.

Outside of the classroom, Jürgen said that things are pretty similar. In the part of Germany he comes from, the climate is similar and the landscape features corn and wind turbines throughout the rural areas.

As for the big differences, Jürgen said that things are more expensive back in his home. "Americans right now have been talking about high gas prices, but gas is much more expensive in Germany."

The students and adults from Germany have not only taken part in school activities, but have enjoyed American and North Iowa events that they don't have back home.

That has included visits to the Surf Ballroom, to orchards, to the Harvest Fest and driving around to see the sites in the district.

Both Hiatt and Jürgen said that they have appreciated the exchange and see the benefits, hoping to continue. However, St. Ansgar's German language program is coming to an end and that may mean future exchanges could end too.

"We're hoping that we can find a way to keep being involved in the GAPP exchanges. We see the value here. It's more than the language. Everyone involved gets so much from the cultural exchange," Hiatt said.

"We get so much from building relationships and respect for each other's cultures and how we're the same and how we're different. This is the simplest and yet the most profound way to learn about other places and people, by making friendships and memories that will last longer than just 2 1/2 weeks."

Supervisors
Cont. from Page 1

moved to the new building, Worth County is still required to provide spaces for court services, and those will remain in the courthouse. Stone also said that there are no plans to relocate the sheriff's office from its spot in the existing courthouse.

Stone said that they are looking at a new building to accommodate the lack of space for the county offices in the courthouse, and to consolidate the offices that most frequently serve county residents directly.

Supervisor Enos Loberg noted that the entire top of the courthouse will remain in use by the court system.

However, Loberg said, there is not enough space for the remaining offices, and no good public meeting space for supervisors or other public meetings. He noted that when there is something that brings the public to a supervisors meeting, they are often left in a full room, standing in the nearby hallway or even the steps outside. The new building would have a meeting space for up to 50 people.

Loberg also noted the limited space for the IT equipment as is, in a courthouse that was not built with that kind of equipment in mind.

Supervisor Mark Smeby said that remodeling the courthouse to meet the needs of the county offices would cost more than $6 million. He said that they believe the new building is the best option, and hopefully would be more efficient than the alternatives.

With the treasurer's office relocating, the supervisors said that the plan is to sell that building, with the hopes that someone will bring a new business to the space. Loberg also noted plans to sell the property on 13th Street South, currently used by the secondary roads department. Loberg noted that the County does not pay taxes, so selling the properties would generate more taxes for the City of Northwood.

The supervisors asked if there would be a vote on the proposed spending.

Supervisor Mark Smeby said that the County is not using any debt service or raising property taxes in a way that would require a vote.

Asked if they could put it up to a vote, the supervisors suggested that they could, but noted it would require a special election, and the expense of doing so.

Stone said that the supervisors had no plans to tear the courthouse down.

Anderson noted his concern that may not always be the opinion of other supervisors in the future.

The supervisors were also asked if the jail would need to be updated.

Loberg said that it has needed to be updated for many years, and that is part of the reason that Worth County reached an agreement with Mitchell County to house prisoners.

Loberg said that the jail renovations would be costly to make it eligible to house inmates again. He noted new doors and locks, plumbing, new ways to separate male and female inmates amongst the renovations that would be needed.

Smeby suggested that bringing the jail into compliance wouldn't be possible without spending as much as $1 million. He said that talk at the State level of consolidating services puts into question the value of spending that kind of money.

The supervisors also said that the arrangement with Mitchell County is working well and is less costly for the County.

Following the hearing, the supervisors approved a resolution to begin the process of seeking bonds for the administration project.

The County has discussed plans to borrow against future property tax valuation increases on newer wind turbines in the county, in a process of TIF (tax increment financing).

If the supervisors ultimately approve the funding and the project by October or November, the current construction schedule would have the new administration building complete in May 2028.

Absentee
Cont. from Page 1

er, Republican Jake Hanson; recorder, Republican Jolene Hickle; and attorney, Democrat Dexter Banks and Republican Jeffrey Greve.

Winnebago County offices appearing on ballots included Supervisor for District 1, Republican Terry Durby; District 3 supervisor, Republican Brent Swenson; county treasurer, Republican Julie Swenson; county recorder, Shanna Eastvold; and attorney, Kelsey Beenken.

Other county offices appearing on ballots will include Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioner seats and positions on County Agricultural Extension Councils, as well as various township trustees and clerks.

State offices appearing on ballots include House District 30 in Worth, with Democrat Alexander Schmidt and Republican Dani Ollenburg on ballots.

State offices representing Winnebago County on ballots include District 5 Senator, Republican Dave Rowley and Rachel Gravert; and House District 9, Republican Henry Stone.

Other state offices on ballots will include Governor/Lt. Governor, Democrats Rob Sand/Dave Muhlbauer and Republicans Zach Lahn/Derek Wulf; Secretary of State, Republican Paul D. Pate and Democrat Ryan Peterman; Auditor of State, Republican Chris Cournoyer and Democrat Taylor Wettach; Treasurer of State, Republican Roby Smith and Democrat John Norwood; Secretary of Agriculture, Republican Mike Naig and Democrat Chris Jones; and Attorney General, Republican Brenna Bird and Democrat Nate Willems.

An amendment to Iowa's constitution will also appear on ballots. The amendment would increase the Congressional approval needed to increase income taxes by the State. If approved, income tax rates could only be increased if approved by a 2/3 majority in the Iowa House and the Iowa Senate.

Federal offices appearing on ballots statewide will include U.S. Senator, with Republican Ashley Hinson, Democratic Josh Turek and Libertarian Thomas Laehn on ballots.

In Worth County, voters will choose District 2 U.S. Representative, with Democrat Lindsay James, Republican Joe Mitchell, Libertarian Rick Stewart and Dave Bushaw appearing on ballots.

In Winnebago County, voters will choose the District 4 U.S. Representative, between Republican Chris McGowan and Democrat Dave Dawson.

More information on Worth County elections can be found at the Worth County Auditor's office or online at elections.worthcountyiowa.gov.

More information on Winnebago County elections can be found online at www.winnebagocountyiowa.gov/auditor/elections.

Extension hosts seed art November 1

Worth County Extension will host an artistic opportunity on Sunday, November 1, with a seed art workshop for adults.

Those taking part will create artwork using colorful seeds, grains and other natural materials.

Seeds, foam board, cardstock paper, tweezers, glue, etc., will be provided. People interested may also bring other supplies or backdrops to use.

The seed art activity will be held at 1206 Third Avenue North in Northwood, from 1-3 p.m. on Sunday, November 1.

Those planning to attend are asked to RVSP by calling 641-324-1531 or emailing kenesk@iastate.edu.

October SPECIALS
Any Single Topping Pizza for $14.99 in Kensett
12 pc. Chicken + 1 Order of Wedges $24.95 in Northwood
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Students participate in Iowa Youth Straw Poll

More than 11,000 students cast ballots in the 2026 Iowa Youth Straw Poll, Iowa Secretary of State Paul Pate has announced.

The Iowa Youth Straw Poll provides Iowa students in grades K-12 with hands-on experience in participating in the elections process. The mock election process took place statewide across nearly 100 schools.

"We've seen research that shows early education on civic processes and elections instills lifelong habits of civic engagement," said Pate. "This is one of several initiatives to encourage Iowa's students to be civic-minded citizens. In the past, we've found the results of the straw poll closely mirror official results, a clear indicator that parents are talking to their students about elections in the evenings over the dinner table."

The 94 participating schools reported that 11,671 students took part in this year's mock election, casting their votes for their preferred candidates for the U.S. Senate, U.S. House, and Governor. The Iowa Gubernatorial race proved to be the closest, with a difference of just 23 votes.

The final results are below:

U.S. Senate Race:

Total Ballots Cast: 11,273

Ashley Hinson: 44% (4,991 votes)

Josh Turek: 42% (4737 votes)

Thomas Laehn: 14% (1545 votes)

U.S. House District 1 Race:

Total Ballots Cast: 2,437

Mariannette Miller-Meeks: 38% (918 votes)

Christina Bohannan: 41% (996 votes)

Michael Bridgford: 21% (523 votes)

U.S. House District 2 Race:

Total Ballots Cast: 2,498

Joe Mitchell: 49% (1218 votes)

Lindsay James: 27% (681 votes)

Dave Bushaw: 16% (411 votes)

Rick Stewart: 8% (188 votes)

U.S. House District 3 Race:

Total Ballots Cast: 2,277

Zach Nunn: 56% (1277 votes)

Sarah Trone Garriott: 44% (1000 votes)

U.S. House District 4 Race:

Total Ballots Cast: 3,946

Chris McGowan: 55% (2168 votes)

Dave Dawson: 45% (1778 votes)

Iowa Governor Race:

Total Ballots Cast: 11,293

Zach Lahn: 50.1% (5658 votes)

Rob Sand: 49.9% (5635 votes)

Iowa farmers encouraged to plant fall cover crops to save on insurance

Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Mike Naig is encouraging Iowa farmers to plant cover crops to improve water quality and soil health while saving money on next year's crop insurance premiums. Through the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship's annual Crop Insurance Discount Program, farmers who plant eligible cover crops this fall can receive a $5 per acre discount on their 2027 crop insurance premiums.

The Crop Insurance Discount Program has no cap on the number of eligible cover crop acres that can receive the crop insurance discount. Farmers can plant cover crops this fall and then enroll those acres when the online application window opens December 1, 2026.

"For the past decade, the Crop Insurance Discount Program has provided another way to help farmers save money while putting more cover crops on the land. Farmers can plant now, and then enroll those eligible acres when the application window opens in December," said Secretary Naig. "We have seen record interest in cover crops this fall, which is very encouraging as we work with farmers and partners to accelerate conservation and water quality progress across Iowa. Farmers have already enrolled nearly 1.4 million acres in our state cover crop cost-share program, more than double the previous statewide record, including more than 340,000 acres in the Greater Des Moines Watershed, which is more than triple last year. We are also encouraged to see many first-time users getting started with cover crops. That kind of momentum is exciting, and we want to keep building on it by giving farmers more options to put conservation practices on the ground."

The online sign-up period will open Tuesday, Dec. 1, 2026, and close Friday, Jan. 22, 2027. Farmers can learn more about the program and sign up to receive reminders about the upcoming enrollment period by visiting CleanWaterIowa.org/cropinsurancediscount.

The Crop Insurance Discount Program is jointly administered by the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Risk Management Agency (RMA). To qualify, cover crop acres cannot be enrolled in other Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship or USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) cost-share programs. Certain insurance policies, including Whole-Farm Revenue Protection or those covered through written agreements, may be excluded. Farmers should follow all existing farming practices required by their respective policies and work with their crop insurance agents to maintain eligibility.

For a decade, the Crop Insurance Discount Program has offered Iowa farmers an additional incentive to plant cover crops and has become a model for similar programs in other states and at the federal level. More than 2,500 Iowa farmers have enrolled more than 2.1 million acres of cover crops through the program to date.

The Crop Insurance Discount Program is part of Iowa's ongoing implementation of the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy and is one of many programs available to help farmers add conservation practices to their land.





Base in place

One of Northwood's downtown landmarks has been removed for some time. The L.T. Dillon clock has been a fixture since 1905, named for jeweler and bandleader L.T. Dillon. The clock had stopped keeping time and needed some aesthetic repairs. The restoration project will include new hands, refurbished exterior elements and repairs to get the clock working again. Part of the clock was recently reinstalled, with a repainted base and a sign designating its historic significance.



Northwood-Kensett Cross Country Conference WOW

By Troy Einertson
Cross Country Coach

WOW might be an understatement to what happened last Thursday in Manly! I have been coaching for a long time now, and I have never been part of what the girls accomplished on this wet and rainy day running on the Town and Country Club golf course.

What started as a group of kids running around town has morphed into something much bigger, and this race was one of the races we have been talking about since that first practice.

When we looked at the forecast for race day my thoughts were that it wasn't going to happen, and when the day came, I was sure we wouldn't be running. When we got the call it was on, I was kind of in shock. It was really raining hard, and I was just hoping the kids would be focused and ready to go.

We left a little late, I am always late, and when we got to Manly there was a train, so this made us even later. The order of events got switched around a little bit, and the girls were going to be running first. Because of me, they didn't have a lot of warm up time, so they did the best they could and we went over the plans once more.

We knew we had to get out, and get after it and keep certain runners in our sights at all times.

Like every other race, Ivy and Liv got us out quick and Charlotte was not far behind. Maddie and Hadley came by me right on pace, and with who we needed to be with, and Maggie and Kaylee were following the plan as well. All the girls kept to the plan at mile one, and they were all in a great place.

After Kaylee came through I took off to mile 2 because this is where we needed to really get after it. Ivy and Liv came through in 2nd and 3rd, while Charlotte was in 7th. Maddie, Hadley, Maggie and Kaylee kept working and all had moved up.

Once I got to my last stop I was getting a little nervous. St. Ansgar was running crazy fast and we had some work to do in the last half mile. The girls responded, and they all turned it up a couple notches, and all of them finished strong!

Liv came through in a time of 18:45, which was good for 2nd, Ivy finished 5th in a time of 19:33, Charlotte was 6th in 21:22, Maddie was 31st in 23:37(PR), Hadley was 34th in 24:17(PR), Maggie ran a PR time of 24:45 and Kaylee went 25:52 for another PR.

In XC you score your top five runners, so our top five scored 64 points, while St. Ansgar's top five came through with 86 points. In XC the low score wins, so we had just become Northwood-Kensett's first Top of Iowa XC champions! WOW!

We didn't have much time to celebrate though because the boys were ready to go, so I ran over there to give them their last instructions.

This race was huge for us as well because Ronan Penfold was coming back after a leg injury. He has been battling leg stuff for the last three years, and for him to continue working at trying to get back is just a testament to what kind of kid he is. He was a little amped, so I had to make sure he understood his plans to not get out too fast, and off I went.

The boys all got out together, and they ran together for about the first half mile. It was raining a little harder now, and the footing wasn't the best, so I was a little worried about all three of them. Ronan's leg, Saxon's Achilles and Wes' foot were all bothering them, and the conditions weren't going to help.

At the mile mark though they were all good, and Saxon pulled away from the other two. Ronan came through a little ahead of Wes, and all of them looked great, so I headed off to mile two.

As I got there the rain let up just a little bit, but I noticed a couple huge puddles that I missed earlier. One was right at the finish, and the other was around a turn up by about a mile and a half! Kids were going to be soaked! All three boys came through on pace, so I decided to go to the last long stretch to cheer all of them on.

Saxon ran strong the whole race and finished in 24;07, Ronan finished in 26:07 (PR) and Wes in 27:14 (PR)

All three of them ran amazingly, and for Wes and Ronan to set PRs in the crazy weather was just amazing.

Our middle school duo of Jared and Lola were ready to go by the time I got to the start line. I couldn't get there fast enough to give them any final instructions, so I just told them to get after it and have fun.

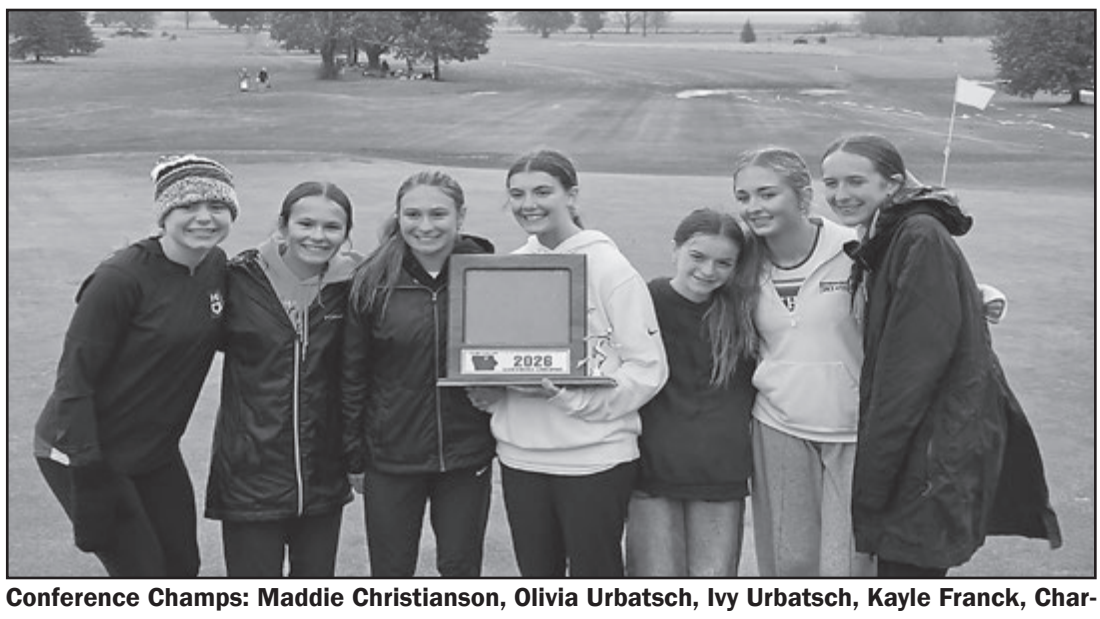
Lola was going to be running another race in a couple days, so I had to tone her back a little bit, and that is no easy chore! Plus, Jared always wants to run up front, so I knew I was in for a treat when I didn't make sure he understood what I wanted him to do.

Both of them got out very well, Jared too well, and came through the mile mark in great position. Lola was following the plan, Jared was not (7:00 mile) so I tried to slow Jared down, and encouraged Lola to keep focused. Lola did, Jared did not! At the finish line, Lola came in first and became my first ever conference champion, while Jared crushed his PR and ran 15:19 and finished as a second team all conference runner by placing 26th.

When I started this article out with a WOW, I meant it. On this day we had three girls finish first team all conference. Liv, Ivy and Charlotte all earned this honor by placing in the top 15. The girls won our first ever Top of Iowa Conference Championship, and Lola was our first ever conference champion in any XC race. Not to be outdone, Ronan came back from a leg injury that he has been battling since track season to run his all-time best race! We do not talk about him enough! To go through all that he has with his legs, and to continue to get after it every day just shows what having IT is all about! Ronan has IT, and I am so proud of him for everything he has done!

I am sorry for the long articles this week, but I just wanted all of you to read about how great our TEAMS are! This XC TEAM is just that, a TEAM. Everything that we accomplish together is not about any single person it is about all 13 of the kids who lace it up every day for Mr. Urbatsch and myself. I love all of them for what they bring to the table every day, and if this day was any indication of what the future holds for us, it is going to be a very great adventure for all of us!!

Enjoy your week, and keep us in your thoughts as we battle for a trip to Fort Dodge on Thursday at Luther College. LETS GO!



Conference Champs: Maddie Christianson, Olivia Urbatsch, Ivy Urbatsch, Kayle Franck, Charlotte Cooper, Maggie Rye and Hadley Anderson



Saxon, Wes and Ronan getting after it!





Character strong in the classroom

Each month throughout the school year, students at Northwood-Kensett schools take part in lessons and activities that teach them about an asset of having a strong character. For the month of October that is "Responsibility." Pictured above at left are fifth graders learning about the difference between goals and wished. Pictured at right are kindergarten students thinking and learning about what responsibility feels like.

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NOTICE



As a service to Northwood Residents the City will pick up leaves with its baler under the following guidelines:

- All leaves must be placed on the hard surface of the road
- No pickup in alleys.
- Only leaves and grass may be picked-up.
- For best results, piles should be raked into the street in rows and should be no more than 4-feet wide, by 3-feet high, for best results.
- Residents may haul leaves to the dump (Nettle Ave.) 7 days per week.

Please show your concern for our citizens who have respiratory and heart difficulties by voluntarily not burning.

Thank you, Doug Moehle, Mayor



Half time entertainment

Throughout the football season, Viking fans at home games have enjoyed the talents of the Northwood-Kensett band. They have performed throughout the game, shared the school's fight song, played the team onto the field and also performed at half time, as pictured here.



Prized principals

October is National Principals Month. Northwood-Kensett schools recently recognized the district's building administrators, Keith Fritz (left), middle/high school principal, and Brian Costello, elementary principal. "Great schools have great leaders and we're lucky to have two of the best right here at N-K! From encouraging our youngest learners to guiding the oldest, you help make our schools a place where everyone feels supported, valued, and inspired to grow! Your leadership, dedication, and care for our students and staff make a lasting difference."

FAFSA offers virtual support to assist students and families

Iowans seeking to access millions of dollars in financial aid to pursue education or training beyond high school can now take the most important first step in that journey.

The 2026-27 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) recently became available to everyone at StudentAid.gov. The FAFSA is used to determine eligibility for federal financial aid, including grants, work-study funds and loans, to help pay for college and other postsecondary options. The FAFSA also determines eligibility for many of Iowa's state scholarship and grant programs, as well as for institutional financial aid offers from colleges and universities.

Any student interested in continuing their education, regardless of income, should complete the FAFSA. Even if you think you may not qualify for financial aid, over 87 percent of first-year undergraduates were awarded financial aid in 2021-22, according to the National Center for Education Statistics. Additionally, more than $34 million in federal Pell grant funds went unclaimed in Iowa by the class of 2024, according to the National College Attainment Network (NCAN).

To make it even easier to complete the FAFSA and receive financial aid, the process has recently undergone a comprehensive revision and overhaul to streamline the application. Most students and their families can now complete the application in less than 30 minutes. Students and parents/guardians will each need to create a studentaid.gov account prior to beginning the application process.

This year's FAFSA also allows for real-time matching of Social Security Administration information, eliminating a potential delay in identity verification. Additionally, students can directly invite their parent(s) or guardian via email to complete the necessary family information required by the FAFSA.

Students and families who need assistance or have questions about completing the FAFSA can receive direct, personal assistance from a variety of resources offered by the Iowa Department of Education.

The Department's Virtual College Coaching program offers students and their families personalized, one-on-one support to help them navigate the college-going process.

Coaches are real, live experts in helping students and families pursue education after high school. Through text messages and virtual appointments, coaches guide you through your high school graduation and make sure you have a smooth transition to college, no matter where you go or what you study. Coaches also provide guidance on applying for college and financial aid, offer reminders about important deadlines, and offer one-on-one, personalized assistance to help students navigate the college-going process.

Virtual appointments with coaches also help with filing the FAFSA, completing college applications, and securing financial aid. Students can also email virtualcoach@iowa.gov for direct assistance.

For more information on the 2026-27 FAFSA and federal financial aid opportunities, visit StudentAid.gov. Additional information on state financial aid programs and completing both the FAFSA and Iowa Financial Aid Application are available at https://educate.iowa.gov/higher-ed/financial-aid.

Student showcase set before holiday break at SA and N-K schools

During the afternoon of December 23, 2026, before the schools break for the holidays, St. Ansgar and Northwood-Kensett schools will be showcasing student learning and extracurricular participation with all students in their respective districts.

"The plan is to build an annual tradition where we showcase our student groups and build upon our family atmospheres to have all of our students see what our schools have to offer each and every student," said Tony Hiatt, shared superintendent of the districts. "Our purpose is to build student awareness and connection to school and school activities, celebrating student academic and extracurricular participation and success as well as teach and promote good citizenship, sportsmanship, and community pride."

Events and activities have been collaboratively organized and planned by district administration and approved by affiliated state organizations.

More details will be announced as the date of the events approaches.





FUNK's first fun day

FUNK (Fellowship for a United Northwood-Kensett) recently held the first of its planned activities for days when Northwood-Kensett students have the school day off during staff professional development. During the October 12 day off, FUNK hosted a Kids Club day, with young people traveling to Otter Creek Orchard to play, learn about the orchard enjoy some of the apples grown there.









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Northwood Anchor Church

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

Bethlehem Lutheran, Manly
Wednesday, Grace Circle, 2 p.m., WAGS, 5:30 p.m., Confirmation at Grace, 5:30 p.m.; Friday, Grace Make Lefse, 9 a.m.; Saturday, Grace make Lefse, 9 a.m.; Sunday, Grace Worship, 9 a.m., Sunday School at Bethlehem, 10:15 a.m., Bethlehem Worship, 10:30 a.m., Sunday School at Bethlehem, 10:15 a.m.; Monday, WIC at Bethlehem, 9 a.m. - Noon, Assemble Newsletter, 9 a.m.
Linda Johnson Prestholt, Pastor

Bethany Lutheran Church/Elk Creek Lutheran
Thursday, Manna, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m., Elk Creek Quilting; Friday, Wedding Rehearsal at Bethany, 6 p.m., Elk Creek Quilting; Saturday, Wedding at Bethany, 4:30 p.m.; Sunday, Worship Elk Creek, 9 a.m., Worship Bethany, 10:30 a.m.; Monday, Manna, 10 a.m. - Noon
Linda Johnson Prestholt, Pastor

Trinity United Methodist, Bolan
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., Bible Study, 10 a.m., Mini Choir, 4:30 p.m., Mini Bells, 5 p.m., Meal, 5:15 p.m., Worship, 5:50 p.m., JuBELLee Ringers/Confirmation, 6:15 p.m., Chancel Choir, JH/HS Youth Group, 7 p.m.; Thursday, Girl Scouts, 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.; Friday, Rehearsal; Saturday, Wedding; Sunday, Bethel Worship, 8 a.m., Trinity Worship, Sunday School & Adult Sunday School - B, 9:15 a.m., Bethel Worship, 10:30 a.m., Frog & Toad, Girl Scouts, 3 p.m.; Tuesday, Girl Scouts, 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.

Northwood United Methodist Church
Thursday, Pizza with the Pastor, 6 p.m.; Sunday, Worship Service, 10:45 a.m., Fellowship, 11:45 a.m.; Tuesday, Pastor Fellowship Time 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, 10:30 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., 7th Confirmation, 3:50 p.m., 8th Confirmation, 5 p.m., Inspire, 6:15 p.m., Choir, SH Youth, 7 p.m.; Thursday, Quilting, 8:30 a.m., Prayer Group, 9 a.m.; Sunday, Service/Affirmation of Baptism, 9 a.m., Sunday School, 10:10 a.m., DCV, 10:30 a.m., JH Youth, 6:30 p.m.; Tuesday, Through the Bible Study, 10:30 a.m., AA-Al-Anon, 7 p.m.

Peace Lutheran Church, Northwood
Sunday Worship Service with Holy Communion at 9 a.m., Sunday School & 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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Pride in a Scar



If you have lived a relatively normal life, then no doubt you have a few scars to show for it: the scar below the knee from a childhood accident, the chipped tooth from a fearless wagon ride down a steep hill, or a burn scar from a red-hot ember sent flying from the campfire by a rock thrown into the fire. Those are likely to be the scars of childhood, and we can easily take a sort of whimsical pride in them, as if to say we were reckless as kids, but oh what fun we had! The broken arm or leg is a bit more serious, but people often remember those more serious accidents with fondness once they are sufficiently distant from the event. There is a certain well-earned pride in surviving these accidents, illnesses and surgeries. Everyone in my family remembers vividly when we all caught the Hong Kong flu in 1969. Misery loves company, and there is almost nothing more miserable than being miserable alone. Perhaps the pride we take in our scars, both physical and emotional, is a testimony to our toughness. Sure, I broke my tooth on the wagon handle, and sure, she broke my heart, but I'm still standing, and I'm not giving up yet. There will be a time when it's appropriate to give up and let go. There is a time for living, and a time for dying, but until then, keep on living, and acquiring those scars. —Christopher Simon

"Let us also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope."
– Romans 5:3-4

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Cook Bookin'

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



by Sandy Olson

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

The 250th anniversary of the United States has been a year-long celebration. Long before 2026, the spirit of patriotism has run long and wide through the citizens of our country. In 1984 the National Guard Auxiliary of Austin, Texas published a cookbook titled "Ready to Serve: A Texas Cookbook" (Hart Graphics, Inc. Austin, Texas) I was a proud Winter Texan for 15 years and can attest to the love of country that is very evident in the Lone Star state. The first chapter of this cookbook is "Top Brass" and includes recipes from the wives of some of the highest-ranking officers of the National Guard throughout America. I have adapted some of them as necessary.

Chuck Roast Barbecue
(Mrs. James Duffy, wife of the Adjutant General of Montana)

1 boneless chuck roast, about 3-inches thick
1/2 cup soy sauce
1 cup orange juice
1 tablespoon lemon juice
1 teaspoon sugar
1 large clove garlic, minced
1 teaspoon ground ginger
Salt and pepper to taste

Sprinkle the roast with salt and pepper and place in a shallow glass dish. Combine the remaining ingredients and pour over the meat. Cover with plastic and marinate at lease 12 hours in the refrigerator, turning the meat over several times during the marinating period. SANDY'S NOTE: Putting the meat and marinade into a jumbo zip-top plastic bag and then into the dish is much easier and you can simply turn the roast over a few times to marinate evenly. Heat a charcoal grill to high. Remove the meat from the bag and discard the marinade. Grill the meat about 20 minutes on each side for a rare roast; longer if you want it cooked more. Cut across the grain into thin slices.

Minnesota Wild Rice
(Mrs. James Sieben, wife of the Adjutant General of Minnesota)

1 cup uncooked wild rice
1/4 cup real butter
1/2 cup slivered almonds
2 tablespoons chopped chives OR green onion tops
1 can (8 oz) mushroom stems and pieces
3 cups chicken broth, canned or homemade. Avoid the cubes.

Wash and drain the rice in cold water. Melt the butter in a large, heavy skillet. Add the rice, almonds, chives and mushrooms. Cook and stir until the almonds are golden brown, about 20 minutes. Pour this mixture into a greased 1 1/2 quart casserole dish. Heat the broth to a boil and stir into the rice mixture. Taste and adjust for seasoning as no salt or pepper has been added up to this point. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Bake the rice for about 1 1/2 hours or until all the liquid is absorbed and rice is tender and fluffy.

Truly Different Cupcakes
(Mrs. Charles Kiefner, wife of the Adjutant General of Missouri)

4 squares semi-sweet baking chocolate
1 cup real butter
1 1/2 cups chopped pecans
1 3/4 cups sugar
1 cup unsifted all-purpose flour
4 large eggs, lightly beaten
1 teaspoon real vanilla extract

Preheat the oven to 325 degrees F. Melt the chocolate in a heavy saucepan, over low heat, stirring to avoid scorching. Add the butter and nuts and stir until the butter is melted and the pecans are well coated. In a large mixing bowl, combine the sugar, eggs, flour and vanilla. Stir…do NOT beat…only until blended. Add the chocolate mixture and again mix gently. Fill muffin tins lined with paper cups approximately 2/3 full. Bake for 35 minutes. Makes 18 muffins.

The love of America has been shining through all over the country this year in spite of the ups and downs in Washington. Americans may be divided over certain issues, political points of view or right/left agendas but there is little argument that the USA is still the best country to live in today as always. Not perfect by any means but still the best. And…that's all she wrote.



Parking painting

The Iowa Department of Transportation was in Northwood recently, repainting traffic markings along portions of Highway 65's path through the city.

Drivers advised to stay alert for deer movement 2026

Drivers are advised to stay alert as they travel Iowa's roadsides over the coming weeks. Autumn deer behavior, crop harvest and peak travel times for motorists combine to hike the risk of vehicle-deer collisions in Iowa.

From the middle of October until the third week of November, Iowa bucks become more active in the pursuit of does during the breeding season. Motorists may be distracted by the first deer that crosses not seeing the pursuing buck. This adds to multiple scenarios of fast moving, unpredictable deer crossing highways.

The crop harvest is in full swing, concentrating deer into remaining cover that is often brushy creeks, trees or fence lines that often intersect with roads. A third factor will be the change away from daylight savings time on November 1, placing more Iowans behind the wheel during the deer-heavy dawn and dusk periods.

A few ways to give drivers an edge during this period are to reduce speed, increase following distance from other cars and to sweep eye movements from ditch to ditch, especially during those low light periods and when approaching those brushy or tree lined "funnels" near roads. Drivers are also encouraged not to "veer for deer," leaving the lane of traffic could cause a collision with another vehicle or a roadside obstacle, such as a utility pole or culvert.

Iowa's deer herd is managed to balance recreational opportunities, such as wildlife viewing and hunting, with negative impacts like crop and property damage. Iowa's deer management relies on an engaged stakeholder process to make science-based decisions for the benefit of all Iowans.



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Tickets are also available from the following places:
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Northwood Anchor **Society**

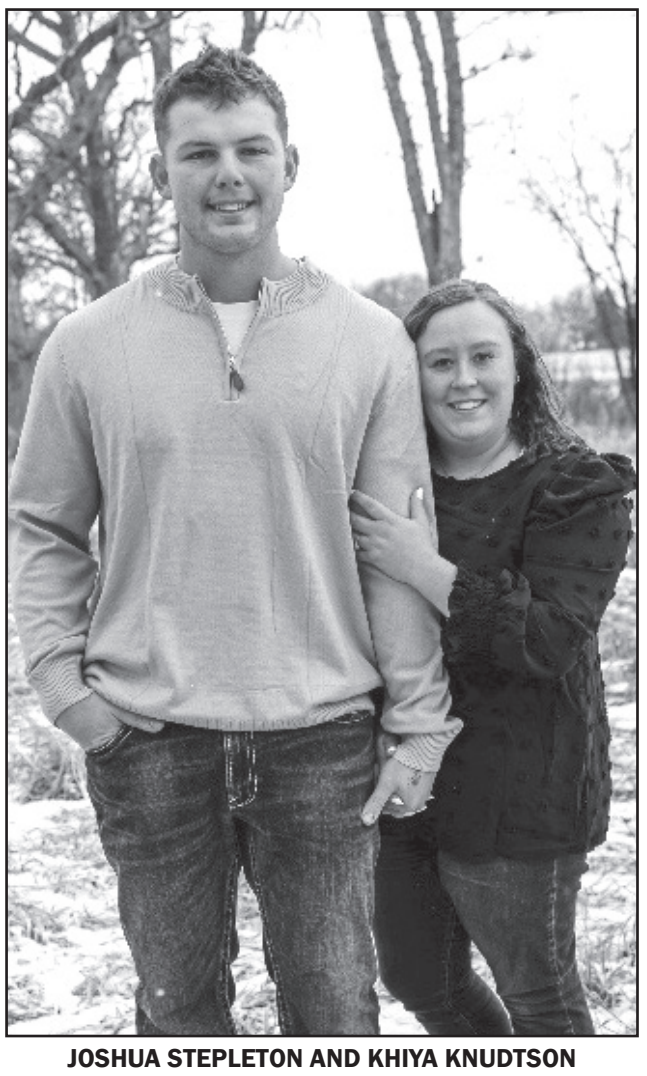
Stepleton – Knudtson upcoming wedding

The Knudtson Automotive family is excited to announce the upcoming wedding of Khiya Rhae Knudtson and Joshua James Stepleton, both of Northwood.

Khiya is the daughter of Kirby and Dawn Knudtson of Northwood. Josh is the son of Jim and Kim Stepleton and Jay and Erica Teepe, all of Mason City.

Both Khiya and Josh are 2021 graduates of Central Springs High School in Manly and are currently employed at Knudtson Automotive.

The couple will exchange vows on November 14, 2026, at the Timbers in Northwood.



JOSHUA STEPLETON AND KHIYA KNUDTSON

NIACC presents Conor Knighton: Leave Only Footprints



"Conor Knighton: Leave Only Footprints" will be presented at the North Iowa Community Auditorium on the NIACC campus at 3 p.m. this Sunday, October 25. This presentation is part of the 2026-2027 NIACC Performing Arts & Leadership Series.

Conor Knighton is a national correspondent for CBS Sunday Morning—the country's #1 morning news show—and the author of the New York Times best-seller "Leave Only Footprints: My Acadia-to-Zion Journey Through Every National Park." His reports for CBS Sunday Morning have covered everything from the Scandinavian obsession with salty licorice to what it's like to wake up on Wake Island, one of America's most remote military bases.

Conor has won five Emmy Awards as part of the Sunday Morning team and a Los Angeles Area Emmy for his work on KCET's SoCal Connected. His feature reporting has also earned a National Headliner Award and an LA Press Club Award. He's hosted and produced shows for AMC, Biography, EW Scripps and Current TV, and his commentary has been featured on CNN, MTV, E!, and Oxygen. In 2025, the National Parks Conservation Association recognized Knighton's storytelling with a Centennial Leadership Award.

When Conor Knighton set off to explore America's "best idea," he worried the whole thing could end up being his worst idea. A broken engagement and a broken heart had left him longing for a change of scenery, but the plan he'd cooked up might have gone a bit overboard in that department. Over the course of a single year, Conor set out to visit every national park in the country, from Acadia to Zion. Filled with entertaining dispatches from some of the most scenic spots in the world, the CBS Sunday Morning correspondent takes us on a whirlwind tour through our parks, highlighting some of the unexpected stories, colorful characters, and profound lessons he unearthed along the way. Through his unique lens, America the Beautiful becomes America the Captivating, the Hilarious and the Inspiring.

To learn more about this performance, visit ConorKnighton.com.

For tickets to the show, call the NIACC Box Office at 641-422-4188. Tickets may also be purchased online at www.niacc.edu/box-office.

Diamond Jo guest wins $99,999 jackpot

"Nine" is the new favorite number of a truck driver from Buffalo, Missouri, who recently took home $99,999.99 from Diamond Jo Casino & Hotel at 8 p.m. on Thursday, October 1.

The lucky winner, who prefers to remain anonymous, was playing an IGT Triple Gold Bars™ machine when his $15 bet yielded the progressive jackpot. He said his trucking routes take him through the property region, and he enjoys visiting and playing at Diamond Jo. This win is his biggest to date, and he plans to use the money for retirement.

Happy 80th Birthday!



Jerry of Lake Mills and Larry of Duluth, MN will both celebrate together . . .

80 years on October 28, 2026

Larry and Jerry Robertson are shown above with their birthday cakes on their first birthdays, Tuesday, Oct. 28, 1947. The twins are sons of Mr. and Mrs. Chester Robertson.



Ponderings from the Batt Cave

By Al Batt writer, speaker, storyteller and humorist.

Echoes from the Loafers' Club Meeting

I just read "The Shining" by Stephen King.

I thought you didn't like horror novels.

I don't. I shut my eyes during the scary parts.

Driving by Bruce's drive

I have a wonderful neighbor named Bruce. Whenever I pass his drive, thoughts occur to me. A radio station played "You Can Call Me Al" by Paul Simon and dedicated it to me. I am a lucky guy.

I rode on a bus and listened to a fellow traveler tell me he was not good at sleeping. The only thing that helped was called cognitive shuffling. He explained that the technique involved thinking of a random, emotionally neutral word, for example, "tree." He takes the first letter of the word, in this case "T," and he thinks of as many items or objects as he can that begin with the same letter, such as "table," "toaster" or "towel"—visualizing each item as he thinks of them. Once he cannot think of any more words beginning with the letter T, he moves on to a second letter. He said he rarely makes it to a third letter before falling asleep.

I've learned

The best foldable device is a book.

You are a hypochondriac if you put cough syrup on your pancakes.

We never tipped the lunchroom ladies in school.

On my drive home from Northfield, I met many one-eyed cars and many more bright-eyed ones. Some were too bright-eyed, causing me to mumble, "Namaste." In Sanskrit, that means "I bow to you." In yoga, "namaste" is often said to mean "The light in me salutes the light in you." If your high beams dim on their own, your car is using an automated system.

To be frank, I'd have to change my name.

Humpty Dumpty was pushed off the wall by a cat.

Bad jokes department

Why did the cat cross the road? Because the chicken had a laser pointer.

If my body were a car, I'd trade it in for a newer model because every time I sneeze, my radiator leaks and my exhaust backfires.

My wife asked me to stop singing "I'm A Believer" by The Monkees because she found it annoying. I thought she was kidding. Then I saw her face.

Why did Humpty Dumpty have a great fall? Because he was on edge all summer.

In the headlines

Bigfoot is never seen at a bowling alley. Researchers say shoe sizes are a big deterrent.

Snowman caught picking his nose in the produce department of a grocery store.

The Condescending Club has rules, but you wouldn't understand them.

Cemetery refuses to bury anyone living in the area.

New fiber-laden cereal promises a colonoscopy preparation in every bowl.

A local couple went on a whale-washing tour. They thought it was a typo but learned it takes a long time to wash a humpback whale.

Nature notes

Laura Belin of Ames asked how long she should keep her hummingbird feeder up. I keep mine up for two weeks after I stop seeing any hummingbirds at them. I do so in case a straggler shows up and could use a convenient filling station. When that happens, I wish the tiny birds could tell me why they were running so late. I need more good excuses.

I watched a northern harrier hunt by floating low over the ground. Its buoyant flight reminds many of a butterfly's. I quite like seeing the raptor once called a marsh hawk. The more, the harrier.

A young cardinal, its grayish-black bill not turning an orange-red color until the bird is 65-80 days old, was feeding on a platform feeder offering black oil sunflower seeds. It fended off a female purple finch who thought the seeds were for sharing. There was a lot of feigning and stabbing the air with bills, but no apparent harm.

The yard blue jays were having a communal cow. They had discovered a perched owl or accipiter. Their common calls were a harsh, raucous "Jay, jay, jay!" I'm sure a blue jay, a dapper sentry of the neighborhood, is a reliable listener, even though it sounds as if it's a constant interrupter.

I marveled at the beauty of the red maple leaves. They had worked hard, and now they get to become breathtaking beauties. I found it impossible to find a loser in a legion of champion leaves.

A woolly bear caterpillar's direction of travel is an instinctual search for a safe spot, not a conscious navigation towards a specific destination. It moves in search of a suitable hibernating spot to overwinter, like under leaf litter or wood chips, which offer a freeze tolerance. The colors of the future Isabella tiger moth indicate the woolly worm's age.

Meeting adjourned

"Kindness and politeness are not overrated at all. They're underused."—Tommy Lee Jones.

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Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor & Reader,

Just A Bunch of Hocus Pocus

Just in Time for Halloween, the Iowa State Legislature is dressing up the November Midterm Election Ballot with Halloween Hocus Pocus urging voters to vote "Yes" for an Iowa Constitutional Amendment No.1. The Amendment claims to "Make it harder for politicians to Raise Taxes." Is this an Iowa's treat in 2026 "Trick or Treat Month"?

The amendment is intended to raise the bar in the Iowa Legislature from a simple majority vote to a two-thirds supermajority vote to increase the corporate and personal income taxes.

Beneath its spooky costume however, Amendment 1 would lock in a decade's worth of tax cuts skewed to the wealthy making it tough to fix our state's $1billion budget deficit without cutting funding for public schools, health care, and other services that Iowans expect. What's more, I believe, Amendment 1 is undemocratic making future tax policy decisions difficult to change. Requiring a two-thirds majority would allow a small minority of legislators to block income and corporate tax increases, even when a majority supports them, while disenfranchising lower income Iowa citizens.

I urge voters to vote No! on Amendment1! Our primary concern should be the potential impact on state revenue and public services. Iowa has experienced significant declines in income tax collections following recent tax changes. Annual state income tax collections have declined by more than $1 billion since those changes took effect in 2024. State budget deficits have also persisted, requiring the use of reserve funds.

If revenues remain insufficient and reserves are depleted, lawmakers may need to raise other taxes, increase fees, or cut spending. Sales taxes, which generally take a larger share of income from lower-income households, could become a more likely source of revenue. Cuts to education, human services, and other public services could also disproportionately affect vulnerable Iowans. Any State tax policy should be evaluated by its impact on our neighbors, particularly those who are most vulnerable. Disguised as Halloween "Hocus Pocus!" Amendment 1 on your election ballot is more "Trick!" than "treat" to all Iowa tax payers! Again, I implore your "No" vote on Amendment 1 of your Midterm Ballot.

Rev. Jerry E. Robertson, retired, Lake Mills

Proposed Amendment 1 to Iowa's Constitution

On this year's election ballot there is a proposed amendment to our State Constitution that reads, that any bill to increase the individual income tax rate or the corporate income tax rate, or the rate of any other type of tax based upon income or legal and special reserves, shall require the affirmative votes of at least two-thirds of the members elected to each house of the general assembly for passage.

Sounds innocuous and fair, right? It is NOT. If this amendment passes, it is a gift to corporations and the ultra-rich in our state.

Why is that?, you might ask.

Since 2018 personal income tax rates in Iowa have been cut four times; corporate income tax rates have been cut three times. Those cuts have been disproportionately allocated so that corporations and those with the highest incomes received the highest cuts to their tax rates. If this amendment passes, it effectively preserves those tax cuts given to the corporations and the ultra-wealthy.

So what, I'm happy that my state income taxes are now low.

Well, buckle your seat belts. Our state budget is projected to be in a deficit beginning in 2027. That means the state is going to have to seek additional revenue or begin to cut services. That means cuts to healthcare, education, and others that we consider essential.

Or, raise taxes.

But if this amendment passes, that will be very hard for them to do, right?

Wrong. The amendment only impacts INCOME taxes. There are still a host of other taxes that could be raised with only a majority vote including: state sales tax, local sales tax, insurance premium tax, fuel tax, fees including court, vehicle, document filing, tuition, etc. And these are the kinds of taxes that disproportionately impact those of us at the lower end of the income spectrum.

This is NOT a Republican or Democrat issue. This is an issue of FAIR TAXATION FOR CORPORATIONS AND ALL ACROSS THE INCOME SPECTRUM.

Vote NO on Amendment 1 on this year's ballot!

Tim Knutson
Northwood

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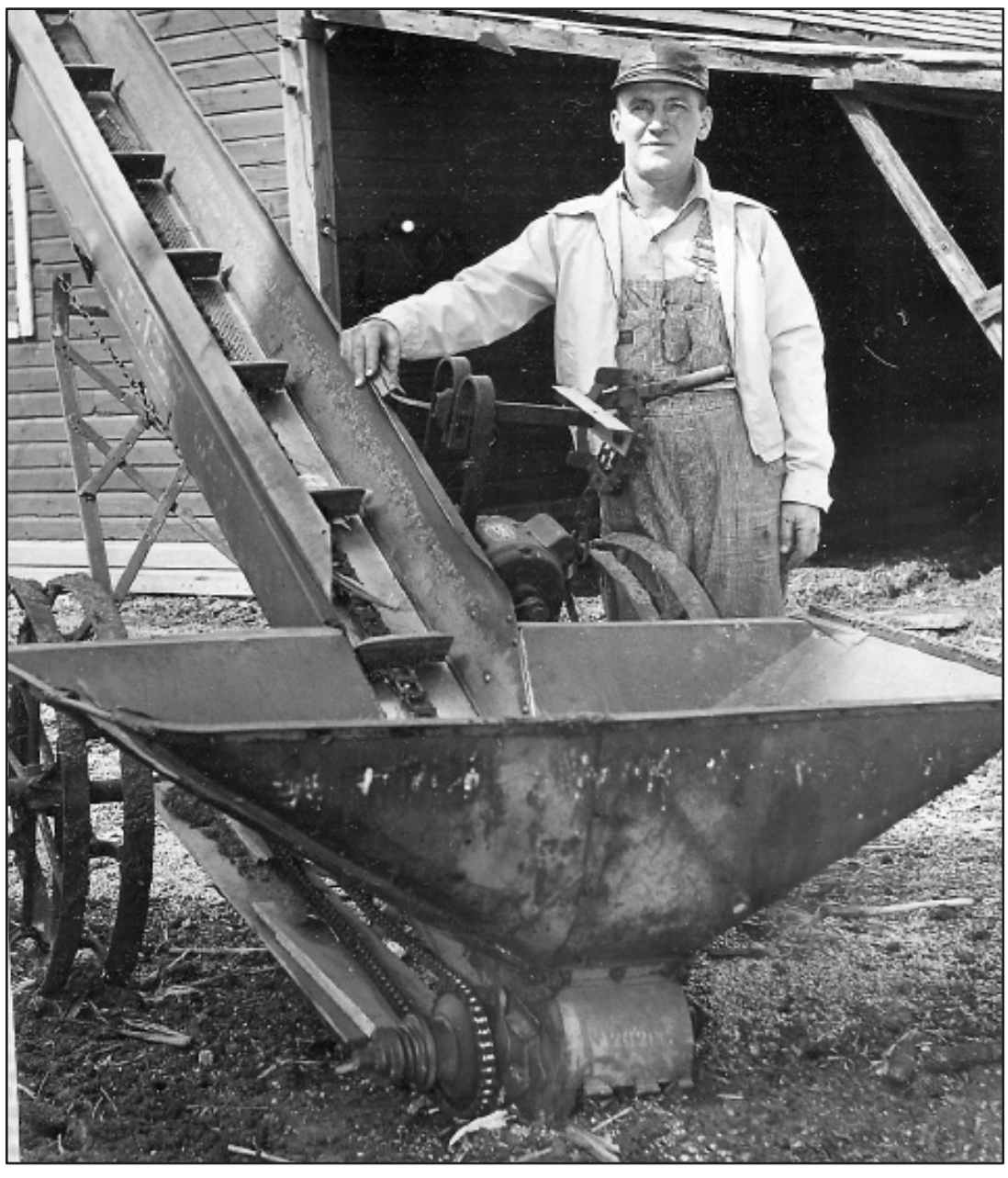
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Fit to print...





A loving legacy

By JoAnn Lower

He settled on the life of a farmer. Holsteins, Durocs, Leghorns and a few sheep. And at the end of an already long day, he'd begin welding the neighbors' broken machinery, working into the night's wee hours.

"What do we owe you, Floyd," they'd ask.

"Just neighborliness," he'd smile.

At age 27 a corn picker accident nearly took his life, but with a positive attitude and walking beside a loving God, he got back on that old B John Deere.

"I'm not the owner of this land," he'd say humbly. "I'm simply the caretaker."

He taught my brothers, Jimmy and Donny and me, a work ethic and a respect for others. His powerful deep bass voice that called the cows in from the pasture at milking time prayed our prayers with us at bedtime. With strong farmer hands, he created new machinery from old, brought water into the house and crocheted hair ribbons for his little granddaughter.

He was 59 years old when he died in 1976. His legacy of kindness, honesty and love live on.

Northwood Anchor Early Files

100 years ago

October 14, 1926

Mrs. O.T. Lee, 60, wife of the late Rev. O.T. Lee, who was pastor of the Northwood Norwegian Lutheran Church for nearly 30 years, died at a St. Paul hospital. Funeral services will be held at the Synod Lutheran Church, with the pastor Rev. A.J. Torgerson, in charge. Burial will be in the Shell Rock Cemetery west of town. Pastor Lee died March 30, 1918.

Was your sleep disturbed early this morning by dreams that the Kaiser has broken loose again and that the imperial German troops were bombarding the community? If you live in town it is not likely your rest was troubled by anything more alarming than the boisterous noises of men and automobiles getting an early start for the pickings in the field on the first day of the open season on pheasants. But in the country districts the Bang of the 12-gauge shotguns started as early as the owners thereof thought they could "get away with it" and stay within reasonable legal limits. Worth County hunting licenses issued since the first of July total more than 700. Opposition to the open season is very pronounced in this vicinity.

While golden weddings are not common, 60th wedding anniversaries are still more rare, but Mr. and Mrs. M.S. Perkins of this city celebrated such an event this week. They were married in Northwood October 11, 1866, in the house just north and across the street from the present creamery, then the residence of Jerome Bealls, justice of the peace, who performed the ceremony. Mrs. Perkins was Clara Towne, daughter of John E. Towne, and Mr. Perkins the son of W.H. Perkins, both of which families came to Hartland Township from Wisconsin as pioneer settlers in 1857. Mr. Perkins is the present commander of Randall Post of the G.A.R. and one of the four surviving members of the close to 100 original G.A.R. members in Worth County. There were 11 children born to this union, nine of whom are still living.

75 years ago

October 18, 1951

Five local students are attending Waldorf College in Forest City. They are Virginia Aamodt, LeAnn Evans and Howard Nelson, who are all seniors, and Donald Aamodt and Curtis Rustad, who are juniors.

Sgt. Lavon Hove, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Hove of Northwood, was wounded in the fighting in Korea, however the injuries were not life threatening. Sgt. Hove was taken to a hospital in Japan where he is recuperating. He was sent to Korea and is a member of an infantry type unit in the 5th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division.

The U.S. Senate approved the nomination of Nestor C. Sybilrud as postmaster at Glenville, Minnesota.

Lloyd Mowers of Brownsdale, Minnesota, has bought the residence of the late Mrs. Belle Hermanson on North Fifth Street, Northwood. He and Mrs. Mowers expect to move here this fall. Some months ago, Mr. Mowers bought the former Skjeveland Blacksmith building on west Central Avenue. The Mowers family formerly farmed southeast of Northwood.

At a congregational meeting members of the First Lutheran congregation voted to extend a call to the Rev. Oscar Mikkelson, pastor at Spring Grove, Minnesota. The call committee hopes to receive an answer from him within a week or two.

Robert Helgeland is on vacation this week from the Dillon jewelry store. This Thursday he and his mother, Mrs. A.S. Helgeland, planned to go to Breckenridge, Minnesota, to visit a few days with his aunt, Mrs. Sam Nelson.

An article about Sidney Swensrud, Northwood native who now is president of Gulf Oil Corporation, fifth largest in the industry, was contained in this week's issue of Time magazine. The story says that Gulf, under Swensrud's dynamic leadership, is to spend $200 million on expansion, bringing its total expenditures on plants since the war, to over one billion dollars.

50 years ago

October 14, 1976

Don Harris was elected president of the Northwood Country Club at the annual meeting October 6 with Don Dahlby, vice president, and Lee Swenson, secretary treasurer.

Ideal weather conditions with warm days and light breezes during the past week have aided fall harvest with soybean virtually completed. Soybean yield has been reported as highly variable with 82 percent of the harvest completed throughout the state and almost 100 percent in the north central area.

The junior high football team lost 34-12 to Lake Mills Monday in a game played at Lake Mills. Scoring for the Vikings were Dean Moretz and Larry Alne. Coach Bob Perry said, "It was the poorest game played all year and the team was quite disappointed with the effort."

Rick Perry, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Perry, Northwood, won third place in the nine-year old division at the district Punt, Pass and Kick contest at Bettendorf Saturday. Mike Lee, Manly, won second place in the eight year old division with a score of 183 1/2. First place score was 193 1/2.

The Northwood-Kensett Vikings lost another close game Friday night when Buffalo Center won 13-8. A questionable clipping call nullified a touchdown run, which would have added six more points to the Vikings' total.

The N-K junior high girls seventh grade basketball team posted a 32-19 victory over Adams of Mason City, last week. The eighth grade girls lost to Adams 25-16.

The Beta Chi chapter of Delta Gamma Sorority, University of Denver, announces that Margaret Johnson is a new pledge member. She is the daughter of Richard H. Johnson, Northwood.

Jane Madson, daughter of Mr. And Mrs. Lloyd Madson, was recently pledged by Iowa Beta chapter of Pi Beta Phi Sorority at Simpson College, Indianola, where she is a freshman.

25 years ago

October 17, 2001

Northwood "Our Buddies" VFW Post 6779 has a new face to show the public, thanks to Northwood residents Julie and Cassie Robb, who painted this U.S. flag on the west side of the post home facing U.S. Highway 65 in mid-September. The Robbs used regular house paint to create the 9-by-5-foot emblem, a ruler for the stripes and stencils to pain the stars, according to Julie Robb, whose father Donald Hagen is a VFW member.

The late Robert Tilson of Kensett was honored this past summer in ceremonies at the Iowa Firefighters Memorial in Coralville. Tilson, who died last December, was one of 88 deceased Iowa firemen whose names were added to memorial during the June 24 ceremony. He was a longtime member of the Vinton fire department before moving to Kensett in the 1970s.

Northwood "Our Buddies" VFW Post 6779 Auxiliary members Anita Glaster and Verna Weitzel got a hand from Northwood-Kensett third grade teacher Becky Okerlund while applying reflective patches to third-grader Jared Wagner's backpack last Friday during the auxiliary's annual "Light-A-Tyke" safety promotion at N-K Elementary School. Jared is the son of Gary and Val Wagner of rural Northwood.

Beva Pixley will be honored for her 100th birthday Saturday, October 20, at her home, the Lutheran Retirement Home, Northwood. Beva Mae (Godfrey) Pixley was born October 18, 1901.

Northwood public works department employee George Goeders took advantage of last Thursday mornings' warm, bright, sunshiny weather by making waves and – if you looked just right – small "rainbows" while flushing the city's fire hydrants. The city crew performs the chore every spring and autumn in order to remove any rust and sediment that may have collected in the city's water mains during the intervening seasons.

10 years ago

October 19, 2016

Farmers took advantage of the dry weather this pat weekend to harvest their corn before damp weather was forecasted to return.

Last week was Fire Prevention Week and the Northwood Volunteer Fire company did its part in preventing fires be educating local students on fire safety. That included a visit to the Northwood-Kensett preschool classroom, where they demonstrated a smoke alarm and make sure that the preschoolers knew what to do in a fire.

N-K head coach Dave Capitani, here looking over his team in last week's 32-26 win over Kee, was inducted into the IFCA Hall of Fame last week. "I'm truly humbled to be honored by my colleagues," said Capitani.

The Advanced Math class took a field trip to Trustile Doors, where engineers Chad Tiedemann and Tim Anderson talked about how geometry and trigonometry are used to design the doors, and gave them a tour of the facility that produces over 600 doors per week and employs over 120 people.

N-K's Terran Haberman soared above the competition last Tuesday night in Buffalo Center and finished her final regular season match with a career high 18 kills, giving her 148 (Garner stats not available) on the year. In the 3-2 over North Iowa. Haberman also had 11 digs and was 19-21 at the service line with a team high six aces.

Despite battling a bum knee that kept him out of action for a couple of weeks, N-K's Garrett Thompson led a stingy Vikings defense with 10 tackles in last Friday night's missed games and all, is sixth on the team this season with 36.5 tackles and second with two solo sacks.

Forty-two members of the Heartland Achievers 4-H Club showed up for their first meeting last month. They discussed many items of business and future plans.

Northwood Anchor Obituaries

Betty Hegwood

Betty Jane Hegwood was born on March 30, 1926, and died on September 20, 2026.

Betty's services will be held at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, October 28, 2026, at Conner Colonial Chapel, 1008 First Ave. South, Northwood, Iowa. Visitation will be one hour prior to the services at the funeral home. She will be laid to rest at Sunset Rest Cemetery in a private family committal.

Following the services, a time of fellowship will be held at the Olson Community Room, 902 First Ave. South, Northwood, Iowa.

Betty Jane Hegwood was born to Charles and Martha Miller on March 30, 1926, in Des Moines, Iowa. As a child, she lived in Grand Rapids, Minnesota and Mason City, Iowa. She married Stanley Myhre and they raised their two sons in Mason City and in Northwood. After Stanley's death from kidney disease, she was married to Gilman Mondahl. Gil died from lung cancer and she then married Jim Hegwood and was married to him until he passed away from heart disease.



BETTY HEGWOOD

After Jim's death, Betty moved to Maple Court Apartments in Northwood. In November 2020, she moved to Indianola to be closer to her son and family. Betty lived first in an independent apartment and then in Windsor Manor (assisted living) until her death on September 20, 2026. She had celebrated her 100th birthday at a party with family and friends in March of 2026.

Throughout the years Betty worked at Harv and Dick's Super Fare in Northwood and Ristau in Mason City. She loved playing cards, puzzles, traveling, camping and trips to casinos. Some of her fondest memories were camping with Jim in their fifth wheel.

Betty is survived by her sons, Chuck (Linda) Myhre of Indianola and Marty (Lynnette) Myhre of Vista, California. She is also survived by her grandchildren, Kim Myhre of Des Moines and Megan (Brian) Burke of Indianola and their children, Gabriel, Amelia and Ashton. She is also survived by her brother, Don Miller of Omaha; and brother-in-law, Chuck Fingalsen of Ruthven; as well as many nieces and nephews also survive her.

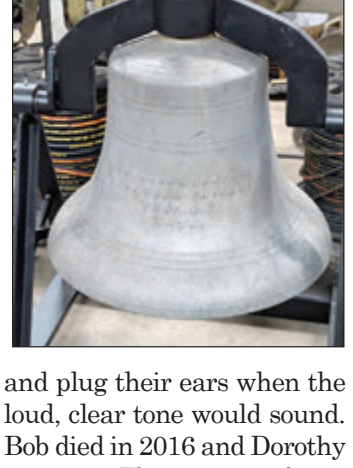
She was preceded in death by her parents; her husbands; brothers, Russell Miller and Charles Miller; her sister, Pat Fingalsen; and a sister, Virginia, who died in infancy.

Betty's family so appreciates the wonderful care she was given at Windsor Manor. A special appreciation to all the staff who went above and beyond in caring for her.

Plymouth works to return bell to Old School Park

The community of Plymouth is taking part in a project that would return the old school bell back into town in the Old School Park. The project includes moving the bell and mounting it on a pedestal.

"We have construction estimates in the $15,000 range. A WDCA grant has been applied for that could cover a portion of the cost, but we have to cover the remaining balance. The Harman sisters will match up to $500 in donations."



History of the Plymouth School Bell

Rural schools possess a strong connection to the memories Iowans have of their childhood and the communities that shaped them. Iowa was established during the height of the educational reformation and developed public school systems almost immediately upon the state's foundation. Most Iowa settlers were firm in their belief of the importance of education for all citizens.

The town of Plymouth, Iowa originated in 1858 as a stagecoach and mailstop. The first classes were held in a log cabin. The first schoolhouse was built in 1858. The building was eventually replaced with a structure that included a cupola to house the school bell. A large bell with an estimated total weight of 500 to 600 lbs. was procured from Jones & Company out of Troy, New York.

The bell marked the start and end of the day, signaled recess and taught many a Plymouth youth the importance of punctuality. The bell ended its reign with the completion of the new grade school in 1954. It was removed and gathered dust in storage for several years. In the early 1960s, the school custodian, Bernie Gould, was cleaning out storage areas. No one knew what to do with a 600 lb bell. Bob Harman, a member of the school board, agreed to take the bell and transported it to his farm east of Plymouth.

Bob and Dorothy Harman safeguarded the bell for the next fifty plus years. It made an appearance on a float for the Plymouth Centennial and an occasional local celebration. The children and grandchildren loved to ring the bell and plug their ears when the loud, clear tone would sound. Bob died in 2016 and Dorothy in 2021. The century farmstead was to be sold. The decision to return the bell to the town of Plymouth was made. Before it could be safely displayed, an old, repaired crack in the cast iron frame needed to be repaired. Neighbor Duane Christiansen carefully transported the bell to Kruger Welding in Grafton, Iowa. Tom Kruger, metal artisan, designed and crafted the new yoke for the bell.

During the 1870s, Jones & Company was one of the premier bell makers in the United States, supplying massive tower bells to churches, courthouses, and newly established "Union" public school buildings across North America. The 1876 model was called "The Centennial Bell" and a surge of orders came in as the country showed their patriotism. Unlike cheap, dark grey cast-iron farm/ dinner bells of the era, Jones & Company used high-grade bell metal bronze (a highly resonant alloy of copper and tin) which develops a distinctive green-ish-brown patina over time. The raised lettering cast directly into the bronze bell reads:

THE JONES & COMPANY, TROY BELL FOUNDRY, TROY N.Y., 1876.

Once again, the beautiful ring of the Plymouth School Bell will sound throughout the community. It is hoped it can be used for celebrations and reunions giving all a chance to reminisce about their childhood school days and be grateful for their education - something that can never be taken away.

-Submitted by Julie Kuntz, Daughter of Bob and Dorothy Harman

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Lake Mills Orchard

While rainy weather conditions weren't favorable for some of their activities, the youngsters from the Lake Mills Community Preschool still had fun on their recent visit to the Corner Pumpkin Patch, as they shared on Facebook. They learned about the life cycle of pumpkins and how seeds are used and planted. They also got to look inside a pumpkin, and learned about the corn they grow at the Patch.

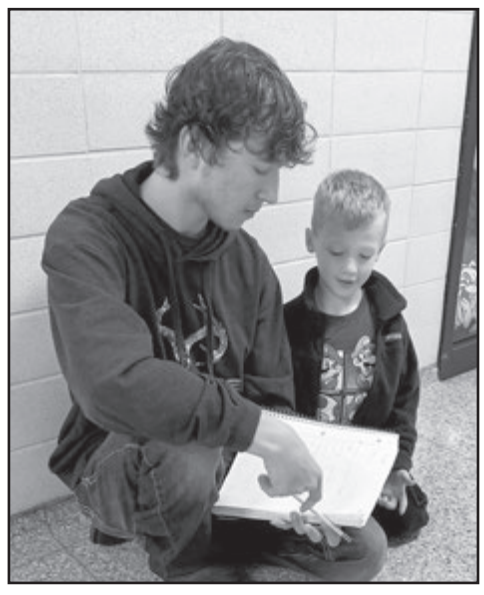




Lake Mills News Sports







Students studying students

The students in the behavioral studies class at Lake Mills High School recently spent some time with preschool students as they learned about language development. The older students interviewed their younger counterparts to learn more about their linguistic development.

Briefs



Care Center welcomes trick and treaters

The Lake Mills Care Center and Mills Harbour will welcome trick or treaters on Halloween, October 31, from 5-6 p.m.

The Care Center will offer a lighted courtyard walk for the trick or treaters.

Salem Lutheran hosts trunk or treat Saturday

Salem Lutheran Church in Lake Mills will hold a trunk or treat event on Saturday, October 25, from 4-5:30 p.m.

People will bring their cars with decorated trunks and costumed kids will be welcome to collect candy as they trick or treat at each trunk.

LM Chamber Open House set for Tuesday

The Lake Mill Chamber and Development Corp. will hold a fall open house on Tuesday, October 27.

The open house will offer a chance to meet the chamber's new director and board.

The open house will be held from 4-6 p.m., with a Community Visioning Presentation at 6 p.m.

The open house will be held at the Truman Helgeson Community Center in Lake Mills.

Ten Bulldog runners earn All-Conference

By Julie Salisbury

The Lake Mills Bulldog cross country teams traveled to Manly on a very rainy and cool Thursday for the Top of Iowa Conference cross country meet and had nine runners earn All-Conference honors.

The girls team finished fourth overall and had four make all-conference. Kara Renneker placed ninth with a season best time of 21:38 and received first team all-conference honors. Kaylie Sylvara finished 14th with a personal best time of 21:58 and received first team all-conference honors. Tori Holtan was 27th with a personal best time of 23:07 and earned second team all-conference honors. Lillian Young finished 30th with a time of 23:22 and received second team all-conference honors. Katie Machin was 39th with a personal best time of 24:38, Jaselyn Islas was 49th with a time of 25:04 and Laylah Ingledue was 61st with a personal best time of 27:46.

The boys team placed second and had six runners receive all-conference honors. Lane Rygh led the boys with a third place finish and a time of 17:23, he received first team all-conference honors. Carson Christianson was 16th with a time of 18:43 and received second team all-conference honors. Aiden Reese was 20th with a time of 19:06 and received second team all-conference honors. Wyatt Hansen was 22nd with a time of 19:08 and received second team all-conference honors. Caleb Skogen was 28th with a time of 19:29 and received second team all-conference honors. Brayden Eden was 29th with a time of 19:31 and received second team all-conference honors. Kaden Lee was 33rd with a time of 19:35.

Junior varsity girls had Kylie Schulz with a season best time of 27:50 which placed her first and Paige Frenette had a personal best time of 41:00, which put her second.



Lake Mills cross country runners who earned Top of Iowa All-Conference honors at Thursday's meet held in Manly at Pioneer Golf & Country Club.

Junior varsity boys had Jesse Rygh with a personal best time of 19:39 which placed him first. Conner Helgeson was second with a personal best time of 19:44. Micah Skogen was third with a time of 19:50. Conner Van Roekel was sixth with a personal best time of 21:03, and Case Casperson was 15th with a time of 22:32.



Bulldog Lane Rygh crosses the finishline in third place at the Top of Iowa Conference meet held in Manly.



Bulldog Brayden Eden races to the finishline in 29th place earning all-conference honors.

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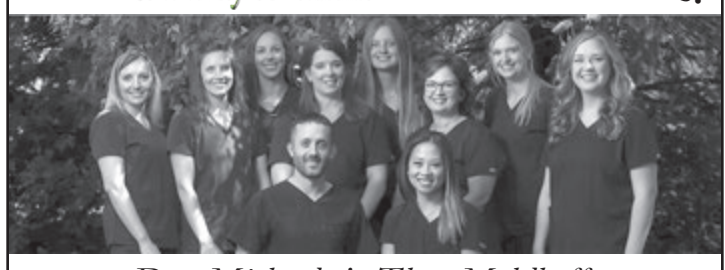
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Bulldogs win conference title

By Julie Salisbury

The Class 2A no. 13 Lake Mills volleyball team are the Top of Iowa Conference champions after defeating St. Ansgar and Osage last week.

Lake Mills first hosted Class 1A no. 14 St. Ansgar on Tuesday, October 13, and defeated them in four sets. The Saints won the first match 25-11 and then the Bulldogs took the next three sets, 25-20, 25-22 and 25-21.

Betsy Byars led the team with 17 kills, one block, six digs and 19-20 serving with one ace. Mackenzie Budach was right behind her with 15 kills, one assist, one block, 13 digs and 14-16 serving with one ace, and Ari Stensrud had 11 kills, one assist, four blocks, three digs and was 10-11 serving. Afton Dean had 10 kills and two digs, and Regan Eastvold had three kills, 49 assists, nine digs and 15-18 serving. Tori Sterrenberg had one kill and six blocks, Cora Sauer had two assists, 14 digs and was 13-13 serving, and Hayden Wempen was 4-7 serving.

The Bulldogs as a team had 57 kills, 53 assists, 47 digs, 12 blocks and were 75-85 serving with two ace serves.

On Thursday, October 15, the Bulldogs met up with Osage, the top team from the Top of Iowa Conference East, for bragging rights, and what a match it was.

The Bulldogs won set one quite easily, 25-14 and it appeared they wouldn't have much trouble winning in straight sets, but the Saints thought otherwise. In set two, the Saints won 25-19 and then went on to win set three 25-23. The Bulldogs bounced back in set four to win 25-19 and then traded leads with the Green Devils in set five before getting the win 15-13 to earn the title.

Byars led with 21 kills, 20 digs, one block and 20-23 serving with five ace serves. Budach had 15 kills, two assists, 23 digs, two blocks and was 11-11 serving with one ace and Stensrud had 15 kills, nine digs, five blocks and was 12-15 serving with three ace serves. Dean added five kills and four blocks, and Sterrenburg had two kills, one dig and five blocks. Eastvold had one kill, 46 assists, 15 digs, one block and was a perfect 26-26 serving with one ace, and Sauer had seven assists, 23 digs and was 18-19 serving with two ace serves. Liz Oldencamp had one dig and was 3-4 serving and Wempen was 3-5 serving.

The Bulldogs had 59 kills, 55 assists, 18 blocks, 92 digs and were 93-103 serving with 12 ace serves.

Lake Mills traveled to Algona for tournament action on Saturday, October 17. See next week's edition for results.

Post season play for the Bulldogs starts Wednesday, October 21, when they will host either Sioux Central or Pocahontas Area. Wednesday's winner advances to play in Lake Mills on Monday, October 26, against either Garner-Hayfield/Ventura or Emmetsburg. That winner will advance to play on Wednesday, October 28, for a chance to go to state.



Bulldog Mackenzie Budach sends a jump serve over the net. She was 11-11 on the night.



The Lake Mills Bulldogs volleyball team celebrates after defeating the Osage Green Devils for the Top of Iowa Conference title on Thursday evening at NIACC.



The Bulldogs celebrate a big point during Thursday's conference championship against Osage.

Lake Mills Community School

Meeting Minutes
Board of Directors
Lake Mills Community School District
October 12, 2026

Regular meeting of the board:

President Ryan Joynt called the regular meeting to order at 5:00 P.M. in the Library–Media Center at 102 South 4th Avenue East, Lake Mills, Iowa, and determined a quorum. The following board members were present: President Ryan Joynt, Vice President Kari Osheim, Jolene Helgeson, and Kristin Wempen. Jake Thompson was absent. Others present included Superintendent Chris Rogne, Secondary Principal Steve Madson, Elementary Principal Connor Kem, Board Secretary Drake Abbey, and guests.

Agenda:

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

Administrative and other reports:

Mr. Rogne commented on announcements and celebrations. Talented and Gifted Teacher Marie Menke gave a TAG report and presented the updated plan for the TAG program. Mr. Madson gave a building-level report. Mr. Kem gave a building-level report. Mr. Rogne gave a system-wide report and facilities update. He commented on the declining enrollment trend, staffing levels, the TLC program, a school nutrition visit at Garner-Hayfield-Ventura, and financial metrics, especially the declining solvency ratio and the deteriorating position of the school nutrition fund and the general fund.

Consent agenda:

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

1. Approval of previous minutes
2. Approval of officials
3. Approval of fundraisers: girls' wrestling (clothing)
4. Approval of financial reports, including the dividend payment from EMC Insurance
5. Approval of committee reports
6. Acceptance of donations: cash donation from Emmons American Legion for the Bulldog Assistance Fund; cash donation from John K. and Luise V. Hanson Foundation for gym floor mats
7. Approval of personnel items

a. Resignations: Kassandra Quinby (from learner assistant and wrestling cheerleading coach); Madison Brandt (from learner assistant)

b. New hires, appointments, and adjustments: Andrew Tenold (for middle school boys' basketball coach, pending coaching authorization); Lindsey Schnebly (for wrestling cheerleading coach); Alexia Jurgena (for learner assistant)

8. Approval of open enrollment requests

a. In: John and Brittany Poulin request their 1st, 2nd, and 5th graders attend from North Iowa

9. Approval of partnerships & agreements

a. Inter-agency contract for special education instructional program with Mason City

b. Inter-agency contract for special education instructional program with Clear Lake

c. Inter-agency contract for special education instructional program with Northwood-Kensett

d. Contract for service with Teach to Heal (Danielle Theis Consulting, LLC)

New business:

1. Mr. Rogne presented a proposed service agreement with Trane for HVAC units and controls. Helgeson moved to approve a three-year scheduled service agreement with Trane for HVAC units and controls. Wempen seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes.

2. Osheim moved to approve the district's updated Talented and Gifted Program Plan as presented. Wempen seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes.

3. The board briefly discussed potential attendance at the upcoming IASB BoardCon in November but took no formal action related to it. The board did not appoint a representative for the delegate assembly.

Presentation and approval of bills:

1. Payment application number 5 and the final acceptance for the high school gym HVAC project were not ready, so the board did not act on this item.

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

Next meeting:

The next regular board meeting is scheduled to be held in the Library–Media Center on Monday, November 9, 2026, at 5:00 P.M.

Closed session:

Wempen moved to enter closed session to conduct a mid-year superintendent evaluation as allowed by Iowa Code Section 21.5(1)(i). Helgeson seconded the motion. Joynt, Osheim, Helgeson, and Wempen voted aye. No members voted nay. The motion carried on a 4-0 vote. The board entered closed session at 5:51 P.M.

The board returned to open session at 6:18 P.M.

Adjournment:

Wempen moved to adjourn the meeting. Helgeson seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes. The meeting adjourned at 6:18 P.M.

Ryan Joynt, Board President
Drake Abbey, Board SecretaryList of bills:

Vendor Name Description Amount

Fund Number 10
General Fund
Access Systems, Supplies .. 114.89
ACDA-American Choral Dir. Assoc.
Membership; auditions 335.00
Adobe, Subscription 419.88
AgVantage FS, Inc.
Fuel 5,459.35
Albert Lea Newspapers, Inc.
Publications 98.00
Amazon Prime, Supplies. 1,978.94
Arnold Motor Supply
Supplies 73.44
Black Hills Energy
Natural gas 751.66
Bodenham, Dawn
Supplies 158.90
City of Lake Mills
Utilities 10,856.57
Coloff Digital, LLC
Website support 200.00
Comfort Inn Altoona - Des Moines
Lodging 213.70
Crisis Prevention Institute, Inc.
CPI materials 271.95
Des Moines Register #1150, The
Subscription 83.01
Dick's Place, Towing 400.00
Don's Motor Mart, Fuel 430.00
Eocene Environmental Group, Inc., Training 150.00
ESGI, LLC
ESGI license 1,092.00
Everyday Speech LLC.....
Curriculum 599.99
Fiserv, Processing fees..... 1.42
Generation Genius, Inc.
Supplies 575.00
Gimkit, Supplies 59.88
Goodwin Tucker Group
Service calls 681.76
Greenfield, Allison
Supplies 38.15
Hillyard Inc., Supplies 2,589.43
Hispanic Flamenco Ballet
Field trip 493.00
Huber Supply Company, Inc.
Cylinder rental 265.00
ICDA, Registration 35.00
Iowa Assoc. of School Business Officials, Conference 290.00
Iowa High School Music Association, Audition fees 210.00
Iowa Pupil Transportation Association, Membership 240.00
Iowa School Finance Information Services, Inc.
Actuarial services..... 3,750.00
ISEBA, Insurance 6,765.68
J.W. Pepper & Son, Inc.
Supplies 119.83
Kesler, Tiffany, Mileage 340.75
Knapp, Kehan, Services.. 2,971.00
Koch Landscapes LLC
Project 5,000.00
Larson, Linda, Meals 71.74
Learning A-Z, Renewals 309.00
Manufacturers Bank & Trust Company, Fees 83.20
Martin Brothers Distributing
Supplies 418.62
May, Rebecca, Supplies 34.49
Menards - Mason City
Supplies 95.91
Midwest Alarm Services
Service call..... 452.50
MusicSpoke.com
Supplies 24.00
NAPA Auto Parts, Supplies. 33.37
National Arts Education Association, Membership 130.00
NCIBA
Honor band registration .. 115.00
Nelson Septic Services LLC
Services..... 1,100.00
Nelson, Mike , Supplies 239.02
Next Generation Technologies, LLC, Monthly support 219.00
NIACC, Field trip tickets .. 150.00
North Central International LLC
Bus repairs 296.77
Northwood Anchor
Publications..... 418.05
One Source The Background Check Company
Background checks 24.50
opusevent.com
Audition fees..... 36.00
Peterson Sanitation, Inc.
Trash pickup 370.00
Poppler's Music, Inc.
Supplies 340.69
Really Good Stuff, LLC
Supplies 41.94
Rieman Music Inc.
Supplies 11.69
Rogne, Christopher
Physical 70.00
Roxxem, Supplies 119.99
School Administrators of Iowa
Membership 1,754.00
School Health Corporation
Supplies 174.50
School Outlet, Supplies..... 187.35
School Specialty, LLC
Supplies 124.40
Singelstad Do It Best Hardware
Supplies 646.26
State Industrial Products
Supplies 1,423.72
Teacher Synergy LLC
Supplies 10.70
Trafera, LLC, Chromebook 443.00
Turf Trimmers Plus, LLC
Lawn care 3,714.29
Ventris Learning LLC
Supplies 160.00
Verizon Wireless, Hotspot ... 40.01
Wex, Inc.
Fuel and repairs 681.64
Whitaker Brothers Business Machines, Inc.
Equipment 3,936.99
Winnebago Cooperative Telecom Association
Telephone and Internet 1,058.76
Winnebago County Recorder
Registration fee 20.50
WM Corporate Services, Inc.
Recycling..... 729.96
Young Plumbing & Heating
Service calls 1,617.91
Fund Number 10 ..... 70,042.65
Fund Number 19
Non-Fiduciary Scholarship Fund
NIACC, Scholarship..... 1,000.00
Fund Number 19 ..... 1,000.00
Fund Number 22
Management Levy Fund
ISEBA, Insurance 1,130.07
Lake Mills CSD - Self-Insurance Fund, Insurance 117.62
Fund Number 22 ..... 1,247.69
Fund Number 71
Self-Insurance Fund
Advantage Administrators Services..... 7,906.62
Fund Number 71 ..... 7,906.62
Fund Number 82 ..... Bulldog Assistance Fund
Amazon Prime, Supplies.... 69.34
ARK Products, Supplies 74.97
Fund Number 82 ..... 144.31
Fund Number 21 .....
Student Activity Fund
Amazon Prime, Supplies.. 248.76
Anderson, Steven
Officiating 90.00
Angell, Doug
Officiating 85.00
Band Shoppe, Supplies 800.25
Bethke, Matthew
Officiating 90.00
Bodenham, Dawn
Supplies 116.89
BPM DJ Services
Services..... 500.00
Brackey, James
Officiating 180.00
Central Springs Community School, Entry fee 150.00
Cheerleading Company, Inc.
Uniforms 1,456.38
DeArmoun-Moretz, Paige
Officiating 170.00
Decker Sporting Goods
Supplies 1,586.40
Drake, Brenda
Officiating 175.00
Eichmeier, Larry
Officiating 280.00
Forest City High School
Entry fee 100.00
Future Business Leaders of America, Inc., Dues 192.00
Garner-Hayfield-Ventura Schools
Entry fee 150.00
Greiman, Todd, Officiating 430.00
ICCA, Fee 150.00
Iowa FFA Association
Dues 1,018.00
Key, Jasen, Officiating..... 150.00
Kibbee, Randy, Officiating 150.00
Kinney, Michael
Officiating 150.00
Lee, Jim, Officiating 150.00
Lee, Randy, Officiating 150.00
Ludwig, Dale, Officiating... 170.00
Mason City High School
Entry fee 470.00
McColloch, Daniel
Officiating 150.00
Meyers, Ken, Officiating.... 174.00
Nalan, Mark, Officiating ... 175.00
Nevada High School
Entry fee 150.00
New Hampton High School
Entry fee 120.00
O'Connell, Michael
Officiating 175.00
Rayfeather Studio
Supplies 133.00
Riddell All American Sports
Supplies 37.95
Riles, Brody, Supplies 65.24
Schill, Tom, Officiating 150.00
School Specialty LLC
Supplies 92.52
Shannon Wrestling and Timing, LLC, Services 1,119.24
Simonson, Adrain
Officiating 150.00
Singelstad Do It Best Hardware
Supplies 37.89
Staudt, Steve, Officiating 90.00
Steimel, Clayton
Officiating 90.00
Suntken, Christopher
Officiating 164.80
Suntken, Dave, Officiating 130.00
Swyter, Tim, Officiating 85.00
Tesar, Mark, Officiating 150.00
Three Oaks Greenhouse
Supplies 84.00
Tigges, Sandra, Officiating 150.00
Wentz, Larry, Officiating... 175.00
Fund Number 21 ..... 13,207.32
Fund Number 33
SAVE Fund
Access Systems Inc.
Lease 5,288.26
Fund Number 33 ..... 5,288.26
Fund Number 36 .....
Physical Plant & Equipment Levy Fund
Coloff Digital, LLC
Website development 4,300.00
D&D Sales, Inc., Signs.... 1,016.00
HP, Workstation 1,357.83
Koch Landscapes LLC
Project 17,000.00
North Central International LLC
Bus repair 4,291.93
Quadient Leasing USA, Inc.
Postage machine 519.42
Young Plumbing & Heating
Equipment 2,210.85
Fund Number 36 ..... 30,696.03
Fund Number 10
General Fund
Fiserv, Processing fees..... 289.94
Fund Number 10 ..... 289.94
Fund Number 61 .....
School Nutrition Fund
Anderson Erickson
Supplies 3,381.91
David's Foods, Supplies 24.00
Martin Brothers Distributing
Supplies 11,042.87
Fund Number 61 ..... 14,448.78

List of officials:

Steve Staudt, MS Football, 10/13/2026,..... $90.00
Steve Anderson, MS Football, 10/13/2026,..... $90.00
Jim Brackey, MS Football, 10/13/2026,..... $90.00
Larry Eichmeier, JJV-JV-V Volleyball, 10/13/2026, ... $140.00
Todd Greiman, JJV-JV-V Volleyball, 10/13/2026, ... $140.00
Chris Suntken, V Football, 10/16/2026,..... $179.60
Adrian Simonson, V Football, 10/16/2026,..... $150.00
Michael Kinney, V Football, 10/16/2026, ... $150.00
Randy Lee, V Football, 10/16/2026,..... $150.00
Todd Greiman, V Football, 10/16/2026, ... $150.00
Michael O'Connell, JV Volleyball, 10/17/2026, ... $175.00
Larry Wentz, JV Volleyball, 10/17/2026, ... $175.00
Randy Kibbee, JV Volleyball, 10/17/2026,..... $175.00
Linda Keifer, MS Volleyball, 10/22/2026, ... $85.00
Dale Ludwig, MS Volleyball, 10/22/2026, ... $85.00

Iowa's Low-Income Telephone & Broadband Assistance Programs

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

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

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

Qualifying Criteria for Low-Income Program

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

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

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

WCTA
Fiber Internet
800-592-6105 www.wctatel.net

Annual Rate Notice - Iowa

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

	Monthly Charges
Voice Grade Residential Service	$23.00*
Voice Grade Business Service	$20.00*
Federal Subscriber Line Charge–Single Line	$6.50
Access Recovery Charge–Single Line	$3.00*
Federal Subscriber Line Charge–Multi Line	$9.20
Access Recovery Charge–Multi Line	$3.00*

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

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

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

WCTA
Fiber Internet
800-592-6105 www.wctatel.net

Bolan

The United Women in Faith met on Thursday afternoon at Pam Wirtjes's home. The election of officers was conducted for the upcoming year. The Bazaar and Luncheon was reviewed.

City Council

The Council of the City of Northwood met in regular session at City Hall on October 12, 2026 at 6:00 pm with Mayor Doug Moehle presiding and the following council members present:

Teresa George-Zenz, Mike Bode, Annika Schreiber, Dan Reeder. Absent: Steve Peterson.

There was a motion by Reeder, second by George-Zenz to approve the agenda. Unam.

There was a motion by George-Zenz, second by Schreiber to approve the following under Consent Agenda: Meeting Minutes of September 14, 2026; Treasurer Report; Liquor License Renewal-Northwood Saloon; Claims as follows:

Payable to: For: Amount
Principal, Insurance.....$706.20
NSB, Monthly ACH Fee $20.00
Iowa Dept. of Revenue
Sales Tax $713.40
Iowa Dept. of Revenue
WA Excise Tax $1,576.50
Wellmark BCBS
Insurance.....$301.68
Wellmark BCBS
Insurance.....$9,267.96
Wellmark BCBS
Insurance.....$786.60
Verizon Wireless
Cell Phones, router-tr,fd.$107.09
Visa
Conference, Supplies, email-cc,lib $486.42
Payroll, Wages.....$23,429.57
USPS, Mailing-cc $421.20
Alliant Energy
Utilities.....$13,192.99
Payroll, Wages.....$26,318.37
Ace Professional Cleaning
Services-cc $50.00
Amber Julseth
Mileage $377.00
Badger Meter
Services-pw.....$76.32
Blue Valley Public Safety
Siren clock $800.00
Brittany Low
NB/Commercial Revit. Grant .....
.....$25,000.00
Carquest, Supplies-pw.....$402.93
Clear Lake Sanitary District
Testing-pw.....$232.50
Core & Main, Supplies-pw..$56.74
D & L Equipment
Repairs-pw.....$9,178.99
Decker Sporting Goods
Supplies-rec.....$1,030.00
Enos Loberg
Sprayer Repairs-pw $397.35
Falkstone, Supplies-pw.....$781.53
Falkstone, Supplies-pw..$1,234.35
Farm & Commercial Solar
Solar Project $48,757.91
Federal Signal Corp.
Siren.....$31,131.42
Hawkins, Supplies-pw $40.00
Huber Supply Co.
Supplies-pw $58.50
Iowa DNR
Annual Water Use Fee ...$120.00
Iowa One Call
Services-pw.....$20.90
JJ's Hardware
Supplies-pw,cc.....$742.39
Jane Podgorniak
Clock Repair $200.65
John Deere Financial
Freight, supplies-pw $429.50
Knutson Oil Co.
Fuel-pw,tr.....$4,424.90
Kreamers Auto Repair
Clock Repair $2,900.00
Mandy Bewley
Water Deposit Refund $50.00
Marco, Services-cc.....$968.11
Martin's Flag Co., Flags ...$492.80
Metering & Technology.....
Supplies-pw $6,689.00
Mircobac, Testing-pw.....$335.00
Microbac, Testing-pw.....$856.25
Northwood Anchor
Publications.....$573.81
Northwood Chiropractic
DATA-pw,tr.....$265.00
Northwood Electric
Services-siren $1,545.20
Northwood Electric
Repairs Street Light $8,525.00
Northwood Sanitation
Garbage Services.....$11,426.00
Northwood Sanitation
Fall Clean-up.....$4,851.69
OPD Solutions, Supplies-cc $70.87
Plunkett's Pest Control
Olson Room.....$105.14
Quality Pump & Control
WW Yearly Maintenance.....
.....$2,969.00
Star Equipment
Rental Tar Machine-pw .....
.....$3,796.44
Trading Post
Supplies-pw $163.43
VanDiest Supply Comp
Supplies-pw $850.00
WCTA, Phone/Internet $712.51
Worth County Engineer
Fuel-pd.....$1,373.41
Worth Co. Sheriff
28E Law Enforcement .....
.....$38,628.50
Worth Lumber
Supplies $65.83
Library:
Alliant Energy, Utilities ...$399.63
Visa, Visa.....$188.43
Ace Professional Cleaning
Services.....$60.00
Globe Gazette
Newspaper Subscription.....
.....$654.39
Ingram Library Services
Books.....$1,163.95
James Kenyon, Books $117.00
Marco
Copier Contract.....$90.72
Northwood Theatre
SRP Party.....$176.00

Summary of September 2026 receipts by fund type: General - $60,555.66; Special Revenue-$69,286.95; Debt Service - $7,990.53; Capital Projects-$0; Enterprise- $113,859.63; Trust & Agency - $771.89.

Summary of September 2026 disbursements by fund type: General - $73,235.94; Special Revenue-$27,641.44; Debt Service-$0; Capital Projects-$0; Enterprise-$57,873.92; Trust & Agency - $0.

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

There was a motion by Reeder, second by Schreiber to adjourn. Unam.

Doug Moehle, Mayor
Amber Julseth
City Administrator/Clerk

City of Kensett

The Kensett City Council met in regular session 09/14/2026 at 7:00 P.M. at City Hall with Mayor Richard Olson presiding. Council Members present were Ryder Lestrud, Brandee Cooper, Eil Gile, and Kris Woltzen.

Absent: LaRue Douglas

Visitors: Richard Bauer, Larry Larson

Olson called meeting to order.

Motion to approve agenda by K. Woltzen, 2nd E. Gile, carried unanimously.

Motion to approve minutes by K. Woltzen, 2nd B. Cooper, carried unanimously

Maintenance Report: N/A

The Clerk mentioned the monthly grant that is received from the WCDA.

Old Business:

Stading Property - Empty lot next to the Stading Residence. City of Kensett has talked with the lawyer to obtain quick claim deed for the Stadings to purchase the empty lot that is next to them. Once the City has the Quick Claim Deed, we will have the deed notarized and filed through the courts.

New Business:

Proposal from L&M and Kruger Electric for Well Houses (West & Old Fire Station) – Mayor has finally obtained quotes. $8815 for the West (20 hp) and $6615 for the Old Fire Station (10 hp). Motion to approve purchase by E.Gile, 2nd R. Lestrud, carried unanimously.

Jasper Family Foundation Grants – Mayor has proposed in obtaining playground equipment for the Community Center through this foundation grant. Mayor is going to obtain quotes, and City Clerk will complete online form for the grant.

Steel Speed Limit Sign Posts – Mayor has obtained quote from Iowa Prison Industries for new Steel Posts for the Speed Limits Signs. Motion to approve purchase by R. Lestrud, 2nd E. Gile, carried unanimously.

Mayors Report: N/A

Council Reports: N/A

Treasurer's Report: September Revenues by Fund: General $3,686.63, Utilities $7,519.74, Special $9,253.51. Total Revenues: $20,459.88. Stands approved as read.

Motion to approve bills by K. Woltzen, 2nd by E. Gile, carried unanimously.

Payable: Alliant Energy $2,543.57, WCTA $361.85, Barbara Luckason $614.12 (net), Lisa Luskey-Lestrud $580.86 (net) Richard Bauer $844.89 (net), Wendy Varner $1,290.38 (net), Richard Olson $230.87 (net) Donald Flint $2,022.71 (net) Federal & SS $1,293.21 (payroll), IPERS $1,136.35 (payroll), Water Service Tax $126.79 (water), AgSource $152.95 (water), KFD $400.00 (fire protection), Kensett Water Works $112.50 (sewer fees), Waste Management $1706.73 (garbage & recycling), Randy Bratrud $1,287.00 (mowing) ICAP $20,224.00 (insurance) Menards $313.46 (general), ULINE $142.60 (general), Brick Gentry $280.00 (lawyer), D&L Equipment $885.38 (general), NEXUS $1,385.74, Wendy Varner $11.02 (USPS Certified Mail).

Disbursements by Fund: General $23,488.58, Special $153.63, Utilities $4,877.60, Payroll $9,300.39 (gross)

Total Disbursements: $37,820.20

Motion to adjourn by E. Gile, 2nd by R. Lestrud, carried unanimously.

Wendy Varner, City Clerk
Richard Olson, Mayor

The Kensett City Council met in regular session 10/12/2026 at 7:00 P.M. at City Hall with Mayor Richard Olson presiding. Council Members present were Ryder Lestrud, Brandee Cooper, Eil Gile, and Kris Woltzen.

Absent: LaRue Douglas

Visitors: Richard Bauer, Larry Larson, Donald Flint, Mike Peterson

Olson called meeting to order.

Motion to approve agenda by K. Woltzen, 2nd E. Gile, carried unanimously.

Motion to approve minutes by K. Woltzen, 2nd R. Lestrud, carried unanimously

Maintenance Report: N/A

The Clerk mentioned the monthly grant that is received from the WCDA.

Old Business:

There was no new business to discuss

New Business:

Mike Peterson was present at the meeting for his snow removal proposal for the 2026/2027 winter. Motion was approved by K. Woltzen and 2nd R. Lestrud, carried unanimously, to hire Peterson Excavating for snow removal for the City of Kensett.

100 Walnut Street may be coming up for purchase in the near future. If the City of Kensett can purchase for under $5,000 the council approves. Motion was approved by K. Woltzen and 2nd E. Gile, carried unanimously.

Mayors Report: N/A

Council Reports: N/A

Treasurer's Report: September Revenues by Fund: General $3,836.63, Utilities $7,564.48, Special $9,719.11. Total Revenues: $21,120.22. Stands approved as read.

Motion to approve bills by E. Gile, 2nd by R. Lestrud, carried unanimously.

Payable: Alliant Energy $2,945.57, WCTA $372.03, Barbara Luckason $377.59 (net), Lisa Luskey-Lestrud $659.09 (net) Richard Bauer $874.15 (net), Wendy Varner $1,290.38 (net), Richard Olson $230.87 (net) Donald Flint $1,952.16 (net) Federal & SS $1,242.04 (payroll), IPERS $1,014.11 (payroll), Water Service Tax $127.50 (water), AgSource $163.15 (water), KFD $400.00 (fire protection), Kensett Water Works $112.50 (sewer fees), Waste Management $1706.73 (garbage & recycling), IOWA DNR $120.00 (annual fees - gen.), JJ Hardware $143.97 (general), Randy Bratrud $891.00 (general), Menards $153.63 (gen.), Iowa Prision Industries $446.36 (gen.), City of Northwood $2,750.00 (mosquito spray – gen.), Iowa DOT $168,10 (Home Base Signs – spec.), ITRON $201.97 (Radio Maintenance – gen.), Hawkins $560.51 (gen.), Kibble Equipment $50.00 (gen.), Northwood Anchor $251.41 (gen.), Wendy Varner $370.12 (mileage – spec.), Richard Olson $365.56 (mileage – gen.), Landfill of North Iowa $38 (gen.) D & L Equipment $764.26 (gen.)

Disbursements by Fund: General $8,204.21, Special $903.78, Utilities $3,718.00, Payroll $7,640.39 (gross)

Total Disbursements: $20,466.38

Motion to adjourn by R. Lestrud, 2nd by B.Cooper, carried unanimously.

Wendy Varner, City Clerk
Richard Olson, Mayor

Notice

NOTICE OF HEARING ON PROPOSED REPAIRS AND/OR IMPROVEMENTS DRAINAGE DISTRICT NO. 6/LAT 7 WORTH COUNTY, IOWA

TO: BETZ REVOCABLE TRUST, GORDON HAGEN ENTERPRISES INC, CLAY HAGEN, JEFFREY HAGEN, MICHAEL HELGESON, DAVID HELGESON, RANDY L & DORENE A HOLSTAD, VICTOR D KNUDTSON RESIDUARY TRUST, EVELYN M KNUDTSON, MATTHEW R OLSON, SHARRY G OLSON FAMILY TRUST, HELGESON FAMILY TRUST, MICHAEL A & GAYLE A THOMPSON, WORTH COUNTY SECONDARY ROADS, property owners as shown above, encumbrancers, lienholders, unknown heirs and claimants by will, to all whom it may concern, including the actual occupants of the land, or tract of land, described in and including Drainage District No. 6/Lat 7, Worth County, Iowa.

YOU AND EACH OF YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Board of Supervisors of Worth County, Iowa, acting as trustees on behalf of Drainage District No. 6/Lat 7 in said county has employed Bolton & Menk, Inc as an engineer to determine the feasibility or the necessity of having repairs and/or improvements, all concerning the drainage facilities of Drainage District No. 6/Lat 7 in order to provide adequate drainage and relief for the lands included in said Drainage District No. 6/Lat 7.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Board of Supervisors of Worth County requested that said engineer make a preliminary survey and investigation of the possible repairs and/or improvements of Drainage District No. 6/Lat 7.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the drainage engineer Bolton & Menk, Inc has filed their report with the Auditor of Worth County in which they recommend certain repairs and/or improvements. That the engineer's estimate for the costs of the proposed repairs/improvements are as follows:

The Engineer's estimate for the total cost for proposed repairs and/or improvements is between $271,000 and $369,000. A description and breakdown of the estimated costs are shown in the engineer's report on file.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that this report and recommendations in full are available online at https://worthcountyiowa.gov/auditor/drainage/ and also on file in the office of the Worth County Auditor at the Courthouse in Northwood, Iowa, for your information. You are encouraged to obtain a copy and review the report prior to the date set for hearing in this notice. Said reports have been reviewed and considered by the Board of Supervisors, and they have been tentatively approved as the board has determined that the repairs and improvements are necessary and feasible.

The Board of Supervisors will also consider the appropriate interest to charge on stamped warrants and determine the length of time that assessments may be paid of not less than ten (10) nor more than twenty (20) years.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the Board of Supervisors of Worth County, acting on behalf Drainage District No. 6/Lat 7 has fixed a time and place of hearing on said report and proposed repairs/improvements, for Monday, November 16 at 9:30 A.M. at the Worth County Courthouse. If you are unable to attend the meeting in person you can contact the Worth County Auditor at 641-324-2316 to obtain the online Zoom link.

At said hearing the Board of Supervisors shall hear objections to the feasibility of such repairs, improvements, and of the drainage district as may be presented by and for any landowner in the District. The report of the engineer as filed herein may be amended before final action is taken thereon by this Board of Supervisors. This hearing may be continued from time to time without further notice as determined by this Board of Supervisors.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED THAT ALL OBJECTIONS TO THE ENGINEER'S REPORT OR TO ANY MATTER CONNECTED WITH THIS HEARING MUST BE IN WRITING AND FILED WITH THE WORTH COUNTY AUDITOR AT OR BEFORE THE TIME FIXED FOR HEARING. Any interested party may be heard in an argument by himself or by counsel. Anyone who fails to object shall be held to have waived all objections and claims for damages. Any interested party may file a written supporting statement with the Auditor, at or before the date of the hearing.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that if you fail to object, the Board of Supervisors can make a final decision to make repairs and/or improvements of Drainage District No. 6/Lat 7, acquire additional right of way, annex additional lands and reclassify. As a consequence of your failure to object you lose your right to appeal the final decision within twenty (20) days to the Iowa District Court.

This notice is published and mailed as provided by law at the direction of the Board of Supervisors of Worth County, Iowa, acting on behalf of Drainage District No. 6/Lat 7.

Jacki A. Backhaus
Worth County Auditor

Supervisors

October 12, 2026
Forty-second 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 October 5, 2026 minutes. Motion carried.

Motion Stone/Second Smeby to approve Addendum No. 1 to the plans and specifications for the Worth County, Iowa Administration Office Building Project. Motion carried.

Motion Smeby/Second Stone to approve drainage claims in the amount of $70,238.25 per the following schedule. Motion carried.

Bolton & Menk, Inc., DD 18 MAIN, Prof Services 10,535.50
Bolton & Menk, Inc., DD 46 MAIN OPEN DITCH, Prof Services 2,424.00
Bolton & Menk, Inc., DD 6 MAIN, Prof Services.....1,649.00
Bolton & Menk, Inc., DD 7 MAIN, Prof Services.....1,256.00
Bolton & Menk, Inc., DD 18 MAIN, Prof Services 8,318.50
Bolton & Menk, Inc., DD 46 MAIN OPEN DITCH, Prof Services 1,960.00
Bolton & Menk, Inc., DD 6 MAIN, Prof Services.....956.00
Bolton & Menk, Inc., DD 7 MAIN, Prof Services.....2,041.00
Worth County Treasurer, DD 48 LOWER MAIN TILE/LAT 1 TILE, 2026 TAX DD 48...6,736.00
Mike Petersburg, DD 23 LAT 9, Repairs.....4,425.00
Goodwin Law Office, P.C., DD 72 MAIN OPEN DITCH, Prof Services.....57.50
A1 Excavating & Drainage Inc., DD 2 MAIN, Repairs.....28,479.75
A1 Excavating & Drainage Inc., DD 46 MAIN OPEN DITCH, Repairs.....500.00
A1 Excavating & Drainage Inc., DD 46 MAIN OPEN DITCH, Repairs.....900.00
Grand Total 70,238.25

Motion Stone/Second Smeby to approve claims in the amount of $1,267,692.73 per the following schedule. Motion carried.

Access Systems Leasing
Service-Dap, Eng & Asr 1,542.45
Activated Insights
Service-Phd.....197.88
Agvantage Fs Inc
Fuel-Eng 7,546.52
Amazon Capital Services
Supplies 5,716.91
Arnold Motor Supply
Parts-Eng.....1,105.22
At&T Mobility
Service-It/Gis.....303.32
Axon Enterprise, Inc.
Supplies-Shf 174.40
Baler And Compactor Service Company, Service-Sdp 664.00
Bauer Built Tire Inc
Service-Eng 520.22
Bcn Telecom, Service-Gsr ..189.75
Bmc Aggregates Llc
Rock-Eng 2,007.47
Bolton & Menk Inc
Service-Con.....2,414.66
Brian M. Kuchay, Md
Ems Contract 100.00
Carquest Auto Parts Inc
Supplies-Eng 3,031.75
Cdw Government Llc
Supplies-Dap 693.65
Cemstone Concrete Materials, Llc
Supplies-Eng 3,986.25
Central Square Technologies, Llc
Service-911 .....6,700.66
Centurylink, Service-Eng ..183.05
Chad Wurtzel, Reimb-Shf..408.06
City Of Carpenter
Rutf-Eng 26.96
City Of Fertile, Rutf-Eng 1,692.12
City Of Grafton
Rutf-Eng 1,008.29
City Of Hanlontown
Rutf-Eng 439.49
City Of Joice, Rutf-Eng...1,213.86
City Of Kensett, Rutf-Eng .560.37
City Of Manly, Service-Eng.85.20
City Of Northwood
Service-Eng 699.20
Com-Tec Land Mobile Radio
Service-911 .....6,189.76
Cresco Building Services, Inc.
Service-Cap.....485,968.06
Culligan Of Mason City
Service-Gsr 139.60
D & L Equipment
Parts-Con.....129.95
Dave Syverson Inc
Parts-Eng.....61.60
Des Moines Stamp Mfg Co
Supplies-Rec 149.45
Eilertson Repair
Service-Con.....1,606.08
Electronic Engineering
Service-Eng 540.09
Eurofins Test America
Service-San.....549.00
Falkstone Llc, Rock-Eng.7,493.33
Fallgatter's Market Inc
Supplies-Con 13.83
Freeborn County Coop Oil
Fuel-Eng 51,140.98
Greve Law Office
Rent & Payroll-Aty 7,526.50
Groe Electric Inc
Service-Eng 777.76
Heartland Asphalt Inc
Supplies-Eng 1,995.60
Heartland Power Coop
Service-Wwt 2,171.39
Huber Supply Co Inc
Supplies-Eng 326.50
Hy-Vee, Inc.
Service-Shf.....2,786.00
I35/105 Welcome Center Inc.
Fy Sept H/M Tax-Ndp...3,314.84
Iaao, Dues-Asr.....510.00
Imwca
Wk Comp Prem-Ins.....10,342.00
Jesse Luther, Reimb-Shf 22.26
Jj's Hardware
Supplies-Gsr.....492.67
Joe's Collision & Performance Inc
Service-Shf.....88.70
Katrina Neve
Reimb-Shf.....19.58
Knudtson Automotive Service
Service-Eng 659.92
Kris Engineering Inc
Parts-Eng.....35,937.50
Kruger Electric Llc
Service-Wat 460.95
Lawson Products Inc
Parts-Eng.....705.90
Madison Liquidators Llc
Supplies-Eng 13,473.90
Madsen Construction
Service-Cap.....449,145.18
Manly Junction Signal
Service-Shf.....340.00
Matrixcare Home Health & Hospice Llc, Service-Phd.....3,518.44
Mercyone North Iowa Occupational Health
Service-Phd.....63.00
Mitchell Co Sheriff
Service-Shf.....4,420.00
Nassco Inc., Supplies-Gsr ..175.93
Neapolitan Labs Llc
Service-Aud 1,500.00
Nelson Family Trust
Rent-Shf.....300.00
Nena, Edu-911.....150.00
North Central International
Service-Eng 10,236.48
Northwood Anchor Inc
Service-Shf.....597.40
Northwood Electric Inc
Supplies-Gsr.....106.19
Northwood Sanitation Llc
Service-Gsr 241.50
Nsb Bank, Supplies-Rec 70.10
Nuss Truck & Equipment Inc
Parts-Eng.....1,453.92
Plunkett's Pest Control Inc
Service-Con.....87.28
Richard Brumm, Edu-Eng...25.00
S&H Environmental Services Llc
Service-Wat & Wwt.....20,820.85
Shane Batton, Service-Gsr 325.00
Singelstad's Hardware
Supplies-Eng 180.24
Kevin Springer Construction
Service-Cap.....32,245.00
Swany's, Supplies-Eng.....90.00
Thomas Reid, Postage-Vaf.164.00
T-Mobile, Service-Dap 877.83
Trading Post, Service-Eng.428.28
Tree Town Consultants, Llc
Service-Shf.....17,000.00
Tripoli Llc, Service-San 700.00
Truck Center Companies
Parts-Eng.....48.38
Waste Management Of Iowa Inc
Service-Sdp.....3,300.00
Wex Bank, Service-Tra ...2,665.61
Whks & Co, Service-Eng.1,161.88
Winnebago Coop Telephone Assn
Service-Gsr 3,819.69
Winn-Worth Betco
Fy27 2nd Qtr-Org.....16,521.50
Worth Co Historical Society
Fy Sept H/M Tax-Ndp...3,314.84
Worth County Engineer
Fuel-Shf.....6,646.78
Worth County Fair
Fy27 Sept H/M Tax-Ndp4,972.25
Worth County Sheriff
Service-Juj..... 194.24
Worth Lumber Co
Supplies-Eng 980.24
Grand Total 1,267,692.44

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

Motion Smeby/Second Stone to approve Resolution 2026-35 – 2026/2027 Interfund Transfer Resolution. Roll call vote – Ayes: Smeby, Stone, Loberg. Motion carried. (Full text of resolution available in auditor's office).

2026/2027 INTERFUND TRANSFER RESOLUTION #2026-35

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Worth County Board of Supervisors that the County Auditor is hereby directed to transfer $49,747.40 from the Capital Projects Fund (1500) to the Secondary Roads Fund (0020). This is the amount that was spent by Secondary Roads to complete the Vine Culvert Replacement in September. These were designated as Urban Renewal Projects funded by the proceeds from the General Obligation Urban Renewal Bonds, Series 2023A.

Adopted this 12th day of October 2026.

Worth County Board of Supervisors

Enos Loberg, Chairperson

Attest: Jacki A. Backhaus, Auditor

Chairperson Loberg recessed the regular session at 8:47 A.M.

Motion Smeby/Second Stone to open the Public Hearing at 9:00 A.M. on the proposal to enter into a General Obligation Urban Renewal Loan Agreement. Motion carried. Public comment was heard from Don Anderson and Dan Reeder.

Motion Smeby/Second Stone to close the Public Hearing at 9:20 A.M.

Chairperson Loberg reconvened the regular session at 9:20 A.M.

Motion Stone/Second Smeby to approve Resolution 2026-36 Resolution taking additional action on proposal to enter into General Obligation Urban Renewal Loan Agreement, setting parameters for the sale of Bonds, and approving a bond purchase agreement and an official statement. Roll call vote – Ayes: Smeby, Stone, Loberg. Motion carried. (Full text of resolution available in auditor's office).

Motion Stone/Second Smeby to adjourn at 9:22 A.M. Motion carried.

Jacki A. Backhaus, Auditor
Enos Loberg, Chairperson

Notice

Notice of Sheriff's Levy and Sale

IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT IN ANO FOR WORTH COUNTY
STATE OF IOWA
WORTH COUNTY
Iowa District Court
Worth County
Case #: EQCV013083
Civil #: 26-000257
UNION HOME MORTGAGE CORPORATION
vs
ROSA OFELIA RENTERIA GARZA; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; UNKNOWN SPOUSE, IF ANY, OF ROSA OFELIA RENTERIA GARZA; PARTIES IN POSSESSION

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

LOT THREE (3), IN BLOCK SIXTY-NINE (69), IN THE TOWN OF NORTHWOOD, WORTH COUNTY, IOWA

Property Address: 95 4TH ST N, NORTHWOOD, IA 50459

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

Sale Date: 11/10/2026; Sale Time: 10:00; Place of Sale: WORTH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, 1000 CENTRAL AVE, NORTHWOOD, IA 50459

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.

Property exemption: Certain money or property may be exempt. Contact your attorney promptly to review specific provisions of the law and file appropriate notice, if acceptable.

Judgment Amount: $72,665.30; Costs: $4,101.45; Accruing Costs: PLUS; Interest: $6,541.87; Sheriff's Fees: Pending; Date: 09/23/2026; JESSEE LUTHER, WORTH COUNTY SHERIFF; Attorney: ARLET COSTILLA, 4601 WESTOWN PKWY SUITE 25, WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266, (515) 223-7325.

41-2t

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

NORTHWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY
Monday & Friday 1-5 p.m.
Tues. - Thurs. 10 a.m.-7 p.m.
Open Saturday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
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

Michealis reflects on local impacts as she transitions to new role

After 12 years of service and leadership, Melissa Michaelis is stepping down as Executive Director of Winn-Worth Betco to assume the same position at Forest City Economic Development.

Michaelis will begin her new role on November 2, bringing with her a record of economic development success, grant writing, business financing, housing advocacy and regional collaboration.

Michaelis has driven initiatives that strengthened local economies, supported entrepreneurs and positioned the region for future growth. Among her most significant achievements has been securing nearly $945,000 in grant funding over the past two years. Those grant dollars have supported community development projects, housing projects and quality-of-life enhancements that might not otherwise have been possible.

One of Michaelis' most notable contributions was her commitment to Iowa's veterans and military families through the Home Base Iowa initiative. Over six years, she worked with local officials, community leaders and volunteers to ensure every community in Winn-Worth Betco's service area was designated a Home Base Iowa community. She helped all 14 communities complete the registration process, making the region the first in Iowa to achieve full participation across its service area.

"When I met Melissa, she had a huge goal to get all 14 communities across two counties designated as Home Base Iowa communities," said Mary Lou



MELISSA MICHAELIS

Kleveland, Winnebago County Veterans Services Officer. "Designating one community is an achievement, so aiming to designate 14 communities was a significant goal. She never lost sight of the goal. Her hard work paid off. Because of her work, our region became a statewide example of how communities can come together to support veterans and military families."

The accomplishment earned Michaelis a unique distinction. In recognition of her efforts, Jamie Norton, Director of Veteran Workforce Services, and Robert J. Haegee III, Home Base Iowa Program Manager, presented her with the first-ever Home Base Iowa Community Champion Award. The award highlighted her commitment to making Winnebago and Worth counties a welcoming destinations for veterans and their families.

Beyond grants and community development initiatives, Michaelis also transformed Winn-Worth Betco's revolving loan fund into a powerful tool for business growth. The organization successfully revolved its loan fund twice, allowing repaid dollars to be reinvested into additional economic development opportunities.

Winn-Worth Betco has loaned $802,000 to small businesses throughout Winnebago and Worth counties. Since Michaelis became executive director, $449,000 of this has helped entrepreneurs launch new ventures, expand existing operations, create jobs and invest in their communities.

Michaelis has served as an Advisory Board Member for the Iowa Small Business Development Center (SBDC), helping provide insight and guidance to one of the state's most important small business support organizations. In this role, she contributed to conversations about entrepreneurship, business support and economic growth strategies affecting communities across Iowa.

As she transitions into her new role with Forest City Economic Development, Michaelis will continue her mission of fostering economic growth and community vitality.

"I am incredibly grateful for the chance to serve Winnebago and Worth counties," Michaelis said. "The relationships I've built, the projects we've completed, and the successes we've celebrated together have been some of the most rewarding experiences of my career. While it is difficult to leave, I am excited for the opportunity to serve Forest City and help continue its economic development momentum."

Hannah Lanphere awarded veterinary scholarship

Hannah Lanphere, originally of Manly, was recently awarded the IVMA Foundation Supporting Leadership Scholarship in the amount of $1,000.

Lanphere completed her undergraduate degree, majoring in animal science at Iowa State University and is now in her third year at the College of Veterinary Medicine at Iowa State University. After graduating with her Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine,



HANNAH LANPHERE

Hannan is interested in working in a rural, mixed-animal practice, especially dairy cattle medicine.

Hannah is the daughter of Robert and Melinda Lanphere.

The Iowa Veterinary Medical Association (IVMA) is a 501c3 nonprofit, member-service organization dedicated to the veterinary profession. The IVMA supports member veterinarians and promotes the profession through continuing education, publications and advocacy.

Club notes

Green Thumb

The Green Thumb Garden Club met on Monday, August 24, at 5:30 p.m. at the Olson building. Peter Julseth, Vice President, called the meeting to order and opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance and the conservation pledge.

Nine members were present and answered the roll call question "What's your favorite garden visitor?" Peter read the meditation provided by Julie Robb who was unable to be present. Penny Robb, secretary, read the July minutes. Mary Low moved the minutes be approved as read, Louise Philipp seconded and all approved. Penny read the Treasurer's report.

Committee reports:

Civic Development; Julie and Louise, will coordinate the purchase and planting of a tree in memory of Rosie Kruger.

Garden Therapy; Angie and Riki, Yard of the week selection is ongoing.

Horticulture; Penny and Karen, no report this month.

Conservation; Myra and Kathleen, no report this month.

Sunshine; Louise, no report

Membership and Advisory Council; Jean, Mary, Penny, no report this month.

Nominating; Jean, Mary, Penny, The slate of officers for 2027 and 2028 has been selected and will be presented at the October meeting.

Program 2027; Vice President, signup sheet for 2027 distributed.

Flower Show; 2027 Mary Low, no report.

Tours; Cheryl and Kris, shared a possible list of tours.

Christmas Party; Theresa, Nancy and Mary, no report.

There was no new or unfinished business.

Louise moved the meeting be adjourned, Kris seconded, all approved.

Mary provided a program on committee possibilities/activities and signup sheets for committee assignments for 2027 and 2028.

Louise served delicious lasagna, salad and homemade cookies.

The next meeting will be Monday, September 28, at 5:30. Kris is Hostess, Louise will provide the meditation or arrangement and Kris has the program.

Twenties Club

Twenties Club met Monday, Oct. 12 at 7 p.m. at the Olson Community room with 15 members present. Deanna Luedtke, president, called the meeting to order. Becky Tews, secretary, did roll call and read the minutes from the last meeting. A motion was made by Marcia Price and a second by Connie Hogen to accept the minutes. Motion passed. There was no treasurer's report. Deb Nagle, Sunshine, reported the club gave $20 to the library to purchase a book in memory of former member, Rosie Kruger.

In old business, Sharyl Ferley will pass out a survey to the senior girls regarding the senior tea after the first of the year.

There was no new business. A motion by Connie Hogen to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Sandy Hyde. Motion passed.

Team Roerish, consisting of Dianne Roerish, Sandy Hyde and Kathey Throndtook us back in time to the fashionable clothing worn during the 50's and 60's.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING RATES

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Miscellaneous
Audien Hearing. The world's first hearing aid with touchscreen controls. No tiny buttons, apps or prescriptions. 45-day risk free trial. Free shipping. Lifetime support. More than 1.5 million happy customers. Call Audien 1-855-304-1545
Miscellaneous
Jacuzzi Bath Remodel can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, waiving ALL installation costs! (Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. Offer ends 12/27/26.) Call 1-866-456-3917
Miscellaneous
Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 5-Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-855-954-5087 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.
Miscellaneous
Does your basement or crawl space need some attention? Call Thrasher Foundation Repair! A permanent solution for waterproofing, failing foundations, sinking concrete and nasty crawl spaces. FREE Inspection & Same Day Estimate. $250 off ANY project with code GET250. Call 1-866-554-1730

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POSITION OPENING
The City of Lake Mills is accepting applications for certified Journeyman Lineman
The line crew is responsible for the construction and maintenance of the overhead and underground distribution, as well as assist in the generation plant as needed. Applicants must have or be able to obtain a Class B CDL within 6 months, CPR Certified preferred, and able to work weekend rotation. Pre-employment drug test and background check are required. Salary range is $35-$42, dependent upon qualifications and experience. Benefit package including insurance, retirement, paid leave, and holidays.
Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. A job description and application may be picked up at the
Lake Mills City Hall
200 N. 1st Ave W., Lake Mills, IA
or the website at www.lakemillsiowa.gov
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IATC Middle School State XC Race Ankeny Centennial High School

By Troy Einertson
Northwood-Kensett cross country coach

The IATC Middle School State XC Race was held on Saturday, October 17, on the Ankeny Centennial cross country course and Lola Cronbaugh was one of over 700 girls that were there representing their schools. In 1A alone, there were about 150 seventh and eighth grade girls competing for the state title.



LOLA CRONBAUGH

Unlike high school where every time is reported and you basically know who you are competing against, Lola and I went into this race not knowing who was fast, who we needed to run with, and what the time we needed to run to win would be. So our plan was simple: run in front, chase the pace cart and set the state record while doing this.

Lola and I walked the course before she ran, and it was really soft with a lot of wet places on it. There were about 500 kids who ran on it before us, so it was a little torn up, and we had a couple trip hazards with curbs that were going to play into the race a little bit. So we talked a little more, and decided that our plan was a good plan, but the times might be a little slower because of the soft, wet conditions.

Well, I was way wrong on the times being slow! Lola got out very well and was up near the front at the 400 mark. She was looking good, so I took off to the mile mark. It was a little jaunt for me, and I barely got there to see Lola and a girl from Tri-Center Neola running stride for stride with each other.

Our plan was to come through in 5:50, they came through in a blistering 5:45! Lola kept pushing the pace and had put a little distance between her and the Tri Center girl with about 400 meters left. I gave her a couple instructions and she took off in a full sprint. The Tri Center girl, not to be outdone, took off with her. Lola led to the finish line, but the Tri Center girl edged her out by 0.1 of a second. Her time of 11:37.0, just edged Lola's 11:37.1.

Both of the girls crushed the state record of 11:56 set in 2017. Their times would have also set records in all of the classes for seventh graders, and the 1A and 2A eighth grade girls. They would have also won every girls race with the exception of the 4A eighth grade girls race where the winning time was 11:36.

So to say I was wrong about the course not being very fast was way off! I have witnessed a lot of great races in my time, but this one will probably go down as one of the best I have ever seen.

Lola gave everything she could to win the race, and even though she didn't, there was no reason for her to hold her head down!

As a coach you always try to put your runners in the best place to succeed, and she ran the perfect race, and you cannot ask for anything else. She did what she was supposed to do, the other girl's plan was just a little better. Sometimes it is better to chase than be chased, but that is not Lola's style. She wants to go out, and wear the competition out, and gut out the race till the end. She did, and it was amazing!

I have written about Lola a couple times this year, and have mentioned the word IT when describing her both times. Lola has IT, and she is a true representation of what is good about our kids in our school! She wants to be the best at everything she does, and she is willing to work hard to get IT.

Even though she is only a seventh grader, she has inspired all of our XC runners to be better and we are all extremely proud of her!

Great Job Lola, and thanks for a great year!



LEXI MCHENRY



TRUE HACKENMILLER

N-K Vikings cheerleaders qualify for All State Squad

Tryouts were recently held for Iowa's All State Cheer Squad. Two Northwood-Kensett athletes were selected for the squad.

The All State Cheerleading Squad is sponsored by the Iowa Cheerledaing Coaches' Assocation (ICCA) and the Iowa High School Athletic Association (IHSAA).

Tryouts are held in October for the squad, and are open for any high school cheerleader of a ICCA member team.

Those selected to the squad are chosen based on cheerleading skills and techniques, including motions, jumps, dance ability and tumbling skills.

There were 33 cheerleaders and four alternates chosen for this school year.

Amongst the cheerleaders selected for the squad were N-K students True Hackenmiller and Lexi McHenry.

The team will practice four times from January to March and they will perform during the Boys State Basketball Tournament, during two half times of games on March 12, 2027, at Hilton Coliseum in Ames.

The final performance will be televised and the cheerleaders will be presented with medals recognizing their accomplishment.

Viking football comes to an end

By Julie Salisbury

The Vikings football season has come to an end with a 68-6 loss to No. 8 North Union.

The offensive highlight of the night for the Vikings was a 61 yard touchdown run by Henry Hanson. Otherwise yards were tough to get. Hanson had four carries for 97 yards and Brady Tufte had 16 carries for 25 yards. Landen Nelson had 13 carries for 30 yards and Tegan Trenhaile had five for 22 yards and a two yard reception. Owen Binnebose had one for two yards, and Aidan Ouverson had one carry for negative 2 yards. Tyce Helgeson had one carry for negative two yards, and four kick returns for 42 yards.

B. Tufte kicked off two times for 83 yards total and Binnebose punted six times for 224 yards.

Trenhaile led the defense with five tackles, four solo. B. Tufte had 2.5 tackles, one solo and one tackle for a loss. Weston Heims had 2.5 tackles, two solo. Helgeson had two tackles, one solo. Carson Tufte and Aydan Schutz each had two tackles, one solo. Jaxon Reyerson and Martin Girouard each had 1.5 tackles, with one solo. Keenan Davidson-Jacobs had 1.5 tackles, one solo and one tackle for a loss. Max Johnson had a tackle assist. Binnebose and Ouverson each had one solo tackle.

The Vikings finished the season with a 1-5 district record and a 3-6 overall record.



Viking senior Landen Nelson runs onto the field for his last high school football game on Friday evening. Photos courtesy of Olivia Hodson.



Viking senior Carson Tufte on the field for his last high school football game. Photo courtesy of Olivia Hodson.

Vikings fall to Huskies in conference crossover

By Julie Salisbury

The Northwood-Kensett Vikings volleyball team hosted the Nashua-Plainfield Huskies in a Top of Iowa Conference crossover game and fell in four sets. The Huskies won game one 25-21 and game two 25-15, the Vikings bounced back to win set three 25-15 and battled hard in set four before losing 28-26.

Leading the Vikings was Avarie Skellenger with 12 kills, four digs and 5-8 serving with one ace. True Hackenmiller had a great complete game with eight kills, 15 assists, 10 digs, one block and was 14-15 serving with two ace serves. Mia Fierova had six kills, three digs and three blocks, and Hallie Hanson had six kills, one block, two digs and was 10-11 serving with three ace serves. Ashlyn Skellenger had four kills, 16 assists, two blocks, eight digs and was 12-16 serving with six ace serves. Lilly Strand had three kills, seven digs, one block and was 18-21 serving with four ace serves, and Kenly Solberg had one kill, four assists, 15 digs and was a perfect 16-16 serving. Lexi McHenry had four digs and Chloe Woods had 10 digs.

The Vikings had 40 kills, 36 assists, eight blocks, 63 digs and were 75-87 serving with 16 ace serves.

Northwood ends their regular season with an 0-6 conference record and a 5-18 overall record. Post season play was scheduled to start on Monday, October 19, when the Vikings travel to St. Ansgar. See next week's edition for results.



Viking True Hackenmiller serves the ball during Tuesday night's home game against Nashua-Plainfield.



Viking junior Mia Fierova goes up for a kill during Tuesday night's game against Nashua-Plainfield.

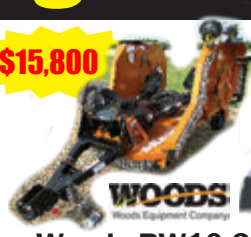
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