

# Ringsted DISPATCH



WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2025

RINGSTED, EMMET COUNTY, IOWA 50578

VOLUME 132 NUMBER 8

USPS No. 466-180

\$1.00



## Galaxy Band Shines Bright



Members of Galaxy pause a moment at the Armstrong home of Glenn Henriksen. From left, Skyler Osborn, Jeffrey Speltz, Mark Kurseth, Glenn Henriksen, and Jerry Behnkendorf. Photo by Amy H. Peterson

### Stars shine bright

Emmet County-based Galaxy band is bright light in Iowa music history

In his book "The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy," Douglas Adams said 42 is the answer to life, the universe and everything. That concept is singing true for Galaxy, a band started in Armstrong in 1983 because a teenager named Darla wanted to sing and needed a band. Drummer Jeffrey Speltz was the Armstrong High School art teacher then, and searched from one end of the skyline to another to find a band for Darla Henriksen to front. Finding none, he told her, "We'll make you a band instead." Hence the spark was lit for a band that would cycle through 13 members and continues today igniting dance floors and bringing joy to audiences across northwest Iowa.

The beloved group will accept recognition in its August 31 induction into the Iowa Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. The band's first performance featured five or six songs at a barn party. "We didn't even have a full set. We had about five, six songs we had worked up," Speltz said. An enduring theme of Galaxy is a deep appreciation for classic rock; its early influences included The Beatles and Elvis. Lead singer Jerry Behnkendorf said, "We play a wide variety of music. It's not just '50s rock and roll - it's a little bit of everything." Behnkendorf had every Beatles album, and to this day could put on any collection and know what the next song would be. His deep passion and knowledge have contributed to his strength as lead singer.

This versatility has been key to Galaxy's appeal across generations and decades, allowing them to adapt their performances for everything from summer festivals to wedding receptions. The repertoire spans decades and genres, from rock and roll to country, and even gospel when

the occasion calls for it. Newer gospel songs and stylings are the main songs from the 21st century that Galaxy takes on.

Six members or former members of Galaxy gathered at keyboardist Glenn Henriksen's Armstrong home last week to remember the past and enjoy the present. One thing they all remembered was a legendary performance at the Skyliner in Estherville. That was a dance club in what is now the Elks building west of Estherville. The beat went on and on as an unexpected snowstorm stranded about 300 people in the venue. True to their dedication to music and its fans, Galaxy played through the night.

"The local police came, and they said, 'this is your last escort to town. The rest of you who want to stay here all night, you're welcome to do so,'" Glenn Henriksen remembered.

Current band members maintain a weekly summer presence at Fillenwarth Beach in Okoboji - their Monday night shows have drawn multiple generations of vacationing families for 22 years. They've made their patriotic finale, featuring "God Bless the USA," made famous by Lee Greenwood, a cherished tradition.

Glenn Henriksen said, "They have an array of American flags put at an angle on their dock, on the railing, and we always get somebody to pull one of them off and hold it." The moment brings together multiple generations from grandparents to grandchildren.

Behnkendorf said, "I want people to see we're having fun at what we do. That's half of it. If you're smiling up there and showing that you're enjoying what you're doing, you can be the greatest musician in the world."

What makes Galaxy unique stretches beyond their musical talents. Glenn Henriksen is said to be able to play anything upon hearing it or seeing sheet music. Mark Kurseth is a whip-fast and accurate drummer. Newcomer Skyler Osborn brings youthful energy as a 30-something millennial with a wealth of tattoos and experience on guitar in multiple bands in the region. However, it's

their musical family, both current and former band members and the great memories of Donnie Fausch, the guitarist who passed away in 2023. It's clear from a conversation with the band members that each member has contributed to their distinctive sound and energy over the years. Their induction into the Iowa Rock and Roll Hall of Fame is recognition of their musical achievements and their role in bringing communities together through music.

Kurseth joked, "When you play so long with people, it's just - I mean, we never make any mistakes when we're on stage! Of course if we do, everyone just covers it and goes, 'Meant to do that!'"

Here are three things to know about Galaxy's impact on the community: they've provided the soundtrack to countless celebrations, created memories for multiple generations, and maintained a standard of musicianship through the decades.

The members of Galaxy are:

- Darla Henriksen, vocal originator
- Jeffrey Speltz, drums
- Jerry Behnkendorf, vocal
- Glenn Henriksen, keyboard
- Jodi Larsen Ulrich, bass
- Rick Schirm, guitar
- Steve Madden, drum
- Tim Miller, brass
- Donnie Fausch, guitar
- Jose Garza, drum
- Mark Kurseth, drum
- Skyler Osborn, guitar

by Amy H. Peterson  
apeterson@esthervillenews.net

## Ringsted Library Corner

Author Michelle Cowan will be at the Library February 24 with a program at 3 p.m. All are encouraged to attend.

### POP TABS

Continue to save pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. They may be left at either church in Ringsted, City Hall or Ringsted Legion Community Center

## Bumgarner reviews wind ordinance

By Michael Tidemann

Darren Bumgarner, planning director at Northwest Iowa Planning and Development Commission, offered suggestions on a draft of a new wind energy conversion system ordinance at the Emmet County Planning and Zoning Commission Thursday, Feb. 13 work session.

Some of Bumgarner's suggestions were fairly straightforward, while commissioners mulled some of his suggestions in light of the work they've already done on the ordinance. Commission members agreed on Bumgarner's definition of decibel as a unit of measurement used for the intensity of sound. They also agreed on Bumgarner's suggestions that occupied dwelling be changed to a dwelling occupied or capable of being occupied. Members also agreed to keep a \$1,000 application fee consistent throughout the ordinance. They left as is a \$250 fee for small energy devices.

Regarding setbacks for incorporated communities, P&Z Chair Richard McKean noted setbacks for property lines and dwellings, saying those should be adequate for both rural and town dwellers.

Bumgarner remarked about the four- to seven-mile setback for airports and 3,280-foot dwelling setback, noting it seemed quite restrictive. He also noted that a lot of counties have set a 50-decibel limit, while Emmet County's is 45.

"Overall this is a quite restrictive ordinance," Bumgarner said, adding, "It looks pretty good overall."

McKean said the commission had studied wind ordinances around the state for the last nine months.

Bumgarner said the ordinance requirement that turbines be shut off if flicker becomes a problem. "I think that's a good thing," he said.

He also noted a potential burden of time and expense to send notifications regarding pre-applications.

The commission spent quite some time on changing language in the overall zoning ordinance regarding conditional uses:

"The following uses and structures may be permitted in the (name of district) subject to specific conditions and requirements upon approval of the board of adjustment as provided for in article XXIV of this ordinance." Each district would be specifically named in its respective area of the ordinance.

After further discussion, the commission approved sending the ordinance to the Emmet County Board of Supervisors for review and comments.

### Eyeglass Collection

Drop off your old glasses at: Ringsted Legion/Community Center and NorthStar Bank & Agency.

The program is sponsored by the Ringsted Evening Out Club.



Local is the Way to Go!

## Supervisors approve Schultes hiring

By Michael Tidemann

The Emmet County Board of Supervisors at their Tuesday, Feb. 11 meeting approved hiring Thomas Schultes, brother of Emmet County Sheriff Justin Schultes, on a part-time basis.

Sheriff Schultes said he was having difficulty hiring a fulltime deputy without a single application yet. He said he would like to look at hiring part-time deputies instead. He named several officers from the Estherville Police Department willing to work part-time, as well as his brother Thomas, now working in Palo Alto County. Sheriff Schultes said he had worked with Thomas earlier at the Emmet County Sheriff's Office. While Sheriff Schultes would be free to hire nonrelatives, it would require board approval for him to hire his brother due to Iowa nepotism laws.

Supervisor John Pluth saw no issue with Sheriff Schultes hiring his brother, and neither did Emmet County Attorney Melanie Summers-Bauler.

However, Supervisor Tim Schumacher indicated concerns with the hiring.

After discussion, the board approved Thomas Schultes' hiring, with Schumacher voting against the motion.

In other business, the board approved adding new tiers to the deputy wage scale. The scale adds tiers of 68-73 percent of the sheriff's salary to the existing scale of 74-78 percent, 80 percent for sergeant and 85 percent for chief deputy.

In supervisor reports, Chair Lisa

Hansen reported on a safety meeting in which Safety Director Mike Raner said he would like to follow up on radon mitigation in the Law Center basement and mold in the Assessor's Office. Supervisor Jeff Quastad said two parts remained on back order for radon mitigation fan installation.

Hansen said Raner also said the OSHA report will be posted quarterly. Hansen said the county had gone 313 days without a lost-time accident.

Hansen also reported on the previous Thursday's Planning and Zoning Commission work session with Al Zeitz, renewable energy director at Iowa Lakes Electric Cooperative. Hansen said Zeitz had indicated he thought it was bad public relations for companies to not address residents' complaints.

Emmet County Treasurer Lisa Rosburg distributed her forecast of the increase in driver's license fees for out-of-county residents. Emmet County residents' fees will remain the same.

Emmet County Auditor Heidi Goebel said the county's Iowa Governmental Health Care Plan renewal agenda date is March 4. She said pharmacy benefit managers are an issue. She also said the county is projected for a zero percent Wellmark renewal.

The board also approved drainage claims and discussed a follow-up of the 2026 budget session.

The board adjourned to attend a joint board meeting with the Palo Alto County supervisors at River Valley Communications in Grattinger at 10:30.

They followed with a budget planning work session 1:30 p.m. in the Emmet County Board Room.

## Lawsuit relating to moovero accident progresses

Staffing agency answers complaint filed in April

by Amy H. Peterson  
apeterson@esthervillenews.net

Kristine Pietsch filed suit against Alliance Staffing and nine individuals connected with moovero in Armstrong on April 30, 2024, for injuries to her hands she sustained in a machine mishap. Pietsch filed on behalf of herself and her six children, five minors and one, Donte Peitsch, an adult. Trial has been set for Oct. 28, 2025. Judge Carl J. Petersen of Iowa's Third Judicial District has exempted the case from Rule 1.944 guideline for the timeline between the petition or complaint and trial due to complications with providing notice to various defendants and the complexity of medical and other documents in the case.

In her petition, Pietsch detailed a May 17, 2022 incident in which Edgar Marquez, an employee of the staffing agency, was in his second day of work. Pietsch was training Marquez on the cup pressing machine with the help of an interpreter when Pietsch put her hands near the machine to make an adjustment before running another cycle. Marquez activated the machine despite what Pietsch described as

being instructed otherwise, causing devastating injuries to Pietsch's hands. Pietsch sued for negligence on the part of the company and individuals, as well as failure to maintain a safe work environment, her children's loss of consortium with her, and compensatory and punitive damages.

Friday, Feb. 7, the defendants filed an answer and additional defenses. The answer denied most of the allegations, and filed several affirmative and/or additional defenses. These defenses include the allegations that the plaintiffs failed to state a claim upon which relief can be granted, the recovery of damages is barred by Pietsch's failure to mitigate (reduce the damage caused) damages under the Iowa Code Comparative Fault Statute, that the amount of recovery from the defendants should be reduced by the amount Pietsch has received from Workers Compensation Insurance, that Pietsch should have pursued damages through other administrative means, that some of the claims are barred under the theory of assumption of risk, and that the staffing company is not at fault for damages, that the

conduct was not willful or wanton, and that the punitive damages claim is unconstitutional under the Iowa and U.S. Constitutions.

Discovery, the process of each side providing evidence to the other, is in progress.

The staffing agency is based in Indiana, and Pietsch has sued in Iowa District Court. Generally, worker's compensation benefits are the only remedy an employee has against the employer for a work-related injury, and the only remedy against a co-worker, whose actions may have contributed to the injury, according to information from the Iowa Federation of Labor and the Iowa Worker's Compensation Commissioner. However, an employee may sue for contributing factors in a case like this one.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics Midwest Information Office, private industry employers reported 32,500 nonfatal workplace injuries and illnesses in 2023, an incidence rate of 3.1 cases per 100 full time equivalent workers. The national average is 2.4. Iowa is one of ten states with a rate over 3.0/100. When all industries are considered, including state and local government, Iowa's rate is 3.2/100.



### Spilled Ink

By Clinton J. Davis

The Armstrong Heritage Museum will not open this Wednesday for our monthly meeting or for coffee. With extreme temperatures coming through the area we decided it be best to have people stay home. We will be open next Wednesday and hope to have our meeting then. The museum will open at 1 and the meeting starts at 3. The public is welcome to come tour the museum along with staying for the meeting. We love having many faces at our meetings.

\*\*\*

I hope everyone had a great Valentine's Day. Taylor and I along with our two sons decided to attend the Garage's supper that evening. Steak tips or chicken alfredo was on the menu. I got the steak with the three others getting chicken alfredo. We enjoyed a few songs being put on by Steve Lang. We showed up around five and had to leave around six due to Taylor needing to cover a shift. The plan was to stay and listen to "the cowboy sing" as Calvin kept saying. When it came time for Taylor to leave, Calvin was not happy. I didn't want to ruin peoples Valentines meal with a crying three-year-old, so we carried him off and got him in my truck. I got him to stop crying by tail whipping around a few corners on the way home. That seemed to get his mind off of Mom leaving him for the evening. Maybe next year we can stay and listen to some cowboy music a little longer.

\*\*\*

Hartley was bummed to not have school yesterday. I'm sure most kids were very excited to have the day off but Hartley was a little disappointed. Temperatures the last few days has hardly made it above zero degrees. Wind chill temps will be close to negative forty degrees so calling off area schools was a great idea. I am one to always love going to work. The smell of the shop along with coffee brewing is a great way to start each day. However, Tuesday morning was different. I could have stayed home in the warm comfort of my home all day. The cold temperatures has even brought about a couple of mice looking for food in my garage. I caught one on Super Bowl Sunday and returned him to Jerry Ulrich about four rows in.

\*\*\*

The Bank Midwest ladies did a great job with the Betterment Club's pancake breakfast last weekend. The food was great and it was ready before we attended church. We knew we wanted to go before church because our boys wouldn't eat lunch if we did it after so having the food ready at 8 a.m. was awesome! I think I know who should be voted in as Business of the Year next year. They are doing an awesome job fundraising for the ABC. Keep it up!



## Paging Back through the Ringsted Dispatch

### 100 Years Ago - February 1925

• February auction sales are: Joe McIntire's February 19th; George K. Nelsen and Jens Jensen's February 17th; Paul Fredricksen's February 20th.

• A special bargain counter has been installed at Sando & Olson's, you will find low prices given on this counter at all times.

• Headline: Free Throw Beats Terril - Extra Period of Five Minutes Necessary to Decide Ringsted-Terrill Game last Friday Evening

### 75 Years Ago - February 1950 - No issues available

### 50 Years Ago - February 1975

• Photo: Travis Jeremy is pictured with his mother, Mrs. Rick Nielsen. They live near Halfa. He was born December 8th.

• Photo: The Iowa Heart Association presented a plaque to Mrs. Nadine Smith, who was the Emmet County chairman in 1974. The plaque recognizes Emmet County as the highest Iowa over its goal for 1974.

• Ad: 1975 Annual Ringsted Firemen's Ball at Gay Parea - Hand's Park, Saturday, March 1; Dance to the music of Joe Schultz; admission \$1.50

### 25 Years Ago - February 2000

• Photo: The ticket read, "Helena Irmiter, I won. Call me at 866-2091" and was drawn for the Food Check-Out Day program sponsored by Iowa Farm Bureau Women.

• Erin Rogers and Josh Madden were crowned Friday evening, February 11, as Snow Week Queen and King and reigned over the Snow Ball that evening.

• "Fishing for Your Pennies" campaign in A-R Schools officially ended February 19 and their goal of raising \$1000 for the Leukemia Society of America was doubled.



North Union High School will be sending two wrestlers to state competition starting on Wednesday, February 19 at Wells Fargo in Des Moines. Representing North Union in the 175 pound division is Brennan Bollinger. Pictured are head coach Joe Johnson, Max Merrill, Brennan Bollinger and Logan Johnson.

## THE RINGSTED DISPATCH

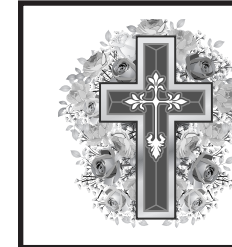
USPS No. 466-180 • Periodicals Postage Paid at Ringsted, Emmet County, IA 50578. Official newspaper, published weekly (520 6th Street, Armstrong, IA 50514), for Ringsted, IA & North Union Community School. Member of Iowa Newspaper Association, Des Moines, IA. PUBLISHED BY: Stateline Publications 712-868-3460

Kristin & Jay Grabinoski, Publishers email: krigs@armstrongjournal.com clint@armstrongjournal.com SUBSCRIPTION RATES (1-year): Emmet, Kosuth, Palo Alto Counties \$32.00 • Outside above areas \$38.00. Out of State \$41.00. E-edition an additional \$5 to any print subscription; Only E-edition \$32.00. All subscriptions payable in advance.

ADVERTISING RATES: Classified, \$5.00 minimum (10 words), 35¢ per word after ten words; cash in advance; unless billed to regular account; display rates upon request.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Ringsted Dispatch, PO Box 188, Ringsted, IA 50578

# EMMET COUNTY COURTHOUSE REPORT



I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again.  
John 3:3

## District court

Jan. 15 – Jerry Lee Lockhart Jr. of Jackson, Minn., was found guilty of contempt – resist order or process of district court. The defendant was sentenced to 21 days in jail and fined \$855 and assessed \$1,776.56 costs and a \$218.25 surcharge.

Jan. 16 – Riley Johnson of Estherville pleaded guilty to harassment – 1st degree. The defendant was sentenced to 300 days in jail with 121 days suspended and credit for time served. The defendant was placed on one year of probation to the Department of Corrections and assessed \$454.08 costs.

Jan. 21 – Rufino Rodriguez Lopez of Estherville pleaded guilty to operating while under the influence 1st offense. The defendant was sentenced to 48 hours in jail and fined \$1,250 and assessed \$100 costs and a \$187.50 surcharge.

Jan. 23 – Epifania Rodriguez of Estherville received a deferred judgment for operating while under the influence 1st offense. The defendant

was placed on six months of probation to the Emmet County Attorney and fined \$1,250 and assessed \$100 costs and a \$153.75 surcharge.

Magistrate court  
Jan. 15 – Marco Antonio Agustin of Estherville pleaded guilty to public intoxication. The defendant was sentenced to one day in jail with credit for time served. The defendant pleaded guilty to assault – intend to cause pain/injury. The defendant was sentenced to one day in jail with credit for time served and fined \$105 and assessed \$179.25 costs and a \$15.75 surcharge.

Tyler Christopher Vogt of Cedar Rapids pleaded guilty to harassment – 3rd degree. The defendant was sentenced to 30 days in jail with credit for all time served.

Small claims  
Jan. 14 – LVNV Funding, LLC of Plymouth, Minn., received a \$642.79 judgment plus interest and costs from Shirley Berry of Estherville.

Capital One Bank USA, N.A. of Golden Valley, Minn., received a \$2,570.27 judgment plus interest and court costs from Jordan Allan Jones of

Armstrong.  
AAA Collections Inc. of Sioux Falls, S.D., received a \$4,974.21 judgment plus interest and costs from Charles Anthony Doucet Jr. of Estherville.

ABC Realty, Inc., of Algona received a \$1,800 judgment plus interest and costs from Francis Gabriel Arcand of Armstrong.

Jan. 15 – Accounts Management Incorporated of Sioux Falls, S.D., received a \$272.32 judgment plus interest and costs from Mark Alan Iverson of Gruver.

Jan. 21 – Accounts Management Incorporated of Sioux Falls, S.D., received a \$126 judgment plus interest and court costs from Chase Tarvin of Estherville.

Accounts Management Incorporated of Sioux Falls, S.D., received a \$2,078.50 judgment plus interest and court costs from Mandi Lynn and Tyler John Clabaugh of Estherville.

LVNV Funding LLC of Plymouth, Minn., received a \$1,941.69 judgment plus interest and court costs from Michael Gene Knaack of Gruver.

LVNV Funding LLC of Plymouth, Minn., received an \$845.49 judgment plus interest and court costs from Breanna Rae Rogne of Estherville.

Jan. 22 – Midland Credit Management, Inc., of West Des Moines received an \$866.16 judgment plus interest and costs from Dakotah Ryan Muilenburg of Estherville.

Jan. 23 – TD Bank USA of Brooklyn Park, Minn., received a \$2,287.64 judgment plus costs from Audrey Jean Whitacre of Estherville.

Traffic court  
Jan. 13 – Gustavo Angel Rodrigues of Estherville pleaded guilty to no valid driver's license. The defendant was fined \$260 and assessed \$55 costs and a \$39 surcharge.

Pedro Pablo Cintro Gonzalez of Estherville pleaded guilty to failure to provide proof of financial liability. The defendant was fined \$325 and assessed \$55 costs and a \$48.75 surcharge.

Pedro Pablo Cintro Gonzalez of Estherville pleaded guilty to failure to obey traffic control device. The defendant was fined \$260 and assessed \$55 costs and a \$39 surcharge.

Hector Ovdulio Valezquez Lopez of Estherville pleaded guilty to no valid driver's license. The defendant was fined \$260 and assessed \$55 costs and a \$39 surcharge.

Jan. 14 – Agueda Hernandez Rosendo of Estherville pleaded guilty to no valid driver's license. The defendant was fined \$260 and assessed \$55 costs and a \$39 surcharge.

Jason Jerald Summers of Estherville pleaded guilty to failure to provide proof of financial liability. The defendant was fined \$325 and assessed \$55 costs and a \$48.75 surcharge.

Jan. 15 – Brady Lee Pate of Ottosen pleaded guilty to speeding six through 10 over in a 55 or under zone. The

Pedro Pablo Cintro Gonzalez of Estherville pleaded guilty to failure to provide proof of financial liability. The defendant was fined \$325 and assessed \$55 costs and a \$48.75 surcharge.

Pedro Pablo Cintro Gonzalez of Estherville pleaded guilty to failure to obey traffic control device. The defendant was fined \$260 and assessed \$55 costs and a \$39 surcharge.

Hector Ovdulio Valezquez Lopez of Estherville pleaded guilty to no valid driver's license. The defendant was fined \$260 and assessed \$55 costs and a \$39 surcharge.

Jan. 14 – Agueda Hernandez Rosendo of Estherville pleaded guilty to no valid driver's license. The defendant was fined \$260 and assessed \$55 costs and a \$39 surcharge.

Jason Jerald Summers of Estherville pleaded guilty to failure to provide proof of financial liability. The defendant was fined \$325 and assessed \$55 costs and a \$48.75 surcharge.

Jan. 15 – Brady Lee Pate of Ottosen pleaded guilty to speeding six through 10 over in a 55 or under zone. The

defendant was fined \$55 and assessed \$55 costs and an \$8.25 surcharge.

Jan. 16 – Gary L. Barrett of Armstrong pleaded guilty to operation without registration card or plate. The defendant was fined \$70 and assessed \$55 costs and a \$10.50 surcharge.

Jan. 21 – Salvin Omar Santos of Estherville pleaded guilty to no valid driver's license. The defendant was fined \$260 and assessed \$55 costs and a \$39 surcharge.

Jan. 22 – Wilfredo Venancio Palencia Aristondo of Estherville pleaded guilty to no valid driver's license. The defendant was fined \$260 and assessed \$55 costs and a \$39 surcharge.

Jan. 23 – Tanner John Fisher of Estherville pleaded guilty to careless driving. The defendant was fined \$55 and assessed \$55 costs and a \$7.50 surcharge.

Tanner John Fisher of Estherville pleaded guilty to driving over/upon/across curb/dividing section. The defendant was fined \$135 and assessed \$55 costs and a \$20.25 surcharge.

Eldon Paul Hatfield of Fairmont, Minn., pleaded guilty to failure to obey stop sign and yield right of way. The defendant was fined \$135 and assessed \$55 costs and a \$20.25 surcharge.

Antonio Lucero Bejarano of Ringsted pleaded guilty to unlawful passing of school bus – first offense. The defendant was fined \$345 and assessed \$60 costs and a \$51.75 surcharge.

**If you can dream it, we can probably do it! And, if not, we can find a source for you to get it done.**

**Custom Printing**  
**712-868-3460**

For advertising send email to: [ads@armstrongjournal.com](mailto:ads@armstrongjournal.com)

# Legal Publications

All legal publications are published as submitted.

## Your Right To Know Proceedings of Emmet County Board of Supervisors

### Approved Emmet County Board of Supervisor Minutes

February 4, 2025, at 08:30 a.m.  
Regular Meeting  
Board Room, Courthouse

Present: Todd Hansen, Chair; John Pluth; Lisa Glasnapp; Jeff Quastad; Tim Schumacher-Vice Chair  
Media: Mike Tidemann, Ed Funston  
Emmet County Employees present: Heidi Goebel, Travis Sheridan, Dan Burton, Sheriff Schultes, Walter Davis-Oeth

Chairman Hansen, called the meeting to order. All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Motion by Glasnapp, second by Quastad to approve the minutes of the last meeting 1.28.2025 also approving them

for publication. Motion to approve the agenda by Schumacher, second by Glasnapp. All Ayes, motion carried.

Committee updates: Schumacher-Sioux River Mental Health's director has had her last day; Quastad-planning and zoning meeting on Thursday, Feb. 6 at 5:30.

Pluth joined the meeting at 8:34 a.m. Public forum: EMA Director, Travis Sheridan, discussed the crisis canine therapy project. Crystal Clarke is the crisis canine dog handler. Sheridan has applied for the grant through Sioux Rivers for \$6300 to fund this crisis canine's certification process. This project is not funded with taxpayer dollars. Sheriff Schultes shared the example of the role the dog played in the juvenile river rescue last year.

Sheridan also shared with the Board the proposed State of Iowa legislative bill that will decrease funding for E911 at a local level. HSB 104 in the 2025 legislative session.

Auditor Goebel shared budget session planning today from 10:00 to noon, annual library luncheon meeting at noon, budget session tomorrow from 8:30 to 3:30, and joint board meeting with Palo Alto on Feb. 11 at 10:30 a.m. at River Valley Telecommunications in Graettinger. There will be an Emmet County board meeting February 11th at 8:30 a.m. with travel to Graettinger to follow.

Sheriff Schultes discussed squad vehicles. Dodge truck order cancelled and two Durango vehicles are purchased. Schultes is also working with IT Director, Trevor Duckert, on quotes for squad vehicle laptop and docking station replacements.

Walter Davis-Oeth shared with the board quotes for cranes/hoist for the secondary roads' new maintenance building. Purchase will be made with the Sioux Falls based company and low bid.

Dan Burton, Assistant to the County Engineer, presented the shoulder work project HSP-SWAP-C032(58)-FJ-32 to the board for consideration. County received \$475,000 in federal money for the project out of the total cost \$575,000. Motion to approve by Quastad, second by Schumacher. All ayes, motion carried.

Chairperson Hansen opening the public hearing at 9:00 a.m. for Emmet County FY 25 Budget Amendment #1. No public comments were received. Motion to close the public hearing by Quastad, second by Pluth. Roll call vote: Schumacher-aye, Glasnapp-aye, Pluth-aye, Quastad-aye, Hansen-aye. Motion carried.

Motion to adopt Resolution 25-07 Emmet County Budget Amendment #1 by Pluth, second by Glasnapp. Roll call vote: Schumacher-aye, Glasnapp-aye, Pluth-aye, Quastad-aye, Hansen-

aye. Resolution adopted. Full details of the budget amendment may be found online at [emmetcountya.gov](http://emmetcountya.gov) or in the Emmet County Auditor's Office in the courthouse.

Steve Hallgren with Planning Solutions discussed with the Board his proposal for contracted zoning director services. He presented a quote for his services for the remainder of FY 2025 \$16,640, FY 2026 \$17,305, FY 2027 \$20,800 as well as a list of services provided. Hallgren also provided his background with zoning and current client list of Planning Solutions. Hallgren would need a county point of contact to receive paperwork. No action taken.

DD 22 drains into DD29. A section of file in DD 22 was replaced by B and B Drainage. DD 22 will need to be assessed separately from DD29.

Motion by Quastad, second by Schumacher to adjourn at 9:41a.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

Board adjourned to a budget planning session with county departments and the Estherville Library Luncheon to follow.

Heidi Goebel, Auditor  
Lisa Hansen, Chairman  
(Published February 19, 2025)

## Your Right To Know Proceedings of North Union Community School Board of Education

### North Union Board of Education Minutes

January 20, 2025  
The regular monthly meeting of the North Union Board of Education was held on January 20, 2025 at 5:00 pm in the Board Room, High School

Members present: Miller, Nielsen, Pergande, Pixler, and VonBank  
Members absent: none  
Others present: Supt Schueller, Secretary Rogers, and member of the community

Pixler moved to approve the agenda; Miller seconded. Unanimous ayes.

Reports were received by Supt Schueller and Board Member Miller.

Pixler moved to approve the consent agenda; Miller seconded. Unanimous ayes.

Nielsen moved to approve the first reading of board policy 700 series as presented; Miller seconded. Unanimous ayes.

Action to update the North Union High School Student Handbook was tabled.

Miller moved to approve the resignation of Wava Jarr as High School Art Teacher, effective at the end of the 2024-25 school year; Nielsen seconded. Unanimous ayes.

Pixler moved to approve the resignation of Mattie Hall as High School English Teacher, effective at the end of the 2024-25 school year; Pergande seconded. Unanimous ayes.

Miller moved to approve the resignation of Paige Lang as High School Vocal Teacher, effective at the end of the 2024-25 school year; Nielsen seconded. Unanimous ayes.

Nielsen moved to approve Kiana Lowe as High School Art Teacher for the 2025-26 school year; Pergande seconded. Unanimous ayes.

Miller moved to approve Danielle Schueller as High School Secretary for the 2025-26 school year; Pixler seconded. Unanimous ayes.

The February meeting was tentatively set for next 17th at 5:00 pm in the Board Room, High School Campus.

Miller moved to adjourn the meeting; Nielsen seconded. Unanimous ayes.

Jennifer VonBank, President  
Erin Rogers, Secretary

ALGONA CSD,Services	185,316.74	CHAMPION,Supplies	112.97
ALGONA CLASS,Services	135.00	DEHRKOP, MICHAEL	
ALLIANT UTILITIES,Services	7,120.62	REYER, MELISSA,Refund	140.00
AMAZON,Supplies	500.61	FRESEMAN, COLLIN	210.00
ARMSTRONG BUILDING SUPPLY		Services	140.00
Supp	843.85	HANSON, ADAM,Services	140.00
ARMSTRONG JOURNAL		HYVEE,Supplies	27.56
Services	298.77	IOWA FFA ASSOCIATION	
ARMSTRONG SERVICE CENTER		Registr	432.00
Supp	40.00	JMV GRAPHIX,Supplies	519.00
BENNETT RECYCLING		KBEW,Services	137.35
Services	1,605.00	KILR,Services	172.50
BIERSTEDT, MICHELLE		KREG POOL COMPANY	
Reimb	94.98	Supplies	677.53
BLACK, KATIE,Reimb	178.35	KWIK TRIP/KWIK STAR	
BOMGAARS,Supplies	727.81	Supplies	104.32
CENTRAL IOWA DISTRIB		LARSEN, JARED/AUTUMN	
Supplies	799.00	Refund	220.00
CITY OF ARMSTRONG		LEDYARD COUNTRY STORE	
Services	532.88	Supp	163.75
CULLIGAN WATER,Supplies	97.50	MARTIN BROTHERS	
DHS CASHIER 1ST,FL		Supplies	318.63
Services	4,675.93	MILLER, JOHNSON,Services	140.00
ESTHERVILLE DAILY NEWS		MILLER, JOHN,Services	140.00
Supp	59.00	NORTH KOSSUTH CSD	
FARM BUREAU,Payroll	180.00	Services	489.02
FENTON COOP TELEPHONE		NU GENERAL,Payroll	215.30
Sves	208.40	NU NUTRITION,Supplies	268.18
G & R CONTROLS,Supplies	213.80	NUEHRING, CALEB,Services	140.00
HASSEBROEK REFRIG		OLESON, LUCAS/KATIE	
Services	2,156.49	Refund	100.00
HYVEE,Supplies	562.49	PARKS, GREGORY,Services	140.00
IHSSA,Entries	72.00	PEPSI-COLA,Supplies	2,586.73
IAB,Registration	225.00	PETTY CASH	2,100.00
IOWA COMM NETWORK		PRESTON, AMY,Refund	240.00
Supplies	109.15	Rogers, Erin,Reimb	28.80
JW PEPPER,Supplies	35.00	ROLLING, CASSANDRA	
JCL SOLUTIONS,Supplies	45.49	Refund	190.00
JOANN FABRIC,Supplies	48.43	RYAN, STEVEN,Reimb	19.43
MARTIN BROTHERS		SAM'S CLUB,Supplies	1,291.74
Supplies	148.06	SIMPSON COLLEGE	
MENARDS - MANKATO		Scholar	1,000.00
Supplies	72.96	SLATER, JASON,Services	140.00
NORTH KOSSUTH CSD		SOUTHEAST TECH COLLEGE	
Services	108,712.76	Scholar	250.00
NORTH STAR MUSIC		SPORTFUN.COM,Supplies	359.84
Supplies	72.00	SPRTBOARDZ,Supplies	125.50
NU ACTIVITY FUND		WALETICH, DONALD	
Services	2,813.83	Services	140.00
PETTY CASH		WALMART,Supplies	115.80
PLUMB SUPPLY COMPANY		WOODRIDGE, KARL	
Supplies	67.00	Services	140.00
PRESTO-X-CO,Services	28.37	Fund Total:	16,500.77
PRITTS ELECTRIC MOTORS		PHYSICAL PLANT & EQUIP FUND:	
Sves	69.40	ACCESS TECHNOLOGIES	
RINGTEL COMMUNICATIONS		Lease	6,570.26
Sves	440.58	K&W,Equipment	746.00
Rogers, Erin,Reimb	684.47	HASSEBROEK REFRIG	
ROGERS, TIMOTHY,Reimb	911.20	Services	14,890.00
SCHOOL BUS SALES		JT EXCAVATING LLC	
Supplies	591.82	Services	1,095.00
SCHUELLER, TRAVIS		Next Generation Tech	
Reimb	346.39	Services	8,032.50
SIPMA, RANAE,Services	120.00	PRIME,Equipment	561.50
STAR BELL,Supplies	50.55	RESEUSA.COM,Equipment	761.64
TIMBERLINE BILLING		Fund Total:	32,597.55
Services	482.85	NUTRITION FUND:	
VOYA INST TRUST,Payroll	1,718.32	DEAN DAIRY,Supplies	1,119.90
Zotz, Robert,Reimb	23.80	HARTER FOODS,Supplies	182.80
Fund Total:	325,455.87	MARTIN BROTHERS	
ACTIVITY FUND:		Supplies	3,764.17
AMAZON,Supplies	648.69	NU GENERAL,Payroll	21,669.03
ANDERSON, ADAM		Fund Total:	26,735.90
MELANIE,Refund	40.00		
ARMSTRONG BUILDING SUPPLY			
Supp	1,224.19		
BAND SHOPPE,Supplies	147.95		
BROMELAND, TOM,Services	140.00		
CASEYS,Supplies	423.98		

(Published February 19, 2025)

## Your Right To Know Proceedings of Armstrong City Council

### APPROVED ARMSTRONG CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

Regular Council Meeting: January 8, 2025 - 5:00 PM

Mayor: T. Schueller  
Council Presenters: J. Eaton, R. Nutt, R. England, R. Trenary, A. Kinnander  
Absent: None  
City Clerk: A. Sathoff  
City Attorney: D. Stein  
(Telephonically)  
Maintenance: T. Leininger  
Engineering & Vendors: Phil Henrickson  
Press: M. Tidemann  
Citizens & Presenters: Carol Solberg, Emmet County Sheriff-J. Schultes

Mayor T. Schueller called the meeting to order. Pledge was recited. Motion by J. Eaton to approve the agenda, seconded by A. Kinnander. Vote: Ayes-5 Nays-0 Abs-0. Motion Carried.

Motion by A. Kinnander to approve the consent agenda with amended gross bill amount of \$63,490.66 and the October 2024 Financials, seconded by R. Nutt. Vote: Ayes-5 Nays-0 Abs-0. Motion Carried.

Claims to be paid January 2025

Payee	Function	Amount
Alliant Energy	Electricity - 2 months	\$12,375.27
Ringtel		\$97.51
Alliant Energy	Electricity Current	\$8,314.67
Armstrong Journal	Publications	\$284.70
Armstrong Service Center	Fuel & Service	\$1,014.65
Armstrong Building	Supplies	\$114.54
Armstrong Community Center	3rd Qtr LOST Distribution	\$984.85
Armstrong Library	3rd Qtr LOST Distribution	\$984.85
Armstrong Senior Center	3rd Qtr LOST Distribution	\$562.77
Base, Cafeteria Plan Admin	Clerk Books, Support	\$950.00
Darborn Life, Life Insurance	DSG, Sewer Pip fittings	\$58.20
ECCOG	November Garbage	\$4,472.79
ECCOG	December Garbage	\$4,131.65
Emmet County Sheriff	December Joseph	\$6,386.53
Fahlsing, Joseph, Cell Phone	Fahlsing, Joseph, Overtime	\$52.44
Garbage Truck Transfer, Dec	H&H Rentals, Storage	\$500.00
Hawkins, Water Plant	IA Dept of Revenue	\$429.54
Nov Sales & Use	IA Dept of Revenue	\$303.42
Nov Excise Tax	Payroll Accounting Fee	\$1,046.52
Intuit	Iowa Rural Water	\$172.27
Linsey Minnham-Cleaning	IMWCA, Work Comp #7	\$594.00
Watermain Leak		\$825.00

Leaf, Copier Contract	\$133.84
Leininger, Troy, Cell Phone	\$30.00
Leininger, Troy, Overtime	\$125.53
Municipal Maint. Services	\$595.00
Affidavit Operator	\$439.00
Next Generation, Tech	\$539.00
Northwest IA League of Cities	\$25.00
Dues	\$25.00
Opies Construction	\$300.00
Truck Tool Box	\$155.68
Post Office, Postage	\$57.43
Presto-X, Pest Control	\$362.70
Pro Cooperative, Diesel	\$246.99
Ringtel, Phone Internet	\$30.00
Sathoff, Amy, Cell Phone	\$30.00
Simmering Cory	\$2,000.00
Grant Administration	\$79.99
Stalls, Water Dept & Shop	\$79.99
State Hygenic Lab	\$875.00
Water Sample Testing	\$487.50
Stein Law, City business	\$219.76
Trenary, Ron, Samples	
Veenstra Kimm	
Wellmark, Insurance	\$7,631.96
Wellmark, Insurance	\$1,740.65
Wellmark, Insurance	\$3,239.00
<b>Library Total</b>	<b>\$958.34</b>
Library	
Karen Foklers-Reimb	\$276.86
Demco	\$126.65
Baker & Taylor	\$325.32
Center Point Lg Print	\$112.00
Lake City Public Library	\$10.00
Woodward Public Library	\$10.00
<b>Library Total</b>	<b>\$958.34</b>
Community Center	
NOVATAE-Dram Ins	\$1,219.60
Ringtel	\$28.84
Cress Refrig - Beer Cooler	\$202.50
Linsey Minnham-Cleaning	\$82.50
<b>Comm Center Total</b>	<b>\$1,533.44</b>

Sheriff Schultes was reported by Emmet County Sheriff Justin Schultes for the month of December 2024.

T. Leininger gave the maintenance report. Leininger reported that a used truck utility box was purchased for \$300 and that it can be mounted on the truck by TG's at a cost of \$1,500-\$2,000. Motion by R. Nutt, seconded by R. England to approve the installation. Vote: Ayes-5 Nays-0 Abs-0. Motion Carried.

Leininger reported that the sewer lining project is on hold due to an issue that maintenance and the utility committee will meet with the contractor on the 17th and discuss. Leininger reported on recent maintenance issues for the City.

Leininger shared that the contract with Macquire has been terminated.

Leininger would like to purchase a ph tester, dissolved oxygen tester and cameras for the water plant. The consensus of the Council was to have Leininger proceed with the purchases.

A. Kinnander was taken to a motion to approve payment to Veenstra & Kimm in the amount of \$19,622 from the sinking sewer fund for the additional lagion work. Vote: Ayes-5 Nays-0 Abs-0. Motion carried.

P. Henrickson shared with the Council that the City's Health Insurance plan will increase 8.86% but the life insurance will remain the same. Motion by A. Kinnander, seconded by R. England to sign the renewal and keep current plan. Vote: Ayes-5 Nays-0 Abs-0. Motion carried. Henrickson reported that ICAP is also projecting a 3% increase in their rates.

Golf Course Drive Haugen Invoices -Motion by J. Eaton, seconded by R. England to invoice Haugen separately from his utility billing (much like a service contract) and allow him to pay the balance over 12 months and removing all late fees that have been incurred. Vote: Ayes-4 Nays-Abs.-A. Kinnander. Motion carried.

No action was taken on the FY2026 Budget request from Upper Des Moines Opportunity.

The Council reviewed the demand from King Construction. Upon recommendation from Legal Counsel Stein, the Council took no action at this time.

SLFRF Funding-A. Sathoff reported that the SLFRF obligation deadline of 12-31-2024 has been met. Sathoff also shared FY2026 Property Valuations and FY2026 Budget Deadlines with the Council.

Citizen Solberg expressed concern regarding the dim lighting on Golf Course Drive. The poles are owned by Alliant. Solberg also expressed concern over fencing left over after the road construction project. The fencing is privately owned. Staff will check with Alliant on lighting options.

J. Eaton reported that the Tree planting grant has been submitted.

Motion by R. Nutt to adjourn at 6:12 p.m., seconded by J. Eaton. Vote: Ayes-5 Nays-0 Abs-0. Motion Carried  
Adjourned at 6:12 PM

ATTEST:  
Travis Schueller- Mayor  
Amy M. Sathoff- City Clerk  
(Published February 19, 2025)

**IPN IOWA PUBLIC NOTICES**  
IOWA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING — PROPOSED BUDGET  
Fiscal Year July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026 RINGSTED BENEFITED FIRE DISTRICT

The Board of Trustees of RINGSTED BENEFITED FIRE DISTRICT will conduct a PUBLIC HEARING on the proposed fiscal year budget as follows:  
Meeting Date: 3/5/2025 Meeting Time: 02:30 PM Meeting Location: (entered upon publish: Ringsted Fire Station  
District Clerk/Secretary Name: Dennis Nelson Clerk/Secretary Telephone Number: (712) 260-9281

At the public hearing, any resident or taxpayer may present their objections to, or arguments in favor of, any part of the proposed budget. This notice represents a summary of the supporting detail of receipts and expenditures on file with the Clerk.

FUND	FYE June 30, 2024 Actual Expenditures	FYE June 30, 2025 Re-estimated Expenditures	FYE June 30, 2026 Proposed Expenditures	Estimated Ending Fund Balance June 30, 2026	Estimated July 1, 2025 Beg. Balance & All Other Receipts	Estimated Amount To Be Raised By Taxation
General	72,642	211,800	206,700	122,761	271,399	58,062

Proposed taxation rate per \$1,000 valuation: \$ 0.60750  
(Published February 19, 2025)

# Obituaries



Lloyd Chris Petersen

Lloyd Chris Petersen, the son of Alfred and Elnora (Johnson) Petersen was born May 26, 1934, in Ringsted, Iowa. Lloyd departed this life on Sunday, February 9, 2025 at his home, at the age of 90. A funeral mass for Lloyd was held on Friday, February 14, 2025 at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Graettinger with Father Paul Kelly celebrating. Burial took place at St. Jacob's Catholic Cemetery in Graettinger. Family prefers that memorials be designated towards Graettinger Terril Community Foundation.

He received his education in the Ringsted schools graduating from Ringsted High School in 1952. On January 10, 1953, Lloyd was united in marriage to Joleen Thiel in Graettinger, Iowa. Following their marriage, the couple began raising their family and initially made their home in Forest City and Sibley, Iowa where Lloyd worked as a manager at the local lumber yards. In 1956, they moved to Graettinger, where he owned and operated the West End Tavern. In 1959, he purchased what would become Petersen Insurance and in 1962, he bought the insurance office in Ringsted.

Lloyd was passionate about giving back to the community. He served on the original boards that built the community pool and Hillcrest country club and golf course. He was President of many boards and councils including the Palo Alto County Gaming Development Commission and Graettinger Economic Development Council and serving on the Light Plant board for over 50 years. He was also chair of the Immaculate Conception church finance committee. He was honored to be the Labor Day parade Grand Marshall and he so enjoyed selling Labor Day tickets as that gave him the opportunity to talk with friends and strangers.

Many will recall seeing Lloyd on the golf course on any given afternoon, in all seasons. His swing changed a bit

over the years, but he still managed to win the annual Petersen Golf Tournament two years ago. His golf highlights include scoring a double eagle while golfing with Father Beacom and a bucket list golf trip to Scotland where he met Gary Player. You could be sure to see Lloyd on the sideline of every Graettinger football game and in the stands of basketball games and wrestling matches. The trip to Des Moines for the state wrestling tournament was always a highlight of his year. Lloyd never missed an opportunity to dance. He spoke fondly of traveling to the various ballrooms across northern Iowa. Though his favorite partner was always Joleen, every daughter, daughter-in-law, granddaughter, and many bystanders were swept onto the dance floor when the music moved him. He always said he did not like to travel but he would come back from his trips talking about how much fun he had, whether it was simply a camping trip in his motor home to local lakes, Doc's Roundup, football tailgates or his trips to several international destinations. Lloyd liked nothing more than spending time with his children, preferably with a cocktail in hand while grilling steaks or chops for 30. He headlined many family vacations to National Parks, beaches, and NCAA basketball tournament games but gathering the ever-growing Petersen Clan in Graettinger was his greatest joy.

Left to cherish Lloyd's memory are his seven children: Mary (Doug) Herke of Emmetsburg, Iowa; Barbara (Tom) Graber of Coppell, Texas; Lloyd Chris (Michele) Petersen, Jr. of McLean, Virginia; David (Carol) Petersen of Vienna, Virginia; Michael (Dina) Petersen of Richmond, Virginia; Jonathan Petersen of Graettinger; Anastasia (Eric) Kvam of Wildwood, Missouri; sister Lois Graham; sister-in-law, Pat Thiel; 23 grandchildren, and 16 great-grandchildren.

He has been preceded in death by his wife Joleen; parents; brother Dale; mother-in-law and father-in-law Anastasia and Henry Thiel. Henry Olson Funeral Home of Graettinger assisted the family with arrangements, online condolences may be left for the family at [www.henryolsonfuneral.com](http://www.henryolsonfuneral.com).



Leslie Wayne Studer

Funeral Service for Leslie Wayne Studer was held at the Swea City Community Church, on Tuesday, February 18, 2025 with Pastor Todd Hartscock as officiant.

Military Rites were given by the United States Navy Honor Squad and American Legion Post 14, Swea City, Iowa.

Leslie Wayne Studer, was born on October 17, 1943. He died on February 10, 2025, at Mayo Clinic Health Systems in Fairmont, MN at the age of 81 years.

Les graduated from high school in 1961 before enlisting in the United States Navy. He was honorably discharged in 1986.

Les married Rebecca Fulton on July 11, 1981, and to this union, two children were born, Daniel and Stacey.

After his time in the military, Les worked for the Department of Justice in IT for the US Attorney's Office in Cleveland, OH and Huston, TX. He travelled all over the country setting up offices.

In 2004, Les and Becky moved to Swea City, where Les was very active in the American Legion and the Swea City Community Church. He was very community minded and could often be found helping put up the flags in the park, serving at the pancake breakfast or ushering at the church.

Les is survived by his wife, Becky Studer of Swea City; his son, Daniel Studer; daughter, Stacey Marie (Wiley) Patterson; sister-in-law Bonnie (Robert) Madaras; niece, Karen Anne Loges; and his best friend, Mike Donnelly.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Online condolences may be left for Les' family at [HenryOlsonFuneral.com](http://HenryOlsonFuneral.com)

Always remember  
Staline Publications  
for all your printing projects!

**Staline Publications**  
712-868-3460  
[kris@armstrongjournal.com](mailto:kris@armstrongjournal.com)  
[clint@armstrongjournal.com](http://clint@armstrongjournal.com)



## Coming Events

**Wednesday, February 19**  
5 - 8 p.m. Liver & Onions Special at NorthStar Restaurant & Lounge in Fenton, Iowa; Friday also Fish Night & Saturday also Prime Rib.

**Saturdays, 1st & 4th thru March**  
1 p.m. Registration for Cribbage Tournament; 1:30 p.m. play begins. Tournament held at The Garage in Armstrong; ABC Fund Raiser for 2026 Street Dance-IV Play; Have your own board, please bring along.

## NK board decides on new hallway flooring

By Kim Meyer  
The North Kossuth School Board held their regular monthly meeting Monday, February 10, 2025.

For the past several months, the board has been discussing different options to fix the flooring in the hallway by the conference room. North Union superintendent Travis Schueller gave the board two options - tile or epoxy with flakes. Schueller noted that the Adapt Coatings did the epoxy flooring in the new high school weight room and are very pleased

**Sunday, March 2**  
8 a.m. - 12 p.m. Breakfast Buffet at The Garage in Armstrong; Fundraiser for Madisen Bunkofsky's trip to play softball in Italy for USA, \$12/adults, \$8/ages 0-8 years old.  
10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Breakfast Brunch at Ringsted America Legion/Community Center, free will donation, take-outs available, supplemented by Thrivent Action Team

**Wednesday, March 5**  
10 a.m. - 12 noon You are invited to Art's-Way Demo Day @ Riverview Cattle, 1893 570th Ave., Armstrong

with how it turned out. The board voted to hire Adapt Coatings to epoxy the floor at a cost of \$22,944.

The board approved to set the 2025-26 Budget Hearing be set for March 17, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

The board approved the following resignations: Allison Walders as middle school volleyball coach and Chris Hansen as middle school track coach.

The next meeting is tentatively set for March 17th at 6:00 p.m.



**Making Valentines at Armstrong Library**  
With just a little help from volunteers, even the youngest were busy making a Valentine for someone special.

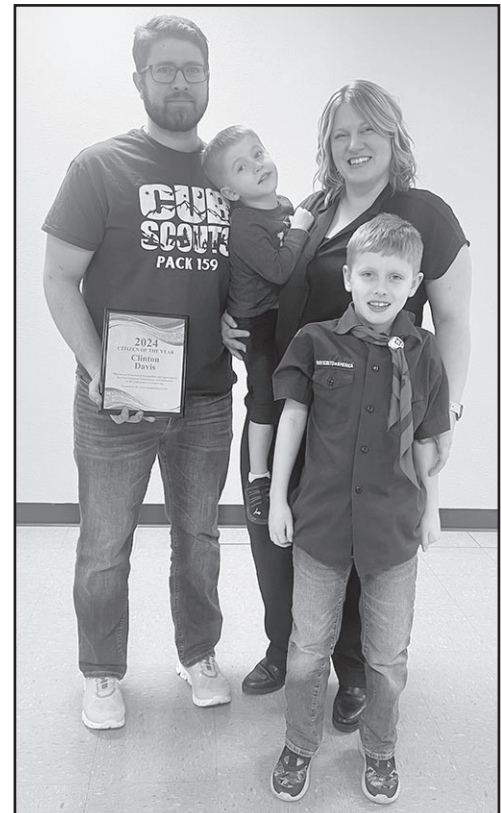
**PHOTO ON THE LEFT:**  
Four kids busy with beautiful Valentine creations for that someone special in their young lives. Such a fun and easy project when they have a large assortment of supplies available for making Valentines.

*Thank You!*

Thank you to the Armstrong Betterment Club for selecting me as 2024 co-Citizen of the Year. It is an honor to be recognized for my love of Armstrong. I couldn't be Citizen of the Year without the support of my family. Taylor keeps my schedule in place. She tells me where I need to be and when. My two boys, Hartley and Calvin, make me better everyday. I hope they see the benefits to helping others and the community as they grow older. Thank you to all three of them.

Thank you to Sherry Grussing for reading and announcing my award at the ABC Annual Meeting. It meant a lot coming from a good friend.

Thank you to my friends and co-workers who make me a better person each year. I enjoy what I do every day and it is because of who I get to do it with.



Lastly, thank you to the community of Armstrong for everything. I am grateful for being named co-Citizen of the Year in this awesome town.

- Clinton J. Davis

# Church Services

Weekly church messages are contributed by these concerned and responsible citizens & businesses listed below!

Join the church service directory!  
List your business here —  
Call the office -- 712-868-3460 -- of the  
Armstrong Journal / Ringsted Dispatch today!!

**Embellishments & Floral**  
Hwy. 169. Bancroft • 515-885-2230  
[www.andisfloral.com](http://www.andisfloral.com)

**Petersen Insurance Agency**  
Graettinger LLOYD and JONATHAN Ringsted  
859-3841 PETERSEN 866-1826

FARM EQUIPMENT REPAIR  
**Dan's Repair**  
866-0211 • RINGSTED, IA

**RingTel**  
www.ringtelco.com  
712-868-8000 Ringsted  
712-868-8000 Armstrong  
515-870-8000 Swea City

**Bank Midwest**  
Member FDIC  
Armstrong 712.864.3250 BankMidwest.com

712-868-3500 Armstrong, Iowa Main 712-362-3322 Downtown 712-362-2641 Estherville, Iowa  
712-866-3500 Ringsted, Iowa  
**NorthStar Bank & Agency**  
NorthStar Agency Ringsted 712-866-0220 Estherville 712-362-2606

**ARMSTRONG JOURNAL**  
**RINGSTED DISPATCH**  
CALL US FOR ALL YOUR PRINTING NEEDS **712-868-3460**

**UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Ringsted, Iowa  
Vicar Kim Kacmarynski  
WEDNESDAY, February 19  
5 p.m. Confirmation  
6:30 p.m. Choir  
SUNDAY, February 23, 2025  
7th Sunday after Epiphany  
9:15 a.m. Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service with Communion  
WEDNESDAY, February 26  
5 p.m. Confirmation  
6:30 p.m. Choir

**NAZARETH LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Armstrong, Iowa  
Vicar Kim Kacmarynski  
WEDNESDAY, February 19  
5 - 7 p.m. Confirmation & Youth  
SUNDAY, February 23, 2025  
9 a.m. Worship Service  
10:15 a.m. Sunday School  
TUESDAY, February 18  
9 a.m. Quilting  
WEDNESDAY, February 19  
5 - 7 p.m. Confirmation & Youth

**UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
Dolliver, Iowa  
SUNDAY, February 23, 2025  
9 a.m. Worship Service

**GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH**  
Armstrong, Iowa  
Rev. Lyndon Roesler  
WEDNESDAY, February 19  
9 a.m. Women's Coffee & 9:30 a.m. Bible Study  
NO Choir.  
SUNDAY, February 23, 2025  
9 a.m. Contemp. Worship Service, 10 a.m. Fellowship Coffee  
10:15 a.m. Adult SS, Kids SS 10:15  
TUESDAY, February 25  
10 a.m. VV Bible Time  
10:30 a.m. Spring Creek Bible Time  
WEDNESDAY, February 26  
9 a.m. Women's Coffee & 9:30 a.m. Bible Study  
7:00 p.m. Choir.  
THURSDAY, February 27  
Need all information for March Calendar

Note: AA at 7 p.m. every Wed. & Cub Scouts on 1st & 3rd Mon. each month

**ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
Armstrong, Iowa, Rev. Paul Kelly  
WEDNESDAY, February 19  
6 p.m. Religious Ed. at St. Mary's  
FRIDAY, February 21  
7:30 a.m. Mass, St. Patrick's, E'ville  
SUNDAY, February 23, 2025  
10:30 a.m. Mass, St. Patrick's, E'ville  
TUESDAY, February 25  
8 a.m. Mass at St. Mary's  
12 Noon Mass, St. Patrick's, E'ville  
WEDNESDAY, February 26  
6 p.m. Religious Ed. at St. Mary's  
FRIDAY, February 28  
7:30 a.m. Mass, St. Patrick's, E'ville

SUNDAY, March 2, 2025  
10:30 a.m. Mass, St. Patrick's, E'ville  
NOTE: St. Mary's Church in Armstrong held its final regularly-scheduled Mass on Sunday, January 12, 2025.

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
Armstrong, Iowa  
Pastor Suzanne Wobig and  
**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
Ringsted, Iowa  
Pastor Suzanne Wobig  
SUNDAY, February 23, 2025  
9 a.m. Worship Service in Ringsted for the month of February 2025

**For the Love of God**

The expression "for the love of God" is often uttered as a mild curse, an expression of exasperation when we might feel like screaming something worse. It's certainly better to say "for the love of God" than to utter something worse, but it still probably falls into the category of using God's name in vain when we don't mean it literally. And that is a shame because it's really a very beautiful expression, if we think about it and what it literally means. We should do everything for the love of God. If that is our motive then there is nothing to fear. If you are afflicted by doubts about your salvation, it might help to ask yourself simply whether you are acting for the love of God. If you are truly acting for the love of God it won't matter so much whether you are saved or damned, though you surely won't be damned if that is truly your motive. We should do all for the love of God. Joy will surely follow.

— Christopher Simon

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment."  
Matthew 22:37-38

## What would our Founders think of Iowa official's warning letter?

By Randy Evans

When Thomas Jefferson, James Madison and their pals set their quill pens to parchment to write the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, Decatur County, Iowa, was still a half century off in the future.

Now, 236 years later, the county's top law enforcement official needs a refresher on the intent of those 45 words the Founding Fathers settled on in the opening of the Bill of Rights.

County Attorney Alan Wilson ought to review three of the five fundamental freedoms — the freedoms of speech, of the press, and to petition the government for a "redress of grievances."

Exercising those rights is exactly what Rita Audlehelm of Van Wert did in a letter to the editor the Leon Journal-Reporter published on February 5.

Audlehelm is aggrieved, as our Founding Fathers would call it. She wants redress of her grievances — for the absence from the courthouse in Leon of one of three elected county supervisors.

Steve Fulkerson has not attended in person most board meetings since last October, even though each Decatur County supervisor is paid \$32,120 annually. (The county attorney will be paid \$65,638 this year, an Iowa State Association of Counties salary survey says.)

So, Audlehelm spoke by letter to the local newspaper.

"Did you know that the last 17 BOS (Board of Supervisors) meetings since 9/30/2024, Supervisor Fulkerson has attended just one meeting (12/23/2024) in person?" she wrote. "There have been 8 call-ins by Fulkerson to meetings, the majority of those calls have been short, only long enough to address one issue, and some resulting in a dropped call."

The same day the Journal-Reporter printed Audlehelm's letter, Wilson wrote her on official county attorney stationery, with copies to the three supervisors, and sent his letter by certified mail.

His delivery method signaled to the 73-year-old retired school nurse that she better pay special attention to the letter's contents.

Wilson demanded, "This letter serves as your Notice to Cease and Desist from making any further false, misleading, or defamatory statements against any elected official of Decatur County."

Randy Evans can be reached at [DMREvans2810@gmail.com](mailto:DMREvans2810@gmail.com).

*Worship at the church of your choice this Sunday.*

# Schultes clarifies law enforcement goals

By Michael Tidemann

Emmet County Sheriff Justin Schultes presented his monthly report and clarified some future goals with the Armstrong City Council at their Wednesday, Feb. 12 meeting.

Schultes noted 27 calls for service over the previous month with one arrest warrant served. He also suggested the possible purchase of the city's patrol vehicle which has been in storage since the county took over law enforcement services four years ago. Schultes said he would meet with the Emmet County Board of supervisors about purchasing the 2014 Dodge Charger and he has storage space for the vehicle. That would save the city the \$50 monthly storage fee it's currently paying.

Schultes also said he is hiring part-time deputies to help with road patrol, and has six applications so far. Schultes said he should be staffed at nine officers, but is down to five. As a result, he recently worked 12 days in a row.

Schultes said he would have no problem maintaining Armstrong law-enforcement records, and would have a dedicated area for files.

In other business, City Superintendent Troy Leininger said he planned on taking his wastewater exam. Leininger said an Iowa Department of Natural Resources site survey determined trees needed to be removed on the north bank of the city lagoon, so he and public works employee Joey Fahlsing cut some down. Leininger also said the water plant was working well and a sewer had frozen up at Fourth Avenue and Adams.

Leininger requested approval of purchase of a used welder/generator for \$4,500, and the council approved. The council also officially approved Leininger as cemetery supervisor, since he was already doing the job. The council also approved Leininger's request for sewer clean out by Visu-Sewer on Second Avenue from Third to Fifth Streets.

In another matter, the council approved a pay order request of \$9,850.17 to completed electrical work on the wastewater plant.

In other business, the council:

- Approved a 4 percent negotiated wage increase for city employees.

- Transferred \$860,000 to a money market account.
- Set a public hearing for the March meeting for a fiscal 2025 budget amendment.
- Set a March 26 public hearing date for the fiscal 2026 proposed tax rate.
- Agreed to advertise for summer mowing, pool manager and lifeguard positions.
- Re-appointed Dave Stein as city attorney.
- Approved a request by Phil Henriksen of the ABC Club to pay for 10 bags of mulch at \$3,100 before discount for the city park playground. Henriksen said a \$1,000 ICAP safety grant would help pay for part of the cost.
- After a closed session, took no action on a pay demand from King Construction.
- Approved appointment of Krista Mart to the revolving loan committee.
- Denied one and approved two revolving loan refunds.
- Approved a request by the former city clerk to return found items.



They're reading us everywhere!  
Jay and Kris Grabinoski of Armstrong and Andrea Accola-Sabin of Swea City visited friends and family in Mesa, Arizona recently. Pictured left to right are: Cindy and Denny Mathiason, Kathy and Dan Meyer, Jay and Kris Grabinoski, Ken and Andrea Sabin.

## My weekly column:

### American energy independence is vital to our national security

By Rep. Randy Feenstra

Like the rest of the Trump administration, our new EPA Administrator, Lee Zeldin, is already off to a roaring start. Last week, he announced the EPA's newest initiative – "Powering the Great American Comeback." The five pillars of this plan outline the administration's intent over the first 100 days to restore American energy dominance, bolster our own domestic production, and reduce our reliance on foreign energy resources.

Previously, the Biden administration caved to Green New Deal radicals, refusing to drill for oil and stopping the export of liquefied natural gas, and instead opting to make the United States heavily reliant on foreign energy. On the day of his inauguration – January 20th – President Trump immediately took action to unleash the massive potential of American energy production. The executive order signed by President Trump encourages new energy exploration, lifts many burdensome regulations, and even rolls back the electric-vehicle mandate that I have fought so hard against.

My Republican colleagues and I are excited to get even more work done with President Trump and Administrator Zeldin to reduce energy costs, take steps towards total energy independence, and protect our farm producers. We must also use homegrown Iowa biofuels to secure American energy dominance. To that end, I recently joined my fellow Ways and Means colleague, Rep. Adrain

Smith of Nebraska, in sending a letter to Administrator Zeldin asking that the EPA support year-round access to E-15 nationwide, establish fair Renewable Volume Obligations for biofuels, and protect and strengthen the Renewable Fuel Standard.

If E-15 sales are made permanent year-round and nationwide, consumers would save almost \$21 billion at the pump. It would also return nearly \$40 billion back into the wallets of American families. In 2023, the biofuel industry sustained over 394,000 American jobs and contributed \$54 billion to our GDP – which is 28% of total U.S. farming GDP. It is estimated that year-round, nationwide sales of E-15 would generate \$66.3 billion for our GDP. The economic upside of homegrown fuels is massive.

For Iowa's farmers and our rural communities that rely on the agricultural economy, year-round E-15 is a no-brainer. According to the Iowa Corn Growers Association, Iowa produces the most ethanol in the nation – nearly 30% of total ethanol production. 62% of Iowa's corn is dedicated to the production of domestic energy. 1.6 billion bushels of Iowa corn powers vehicles across the country, and the potential for growth is limitless. Biofuels are great for our farmers, producers, and rural main streets.

American biofuels also provide a much-needed alternative to foreign sources of energy. Grown right in our backyard by our hardworking farmers, American ethanol offers a reliable source of fuel in the face of threats from abroad, particularly from China. Representing the largest biofuel-producing district in the country, I will always advocate for homegrown Iowa biofuels and continue to work with President Trump to support our farmers and producers.

### Emmet County Community Foundation Grant Writing Workshop

The Emmet County Community Foundation (ECCF) will host a public grant writing workshop to discuss its 2025 grant cycle. Members of the ECCF committee, along with Shanda Hansen, CFNEIA Director of Affiliate Impact, will review the grant guidelines, budget template and application and will provide grant writing tips. There will also be time for Q&A.

Wednesday, March 5  
5:15 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.  
Estherville Public Library  
To register, visit <https://form.jotform.com/250345549957974>

For questions about this event, please contact Shanda Hansen, Director of Affiliate Impact with the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa, at [shansen@cfnea.org](mailto:shansen@cfnea.org) or 319-243-1357.

The Emmet County Community Foundation's 2025 grant application will open on March 1, with a deadline to submit applications by 5:00 p.m. on

April 15, 2025.

The online grant application will be available on the Community Foundation's website. Grants may be awarded to projects in the areas of arts and culture, community betterment, education and youth development, environment and animal welfare, health, and human service.

Grants are available to 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations and government entities. Tax-exempt organizations classified as other than 501(c)(3) are also eligible, if and only if, the project is deemed charitable; please contact Shanda Hansen at 319-243-1357 or [shansen@cfnea.org](mailto:shansen@cfnea.org) to discuss the project's eligibility prior to submitting a proposal. Grants selections are made in an effort to create a better quality of life for people in Emmet County. A local governing committee reviews the applications from charitable organizations serving their community.

The Emmet County Community Foundation is a local organization making grant investments to organizations that create a stronger and more vibrant quality of life in Emmet County. The Foundation helps people establish permanent funds for the causes they care about in their community.

**Have some news you'd like to share?**  
Call 868-3460  
with your news today!

**Tree Service**  
**Kevin Jasa's Tree Service**

- Tree Trimming
- Removal
- Stump Grinding
- Insured

712-362-5526 or 712-209-0751

**PERGANDE**  
LAWN CARE ENTERPRISES

712-261-0568

**M.E.'S**  
**BODY SHOP**  
AND DETAIL CENTER

Estherville, Iowa 51334 • 712-362-3950  
Computerized Estimates • Certified Technicians • Complete Car Care

**Glatz Electric**  
ARMSTRONG, IOWA

712-852-6532 | 712-852-6531  
Mike Jamie

Licensed in Iowa and Minnesota  
**DAY Plumbing Heating & Cooling**

Repair • Service • Installation  
1410 E. Blue Earth Ave | Fairmont, MN 56031  
(507) 235-9009  
[www.dayplumbing.com](http://www.dayplumbing.com)

**Mitch's Towing**

Wrecker • Rollback • Recovery  
Mitch Preston  
Armstrong, IA • 712-363-0394  
AAA - Cross Country - Approved

Proudly providing Telephone, Internet, and Cable Television services to Ringsted, Armstrong and Swea City

**RingTel**  
COMMUNICATIONS

[www.ringtelco.com](http://www.ringtelco.com)  
712-866-8000 Ringsted  
712-868-8000 Armstrong  
515-870-8000 Swea City

# Business & Professional Directory

**Laubenthal Insurance Services LLC**  
David Laubenthal - Agent  
specializing in crop insurance

1002 390th St. Bancroft, IA david.laubins@gmail.com  
515-341-6053 (c) 515-598-7872 (f)

**McGREGOR ACCOUNTING LLC**  
Barb Nemmers, EA Amy Fossen, EA Julia Fritsche

423-6th Street, Armstrong, IA 50514  
712-868-3943 • Fax 712-868-1010

**AG industrial**  
a tradition of innovation

Pressure Washer Sales & Service  
Your Local Aaladin Dealer  
300 - 5000 psi • Hot & Cold  
Hoses, Wands, Blaster Nozzles, Biosecure  
DAVID HILL, Owner/Operator  
507-235-5503

**GLASS SOLUTIONS**  
SHANE & ANTHONY MILLS

641-430-3308 & 712-866-2222  
BRITT, RINGSTED & SURROUNDING AREA  
MOBILE SERVICE

WINDSHIELD REPAIR & REPLACEMENT

**A & A Seamless Rain Gutters**

Estherville  
712.362.2591 • 712.339.1260

- Over 40 Years Experience
- Locally Owned & Operated (Insured)
- 28 Different Colors To Choose From • Leaf Screens
- We Use Only The Highest Quality Materials

**Armstrong Public Library Hrs.:**

Monday noon - 6  
Wednesday 10 - 6  
Friday noon - 6  
Saturday 9 - 1

Ph. 712-868-3353  
HHP://www.armstrong.lib.ia.us

Library Board meets on the third Monday of the month, 5:00 p.m.

**RINGSTED PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Sun. & Mon. Closed  
Tues. and Thurs. 12:30 - 2:00  
Wed. 9:00 - 6:00  
Sat. 8:00 - 12:00

PH.: 866-0878

SPECIALIZING IN LARGE and DIFFICULT TREE PROJECTS

Rock • Gravel • Clay Dirt • Demolition  
Excavating • Manure Trucking • Crushed Concrete Heavy Hauling

**THATE'S TREE SERVICE**  
Serving You Since 1977  
[www.thattree.com](http://www.thattree.com)

**1-800-225-8733**  
Complete professional care for Commercial, Residential, and Agricultural Property

"Servicing & Supporting the Surrounding Communities"

**INGALLS ELECTRIC**  
28 Years in Business  
Bancroft, Iowa

Home, Commercial & Farm Wiring  
Contact/Schedule  
P.J. Ingalls • 515-320-1129

**Laura Schuelke**  
Stylist/Owner at In Style Salon in Armstrong

Tue. - Fri. 8-4:30  
Weekend - Closed  
712-209-7465  
Men • Women • Children

SINCE 1839  
**Schaeffer's**  
SPECIALIZED LUBRICANTS

Mark Olson • Fenton, IA • 888-889-2982

**Number 1 Trailers:**

- Alum Trailers
- H & H Trailers
- Yacht Club Boat Trailers
- Also Sun Heat Heaters

**DITSWORTH AUTO**  
Roger Ditsworth 885-2506, Bancroft  
Cell Ph.: 515-341-0832 [ditsworthauto.com](http://ditsworthauto.com)

**J & J Recycling**  
2341 Hwy. 169, Elmore, Minnesota  
Phone: 507-943-3653

Hours:  
Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m. - 4:30 pm.  
Closed over lunch from 11:45 - 1 p.m.  
Closed Saturdays

**YOU BRING IT WE'LL BUY IT!**  
~ ROLL OFF SERVICE AVAILABLE ~  
10, 20 & 30 YARD BOXES

Buying across the scale by the ton!  
Iron, cars, trucks, tin, wire, machinery, farm equipment and any other metals you may have on the farm or around the shop. Also buying aluminum cans, copper, brass, batteries, cast iron, radiators, stainless steel, wire, etc.

**DON'T FALL!**  
Pick up some **TRIPLE ICE MELT**

50 lbs bags \$20<sup>00</sup> plus tax

- Will not damage concrete
- Use smaller amount than regular melt.

Call and order your bag today at 712-868-3460 or stop by the Armstrong Journal office and pick up your bag

# Classified\$

CLASSIFIED ADS: \$7.00 minimum for 10 words; 40¢ per word after ten; Billing charge of \$1.25 per invoice for charge classifieds

## THE CITY OF ARMSTRONG

is taking applications for **LIFEGUARDS**

To pick up an application, contact City Hall • 712-864-3535  
Deadline for applications is March 21, 2025.

ARMSTRONG CITY COUNCIL



## THE CITY OF ARMSTRONG

is taking applications for **MOWING POSITIONS**

To pick up an application, contact Armstrong City Hall 712-864-3535.  
Deadline for applications is March 21, 2025.

ARMSTRONG CITY COUNCIL



## THE CITY OF ARMSTRONG

is taking applications for **POOL MANAGER**

To pick up an application, contact City Hall • 712-864-3535  
Deadline for applications is March 21, 2025.

ARMSTRONG CITY COUNCIL

## Get Ready for Winter!

Stop in to get your car cleaned up and detailed!

### M.E.'S BODY SHOP & DETAIL CENTER

Estherville, Iowa • Mike Eggers • 712-362-3950  
Certified Technicians • Complete Car Care

## 2023 Bronco Badlands Clearance Sale

MSRP \$66,385  
Model Year Clearance Sale -\$4,000  
Emmetsburg Ford Discount -\$3,291  
Final Price \$59,094

**EMMETSBURG FORD**  
712-852-2544 www.cbford.com  
906 Grand Avenue, Emmetsburg, IA 50536



### Miscellaneous

Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 5-Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-855-954-5087 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

### Miscellaneous

Does your basement or crawl space need some attention? Call Thrasher Foundation Repair! A permanent solution for waterproofing, failing foundations, sinking concrete and nasty crawl spaces. FREE Inspection & Same Day Estimate. \$250 Off ANY project with code GET250. Call 1-866-554-1730

### Miscellaneous

Safe Step. North America's #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-844-376-4154

## KOSSUTH COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD GARAGE SALE



Water's Edge Nature Center meeting room,  
1010 250th Street, Algona,  
Friday, February 21 • 8 am – 4 pm  
Saturday February 22 • 8 am -12 noon.

A wide variety of items will be offered including the following:  
• Kitchen & Household items • Books and DVD's for all ages  
• 8 old barn doors • Set of 8 wooden chairs • Endtable • Wildlife artwork  
• 6 drawer bedroom dresser • 3 large aquariums • Numerous hand tools  
• Outdoor gear and hunting gear • Power saws including a radial arm saw, band- saw and two Stihl chainsaws • Plastic and metal tool boxes  
• Many misc. items

Following payment, all items must be removed by 1:00 pm on Saturday, February 22nd. Payment by cash or local check only. All sales final.

## DON'T FALL!



Pick up some **TRIPLE ICE MELT**

50 lbs bags **\$20.00** plus tax

- Will not damage concrete
- Use smaller amount than regular melt.

Call and order your bag today at 712-868-3460 or stop by the Armstrong Journal office and pick up your bag

## Cribbage Tournament

Saturday, February 22  
The Garage, Armstrong  
1:00 p.m. - Registration  
1:30 p.m. - Play Begins  
\$22 entry fee per 2-person team  
Payback (Dependant on number of teams)  
Sponsored by Armstrong Betterment Club  
Proceeds go to 2026 July 4th Street Dance

## CARS, VANS, TRUCKS

20 Chevy Equinox LT, 4-dr., silver, 1.5 L, AWD, full power, 1-owner	<b>SOLD</b> \$15,500
18 Ford F150 XLT Sport, 4x4, crew cab, silver, 86,000 mi., 1-owner	\$25,000
18 Chrysler Pacifica Limited, 4-dr., gray, V6, leather, sunroof, 1-owner	\$18,500
17 Dodge Caravan GT, 4-dr., white, V6, wheels, leather, full power	\$ 8,500
17 Chevy Impala LTZ, 4-dr., white, V6, auto, leather, sunroof	\$15,500
11 Dodge Challenger RT, 2-dr., gray, V8, Hemi, auto, wheels, 2-owner	\$24,800
10 Ford Edge SEL, 4-dr., blue, AWD, V6, leather, full power	\$ 2,500
05 Ford F-150, 4-dr., crew, V6, auto, full power, white	<b>SOLD</b> \$ 6,500

HOT DEALS! ALUMA - And H-H TRAILERS - SAVE BIG \$\$  
DITSWORTH AUTO SALES CELL: 515-341-0832 BANCROFT, IA SHOP: 515-885-2506

### Contract Mowing-County Conservation Areas

The Kossuth County Conservation Board is accepting bids for contract mowing for the 2025 mowing season for Siems Park and Michaelsen Marsh.

Siems Park is located at 305 200th Street, Whittemore, Iowa. The bid also includes mowing the Stinson Prairie parking lot located at 1905 70th Ave, Whittemore, Iowa twice a month.

Michaelsen Marsh is located at 1809 330th Street, Titonka. The bid for this area also includes the mowing of the parking lots at Patterson Wildlife area located at 1405 300th Street, Burt, Iowa twice a month.

Please submit the mowing bid on a per time basis. For detailed information on the mowing requirements contact Kendall Stumme at 515-295-2138. Bids may be dropped off at the Water's Edge Nature Center at Smith Lake or emailed or mailed to:

Kendall Stumme, Director  
Kossuth County Conservation Board  
1010 250th Street, Algona, Iowa 50511  
Email: kstumme@kossuthccb.com

The deadline for submitting bids is Thursday, March 6th at 4:00 P.M. The Conservation Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids based on the best interests of the board.

THE KOSSUTH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE IS NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THE FULL-TIME POSITION OF "OFFICE MANAGER". APPLICATIONS CAN BE PICKED UP AT THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE AT 121 WEST STATE STREET IN ALGONA ON MONDAY - FRIDAY BETWEEN 8 A.M. AND 4 P.M. OR EMAIL REQUEST FOR APPLICATION AND JOB DESCRIPTION TO: [sheriffsoffice@kossuthcounty.iowa.gov](mailto:sheriffsoffice@kossuthcounty.iowa.gov)  
APPLICATION DEADLINE IS 4 P.M. ON FEBRUARY 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2025 OR UNTIL POSITION IS FILLED.

This position requires knowledge of office management, financial management, handling sensitive and confidential information and proficiency with office software. A job description, salary range, and benefits are available with application process.

KOSSUTH COUNTY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

### Midwest Land Management

## Swine Facility For Sale

4100 70th Avenue • Swea City, IA

### 3,840 Head Site

- 2 - 40' x 392' finishing barns on 5 acres
- 3 years remaining on integrator contract
- New generator
- Labor available

### MIDWEST LAND MANAGEMENT

For information call Glenn Baker • 712-212-4417  
[www.midwestlandmanagement.com](http://www.midwestlandmanagement.com)

## CENTRAL STATES AGENCY, LLC

**122 E Ramsey Street Bancroft, Iowa**  
Prime commercial building for sale located on the thriving main street in the heart of Bancroft. Currently operating as a hair salon, this property is ideal for a large range of businesses!

Updated interior with modern finishes. Attached warehouse/ storage space for all your needs. This property offers endless opportunities & potential! Make your business dreams come true!

**107 4th Street N Swea City, Iowa**  
Nestled in a nice neighborhood just one block from the school, this inviting three bedroom home offers comfortable living with gorgeous hardwood floors and freshly painted walls. The living room features beautiful built-ins and a cozy fireplace. Sitting on a corner lot, this property provides quality outdoor space. This home is a must-see!

**CONTACT OUR TEAM TODAY FOR ALL OF YOUR REAL ESTATE NEEDS!**  
515-885-2649; Toll free: 888-740-4255  
[realestate@centralstatesagency.com](mailto:realestate@centralstatesagency.com) 107 W Ramsey St., Bancroft  
125 N Main St., Buffalo Center  
[www.centralstatesrealestate.com](http://www.centralstatesrealestate.com) Licensed in Iowa and Minnesota

### Soccer For Success Coordinator – Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Emmet County

- Organize and manage soccer sessions, recruit coach-mentors, schedule soccer practices, and encourage healthy lifestyles.
- Individual must be reliable, detail oriented, problem solver, self-motivated and able to work independently as well as part of teams of staff and volunteers.
- Employment from June – August 2025. 36 hours per week: 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM Monday-Thursday.
- Applications will be reviewed as they are received. Position will be open until filled. Application and a full job description can be found at [www.extension.iastate.edu/emmet/](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/emmet/)
- Emmet County Extension and Outreach is an EEO/AA Employer

We can stop HIV, Iowa—  
by taking a whole-person approach to our sexual health.

Get screened for HIV at least once in your lifetime, and request HIV screening any time you are getting tested for sexually-transmitted infections (STIs).  
STIs can cause long-term health issues when left untreated. They can also increase your chances of acquiring HIV. Getting tested for all sexually-transmitted infections is the best step you can take to protect your own health and help to stop HIV in Iowa!

## STOP HIV IOWA

Learn more at [stophiviowa.org](http://stophiviowa.org)



## Informed citizens build stronger communities



**IOWA**  
PUBLIC NOTICES  
IOWA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

[iowapublicnotices.com](http://iowapublicnotices.com)

Roll Ends of Newsprint available at the Armstrong and Bancroft Offices

# Two Warrior wrestlers headed to State

By David Swartz  
dswartz@esthervillenevsn.net

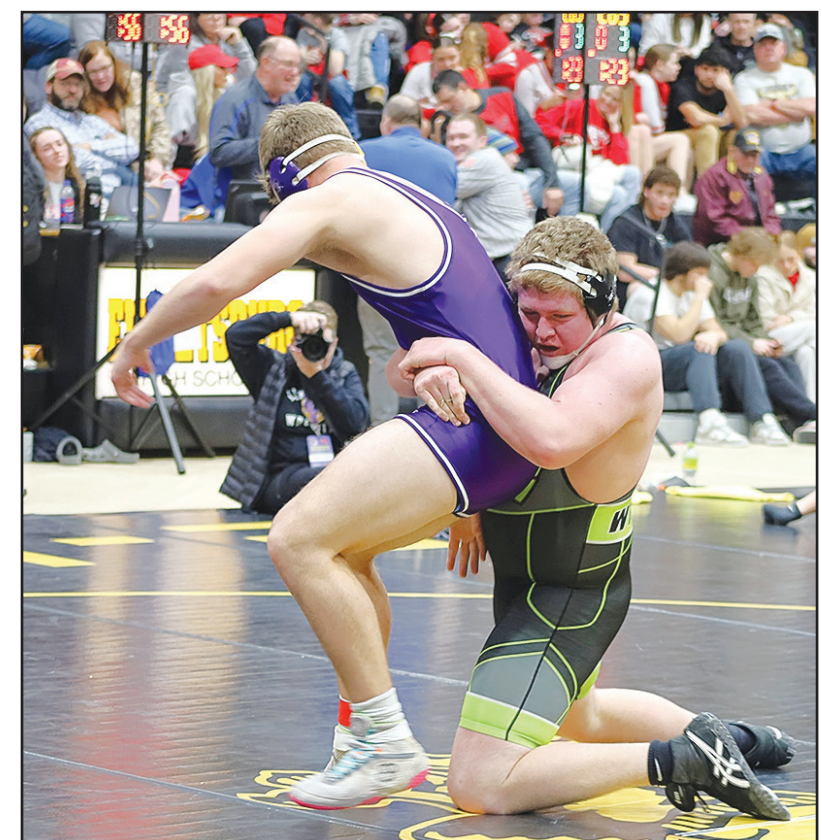
EMMETSBURG — Two North Union wrestlers will be making the trip to the state meet this week following their efforts at last Saturday's Class 1A District Meet in Emmetsburg.

Both Max Merrill (175) and Brennan Bollinger (285) finished second to earn their first trips to Wells Fargo Arena in Des Moines. As a team, the Warriors finished eighth overall with 52 points.

short to a tough opponent in Wyatt Hanna in the finals," said Johnson. "We're hoping to get another shot at Hanna in the semis at state."

Merrill, a sophomore, heads to state with a 35-17 record while Bollinger, a senior who is ranked seventh, is 45-4.

Class 1A wrestling starts at 1:30 p.m., today (Wednesday) with the Thursday and Friday sessions also at 1:30 p.m. for that class. Saturday's consolation semifinals and finals start at 9 a.m. for all classes with the finals starting at 5:15 p.m.



North Union senior Brennan Bollinger wrestled his way to a second place finish to earn a spot to compete at state in the 285 pound division.

"Guys up and down the lineup brought their best wrestling on Saturday," said North Union coach Joe Johnson. "Max had to turn around a 10-2 loss from three weeks ago at the conference to make it to state and that's just what he did winning that matchup in the semis 8-7."

North Union had 12 wrestlers at Saturday's district meet. Senior Ethan Preston (120) was the only other Warrior to place as he finished fourth with a 2-2 record.

Merrill won his quarterfinal match by fall in 52 seconds against Seth Donelson of East Sac County. In his semifinal match against Lake Mills' Austin Stene, Merrill came up with a takedown and four-point fearful in the second period to build a 7-1 lead. Stene tried to come back in the third period with a pair of takedowns, but Merrill hung on for the one-point win.

In the final, Emmetsburg's Justin Wirtz, ranked third, defeated Merrill by fall in 48 seconds.

Preston lost by fall to West Lyon's Thomas Blauwet in the quarterfinal, but battled back with a pair of pins in the consolation rounds, defeating Ridge View's Raiden Bradley and East Sac County's Evan Brockman. However, he lost to Blauwet by fall in the third-place match.

Meanwhile, Bollinger pinned his way to the heavyweight final, defeating West Bend-Mallard's Jack Habben in 39 seconds and Graettinger-Terrill/Ruthven-Ayrshire's Donovan Young in 1:20.

Other North Union wrestlers at the district meet were Samuel Kirkegaard (126), Jackson Hutchinson (132), Hunter Clendenen (138), Gabe Whaley (144), Kade Madden (150), Castor Kollasch (157), Josh Harmon (165), Kyan Walter (190), and Lucas Dreyer (215). Harmon and Dreyer are both seniors who wrestled their final matches for the Warriors.



Ethan Preston, North Union senior, who suffered injuries throughout the season, ended his high school career during the quarterfinal match.

Class 1A District Wrestling Emmetsburg, Iowa  
Team Scores: Lake Mills 151.5, GT/RA 129.5, West Lyon 129.5, Emmetsburg 121.5, Sibley-Ocheyedan 100.5, Sioux Central 99, Ridge View 81, North Union 52, West Bend-Mallard 26, East Sac County 12

## North Union girls handily win first round of regionals

By David Swartz  
dswartz@esthervillenevsn.net

ARMSTRONG — The North Union girls cruised through the first round of the Class 1A Regional basketball game in defeating Northwood-Kensett 67-16.

The Warriors outscored the Vikings 20-0 in the first quarter, led 32-7 at halftime and 54-12 after three quarters.

The win propels North Union (15-8) to the region quarterfinal against Saint Ansgar (16-5). That game was played Tuesday at Saint Ansgar High School. The winner will play Friday against the winner of West Bend-Mallard (17-6) and Newman Catholic (14-8).

Against Northwood-Kensett (0-22), Ainsley Ulrich led the Warriors with 29 points, eight rebounds and six steals. Shallice Walders contributed 10 points, nine steals, seen assists, and four rebounds. Alexis Cummins reached double digits with 10 points. Maisey Bierstedt had eight points, five steals, four rebounds, and three blocked shots. Ava Steinberger didn't score but had seven rebounds, five blocked shots and two assists.

Nielsen 2-4 0-0 4; Ally Bruhn 0-0 0-0 0; Alexis Cummins 3-7 2-6 10; Alyssa Welbig 1-5 0-0 2; Avery Walstead 1-3 0-0 2; Taylor Parsons 1-2 0-0 2; Marissa Nielsen 0-0 0-0 0; Danika Mophew 0-0 0-0 0. Totals - 27-72 5-11 67.

Halftime Score: North Union 32, Northwood-Kensett 7. 3-pointers - 8-26 (Cummins 2-3, Walders 2-5, Bierstedt 2-7, Ulrich 2-8, Walstead 0-2, Welbig 0-1). Rebounds - NU 35 (Ulrich 8). Assists - NU 15 (Walders 7). Steals - NU 25 (Walders 9). Blocked Shots - NU 9 (Steinberger 5). Turnovers - NU 10. Fouls - NU 10. Fouled out - None.

North Union 67, Northwood-Kensett 16  
North Union (67) - Shallice Walders 3-13 2-4 10; Ainsley Ulrich 13-24 1-1 29; Maisey Bierstedt 3-13 0-0 8; Ava Steinberger 0-1 0-0 0; Hannah

## Bulldogs squeeze by Warriors

By David Swartz  
dswartz@esthervillenevsn.net

LAKE MILLS — The North Union Girls Basketball Team suffered a slight setback in its regular season finale against Lake Mills on Tuesday, Feb. 11. The Bulldogs made the plays needed to pull out a 43-38 victory.

North Union led 14-13 after one quarter, but Lake Mills led 28-20 at halftime and 34-31 after three quarters.

Shallice Walders led North Union

with 12 points, five assists and five steals while Alexis Cummins had 11 points and four rebounds. Maisey Bierstedt had nine points and six rebounds.

North Union finishes third in the Top of Iowa West Conference with an 11-5 record while Lake Mills is fourth with a 10-6 record in league play.

Ava Steinberger 1-2 0-0 2; Hannah Nielsen 1-2 0-0 2; Alexis Cummins 4-7 0-2 11; Alyssa Welbig 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 16-44 2-6 38.

Halftime Score: Lake Mills 28, North Union 20. 3-pointers - NU 4-19 (Cummins 3-6, Bierstedt 1-4, Walders 0-4, Ulrich 0-5). Rebounds - NU 21 (Bierstedt 6). Assists - NU 10 (Walders 5). Steals - NU 8 (Walders 5). Blocked Shots - NU 1 (Steinberger). Turnovers - NU 10. Fouls - NU 11. Fouled out - None.

## Warriors suffer conference loss

By David Swartz  
dswartz@esthervillenevsn.net

LAKE MILLS — The North Union Boys Basketball Team wrapped up the regular season with a 58-51 loss to Lake Mills in basketball action on Tuesday, Feb. 11.

The Warriors stayed close with Lake Mills most of the night, but couldn't get the stops needed in the fourth quarter to pull out a win. Lake Mills led 12-7 after one quarter, 27-25 at halftime, and 38-33 after three quarters.

Lane Bruhn led North Union with 16 points while making 7-of-9 from the field and both his free throw attempts. Drew Henderson had 11 points while Khael Jones had seven

points and eight assists. Greyson Colegrove had six points and seven rebounds, and Grady Madden had five points, nine rebounds and eight assists.

Jackson Gaul led Lake Mills with 19 points, six rebounds, seven assists, and three steals.

North Union wraps up the regular season with 9-12 record while finishing 7-9 in the Top of Iowa West Conference, good for sixth place in the nine-team conference.

The Warriors hosted Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn (8-13) in a Class 1A District 2 game on Monday in Armstrong. The winner will play at 7 p.m. Thursday, likely against MMCRU.

Lake Mills 58, North Union 51  
North Union (51) - Drew Henderson 5-14 0-0 11; Caden Walders 2-5 0-0 4; Khael Jones 3-8 0-1 7; Grady Madden 2-6 0-0 5; Lane Bruhn 7-9 2-2 16; Greyson Colegrove 2-5 0-0 6; Cole Nicoson 1-2 0-0 2. Totals 22-49 2-3 51.

Halftime Score: Lake Mills 27, North Union 25. 3-pointers - NU 5-22 (Colegrove 2-3, Madden 1-2, Henderson 1-9, Jones 1-6, Walders 0-2). Rebounds - NU 23 (Madden 9). Assists - NU 20 (Madden 8, Jones 8). Steals - NU 8 (Madden 3). Blocked Shots - NU 2 (Walders, Madden). Turnovers - NU 9. Fouls - NU 16. Fouled Out - None.



Going into the district match up on February 17th, North Union's Khael Jones was nine points away from tying the all season scoring record set by Aric Runge who scored 341 points in a season. Jones tied the record in the first quarter against Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn.

In the first minutes of the second quarter, Jones put up one of his three point shots to the break record. He scored a total of 31 points to help the North Union Warriors defeat HMS 69-66 and advance to the second round. Jones ended the night at 363 points and will now have the chance to continue to expand that count as North Union will travel to Marcus on Thursday, February 20 to take on MMCRU at 7:00 p.m.

The full story of the NU/HMS game will appear in next week's newspaper.

## DMACC'S Fall Semester Graduation List

More than 1,000 students graduated from the Fall Semester from Des Moines Area Community College's (DMACC's) Ankeny, Boone, Carroll, Newton, Urban and West Campuses.

Those recognized from your area include:  
Grace Winkelman, Sales & Management, Ledyard

## DMACC'S Fall Semester Dean's List

Des Moines Area Community College President Rob Denson recently released the names of students eligible for the Fall Semester Dean's List. To be eligible, a student must have completed a minimum of six credits and earned a 3.5 to 3.99 grade point average for that semester.

Those recognized from your area include:  
--Chase Cummins, Fire Science Technology, Armstrong  
--Avery Berte, Associate Degree Nursing, Bancroft



Join Us For All You Can Eat!

### Breakfast Buffet

MARCH 2, 2025  
8 a.m. to 12 p.m. at  
The Garage, Armstrong, IA

Fundraising for  
Madisen Bunkofske's Trip  
to Play Softball in Italy  
for Team USA!

\$12 per Buffet for ages 8+  
\$8 for kids age 0-8

Serving: eggs, sausage, bacon,  
French toast sticks,  
biscuits & gravy, drinks

YOU'RE INVITED!

## ART'S WAY DEMO DAY

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5TH  
10:00 AM-12:00 PM  
RIVERVIEW CATTLE  
1893 570TH AVE, ARMSTRONG, IA

Giveaways, grand prize drawings,  
coffee, rolls, & live equipment demos

RSVP HERE



Lucas Dreyer works hard to score points against his opponent during districts on Saturday, February 15 in Emmetsburg.



Northwest Sub-District Leadership Development Event (LDE) contest was held in Forest City. North Union High School FFA freshman Kenna Hatten, left, competed in the Creed Speaking event and received a silver rating. Freshman Hadley Moore, right, competed in Extemporaneous Speaking and merited a bronze rating.

## NU High School does well at State Group Speech Contest

North Union High School took three performances to state contest in Spencer on Saturday, February 8.

The Group Mime "Dates, Dilemmas, and Disasters" by Allyson Nelsen Gramstad, Jacey Welbig, and Koen Zotz received a straight I rating.

TV News "TMBY News" by Addi Kruse, Jacey Welbig, Raegan Nielsen, and Alyssa Welbig received a mixed 1 rating.

Group Improv of Allyson Nelsen Gramstad and Emma Kirkegaard received a 4 rating.

Following the posting of All State nominations, unfortunately, North Union performances were not selected to the All State Festival. To be eligible, a performance must have received a division 1 rating and been nominated by the judges.

### Breakfast Brunch

SUNDAY, MARCH 2, 2025  
10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

American Legion/Community Center  
Ringsted, Iowa

Serving:  
Omelets, Sausage,  
French Toast with toppings,  
& Beverage

Free Will Donation with proceeds going towards Ringsted American Legion.

Take-Outs will be available!

Fundraiser is supplemented by Thrivent Action Team

### AWESOMELY AMAZING MEAL DEALS

\$7.99 Deluxe Cheeseburger Combo  
\$7.99 Chicken Tender Sandwich Combo  
\$7.99 Pork Tenderloin Combo