



120 YEARS, 4 GENERATIONS, 1 BUSINESS



Local operation continues to 'Shine'

RANDY M. CAUTHRON
 Managing Editor
 rcauthron@spencerdailyreporter.com

For more than a century, Shine Bros. Corp. has served Spencer and the surrounding region under four generations of leadership from the namesake family. As 2022 closes, the business family celebrates 120 years of operation. Current owner and president Toby Shine, and his daughters, Keven Shine and Eva Shine, are now part of the Shine Bros. Corp. management team, making them the fourth generation to join the family business.

SHINES, Page 7A



(Top) Four generations of Shines have been a part of the Shine Bros. Corp. team, including — Keven, Toby and Eva — the current operation unit. (Above) Shine Bros. Corp. founders Sam and Harry Shine, and second generation operator Ben — Sam's son. (Photos submitted)



Office operations spanning 120 years.



Sentencing doesn't end heartache

Grandparents share pain, loss, concerns following sentencing

RANDY M. CAUTHRON
 Managing Editor
 rcauthron@spencerdailyreporter.com

"I've lost grandparents, parents, a husband and brother," said Spencer resident and realtor, Barb Workman-Schneider, "nothing prepared me for this." Last Wednesday, a Judge Scott Rosenberg sentenced 51-year-old, former unlicensed Johnston day care operator, Trina Mazza, 51, to serve up to 10 years in prison after pleading guilty to a reduced charge of neglect of a dependent person. The charge and sentence stemmed from the Feb. 19, 2019, death of Tucker Schneider, a 17-month-old under in her care. Workman-Schneider, a local realtor, and her husband, Dennis Schneider, are grandparents to Tucker. The resulting sentence far from addresses Workman-Schneider's concerns about a statewide lack of oversight.

TUCKER, Page 5A

Council OKs contract for new east side sewer project

CELIA BROCKER
 Staff Writer
 cbrocker@spencerdailyreporter.com

The Spencer City Council gave its approval to move ahead with the contract for a reconstruction and sewer separation project on the east side of the city. The project will consist of storm sewer separation, replacing sanitary sewer and pavement replacement in the vicinity of East Fourth Street and East Fifth Street from Sixth Avenue East to 10th Avenue East.

COUNCIL, Page 7A

NO.4 FEATURE

'Dreaming big, living bigger'

RANDY M. CAUTHRON
 Managing Editor
 rcauthron@spencerdailyreporter.com

"Prepare for the worst, and pray for the best." Spencer native and country music singer Casey Muessigmann considers those words from his grandmother Vickie Schwarting, the best advice he's ever received. This year, his prayers have been answered. He added, "She's said it over the years, but it really started ringing true during my time in California. Similar to what my high school wrestling coach Dave Schaefer used to say, 'Worry about the things that you can control,' it holds merit in every facet of my life."

FEATURE, Page 6A



At No. 4 in our 2022 countdown centers around SHS alum Casey Muessigmann and the two major Iowa music industry awards he was recognized with this year, as well as his ongoing journey in music. The story was originally printed in the Nov. 15 Spencer Reporter.

NO.4 NEWS

Spencer deems trailer park uninhabitable



The ongoing saga — which remains unresolved — of the trailer court on the corner of West 18th Street and Fourth Avenue West is the Spencer's No. 4 news story. Residents in a trailer park with reported electrical, plumbing and safety issues find themselves searching for new homes as the city opts to turn off power until the park can meet safety standards. The response from local service agencies and Clay County Emergency Management assisted displaced renters who wished for their assistance. A legal dispute emerged as the city and landowner looked for some common ground. Some trailers within the park have since been reopened while others continue to need improvements.

CELIA BROCKER
 Staff Writer
 cbrocker@spencerdailyreporter.com

Residents of a trailer park at 317 W. 18th St. were told they need to vacate the property, having received a letter stating Spencer's Planning Department has deemed the area uninhabitable. Margaret George, one of the park's residents, attended July 5's Spencer City Council meeting to say she and many of the park's other inhabitants can't find affordable housing anywhere else in the time frame provided. "We do not have enough time to move out, we would like to stay where we are now because we can't afford anything else," George said.

NEWS, Page 5A



AROUND THE AREA

Clay County Tourism receives \$10,000 grant



RANDY M. CAUTHRON
Managing Editor
rcauthron@spencerdailyreporter.com

DES MOINES — Clay County Tourism recently received a \$10,000 grant to fund a new initiative, "Destination Clay."

Destination Clay is a media project with the intent to create interest in Clay County as well as display Clay County's best assets. The project will include professionally sourced videos and photography highlighting Spencer and the natural aspects of Clay County.

"I submitted this grant within three weeks of starting my position here at the chamber," Clay County Tourism Coordinator Olivia Baxter said.

Calling her first grant effort in the role a big one, she continued, "The grant applications were due at the end of September, and we just got the notification at the end of November that we had received the funds. Following the anticipation and nerves from it being one of my first projects, I was very excited to get the notification."

The Iowa Tourism Office announced nearly \$300,000 in Iowa Tourism Grants to 33 organizations around the state. The program funds tourism-related marketing initiatives, meetings and events that benefit both local economies and the state's economy with awards ranging from \$2,500 to \$10,000 with a 25% cash match.

"With these funds, we will be able to start our first big project with Clay County Tourism, which the staff and I have all been looking forward to," Baxter said. "We will be working with F8 Creative to create a couple promotional videos of the area. With their help, we will produce a one- to two-minute video featuring Spencer — as the county seat — and a two- to three-minute video focusing on the natural aspects of Clay County."

She continued, "Our hope is to showcase assets that many might not asso-

ciate with our area: numerous trails and parks, hunting and fishing grounds, scenic views and quaint towns."

"We're pleased to invest in campaigns that work to change the perception of tourism in Iowa and encourage more people to visit our state," said Amy Zeigler, manager of the Iowa Tourism Office. "These projects will help us continue the momentum and growth of our industry."

"I'll also add that a main focus of the grant requirements was that this project needed to be something that could draw visitors from outside of Iowa and should be a new initiative for our community," Baxter said. "As far as I'm aware, we have not had a project like this before regarding Clay County, so I thought this would be a great candidate for the funds. The grant required a 25% match, so the chamber will also be putting \$2,500 into this project as well. Per the guidelines of the grant, our project must be completed by December of 2023, so we will be working over the course of the next year to capture content around Clay County from each season."

Visitors spent more than \$6.1 billion across Iowa's economy in 2021, an expansion of 35% over 2020

spending and within 5% of a full recovery to pre-pandemic levels. This direct visitor spending impact generated a total economic impact of \$9.4 billion in Iowa, sustained nearly 65,000 jobs and generated \$1 billion in state and local tax revenues in 2021.

"Tourism is a vital component to Iowa's economy," Zeigler said. "The \$6.1 billion in visitor spending means nearly \$16.7 million was spent daily by our visitors."

The Iowa Tourism Office, part of the Iowa Economic Development Authority, works closely with community partners, attractions and events, to promote the state's beautifully vast scenery and unique history. Tourism in Iowa generated \$1.8 billion in tax revenues in 2021, with more than \$1 billion supporting state and local governments, while employing a total of 65,000 people statewide.

Another part of the Destination Clay project is to create and distribute a visitors guide for Clay County the tourism coordinator said.

"We are working with the Spencer Reporter for this, so the Iowa Tourism Grant will not be funding this part of the project. However, I thought I'd mention it as it's another important aspect of our first big tourism initiative."

LOCAL DANCERS PART OF LAKES 'NUTCRACKER' PRODUCTION



Spencer Family YMCA Studio Y had the opportunity to dance in the Iowa Great Lakes "Nutcracker." (Above) Studio Y members participating include (front row) Zoey Konrad, Kathryn Manwarren, (back row) Zarah Zahrt, Faith Klatt and Cherrylenne Hibbing. The collaboration involved local dancers and a professional dance company. American Midwest Ballet hosted auditions for selected parts for local dancers in October. The dancers chosen were from eight different area dance studios from northwest Iowa and southwest Minnesota. They held two performances took place at the Sami Bedell Center in Spirit Lake, Dec. 9-10. (Photo submitted)

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RECORDS

WEATHER FORECAST

TODAY — Widespread blowing snow, mainly before 4 p.m. Mostly sunny and cold, with a high near minus 5. Wind chill values as low as minus 41. Windy, with a northwest wind 25 to 30 mph, with gusts of 45 mph. **TONIGHT** — Areas of blowing snow, with a low around minus 12.

CHRISTMAS EVE

1
-15

CHRISTMAS DAY

10
-4

MONDAY

13
-1

TUESDAY

27
14

WEDNESDAY

36
30

OBITUARIES



Roger Faulkender

Roger Dean Faulkender, the son of Merle and Frances Faulkender, was born April 19, 1953, in Spencer. His childhood was spent in Fostoria and later graduated from Milford High School.

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Roger on Friday, Dec. 16, 2022, at the age of 69.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his sisters: Delores (Ellenwood) Sebastian and Ruth Ann (Faulkender) King; his brother, Marvin Faulkender; and other family members and special friends.

He is survived by one daughter and one son: Jennifer (Faulkender) Rasmussen of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and Jeffrey (Melanie) Faulkender of Colorado Springs, Colorado; eight grandchildren; three great-children; his brother, Robert (Sharon) Faulkender of Spencer; sister-in-law, Ardelle Faulkender, of Spencer; former wife and mother of his children Joann (Faulkender) Shaw; and many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, friends and former co-workers.

Roger had a passion for taking care of others as a health care provider and spent over 30 years working at the University of Iowa Hospital, Sanford Medical Center, and Avera Hospital. He enjoyed spending time with his children and grandchildren. He always welcomed a good cup of coffee and conversation. He often loved to discuss history, Iowa Hawkeye sports, The Minnesota Vikings and the Winged Outlaws race cars. He spent some of his free time reading scripture and watching Westerns. Roger was a very spiritual man and avid collector of various religious artifacts and Eagles, as they signified Gods love. Roger had a kind and giving soul, a genuine smile and was always willing to help others in need. He gave the best hugs by those who knew him best.

A graveside service by David Ellenwood (nephew) will be held in the spring in Langdon.



Gary Zinn

Gary D. Zinn, 79, of Milford, passed away on Thursday, Dec. 15, 2022, at Lakes Regional Healthcare in Spirit Lake. A funeral service will be held at 2 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 20, 2022, at the Robinson Funeral Home in Spirit Lake. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service on Tuesday at the funeral home. Burial will take place in the Pleasant View Cemetery in Hartley.

Gary was born on Oct. 6, 1943, in Spencer, to Eddie and Joyce (Vogt) Zinn. He graduated from Everly High School in 1961, and attended Stewart School of Cosmetology in Sioux City. He owned and operated Mr. Zinn's Hair Studio along with salons in Jefferson, Grand Junction, Spencer and Colorado Springs, Colorado. One of his greatest joys was being a father to his son Damon. Gary was united in marriage to Mora Powell on Sept. 15, 1991, at Gull Point State Park on West Okoboji Lake.

In his free time, he enjoyed golfing, watching college sports and was a diehard Nebraska Cornhusker fan.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his brother, Jerry Zinn.

He is survived by his wife, Mora Zinn, of Milford; son, Damon Zinn, of Colorado Springs, Colorado; a brother, Larry Zinn, of Texas; and several cousins.

Online condolences may be left at www.spiritlakefuneralhome.com. Arrangements are under the direction of the Robinson Funeral Home, formerly the Schuchert-Lentz Funeral Home in Spirit Lake.

TODAY IN HISTORY

• In 1783, George Washington resigned as commander in chief of the Continental Army and retired to his home at Mount Vernon, Virginia.

• In 1788, Maryland passed an act to cede an area "not exceeding 10 miles square" for the seat of the national government; about two-thirds of the area became the District of Columbia.

• In 1941, during World War II, American forces on Wake Island surrendered to the Japanese.

Show Times Valid Friday-Thursday, December 23 - 29

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ENDS TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20
STRANGE WORLD [PG] 1:40, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00
ENDS THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22
BLACK PANTHER: WAKANDA FOREVER [PG-13] 12:40, 4:40, 8:30

ALL MATINEE TIMES
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NOW SHOWING THRU DEC 29
AVATAR: THE WAY OF WATER [PG-13]
Sam Worthington Zoe Saldana
3D Times...
FRI: 1:00, 3:00, 7:00, 8:00
SAT: 11:00 am, 12:00
SUN: 3:30, 7:30, 8:00
MON-THURS: 1:00, 3:00, 7:00, 8:00

STARTS THURSDAY, DEC 22
WHITNEY HOUSTON: I WANNA DANCE WITH SOMEBODY [PG-13]
Naomi Ackie Stanley Tucci
At 4:00 & 7:15 pm Thursday, December 22
Then beginning Friday...
FRI: 1:00, 4:00, 7:15
SAT: 11:20 am, 2:20
SUN: 4:00, 7:15
MON-THURS: 1:00, 4:00, 7:15

2D Times...
FRI: 4:00
SAT: 1:20
SUN-THURS: 4:00

STARTS THURSDAY, DEC 22
BABYLON [R]
Brad Pitt Margot Robbie
At 4:40 & 8:20 pm Thursday, December 22
Then beginning Friday...
FRI: 12:50, 4:40, 8:20
SAT: 12:00 pm
SUN: 4:40, 8:20
MON-THURS: 12:50, 4:40, 8:20

NOW SHOWING THRU DEC 29
SPIRITED [PG-13]
Ryan Reynolds Will Ferrell
FRI: 1:10, 3:50, 6:40, 9:20
SAT: 11:10 am, 2:10
SUN: 3:50, 6:40, 9:20
MON-THURS: 1:10, 3:50, 6:40, 9:20

NOW SHOWING THRU DEC 29
PUSS IN BOOTS: THE LAST WISH [PG]
Voices of: Antonio Banderas Salma Hayek
FRI: 1:20, 3:50, 6:20, 8:50
SAT: 11:00 am, 2:50
SUN: 3:50, 6:20, 8:50
MON-THURS: 1:20, 3:50, 6:20, 8:50

HELD OVER THRU DEC 29
VIOLENT NIGHT [R]
David Harbour Beverly D'Angelo
FRI: 1:20, 4:50, 8:10
SAT: 11:30 am, 2:10
SUN: 4:30, 8:10
MON-THURS: 1:20, 4:50, 8:10

give the gift of entertainment with a Fridley Theatre gift card!

SIRENS



Chase Douglas Peterson, 29, of Spencer, was charged with driving under suspension, possession of a controlled substance — first, second, third — and operate vehicles without owners consent at 9:09 p.m., Dec. 12.



Lily Margaret Mueller, 19, of Ruthven, was charged with public intoxication at 10:58 p.m., Dec. 12.



Arana Eswin Florian, 45, of Grand Island, Nebraska, was held on a judgment entry at 12:26 a.m., Dec. 13.



Timothy Michael Warden, 41, of Peterson, was charged with failure to appear — awaiting sentencing at 4:43 p.m., Dec. 13.



Joy Marie Walker, 22, of Spencer, was charged with driving while barred at 9:04 p.m., Dec. 13.



James Steven Kolbeck, 60, of Fort Morgan, Colorado, was charged with failure to appear at 10:23 a.m., Dec. 14.



Deyontai Lashon Owens, 31, of Spencer, was charged with domestic assault — impede air/blood flow, two counts of child endangerment and domestic assault choking — bodily injury at 1:13 p.m., Dec. 14.



Hayden Axel Theesfeld, 31, of Spencer, was charged with possession of a controlled substance — first, second, third — and possession of a controlled substance at 4:16 p.m., Dec. 15.



Andrew Jon Hoogeterp, 32, of Spencer, was held on a judgment entry at 11:56 p.m., Dec. 15.



Jason Dean Schomkaer, 47, of Spencer, was charged with domestic abuse assault — first offense at 7:29 a.m., Dec. 17.



Travis Lee Crawmer, 40, of Spencer, was charged with simple assault at 2:33 p.m., Dec. 18.



Albernard Bob Clinton Jr., 29, of Storm Lake, was charged with mittimus at 4:14 p.m., Dec. 18.



Kyla Julianne Heath, 28, of Spencer, was charged with assault law officer/others — no injuries at 4:46 a.m., Dec. 19.



Jacob Lee Jepson, 39, of Storm Lake, was charged with violation of probations at 12:50 p.m., Dec. 19.

FUNERAL NOTICES

RYAN LONG

Funeral services for Ryan Long, 40, of Spencer, will be conducted from 11 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 28, 2022, at the Grace United Methodist Church in Spencer. Rev. Beth Odor will officiate the service. Visitation will be conducted at 3 p.m. Tuesday with family present from 5-7 p.m., at Warner Funeral Home in Spencer. Burial will be at a later date. Long passed away Tuesday, Dec. 20, 2022, at Spencer Hospital. Warner Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

MARCIA PETERS

Funeral services for Marcia Peters, 88, of Robins, formerly of Harris and Spencer, will be conducted from 11 a.m. Monday, Dec. 19, 2022, at the First English Lutheran Church in Spencer. Rev. Paul Kaldahl will officiate the service. Visitation will be conducted one hour prior to the service at the church. Burial will be conducted at 2 p.m., Monday, at the Ocheyedan Township Cemetery. Peters passed away Thursday, Dec. 15, 2022, at Emery Place in Robins. Warner Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

FRIDAY, DEC. 23

Geri-Fit: Senior Chair Fitness — 1 p.m. Spencer Public Library

THURSDAY, DEC. 29

Bingo — 1 p.m. Occasions

SATURDAY, DEC. 24

Christmas Eve

Grand Avenue Community Kitchen Meal — 5-6:30 p.m. Grand Avenue Community Outreach, Spencer

SUNDAY, DEC. 25

Christmas Day

Spencer Table Tennis Club — 6:15-8:15 p.m. Spencer Seventh-day Adventist Church

MONDAY, DEC. 26

Bingo — 1 p.m. Occasions

Geri-Fit: Senior Chair Fitness — 1 p.m. Spencer Public Library

FRIDAY, DEC. 30
Geri-Fit: Senior Chair Fitness — 1 p.m. Spencer Public Library

Grand Avenue Community Kitchen Meal — 5-6:30 p.m. Grand Avenue Community Outreach, Spencer

SATURDAY, DEC. 31
New Year's Eve

TUESDAY, DEC. 27

Bingo — 1 p.m. Occasions

SUNDAY, JAN. 1
New Year's Day

TOPS — 1:30 p.m. Masonic Lodge, Spencer

MONDAY, JAN. 2
Bingo — 1 p.m. Occasions

Geri-Fit: Senior Chair Fitness — 1 p.m. Spencer Public Library

IN THE NEWS

FUTURE SUBSCRIBERS

Archie Alan was born to Chris and Elice, of Spencer, was born to Dec. 19, 2022, at Spencer Hospital. The baby boy weighed 8 pounds, 4 ounces at birth. Grandparents are: Jeff and Sherry, of Fostoria; and Fred and Barb, of Jackson, Minnesota. Archie is welcomed home by big brothers: Kasch and Kamdyn.

MEETING WATCH

SPENCER AREA ACTION CLUB

Wednesday, Dec. 28 — 9 a.m. Occasions
Agenda: Members and Guests Welcome

SPENCER BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Tuesday, Jan. 3 — 8:15 a.m. Council Chambers, City Hall
Agenda: Tiger Pride Lawn Care Construction Variance

SPENCER HY-NOON KIWANIS MEETING

Monday, Jan. 9 — Noon. Clay County Regional Events Center
Agenda: Members and Guests Welcome; Lunch Served



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OPINION

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE'

I had the opportunity to attend a performance of "It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play" at Arts on Grand, which was presented by students from Nebraska Wesleyan University, including locals Natalie Kroll and Kyle Goeken. The show was just amazing and the performances were awesome. It was so heart-warming to see young people who have such talent and passion for doing something positive for the community during their time off from school. Many thanks to the Spencer Arts Alliance for sponsoring this event.

— STEVE DEUTSCH, SPENCER

GIFTED AND GULLIBLE, THE GIFT OF HUMOR

I suspect this memoir is not a letter to editor; however, it may be timely with the recent blizzard.

François Gagné, (now retired) Canadian professor connected to the University of Quebec at Montreal authored close to 90 academic articles and a book based upon his 35 years of research and theory differentiating Giftedness from Talent. He is often cited in academic journals and books on the subject. So, he is an expert and an appropriate keynote speaker for an Iowa Talented and Gifted conference geared for teachers of talented/gifted students.

After a stellar, well-presented and interesting keynote, I correctly assume Dr. Gagne's breakout sessions will fill. Strangely, however, the conference organizers placed his next session in a room some distance away that, although a large room, was not close to the ballroom where he had just spoken, and not as easy to find as other rooms. So, after his keynote, I skip the "break" and snack-beverage table and hoof it to find the next room where he will present.

As it turns out, I am early to his next session and so is he. So, I take a front row seat. I watch as he opens his briefcase and carefully arranges his lecture papers on the podium. Here I am with an expert in the field. He initiates friendly small talk — the usual such as "where are you from in Iowa?" He wonders if a certain TV show airs in the U.S. — a Canadian TV show where American college students are stopped when walking on their campus to answer questions in front of a TV camera. It became a comedy show as often the answers are so off-base that it is embarrassing (if one is an American), or humorous (if one is Canadian.) One question, for example, was how much does the earth weigh? A college student on an American Ivy League campus said "80 tons," a bit off from the correct answer of nearly 6 trillion tons. We giggle at some of the examples of questions and 'way off' answers from these college students. I quip, "They must have been freshmen." He smiles. It is nice he has a good sense of humor.

Soon, another teacher — a lady dressed professionally in navy blazer and skirt, low stacked heels — comes and sits in front on the other side of the aisle. She precisely places her coffee on the chair next to her, takes out her notepad, retrieves a pen from her purse, carefully positions her purse under her chair and readies to take notes. He and I wrap up our light conversation on how smart people may have pockets of ignorance or knowledge gaps.

Then, almost at once, the room fills with a mass of teachers who evidently have figured out the conference floor map. So, Professor Gagne approaches the podium to begin his lecture. Just as he utters his first word, the air conditioning unit engages and the ceiling vents located above the podium kicks out a massive burst of cold air. His lecture papers lift, separate, swoop high into the air, swirl in various directions, and then each page gracefully sways back and forth on air currents until landing on the carpet. Had it been in slow motion, it would have been a sight of beauty. I joke, "The Alberta Clipper just came through." Those of us in Iowa, especially northwest Iowa, know that Alberta Clippers are associated with strong winds originating in Canada that produce rapid below zero temperatures and blizzard conditions lasting sometimes several days. The professor knows what I am talking about and he grins at the comparison.

As Dr. Gagné gathers his papers, the lady across the aisle from me asks him with the most serious, innocent, and sincere look, "Is that what just happened? Was it the Alberta Clipper that caused that?" He looks at her and smiles. He tries to respond, but when he looks at her wide-eyed, sincere, serious, and inquisitive facial expression he starts laughing. Maybe it wouldn't have been so funny had we not just been talking about people with sometimes humorous gaps in their understanding. Her inquiry lingers in her frontal lobe, so she repeats her question with that same look on her face and a bit more intensity. He giggles harder until he takes off his glasses to wipe his eyes. He can't look at her without continuing to snicker. So, he ends up not responding to her question.

Finally, with the room now cool and his ability to selectively avoid eye contact honed, the professor repositions his lecture notes, regains his composure, and the breakout lecture on giftedness begins.

— JAN MYERS, SPENCER

OPINION NOTICE — The opinions expressed in columns, guest editorials and letters to the editor are not necessarily shared by the Spencer Reporter staff. The opinion page is an open forum for ideas.

ONE MAN'S PERSPECTIVE

Christmas can be tough for many



RANDY M. CAUTHRON

DAILY REPORTER
MANAGING EDITOR

While we need to be of a celebratory spirit during the Christmas season — it is about the savior of mankind after all, despite mass marketing to the contrary — it is also important to remember those around who struggle during the holiday season as it brings cause to reflect on loss.

I'm sad to say that this week I lost a media colleague and friend in KICD radio personality Ryan Long. Long's

voice offered daily news and info updates throughout the week locally. He blended news with his humor on the air and enjoyed a good conversation off the air, particularly about sports. For many years we shared space at meeting coverage when he was the news director and would often bump into each other near the meat counter at the local grocery store. While Ryan was trying to eat healthier, he definitely wasn't a vegan and I regularly found him perusing lean meat options.

Then Kelsie Baccam came into his life. A fellow Hy-Noon Kiwanian, active with three children of her own and serving the youth of this community, the two made time to grow together and her children became his. Then engaged couple made a happy family and often shared the active lives via Facebook.

Then as life sometimes does, an unexpected tragedy left everyone asking why as a young spirit was taken far too early from us, leaving us asking the eternally unanswered "why?"

Why him? Why now? Why just before this most celebrated time with friends and family?

My heart is broken for Kelsie, the children she shared with him, along with their extended family and friends; as well as all those who came to know him on radio and in public. He had many who got to "know" him without actually knowing him. Consider yourselves fortunate.

Last year, my wife lost her mother right before Christmas following a long battle with COVID. I know what holidays were like for Leah and our family this year without her, especially Easter and Thanksgiving. I'm sure Christmas, especially being so close to the anniversary of her passing being so close. That is what Kelsie and her lovely crew — who like their mother share a heart for service — will endure going forward.

Moving forward they will need the support of

READY SETH GO

Snow in the road is a no go



SETH BOYES

DICKINSON
COUNTY NEWS

I'm pretty Iowan. I hardly think of dressings that aren't ranch.

I've avoided hitting a deer with my car only to have the deer turn around and run headlong into my drivers side door.

And I enjoy a good snow until I'm the one that has to shovel it off my driveway.

It's that last one that's on most people's minds these days, of course.

Now, you may have recently seen a reminder from the Dickinson County Emergency Management Office, telling everyone not to push snow into the road. A couple of employees with the county roads department actually brought the topic up at this week's county supervisors meeting, and they said this is the worst the issue has been in quite a few years — not just in rural portions of the county or in particular areas but across the entirety of Dickinson County.

But what stunned me the most during the conversation was that they said they've been met with rude resistance — the single-finger variety in some cases, they said — when they've informed people they can't clear their driveway by pushing the snow onto a public road.

Folks, I get it. It doesn't seem to be a big deal on the surface, but it's hard for me to even describe the irony here.

We all want clear roads, but apparently some of us are getting irate when we're told it's illegal to put our own snow back on them.

And illegal is the word. Not inconvenient or inconsiderate. Illegal — at both the county and state level.

As they discussed Tuesday morning, piling snow in the roadway is considered an obstruction under Iowa law, much like a fallen tree or a trailer that wasn't hitched quite right. You can't just leave that stuff out there

ARGUS ON CURRENT EVENTS



ARGUS HAMILTON

The Weather Channel reported a winter storm crossed the nation as blizzards buried the Midwest and hailstorms pounded the South. I was raised in Oklahoma and I know for a fact that golf ball size hail wouldn't be nearly as destructive if we just made golf balls smaller.

The Farm Bureau reported that farmers are enjoying record high prices for crops this year, making it expensive to maintain a healthy diet through vegetables, nuts, whole wheat bread and fruits. With all the potato chip flavors

friends, family and strangers as they mourn. My heart was filled with Christmas joy at the outpouring of love, prayers and support I've read about and witnessed firsthand for the family.

The need for a caring hug and shoulder to cry on will not dissipate as the clock chimes midnight on Dec. 31 and the calendar transitions to 2023. This pain may fade with time but will never go away so remember them in your prayers this holiday season. If you have some time or some Christmas cash left over, take a meal by and help out as the Baccams learn to deal with the new normal. Christmas and the coming days may be a bit harder this year.

As for myself, I will consider myself blessed to have enjoyed the days and conversations I had with Ryan both professionally and personally. I have rarely encountered someone with the size of a polar bear, the heart of a winner, a dry wit which could always bring a smile, and a remarkable love for those he called family. Oh yeah, and a ridiculous passion for fantasy sports. That's how I'll always remember the morning voice of KICD, Kelsie's main squeeze and my friend.

As I began this column, I noted that Christmas can be a tough time as we celebrate the birth of our Christ. It can be lonely for those without family or emotional for those who have experienced a loss. Use this time to make a friend. Go out of your way to do something nice for somebody else. Pay something forward. All things which would honor Jesus.

If your not a regular church goer, perhaps this is the time to make a return — everyone will glad to see and celebrate with you. And perhaps, if you're a regular attendee, step out of your comfort zone and ask a friend or stranger currently distanced from Christ or His worship to join you for a holiday service. Being around fellow worshippers can be a transformative experience and lives can be touched.

Christmas is a time for loving, living, giving and forgiving in the spirit of the day for which the day is named and celebrated. Share it. The return can't be measured on this earth.

Kids, stay good. You've still got two days, there's time to mess up those Santa gifts if you let things get sideways.

As always, be well. Stay healthy. God bless.

Merry Christmas to all my readers and friends — met and un-met.

Ho, Ho, Ho! What say you ... I want to know?

and expect someone else to deal with it for you. And it's no different when it comes to the fluffy white stuff.

Trouble is, it's not always so fluffy.

The road department guys pointed out how easily those piles can turn to hard ice. They said sometimes people wait and push snow out onto an otherwise cleared road, but no one's getting back in a plow to drive a second route and clean up any illegal driveway dregs we might have decided are someone else's problem. The thing is, ultimately it's our problem one way or another.

See, depending on what equipment is out clearing a given road, a formerly-fluffy mound of ice can cause some damage — "tear off a wing" was the phrase I believe. And, if that means a second driver has to head out and pick up where the first left off, that's an added cost too. And both costs eventually come back to the public, all of us, whether we're putting snow in the road or not. Worse yet, the two drivers at this week's board meeting said in one case some time ago a car rolled after hitting a pile someone had pushed into the road after the plow had done its work.

So we ought to realize the consequences aren't just monetary — people within our own community can get hurt all because of what may seem like a small matter.

And I suppose that's why doing such a thing is illegal under state law.

So, just a word of caution since we're surely going to get some more snow this season. The county will try to get the word out, and they may even send folks some warnings the first couple times, but they can take legal action if necessary — they can assess a person for removing obstructive snow, under the law. And they don't have to get an affirmative vote from the board of supervisors to go that route either, so I suggest we all do it right the first time rather than put others in harm's way.

available, I see no point in buying any other food.

The Beverly Hills City Council put the city's Nativity scene on display on the front lawn of the city courthouse this past week. Tourists are surprised to see the figures of three personal injury lawyers standing around a car accident. Our Salvation Army Band is the only one with a string section.

The New York Post reported on the stampede of New Yorkers moving to Florida for the sunshine and economic freedom where they will find life nothing if not dramatic. They're doing a remake of the 1950s classic film "12 Angry Men," but it's set in Palm Beach. It's called The Condo Board.



ISSN 0746-0872

310 East Milwaukee, Box 197
Spencer, IA 51301

An Enterprise Media Publication

CALL: 262-6610 or 1-800-383-0964
FAX: 712-262-3044

Periodical postage is paid at
Spencer, IA 51301

POSTMASTER
Send address changes to:

The Spencer Daily Reporter,
Box 197, Spencer, IA 51301

PUBLISHED TUESDAY
AND FRIDAY EXCEPT FOR:

New Year's Day, Memorial Day,
Independence Day, Labor Day,
Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.

STAFF

Brad Hicks..... Publisher
Randy M. Cauthron..... Managing Editor
Skylar Sebby..... Design Editor
Celia Brocker..... Staff Writer
Dakota Locker..... Sports Editor
Kathy Wolthuizen..... Accounting

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ANNIVERSARIES — Forms must be received

no earlier than 30 days prior to or no later than 30 days after the event.

BIRTHS — Forms must be submitted within 30 days of the baby's birth and must contain the signature of both parents.

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WEDDINGS — Forms must be received no later than six months following the wedding. All announcements should be printed or typed. They must be signed and contain the name and phone number of a contact person. No announcements will be accepted via phone.

AREA & STATE

NEWS

From Page 1A

"A lot of people there live on a fixed income, paycheck to paycheck, and we cannot afford another house."

After being notified on June 21, the original deadline to vacate the park was July 5, with the Planning Department issuing a one-week extension. George asked city officials for more time, since after searching the market the lowest rent she found was \$750, which is out of budget for her and most of the families living in the trailer park, many of whom are elderly and have health issues.

Planning Director Alek Schulz reported the trouble began when a main electrical line was noticed just off the ground. When it was inspected, the cord itself was deemed insufficient for the load it was carrying, and ultimately led to a ground out at a transformer.

"Luckily it ground out at the transformer and not backfit to those meters," Schulz said. "In the event it would have gone to those meters, we would have seen catastrophic failure on the electrical system."

Two piles of sewage were also found in the trailer park, and Schulz said the sewer will require inspection to understand what has been broken. Other problems include dilapidated buildings, and doors and windows meant for emergency exits that have been boarded shut.

Mayor Steve Bomgaars said the city is doing all it can to promote the safety and health of residents while considering some individuals' financial constraints. He revealed the city had a meeting that afternoon with agencies which could potentially find those individuals alternate housing until the safety violations are corrected.

"Certainly, the city understands the financial predicament folks are in," Bomgaars said. "But we also understand there were safe-

ty violations that were described by city staff, we also understand that. Our first concern as the city of Spencer is the safety of our citizens, and we do not want to put any of our citizens in a dangerous situation."

CITY SHUTS DOWN WEST 18TH TRAILER PARK

Upon confirming dangerous conditions continue to exist in the trailer park at West 18th Street and Fourth Avenue West, the city of Spencer followed through on its plans to shut off the park's power. The city officials had granted a week extension from the previously announced July 5 to allow residents more time to vacate and find other housing.

Inspectors met with the landowner's electrician to verify what had been requested at Friday's meeting was accomplished.

"We wanted to know what the size of supply lines were, that the pole and meter were properly grounded and that the trailer was properly grounded and bonded," Schulz said. "As we started to go through the park, too many of these questions were left unanswered and the answers we were able to verify were unsafe."

"When the inspectors went out, the work that was done did not meet the code with regard to the health and safety of the residents," Bomgaars said. "That's primarily what we have in mind, first and foremost, is the health and safety of the residents of the trailer park. They were not in a safe environment with the electrical still not meeting inspection."

The city took immediate steps to get housing assistance individuals involved so residents could pursue other housing options. Local resource agencies made their services available to residents of the trailer park last week by parking emergency trailers across from the trailer park to talk to residents about finding affordable, alternate housing.

ed. While out of the room, Tucker had apparently attempted to exit the confinement and wound up upside down between two cribs. When Mazza returned to the room where Tucker had been left, he was no longer breathing.

After being transported to Blank Children's Hospital in Des Moines and placed on life support, he was removed from the artificial assistance two days later after the medical team determined Tucker's brain died from lack of oxygen.

Mazza was initially charged with child endangerment resulting in death and operating a child care center without a license.

Workman-Schneider shared a victim witness statement which she and Dennis provided the judge and those in the courtroom ahead of sentencing last week.

"Speaking as Tucker's grandparents today, I want most to say to you, Trina, you stole a promise from us," it began.

Mazza in 2011 and again in 2017 that she was overcapacity in her unregulated home day care.

The story reported Tucker Schneider was one of at least five Iowa infants to die in a 2018 and 2019 while under the care of overcapacity day care providers who'd received similar past warnings.

Following the judge's maximum sentencing Wednesday, Mazza returned home a short time later as she posted a \$10,000 bond and her attorney appealed the 10-year sentence.

The current status of the sentencing and Marra returning home "does not share how horrified I am that this woman has not done one day in jail," Workman-Schneider said.

Mazza was reportedly caring for six children on Feb. 15, 2019, exceeding the five child under Iowa law and left Tucker in a playpen while preparing a meal in another area of her home the court record suggest-



As of Wednesday, at least 14 of the 26 occupied trailers have found housing and 11 of the other residents of the occupied trailers have been offered services. Most of the 11 have filled out paperwork and are in the stages of contemplating whether they want to access alternate housing. Bomgaars reported the city is still working with staff and agencies to help the residents who remain at the trailer park.

"I want to compliment the city staff for doing their due diligence," Bomgaars said. "I would also like to compliment the agencies that have worked extremely hard in developing relationships with the residents and trying to find them safe, healthy affordable housing."

REQUEST TO RESTORE POWER AT TRAILER PARK DENIED

A decision was reached in the court hearing to restore power at the trailer park at 317 W. 18th St., with Judge Shayne Mayer, of the Clay County District Court, denied the relief requested by the trailer park petitioners and ruling in favor of the city of Spencer.

The case was filed by park owner Bill Caskey and park resident Margaret George after the trailer park's power was cut on July 14. Caskey and the park's residents received notification on June

21 the park's electrical system was deemed unsafe by the city and power would be turned off on July 5. An extension was given until July 12, when the power was cut after the park failed to meet city inspection.

In her ruling, Mayer wrote the court had been placed in an impossible decision, since the action to which the petitioners resisted had already occurred and action was not filed until after the power had been disconnected.

"It is unclear what other legal remedy the petitioners have, with regards to the disconnection of power, other than to cooperate with the city and SMU," Mayer wrote. "It is also unclear, prior to disconnection of service, what legal remedies the petitioners should have taken, but certainly there was an appeal available at the administrative level with the city. The action of the city and SMU appear to be quasi-judicial in nature. The court finds the petitioners had an adequate remedy at law prior to disconnection."

Mayer added the petitioners failed to show substantial injury or damages will result without the restoration of power, given residents continue to remain at the park and it was confirmed by Caskey people continue to move into the park despite its current condition. Additionally, the

court did not find the city and SMU cut power as a punishment for nuisance violations unrelated to the electrical grid, though the petitioners implied it was the case.

Going forward, City Attorney Don Hemphill said the city of Spencer will continue to work with the occupants and owner of the trailer park to attempt to resolve the issues. Attempts to reach plaintiff's attorney Justin Vondrak late in the day were unsuccessful.

POWER RESTORED TO SOME MOBILE HOMES IN TRAILER PARK

Progress has been made to some parts of the trailer park located on West 18th Street, resulting in power restoration in several mobile homes. Planning Director Adam Severson reported the city of Spencer is working with the property owner to restore power on a trailer-by-trailer basis.

"The city of Spencer Planning Department is continuing electrical service inspections as requested, and are working with the property owner and residents to ensure safety and code compliance," Severson said. "To date, seven units have had power restored on the property."

A motion was filed in the Clay County District Court by the property owner to have power restored, which was denied on Aug. 7.

For power to be restored to a mobile home in the trailer park, the unit must pass an electrical inspection from the planning department.

"Overhead wiring from the electrical transformer to the meter base gets reviewed with the electrician prior to a trailer's service being reestablished and any modifications to the overhead service will be subject to ongoing conversations and review between the master electrician and electrical inspector in the planning department," Severson said. "Individual trailers then have their meter base at the service pole outside the trailer inspected, as well as their service panel inside the trailer unit inspected."

If those components pass inspection, Severson said the planning department will submit an inspection report to the utility company to request the meter be installed. Besides electric, mobile homes in the trailer park must also pass a substandard housing, nuisance and fire inspection.

"I think the communication between the city and property owner is moving in the right direction," Bomgaars said. "To me, what's important is the lines of communication have remained open, and we're working together to provide health and safety to residents of the trailer park."

TUCKER

From Page 1A

"It does not share my frustrations after this happened talking to our state legislators trying to get them to take action to enforce rules in place for unlicensed day care," she said. "They were more interested in making sure parents had cheap day care than putting teeth into laws in place to protect the children."

"Trina had been sited three times by DHS with no action taken against her," Workman-Schneider said, noting several babies die each year in Iowa day cares. "Also, I believe parents who have children in day care homes should be notified of DHS complaints. Tucker's parents were never notified of DHS complaints."

According to a Des Moines Register story by court reporter William Morris regarding the sentencing, the Iowa Department of Human Services had warned

ed. While out of the room, Tucker had apparently attempted to exit the confinement and wound up upside down between two cribs. When Mazza returned to the room where Tucker had been left, he was no longer breathing.

After being transported to Blank Children's Hospital in Des Moines and placed on life support, he was removed from the artificial assistance two days later after the medical team determined Tucker's brain died from lack of oxygen.

Mazza was initially charged with child endangerment resulting in death and operating a child care center without a license.

Workman-Schneider shared a victim witness statement which she and Dennis provided the judge and those in the courtroom ahead of sentencing last week.

"Speaking as Tucker's grandparents today, I want most to say to you, Trina, you stole a promise from us," it began.

"We thought we would watch Tucker reach his promise. When we looked into those bright blue eyes, we saw the promise of who he would become. We saw his determination — he wanted his way. We are confident he would have grown to be a leader. But you stole that promise from us with your careless neglect and lack of empathy. A crying child in distress because of the situation you put him in meant nothing to you.

Addressing, Mazza directly, the Schneiders stated, "You stole our promise of watching him grow up. We will never know his favorite color, his favorite subject in school, which sport he would have chosen to play, who his first best friend would be. Never see his prom, graduation or wedding. This family feels the loss of Tucker as each year passes and we miss all of his benchmarks. Our family will never be the same. It is as though you have sucked

the joy from our lives. It continued, "Trina, you gave us many things too. You gave us tears, heartache, the loss of Tucker's famous hugs and kisses. You gave us a gravesite to visit. Instead of listening to his squeals of laughter, we can listen to his heartbeat they recorded for us before his parents had to make the decision to turn off the machines that were keeping him alive. ... Tucker died in your home, where his parents thought he was safe. Tucker died solely because of the choices you made that day nearly four years ago. His family will forever miss the bright light that you snuffed out. Today we pray for a decision that will bring you to justice for your horrible actions."

Tucker Schneider's parents, Doug and Michelle, also addressed the court about the impact the loss had on them with regard to trust moving forward when it comes to leaving their remaining children in the

care of others, even family.

Mazza's attorney sought a deferred judgment based on her lack of a criminal history and support from church and volunteer organizations.

Prosecutors requested the maximum sentence, citing how the unlicensed provider had ignored warnings regarding her numbers as well as the playpen instructions where Tucker had been placed.

The couple were in the process of being released by Mazza following an unrelated incident a separate incident in previous days. The parents have also filed a wrongful death suit against Mazza and her husband, which has been on hold pending the outcome of the criminal case.

In the courtroom, Rosenberg said noted after Mazza found the Schneider's child unresponsive, she phoned her husband rather than 911, waiting for him to arrive home. He reportedly contacted the responders.

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AREA & STATE

FEATURE

From Page 1A

“The Voice” alum has had an amazing 2022 and the year still has two months to go. Earlier this summer, the country music singer who now resides closer to the state capital was named Des Moines Metro’s Best 2022 Live Music Group/Artist and more recently he earned the distinction of being recognized as Iowa Music Award’s Country Artist of the Year for 2022.

“Honestly, I’m still surprised any time my name is brought up for an award,” he said, “so to even be nominated is cool, but I think it’s just validation for myself and my team because we’ve put in so much work over time, and it feels like we’re really gaining traction. It honestly just gets me hyped to push harder and get back to work.”

Muessigmann was among the contestants in the early days of “The Voice,” making the final cut on season three where he was picked by country superstar Blake Shelton. He didn’t waste any time taking advantage of his “Voice” appearance 10 years ago.

“It gave me a platform to start climbing from, and we haven’t looked back,” he said. “My time on ‘The Voice’ gave people a reason to listen to me, and an opportunity to catch their attention. Blake was a solid mentor, and while we haven’t kept in touch, we’ve played with him at a couple festivals over the years, and I still look up to him as an artist.

“We hit the ground running,” he continued, suggesting it fueled his desire to perform, “playing around 80 shows a year, and haven’t slowed the pace. We’ve kept plenty busy between playing live shows, and traveling back and forth to Nashville, Tennessee, to work on new music. I’ve been trying to hone my skills as a songwriter to find my own voice, and I love every minute of it. We’ve made a lot of memories.”

Muessigmann brings an upbeat Midwest attitude to every show. A high-energy performer with a knack for having a good time, Muessigmann’s songs reflect upon all the little things in life. He started singing in church choirs at a young age, and still carries that passion and faith with him to each performance. The artist said he continues to receive inspiration from his years as a youth, teen and young adult in Spencer — the town where his parents still live.

“You never forget the town you grew up in,” he said. “I still have countless friends, family members and supporters in Spencer that I can’t thank enough for believing in me. When I think of Spencer, my fondest memories are in the high school wrestling room, on Dale Norton Field and on the Clay County Fair stage.”

Muessigmann acknowledged he hasn’t journeyed the road alone. His current band consists of drummer Patrick Morris, from Johnson’s Creek, Wisconsin; bassist Jewel Williams and guitarist Landon Wolfe — both from Sioux City. His father Jon serves as his sound tech/manager/book-ing manager.

“... And every once in a while when there’s no business to attend to, he’s also the best damn father I could ask for,” the performer said.

His mother, Gina, handles all his merchandise as well.

“I consider myself very lucky to get to spend all this time on the road with my family,” Muessigmann said.

Muessigmann has played a wide variety of venues and festivals over the years



Spencer native and country music singer Casey Muessigmann was named Des Moines Metro’s Best 2022 Live Music Group/ Artist and more recently earned the distinction of being recognized as Iowa Music Award’s Country Artist of the Year for 2022. (File photos)

since his Voice appearance, including stops in front of large audiences at Mississippi Valley Fairgrounds in Davenport with Dustin Lynch, before a crowd of 22,000. A seasoned stage veteran at the young age of 27, he has shared the stage with the likes of Shelton, Granger Smith, Joe Diffie, Merle Haggard, Scotty McCreery, Craig Campbell, Randy Houser, Eli Young Band, Thomas Rhett, Lee Brice, Jake Owen, Canaan Smith, Chris Cagle and Florida Georgia Line.

“For me personally, the emotional connection is what makes a show ‘big,’” he said. “Playing the Clay County Fair in my hometown of Spencer, will always be at the top of the list, getting to share the stage with Craig Campbell, Scotty McCreery and RaeLynn.

Muessigmann continued, “Also, every year we get to perform at Guthrie’s River Ruckus in Guthrie Center, and at festivals like Country Thunder, Country Fest, WE Fest. I consider it an honor.”

Looking at his growing music catalog, the former Spencer High School state wrestler and stage performer said he only counts the albums and tracks he’s had a hand in writing and co-producing, so he said he’s officially released one album, “Between the Rows,” and seven singles. The artist add he has 14 more on the back-burner to be released over the next year and a half.

“I have another full-length album that we’re working on now, and I’ve never been this excited about a project,” Muessigmann said, citing his personal favorite song he’s written,



“This Truck’s Seen It All.”

“... It’s about my dad’s old truck that I inherited before I moved down to Nashville,” he said, “but my newer songs that have more of an edge and a rock influence hit me really hard. The only one of that style I’ve released so far is ‘Quicksand,’ which focuses on the struggles of life on the road, and addresses substance abuse and the importance of my faith.”

He’s also released three music videos with more planned for the coming year, working primarily with Rick Burger and Stang Films out of the Des Moines Metro area.

“He does fantastic work, and makes the process super easy,” Muessigmann said. “We show up with a

working theme, plan the shots, and have filming done within a few hours. He handles the rest of the editing process, and always knocks it out of the park.”

The former heavyweight wrestler who lives by the fitting motto on his tour bus, “Dream Big, Live Big,” is focused on moving forward, releasing new music, and setting up another sol-

id year of tour dates in the Midwest and beyond.

“I have a very supportive girlfriend who somehow finds time to come along when she can, on top of still working her tail off and managing her own busy schedule,” he said. “We’re looking to keep things relatively light until spring, and then bust out and kick ass on the road. The focus for

this next year is to put more of an emphasis on my original music, and truly try to make the transition from musician to ‘artist,’ and it’s a challenge I’m definitely looking forward to. I know we’ll be at several county fairs across Iowa, Nebraska, Wisconsin and Missouri, and at some festivals, town celebrations and street dances across the Midwest.”

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AREA & STATE

Attorneys tussle over land survey provisions for pipelines

JARED STRONG
Iowa Capital Dispatch

A company that wants to build a sprawling carbon dioxide pipeline in northwest Iowa should have obtained a court order before attempting to survey private land from which it had been previously barred, a Dickinson County prosecutor argued Thursday.

At issue is a trespassing charge against Stephen James Larsen, 28, of Arlington, South Dakota, who was part of a land survey crew from Summit Carbon Solutions that attempted to evaluate farmland east of Spirit Lake in August.

Summit intends to build about 680 miles of pipe in the northwestern half of the state to transport carbon dioxide from ethanol plants to North Dakota for underground sequestration. The company is surveying land to help determine the pipeline's path and depth.

State law allows pipeline companies to gain access to private land after they have held informational meetings in affected counties and have given landowners and tenants 10 days' notice through certified mail.

"The entry for land surveys ... shall not be deemed a trespass and may be aided by (court) injunction," the law says.

Alan Ostergren, a Des

Moines attorney who is defending Larsen, said it's unnecessary to get a court order to be protected against a criminal trespassing charge by the survey law.

"If you think of this as a sword and a shield in the same sentence, the shield is: The entry is not deemed a trespass," Ostergren said Thursday during a district court hearing, according to a recording of the hearing provided by the Dickinson County News. "The sword is: The pipeline company gets the ability to go to court and get legal process to aid its entry."

Ostergren is asking a judge to dismiss the trespassing charge against Larsen outright. The case had been set for trial, but the trial was delayed and has not been rescheduled.

Assistant County Attorney Steven Goodlow, who is prosecuting the case, argued Thursday against dismissal because the landowners and tenant refused to accept certified letters that were meant to give notice of the land survey.

Court records show Summit sent five letters in March and July. The company attempted to survey the land in April and August. In April, tenant Jeff Jones told a survey crew to leave the property and never return.

Goodlow argued the warning — in combination with the refusal to accept sur-



District Associate Judge Shawna Ditsworth is considering a request to dismiss a trespassing charge against a pipeline surveyor. (Photo by Seth Boyes)

vey notices — meant Summit needed to get a court injunction to survey the land without risking a trespassing charge.

"My concern for property owners — landowners — is, do they have to repeatedly, basically stand guard at the gate to continue to turn away the survey crews when they told them not to come back?" Goodlow said Thursday in court.

He continued later: "What prevents them from coming back over and over and over again, and without any recourse? They're trying to protect the property."

District Associate Judge Shawna Ditsworth did not decide Thursday whether to dismiss the charge. She gave a deadline of next week for the defense to submit additional information and the prosecution a deadline

of Jan. 12. It's unclear when Ditsworth might rule on the dismissal request.

Larsen was cited Aug. 24 for trespassing when he and four others in his crew went to Jones' farmland and were first approached by Jones' father. The other surveyors left and were not charged with a crime. Jones said Larsen declined to provide their identities.

Summit sued three sets

of landowners in September to get injunctions to perform the land surveys. Those cases are pending.

Landowners sued by Summit and by another pipeline company, Navigaor CO2 Ventures, argue that the forced surveys are unconstitutional infringements of their property rights. The first trial to test that argument is currently set for February.

COUNCIL

From Page 1A

"(The project) basically serves two main purposes," said Brian Schmidt, engineer from Kruse, Cate & Nelson. "One is to reconstruct East Fourth Street from Fifth Avenue East to 10th Avenue East, and then to separate the storm water runoff from the existing combined sewer within the project area."

Schmidt reported the project will separate 39 acres of existing combined sewer.

er. As identified in a 2009 sanitary sewer evaluation study, the project is part of the city's long-term goal of separating all combined sewers.

The project will start at Sixth Avenue East with the extension of the storm sewer between East Third Street and East Fourth Street. Schmidt reported the street pavement on Sixth Avenue East will be widened to 31 feet and East Fourth Street will be widened to 35 feet. Additionally, the existing sanitary sewer and water main on both streets will be replaced.

"We will also be replacing the lead water services and replacing the sanitary sewer services behind the curb for those property owners, just so we don't have to tear up that street in the near future, that's the goal," Schmidt said. "Black Hill energy is also replacing some gas main in those five blocks in preparation for that project."

The construction estimate for the project is \$2.4 million. After receiving a Community Block Grant, funding from the Department of Transportation and

a contribution from Spencer Municipal Utilities, the city will be left with approximately \$1 million in construction cost.

After approving the proposed contract for the project, the council approved a bid letting date through the DOT on Jan. 18. The contract is scheduled to be completed in the 2023 construction season. Schmidt reported the project has a late start date of May 15. Though the contractor doesn't necessarily have to begin work on that day, it will begin the countdown

of the project's allotted 125 working days.

"We wanted to keep an open construction period as possible, but we also don't want to run into weather issues late in the fall," Schmidt said.

There will be a designated detour route while East Fourth Street is closed for construction. Schmidt said traffic will either go up Fourth Avenue or 10th Avenue, and then may cut across on Milwaukee Street. With a limit of 75 working days for that portion of the project, Schmidt estimat-

ed East Fourth Street could be closed for approximately four months depending on weather.

"We also sent out letters to property owners in the beginning of November to everybody within the project area so they would know what's going on and what to expect," Schmidt said. "Hopefully, we'll get a lot of interest in the project, and once a preconstruction meeting has been held, we'll probably update the property owners on what the anticipated schedule will be."

SHINES

From Page 1A

"We started on Grand Avenue — between Second and Third Streets on the west side — as a small peddler of furs, wool and scrap metal," Eva said. "We have grown through the years. We moved to Park Street in the 1948, and in 2006, we moved our office to the 10th Avenue SE location to move traffic off East Park Street and because we needed more office space. We have grown by investing in processing equipment, but feel that our employees are our greatest asset."

Eva serve as the Shine Bros. business manager,

while Keven handles payroll and human resources.

The business operation has contributed greatly to the Clay County capital community where it resides.

"We have provided numerous jobs through the years and have grown our workforce and contributed to the local economy," Eva said. "Shine Bros. and our family has supported numerous community organizations and projects through the years. Ben Shine served years on the hospital board and City Council. Toby served on City Council and Airport Board and has been involved with many other community projects. We support all kinds of com-

munity activities like fireworks, the dog park, Spencer Community Theatre, the hospital, Upper Des Moines just to name a few."

The global business emerged from very humble beginnings. A pair of Russian immigrants, Sam and Harry Shine, initially started a new life in Chicago, Illinois, but moved to Iowa after being told the Hawkeye state held great opportunities. In 1902, taking a train as far as their money allowed, the two men settled in Spencer, opening a shop on Grand Avenue.

Calling farmhouse-to-farmhouse in a horse drawn wagon, the two brothers peddled and traded anything of value including pots

and pans, feathers, hides, furs, wool and scrap metal.

Sam's son, Ben, was born in 1908, and after serving in the military, returned to Spencer and purchased the family business from Sam and Harry. He relocated the operation from Grand Avenue to its current location at East Park Street and 10th Avenue East, where he developed the business further.

Toby joined Shine Bros. full-time in 1960. In approximately 1965, the company stopped handling hides and by the end of the 1970s

phased out its large wool business. His brothers, Bruce and Bernie, worked at the company for brief period of time. He and his wife, Sylvia, continued to grow the scrap metal side of Shine Bros. and in the mid-1980s, the couple decided in order to stay competitive, the company would focus on wire chopping; before later installing an automobile shredder.

Through four generations, the operation has grown from a trader of furs, metals, pots and pans, to

a large international company processing and shipping tons of scrap metal on a daily basis.

"We are proud that our family business has weathered good and bad years," Eva said. "We feel blessed to have grown through the years and have been fortunate to provide jobs for many folks in the community."

Looking forward, in an evolving world economy Eva suggested Shine Bros. will focus on the philosophy of "opportunity, opportunity, opportunity."

The family of Leroy and Elaine Spears Sr. would like to invite you to help celebrate their **70th Wedding Anniversary** December 27th with a **cardshower**

Please write a short note or a fond memory to share with Leroy & Elaine and mail to: 509 E 5th St., Spencer, IA 51301

THEY'RE BEGGING FOR FASTER INTERNET THIS CHRISTMAS

GET YOUR PAWS ON A HIGHER SPEED NOW

It can be doggone frustrating to deal with the hassles of too-slow internet, like videos that buffer and Zoom calls that freeze up—especially during the busy Christmas season. So we have a suggestion. Switch to one of our internet plans with much higher speeds, and everyone in your household (two-legged or four-legged) will be much happier. Choose from speeds up to 1 Gig!

DON'T FUR-GET TO CALL 712.580.5800 AND GET FREE INSTALLATION*

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Spencer Municipal Utilities
520 2nd Avenue East, Suite 1
Spencer, IA 51301
p: 712.580.5800
www.smunet.net

*Some restrictions apply. This free offer is good through December 23, 2022. Service availability and internet speed will depend on location. Contact us for details.



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Here's the Fine Print:

- Gifts must be a new subscription. A new subscription is one to a person and/or address that has not subscribed since June 30, 2022.
- Purchase must be made by 5 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 29, 2022.
- Yes – if you do not currently subscribe, you can give yourself the paper at the special gift rate.

EDUCATION

Iowa Lakes students selected for Iowa All-Star Honor Concert Band



Three Iowa Lakes Community College students selected to participate in 2022 Iowa Collegiate All-Star Honor Concert Band. (Left to right) Carol Ayres, director; Haily Green, trumpet; Annika Poepe, flute; and Shelby Hoff, tenor sax. (Photo submitted)

ESTHERVILLE — Three musicians attending Iowa Lakes Community College were selected for the Collegiate All-Star Honor Concert Band as part of the 76th Annual Iowa All-State Music Festival from Nov. 17-19. Annika Poepe, flute; Shelby Hoff, tenor sax; and Haily Green, trumpet, were nominated by their college instructors, and then selected by a committee who chose the top musicians

for each instrument. The musicians will audition for chair placement during the group rehearsal before the concert. “All three of these students are very deserving of selection to the All-Star Band,” said Carol Ayres, instrumental music instructor at Iowa Lakes. “They are great students who contribute a lot to the music department at Iowa Lakes.” After practicing for two

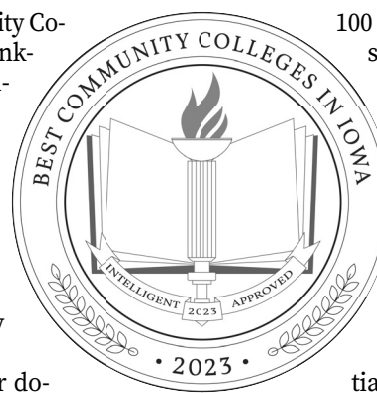
days, the All-State Collegiate Honor Concert Band, an 80-person band filled with musicians from 18 Iowa colleges, including community colleges, private colleges, and universities. They performed in the Josephine Tope Community Performing Arts Center in Nevada, on Nov. 19. Iowa Lakes offers many opportunities to hone musical skills, both instrumental and vocal.

ILCC earns top scholarship ranking

Iowa Lakes Community College has earned top rankings for 2023 from Intelligent.com, which recently ranked Iowa Lakes Community College as the top community college in Iowa for best scholarship options and the sixth-best community college overall.

“This is all about our donors,” said Dr. Daniel Lutat, executive director of foundation and government affairs at ILCC. “Our communities, business partners, faculty, staff and alumni display a great sense of pride and ownership in our mission to support student success.”

Intelligent.com, a trusted resource for program rankings and higher education planning, uses research to identify top schools in the state and then implements a unique methodology that ranks each institution on a scale from 0 to



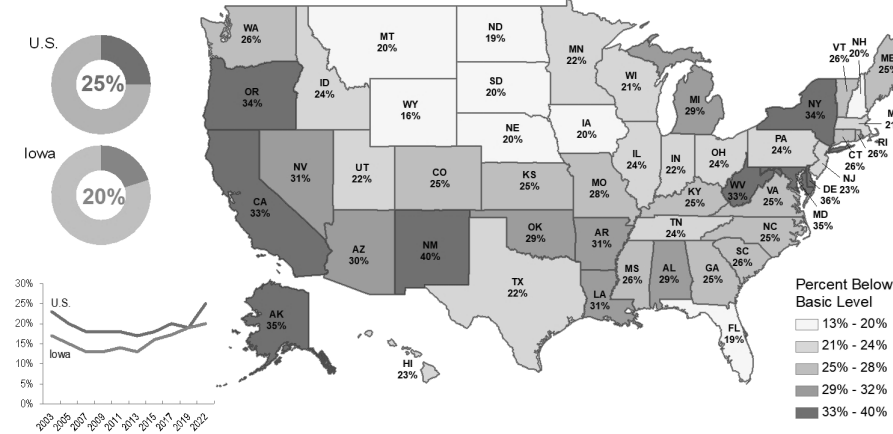
100 across six categories. The scoring system compares each school to tuition costs, admission, retention and graduation rates, faculty, reputation, and the student resources provided for online students. Iowa Lakes received 92.94 out of 100.

Studies show a substantial increase in income for people who earn a degree, with graduates earning 84% more than those with only high school diplomas. Moreover, as people earn higher-level degrees like master's, doctoral or other professional degrees, the percentage difference in earnings continues to increase.

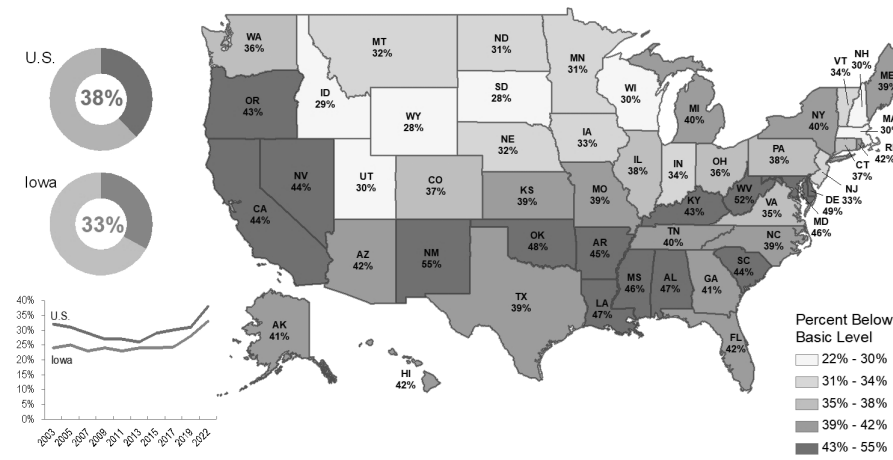
With almost \$765,000 in scholarships awarded yearly through more than 150 available scholarships and the average student award being \$2,000, Iowa Lakes is a great place to increase earnings potential through education.

National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) State Performance Levels in Math — 2022

Fourth Graders Who Scored Below the Basic Math Level



Eighth Graders Who Scored Below the Basic Math Level



Notes: Fourth and eighth grade public school student mathematics achievement levels, as measured and defined by the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). For more information: www.nationsreportcard.gov/profiles/stateprofile

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)
LSA Staff Contact: Simon Sheaff (515.281.4611) simon.sheaff@leis.iowa.gov



AROUND CAMPUS

MCCAFFERY EARNS MANAGEMENT DEGREE

Minnesota State University, Mankato awarded 2,193 degrees to 1,936 students at the end of the fall 2022 semester. Among them was Mason McCaffery, of Spirit Lake, who graduated cum laude with a bachelor's of science degree in management. Degrees awarded at the undergraduate level included 41 bachelor of arts degrees, 16 bachelor of business degrees, 13 bachelor of fine arts degrees, 1,300 bachelor of science degrees, 32 bachelor of science in integrated engineering degrees, three bachelor of science in civil engineering degrees, nine bachelor of science in computer engineering degrees, six bachelor of science in electrical engineering degrees, six bachelor of science in mechanical engineering degrees, 37 bachelor of science in social work degrees, 37 associate of arts degrees and 45 undergraduate certificates.

Board of trustees receive SAVE program update

ESTHERVILLE — The Trustees of Iowa Lakes Community College convened at the Administrative Offices in Estherville on Dec. 14 for their annual organizational meeting. The 2021-22 board was adjourned by the board of trustees President Janice K. Lund and the 2022-23 board was then called to order by Board Secretary Cindy Oviatt.

The trustees elected officers, with Janice K. Lund re-elected as board president and Pat Kibbie re-elected as vice president. Cindy Oviatt was appointed to serve as board secretary and Jeff Soper as treasurer. Scot Bauermeister was selected as the attorney to represent the trustees.

After completing all organizational business, Kyle Norris, executive dean of the Emmetsburg campus, began the meeting with the Iowa Lakes Report by introducing Michelle Kogel, SAVE program coordinator. Kogel has been with Iowa Lakes since 2005 and holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Iowa State University and a Master of Science degree from the University of Nebraska at Kearny. Kogel provided the board with an overview of the Student Alternative Vocational Education (SAVE) program offered at Iowa Lakes.

“The SAVE program is a secondary transition program for students on a current individualized educa-

tion plan (IEP) and provides special education services to fulfill unmet transition needs for students with emphasis on developing personal responsibility and work skills,” Kogel said.

Iowa Lakes offers three academic options through the SAVE program, including Career Readiness, Career Roadmap and a program that combines components of the Career Readiness and Career Roadmap.

“Students have enrollment options at Iowa Lakes that best meet their needs while providing them the opportunity to learn specialized skills for a career and gaining valuable life lessons for their future,” Kogel said.

Attending the meeting with Kogel was an Iowa Lakes SAVE student, Claudia Torres, a freshman from Fo-



The Iowa Lakes Community College Trustees received an update on the Student Alternative Vocational Education program by Michelle Kogel (left), SAVE coordinator, and Claudia Torres, a SAVE student. (Photo submitted)

nda, who is seeking an Associate in Arts degree.

Students seeking to enroll in the SAVE program at Iowa Lakes are encouraged to schedule a campus visit. To learn more about the program, visit iowalakes.edu/student-services/special-needs-services/.

Robert Leifeld, vice pres-

ident of administration, shared a presentation with the board regarding transfer majors offered at Iowa Lakes and received approval to submit the Notice of Intent to the Iowa Department of Education toward offering additional transfer majors with an anticipated start date of 2023.

POLICE OFFICER TEST NOTICE!

Test Dates: March 25 & 26, 2022 @ 9:00am

At the Regional Wellness Center in Estherville, Iowa

Application deadline is March 11, 2022, at 4:00pm

Lakes Area Law Enforcement Employment Co-op is establishing an eligibility list for current and future law enforcement openings in the beautiful Iowa Great Lakes Area! The Co-op consists of: Armstrong, Arnolds Park, Emmetsburg, Estherville, Lake Park, Milford, Okoboji, Spencer, Spirit Lake Police Departments; Clay & Dickinson County Sheriff's Offices.

At the time of application, candidates must meet State Requirements for Law Enforcement Employment.

Currently certified ILEA applicants are allowed lateral transfer.

Applicants without certification are required to pass P.O.S.T. & physical agency exams.

Successful applicants are eligible for employment by all agencies.

For application details contact Dickinson County Sheriff's Office, 712-336-2793, any Co-op Agency, or visit www.dickinsoncountysheriff.com. EOE

HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS: REGISTER TO EARN A \$1,000 SCHOLARSHIP

Iowa high school seniors may register for a chance to receive one of 50 scholarships worth \$1,000 each. To be considered, students should:

- ▶ Register between Nov. 1, 2022, and March 31, 2023, at www.iowaStudentLoan.org/Know-How
- ▶ Follow the emailed instructions to complete two online tutorials before 4 p.m. on March 31.



www.iowaStudentLoan.org/Know-How

SNOW PARKING ORDINANCE

City of Spencer Prohibits Street Parking during snow events. No Parking on city streets or alleys from 12:00 midnight to 7:00 a.m.

SIDEWALK SNOW REMOVAL

It is the responsibility of the abutting property owner to remove snow and ice accumulations from the public sidewalks adjacent to their residence or place of business after a snow event. In the Spencer downtown commercial district, 12 hours is allowed from the time the snowfall ceases. In all other areas of the city, 24 hours is allowed from the time the snowfall ceases. If an abutting property owner does not remove the snow and ice within the time specified, the city may do so and assess the costs, including an administration fee.

The complete city ordinance regarding the removal of snow from streets and sidewalks can be found at www.spenceriowacity.com under Public Notices - City Code - Title 5-1 Article E.

BUSINESS & AG

Tourism officials hope to bolster digital strategy ahead of 43rd Winter Games

SETH BOYES
Dickinson County News

Area tourism officials plan to use some new approaches as they promote the Lakes Area ahead of the 43rd annual University of Okoboji Winter Games.

Rebecca Peters, director of the Okoboji Tourism Committee, said her office plans to begin that effort by having approximately five vehicles in the Minneapolis area wrapped with large-scale Okoboji-area promotions for several months. The vehicles in question would be part of app-based transportation services — such as Uber or Lyft — and the vehicles' drivers will also have promotional materials for any passenger who expresses interest.

But Peters said the promotion also has a digital component.

The vehicles will be geofenced, which she said means any mobile device within 50 feet of the vehicles will receive ads for the Okoboji area in its web browsers and mobile apps — she specified the promotions will not come in the form of unsolicited calls or text messages.

"We can then track to see if those people saw an ad and then came to our area during Winter Games," Peters said.

The Winter Games are scheduled for Jan. 26-29.

Peters went on to say the data collected can be helpful to local businesses as they apply for grants or plan expansions. She said the data can also provide insight into marketable specifics, such as age or interests — she said cellphone data may even be able to in-

dicating which local attractions are most popular among visitors staying at a particular Lakes hotel or motel.

The county collects hotel/motel taxes from area lodgings, which are then used to support local interests related to travel and tourism. And, though the Okoboji Tourism Committee operates as a part of the Iowa Great Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce, an agreement between the two groups currently specifies the county hotel/motel taxes must go to the tourism committee rather than simply the chamber. The arrangement has been a point of concern for some members of the Dickinson County Board of Supervisors in the past, and the topic came up again during discussions at last week's board of supervisors meeting.

Rachel Fandel, who acts as liaison between the chamber and tourism committee, estimated the topic of a new agreement has been discussed for the last two years or so, and she said serious discussion of an amendment to that agreement began in October — she indicated one proposal has been to place a chamber board member on the tourism committee. Fandel said the chamber recently voted down a drafted agreement, but she said she feels more than a dozen sticking points in the discussion have been resolved and she hopes to see plans in motion within the next several months.

Peters also told the county board of supervisors that, while the agreement itself hasn't changed yet, the committee and the chamber have been working closely to use similar messaging to promote area events.



(Above) The Okoboji Tourism Committee intends to use geofencing technology to advertise the Lakes Area — specifically the upcoming University of Okoboji Winter Games — to individuals in the Minneapolis area who come within 50 feet of vehicles fitted with promotional wraps. (Below) This year's games are scheduled Jan. 26-28, and local tourism officials hope to use mobile phone data to better promote area tourism ahead of the winter fun. (Photos by Seth Boyes)



She said the county hotel/motel tax funds received by the committee have been used to support chamber events which take place during the shoulder season — a term for the months outside the Lakes Area's core summer tourist season. Peters cited the University of Okoboji couples golf tournament, Oktoberfest celebration and Walleye

Weekend fishing tournament as examples of events which have received the tax funding.

In addition, she said the two organizations have taken something of a divide and conquer approach to the promotions, with the chamber handling local print and broadcast advertising while the tourism committee focuses more on dig-

ital advertising outside of the Lakes Area — Peters did note the committee used print promotions to advertise Walleye Weekend outside the area at the suggestion of chamber staff.

Peters said the Okoboji Tourism Committee put several thousand dollars into digital advertising ahead of last year's Winter Games, which she said resulted in

about 175,000 impressions — another 135,000 could be linked to digital ads for the weekend's large-scale kite festival. The committee hopes to put more funds into such efforts, according to Peters, but she said they also plan to be mindful of spreading their efforts evenly in order to avoid over-saturating a particular event with advertising.

AG BRIEFS

WOMEN MANAGING FARM FINANCES

CHEROKEE — Iowa State University Extension and Outreach will host the four-session "Women Managing Farm Finances" course beginning Wednesday, Jan. 4, and continuing Jan. 11, Jan. 18, and Jan. 25 at the ISU Extension and Outreach office in Cherokee from 6-9 p.m. each night. Cost of the four-session course is \$75 with a complimentary meal served starting at 5:30 p.m. Deadline to register is Dec. 28. To register for the program, visit extension.iastate.edu/cherokee/women-managing-farm-finances or call Jen at 712-225-6196.

FEEDLOT FORUM 2023 WILL FEATURE STRATEGIES TO INCREASE INCOME

ORANGE CITY — Feedlot Forum 2023 returns to the Terrace View Event Center in Sioux Center on Jan. 17 with a production-focused agenda. Iowa State University Extension and Outreach beef specialist Beth Doran said the session presenters will provide information to increase income for beef producers and allied agri-business professionals. The event page on the IBC website has more information on the program and links to the flyer and online registration. Registration is \$25 per adult and \$10 per student, and is due Jan. 10. Payment may be made online with a credit card or mailed to ISU Extension and Outreach Sioux County, 400 Central Ave. NW, Suite 700, Orange City, IA 51041. For

more information, contact Doran at 712-737-4230 or doranb@iastate.edu.

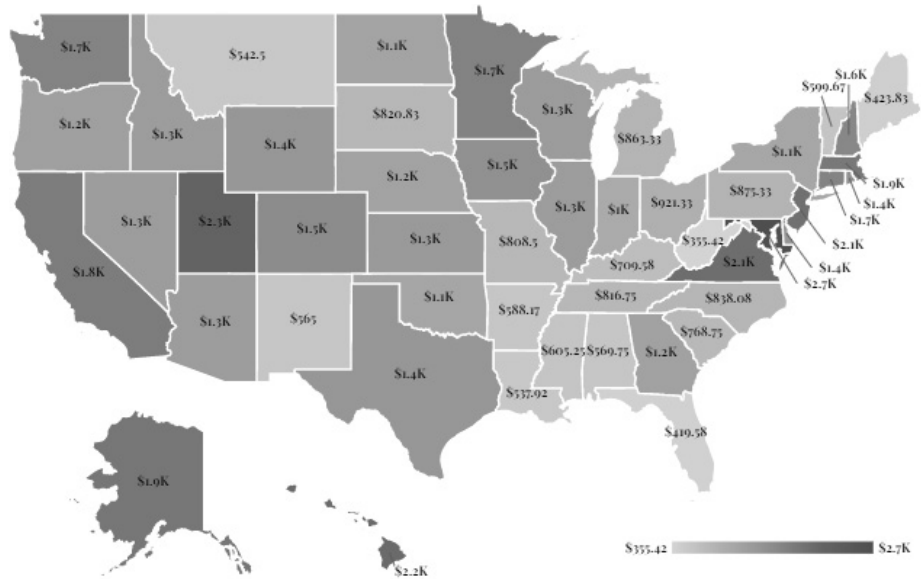
CROP INSURANCE DISCOUNT PROGRAM

DES MOINES — Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Mike Naig encourages farmers and landowners who planted cover crops this fall to apply for the Crop Insurance Discount Program by Jan. 13. Eligible Iowa farmers and landowners can receive a \$5 per acre discount on spring crop insurance premiums for cover crop acres located within Iowa. Farmers can sign up at apply.cleanwateriowa.org. To qualify, the cover crop acres cannot be enrolled in other state or federal cost share programs.

FEEDLOT FORUM 2023 ON JAN. 17

ORANGE CITY — Feedlot Forum 2023 returns Jan. 17 to the Terrace View Event Center in Sioux Center. The production-focused program will provide information to increase income for beef producers and allied agri-business professionals. For more information and/or to register online, visit extension.iastate.edu/sioux/feedlot-forum. Registration, which is \$25 per adult and \$10 per student, is due Jan. 10. Payment may be made online with a credit card or mailed to ISU Extension and Outreach Sioux County, 400 Central Ave. NW, Suite 700, Orange City, IA 51041. For further information, contact Doran at 712-737-4230 or email doranb@iastate.edu.

HOLIDAY SPENDING



According to the holiday spending by state study by Wisevoter — a report that average disposable income in households and analyze shopping trends — holiday enthusiast in Iowa have come out No. 14 spenders this season.

HOLIDAY SPENDING BY STATE

Maryland: \$2,714.5	Alaska: \$1,920.92	Washington: \$1,692.83
Utah: \$2,310.17	Massachusetts: \$1,898.67	New Hampshire: \$1,623.17
Hawaii: \$2,152.08	California: \$1,809.92	Colorado: \$1,532.42
Virginia: \$2,102.92	Minnesota: \$1,713.58	Iowa: \$1,453.08
New Jersey: \$2,051.17	Connecticut: \$1,702.25	Rhode Island: \$1,445.25

AUCTION CALENDAR

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6 @ 10:00 AM - 80 ACRES M/L OR CLAY CO., CLAY TWP., SEC. 20 LAND AUCTION FOR DENVER & JUDITH NELSON FAMILY REVOCABLE TRUST. AUCTION AT ROYAL COMMUNITY CENTER, ROYAL, IA. AUCTIONEERS: MIDWEST LAND MANAGEMENT, WWW.MIDWESTLANDMANAGEMENT.COM, 712-253-5779.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2023 @ 10:00 A.M. - BUENA VISTA COUNTY, IOWA FARM AUCTION. SALE HELD AT THE COLUMBUS HALL, 1507 LAKESHORE DRIVE, STORM LAKE, IA. OWNERS: BETH (MAUSER) FRANZMEIER, PAULA (MAUSER) STEPLES, AND DERICK MAUSER. AUCTIONEER: GREEN REAL ESTATE AND AUCTION CO., SAC CITY, IA. 712-662-4442 WWW.GREENREALESTATE-AUCTION.COM

FRIDAY, JANUARY 13, 2023 @ 10:00 A.M. - SAC COUNTY, IA FARMLAND AUCTION. SALE TO BE HELD IN THE 4H BUILDING, SAC COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS, SAC CITY, IA. OWNER: ECHO'S GREEN ACRES, LTD. AUCTIONEER: GREEN REAL ESTATE AND AUCTION CO., SAC CITY, IA. 712-662-4442 WWW.GREENREALESTATE-AUCTION.COM

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2023 - 80 ACRES M/L OF POCAHONTAS CO., IA FARMLAND. AUCTION LOCATED AT LAURENS COUNTRY CLUB, LAURENS, IA. OWNER: BERBACH FAMILY REV. TRUST. AUCTIONEERS: MIDWEST LAND MANAGEMENT, WWW.MIDWESTLANDMANAGEMENT.COM, 712-253-5779.

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PASTOR'S COLUMN

Incredible promises



REV. GRANT MANGOLD

RIVERSIDE CHURCH

It's that special time of year. Even for non-Christians or cultural Christians-in-name-only, the Christmas season evokes powerful emotions. Many are happy, warm, even joyful. Some are cold and dark. Some people experience both great happiness and great sadness. What carries people through this emotional season? It's a matter of promises. Promises made, promises hoped for, promises kept. This was the case for Mary and Joseph too.

INTERRUPTION

The angel's message broke four hundred years of God's prophetic silence. As old Zechariah went about his priestly duties, an angel spoke unbelievable things. He and his barren wife Elizabeth would bear a son, to be named John, who would fulfill the prophecies of the forerunner of the promised Christ. And it came to pass, as recorded in Luke 1:1-25, 57-80. Elizabeth's cousin Mary heard even more astounding news from the angel Gabriel. Mary, a virgin betrothed to Joseph, would also bear a son, miraculously conceived by the Holy Spirit. She was to call His name Jesus, which means "Jehovah God is salvation." It's recorded in Luke 1:26-56.

INTERDICTION

Matthew 1:18-25 records how Joseph also heard from an angel about Mary's child, to call His name Jesus, "for He will save His people from their sins." All this was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet 700 years before (Isaiah 7:14), "Behold the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they call his name Emmanuel, which means God with us." We know Mary and Joseph were sustained by God's promises, because of their response of obedience. Matthew says Joseph "did as the Lord commanded him." And Luke records Mary saying "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." They received incredible promises, but Joseph and Mary trusted and obeyed the Lord.

INTERSECTION

With this incredible news, Mary and Joseph experienced great loss too. They lost their reputations as God-fearing people, intent on living according to Scripture. They were pure in their betrothal, but it looked like they had broken God's laws. They persevered in faith, not yielding to fear or discour-

agement. They trusted the promises of Almighty God. As the pregnancy advanced, it seemed a blessing to leave their own community. The emperor's census required Joseph to register for taxes. Perhaps they recalled the prophecy of Micah 5:2-5. Hundreds of years before, it pointed to Bethlehem as the place of the birth of the Christ, the anointed one, the promised Messiah who would deliver Israel.

INTERREGNUM

Joseph and Mary had to travel some ninety miles away to Bethlehem, since Joseph was of the house and lineage of David. He was the king to whom in 2 Samuel 7, God promised an offspring who would reign forever. It's the same promise in Isaiah 9:1-7: "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over His kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this."

INTERVENTION

Luke 2:1-21 records the fulfillment. When Jesus was born, the angels spoke to nearby shepherds, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."

God often declared, as in Isaiah 43, "I, I am the Lord, and besides Me there is no Savior." God promised Abraham in Genesis 12 and 18 that his offspring would bless all nations. And in Genesis 3:15 God promised that an offspring of Eve would deliver the human race from sin.

INVERSION

God's promised Deliverer came in unexpected ways. He was now with His people. God the Son, the second person of the Trinity, came to earth in human form. He came in a cradle to go to the cross. Laid at birth in a stone manger, He was destined for a stone tomb at death. But Jesus was also predestined for resurrection, ascension and eternal reign. He fulfills God's promises. And He promises that everyone who believes in Him receives forgiveness of sins, eternal life, and the indwelling Holy Spirit. "God with us" becomes "God within you" as you are reborn by the Holy Spirit when in repentance and faith you put all your trust in Jesus the Christ!

PASTOR'S COLUMN

Who do you believe in?



REV. MIKE CURRIER

HALLELUJAH MINISTRIES

1965 was my first year as a teacher in sixth grade where I met Santa. I was so skinny, I could stand sideways, stick out my tongue and look like a zipper. That is why I as surprised when one of the kindergarten teachers asked me to "play" Santa Claus for her children. With little forethought, I accepted and found a way to fit into the cheap, nylon suit. I was hooked. When I became a children's developmental psychologist, I made a serious study of the history of Santa and the psychology of children's belief in the jolly old man. In the mid-1950s I had made a covenant with the Lord to become a minister, but not a preacher. This is where my philosophy train wreck started.

Saint Nicholas forged through history and formulated over the years to become a prominent, commercial identity with the help of Thomas Nast, Hadden Sundbloom, "Miracle on 34th Street," "Yes, Virginia ...," Clement Clarke Moore and Coca-Cola. We see lots of Santas at shopping malls, on TV and in every kind of advertising there is. Kids jump up on Santa's knee to whisper secret desires but have you ever seen Jesus in an elaborately decorated setting in the middle of a mall? Probably not, but there are some similarities between Santa and Jesus.

They both are generous, forgiving, loving, cheerful, full of joy and omnipotent. We teach about Jesus all through the year (I hope), and we teach about the merits of Santa for a month. Santa is in the front of most children's minds at Christmas. Many families use Santa as a crowbar to get children to comply and behave during a most diffi-

cult time of year. We teach that Santa is "real" and try to fool little kids that he is watching everywhere around us. We teach that Jesus is everywhere around us too. Then at some time, kids learn that Santa is a fake — just a myth. We have been misleading children about the reality of Santa. Kids readily, then, may doubt our honesty or sincerity about this guy called Jesus. Oh, by the way, do kids ever see Jesus out and about as a real person at the mall or ringing a bell on street corners? Have they ever gotten a wish list of highly desired gifts fulfilled by Jesus? Why is this dichotomy perpetuated to little ones?

I became Santa the day after Thanksgiving and teach what Santa is all about for the Texas Rangers MLB players' families, to NASA families, at children's hospitals, elder care centers, and yes, at shopping malls, too. Kids come up to sit on my knee — not on my "lap." I rarely ask them "what do you want for Christmas." Instead, I ask them what they plan to give grandmother, or little brother, someone they love or needy families. That emphasizes the giving, not the getting side of Christmas. I rarely talk about their "Christmas list," an imperative, guaranteed, done-deal list that compels parents and family to come through with the requests just to maintain the reputation of Santa. I never ask if the child has been "naughty or nice" That engenders lying, and the idea of forgiving is assumable. Nope, that is not the way it should be.

Bottom line — if society spent as much time promoting the idea of Jesus being a real, essential life character as we do for Santa, how sustaining a belief in Jesus would children acquire?

I highly recommend reading the book, "Santa and the Christ Child," by Nicholas Bakewell to children. Learn about the benefits of emphasizing Jesus as much as we have done for Santa.

Community blood drive Tuesday

LifeServe blood donors are needed at the Sioux Rapids Community Blood Drive being held on Tuesday, Dec. 27, from 2:30-6:30 p.m. at the American Legion Hall in Sioux Rapids. Winter Weather increases the need for donors. They need immediate donations to boost the blood supply. Local blood supply is critically low. Schedule a blood donation appointment online at lifeservebloodcenter.org or call 800-287-4903.

SOUTH ON 71

Random holiday thoughts



GINNY SMITH

BULLETIN PRESS EDITOR

My brother-in-law once told me that I was the only person that he knew of that could pick one subject and write paragraph after paragraph about that one thing. Isn't that what all managing editors do? Fill space?

Thus, here are my random thoughts. There was so much happening over the weekend, it's really hard to pick out just "one thing" that took place on any particular day.

The Christmas shopping thing — I had a moment of insanity on Saturday and suggested that we go to Target in Fort Dodge to add to the grandkids presents. Why? Because Rusty thought we didn't have enough. Shopping on Saturday, my friends, was a big mistake. The carts were almost gone, there was way too many people, and I was almost hit three times by carts coming out of blind aisles. It took everything I had in me to maintain my cheery mood. And we still didn't leave with what we thought we wanted. We left feeling frazzled.

A bite to eat — And that was what dinner consisted of. Thinking we had an hour before the granddaughters piano recital, enough time to grab dinner and eat in the car while we waited for the start of the event, we went to our favorite fast food joint, only to receive a text from Meredith that the recital started earlier than planned. The food was good, except for the fact that we had about two minutes driving time to eat it; there was no time to enjoy it and I so hoped that I didn't have ketchup coming out of the side of my mouth when we arrived at the church. We did enjoy the granddaughters recital which led us to head home later than we wanted and after all that shopping we had done, I swore — never again shall I do this! (But, I did, see below!)

Water, please — we stopped for bottles of water at Casey's on the way out of Dodge. After all that hot air at Target, we both needed water. If I was a drinking woman, I may have asked for some-

thing a bit stronger to calm the nerves after shopping. (But I was driving, so maybe not!) And God bless Rusty — he was the one that headed into the store to get us two bottles of 'Smart' water (which my granddaughter told me was modified water, whatever that means?) and when he returned he brought out two chocolate candy bars. Chocolate is such happy food!

Fool me once, shame on you — Fool me twice, shame on me! After some overnight thinking we thought of a way to go back to Dodge on Sunday and avoid a crowd, stepping one more time into a department store for the second time of the weekend. Since this family has been known to open all Disney exhibits on previous vacations, we chose to "get there" before 9 a.m. We made it to Dodge at 8:30 a.m. and had some time to find everything we left in the store on the day before.

Should we or shouldn't we? That was the question and the answer was ... we should. We knew the car would have to have more gas to return to Dodge on Sunday for the grandkids Sunday School Christmas program. So, as we drove through Pocahontas returning from Dodge on Saturday, we noticed the gas price on Casey's marquee in Poky — \$2.39 per gallon! Can you believe that? Since our "smart" car told us we had 100 miles before the tank was empty, we chose to go home on Saturday evening on what was left. Sunday morning, we would return to Dodge going through Poky again, but then "fill 'er up" for the week. With the fuel saver, we filled up our Subie for \$1.64 a gallon.

The dreaded grocery list — I've had a pad of paper on the table for eight days. When I had a moment of peace and quiet, I took that moment to think about what we'd need for Christmas dinner. The list is long and it isn't a pretty pad of paper anymore! It's abominable! And it represents at least an hour in the grocery store. Oh, well, what else would I be doing three days before Christmas?

Random thought — I better wish you all a merry Christmas or you may not read this column anymore. Rusty and I wish you all a little peace and quiet and lots of time watching it snow and blow!

MEMORIES

It's Christmastime



LEE HALVERSON

BULLETIN PRESS COLUMNIST

whose name was Joseph, of the house of David and the virgin's name was Mary. And the angel came in unto her and said, "Hail, thou that art highly favored, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women."

And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying and cast her mind what manner of salutation this should be.

And the angel said unto her, "Fear not, Mary, for thou has found favor with God. And behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb and bring forth a son and you shall call his name Jesus. He shall be great and shall be called the Son of the Highest and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father, David. And he shall reign over the house of Jacob forever and his kingdom there shall be no end."

Then said Mary unto the angel, "How shall this be seeing I know not a man?"

And the angel answered and said unto her "The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee. Therefore, also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God."

"And behold thy cousin Elizabeth. She hath also conceived a son in her old age and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For with God nothing shall not be impossible."

It's Christmas. Let's not forget why it has that name. This is the day we Christians celebrate the birth of our savior, Jesus Christ.

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city in Galilee named Nazareth to a virgin espoused to a man

And Mary said, "My soul doth magnify the Lord and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior. For he hath regarded the low estate of his handmaiden; for behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. For he that is mighty hath done to me great things and holy is his name. And his mercy is on them that fear him from generation to generation; he hath show strength with his arm; he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seats and exalted them of low degree. He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich he hath sent empty away. He hath helped his servant Israel in remembrance of his mercy."

And Joseph went up from Galilee to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife who was great with child. And so it was that while they were there the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger because there was no room for them at the inn.

And there were in the same country shepherds keeping watch over their flock by night. The angel of the Lord came upon them and the glory of the Lord shone around about them and they were afraid. And the angel said, "Fear not; for behold, I bring you tidings of great joy which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior which is Christ the Lord.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising go and saying "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace and good will to men."

Merry Christmas everybody!

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SIoux RAPIDS BULLETIN PRESS

FISHING REPORT

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
4840 40th Ave., Alta
Rev. Rhonda Wykoff

Saturday, Dec. 24
Christmas Eve Candle Lighting Services
4 p.m. — Trinity with Communion
5:30 p.m. — Our Savior's with Communion

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
107 N. Broadway Ave., Rembrandt
Rev. Rhonda Wykoff

Saturday, Dec. 24
Christmas Eve Candle Lighting Services
4 p.m. — Trinity with Communion
5:30 p.m. — Our Savior's with Communion
Tuesday, Dec. 27
1 p.m. — Quilting

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
105 High St., Linn Grove
Rev. Rhonda Wykoff

Saturday, Dec. 24
Christmas Eve Candle Lighting Services
4 p.m. — Trinity with Communion
5:30 p.m. — Our Savior's with Communion
Wednesday, Dec. 28
6:30 a.m. — Promise Keepers

RIVERSIDE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH
102 W. High St., Linn Grove
RiversideChurchIowa.com

Saturday, Dec. 24
8 a.m. — Men's Bible Study
Sunday, Dec. 25
9:30 a.m. — Sunday Worship
10 a.m. — Children's Church
10:45 a.m. — Bible Fellowship
6:30 p.m. — Ignite
7:15 p.m. — Salt Youth
Friday, Dec. 30
6-10 p.m. — LG Bike Park

FIRST UNITED CHURCH
Sioux Rapids

Saturday, Dec. 24
5 p.m. — Christmas Eve Service

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
Sioux Rapids
Rev. Tonna Parsons

Sunday, Dec. 25
9 a.m. — Worship

BAPTIST CHURCH
Sioux Rapids
Rev. James Marshall

Sunday, Dec. 25
10 a.m. — Sunday School
11 a.m. — Worship
Thursday, Dec. 29
7 p.m. — Bible Study

SIoux CENTRAL SCHOOL MENU

MONDAY, JAN. 2
Christmas Break

TUESDAY, JAN. 3
Christmas Break

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 4
Breakfast — Biscuits with sausage, cereal, toast, fruit, yogurt, juice, milk

Lunch — Crispito, corn, pears, rice, milk

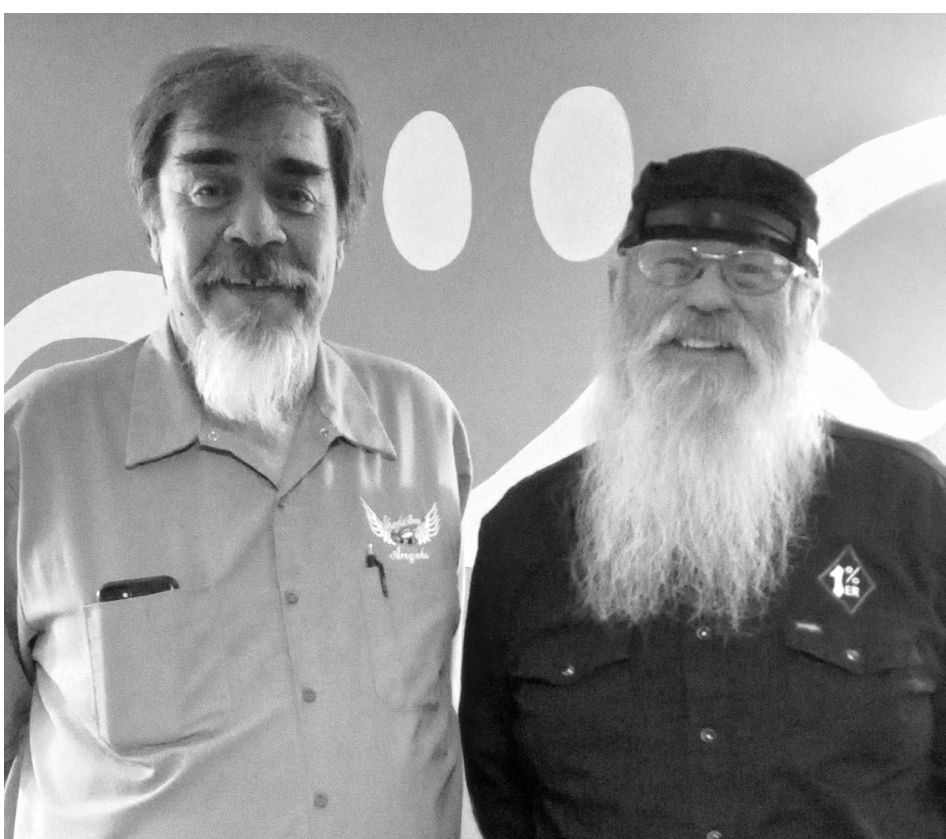
THURSDAY, JAN. 5
Breakfast — French toast sticks, cereal, toast, fruit, yogurt, juice, milk

Lunch — Hamburger, french fries, baked beans, apple, milk

FRIDAY, JAN. 6
Breakfast — Doughnut, cereal, toast, fruit, yogurt, juice, milk

Lunch — Grilled cheese, carrots, peaches, chocolate chip cookie, milk

THE YEAR IN REVIEW 2022



JANUARY

- An online auction netted the GoServ Global Domestic team serving in Kentucky, a total of \$2,110.
- Jacob Hargens put in 30 points at the basketball game against West Bend-Mallard and passed his 1,000 career point that night.
- Five sixth-grade students were chosen to participate in the Strong Foundations Honor Band at Sioux City East. They are Hunter Perry, Miina Adams, Kayley Hermsstad, Rowan Baines and Sage Weber.
- Bethany Peat began her job as Sioux Rapids Memorial Library director.
- A local group from Iowa, led by Tim Wittmaack, the Peru director for GoServ Global, planned to leave at the end of January for Genesis Church in Iquitos, with intentions of helping to work on the church site and housing.

FEBRUARY

- Sioux Central speech students performed at district competition. Thirteen group performances were done with nine groups receiving a I rating and four receiving a II rating.
- Winners were announced in the Buna Vista County Soil and Water Conservation Essay Contest. Winners were Taylor Caanaugh, Brogan Johannsen and Sarah Philips, in seventh grade; and Andrew Nelson, Ashley Anderson and Marley Madsen, in eighth grade.
- (Top photo) The Shayla Bee Fundraiser held at the Historical Theater, was attended by a large crowd. Donations went to Shayla Bee and totaled over \$1,000. Gary Brown, a historical member who lost his home in a fire, was gifted with donations from the crowd to help him.
- Elise Rusk and Jacob Kueny were chosen all-state performers at the State Large Group Contest.
- Jacob Hargens (pictured above) and Carter Boettcher received plaques in honor of their basketball achievements. Hargens is now Sioux Central's all time leading scorer and Boettcher is Sioux Central's all time leader in 3-point baskets.

MUSIC BOOSTERS SOUP SUPPER FRIDAY

The Sioux Central Music Boosters will be postponing their annual Soup Supper to Thursday, Jan. 12. The Music Boosters will be serving soup from 5-7:30 p.m. in the Sioux Central Commons. For \$5 you will have your choice of all-you-can-eat chili or chicken noodle soup, relish, cinnamon/caramel roll and milk/water.



- The banners that line Main Street and Highway 71 were selected as the first project of the Beautification Committee.
- Emily Smith earned her way to the State Bowling Tournament. Her coach is Brian Rix.

MARCH

- The Makarenko family followed their heart to Sioux Rapids.
- Trent Anderson, a student at Northwest Iowa Community College, was one of three students that qualified for state college competition.
- The Beautification Committee was happy to receive a donation for \$1,000 from Laurie Fassler, owner of Snook's Carpet and Furniture.
- Fifteen Sioux Central state students headed to state speech competition.
- All-state student Lydia Thams was recognized for her musical theater performance which she sang during the Speech Spectacular.
- The Bulletin Press was invited to tour the new Little Sioux Living Apartments, the former Sioux Care Center. The building had been remodeled to house several apartments.

REBEL OF THE WEEK

KYREN GLACKIN
Kyren is the son of Thomas and Kylee Glackin. He has two siblings, Ayslyn, 12, and Skye, 10. Kyren likes to ride his bike, play with Hot Wheels and monster trucks, and go fishing with Dad. When he grows up he wants to work where Daddy works in a metal shop.

Valley Lanes, Sioux Rapids

COMING EVENTS

- Friday music at InnSpiration Vines & Wines in Linn Grove, from 6:30-8:30 p.m., will feature Tom Lichter.
- SAL bingo will take place on Sunday, Jan. 8, at the Sioux Rapids American Legion. Doors open at 3 p.m. Bingo starts at 4:30 p.m.
- AWANA is from 5:45-7:30 p.m. Wednesdays at the Baptist Church.
- Sioux Rapids Food pantry open on the third Saturday each month at First Lutheran church from 8 a.m. until 10 a.m. Contact Dolly Huffman at 712-260-0447.

DAYS GONE BY

- 10 YEARS AGO**
• Sioux Central schools was approved for the planning grant that will begin the process for the district to become an elementary charter school.
• Neal Sennert, of Rembrandt, played out the role of Santa Claus at the city's Annual Christmas get together.
- 20 YEARS AGO**
• Winners of the 1983 Christmas lights contest were Father Yetmar, first place, Junior Halverson, second place, Nathan Leidahl, third place, and honorable mention went to the homes of Dewey Ludwig and Janet Henely.
- 30 YEARS AGO**
• Actual snowfall was not too heavy Friday night and early Saturday morning, but winds gusting up to 40 mph with wind chill factors up to 90 degrees below zero caused drifting and snow into hard packed drifts, blocking highways and county roads in the area from many locations.
- 50 YEARS AGO**
• When a Graettinger man informed radio station KICD in Spencer that he thought he was the only one in the area to be able to clam an age of 85 on Dec. 19, who have a living teacher, Eve Thomas of Sioux Rapids, came forth with a challenge.
- 110 YEARS AGO**
• E.L. Calvert who clerks at A.A. Skinner's store, left yesterday for Galva accompanied by his wife. They will visit relatives there until there the holidays.

CLIMATOLOGY BY KEITH STOEBER

Date	High	Low	Rain
Dec. 12.....	29.....	16.....	0
Dec. 13.....	33.....	27.....	0.52
Dec. 14.....	37.....	29.....	0.48
Dec. 15.....	30.....	28.....	0.02
Dec. 16.....	29.....	17.....	0.08

FISHING REPORT

SPIRIT LAKE
The lake is almost entirely iced over with 5-plus inches of ice in most places. Watch for holes that have been recently iced over. The lake is 14 inches below crest. Muskellunge — good: Try crank baits, buck tails and rubber baits. Walleye — good: The bite is hit or miss at dusk, but the day bite is improving. Many anglers have started to fish in shallower with slip bobbers along weed edges. Try spinners, crankbaits and long and shallow shad raps; look for weed lines to troll or jig off of. Yellow perch — good: Use small jig tipped with a minnow. Sorting may be needed.

WEST OKOBOJI LAKE
Man of the bays are starting to free over, but the majority of the lake is still open. The water level is 10 inches below crest. Black crappie — fair: Use tube jigs, plastics or other small jigs. Bluegill — good: Use tube jigs, plastics or other small jigs. Walleye — fair: Crawler harnesses, crankbaits and minnows work well. Yellow perch — fair: use small jigs tipped with a minnow. Sorting may be needed.

EAST OKOBOJI LAKE
The lake is almost entirely ice over with around 4.5 inches of most areas. Use caution when going out; watch for holes that have iced over more recently on the south bay. The water level is 10 inches below crest. Black crappie — good: Try small is tipped with a minnow or tube jig and bobber. Bluegill — fair: Try tube jigs, plastics or other small jigs. Walleye — fair: Try crawler harnesses, crank baits and minnows. Yellow perch — fair: Minnows work well; some sorting may be needed.

KITCHEN FAVORITES

- CHERRY CHEESECAKE**
- Crust:**
- 2 cups graham cracker crumbs
 - 1/2 cup powdered sugar
 - 1/2 cup melted butter
- Press into 9-by-13 inch pan. Bake 8 minute at 350 degrees.
- Filling:**
- 2 (8-ounce) package cream cheese, softened
 - 2 cup powdered sugar
 - 2 teaspoon vanilla
- Fold in 1 (8-ounce) container whipped topping.
- Topping:**
- Put filing on cooled graham cracker crust. Spread on 1 can cherry pie filing. Refrigerate.

SHOP SIoux RAPIDS

Sioux Rapids Business Directory

On Your Way Anyway!

Snook's

Carpet & Furniture L.L.C.

110 Blake Street
Sioux Rapids, IA 50585
(712) 283-2584
Laurie Fassler - Owner

On Your Way Anyway!

Keune Chiropractic Center

Dr. Arden B. Keune
Sioux Rapids, IA
(712) 283-2112

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SIoux RAPIDS **BULLETIN PRESS**

WINNERS ANNOUNCED IN BEAUTIFICATION CONTEST



The judges have made their decision after driving around Sioux Rapids over the weekend. They had a tough decision because of there were many lighted displays to select from. First place winner was Eric and Hillary Waldstein (top) with second place going to Kendall and Becky Rachuy (bottom). The judges were pleased that so many participated in this event. Winners can pick up their Chamber Bucks at Snook's Carpet & Furniture.

City Council will hold public hearing Jan. 11

The Sioux Rapids City Council met Wednesday, Dec. 14, at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall.

Two more bills were presented in conjunction with the Main Street building demolition. These bills were paid out for the removal of the debris.

The council also approved the Firewall Agreement and Management to Advanced Network Professional to cover any issues with computer problems.

The preliminary exam field work for the annual exam was done by T.P. Anderson and Company P.C. This is an annual expense for the city. T.P. Anderson applies tests and procedures to certain accounting records and other related information for the city of Sioux Rapids. This includes procedures related to the city's compliance with certain Code of Iowa requirements.

The audit found a few things that the city needs to address. The Code of Iowa requires a segregation of duties by more than one person in the operation of City Hall. This is difficult to do in a small town because of lack of available employees and budget restraints. City Clerk Mandy Caraway told the council the recommendation to correct this was to have the city review its control procedures and utilize current available staff, including elected officials.

The audit also reviews city council minutes under Chapter 372.13 (6) of the Code of Iowa which re-

quires the City Council proceedings to be published within 15 days of the meeting. It was found that one meeting was not published within the 15 days requirement. The city was directed to comply with the Code of Iowa.

Also found was a \$25,000 discrepancy of the cash balances in the city's general ledger that were reconciled to bank balances throughout the year. The variances were attributed to certain checks that were back dated after the reconciliation was completed. The audit recommended the city establish procedures to make sure cash balances of bank reconciliation and financial reports. Additionally because the city of Sioux Rapids operates on a cash basis, the city should not be back dating any payments to the prior fiscal year.

The city was also dinged for not holding a public hearing issuing notice of action prior to entering into the lease purchase agreement for the purchase of water meters. As well as the business transactions between the city and officials and employees as that represents conflicts of interest.

Finally, the city was cited for not amending the budget in accordance with Chapter 384.18 of the Code of Iowa before disbursements were allowed to exceed the budget.

The public hearing will be held Jan. 11 at 6:30 p.m. in reference to next year's budget.

DEBOOM TO CELEBRATE 80TH BIRTHDAY

Mary DeBoom will be celebrating her 80th birthday on Jan. 1. Her family would like to honor the occasion with a card shower. Birthday wishes may be sent to: Mary DeBoom, 4269 Warbler Ave., Sutherland, IA 51058. She is the mother of Rita Schau of Sioux Rapids.

HERMSTADS GIVE FAMILY TREASURE TO THEATER



Brad and Heidi Hermstad and family have donated a collection of teddy bears to the Sioux Rapids Historical Museum. The collection of bears were the late Colleen Hermstad's pride and joy and will be displayed in the theatre.

SIoux RAPIDS CITY COUNCIL MEETING DECEMBER 15, 2022

The regular meeting of the Sioux Rapids City Council was called to order by Jim Wise on Wednesday, December 15, 2022, at 6:30 pm. Roll call: Jim Wise, Joel McCoy, Mike Gunderson, Mike Katschman, Todd Reiling and Lynda Swanson. None were absent. Amanda Caraway, Tim Porter, Andrew Wetrich, Randy Koenig and other community members were also in attendance.

Katschman made a motion, seconded by Swanson, to approve the agenda. Ayes: all; Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Swanson, seconded by McCoy, to approve the consent agenda, which included minutes from the November 9th meeting, accounts payable report, and the November financial reports. Ayes: all; Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT NOVEMBER 2022

ALLIANT ENERGY, UTILITIES	\$3,829.11
AMAZON CREDIT PLAN TOTAL	\$164.61
CHLORINE	\$164.61
CENTURY LINK, OFFICE PHONE - NOVEMBER	\$143.97
ROLD ROWLEY RECYCLE CEN, BUILDING CLEAN UP	\$9,578.56
IPERS, IPERS PROTECTED	\$2,826.96
IOWA LAKES ELECTRIC COOP, LAGOON UTILITIES	\$1,946.00
IOWA LAKES REGIONAL WATER, LAGOON UTILITIES	\$54.59
IOWA RURAL WATER ASSOC, FY 2023 MEMBERSHIP DUES	\$225.00
PETTY CASH, CLEAN UP DAYS FALL 2022	\$65.25
SIoux FOOD CENTER, HALLOWEEN CANDY	\$79.96
SIoux LUMBER, OCTOBER INVOICES SUPPLIES	\$57.12
TIMOTHY PORTER, NOVEMBER 2022 CELL PHONE REIMB	\$30.00
TOWN & COUNTRY DISPOSAL, TRASH & RECYCLING CONTRACT	\$7,299.33
TREASURER STATE OF IOWA, OCTOBER 2022 SALES TAX	\$386.65
UNITED STATES POST OFFICE, UB BILLING NOVEMBER 2022	\$159.72
EFTPS, FED/FICA TAX	\$4,088.81
SPENCER HOSPITAL CLINIC, DRUG TESTING-WETRICH	\$24.00
NORTHWEST IOWA PLANNING, ZONING SERVICES AND PERMIT	\$1,475.00
GWORKS, Annual License Fee and Support	\$3,062.00
HONDO'S SALES AND SERVICE, carb work on snow broom	\$130.32
JCL SOLUTIONS, JANITOR'S OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$56.47
BROWN SUPPLY CO., Water meter install mat	\$219.15
GALLS UA TECH POLO, CLOTHING ALLOW	\$40.73
WELLMARK BLUE CROSS BLUE, HEALTH CARE INSURANCE DECEMBER	\$2,281.47
HAWK-I PLUMBING, INC., Fix water main leak on main	\$580.00
UNITY POINT CLINIC, OCCURANCE DRUG TESTING	\$42.00
U.S. BANK EQUIPMENT FINAN, COPIER CONTRACT	\$109.16
RANDY KOENIG, NOVEMBER 2022	

CELL PHONE REIMB	\$30.00
FIDELITY SEC LIFE INS CO., VISION CARE INSURANCE DECEMBER	\$65.95
GIS BENEFITS STD, AD & D, LIFE INSURANCE	\$119.02
COMMUNITY STATE BANK, GO BOND FOR POLICE VEHICLE	\$8,608.25
EDWARDS, AUTO WINDSHIELD WASHER NOZZLE	\$34.94
TREASURER, EXCISE TAX, OCTOBER 2022 EXISE TAX	\$994.05
ANDREW WETRICH, NOVEMBER 2022 CELL PHONE REIMB	\$30.00
BAKER & TAYLOR, BOOKS	\$355.91
FOUNDATION ANALYTICAL LAB, TESTING	\$535.00
AMANDA CARAWAY, BUDGET WORKSHOP FISCAL YEAR 23	\$75.25
BETHANY PEAT, PROGRAMS SUPPLIES	\$61.93
AG STATE, FUEL FOR POLICE DEPART	\$3,347.40
SITE SERVICES INC, Asbestos removal from 102 Main	\$3,220.00
NEW TEC EQUIPMENT, MANLIFT MAINTANCE	\$755.28
PAYROLL CHECKS, TOTAL PAYROLL CHECKS	\$13,632.03
CLAIMS TOTAL	\$70,820.95
GENERAL FUND	\$17,791.32
ROAD USE FUND	\$3,095.51
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND	\$1,365.38
LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX FUND	\$12,316.09
DEBT SERVICE FUND	\$8,608.25
WATER FUND	\$8,662.22
SEWER FUND	\$8,525.30
GARBAGE FUND	\$10,438.82
STORM WATER FUND	\$18.06

NOVEMBER RECEIPTS

GENERAL	28,161.84
ROAD USE	8,135.61
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	1,706.23
EMERGENCY FUND	236.04
DEBT SERVICE	1,571.37
WATER	21,772.18
WATER METER	1.09
SEWER	12,108.61
GARBAGE	11,485.47
STORM WATER	1,480.56
REPORT TOTAL	86,659.00

There were no suggestions from residents this month.

Kale Glover with the Lone Tree Cemetery did not come to the meeting.

Ginny Smith with the Sioux Rapids Historical Society asked the Sioux Rapids City Council to continue with their yearly donation of \$1,200 to help with their water, sewer, and garbage bill for the winter. City Council agreed. A motion by Swanson and seconded by Reiling to approve this action and payment was made. Ayes: all; Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

Mayor Wise talked about how he tried to negotiate the clean up bill for the building on 100 Main Street but was unsuccessful, so we had to pay the full bid amount.

Amanda Caraway presented the Annual Street Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2022 to City Council with no ques-

tions.

Amanda Caraway also presented the Annual Exam Findings for Fiscal Year 2022 and answered any questions that there were.

Katschman moved to approve the Second Reading or Ordinance No. 466 - Amending Yard Meters, seconded by McCoy Roll being called Ayes: Gunderson, Katschman, McCoy, Reiling, and Swanson. Nays: none. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Swanson and seconded by Reiling to Approve the Budget Amendment for Fiscal Year 2023. Ayes: all; Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

Katschman made a motion to set a Public Hearing for the Budget Amendment for Fiscal Year 2023 for January 11, 2023, at 6:30 at Sioux Rapids City Hall. It was seconded by Reilings. Ayes: all; Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 853 - Sign Permit Fees were discussed by City Council and this Resolution was tabled this meeting until changes could be made. It was decided to put a maximum amount for the permit fee of \$500.00.

A motion was made by Gunderson and seconded by Swanson to approve payment of invoice to Town & Country Disposal, Inc in the amount of \$1,990.00 for dumpster roll offs for the building at 100 Main Street. Ayes: All; Nays: none. Absent: none; Motion carried.

A motion was made by Katschman and seconded by Reiling to approve payment to Chris Axhdahl, Inc in the amount of \$3,010.00 for hired trucking for building cleanup at 100 Main Street. Ayes: All; Nays: none. Absent: none; Motion carried.

A motion was made by Gunderson and seconded by Reiling to approve payment to Westrum Leak Detection Inc in the amount of \$1,100.00 for leak detection survey. Ayes: All; Nays: none. Absent: none; Motion carried.

A motion was made by Swanson and seconded by Gunderson to approve payment to Sioux Rapids Fire Protection Agency for \$4,656.94 for the city's share of the tanker's loan. Ayes: all; Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Katschman and seconded by McCoy to approve payment to Advanced Network Professional of the amount of \$1,440.00 for firewall agreement and management. Ayes: All; Nays: none. Absent: none; Motion carried.

A motion was made by Katschman and seconded by Reiling to approve payment to T.P. Anderson & Company, P.C. in the amount of \$2,645.00 for the preliminary exam and field work for the annual exam. Ayes: All; nays: None. Absent: none; Motion carried.

The next regular city council meeting has been set for Wednesday, January 11, 2023, at 6:30 pm at City Hall (100 Front Street).

Swanson made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Gunderson. Ayes: All; Nays: none. Absent: none; Motion carried. Meeting adjourn'd at 6:57 pm.

ATTEST: Amanda Caraway, City Clerk /s/ Jim Wise, Mayor #375




HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



LAST-MINUTE
LETTERS
TO



Santa



Dear Santa,
 This year, I am so excited! I left carrots for your reindeer. I also thought of some jokes. Please answer them. If you need help, wake me up.
 For Christmas, I would like a Barbie Color Reveal, a big Slime set with the colors blue, purple and pink, and a Barbie Let's Go Camping Tent.

Riley

BOOW

DEAR SANTA,
 Is it cold in the North Pole? Are all the chimneys dark? Do you need a nose warmer for cold sleigh rides? What is the reindeers fuel? Magic?
 For Christmas, I would like a Polly Pocket, lights for my room that change color in the night and Disney Princess My Friend Belle.
 Thanks! What is Santa's favorite snack? Ho Ho's!

LEXI

Dear Santa,
 Hi, my name is Isaac. I love you, Santa. For Christmas I would like a remote control monster trucks with tracks and a seat. I would also like a bouncy house with a hoop and a ball and new shoes that light up.

ISAAC

I WANT a ROBOOT and a SHANK and a SWITCH

DEAR SANTA,
 Is it cold in the North Pole? Are the chimneys dark? Do you need a nose warmer for cold sleigh rides? What is the reindeers fuel? Magic?
 For Christmas, I would like a Polly Pocket, lights for my room that change color in the night and Disney Princess My Friend Belle. Thanks!
 What is Santa's favorite snack? Ho Hos!

— RILEY

DEAR SANTA,
 Can I please have a sensry swing, guine pig, blend jet, guine pig supplys, claw clips, phone charger, a big water bottle, lulu lemon cloths, hey dudes

— JASMINE

DEAR SANTA,
 I do not want girls stuff i want a roboot shank and another intedo swich. i want a VR and a PSS and all the Rabow Rooboot Draging from Hotweels and ant tank and battres chrochrs! and ct fass spllis from mom. and a dog roobot and a shrets mistn bee and a vr and a PSS. end Boow not that no girls stuf. and a gift for mi sis Shrad and A another except 2 in.

— DEREK

BOYS BASKETBALL

Tigers split week with Fort Dodge, Mason City



Spencer's Riley DeWitt was a big piece of the puzzle in Monday's win for the Tigers over Fort Dodge in Spencer. DeWitt added 11 points in the game. (Photos by Sondra Hookfin)

DAKOTA LOCKER
Sports Editor
sports@spencerdailyreporter.com

SPENCER — The Tigers finally got a chance to play some basketball on Monday and Tuesday night, hosting Fort Dodge and then traveling to Mason City before Christmas break. Spencer would split the games losing to the Riverhawks 57-52 in a heartbreaker, after defeating the Dodgers 62-53 on Monday.

"After we got off to a great start to begin the game, we were certainly disappointed that we couldn't hold on in the end," head coach Kory Petzenhauser said. "I really thought that after having two weeks off and playing short-handed in the two games this week, that we just kind of ran out of gas in the fourth quarter. He added, "To their credit, they

really adjusted and started to defend us with a level of physicality that we haven't experienced yet this season, and that really impacted us on the offensive end and made it difficult for us to score. They had some guys that really stepped up and knocked down some difficult, contested shots late in the game that ultimately was the difference."

Owen Olson led the offense with 25 points, Olson added five rebounds which tied Gavin Honkomp for the most on the team. Riley DeWitt added 11 points and four assists in the five-point loss. The boys would shoot 52% from the field in the game. Spencer now sits at 2-2 going into Christmas break with only four games played up to this point.

"In most seasons, when you get to the holiday break, you generally have a pretty good idea of what your lineup and player rota-

tion looks like, but with only four games under our belt at this point, we are still sorting those things out," he said. "We have done some really good things on the defensive end at different points so far and I think that is going to continue to be the backbone of this team."

MONDAY

MASON CITY — Spencer got the job done at home against the Dodgers, despite a late rally from Fort Dodge. The Tigers built a big enough lead to take the 62-53 win. Spencer outscored their opponent 33-14 in the second and third quarter to control the game.

Olson was the head man on offense again, scoring 18 points in the win. DeWitt and Cael Bruning made their impact as well, DeWitt scoring 11 and Bruning scoring 10.

TIGER BOYS, Page 4B



Jack Berends tries to find something in the paint during the game against the Dodgers.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Spencer girls stay undefeated through Christmas

DAKOTA LOCKER
Sports Editor
sports@spencerdailyreporter.com

MASON CITY — The Spencer girls basketball team has a lot to be cheerful for so far this season. Looking to stay undefeated into the new year with games against Mason City and Fort Dodge before Christmas. Huge opening quarters in the first and second half put the Tigers ahead early, dominating the Riverhawks 81-61 on Tuesday. Spencer would also dominate the Dodgers, 53-36 behind dominating defense.

"We were pleased to come away with two wins," head coach Matt Stevenson said. "After not playing for weeks, it can be difficult to find a way to keep practices fresh and competitive. This was a really great win against a very tough and talented Mason City team. They have played an extremely tough schedule and will end up winning a lot of games this year. We shot the ball extremely well and broke a school record for three point shots made in a game with 15."

Jada Piercy led the way offensively scoring 29 points in Tuesday's win. Jerra Merchant added 22 points while Mo McDermott scored 15 points. Jayna Graettinger led the team in rebounds with nine. Piercy also led the team

in assists with seven.

"On offense I thought we were unselfish and took what the defense gave us," Stevenson said. "When they played zones we found open spots and made shots. When they played man we were able to get downhill and finish at the rim or kick out to shooters. We got out and were able to score some easy baskets in transition. We will take our week off and get ready for January basketball."

MONDAY

SPENCER — A huge second and third quarter propelled Spencer to a 17-point victory over the Dodgers on Monday. The Tigers would roll Fort Dodge 53-36 behind 22 points from McDermott.

"We were pleased to come away with a win," he said. "After not playing for weeks, it can be difficult to find a way to keep practices fresh and competitive, so we had some easy shots missed, missed some free throws, but I thought we played mentally and physically tough. We rebounded well and played well on the defensive end."

Once again, the Tiger defense forced a lot of turnovers and bad passes. Leading to easy Spencer baskets. Three girls were in double figures for the Tigers, Graettinger, Merchant and McDermott

TIGER GIRLS, Page 4B



Mo McDermott looks to find a teammate during the win over Fort Dodge. McDermott led the girls in scoring with 22 in the 20 point victory. (Photo by Sondra Hookfin)

SPORTS

WRESTLING

Tigers lose dual with Warriors



Tiger 285-pounder Logan Huckfelt stopped SB-L's Sean Zimmerman in the first period for one of two Tiger wins against the Warriors. (Photos by Randy M. Cauthron)



Spencer's Gabe Cauthron scored a third period fall at 113 over Cam Keokenchahn of Sergeant Bluff-Luton on Tuesday.

DAKOTA LOCKER
Sports Editor
sports@spencerdailyreporter.com

SERGEANT BLUFF — Spencer wrestled its final meet of the 2022 school calendar year on Tuesday night. Traveling to Sergeant Bluff-Luton to face off with the Warriors. Spencer would lose the dual with SBL 57-12.

Logan Huckfelt and Gabe Cauthron were the only Tiger wrestlers to pick up a win over the Warriors. Cauthron defeated Cam Keokenchahn, picking up a fall in the third period. Huckfelt dominated Sean Zimmerman picking up an early fall in the first period.

"Sergeant Bluff-Luton is a legit team and will be contention for a dual team title so losing to them isn't

a deal breaker by any means," head coach Adam Gress said. "We fought hard and gave ourselves chances in matches. There's no reason this team of Tigers can't be right there with a team like SBL in the very near future. There is something to be said about wrestling the best and understanding what it feels like." Spencer will travel to Estherville Lincoln-Central after Christmas and the new year on Jan. 5 at 6 p.m. They will also face the Cherokee-Washington Braves at the meet.

"Going into break we need to get some rest and start sharpening our tools," Gress said. "We are leaving points on the mat and we have to take advantage of that. Break will get us feeling more healthy and

give an opportunity for the men to work on some individual things. We are excited to kick off 2023 when we get back to competition and show off the work we are going to do."

DUAL WITH SIOUX CENTER

Spencer then wrestled Sioux Center. Spencer would get the better of these Warriors, defeating Sioux Center 43-29.

Connor Stickrod defeated Bryce Oostenink via decision. Carson Schultz picked up a major decision win over Jett VanEs. Levi and Kade Johnson both defeated their opponents with a pin. Cauthron received a forfeit, while Jace Fullhart defeated Solomon Tea. Huckfelt picked up an easy fall in 38 seconds over Kullen Jooste.

"We wrestled well against Sioux Center," Gress said. "On paper it was a lot closer than the final score ended up, so we are pleased."

SERGEANT BLUFF-LUTON DUAL

Tuesday — Sergeant Bluff

Dual No. 1 Score
Sergeant Bluff-Luton.....57
Spencer.....12

Individual Results
106: Jayce Curry, SBL, defeated Connor Stickrod, Spencer. (Fall 1:05).
113: Gabe Cauthron, Spencer, defeated Cam Keokenchahn (Fall 5:10).
120: Ethan Skoglund, SBL, defeated Carson Schultz, Spencer. (Fall 1:50).
126: Dalton VanWyhe, SBL, defeated Trayton Logan, Spencer. (Dec 7-0).
132: Bo Koedam, SBL, defeated Wyatt Heying Spencer. (Fall 5:00).
138: Ayden McRoberts, SBL, defeated Levi Johnson, Spencer. (Dec 5-0).
145: Ty Koedam, SBL, defeated

Izak Peterson, Spencer. (Fall 1:34).
152: Hunter Steffans, SBL, defeated Kade Johnson, Spencer. (Dec 6-4).
160: Derek Moore, SBL (Forfeit).
170: Zayvion Ellington, SBL, defeated Jace Fullhart, Spencer. (Dec 3-1).
182: Masen Streck, SBL, defeated Kael Brandt, Spencer. (Dec 7-3).
195: Garrett McHugh, SBL, defeated Nelson Clark, Spencer. (Fall 0:37).
220: Gage Hoffman, SBL, defeated Nolan Johnson, Spencer. (Fall 0:32).
285: Logan Huckfelt, Spencer, defeated Sean Zimmerman. (Fall 1:29).

Dual No. 2 Score
Spencer.....43
Sioux Center29

Individual Results
106: Connor Stickrod, Spencer, defeated Bryce Oostenink. (Decision 8-1).
113: Gabe Cauthron, Spencer. (Forfeit).
120: Carson Schultz, Spencer, defeated Jett VanEs. (Major

Decision 12-0).
126: Trayton Logan, Spencer, defeated Santiago Estrada. (Fall 0:41).
132: Kade Bauer, Sioux Center, defeated Wyatt Heying. (Decision 6-4).
138: Levi Johnson, Spencer, defeated Eddie Fedders. (Fall 1:07).
145: Kole Hoover, Sioux Center, defeated Izak Peterson. (Major Decision 9-1).
152: Kade Johnson, Spencer, defeated Landon Rozeboom. (Fall 1:11).
160: Brady VanRegenmorter, Sioux Center, defeated Connor Roth. (Major Decision 10-0).
170: Jace Fullhart, Spencer, defeated Solomon Tea. (Fall 2:11).
182: Reid Hulshof, Sioux Center, defeated Kael Brandt. (Fall 1:29).
195: Jacques Zomermaand, Sioux Center, defeated Nelson Clark. (Fall 4:00).
220: Thai Cam, Sioux Center, defeated Nolan Johnson. (Fall 1:10).
285: Logan Huckfelt, Spencer, defeated Kullen Jooste. (Fall 0:38).

WRESTLING

Huckfelt, Sutherland take 1st for Tigers at Kuemper Catholic

DAKOTA LOCKER
Sports Editor
sports@spencerdailyreporter.com

CARROLL — Spencer had their girls wrestling meet of 2022 on Tuesday at the Kuemper Catholic tournament. The Tigers had six girls in the championship match on the day. Shaylee Sutherland and Olivia Huckfelt picked up class wins, while Atalia Rosales, Breanna Johnson, Laila Nielsen and Kaylee Nachtigal all finished in second

place. Sutherland defeated Averi Burke of Carroll, pinning her in 32 seconds. Huckfelt dominated Riley Ernst of Le Mars with a fall in 54 seconds. Huckfelt improved to 20-0 on the year.

"It was a good night for us we ran into some new competition at the Carroll Kuemper Invite," head coach Dave Storm said. "These past two tournaments have been good for us seeing new girls from around the state. Our girls were a little flat (Tuesday night). I think it's has a lot to do with

us being out of our routine this past week with weather and no school days. On the positive note we had some really good matches were we came from behind and put a rally together to win some matches right at the end."

Rosales won two matches before falling to Isabel Ekchan of Ridge View via fall in the third round. Johnson fell to Sadie Smith of Kuemper Catholic in a second round pin. Lauren Rodgers of Perry edged out Laila Nielsen in the cha-

mpionship, winning in a 4-3 decision. Nachtigal was defeated by Mackenzie Arends of Nevada in a 2-0 decision.

"Again Breanna Johnson put together another solid performance with a come from behind win in the last 30 seconds of the match," Storm said. "She came from behind twice last weekend to win in the third period. And she did it again (Tuesday). One thing about this kid she listens to her coaches when she is on the mat." Spencer will have Christ-

mas break to refocus and prepare for their next part of the season.

"We've been going hard up to this point on the road all the time wrestling all over the state," Storm said. "We need a little break now and regroup and get ready for the final part of the season regionals and state."

KUEMPER CATHOLIC TOURNAMENT

Tuesday — Carroll

GOLD DIVISION
First Place:
135: Shaylee Sutherland.

235: Olivia Huckfelt
Second Place:
100: Atalia Rosales
120: Breanna Johnson
145: Laila Nielsen
190: Kaylee Nachtigal
Third Place:
115: Samantha Richardson
Fourth Place:
125: Kyiah Logan
Sixth Place:
105: Kiera Ruiz
110: Katelynn Jones
SILVER DIVISION
Second Place:
100: Taneisha Alfaro
105: Joshlynn Johnson
125: Lily Sanchez

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SPORTS

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Sioux Central throttles Titans in girls hoops



Kendra Casey comes up with the steal during the win over the Titans. Casey led the girls in scoring with 17.

DAKOTA LOCKER
Sports Editor

sports@spencerdailyreporter.com

GRAETTINGER — The Sioux Central girls basketball team was on the road Tuesday at Graettinger-Terril/Ruthven-Ayrshire. A huge second and third quarter propelled the Rebels to a 41-point win, outscoring the Titans 50-14 in a 64-23 dominating victory.

“We had a big second quarter with lots of activity from the girls and we carried that momentum through the rest of the game,” coach Kasey Krager said.

With the win, Sioux Central got back to 3-3 on the season. Kendra Casey led the girls in scoring with 17 points. Morgan Christian

led the girls in rebounds with 10 and six assists in the big win.

“I was really happy with our effort and the value that each girl brought to the game,” Krager said. “Overall, our play was much crisper and the flow of the game was better than it has been. We have challenged the girls and (Tuesday night) they performed well.”

Sioux Central will host the Ridge View Raptors in the first game back after Christmas on Jan. 3 at 6 p.m.

SIoux CENTRAL VS. GTRA
Tuesday — Graettinger

Sioux Central	10	29	21	4-64
GTRA	4	8	6	5-23

Sioux Central Leaders

Points: Kendra Casey, 17.
Rebounds: Morgan Christian, 10.
Assists: Morgan Christian, 6.



Sioux Central's Berkley Johannsen controls the ball during a Rebel possession on Tuesday. (Photos submitted)



Jacob Hargens was all over the court Tuesday night, racking up nine rebounds and seven assists to go along with his 25 points. (Photos submitted)

BOYS BASKETBALL

Rebels dominate Titans Tuesday

DAKOTA LOCKER
Sports Editor

sports@spencerdailyreporter.com

GRAETTINGER — The undefeated Sioux Central boys basketball team traveled to Graettinger Tuesday to face off with the Graettinger-Terril/Ruthven-Ayrshire Titans. Sioux Central got going early, taking a seven-point lead at the end of the first quarter. That margin would expand to 19 at halftime. Sioux Central would dominate the Titans 81-49.

“I was very pleased with how we played (Tuesday) in

a tough road environment against a very solid veteran team,” head coach Stephen Tjaden said. “I thought our energy and rotation on defense were solid all night and getting stops allowed us to get some transition points which opened up our perimeter shooting.”

Carter Boettcher led the scoring offensively, racking up 28 points, seven rebounds and six assists in the win. Jacob Hargens continued his dominant play, scoring 25 points grabbing nine boards and seven assists. Sioux Central as a team grabbed 32 rebounds

and dished out 21 assists in the 32-point win.

“Offensively I thought we flowed very well and really moved the ball well to get high percentage looks,” Tjaden said. “This was a great win for us heading into break, we will get a chance to work on a few things to improve on in the future.”

SIoux CENTRAL VS. GTRA
Tuesday — Graettinger

Sioux Central	20	26	20	15-81
GTRA	13	14	12	10-49

Sioux Central Leaders

Points: Carter Boettcher, 28.
Rebounds: Jacob Hargens, 9.
Assists: Jacob Hargens, 7.

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SPORTS

TIGER GIRLS

From Page 1B

led the team to another Spencer victory. Outscoring Fort Dodge 29-12 in the second and third quarter.

“We work really hard on our man defense,” Steven-

son said. “We really stress the importance of playing team defense. They had some pretty solid post players so we knew we needed to pressure their guards to make it difficult to enter the ball into the post. Jayna played a great game on the defensive end.”

SPENCER AT MASON CITY

Tuesday — Mason City

Mason City	14	17	12	18	—61
Spencer	23	18	21	19	—81

Spencer Leaders
Points: Jada Piercy, 29.
Jerra Merchant, 22.
Rebounds: Jayna Graettinger, 9.
Assists: Jada Piercy, 7.

SPENCER VS. FORT DODGE

Monday — Spencer

Fort Dodge	10	4	8	14	—36
Spencer	14	10	19	10	—53

Spencer Leaders
Points: Mo McDermott, 22.
Jerra Merchant, 14.
Rebounds: Jayna Graettinger, 9.
Mo McDermott, 8.
Assists: Jada Piercy, 7.



Jada Piercy soars for the layup against the Dodgers on Monday night. (Photo by Sondra Hookfin)

Tiger swimmers lose to Dodgers, Carroll

DAKOTA LOCKER
Sports Editor

sports@spencerdailyreporter.com

CARROLL — The Spencer boys swimming team traveled down to Carroll Tuesday to wrap up their final meet of the 2022 calendar year. The boys would face off against Fort Dodge and the Tigers during the event. Spencer would lose both matchups, losing to the Dodgers 70-68 and Carroll 92-46.

“Our team had some good times, they were competitive and had fun,” head coach Katie Chapman said. “I’m hoping that after break we can stay healthy, and, weather permitted, we can all get to

practice and meets.” Reid Tigges led the way for Spencer, winning his events in the 50- and 100-yard freestyle.

“Reid Tigges is super close to breaking his 50 free record,” Chapman said. “Owen Manwarren has improved so much as our distance swimmer. Parker Van Otterloo has really picked up his pace as a sprinter in the 50 and the relays. Sam Feldman and Colin Boyd are amazing leaders and show improvement every practice, and I’m excited to see how they progress even more after Christmas break.”

Results weren’t official was there was a timing issue according to Chapman.

TIGER BOYS

From Page 1B

“After being off for two weeks, I thought our guys came out with good energy, but it took us about a quarter to get into the flow of the game,” Petzenhauser said. “Once we settled in and really locked in on the defensive end, we were able to get out in transition some and get our offense going.”

He added, “For the first time this year, we really had good balance on the offensive end of the floor.”

Spencer gets back up and going on Jan. 3 when

the Tigers travel to Newell-Fonda to face off against the Mustangs at 7:30 p.m.

SPENCER VS. FORT DODGE

Monday — Spencer

Fort Dodge	12	6	8	27	—53
Spencer	9	17	16	20	—62

Spencer Leaders
Points: Owen Olson, 18.
Riley DeWitt, 11.
Rebounds: Gavin Honkomp, 6.
Assists: Riley DeWitt, 3.

SPENCER AT MASON CITY

Tuesday — Mason City

Spencer	17	9	15	11	—52
Mason City	10	17	12	18	—57

Spencer Leaders
Points: Owen Olson, 25.
Rebounds: Owen Olson and Gavin Honkomp, 5.
Assists: Riley DeWitt, 4.

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CHURCH

AREA CHURCH LISTINGS

NOTICE: In light of current COVID-19 safety concerns, the following church listing information may not be accurate. Please confirm with your church.

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Foundation Church, Spencer
Rev. Nicholas Hanges, Senior Pastor
Rev. Lisa Heck, Children's Pastor
1410 W. 18th St.
712-262-6292
foundationspencer.com
• Sunday School K-12, 9 a.m.
• Sunday Prayer/Fellowship 9 a.m.
• Sunday Worship, 10 a.m.
• Kids Church Sunday, 10 a.m.
• Wednesday All Ages, 6:30 p.m.

BAPTIST

Baptist Church, Sioux Rapids
Rev. James Marshall
• Sunday Worship, 9:30 a.m.
• Sunday School, 10:30 a.m.

First Baptist Church, Spencer
Rev. Curtis Batschelet
1200 Grand Ave.
712-262-1325
firstbaptistspencer.com
• Sunday School, 9:15 a.m.
• Sunday Upward Look — KICD 1240 AM, 10 a.m.
• Sunday Worship, 10:30 a.m.
• "Imitate" Youth, 6:30 p.m.

CALVARY CHAPEL

New Life Worship Center,
Spencer
Rev. Tracy Baugh
1217 Fourth Ave. W.
712-262-3125
• Sunday Bible Church, 10 a.m.
• Wednesday Prayer, 6:30 p.m.

CATHOLIC

St. Joseph's Catholic
Church, Hartley
Rev. Tim Hogan
260 N. Fourth Ave.
712-928-2626
• Primghar St. Athony,
Saturday, 6 p.m.
• Hartley St. Joseph,
Sunday, 9 a.m.

St. Joseph's Catholic
Church, Milford
Rev. Brian Hughes
1305 Okoboji Ave.
712-338-2274
• Mass Suspended

Sacred Heart Catholic
Church, Ruthven
Rev. Bill Schrieber
1801 Rolling St.
712-852-3187
• Mass Suspended

Sacred Heart Catholic
Church, Spencer
Rev. Tim Hogan
1111 Fourth Ave. W.
712-262-3047
• Saturday Service, 4 p.m.
• Sunday Service, 10:30 a.m.
Livestreamed at: spencer-
sacredheart.com/onlinemass

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Trinity United Church
of Christ, Hartley
140 N. Fifth Ave.
712-728-2889
• Mass Suspended

CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

Spencer Family
Church, Spencer
Rev. Larry Neiderhiser
905 Fifth St. SW
712-262-7298
spencerfamilychurch.org
• Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.
• Sunday Worship, 10:30 a.m.
• Sunday Kid's Church, 10:30 a.m.

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

Church of Jesus Christ of
Latter-Day Saints, Spencer
1701 W. 11th St.
712-262-6172
• Sunday Sacrament
Meeting, 10 a.m.
• Sunday School; Primary and
• Youth Meetings, 11:10 a.m.
• Sunday Men's Priesthood
Meeting and Women's Relief
Society, 12:10 p.m.

CONGREGATIONAL

Grace Congregational
Church, Greenville
Rev. Tonna Parsons
• Sunday Worship, 10:30 a.m.

EPISCOPAL

The Way Station, Spencer
Rev. Beth Preston
120 W. Fourth St.
712-580-5463
revbethpreston@gmail.com
• Sunday Service, 3 p.m.

St. Alban's Episcopal
Church, Spirit Lake
Rev. Thomas Early
23rd and Zenith
712-336-1117
• Sunday Mass/
Eucharist, 10 a.m.

All Saints Episcopal
Church, Storm Lake
Rev. Stacey Gerhart
121 W. Marina Road
712-202-6624
• Sunday Eucharist, 10 a.m.

EVANGELICAL FREE

Riverside Evangelical Free
Church, Linn Grove
Rev. Grant Mangold
• Sunday Worship, 9:30 a.m.
• Children's Church, 10 a.m.
• Bible Fellowship, 10:45 a.m.
• Wednesday Women, 9:30 a.m.
• Saturday Men, 8 a.m.

CrossWinds Church, Spencer
Campus Rev. Jordan Gowing
Rev. Dr. Kurt Trucksess
701 E. 18th St.
712-584-3151
spencer@crosswinds.tv
• Sunday Streaming
Worship, 10:30 a.m.

FIRST CHRISTIAN

First Christian Church, Spencer
(Disciples of Christ)
Pastor Interim
701 E. 18th St.
712-262-2945
• Sunday Service, 9:15 a.m.
• In-House and Facebook Live
Wednesday Kids Sunday
School, 4 p.m.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

First Congregational
Church, Peterson
712-295-7150
• Sunday Worship, 8:45 a.m.
• Sunday School, 10 a.m.

First Congregational
Church, Spencer
Joseph Leggett, Director
of Youth & Family Ministry
1212 First Ave. W.
712-262-4392
• Worship, 10:30 a.m.
Livestream on YouTube

LUTHERAN

Hope Lutheran Church, Everly
Rev. Dan Taylor
206 N. Washington
712-834-2767
• Inside and Drive-In
Worship, 9 a.m.
• Adult Education, 10 a.m.
Services streamed on

YouTube at "Hope Lutheran
Church — Everly, IA"

Lost Island Lutheran
Church, Graettinger
Rev. Peter Morlock
• Sunday Service, 8:45 a.m.
• Sunday Fellowship, 9:45 a.m.
• Sunday School, 10 a.m.

St. Paul's Evangelical
Lutheran, Hartley
Rev. Christopher Nitzel
60 N. Central
712-728-2711
Ingham Okoboji Presentation
• Sunday Morning Worship, 9 a.m.
• Sunday School 10 a.m.
• Fellowship, 10:30 a.m.
• Confirmation, 11 a.m.
• Choir Practice, 11 a.m.

Harbor of Joy Lutheran
Church, Milford
Rev. Tim Voth
1204 L Ave.
712-338-2355
• Sunday Fellowship, 8:30 a.m.
• Sunday School, 8:30 a.m.
• Sunday Worship, 9:30 a.m.

First Lutheran Church,
West Okoboji
1525 Three Cross Road, Milford
Rev. Perry Aalgaard, Senior Pastor
Rev. Brian Jack, Associate Pastor
712-338-4514
www.3cross.org
• Sunday Worship: 8:30 a.m., 11 a.m.
• FIRSTkids Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
• Sunday Fellowship and
Adult Education: 9:45 a.m.

Bethlehem Lutheran
Church, Royal
Rev. Dr. Mark F. Wilms
207 Church St.
712-933-2229
• Worship, 9:30 a.m.
• Confirmation, 10:30 a.m.

Zion Lutheran Church, Ruthven
Rev. Eric Patten
• Sunday Service, 9:30 a.m.
• Sunday Fellowship, 10:30 a.m.

First Lutheran Church,
Sioux Rapids
Rev. Tonna Parsons
• Sunday Worship, 9 a.m.

Bethany Lutheran
Church-ELCA, Spencer
Rev. Jeffrey Geiger
15 W. 14th St.
712-262-2327
www.bethluthspencer.com
• Worship, 9 a.m.

Christ the King Lutheran
Church, Spencer
Rev. Michael McGinley
500 Fourth Ave. SW
712-262-2244
• Sunday Worship, 9 a.m.
• Bible Study and Sunday
School, 10:30 a.m.
• Audio Services on Facebook, 9 a.m.
"The Christ the King (Spencer)
Podcast" released on Sundays

Faith Lutheran Church, Spencer
Rev. Ben Unseth
2912 Highway Blvd.
712-580-4316
• Sunday Worship, 9 a.m.
• Sunday School, 10:30 a.m.
Services are streamed on YouTube

First English Lutheran
Church, Spencer
Rev. Paul Kaldahl
1311 E. 18th St.
712-262-5598
www.spencer-church.com
• Divine Worship, also broadcast
on 1240 AM /102.5 FM, 8 a.m.
• Fellowship, 9 a.m.
• Child care in the nursery,
9:15 a.m. to Noon
• Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.
• Bible Class, 9:40 a.m.
• Divine Worship, 10:45 a.m.
• Communion on first
and third Sundays.
Services & Bible Class
livestreamed via website

Riverview Terrace
Chapel, Spencer
1501 St. Luke Drive

712-262-5932
• Sunday Worship,
10:45 a.m.

St. Luke Home and
Services, Spencer
Rev. Kent Schmidt
1301 St. Luke Drive
712-262-5931
• St. Luke Lutheran Home
Worship, 10 a.m.
• Riverview Terrace
Worship, 10:45 a.m.

Trinity Lutheran
Church, Spencer
Rev. Renae Behrends
900 11th Ave. W.
712-262-1287
Sunday:
• Worship, 9:30 a.m.

NONDENOMINATIONAL

Faith Community
Church, Milford
805 Okoboji Ave.
Rev. Jennifer Hesebeck
faithcommunitymilford.com
fcc@milfordcomm.net
• Sunday Worship, 10:30 a.m.

The New Light of the Lakes
Friends Church, Okoboji
• Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.
• Sunday Service, 10:30 a.m.
• Group Bible Study, 5 p.m.

Living Word Outreach
Ministries, Spencer
Rev. Barb Dean, Lead Pastor
Rev. Mark Feauto, Lead Pastor
Associate Pastor
905 10th Ave SE
712-262-9545
livingwordspencer.org
• Sunday Worship, 9:30 a.m.
• Livestream also available
on our website, Facebook
and YouTube.

Spirit Life Fellowship, Spirit Lake
Rev. Eric Holdeman
2504 Enterprise Ave.
712-336-0114
• Sunday School, 9 a.m.
• Sunday Worship, 10 a.m.

Maple Grove Church of
God, Sutherland
Rev. Michael Hyde
• Sunday Worship, 9:30 a.m.
• Sunday Fellowship,
10:30 a.m.
• Sunday School, 11 a.m.

PENTECOSTAL

Faith Pentecostal
Church, Spencer
1700 11th Ave. SW
712-262-3368
fpcspencer.com
Rev. Brad Wallace
Rev. Dale Hodges
• Sunday Worship,
10:30 a.m.
• Wednesday Bible
Study, 6:30 p.m.

REFORMED

Good News Community
Church, Okoboji
Rev. Brandon Morrow
1010 Julia St.
712-332-5698
• Sunday Worship Services,
9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.
• Fellowship. 10:15 a.m.

Hope Church, Spencer
919 Grand Ave.
712-262-3016
• Sunday Worship,
8:30 a.m., 10:45 a.m.
• Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

Seventh Day Adventist
Church, Spencer
1910 10th Ave. E.
712-262-5766
• Saturday Sabbath
School, 9:45 a.m.
• Saturday Worship, 11 a.m.

UNITED METHODIST

Calvary United Methodist
Church, Arnolds Park
Rev. Chris St. Clair
209 N. Okoboji Grove Road
712-332-2447
• Saturday Worship, 6 p.m.
• Sunday Lakeshore
Worship, 7:30 a.m.
• Sunday Worship, 9 a.m.

Dickens United Methodist
Church, Dickens
Rev. Donna Gray
• Sunday Worship, 9 a.m.

United Methodist
Church, Everly
Rev. Michael Eeten
301 N. Ocheyedan
712-834-2501
• Sunday Worship, 9 a.m.

Community United Methodist
Church, Gillett Grove
Rev. Donna Gray
• Sunday Worship, 10:15 a.m.

United Methodist
Church, Hartley
361 Eighth Ave.
712-928-2649
• Sunday Church
School/Confirmation
Classes, 9:30 a.m.
• Sunday Worship Service,
10:30 a.m.

United Methodist
Church, Langdon
Rev. Chris St. Clair
• Sunday in-house and Facebook
Live Worship, 11 a.m.

First United Church,
Sioux Rapids
Rev. Dr. Mike Currier
Rev. Karen Currier
• Sunday Worship, 9:30 a.m.
Church of Christ, Spencer
Contact Jeff Cookinham
1304 St. Luke Drive
712-262-2294
• Sunday Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.
• Sunday Worship, 10:30 a.m.

First United Methodist
Church, Peterson
Rev. Tyler Thomsen
103 E. Third St.
• Sunday Worship, 9:15 a.m.
• Sunday Fellowship, 10:15 a.m.
• Sunday School, 10:30 a.m.

First United Methodist
Church, Royal
Rev. John Battern
408 Church St.
712-933-2489
• Sunday Worship, 9 a.m.

United Methodist, Ruthven
Rev. Kris Hackbart
• Sunday Worship, 10 a.m.

First United Church, Sioux Rapids
• Sunday Worship, 10 a.m.

Grace United Methodist
Church, Spencer
Rev. Tim Frasher
311 Second Ave. W.
712-262-5970
• Sunday Traditional Worship, 9 a.m.
• Sunday Contemporary
Worship, 10:30 a.m.
• Wednesday Family Meal, 5-6 p.m.
• Wednesday Small Group Meetings
Children and Adults, 6-7 p.m.
• Wednesday Small Group Meetings
Sr. Youth Group and Choir, 7-8 p.m.

Zion United Methodist
Church, Spencer
Rev. Michael Eeten
• Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.
• Sunday Worship, 10:45 a.m.

United Methodist
Church, Terril
Rev. Lana Williams
302 S. State
712-853-6549
• Sunday Worship, 8:45 a.m.

Trinity United Methodist
Church, Webb
Rev. Kari A. Etherington
• Sunday Worship, 9:30 a.m.
• Fellowship, 10:30 a.m.

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CHURCH

ON RELIGION

This Christmas, some churches need to think about widowers



TERRY MATTINGLY
GETRELIGION.ORG

There was no way that Christmas was going to be easy for Daniel Brooker and his two young children after his wife, Lyndsie, lost her 10-year battle with cancer. At their church, friends cautiously asked if Brooker and one of his kids wanted to play a role in the Christmas service — making their story part of a season of new life.

“My church saw ME, as a person” that first Christmas, said Brooker, a 37-year-old marketing specialist for a team of financial advisers near Atlanta. It was crucial that this offer “gave us something to do, something that didn’t ask us to hide what was happening. ... They offered us this opportunity and let me think about it. They didn’t force anything.”

That positive experience became part of the process that led Brooker and an all-volunteer team of widowers, mentors, pastors and friends to create Refuge Widowers, a ministry for men who have lost their wives, especially young men with children.

This work grew out of the conviction, he said, that religious congregations have long demonstrated the ability to rally around widowers — in part because women often play crucial roles in hospitality and caregiving ministries.

“Women are gifted at this. They know what to do,” said Brooker, who has since married a widow, Brittany, with three children of her own. “As much as I love the church, I’ve learned things are often different for widowers. ... Church people aren’t trained to step in and fight through grief with a man.”

Yes, the faithful brought food and gift cards after his wife’s death. Some people volunteered with child care as he tried to create new patterns for work and home life. Before long, however, many assumed that the best way to help was to funnel Brooker into the singles group. “Folks really didn’t know what to do with me,” he said.

Eventually, he met another young widower and began building a support network. This evolved into Refuge Widowers (RefugeWidowers.com), which worked with 14 men in 2020, 16 in its second year and 18 this year. All ex-

penses are paid for by donors, working through the nonprofit Nothing is Wasted Ministries. Much of this year’s budget came from a single church.

These retreats have included men who, years after their loss, were still trying to process their grief. But Brooker said most participants attend within a year of their loss and “it’s like they are saying, ‘I have to do this RIGHT NOW, or my grief is going to suffocate me.’”

The retreats last three days, with volunteers, including several widowers, helping newcomers share their stories in a safe setting. The goal is to create a network that lives on through calls, texts, emails and online small-group sessions. Many of the conversations focus on the needs of the men’s children.

“Kids often see that their dad is alone. He’s hiding his grief, so they tend to follow along,” Brooker said. “We want men to know that this healing process is not just for them. It’s for their children and for their children’s children. This pain can go on and on.”

The final night includes a ritual in which the team takes a long iron rod and heat the end until it glows red. Each man is given a piece to pound with a sledgehammer and twist with tongs, creating a symbol of their grief and struggles.

“These men have faced losses that have affected them physically, mentally and spiritually. They look different. They feel different. They’ve been pounded on. They have different stories, but they’re on similar journeys and they’re trying to keep going,” said Brooker. “All of that twisting and pounding on red-hot metal turns into something therapeutic.”

One man in this year’s circle had lost his wife and child, both shot by an intruder. “He pounded on his piece of iron until it was basically gone. He stared at it and stared at it, and I have no idea what he was thinking and processing. But that’s the point. He needed men around him who were still working on their own grief,” said Brooker.

“We have to keep telling these men: ‘We’re not here to tell you it’s OK. We’re going to stay with you until you can say that it’s OK.’”

• Terry Mattingly leads GetReligion.org and lives in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. He is a senior fellow at the Overby Center at the University of Mississippi.

PASTOR’S COLUMN

It’s Christmas, again!



C. BRADLEY WALLACE

FAITH PENTECOSTAL CHURCH, SPENCER

Years ago, who can know how many, it would have been obvious that the celebration of Christmas was the birth of Jesus Christ, God in human flesh, Deity become humanity, Savior of all mankind (Emmanuel).

Today, Christmas is gifts, trees, shopping, and many things that, perhaps unintentionally, obscure the sight of the Savior. As I prepare for a Christmas message I am woefully reminded of the condition of the heart that has lost its anticipation and excitement of Christ’s Coming, let alone His presence with us. There is little wonder! There is little pause to praise God for His gift of Salvation. Are the times past when people were excited to worship Him? Are people celebrating Christ at Christmas or are we celebrating traditions that loom larger and larger each year?

Yes, I am excited for the reminder of the calendar Christmas, but I also am aware of many who anticipate the gift of God who became human flesh and now dwells among us. Christ came the first time as a baby Savior in the manger. He lived his life and disciplined many that would change the world with His doctrine. Then, as we see in the scriptures, Jesus was crucified and He ascended up into heaven. It seems untimely, yet, He said He was coming again! He will return for a people who are looking for His appearing, for a people who recognize they need a Savior, for a people who are prepared for Him. He described this second coming as a marriage of Himself, the groom, to those who have followed Him in His doctrine of death, burial, and resurrection (1 Corinthians 15:1-4, Acts 2:38), the Church.

In the Gospel of Mark, Chapter 13, we see Jesus is explaining His second coming and the circumstances surrounding it to His disciples. Jesus said, “Take heed lest any man deceive you, many shall come in my name, ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars, nation shall rise against nation, kingdom against kingdom, earthquakes, famines, troubles. They shall deliver you up and ye shall be beaten, ye shall be brought before rulers and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them.

And the gospel must first be published among all nations. The brother shall betray the brother, the father the son; children shall rise up against their parents. Ye shall be hated of all men for my name’s sake: but he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved. When ye shall see these things come to pass, know that it is nigh, even at the doors. This generation shall not pass, till all these things be done. Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away. But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father. Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is. Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning, lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping. And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch” (edited from the King James Version).

Jesus is coming in a season and a time when we need a Savior most: in a time of troubles. The Gospel of Matthew (25:13) says, “Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.” The season of His second coming promotes an urgency to be ready! When Jesus came the first time there were troubles politically, religious persecutions and there are still challenges. The first Christmas was prophesied by Isaiah in the ninth chapter, “For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.”

The second coming of Jesus will be like a marriage in heaven. Jesus, the groom, will meet His bride for the marriage supper of the Lamb (Revelation 19:6-10). We can not even imagine what God has prepared for them that love Him (1 Corinthians 2:9).

Many may have lost the obvious meaning of Christmas today. We don’t want to lose sight of the fact that Jesus is coming again for His marriage to the Church. He is coming again to take His bride, washed and white and ready to meet Him in the sky. You, too, can have a merry Christmas because you know that Jesus is coming again. Be ready!

• Edited from a sermon preached Dec. 18, at Faith Pentecostal Church, 1700 11th Ave. SW, Spencer.

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TODAY'S ANSWERS

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COMICS

ACROSS

1 Culture medium
5 Gush over
9 Not hither
12 Biography
13 Luau strings
14 Wool producer
15 Lose energy
16 Usual food
17 Blend
18 Gotten up
20 Social gathering
22 Cousteau's domain
23 Existing
24 "The Pink Panther" actor
27 Any
28 Part of TNT
29 Wonka's creator
31 Distort
35 Chairperson
37 Prospector's find
39 Want ad letters
40 In that case (2 wds.)
42 Rhubarb unit
44 Man in a mask

46 Corp. bigwigs
47 Strong suit
48 Heston Oscar-winner (hyph.)
51 "Wheel" buy (2 wds.)
52 Declare
54 List component
56 Old pro
57 Zen question
58 Called up
59 "Orange" or "stock" ending
60 Slide sideways
61 Those people

DOWN

1 Sitcom ET
2 Arizona river
3 Out of range
4 Dynasty
5 Less refined
6 Similar
7 Air show formation
8 Regard highly
9 Red Sea republic
10 Unpaid

11 Adjoining
19 Mail out
21 Contends
23 Intrepid
24 Utmost degree
25 High dudgeon
26 By way of
27 Frighten a fly
30 Plus
32 Big green parrot
33 Wiggly fish
34 Stir-fry vessel
36 Gossip, slangily
38 "X Games" ailer
41 "— and Geeks"
43 Jeans go-with (hyph.)
44 Like city lots
45 Take the podium
46 Nemo's creator
47 Type of bean
48 Boyfriend
49 Where Bryce Canyon is
50 Russo or Magritte
53 Library abbr.
55 Movie studio

HOROSCOPES

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Sit back and enjoy what you've created for yourself and your loved ones. Share your thoughts with those who hold a special place in your heart, and the feedback you get will encourage you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — With big ideas, a small budget, innovative thoughts, you'll find a way to make everyone feel right at home. Don't worry about keeping up with the neighbors. Be yourself and use your imagination.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Refuse to let pressure build and anger rise. Be observant, and you'll realize you've got what it takes to please everyone you love with kind words and positive suggestions.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Refuse to let anyone suck you into something you don't want to do. It's important to contribute, but you also must feel comfortable and willing to do so to do a good job. Walk away from bullies.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Refuse to let what's going on daunt you. A positive attitude will help you join in and offer what you can to the festivities. Live in the moment and enjoy long overdue conversations with loved ones.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Set a path that ensures you will complete whatever's on your to-do list. Discipline and your desire to please someone special will make a loved one grateful. Don't let uncertainty get you down.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Handle situations and people with kindness, compassion and care. It's a busy time of the year, which makes it essential to be accepting, forgiving and thankful for what you have.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Don't let the changes others make upset you. Do what's best for you, and you'll feel good about yourself and what you achieve. Being receptive to new ideas will unlock useful information.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — You can reach your destination. A confident look and approach will win acceptance and the help required to reach your goal. Socializing will help you open doors.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — If you try to make unnecessary changes at home, someone will challenge you. Go with the flow throughout the festive season, but don't lose sight of your dreams.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Discuss matters that need your attention before the year ends. Go over your situation and make changes to ensure you stay on stable ground. Be wary of situations that involve shared expenses.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Put your energy where it counts and make someone happy. A kind gesture will go a long way. Showing your feelings isn't a sign of weakness; it's a sign of strength and courage.

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JUVENILE NO.: JVJV004296; JVJV004297; JVJV004298

ORIGINAL NOTICE
(CHILD IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE)

IN THE INTERESTS OF L.T., DOB: 11/18/2013, L.T., DOB: 07/24/2015, B.T., DOB: 09/29/2010, MINOR CHILDREN.

TO: JOSEPH CHEZARE NEED-HAM; KELVIN DAVID GONZALEZ FLORES; TU ANH HUYNH; ANY AND ALL PUTATIVE FATHERS

You are notified that there is now on file in the office of the Clerk of the above Court, a Petition for Child in Need of Assistance in the above-entitled actions. The Petitioner is the

State of Iowa whose attorney is Kristi Busse and whose address is 3121 West 4th Street, PO Box 317, Spencer Iowa 51301.

You are further notified that hearing on the Petition to Adjudicate the children as Children in Need of Assistance will be held before the Juvenile Court on the 3 rd day of February 2023, at 9:00 o'clock a.m. in the Courtroom of the Clay County Courthouse in Spencer, Iowa, 215 West 4th Street, Spencer, Iowa 51301.

If you need the assistance to participate in court due to a disability call the disability coordinator at 712-279-6035. Persons who are hearing or speech impaired may call Relay Iowa TTY (1-800-735-2942).

Disability coordinators cannot provide legal advice.

Date of second publication: 12-30-22
Date of third publication: 01-06-23
#379

Like to DRIVE?
If you enjoy driving and could use a nice supplement to your monthly income, check this out!

The Spencer Reporter / Northwest Iowa Shopper has an opening for a delivery driver early Tuesday and Friday morning, and Wednesday afternoons. Must have a good driving record. Interested? Want more information? Call 712-262-6610 or email publisher@spencerdailyreporter.com

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712-262-6610

IOWA LAKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE is accepting applications for a part-time (27.5 hrs/wk) **Adult Education & Literacy/Success Center Instructor located on the Algona Campus.** Primary responsibilities include teaching classes for the Adult Education and Literacy program based on enrollments which includes English as a Second Language (ESL) classes, High School Equivalency Diploma (HSED) courses and tutoring and testing in the Success Center. Day and evening hours, possibly Saturdays and travel within the college's service area will be required. Position is contingent on continued grant funding. Bachelor's Degree required. Teaching experience with ESL/ELL background preferred. \$21.20/hour. Paid sick leave, vacation, and holidays. Employee retirement plan. Review of applications will begin immediately. View complete job description and application process at www.iowalakes.edu/employment. Contact Lynn Miller at Immiller@iowalakes.edu or 712-362-0409. Iowa Lakes Community College, Human Resources, 19 S. 7th St., Estherville, IA 51334. EEO/AA Employer

IOWA LAKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE is accepting applications for a full-time **Spirit Lake Campus & Distance Education Specialist.** Primary responsibilities are to assist the Campus Director and Distance Learning Manager in the performance of their duties and activities. Associate Degree is required, Bachelor's Degree with three or more years of experience in a related area preferred. Knowledge of and experience working with online education desired. \$18.19/hr. Paid sick leave, vacation, and holidays. Employee health, dental, and vision insurance. Partially funded family insurance available. Employee life and disability insurance. Retirement package. Review of applications will begin January 3, 2023. View complete job description and application process at www.iowalakes.edu/employment. Contact Lynn Miller at Immiller@iowalakes.edu or 712-362-0409. Iowa Lakes Community College, Human Resources, 19 S. 7th Street, Estherville, IA 51334. EEO/AA Employer

IOWA LAKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE is accepting applications for part-time **Television Class Proctors** located on the Spencer Campus. Primary responsibilities include monitoring television classes, assist in delivery of instruction and advocate for student needs. 15-20 hours per week during the Spring semester. Daytime hours. \$12.00/hr. Position open until filled. Review of applications will begin immediately. View complete job description and application process at www.iowalakes.edu/employment. Contact Lynn Miller at Immiller@iowalakes.edu or 712-362-0409. Iowa Lakes Community College, Human Resources, 19 S. 7th St., Estherville, IA 51334. EEO/AA Employer

SIouxLAND DISTRICT HEALTH ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST

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Entry Salary Range: \$57,549/year + benefits.
Location: Clay, Dickinson, Emmet and Palo Alto Counties in Iowa

Graduation from 4-year college or university with course work in natural science. Must meet academic eligibility requirements for credentialing as a Registered Environmental Health Specialist/Registered Sanitarian. Will perform work in environmental programs such as food safety and lodging inspections; swimming pool, tattoo and tanning establishment inspections; emergency response; prepare reports; make presentations; conduct enforcement; and related work as required. Good oral and written communication skills. Computer skills required. Ability to lift up to 50 pounds.

Candidate for hire must pass background checks, a physical exam and drug test prior to employment. Must reside in or immediately adjacent to Clay, Dickinson, Emmet and Palo Alto counties in Iowa, or willing to relocate. Must possess a valid driver's license. For full details go to www.woodburyiowa.com. A County application form, a resume and a copy of college transcripts are required. EOE

Applications shall be submitted no later than:
4:30 p.m., Monday, January 9, 2023 or until position filled.

Apply at: www.woodburycountyiowa.gov Click on Careers

Human Resources Dept., Rm. 701 • Woodbury County Court House
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SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

The City of Hartley, Iowa/Hartley Municipal Utilities is seeking a **SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS** to direct and manage the City's Public Works Department. This administrative position is under general direction of the City Council providing administrative and technical work involved in planning and directing Public Works activities in areas of utilities (water, wastewater, electric, natural gas), street and building maintenance, public works projects, budgets, reports, parks and recreational facilities, cemetery, coordinating assigned activities with other City departments and outside agencies.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Preferably education and experience in public works administration but not required, experience with municipal utilities, budgeting, interpreting plans and blueprints, street and cemetery maintenance, effective oral and written communications, supervising and delegating duties to staff, maintaining effective working relationships, resolving customer issues, coordinating with other City departments and City Council. Must have good working knowledge of computers, including working with Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, etc.) and Adobe.

Interested applicants should send a cover letter, resume, and three professional references by mail to: City of Hartley, PO Box 153, Hartley, Iowa 51346, attention: Jaron Benz, or electronically to jaron@tcaexpress.net or call 712-928-2240. Deadline for receipt of applications and all support documents is 4:00 p.m. January 20, 2023. The City of Hartley is an equal opportunity employer and a drug-free workplace.

For complete job description, see www.hartleyiowa.com

WANTED

GAS SUPERINTENDENT

The City of Hartley, Iowa/Hartley Municipal Utilities is accepting applications for a full-time Gas Superintendent.

Duties/Responsibilities:

- Operate and maintain Hartley Municipal Utilities natural gas system
- Construct and maintain all aspects of the natural gas distribution system including distribution pipe system at 60 psi and 8 psi, regulators, meters, odorizer, etc.
- Carry out all regulatory paperwork, testing, readings and surveys so the gas utility remains in compliance with all regulations
- Install, maintain, and read meters
- Operate equipment necessary to carry out construction and maintenance of the gas system (backhoe, trencher, pipe fusion machine, welder, mini excavator, dump truck, etc.)
- Work safely, following safety procedures
- Carry out work orders and assigned tasks in a timely manner
- Assist other departments as necessary
- Willing to be part of a rotating on-call schedule
- Willing to work afterhours as needed

Qualifications/Education:

- High school graduate or equivalent
- Must have or be willing to obtain the necessary Operator Qualifications (OQ) necessary to operate the Hartley Municipal Gas utility, including pipeline welding
- Experience in natural gas utility operations and maintenance or willingness to learn
- Must have a self-starting, strong work ethic
- Must be very detail and safety oriented
- Must possess and maintain a valid Iowa Commercial Driver's License (CDL) with air brake endorsement or be able to acquire within 6 months of employment
- Will be required to be certified in First Aid and CPR
- Must have knowledge of use and care of appropriate safety gear and devices
- Must be able to carry out the physical demands of all aspects of natural gas operations and maintenance
- Must be willing to work outdoors and occasionally in adverse weather conditions

The City of Hartley has an excellent benefit package that includes Health, Dental, Vision, Paid Vacation, Sick Leave, Personal Leave and Life insurance as well as IPERS retirement benefits. Wage will be based on qualifications. EOE. Position will be dependent on pre-employment drug screening. Employment applications are available at Hartley City Hall, 11 S. Central Ave, Hartley, online at www.hartleyiowa.com or by emailing jaron@tcaexpress.net. Send application, cover letter, resume and three references to City of Hartley, Attn: Jaron Benz, PO Box 153, Hartley, IA 51346, or email to jaron@tcaexpress.net. For additional information call the City of Hartley (712) 928-2240

Applications will be accepted until January 13, 2023 @ 4 PM

SPORTS

NO. 4 SPORTS

Girl's night out: Tigers dominate all-ladies dual 84-9

TOP STORIES OF 2022

The recap of a historic night, preceding the official announcement of girls wrestling being sanctioned by the state of Iowa, brought two girls teams together for a dual in the Spencer field house in mid-January. The fact the gym was packed and rocking as the Tigers dominated is just a bonus for the Spencer Reporter's No. 4 Sports Story of the Year.

RANDY M. CAUTHRON
Managing Editor
rcauthron@spencerdailyreporter.com

It was an amazing evening at Spencer.

The hometown Tiger crowd came alive as the lights dimmed in the field house and the home wrestlers came from behind the bleachers, circled the mat and raised their hands in the middle of the familiar logo. But instead of the boys garnering the cheers and applause from the adoring fans, it was a cluster of girls preparing to host Dallas Center-Grimes in the first ever all-girls dual in the Spencer gym. The electricity in the crowd never wavered from the time the girls emerged through the introduction of past and future Tiger lady grapplers. It was a night of recognition of Spencer coach Dave Storm as the state's coach of the year last season, and a fast-paced evening of mat action which saw Spencer's girls dominate 14 of 16 matches for a 84-9 win. "I think our girls felt really proud about how well we preformed (Monday, Jan. 10)," Storm said. "I know as coaches we sure did. Once we got that momentum going in front of the big home crowd it was hard to stop us.

He continued, "It was a big night for us. It was fun and exciting, not just for the girls but our community, as well, to come watch and get behind our girls. I think we opened some eyes on what girls high school wrestling is all about."

Top-ranked sophomore, heavyweight Olivia Huckfelt wrapped up the evening, picking up a 59 second fall over Halley Beaudet; No. 2 Morgan Griffin, a senior, dominated Emily Hennigan for a 1:40 stoppage to go to 8-1 this season; Iowa's No. 3 Kaylee Nachtigal, a senior, got a second period win against Miranda Ginn; and fifth-ranked junior Paris Dean remained perfect at 140, improving to 11-0, with the evening's fastest pin, getting a 24 second fall against Thies.

Tiger senior Emma Strhomer picked up a pair of wins at 145 and 155, recording a pair of falls within one second of one another, stopping Hannah



Spencer junior Leilana Kollasch celebrates after her pin of Dallas Center-Grimes' Maya Fritz on Jan. 10 in the Spencer field house. (File photos)



"It was great to see and have some of my girl wrestlers from 2000-07 come back and get the recognition that they deserved for being some of the true pioneers of Iowa girls wrestling," — Spencer coach Dave Storm with former wrestler Macy Kuehler.



Tiger Shayla Doran, a senior, used a barbed wire to stop Asia Jahangir at 1:56.

Thies in 1:12 and Mackenzie Sizemore at 1:13. Freshman Breanna Johnson bested Gracie Waage to open the night.

Other first period falls went to freshman Kailee Spencer, senior Krystol Luna-Ruiz, senior Shayla Doran, freshman Shaylee Sutherland and sophomore Sophia Richardson.

Second period falls went to Atalia Rosales, a freshman; and junior Leilana Kollasch.

"I want to thank the community of Spencer for their awesome support Monday night at the field house," Storm said. "Spencer girls are on the move."



Dominating freshman Halley Beaudet, Spencer sophomore Olivia Huckfelt, ranked No. 1 in Iowa, needed just 59 ticks to end the evening's matches.

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SPENCER HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT ATHLETE OF THE WEEK




NAME: Logan Huckfelt
WEEKLY ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Logan was the champion at Heavyweight for the Tigers at the Austin Roberts Memorial Tournament last Saturday. He won by fall, 1:18 of the first period in the championship match, and is 12-0 so far on the young season!

Thank You
Pizza Ranch of Spencer for sponsoring the Spencer High School Student Athlete Of The Week!

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