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SEPTEMBER 2, 2022



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SCAN FOR TICKETS

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8 LOW WATER, HIGH EXPECTATIONS
Planned draw down at Virgin Lake expected to curtail carp

15 WRITING THE NEXT CHAPTER
Okoboji Writer's Retreat prepares for second event

16 ROCKIN' RETRO
Getting down With the Underbeats

LIVE MUSIC



Thursday (9.1)

Big Nacho Karaoke 7pm

Friday (9.2)

Farm Rock 7pm

Saturday (9.3)

Surfin Safari 2:30pm
Farm Rock 7pm

Sunday (9.4)

Surfin Safari 2pm
Farm Rock 7pm

Monday (9.5)

Last Call Band 4pm

DRINK SPECIALS

HALF PRICE DRINKS 4PM

THE GARDENS

ON THE SHORES OF WEST LAKE OKOBOJI

Thursday (9.1)

Charlie Leissler 5pm

Friday (9.2)

Jeremy DeWall 5pm
Birdchild 9pm

Saturday (9.3)

Boon & Lambert 5pm
Birdchild 9pm

Sunday (9.4)

Boon & Lambert 5pm
Birdchild 9pm

36th Annual Labor Day Auction



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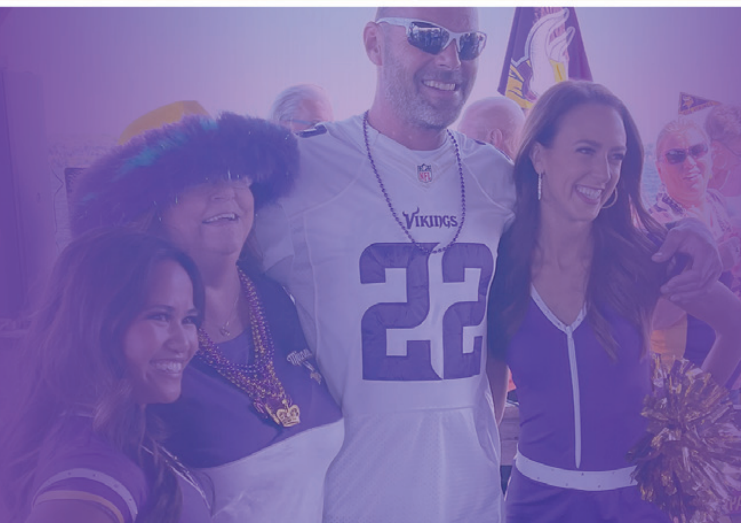
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SATURDAY
SUNDAY
MONDAY

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WHAT'S INSIDE

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>4 Fishing Report</p> <p>5 Catch This
Take a peek at some of the weekend's live entertainment</p> <p>6 PLAC Review
Hotel California — A Salute to the Eagles gives best performance yet</p> <p>8 Low water, high expectations
Planned draw down at Virgin Lake expected to curtail carp</p> <p>9 Campus Hotline</p> | <p>10 Dining Guide</p> <p>13 Church Directory</p> <p>15 Writing the next chapter
Okoboji Writer's Retreat prepares for second annual event</p> <p>16 Rockin' Retro
Getting down with the Underbeats</p> <p>17 Memory Lane
Recalling the sights, sounds and smells of the butcher shop</p> |
|--|--|

ABOUT THE COVER: Photo taken by Seth Boyes

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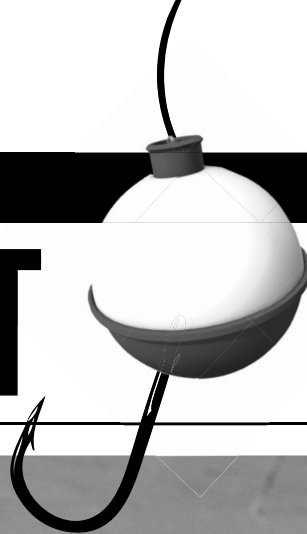
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NORTHWEST IOWA

FISHING REPORT



This weekly fishing report is compiled from information gathered from local bait shops, angler creel surveys and county and state parks staff. The report below is from Aug. 25, the latest report available at the time of publication. For current conditions, call the Spirit Lake District Office at 712-336-1840. Most area lake temperatures are in the mid to low 70s. Forecasts call for continued temperatures in the 70s-80s. Bass and panfishing has been a bit slower on most lakes. Try fishing along weed lines in 15-plus feet of water. Most fish have been caught out in deeper water as temperatures have increased.

EAST LAKE OKOJOI — The water level is at crest. Fish are out deeper during warm water temperatures. Trolling has been working very well. Find crappie and yellow bass in 12-17 feet of water. Try fishing weed lines where there is new vegetation growth. Black Crappie — Good: Best bite is in 10-15 feet of water along weed lines. Bluegill — Good. Walleye — Fair: Try spinners, crankbaits and long and shallow shad raps in the main basins. Best bite is an hour before and after sunset. Yellow Bass — Good.

LOST ISLAND LAKE — Fishing/trolling is getting more difficult as aquatic vegetation reaches the surface in many places. There has been a decent-sized algae bloom lately. Black Crappie — Fair. Walleye — Slow: Try trolling crankbaits or with lindy rigs off weed lines. Best bite is an hour before and after sunset. Yellow Perch — Fair.

LAKE MINNEWASHTA — Bluegill and crappie fishing has been good; some sorting may be needed. Black Crappie — Good. Bluegill — Good.

SILVER LAKE (DICKINSON) — The late afternoon bite has been fair. Many anglers are targeting fish schools during the day. Vegetation growth and a large algae bloom is making fishing more difficult in many areas. Many schools of young of the year bullhead are swimming around. Walleye — Fair: Try spinners, crankbaits, and long and shallow shad raps.

SPIRIT LAKE — The lake level is about 2 inches below crest. The walleye season is open. Most species are out deeper in 17-plus feet of water. Black Bullhead — Fair: Try fishing the northern grade of Spirit Lake. Black Crappie — Fair: Use a tube jig and bobber. Bluegill — Fair. Walleye — Fair: Use spinners, crankbaits and long and shallow shad raps; try to find weed lines. Yellow Perch — Good: Many perch can be caught but may need to be sorted for size.

WEST LAKE OKOJOI — The water level is at crest. Most fish are out deeper in 15-plus feet of water. Rocky points and areas with new vegetation growth have seen the most success. Black Crappie — Good: Use crankbaits or shad raps. Bluegill — Good: Try small shad raps. Largemouth Bass — Fair. Smallmouth Bass — Fair: Try fishing off points with surface baits or jerk baits. Walleye — Fair: Try fishing off points by trolling crankbaits or with Lindy rigs. Best bite is an hour before and after sunset.



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Sept. 2 — GOLF TOURNAMENT

IGLLC G.O.L.F.
Emerald Hills Golf Course

Sept. 2 — OUTDOOR EVENT

4-7:30 p.m. Dee's Bee and
Butterfly Festival
Dickinson County Nature Center

Sept. 2 — OUTDOOR EVENT

6-9 p.m. Barefoot Dock Hop
Okobojo Boat Works

Sept. 2 — LIVE MUSIC

5-9 p.m. Funset Sunset with
Jeremy DeWall
9 p.m.-1 a.m. Birdchild
The Gardens

Sept. 2 — LIVE MUSIC

6-10 p.m. Jesse Wilson Band
Oak Hill Outdoor

Sept. 2 — LIVE MUSIC

6-9 p.m. The Lockharts
The Ritz

Sept. 2 — OUTDOOR EVENT

7-10 p.m. OBW Dock Hop
Okobojo Boat Works

Sept. 2 — LIVE MUSIC

7-11 p.m. Farm Rock
Barefoot Bar

Sept. 2 — LIVE MUSIC

7:30 p.m. Seven Sons and
Fabulous Flippers
Roof Garden Ballroom

Sept. 2 — LIVE MUSIC

8 p.m. Scott Larsen Band
Okobojo Store

Sept. 2 — LIVE MUSIC

9 p.m. Skitzo Fonik
Captain's Getaway

Sept. 3 — OUTDOOR EVENT

8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Farmers Market in the Park
Arnolds Park Amusement Park

Sept. 3 — LIVE MUSIC

9 a.m. to Noon. She's With Us
Arnolds Park Amusement Park

Sept. 3 — OUTDOOR EVENT

7:30 a.m. to Noon. Farmers Market
Dickinson County Fairgrounds

Sept. 3 — GOLF TOURNAMENT

Todd Dykstra Memorial Tournament
Brooks Golf

Sept. 3 — OUTDOOR EVENT

2-5 p.m. Barefoot Dock Hop
Okobojo Boat Works

Sept. 3 — LIVE MUSIC

1 p.m. Heath Allen
8 p.m. Scott Larsen Band
Okobojo Store

Sept. 3 — LIVE MUSIC

2-6 p.m. Rod and Pam
Round Lake Vineyards

Sept. 3 — OUTDOOR EVENT

2:30-5:30 p.m. Millers Bay
Yacht Party
Okobojo Boat Works

Sept. 3 — LIVE MUSIC

2:30-6:30 p.m. Surfin' Safari
7-11 p.m. Farm Rock
Barefoot Bar

Sept. 3 — LIVE MUSIC

5-9 p.m. Funset Sunset with
Boon & Lambert
9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Birdchild
The Gardens

Sept. 3 — OUTDOOR EVENT

3-6 p.m. Barefoot Dock Hop
Barefoot Bar

Sept. 3 — LIVE MUSIC

6-9 p.m. The Lockharts
The Ritz

Sept. 3 — LIVE MUSIC

6-8 p.m. Terry Brooks Jazz Group
Little Swan Lake Winery

Sept. 3 — LIVE MUSIC

7:30 p.m. Arch Allies
Preservation Plaza — bring lawn chairs
Fireworks as end of show

Sept. 3 — LIVE MUSIC

9 p.m. Skitzo Fonik
Captain's Getaway

Sept. 4 — SPECIAL EVENT

1:30 p.m. 2022 Iowa Rock 'n Roll Hall
of Fame Induction Ceremony
Sami Bedell Center For Performing Arts
6:30 p.m. 2022 Hall of
Fame Induction Concert
Roof Garden Ballroom

Sept. 4 — SPECIAL EVENT

Harvest Festival Grape Stomp
1-6 p.m. Charlie Leissler (inside)
Blame Not The Barde (outside)
Little Swan Lake Winery

Sept. 4 — OUTDOOR EVENT

2-5 p.m. Barefoot Dock Hop
Barefoot Bar

Sept. 4 — LIVE MUSIC

1 p.m. Keifer & Scott Duo
8 p.m. The Firm
Okobojo Store

Sept. 4 — LIVE MUSIC

2-6 p.m. Michael Hope
Round Lake Vineyards

Sept. 4 — OUTDOOR EVENT

2:30-5:30 p.m. Millers Bay Yacht Party
Okobojo Boat Works

Sept. 4 — LIVE MUSIC

4 p.m. The Lockharts
The Ritz

Sept. 4 — LIVE MUSIC

5 p.m. Rewinder at
Johnny's Pub in Lake Park

Sept. 4 — LIVE MUSIC

5-9 p.m. Funset Sunset with
Boon & Lambert
9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Birdchild

The Gardens

Sept. 4 — LIVE MUSIC

7-11 p.m. Farm Rock
Barefoot Bar

Sept. 4 — LIVE MUSIC

9 p.m. Skitzo Fonik
Captain's Getaway

Sept. 5 — GOLF TOURNAMENT

Labor Day Fun Day Monday
Emerald Hills Golf Course

Sept. 5 — LIVE MUSIC

11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Rock the Patio
with Rockin' Vance and Papa Rick
Iowa Rock 'n Roll Museum Patio

Sept. 5 — LIVE MUSIC

1 p.m. Keifer & Scott
Okobojo Store

Sept. 5 — LIVE MUSIC

4-8 p.m. Labor Day Dock Party
Last Call Band
Barefoot Bar

Sept. 5 — LIVE MUSIC

6 p.m. Tripwire
The Ritz

Sept. 5 — LIVE MUSIC

7 p.m. Dick Bauman Big Band
Finale of Season 2022
Pomerantz Hall at
Pearson Lakes Art Center

Sept. 6 — LIVE MUSIC

6 p.m. Tripwire
The Ritz

Sept. 7 — LIVE MUSIC

6-8 p.m. Itty Bitty Boji Band
Spirit Lake VFW

Sept. 7 — LIVE MUSIC

7:30 p.m. The Hitmen
Pearson Lakes Art Center

Sept. 8 — LIVE MUSIC

6-8 p.m. Jeremy Ober

Little Swan Lake Winery

Sept. 9 — LIVE MUSIC

9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Minority Falls
The Gardens

Sept. 9 — LIVE MUSIC

9 p.m. Maiden Dixie
Captain's Getaway

Sept. 10 — LIVE MUSIC

6 p.m. Full Moon Party with
Ryan Sather and Dave Rowley
Barefoot Bar

Sept. 10 — LIVE MUSIC

6-8 p.m. Adam Layman
Little Swan Lake Winery

Sept. 10 — LIVE MUSIC

9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Minority Falls
The Gardens

Sept. 10 — LIVE MUSIC

9 p.m. Maiden Dixie
Captain's Getaway

Sept. 11 — LIVE MUSIC

4-6 p.m. The Ridottos
Little Swan Lake Winery

Sept. 12 — LIVE MUSIC

6:30 p.m. Glenn Henriksen
Discovery House Porch Party
Hill Avenue in Downtown Spirit Lake

Sept. 23 — LIVE MUSIC

9 p.m. The Fishheads
Captain's Getaway

Sept. 24 — LIVE MUSIC

9 p.m. The Fishheads
Captain's Getaway

Dec. 3 — LIVE MUSIC

7 p.m. Jazzed Up Big Band
Christmas Extravaganza
Roof Garden Ballroom

Dec. 13 — LIVE MUSIC

7:30 p.m. Damon, Dave & Ryan
Holiday Show
Pearson Lakes Art Center

BETTER THAN EVER

Doris Welle
Staff Writer

Hotel California — A Salute to the Eagles has performed a fun-filled show at the Pearson Lakes Art Center more than once in the past. This year, due to popular demand, the band returned to do two nights instead of one, and this year's show was the best one yet!

Opening night's full house heard song after song played on a plethora of instruments. I counted 17 guitars of various sizes, colors and tones — one steel guitar, one upright bass, one keyboard, one harmonica, one baby grand piano and a nice set of drums. The sound guys who work PLAC shows told me that is a record for the number of guitars on that stage at one time.

The six musicians jumped back and forth between all of those instruments and were

masters of their craft. Dickey-Lee Dickinson heads up the group. He wins the prize for the longest hair too. Scott Fronsoe is quite the bass guitarist and singer. John Agostino is the drummer who kept everyone going and did a great solo piece as well.

Jake Castro is the 21-year-old guitar genius who can sing like a dream and play steel, six-string and 12-string guitars with a skill that is unbelievable. The audience loved him!

The two newest members of the group are Connor McNamle (I think I have his last name spelled wrong) and Danny Archer. Connor is also in his early 20s and is incredible on fiddle, keys, piano and guitar. He is a very talented addition to the group.

The new lead singer, Archer, has a beautiful voice and uses body language perfectly to keep us all upbeat and smiling. He is from Frog Hollow. I looked it up, and it is a val-

ley in the mountains of Tennessee. Danny is remarkable and adds greatly to the ensemble.

They all (except the drummer) harmonize beautifully, and all six work so well that it is not unreasonable for leader Dickinson to only refer to them as the group Hotel California instead of singling out individuals.

As the only show with official authorization to perform The Eagles catalog of music, Hotel California treated us to rendition after rendition of The Eagles' long list of hits. They also did it with precise homage to the original sounds and backups.

The show opened with "Take It Easy" and went through so many more including "7 Bridges Road" with incredible harmonies, "Tequila Sunrise" and "Peaceful Easy Feeling" using the great sounds of the steel guitar and "Life In The Fast Lane." One of my favorites was "Desperado," where their musical skills were showcased to the max. It was beautiful to hear.

The two "youngsters" Connor and Jake did

a heart-stopping rendition of the National Anthem which was amazing. Of course the proper finale to the show was the song "Hotel California." Naturally we who had been dancing in our seats for about two hours, did not want the show to end. The band said "OK" and did a medley of non-Eagles tunes that was a joy to listen to. Then they finished with

a gospel medley of "Amazing Grace" with "I'll Fly Away" and "Swing Low Sweet Chariot" that began a cappella and ended instrumentally strong. The two-hour show ended being two hours and 40 minutes of pure delight.

The musicians didn't waste a lot of time by talking between numbers but just transitioned one song to another. I am so glad they returned to Okobojo. I am quite sure Danny from Frog Hollow had never heard of Okobojo before.

If you missed Hotel California — A Salute to the Eagles, you missed one of the best shows of a summer filled with great entertainers. I really hope they come back!





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CAMPUS HOTLINE

Doris Welle | Staff Writer



It is hard to believe that this Labor Day Weekend edition of The Okoboian is going to press. It is the last edition of this publication for the summer of 2022. Summer flew by so fast that most of us didn't have time to catch our breath.

It was a very busy summer for the businesses in the Lakes Region as thousands of visitors came here to enjoy all that we offer. Entertainment wise, so many big names graced area stages. My personal favorites were Marilyn Maye (she is amazing at 94), the Buckinghams, Sting Ray Anthony, Leonid and Friends, the Nebraska All-Stars, Hotel California and Herman's Hermits with Peter Noone. There were many more great shows.

The **Iowa Rock n Roll Hall of Fame Induction Concert** on Sunday night will be really good this year too. This is the 25th year

for that organization, so many past inductees from all over the country will be here enjoying a fun-filled weekend.

Thank you to everyone at **Okoboji Summer Theatre** for a summer of outstanding plays and musicals. Those seven shows brought the magic of live theater to us weekly. They also did shows for kids in their Boji Bantam Theatre that were so good. What a great way to teach youngsters to grow up liking live theater!

Thanks to all those chefs at area restaurants who give us so many dining choices.

I am sure it is no secret that this rather small rural area of Iowa has everything a big city can offer, without the high crime rate. The hospitality of this area is well-known all over the country, and those of us lucky enough to live here are really blessed to reside in the Iowa Great Lakes Region.

The fun doesn't stop on Labor Day. **The Clay County Fair** begins on Saturday, Sept. 10, and runs through Sunday, Sept. 17. Fair officials have lined up some great entertainment on the free stages around the fairgrounds during the day and a good lineup of grandstand shows in the evening. I heard from fair board members that there will be 28 new food items for sale around the grounds. I guess one could spend a whole day nibbling his or her way around the entire fairgrounds.

The **South Dakota Rock and Roll Hall of Fame** will be honoring the late John Senn of Spirit Lake at its induction ceremony and concert on Sept. 24. His wife Naomi and family will be there to accept the posthumous and well-deserved award.

The Iowa Great Lakes Chamber staff is busy making final preparations for **Oktoberfest** on

Sept. 24. That is always a fun activity-filled day. The Chamber website gives full information about that day.

Artisans Roadtrip is another event everyone looks forward to each fall. The Pearson Lakes Art Center puts on this event which will take place on Oct. 1-2. Check the art center website for all the details.

There is a fair amount of live entertainment in the area during the fall and winter as well. The Roof Garden Ballroom, Captain's Getaway, The Okoboji Barn, Spirit Lake VFW and Little Swan Lake Winery usually have something happening on a regular basis. It is not dull around here in the winter!

To residents and visitors alike ... have a splendid fall, winter well and enjoy a beautiful spring. See you all again next May

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WATER LEVEL TO BE LOWERED AT VIRGIN LAKE TO HELP ELIMINATE CARP



Virgin Lake, near Ruthven in Palo Alto County, will undergo a water level management project to improve its water quality and provide quality habitat for fish and wildlife.

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources will lower the water level in the shallow, 222-acre natural lake this fall. The goal is to remove enough water from the lake in the coming months to allow managers to get rid of common carp.

Local DNR staff last managed water levels in Virgin Lake in 2011. The lake went through a full scale draw down and was allowed to refill

in 2012. Water quality, habitat conditions and recreational opportunities improved immediately. Unfortunately, record amounts of precipitation in 2018 and 2019 caused water to overtop fish barriers and allowed common carp into the lake. This high water and the reintroduction of common carp have severely degraded habitat conditions.

“We use water quality, habitat conditions and fish community composition to determine the health of a lake,” said Rob Patterson, wildlife biologist with the Iowa DNR. “After the previous draw down, we saw significant improvements in all three categories. Those

conditions persisted until common carp got back into the lake following some major rain events in 2018. Since then water quality and habitat conditions have declined.”

Officials said lowering water levels will accomplish two goals — it will allow aquatic vegetation to reestablish in the near shore areas that protect shorelines and help prevent algae blooms, improve water quality and provide fish and wildlife important habitat. After the fishery is reset, the lake will be restocked with native fish.

“These shallow lakes need to be actively managed to promote water quality and in-lake

habitat,” Patterson said. “We’ve watched conditions at Virgin Lake steadily decline over the last several years. With the drier than normal conditions, this is an excellent opportunity to manage the lake and return it to a healthy clear water state.”

Local DNR staff plan to begin removing water from Virgin Lake in late summer 2022 and plan to begin refilling the lake in late summer 2023 and refilled in 2024 unless the conditions prevent a full fishery renovation. The lake will be restocked with fish as soon as conditions allow. Stocked fish grow quickly and should reach harvest lengths in as little as two years.

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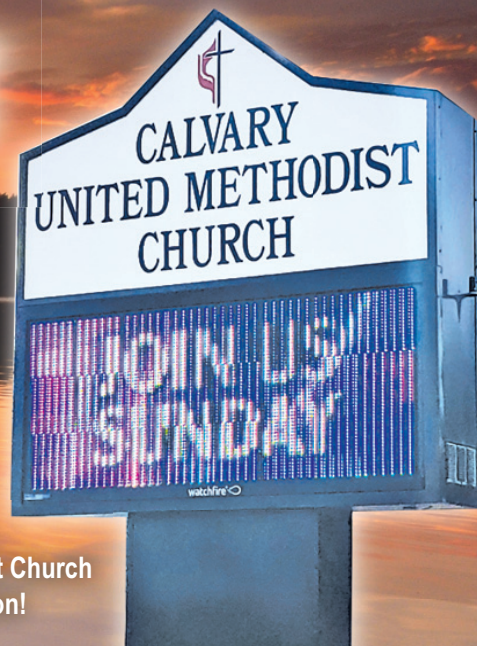
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KENUE COFFEE HOUR TO RETURN



Kenue Coffee Hour will be back again at 10:30 a.m. on Sept. 1, at the Maser Monarch Lodge near the Dickinson County Nature Center. This month's topic is Burr Oak blight. Burr Oak blight is a common term to hear bandied about these days, but some may not be sure what it is, what to look for or if it can be treated. This topic can directly affect residents in this area. Kenue Coffee Hour is a free adult program held on the first Thursday of the month. The program changes each month and typically runs for an hour. There is no need to preregister for this program. Questions can be directed to 712-336-6352 or naturecenter@dickinsoncountyiowa.com. For more information on Dickinson County Nature Center programs, visit www.dickinsoncountynaturecenter.com.



Weekly Services

Saturday Evening - 6:00 PM

Sunday Morning - 9:00 AM

Boat-In Service

Sunday Morning 7:30 AM



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NAVY COMMODORES WELCOME NEW OWNER AT STAN'S BAIT AND TACKLE



The Iowa Navy Commodores dropped a line at Stan's Bait and Tackle in Milford on Aug. 25 to recognize the business' recent change in ownership. Mason Wharton purchased the business from Dennis Harman last month. Wharton said he had been coming to the shop since about 2010 and decided to buy the business when the opportunity arose. Wharton said he enjoys getting young people interested in fishing, providing the right gear and tactics for successful catches. The new owner also said he hopes to launch an online store soon as well as begin renting an adjoined living space for anglers and hunters to potentially stay as part of package experiences through the bait shop. The rental space can sleep four to six people, Wharton said it features a full bath, kitchen and living area along with a fenced backyard for dogs. Stan's Bait and Tackle is open from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sundays. (Photo by Seth Boyes)

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Photo by Tom Gustafson



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LARGE SINGLE TOPPING PIZZA & 12 PC CRISPY RANCH CHICKEN - \$34

Some restrictions may apply. Additional \$2.00 charge for stuffed crust. Extra cheese is an additional charge. Prices subject to change without notice. Not valid with any other offer or with Gluten Free Crust. Delivery where available and charges may apply. **VALID UNTIL 8/16/22.**

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"Best Ribs Around"

To-Go Orders & Catering Available

Thursdays: Meat Raffle!
Sponsored by the Twilight Masonic Lodge
Key Chain • CA\$H Drawing

Monday - Wednesday 11 a.m. - 10 p.m.
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Arnolds Park
712-332-5152

Lunch • Dinner
Late Night Breakfast

THE COFFEE SHOP AND CAFE



Breakfast, Lunch, Gourmet Coffees and Handmade Pastries

Open Monday - Friday from 7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Saturday from 7 a.m. - ?

Look for our Daily Specials on Facebook

CATERING MENU

Taste of Italy

NEW ITALIAN CATERING MENU

Pastas, Entrées, Salads
Sides and Desserts

Advance ordering necessary
www.coffeeshopmilford.com for full menu

1001 Okoboji Avenue, Milford, Iowa
712-291-6278

CHAMBER CHECKS OUT BLUE WATER BUNGALOWS



Representatives of the Iowa Great Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce headed to Blue Water Bungalows on Aug. 25 to recognize the business as one of the chamber's premier presidential-level members. Chamber CEO Blain Andera said owners Neal and Traci McAuliffe are very active in chamber activities and have worked hard to refurbish the property near Terrace Park Beach in the city of West Okoboji. Traci McAuliffe said her grandmother had owned a cabin in the Lakes Area since 1967, and many of her family members grew up in the community. Blue Water Bungalows features six units, which can sleep a total of 37 people. Tracie McAuliffe said nearly everything in the units has been either completely renovated or newly installed. Neal McAuliffe said the business has been in operation for approximately a year at this point, and he called the upgrades to the property a labor of love. Those interested in renting with Blue Water Bungalows may do so through their website at bojibluewaterbungalows.com.

Treasure Village

50 Seasons of Family Fun!

712-337-3730

2023 IA 86, Milford

www.treasurevillage.org



Mini Golf

27 Holes

\$7.00 ages 3-12

\$8.50 ages 13+

Golf: 9 am - 8 pm SAT - MON



Flea Market: 9 am - 5 pm

SAT, SUN. MON
Sept. 3 - 5

Antiques ★ Metal Art
Clothes ★ Furniture
15+ Home Businesses
Metal Art ★ Décor
Food Trucks ★ More!

Mini Golf Closes Monday until next May! Visit website to stream our theatre shows!

SPENCER

GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB



Come enjoy a day of golf with us!

Just 20 Minutes South of the Lake Okoboji Area!

(712) 262-2028 | spencergolf.com



PEARSON

LAKES ART CENTER

lakesart.org | 712.332.7013

SUMMER HOURS:
Mon-Sat: 10 am-4 pm
Thurs: 10 am-9 pm
Sun: 12 - 3 pm

2201 Hwy 71 N PO Box
255 Okoboji, IA 51355

We will be closed on
Labor Day - 9/5

DICK BAUMAN BIG BAND

9/5 | 7-9pm | \$10 at the door
Last performance of the season!

THE HIT MEN

Classic Rock Supergroup
9/7 | 7:30PM | \$35/\$45



Relive Rock's greatest hits with The Hit Men— the real guys who performed with legendary artists including members of Foreigner, Journey, Styx, The Hooters, Steely Dan, Cheap Trick, The Rascals, Alan Parsons, 3 Dog Night, Cream, Grand Funk, and The Who.

SPEAKER SERIES

Lloyd Cunningham- Author, Underwater Diver & Photographer
9/8 | 7:00PM | Free Admission

ARTISANS Road Trip



Artisans Road Trip aims to share the creativity of Northwest Iowa and promote a venue for established artisans to demonstrate their skills, exhibit and sell their original fine art via a self-guided studio tour through scenic Northwest Iowa.

Find the artist directory, map and additional information on our facebook page @ArtisansRoadTrip.

OCTOBER 1ST & 2ND
SATURDAY 9AM-5PM | SUNDAY 12-5PM

ARTISANS
Road Trip

Grand Champion ANTIQUE SHOW & BLUE RIBBON FLEA MARKET

Sept. 3-5
Saturday & Sunday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Monday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

DICKINSON COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
NORTH OF HY-VEE IN SPIRIT LAKE

At Vick's Corner

LABOR DAY WEEKEND

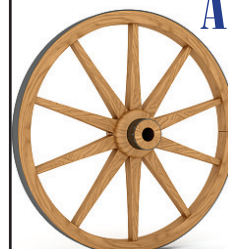
Sept. 3-5

ANTIQUÉ SHOW & FLEA MARKET

All outdoor booths, no enclosed buildings.
Please use common sense in distancing.

Jct. Hwys. 9 & 86, Spirit Lake - Our 157th Show!

L.W. VICK - VICK'S CORNER - 2048 Hwy. 9, Spirit Lake, Iowa 51360
PH: 712-336-5602 E-MAIL: vicks@vickscorner.com WEBSITE: www.vickscorner.com
DEALER INQUIRIES INVITED



■ CALVARY UNITED METHODIST

West Okoboji Road — Arnolds Park
 Pastor: Chris St. Clair
 • Saturday Worship: 6 p.m.
 • Sunday Lakeshore Worship — 7:30 a.m. at Clair Wilson Park between East and West Lake Okoboji
 • Sunday Worship — 9 a.m.
 Sunday service livestreamed through church website at www.calvarylovesall.com and on Facebook
 712-332-2447
 Accepting all with the unconditional love of God.

■ CAMP OKOBOJI — LCMS

1531 Edgewood Drive — Milford
 (Highway 86, turn at Crescent Beach sign)
 • Sunday worship — 9 a.m.
 Memorial Day through Labor Day weekends
 Omelet Brunch served first Sunday of each month starting first Sunday in June from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
 Guest pastor each week.
 712-337-3325
 Email: camp@campokoboji.org www.campokoboji.org

■ CROSSWINDS CHURCH (EFCA)

2805 Erie Ave. Spirit Lake
 (one block east of Spirit Lake Schools)
 Labor Day through Memorial Day –
 Worship: 8:15 and 10 a.m. services
 712-336-3537
 Crosswinds.tv

■ FAITH COMMUNITY CHURCH

805 Okoboji Ave., Highway 71 South — Milford
 Pastor: Jennifer Hesebeck
 WORSHIP SCHEDULE:
 Sunday Worship Celebration — 10:30 a.m. Nursery available, handicapped accessible
 712-338-4642
www.faithcommunitymilford.com Email: fcc@milfordcomm.net All are welcome!

■ FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH — WEST OKOBOJI

1525 Three Cross Road — Milford
 Senior Pastor: Perry Aalgaard
 Associate Pastor: Brian Jack
 712-338-4514
 • Saturday Indoor Worship 5:30 p.m.
 • Sunday Outdoor Worship 8:30 a.m.
 • Sunday Indoor Worship 9:30 a.m.

■ GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

801 Hill Ave. – Spirit Lake
 Pastor: Dr. Martin Lucin
 At this time services may be hear/viewed:
 4 p.m. Saturday: In-person
 10 a.m. Sunday: In-person and live on Facebook
 Messages may be heard at our website:
gracelutheranspiritlake.org
 Email: gracelc05@yahoo.com
 712-336-2446

■ GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

801 Hill Ave. – Spirit Lake
 Pastor: Dr. Martin Lucin
 At this time services may be hear/viewed:
 4 p.m. Saturday: In-person
 10 a.m. Sunday: In-person and live on Facebook
 Messages may be heard at our website:
gracelutheranspiritlake.org
 Email: gracelc05@yahoo.com
 712-336-2446

■ HARBOR OF JOY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC)
 1204 L Ave. - Milford
 Pastor: Tim Voth
 Worship: 9:30 a.m. Sunday
 Coffee and Fellowship Before and After Services
 712-338-4031
www.harborjoy.com

■ OKOBOJI LUTHERAN BIBLE CAMP

Summer Outdoor Worship
 1203 Inwan St., Milford, IA
 9:30 am Outdoor Worship
 10:30-11:45 a.m. Brunch (Brunch is a free will offering)
 Every Sunday Memorial Day-Labor Day
 712-337-3306 / www.okoboji.org

■ SPIRIT LAKE UNITED METHODIST

1812 Gary Ave. — Spirit Lake
 Pastor: Vicki Fisher
 SUNDAY WORSHIP:
 • Traditional service — 8:30 a.m.
 • Contemporary service — 10:30 a.m.
 Both services livestreamed via Facebook at www.facebook.com/SpiritLakeUnitedMethodistChurch
 Email: office@spiritlakeumc.org
 712-336-3115

■ SPIRIT LIFE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH OF THE OPEN BIBLE

2504 Enterprise Ave. - Spirit Lake
 Pastor: Eric Holderman
 SUNDAY SERVICES INCLUDE:
 Sunday school for all ages at 9 .m.
 Contemporary Worship & Word 10 a.m.
 Nursery available - Handicapped accessible
 We welcome you to join us!
 712-336-0114
www.spiritlifefellowship.org

■ ST. ALBAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

23rd and Zenith Avenue — Spirit Lake
 (one block east of Lakes Regional Healthcare)
 Pastor: Tom Early — Rector
 • Sunday in-person Worship and Holy Eucharist — 10 a.m.
 Service livestreamed on website at www.sasl.church/chapel
 712-336-1117

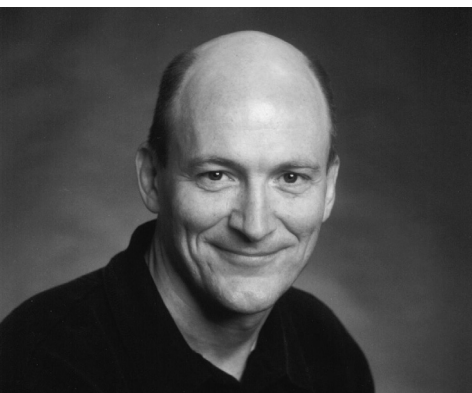
■ ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH

1305 Okoboji Ave – Milford
 Pastor: Brian Hughes
 Mass times:
 Saturday: 4 p.m.
 Sunday: 7, 9 and 11 a.m.
 712-338-2274
www.stjosephmilford.org

IOWA LAKES AVIATION EARNS TOP NATIONAL RANKINGS



Tim Busch (below), aviation and airport management program coordinator and chief flight assistant professor, was pleased to receive high ranking in *Flying Magazine*. (Photo submitted)



The aviation and airport management program at Iowa Lakes Community College earned top national rankings. *Flying Magazine* recently ranked Iowa Lakes Community College as the nation's leading community college aviation program and third among all college-based aviation programs in the United States.

The aviation and airport management program has been offered at Iowa Lakes for more than 40 years, with significant growth and expansion in recent years.

"We have spent the past three years develop-

ing the program," said Tim Busch, Iowa Lakes aviation and airport management program coordinator and chief flight instructor. "There have been many changes as we grow into a world-class aviation program. More improvements are coming, but we're on the right track. Iowa Lakes students know they are getting a great start to a great career at a great value."

The magazine ranked college aviation programs based on five categories — industry partners, value, fleet, campus life and facilities/location. Iowa Lakes scored 41 out of a total 50.

With the demand for pilots on the rise, there

is a considerable need for new pilots to enter the workforce each year. Iowa Lakes not only offers an Associate in Applied Science degree but also the Federal Aviation Administration licenses and ratings as well as the industry connections needed for career placement.

According to *Flying Magazine*, Iowa Lakes offers a solid aviation education and is perfect for students interested in a smaller school with personalized instruction.

To learn more about Iowa Lakes Community College or the aviation and airport management program, visit iowalakes.edu.

OKOBOJI WRITER'S RETREAT RETURNING FOR SECOND CHAPTER

Seth Boyes
News Editor

If the numbers are any indication, last year's Okoboji Writer's Retreat was a success.

Organizer Julie Gammack said about 120 people attended the debut retreat in September of 2021, and a good majority of them intend to return this year and further hone their skills — Gammack is already expecting about 180 participants.

"So I think we have ourselves an annual event," she said.

Prospective and professional writers will gather for this year's retreat Sept. 19-21 at Iowa Lakeside Laboratories. The inaugural retreat was held in the Dickinson County Nature Center's Maser Monarch Lodge, but this year's expected attendance would exceed the lodge's capacity. Attendees will meet together under a large outdoor tent before breaking away into smaller, more specifically focused groups. Gammack — a former Des Moines Register columnist — said she plans to keep those groups small in order to allow writer's both novice and veteran to exchange ideas during open discussions.

"Anybody who thinks they can't learn something, is probably not going to want to come,"

Gammack said. "We all have something to learn. I don't care if you've won a Pulitzer Prize."

Marjorie Nelson, an Ames resident who attended last year's retreat and plans to return this year, said being able to hear and speak with various writers in the small group settings was particularly beneficial to her.

"You're not just one of 200 listening to a speaker," Nelson said. "You're in small groups — just a group of eight or 10 or fewer — where you can ask questions and hear what other people have to say. And the variety of this year of facilitators — such a great variety of professionals."

Many of last year's attendees weren't precisely sure what they wanted to learn during the retreat, according to Gammack, and some were even intimidated at the prospect of sharing their work and perhaps their private hopes of publication. But it didn't last, she said.

"Once they got there, they felt accepted, they felt they had a right to be there just like anybody else, they felt empowered," Gammack said.

She said memoir writing remains a popular subject among participants. In fact, Nelson said she self-published her own memoir — printing enough copies for each of her children — thanks in part to the courage and confidence she gained from other writ-

ers at the retreat.

"It's not just for young people, it's for all ages," Nelson said, adding she recently turned 82. "I felt very comfortable among 40-year-olds and 30-year-olds. As far as experience or lack of experience, you don't have to have even published something in your local paper or anything. If you enjoy writing, it's a great retreat — a great motivator."

Michelle Cowan, another returning retreat participant, said she too gained some gumption after last year's retreat. She expects hardcopies of her book "Better Not Bitter: A Journey from Heartache to Healing" will be bound and ready in the coming months.

"That was just the kernel of an idea when she came," Gammack said of Cowan's book. "She didn't have the self confidence to pursue it. She didn't know what she didn't know — none of us ever do."

Cowan said her husband was killed by a drunk driver in 2009 near Omaha, Nebraska. Within weeks, her daughter chose to write a bill for a school project — specifically a bill which, if passed by Nebraska's State Legislature, would hold liquor establishments accountable if over-served patrons killed or injured innocent people.

"We worked for two years trying to get that bill passed, and we never did," Cowan said.

"The liquor industry is very, very strong in Nebraska."

The northwest Iowa nurse journaled throughout her experience — the sudden change, becoming the mother of a grieving teen, the search for help from lawmakers and even what she feels were signs from her late husband.

Cowan said she initially intended to write the story for only her own family, but the Okoboji Writer's Retreat lit a proverbial fire in her and she connected with professionals at the retreat who were able to guide her along the path to publication.

"There's just an energy there that I can't really explain," Cowan said of the retreat. "It's like magic. It was truly a magical experience of people and ideas. There's a lot of positive energy in that group."

Cowan said she'll likely be able to glean more insight from this year's retreat by applying her experiences as a writer to the presentations and group discussions. She hopes doing so will help improve her future work.

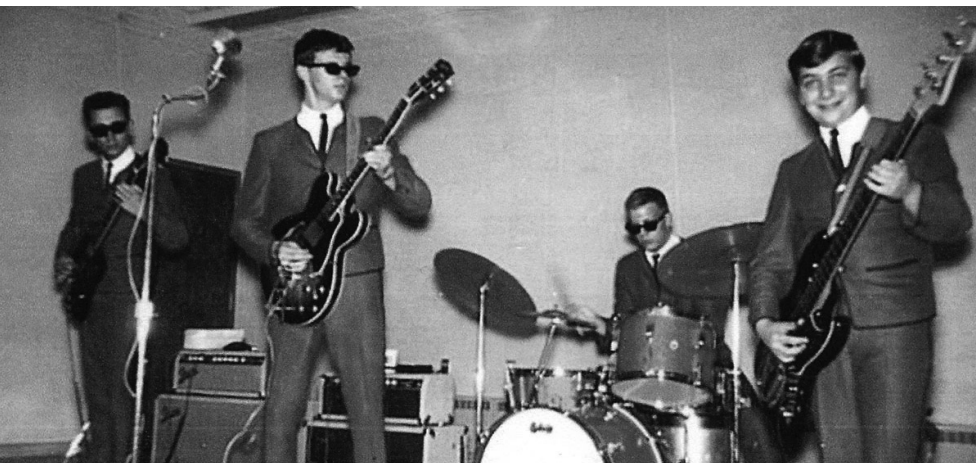
And Gammack indicated that's a key aspect of the retreat.

"I think the secret sauce for this, and the reason why it's as successful as it is, is that all of our speakers are totally committed to helping the people in front of them," Gammack said.

Julie Gammack, organizer of the Okoboji Writer's Retreat, is expecting about 180 participants during next month's event. The retreat, which will mark its second year, will be held at Iowa Lakeside Laboratories, near the shore of West Lake Okoboji. (Photo by Seth Boyes)



FOOT STOMPIN' WITH THE LEGENDARY UNDERBEATS



Tom Tourville
Okobojian Contributor

This week I'm going to go back in Minnesota music history to 1962. If you were growing up in Minnesota or Iowa during this period, you had the soundtrack of your youth with the music of the foot stompin' Underbeats. They were the most successful long-term band to call Minnesota home during the '60s. Let me explain.

Let's go back to 1962 when two north Minneapolis High School students wanted to form a band. It was a simple start for guitarist Jim Johnson and bass player Doni Larson. They were set on playing rhythm and blues music. That love of R&B music would serve them well their entire careers.

In 1963 they brought on Ray Berg as the second guitarist and Rod Eaton joined on drums. With lots of practice in Larson's basement, things really started to come together for the guys. Soon it was time to settle on a name, and the Underbeats was chosen. The band had something really special. They were all top-end singers, and Jim Johnson was maybe the best musician to come from the Minnesota music scene of the '60s. He was simply incredible!

During one of their shows, they crossed paths with record owner George Garrett. That man was behind all of the Trashmen's successful record releases. Garrett took the band into his studio and the magic and fun began to happen. Their first effort was the incredible "Foot Stompin'/Route 66" on Soma Records (No. 4004). The song was a cover of an R&B classic by the Flares. The record sold like crazy across the Midwest.

In 1965 Tom Nystrom joined the Underbeats from the Accents ("Why") and replaced Rod Eaton on drums. At the same time, Ray Berg left the band to get married and was replaced by Enrico Rosenbaum from the Escapades. Now the band had four of the best singers in Minnesota rock.

To say they were one hot act in the Midwest, would be an understatement. Just look at this list of releases: "Book Of Love/Darling Lorraine" (Soma No. 1449), "Annie Do The Dog/Sweet Words Of Love" (Bangar No. 632), "Little Romance/Broken Arrow" (Bangar No. 657), "Jo-Jo Gune/Our Love" (Twin Town No. 706), "Shake It For Me/I Can't Stand It" (Soma No. 1458). All of these releases and record labels were George Garrett's. There was not a hotter band on the Midwest music scene than the Underbeats.

In 1966 the band got blindsided when Jim



Johnson, the heart and soul of the band, was drafted into the Army. Before he left for the military, Jim recruited Jim Walsh from the Hot Half Dozen on keyboards and Loren "Wally" Walstead from the Convoys on guitar. The Underbeats never missed a beat with Johnson's departure. This new version of the band stayed in place until Johnson returned from the service and rejoined the band, and Walstead rejoined the Convoys.

Johnson thought it would be a good idea for the band to record again but use a different name. This time it was to be as Calvin James and the Haymarket Riot. Under this name, they released one incredible record in the form of "Footsteps/Find This Woman" (Stature Records No. 1104). Johnson also recorded a solo effort for Stature Records (No. 1103) under the name Jojo Smith with "Find This Woman/Make Mine Coffee."

In 1967 they would record again with a release that really showed off their four-part harmonies with "It's Gonna Rain Today/Sweetest Girl In The World" for Metrobeat Records (No. 4449). The vocal work on this record was a preview of what was to come for the Underbeats.

Soon the band would make a big decision and relocate from Minnesota to Los Angeles, California. The plan was to leave Minne-

sota behind and create a new image, maybe even a new name and get a national recording deal. You know what, they checked off all three boxes.

Because of their crazy talent, they got a job quickly at one of the hottest clubs in Los Angeles — Gezzarris on the famed Sunset Strip. Another name change was in order as they rebranded the band as simply Gypsy. As for a record deal, they were signed to a two LP deal with Metromedia Records and later another two LP deal with RCA Records.

They went on to significant fame. During this early '70s period, I was fortunate to have booked the band a number of times.

It must have been amazing when the Underbeats, early in their careers, took the stage at our Roof Garden Ballroom in May of 1963 and hit the first note. I bet you could have heard the 'foot stompin' all the way to Spencer.

Today, Berg, Larson and Eaton are all retired and not active in music. Walsh is semi-retired and still plays with Gypsy and the Del Counts. Sadly Johnson, Nystrom and Rosenbaum have all passed away.

I hope you have enjoyed this look back at one of the truly great names in the history of Midwest rock and roll, the Underbeats.

BUTCHER SHOPS

R. Aubrey La Foy
Okobojian Contributor

My father, my grandfather and two of my uncles were in the meat-cutting business. They were butchers and over the years had several shops or worked for other owners. Many of my very first recollections were associated with seeing them carrying, sawing or cutting meat on a big wood table.

The sights and sounds of the butcher shop my father worked in are still very vivid memories. Many times I recall watching my father carry a quarter of beef or hog from the cooler and slapping it on a big butcher block table. He would then take out the meat saw and knives and cut slabs into roast, steaks or whatever.

That cutting and sawing of meat wasn't always safe, and my father more than once nicked his fingers or hand with knives. The saw blades lasted a long time before needing sharpening, but the knives had to be constantly sharpened. It was fascinating watching the butchers constantly sharpen their knives. They would run the knives up and down on steel.

After the cut was selected, it was placed on some butcher paper, weighed and priced. The butcher paper came in huge rolls, which were placed on a frame that allowed one to pull out the paper and tear it off to the desired length. Then the meat was packaged, weighed and tied with string. The string came in a spiral cone, which was hung above the meat counter. Sometimes, kidding, a customer would say, "Please don't weigh your thumb as well as the meat on the scales." To avoid that problem my relatives always pulled their hands away from the scales and showed their palms while the scale settled.

Some of the prices from the 1933 newspapers listed hamburger — 2 pounds for 19 cents; prime steak — 1 pound 20 cents; pork chops — 1 pound for 12 cents and sausage — 3 pounds for 25 cents. Baloney was 10 cents a ring, and it was made right there in the butcher shop. For many years it was a Saturday ritual to go down to the butcher shop, buy a hot ring of bologna and get a handful of soda crackers from a barrel — all for 10 cents. Sausage,

ham and bacon were all smoked and cured at the butcher shop.

Out in the back of the butcher shop was a smokehouse where the bacon, ham and sausage were smoked. The meat was hung on racks and a slow-burning fire was placed on the floor to smother and create smoke. Hickory wood was the desired wood, but oak wood was also used. Wet cardboard was also used at times, which did a pretty good job of giving meat a hickory-smoked taste.

It was fun to watch the making of sausage or bologna, as there was a machine that ground the meat and forced it through a long tube into the cleaned intestines or gut. The sausage was twisted for the desired lengths, and the baloney was tied with a string at both ends to obtain the desired length. Baloney was tied in a ring. It took some skill to get the right amount of meat into the gut, but the end results were delicious. One item that always seemed to sell was hamburger, and butchers spent a great deal of time trimming meat and running it through the grinder.

The butcher shop I remember had a walk-in freezer or cooler that had been installed by my grandfather in 1916. The system also kept the meat display counter cool. The freezer was to the back of the meat tables, and there were some small doors that could be opened which held such items as lard and butter. The large halves and quarters of beef and pork were stored on racks and hooks in the cooler.

A large motor that had a long leather belt attached operated the cooling system. The motor belt was probably 15 or 20 feet long and 5 or 6 inches wide. The belt was not covered, and I recall being warned not to get too close. When the motor and the belt were in operation, they made a melodious slapping sound and, although I can't accurately describe the sound, it was a very distinct noise and sounded like the beat to a song. It kept very good time and was probably the first awareness that I had of music and rhythm. Even to this day I can still remember that beat and sound.

The back room of the butcher shop was equipped with tables, chicken coops, boiler and a storage area. The front of the shop had shelves that held groceries such as breakfast foods,



spices, flour, salt, soaps, etc. The basement was used for storage as well as for grocery stock.

There was some slaughtering of livestock done at the butcher shop, but most of this operation was accomplished at a slaughterhouse. This building was located a mile west of town on a farm owned by my grandfather. With an eye to the future, my grandfather piped city water a half-mile though a field to the building. The water allowed the slaughterhouse to be very modern with running water to wash out the area, water the livestock and clean the floors and walls. That running water was probably the first "rural" water system in the county.

My grandfather raised hogs and cattle for use in the butcher shop. The whole farm was a great place to play with the barn, corn crib and silo. The silo still stands, and each time I see it I recall climbing to the top and viewing my hometown from another vantage point.

The old butcher shops were very service-oriented, and my relatives took pains to be of great service to their customers. Orders were taken over the telephone and then delivered. The meat was cut to specification; the groceries were taken from the shelves and sacked or boxed for the customers. Personal service was the order of the day and smiles went along.

Some stores have that quality today, and it is always appreciated to be recognized and smiled at while being waited upon.

I recall one story my father told me of an old fellow who came into the butcher shop one day and demanded ten cents worth of T-bone steak. Dad said he thought that was odd as the man had a large family at home. He asked the fellow, "What are you going to do with that little piece of steak that you will get for 10 cents?" "Well," said the fellow. "It's not for eating. I just want to fry it and have the smell in the house just in case we have company."

Today when we oldsters are talking about those Depression years, the topic usually gets around to the menu people had in those days. Many tell of meager meals or lots of potatoes and eggs. I'd let the conversation go for some time then tell them that at our home we had sirloin and T-bone steaks. The others look at me and say, "Boy your family sure must have been rich!"

"No," I told them. "My father was a butcher, and those cuts of meat didn't sell, so he brought them home after they had turned dark."

That of course is when the meat is the best to be cooked, and it is the most tender. We pay big money today for "aged" beef cuts at the restaurants.



2022 INDUCTION WEEKEND SPECTACULAR

FRIDAY, SEPT. 2

5:30PM MEMBERS MEETING & PARTY

IOWA ROCK 'N ROLL MUSIC MUSEUM & HALL OF FAME

7:30PM THE FABULOUS FLIPPERS

WITH THE 7 SONS OPENING

ROOF GARDEN BALLROOM

TICKETS PURCHASED AT ARNOLDSPARK.COM

SATURDAY, SEPT. 3

10AM IOWA ROCK 'N ROLL PARADE

BEDELL STATE PIER, ARNOLDS PARK

11AM WEEKEND OPENING CEREMONY

IOWA ROCK 'N ROLL MUSEUM PATIO

12PM CLASS OF 2022 OPENING EXHIBIT

IOWA ROCK 'N ROLL MUSIC MUSEUM & HALL OF FAME

1PM IOWA ROCKS TALENT FINALS

ROOF GARDEN BALLROOM

5PM INDUCTEE OPEN HOUSE

IOWA ROCK 'N ROLL MUSIC MUSEUM & HALL OF FAME

7PM 25TH ANNIVERSARY INDUCTEE CELEBRATION

ROOF GARDEN BALLROOM

SUNDAY, SEPT. 4

1:30PM INDUCTION CEREMONY

SAMI CENTER, SPIRIT LAKE

TICKETS AT IOWAROCKNROLL.COM/EVENTS

3:30PM AUTOGRAPH SESSION

SAMI CENTER, SPIRIT LAKE

6:30PM INDUCTION CONCERT

ROOF GARDEN BALLROOM

TICKETS AT IOWAROCKNROLL.COM/EVENTS

PERFORMANCES BY

THE BLUE STRINGS / GRAY JAMES

UNIDYNES / ALLSTAR BAND / ZINI

THE PENDLETONS / ALLSTAR BAND

THE LIBRARY

ALLSTAR BAND MEMBERS

GLENN HENRIKSEN / BARRY CLARK / KELLI JAMES

PAUL MILLER / HEATH ALAN PATTSCHULL

TOM NELSON / DAN BERN / ROBBY VEE / JEN BRUCHER

LAURIE HAAG / JIM POFFENBERGER

VANCE JORGENSEN / TROY JOHNSON / JOHNNIE BOLIN

KRIS KARR / JEREMY OBER / RALPH KLUSEMAN

CLASS OF 2022

DJS RON SORENSON / BRUCE WASENIUS

INVENTOR MARK SAMPSON

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT JC WILSON
TOM PICK

JOHN SENN AWARD NAOMI SENN

VENUE CAPITOL THEATER

RADIO STATION WLS

WOMEN WHO ROCK JEN BRUCHER / KELLI JAMES

SUPPORT PERSON
BILL MONROE

SPIRIT AWARD
JEREMY OBER
MADDIE POPPE
AMEDEO ROSSI

INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS

BARRY CLARK / DAN BERN / JOHNNIE BOLIN

TOMMY BOLIN / GLENN HENRIKSEN / LAURIE HAAG

JIM POFFENBERGER / HEATH ALAN PATTSCHULL

KRIS KARR / PAUL MILLER / RALPH KLUSEMAN

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