



Tri - Corner - Express

MARCH 16, 2023

Contact Information: tricorner@newvirginia.com or
Drop Box Northeast Corner Hen House - New Virginia or
PO Box 302 New Virginia, IA 50210

**Deadline: 2nd Wednesday of the
Month
Annual Subscription - \$20.00**

“WEARIN’ OF THE GREEN” AND THE STORY BEHIND IT
Contributed by Karma Kimzey

Undoubtedly, your own little people will have questions about St. Patrick’s Day, March 17. Here are some quick answers to get them ready for the “wearin’ of the green,” whether or not they’re Irish.

Revered as the patron saint of Ireland, St. Patrick is said to have had a life full of adventure. He inspired so many legends that historians have had difficulty separating fact from fiction. Even the date and place of St. Patrick’s birth have been disputed. Some say that the patron saint was born in England or in Scotland near the modern city of Dumbarton. Others name his birthplace as Kilpatrick in Dumbartonshire, Scotland. The year of his birth is estimated as 372. Although historians argue the year of his death, some saying 492 (at age 120), others 461, they do agree on the month and day, March 17. It’s set aside as the day when St. Patrick is honored in many countries.

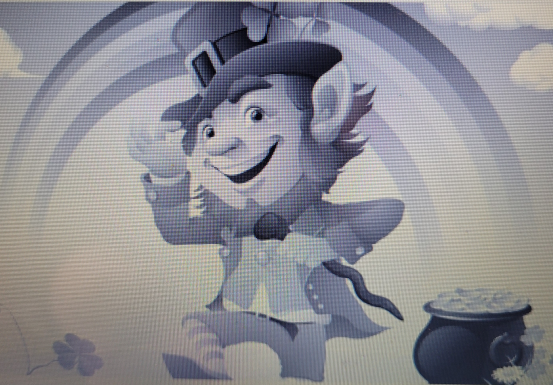
At age 16, he was captured by a group of pirates and enslaved in Ireland for six years, working as a shepherd. During that time, he developed his Christian faith. He escaped to France to become a monk. In 432, a vision led him to return to Ireland as a missionary bishop where he worked for the rest of his life. So successful were his labors that he came to be known as one who “found Ireland all heathen and left it all Christian.” St. Patrick is credited with founding 360 churches, including one at Dublin where the famed St. Patrick’s Cathedral now stands and baptizing more than 120,00 persons.

Much else that is told about St. Patrick is legend. One of the best-known myths is that St. Patrick charmed the snakes of Ireland down to the seashore, where they were driven into the water and drowned. The most common tribute to St. Patrick’s memory is the “wearin’ of the green.” On St. Patrick’s Day, celebrants don green clothing representative of the “Emerald Isle.” Wearing shamrocks (a type of clover with three leaves) is also a popular tradition. Historians report that St. Patrick plucked a shamrock as he was explaining the mystery of the Trinity to the disciples. He identified the leaves as representing the three persons of the Trinity and the stem as uniting the three entities.

Have you heard of green beer on St. Patrick’s Day? On a larger scale, the Chicago River in Chicago is turned green for the special day. This tradition began in 1962 by the "Journeyman Plumbers Local Union. They use a proprietary formula made of vegetables to temporarily dye the river a shamrock green. Two boats are used; one does the dumping of the orange powder, and the other does the mixing. The bright green color lasts a few hours. Residents pin the magical color change on leprechauns, naturally.

Many terms and phrases from Irish folklore and culture have been incorporated into the English language. Legend tells of the Blarney Stone, a stone in Blarney Castle, near Cork, Ireland, that is said to make those who kiss it skilled in flattery and the gift of gab. The “gin of blarney” is what we know as a glib tongue, and to be “full of blarney” is comparable to the American slang phrase “full of baloney.”

Leprechauns, known as “the little people,” have charmed their way out of Irish folklore to adorn greeting cards, posters, paper tableware and party hats for the celebration of St. Patrick’s Day. According to legend, leprechauns are mischievous elves believed to reveal the whereabouts of hidden treasure if caught. “Saints preserve us” and “Faith ‘n Begorrah,” a mild oath, are common phrases originating in Irish Culture. To “get your Irish up” is a reference to a stereotype of the quick Irish temper. While the Irish are frequently described as being hot tempered, they also bear the reputation of being lucky, hence “the luck of the Irish.” Terms such as shillelagh, a walking stick; jig, a lively spring dance with triple rhythm; hooligan, a ruffian (inspired by Patrick Hooligan, an Irish hoodlum of Southward, London); and lads and lassies, boys and girls, are common English expressions. Whether or not we are of Irish heritage, we most likely enjoy celebrating St. Patrick’s Day.



City Of New Virginia
Council Meeting Minutes -
March 6, 2023

The Council met in regular session on Monday March 6th, 2023, at 7:03 p.m. for the March Council Meeting.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Huston with Council Members Galivan, Nelson, Taylor, and Truman, present.

Minutes from the February regular meeting and Treasurer’s Report were approved.

Old business discussed: The water meter has been placed in the meter pit at 3685 Highway G76. There will be a piece of pipe put in place where the remote valve goes until it is delivered. The line was also flushed and remained clear for the entire time it was open.

Citizen Input:Postcard received regarding the Christmas Lighting Contest was reviewed.

There has been citizen complaints about dogs barking at the south end of Main Street.

Water Utilities discussed: There was a water leak in the month of February that was located in a private service line within a house in the 600 block of Grand Avenue. The water meter froze and broke. After discovering the leak, the water was quickly shut off. The meter was replaced and the water was turned back on.

Utility easements for the water line extended to 3685 G76 Hwy were reviewed.

Fire Department Business: The Council reviewed price quotes from Speed Tech Lights for new emergency light bars for Engine 761 & Attack Truck 768 and a new siren box for Attack Truck 768. The price quote for the above items is \$2024.91. Nelson moved, seconded by Taylor to approve the price quote of \$2024.91 for two new emergency light bars and one siren box. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Law Enforcement: – The report summary from the Sheriff’s Office for the month of February was reviewed. Deputies received or initiated 12 calls for service during the month. Officers spent in excess of 45 hours in the City for the month. Officers patrolled in excess of 229 miles within the city limits for the month. One citation and/or warning was written for a traffic violation that occurred within the City of New Virginia proper.

Nelson moved, seconded by Taylor to approve Kelsey Brown to replace Monica Strange on the New Virginia Public Library Board. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

FY 2023-2024 Budget: The proposed 2023-24 fiscal year New Virginia City Budget was reviewed and discussed. Adjustments were made to the Local Option Sales Tax and the Gas & Electric Franchise Tax for the 2023-24 fiscal year. The General Fund will receive 45% from each of the two taxes, the Water Utilities Fund will receive 45% and the Road Use Fund will receive 10%. It was discussed to reduce the 45% rate of the Local Option Sales Tax & Gas & Electric Franchise Tax in the General Fund and leave the tax rate the same as fiscal year 2023. It was decided to leave the General tax rate for fiscal year 2023-24 as presented to the Council. Nelson moved, seconded by Galivan to make the above changes and approve the 2023-24

fiscal year New Virginia City Budget. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried. Final budget forms will be completed and submitted to the Indianola RHT/Independent Advocate for publication. A public hearing will be held at the April 8th, 2023 council meeting to adopt the 2023-24 fiscal year New Virginia City Budget. For a home valued at \$150,000.00, city taxes are projected to decrease a total of approximately \$18.54. The budget is available for viewing by contacting the Mayor or City Clerk.A copy of the budget will also be available for viewing at the New Virginia Public Library.

GAMP FINANCIAL UPDATE
March 6, 2023

The sign to the entrance of GAMP Park on West Street is being made.The disc golf course will go in this spring. The disc golf baskets will be removable.

KEEP IOWA BEAUTIFUL PROGRAM
The account balance is \$4,782.20. There was no update from the Keep Iowa Beautiful/Hometown Pride Committee. The ELF Club is separate from the Keep Iowa Beautiful/Hometown Pride Committee. The ELF Club is continuing to raise funds for Christmas lights for the big Christmas tree in Old Settlers Park.

It was discussed that Pine Street needs gravel.

Old Settlers Bingo Night is scheduled for Saturday, March 25th, 2023.

City curbside Spring Cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, May 13th, 2023. More information regarding the Spring Cleanup will be published in the April Tri Corner and placed in the April water bills.

Nelson moved, seconded by Galivan to approve payment of all City bills. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays.Motion carried.

With no further business to come forth, Galivan moved, seconded by Taylor to adjourn meeting. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m. The April council meeting is scheduled for Saturday April 8th, 2023, at 7:00 a.m. April meeting date – Saturday April 8th, 2023 at 7:00 a.m.

February 2023 Revenue	
General	\$ 4,748.43
GAMP	\$ 632.88
Fire	\$ 3,024.71
ELF Club	\$ 141.00
Road Use	\$ 4,790.22
LOST	\$ 5,529.29
Debit Service	\$ 11.58
Water Utilities	\$ 7,233.58
Total	\$26,111.69


Jennifer Baughman, City Clerk

Public Notice

All City Water Payments need to be mailed or dropped off into the gray payment/drop box. This payment/drop box is located by the New Virginia Hen House and New Virginia Post Office.

4-H SUMMER PROGRAM ASSISTANT

APPLICANTS ARE BEING SOUGHT OUT FOR A FULL-TIME 4-H SUMMER PROGRAM ASSISTANT-

- MAY 13TH-AUGUST 2ND (TENTATIVE DEPENDING ON YOUR SCHEDULE - OPPORTUNITY CAN BE USED AS AN INTERNSHIP)
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NEW VIRGINIA EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, April 8, 2023

9:30 a.m. Meet at New Virginia Methodist Church

10:00 a.m. Hunt will begin after being divided into age groups

Easter bunny will be available for pictures

Candy & prizes will be given

In case of bad weather, the hunt will be held at the New Virginia Lions Hall

To donate candy, please contact Deann Strange

515-210-8847



Fun Fact: March 20: The sun shines on the equator for the Vernal Equinox, giving us a near 50-50 split of day and night.

Iowa Master Conservationist Program to begin in Madison County

Winterset, Iowa – Iowa State University Extension and Outreach will offer the Iowa Master Conservationist Program starting March 28, 2023. The program will provide participants with hands-on interaction with the diversity of the state's natural resources. The program teaches about Iowa's natural ecosystems and the diversity of conservation challenges and opportunities that exist in the region. Graduates of the course learn to make informed choices for leading and educating others to improve conservation in Iowa.

The program consists of approximately 12 hours of online curriculum and seven face-to-face meetings. The online modules will include lessons and resources by Iowa State subject-matter experts to be reviewed at the participants' own pace at home or at the ISU Extension and Outreach Madison County office. Module topics include conservation history and science, understanding Iowa ecosystems, implementing conservation practices in human dominated landscapes and developing skills to help educate others about conservation practices.

Seven face-to-face meetings will build on the online lessons and be held at various locations from 5:30 PM to 8 PM once a month from March to September. Each face-to-face meeting will be led by local subject-matter experts to demonstrate how the principles covered in the online curriculum play out locally. Madison County is partnering with Madison County Conservation as well as the Madison County Soil and Water Conservation District.

Registration for the course is \$35 and is due at the time of registration. To register contact the ISU Extension and Outreach Madison County office at 515-462-1001. The deadline to register is March 24th at 4 PM.



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IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Extension and Outreach

NOTICE

NEW BUSINESS HOURS

Effective March 1, 2023
Madison County Extension's new
Office Hours will be:
Monday - Thursday
8:00 am to 4:30 pm
Closed for lunch 12:30 pm -1:00 pm

Friday

8 am to Noon

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St. Patrick's
Day



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ALL NEWS/COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS WELCOME

We welcome anyone who would like to submit news items, points of interest or any other community happenings to be published in the paper. These items would be family gatherings, places you have been, or news items that have taken place. Please place these items in the black box located at the Hen House or email them to tricorner@newvirginia.com.

We will publish them in our paper.

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Ronald Reagan was shot in
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New Virginia, IA

2 x 2	\$20.00
2 x 3 1/2	\$30.00
3 x 4	\$45.00
5 x 7	\$85.00
10 x 7	\$175.00

Thank You's, Birth Announcements, Birthdays, & Anniversaries:

0 - 50 words = \$5.00

51 - 100 words = \$10.00

\$0.10 per word over 100 words \$5.00 for each photo

Obituaries and Weddings (Including one photo): \$40.00

* Additional photo(s) \$5.00 each

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Rental Rates!

Gerry Allen Memorial Park Community Building

New Virginia, IA

N.V. City Limits All Other Renters

Full Day Rental	\$125	\$150
Half Day Rental	\$75	\$100
Hourly Rental	\$20	\$20

*Deposit \$125, due at time of reservation, rental fee due prior to event.

**All Non-Profit groups - there will be no rental fee.

***Signed rental agreement required.

****Certificate of liability insurance for rentals over 50 persons required

*****All rentals require cleanup at the conclusion of their event.

Visit us at www.newvirginia.com
or call Jennifer Baughman 641-449-3492

CITY OF ST CHARLES

6 March 2023 City Council Meeting Minutes

The St. Charles City Council met at City Hall on Monday, 3/6/2023, for a regular meeting. Mayor Dennis Smith called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

Council members Tom Blomme, Dan Kozak, Whitney Hutton, and Lois Stanley were present along with 11 guests. Council Member Megan Allison was absent. Approval of Agenda: A motion was made by Lois Stanley/Tom Blomme to approve the agenda. Voice vote passed unanimously.

Amara Huffine Madison County Chamber of Commerce: Tori Willis and Amara Huffine updated the City Council on the previous year's Welcome Center usage and expectations for this coming year. The Chamber will feature local items in the Welcome Center. Those that would like to have their crafts featured in the Welcome Center can contact the Madison County Chamber of Commerce. A reduced fee is offered to craft vendors.

Diane Fitch Madison County Supervisor: Diane was unable to attend the meeting and will reschedule at a later date.

Approval of Minutes for Council Meeting from 2/6/2022: Motion made by Whitney Hutton/Lois Stanley to approve the minutes. Voice vote passed unanimously.

Approval of February Treasurer and Budget Reports: Motion made by Tom Blomme/Dan Kozak to approve the treasurer and budget reports for February. Voice vote passed unanimously.

Approval of March Bills: Motion made by Dan Kozak/Whitney Hutton to approve the March bills. Voice vote passed unanimously.

Sheriff's Report: During February there were 37.31 patrol hours, 5 calls, and 5 traffic stops in St. Charles.

Sonia Hutton, Road Improvements on North Cross: Sonia would like to have North Cross Street considered for future asphaltting. The Council agreed that more work needs to happen on North Cross Street and plans to purchase equipment and gravel to remove potholes. The road will continue to be assessed and if funds should become available, asphaltting may be considered.

City Boards/Committees:

·Fire/Rescue Department: Rick Schaffer was present to present the February minutes.

·Library Board: Margaret Blair presented minutes from February. The Library is looking toward summer and the reading program.

·Welcome Center: Motion by Tom Blomme/Lois Stanley to approve Margaret Blair, Marcia Thompson, and Mary Seibert to the Tourism Board to oversee the Welcome Center. Voice vote was unanimous. The Tourism Board's goals are to preserve the Welcome Center, support the Chamber of Commerce, and to have the Welcome Center fit into the needs of the community. A rental agreement was presented and will be sent to the City's Attorney. There will be a clean-up day

planned for April 29th at the Welcome Center with the Lions furnishing a meal for the volunteers.

·Old Settlers: Mary Seibert gave an update on the planning of the 2023 Old Settlers Festival. Cooking Up Some Fun will be held on July 14th and 15th. With a Street Dance to take place on July 15th. A fundraising breakfast will be held at the St. Charles Parish Hall on March 18th.

·Sewer Report: A report was submitted for February.

·Maintenance Report: A blade had been rented to maintain gravel roads. Butch Evans let the Council know the blade used is for sale. Motion by Dan Kozak/Tom Blomme to purchase the blade to maintain gravel roads for \$3750. Voice vote was unanimous. The City is considering sending items to be auctioned. An old overhead door, possible water pumps, and vehicle tire chains are being considered to clean out shop buildings.

·Emergency Management: February report was submitted.

·Clerk's Report: The new trash and recycling rates were given to the Council. The new rates reflect the yearly 3.5% increase stated in the contract with WM. Possible future vacation dates were given to the Council.

Public Hearing For Published Budget FY24: Motion by Dan Kozak to move into a Public Hearing at 8:13 PM. No public wished to speak. Public Hearing was closed at 8:16 PM. With the passing of SF181, property taxes valuations are expected to decrease. Final budget numbers will be presented to the City Council on April 3rd. Since there will be a decrease in the budget, there will not be another publication of the budget but the budget can be viewed at City Hall. Resolutions 3A-2023, 3B-2023, and 3C-2023, Property Tax Abatements: Motion by Tom Blomme/Whitney Hutton to approve Tax Abatements for 407 W Council Dr., 2493 Bevington Park Rd., and 110 E Clanton St. in St. Charles. RC vote was unanimous.

Opportunity Forms: A request was made to have local businesses listed at the Imes Bridge. The City will have a sign made to advertise the St. Charles Website, where local businesses are listed and updated.

Planned Street Projects: Line painting bids were submitted. Motion by Tom Blomme/Lois Stanley to accept a bid from Spec for center line painting and Main Street parking painting along with 4 handicapped spots for \$7500.00 A voice vote was unanimous.

Public Forum: No public asked to speak.

Old Business: No old business

New Business: No new business

Motion made by Whitney Hutton to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 pm.

The next City Council meeting will be on April 3, 2023, at City Hall.

Dennis Smith, Mayor

Attest: Tracy Kozak, City Clerk

Posted at: City Hall, Post Office, Montross, and Library



CITY OF ST CHARLES

Iowa Prohibition 1884-1894 and How That Led to the “Wildman” of St. Charles

Few know of, and none now live, that experienced the prohibition of alcohol in the state of Iowa from 1884 to 1894. In today’s society, the average adult consumes around 2.3 gallons of beer per year, while at the start of the nineteenth century, the average adult consumed 34 gallons of beer, five gallons of spirits, and one gallon of wine annually. It was popular for working adults to have a morning stout drink of rum and children going to school a tablespoon of a sweet spirit to “stir up the blood.” It was, also, considered good habit to take a shot of whiskey or gin before going to bed to “warm and calm the blood.” Public drunkenness was uncomfortably common. Even during elections, it was not unheard of for large drunken brawls to break out at voting places where alcohol was notoriously free-flowing. Many voting places gave out drinks to those who voted as either an incentive or reward for voting. Then there were the immigrants, mostly German and Irish, that drank beer and whiskey. It was not that they drank more or less than non-immigrants; it was that they were foreign and drank. That made them part of the symbols of the “vileness of drinking” to growing Temperance Societies.

Iowa, since early colonial days, constantly struggled with the issue of over-indulgence in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. It had laws forbidding selling or giving alcohol to the Native Americans in the region. This was hard to uphold, considering there was no efficient way of enforcing this except by a few small garrisons of U.S. Dragoons (mounted infantry). At the time of statehood, there were towns settled that enforced their own prohibition laws. During the Civil War, the state limited prohibition starting in 1862, and in 1882 the state legislation added prohibition into the state constitution...which was repealed January 18, 1883, as unconstitutional. But the Iowa Temperance/Prohibition movement was not finished.

On July 4, 1884, the ten-year Prohibition Act was passed in the state house and signed by the governor. For the next ten years, the state was not to make, import, drink, use, or allow any citizen to possess any alcohol except for medicinal use. There were exemptions for those needing drink for political, business and diplomatic parties for state or business expansion and monetary growth. It was this last rule (that the state and businesses could use it for their usages), that ruffled many people’s feathers. A popular commentary of the time appeared in the Iowa Staats-Anzeiger, one of many German-language newspapers in the state, “They [the wealthy and politicians] have already stored away the best for themselves.”

Within a month, prohibition constables were recruited to enforce the law. There were great recruiting motivators. All constables were paid extra for each arrest of law breakers, as were the lawyers and judges that got a conviction. Any fines set by the court then received a portion of the fee while another portion went to the state. The average fine was 50 dollars at the start (at a time when the average wage was one dollar, a day), but near the end, it was usually one thousand dollars. Of the one hundred plus distilleries that employed several thousand people at the start of prohibition,

St. Charles Public Library St. Charles, IA

February 2023
scplibrary@myomnitel.com
113 S. Lumber St.
641-396-2945

Sun: 1-5 pm
Mon: 10 am-6 pm
Tues: Noon -8 pm
Thurs: Noon-8 pm
Sat: 9 to Noon

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Thursday at 6:30 for story time



only about a dozen could now function because they produced a highly profitable exportation to other states and nations. These owners were amongst the wealthiest families in the state. But as unemployment rose, the prohibition constables and judges made vast amounts of money from arrests and fines.

One of these constable groups was made up of men from the central Iowa regions of Polk, Warren, Guthrie, and Madison Counties. These men became infamous state and nation-wide for their cruelty, xenophobia, violence, and extortions.

The Des Moines Searchers and Advance Guard of the
Fighting Prohibition Army



No. 1 Thomas Chapman.
" 2 John Marian.
" 3 Frank Blyler.
" 4 Joseph Mercer.
" 5 Frank Pierce.

No. 6 O. C. West.
" 7 George Hanson.
" 8 G. B. Hamilton.
" 9 Geo. Cleggitt.
" 10 G. W. Potts.

Photo by JAMES, Des Moines, Iowa.



ROADRUNNER PRIDE INTERSTATE 35 COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Bringing Health Awareness to Roadrunner Students

by Rose Dickinson, Jessica Reisinger, and Angela Steinlage

On March 6, I-35 students participated in a Health Awareness Day. Health Awareness Day is a structured time for students to look at all the aspects of their lives that impact their health. Students in grades 5-12 began the day with a kickoff speaker, Kevin Miller, in the auditorium who discussed why whole health is important and how it impacts each person's life. Students then attended 5, 30-minute breakout sessions. Sessions were divided into age groups (grades 5/6, 7/8, 9/10, and 11/12), and each session consisted of age appropriate topics. Some examples included stress management, self care,

nutrition, yoga, mental health awareness, vaping and substance use/misuse, healthy relationships, mindfulness, and social media health. Each session was presented by an area professional.

Students in the Pk through 4th grades began learning about the ZONES of Regulation to support all students in identifying, communicating, and regulating their feelings. We also distributed and taught the Calming SPOT in each environment. The Calming SPOT builds the students' coping strategy toolbox and supports students in regulating their emotions.

A special thank you to all the guest speakers who made time to share their expertise with our students. The students had a great time and gained some valuable tools about how to keep their minds and bodies healthy.



Above, students try and find some balance at the recent health day.

Below, students work through basic yoga moves to better relax.



I-35 Education Foundation Raises over \$12k at Inaugural Roadrunner Gala

More than 130 community members and supporters attended the Feb. 25 event that raised funds to support innovative & engaging learning opportunities for Interstate 35 students. The Interstate 35 Education Foundation was pleased to host its first-ever Roadrunner Gala on February 25, which welcomed over 130 guests, supporters and alumni. The gala will be the premier fundraising event for the Foundation going forward, and all funds raised support the Foundation's mission of extending and enhancing educational opportunities and experiences for I-35 students and staff.

To date, the Foundation has proudly provided monetary support for a book vending machine, family STEM and game nights, and an exploratory learning cart. Funds are awarded to teachers and staff on a rolling basis, and the Foundation is looking forward to accepting new applications in the coming months that would benefit from the more than \$12,000 raised at the Roadrunner Gala on Feb. 25.

"The amount of support we received from local businesses and individuals in the form of sponsorships and silent auction donations was just incredible," said Kelsey Ritchey, Foundation president. "Our community's giving spirit was on full display, and we're excited to award these funds to innovative and impactful projects that stimulate holistic growth for our students."

The 2nd Annual Roadrunner Gala will take place at the Red Acre Barn on Saturday, Feb. 24, 2024. While the Roadrunner Gala is the primary fundraising event, supporters are welcome to give any amount at any time to the Foundation. More information can be found on Facebook (I-35 Education Foundation) or online at Roadrunnerpride.org/page/interstate-35-education-foundation.

Special thank you to our silver and bronze sponsors at the Roadrunner Gala who were Tanner Loyd – Realtor, Whitey Exteriors, American State Bank, Daniels Land Surveying, Farmers & Merchants State Bank, and Union State Bank.

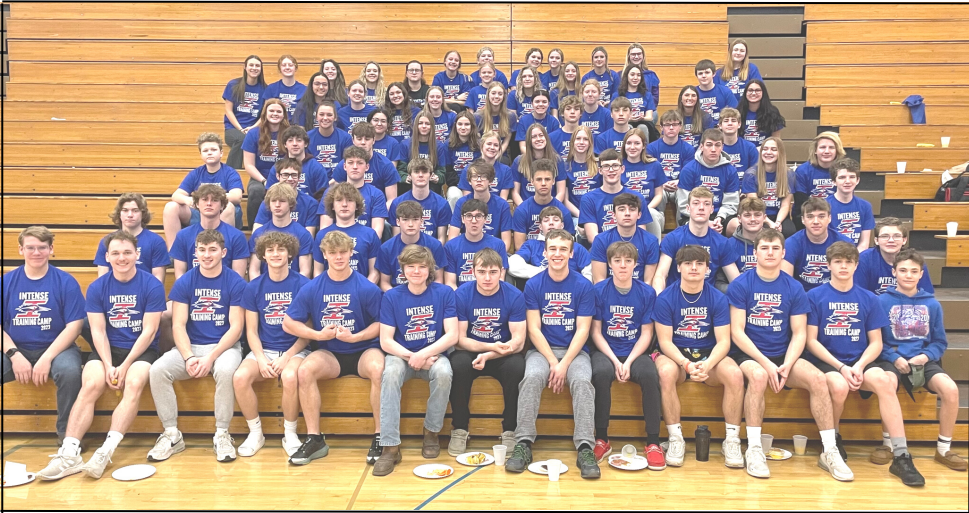


Roadrunner Intense Training Camp 2023

For the second consecutive year Interstate 35 offered the “Roadrunner Intense Training Camp” to all 8th-12th graders. The camp is designed to serve two main goals--the first is to encourage a large number of students to complete five hard workouts in one week together.



The second is to promote teamwork, dedication, leadership, and preparation skills. Speakers from outside of I-35 are brought in to every session to be part of the workout and then spend the last 15 minutes speaking to the students about these traits. Each speaker delivers their own message in their own way, hoping to reach every student throughout the week-long camp. The 2023 Intense Camp brought in high school and college coaches and two activities directors, all of which did an outstanding job sharing their message with over 110 Interstate 35 students. Congratulations to all of the participants and thank you again to the speakers and I-35 coaches that helped put on the camp. A special thank you goes out to the Interstate 35 Booster Club for their support in purchasing t-shirts for all of the students and providing breakfast at the celebration session following the camp.



ISASP Testing Reminders

Students in grades 3-11 will be taking Iowa Assessments the week of March 27. As students prepare for these assessments we ask parents to encourage their student(s) to try their best. We also encourage students to get a good meal and get plenty of rest the weekend before and the week of testing. If you have any questions, please contact your building administrator.



SAVE the DATE
CLASS of 2023
Graduation
May 21, 2023

Upcoming Events

Come out and support the ROADRUNNERS over the next few weeks!!!

Monday, March 13	Spring Break
Monday, March 20	Classes Resume
Thursday, March 23	Family STEM Night
Saturday, March 25	NHS Scrapbooking Fundraisers
Monday, March 27	Track Scrimmage at Central Decatur
Wednesday, March 29	Dance Team Clinic
Thursday, March 30	Girls Track at Clarke
Friday, March 31	Dance Team Show
Saturday, April 1	HS Band/Choir Solo/Ensemble
Monday, April 3	Girls/Boys Golf at Winterset
Monday, April 3	Girls Track at Nodaway Valley
Tuesday, April 4	Boys Track at Lenox
Tuesday, April 4	9th Grade Orientation
Thursday, April 6	Girls Track HOME
Thursday, April 6	Boys Track at Clarke
Friday, April 7	NO SCHOOL- Professional Development
Friday, April 7	Elementary Girls Lock-In
Monday, April 10	NO SCHOOL
Monday, April 10	Girls/Boys Golf at Des Moines Christian
Monday, April 10	Girls/Boys Track at Clarke
Tuesday, April 11	PTO Meeting
Tuesday, April 11	Boys Track at Central Decatur
Thursday, April 13	Girls Track at Central Decatur
Thursday, April 13	Boys Track at Clarke
Monday, April 17	Girls/Boys Golf at Central Decatur
Monday, April 17	Girls Track at Van Meter
Tuesday, April 18	Boys Track HOME
Wednesday, April 19	Spring Blood Drive
Wednesday, April 19	Donuts with Grown Ups

ALL athletic competitions are VARSITY contests. For all sport and activity calendar please visit www.roadrunnerpride.org
Go ROADRUNNERS

Community Happenings

The Madison-Warren
Ecumenical Association
Invites

The Graduating Seniors of
Interstate 35 and
Martensdale St. Marys

As well as
Parents, friends, faculty, staff
and Board members
to the
Baccalaureate Service

Wednesday, April 26, 2023
7 p.m.

Interstate 35 High School Auditorium
Truro, Iowa
Refreshments to follow

Be Bold. Be Courageous. Be your Best.

SAVE THE DATE
City of New Virginia
Spring Clean Up is
scheduled for May 13,
2023. More
information to follow
next month.



Breakfast for Dinner Fundraiser

Free Will Donation

Let us do the cooking, dine-in or to-go containers
available

Tuesday March 21, 2023, serving 5:30 to 8 p.m.

Gerry Allen Memorial Park Building
809 West Street, New Virginia, IA 50210

**All Proceeds go to the Interstate 35 Band program. The band
program is in need of new marching band uniforms and some
instruments. Come support our local students!**

GARAGE Sale

SAVE THE DATE
NEW VIRGINIA CITY WIDE
GARAGE SALE
& CRAFT SALE

SATURDAY, MAY 6, 2023

8 am – 2 pm

New Virginia Old Settlers/Lions
Club will serve a Breakfast
& Lunch

Garage Sales & Crafters may
set up in Old Settlers Park for
a \$5.00 Fee

Craft & Garage Sales may be
posted on our Facebook Page
for free

www.facebook.com/oldsettlersnv



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Neophyte Lodge #301, New Virginia



New Virginia Hometown Pride

New Virginia



New Virginia
Hometown
Pride
A KEEP IOWA BEAUTIFUL PROGRAM

It just feels like home

Please join us
1st Tuesday of the month
6:00, NV Library

The New Virginia ELF Club members had a great time lighting up Old Settlers Park for the 2022 Holiday Season along with the Tree Sponsors.

To enhance 2023, we are on a mission to light up the beautiful blue spruce. In an effort to accomplish this, we have reached out to the community for donations and with their help, we are getting closer to bring this to fruition.

We have received donations from the following businesses and community members and would like to express our appreciation and acknowledge their generous contributions. Thank you for your support and donations!

Betsy Hass-Reineck - Coldwell Banker
Jane & Tim Busby - Busby Auction
Strange Electric & Performance Inc
New Virginia Hometown Pride
Nindy & Jim Coles
Krisha & Max Schauf



Donations can be made at City State Bank in New Virginia or mailed to the New Virginia ELF Club at the following address: 1051 Starline Avenue, New Virginia, IA 50210. Please make your check payable to New Virginia ELF Club.

Thank you for your support, New Virginia Community Members!!

Community Happenings



NEW VIRGINIA OLD SETTLERS SUPPER & BINGO NIGHT

Saturday, March 25, 2023

Supper 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM

Bingo 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM

New Virginia Lions Hall

Supper is Free Will Donation

Supper includes Pasta, Marinara or Alfredo Sauce, Garlic Bread, Lettuce Salad, Dessert & Drink

A mix of bingo games

Regular Bingo Games @ 0.25 a card

And Prize Bingo = 2 Cards for just \$10.00 for the entire evening of prize games



March 20, 2023

1st day of Spring



Recycling Dates

New Virginia

Thursday March 23rd

Thursday April 6th

Thursday April 20th



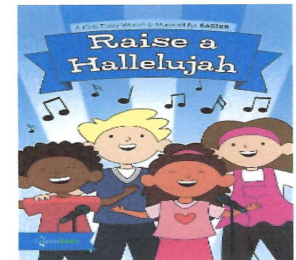
Palm Sunday Concert

Presented by the Madison Warren Ecumenical Association

Featuring our local kids from



Performing



Sunday - April 2 at 3 PM

I-35 Auditorium, Truro

Refreshments to follow in the commons



Truro Public Library

Tuesday 9:30 am - 3:30 pm

Wednesday 3:30 pm - 6:30 pm

Thursday 10:00 am - 6:00 pm

Saturday 9:00 am - noon

Check out this month's new books!

Worthy Opponents by Danielle Steel

The Sister Effect by Susan Mallery

A Place to Land by Lauren Denton

Check us out on Facebook for any updates!

www.truro.lib.ia.us



New Virginia Hometown Pride invites you to join us for our **3rd Annual Kite Flying** at the cemetery field.

Bring a kite and an adult for any children under 12.

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www.russelllivestockmarket.com

March 24, 1989 One of the largest oil spills in U.S. history occurred as the oil tanker Exxon Valdez ran aground in Prince William Sound off Alaska, resulting in 11 million gallons of oil leaking into the natural habitat over a stretch of 45 miles.

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New Virginia
Christian Church
604 Main St.
New Virginia, IA

Sunday Worship - 11 a.m.

I am not alone, for my
father is with me.
John 16:32



Call 641-449-3421

Pinewood Derby

Pack 119 held their annual Pinewood Derby on Sunday, February 26, at the I-35 Community School Auditorium. Weigh-in started at 12 p.m. with the race starting around 1:00 p.m. Troop 119, also, helped with the derby after returning from a weekend campout.



CLAIMS REPORT		AMOUNT	CHECK #	CHECK DATE
VENDOR	REFERENCE			
ALLIANT ENERGY	ELECTRIC/GAS/STREET LIGHTS	\$1,130.80	14830	3/2/2023
AT&T FIRSTNET	PHONE SERVICE	\$79.81	14825	2/22/2023
BOUND TREE	MEDICAL SUPPLIES	\$270.93	14834	3/8/2023
CARDMEMBER SERVICE	TECHNOLOGY SERVICE SUBSCRIPTIO	\$311.88	14831	3/2/2023
ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING	FIRE EQUIPMENT	\$1,462.81	14837	3/8/2023
HY-VEE	MEDICATIONS	\$172.63	14832	3/2/2023
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	STATE TAX	\$83.47	16326309	3/1/2023
IOWA PUBLIC RETIREMENT SYSTEM	IPERS	\$291.02	16326310	3/1/2023
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	FED/FICA TAX	\$327.89	16326311	3/1/2023
J&L SANITATION	GARBAGE SERVICE - CITY	\$62.00	14839	3/8/2023
NAPA AUTO PARTS PREMIER PARTS	VEHICLE REPAIR 241	\$117.65	14840	3/8/2023
OFFICE OF AUDITOR STATE OF IA	DUES FY2023	\$1,200.00	14841	3/8/2023
ONE BILLING SOLUTIONS LLC	AMBULANCE BILLING	\$294.29	14842	3/8/2023
POSTMASTER	RENT PO BOX	\$108.00	14826	2/22/2023
LINDE GAS & EQUIPMENT INC.	OPERATING SUPPLIES	\$44.40	14843	3/8/2023
SHAWN ISAAC	RETURN DEPOSIT FEE & RENTAL	\$250.00	14827	2/22/2023
SWCC CONTINUING EDUCATION	TRAINING	\$20.00	14844	3/8/2023
ULINE	OPERATING SUPPLIES TOWELS	\$67.50	14846	3/8/2023
WASTE MANAGEMENT	RECYCLING	\$1,092.95	14848	3/8/2023
WEX FLEET UNIVERSAL	VEHICLE FUEL	\$239.89	14849	3/8/2023
WINDSTREAM	TELEPHONE/INTERNET	\$338.26	14850	3/8/2023
Total General		\$7,966.18		
ALLIANT ENERGY	ELECTRIC/GAS/STREET LIGHTS	\$1,107.76	14830	3/2/2023
HUSTON'S LAWN/SNOW REMOVAL	SNOW REMOVAL	\$1,020.00	14838	3/8/2023
Total Road Use		\$2,127.76		
ANCEL KENNEDY	SERVICE	\$125.00	14833	3/8/2023
AT&T FIRSTNET	PHONE SERVICE	\$22.37	14825	2/22/2023
BRENT BAUGHMAN	WATER TESTING - DMWW	\$40.80	14835	3/8/2023
DES MOINES WATER WORKS	WATER TESTING	\$15.00	14836	3/8/2023
HUSTON'S LAWN/SNOW REMOVAL	TESTING WATER	\$36.00	14838	3/8/2023
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	STATE TAX	\$83.61	16326309	3/1/2023
IOWA PUBLIC RETIREMENT SYSTEM	IPERS	\$303.57	16326310	3/1/2023
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	FED/FICA TAX	\$340.14	16326311	3/1/2023
UECO-UTILITY EQUIPMENT COMPANY	WATER SUPPLIES	\$1,210.01	14845	3/8/2023
WARREN WATER DISTRICT	WATER USAGE/LOAN PAYMENT	\$4,355.60	14847	3/8/2023
Total Water Utilities		\$6,532.10		
GENERAL		\$1,549.89		
WATER		\$1,618.50		
Total Payroll Paid		\$3,168.39		
***** REPORT TOTAL *****		\$19,794.43		

March 19, 2003 The United States launched an attack against Iraq to topple dictator Saddam Hussein from power.



Jesus' Right Hand

Most everyone who lives in the I-35 area has realized that it is at least a twenty-minute drive...to anywhere. It's a trade-off for living the quiet, small-town life. So, we jump in our vehicle, put it in gear, and mindlessly drive on auto-pilot to our destination. Once we've arrived, we come to the realization that we can't remember much of the drive from Point A to Point B. Until that time when Bambi and a few of his scheming disciples decide that you will be the next target of the next Great Awakening. You suddenly jerk back to reality, slamming on your brakes with every bit of strength you have, gripping the steering wheel while simultaneously quoting the 23rd Psalm and singing "Jesus, Take the Wheel." You sit motionless in the middle of the road, watching as Bambi and his entourage gleefully hop through the ditch and over the fence, smug and satisfied with the fact they had successfully won another round of Rural Iowa Road Wars. Of course, this is only an example of something that only a portion of the nation's population has experienced, but in our area, it is reality.

Do you ever notice that in the process of this crazy/hectic/super-busy routine to which we've all grown accustomed, that sometimes life just suddenly slams on the brakes? Regardless of the situation, it's usually a wake-up call in our life and makes us even more aware how totally unpredictable daily life has become. As a person who used to thrive on routine, the sudden unpredictability of ministry life was very difficult for me to get used to. When you add a heaping spoonful of control-freak and compound it with a couple of pinches of perfectionism, it becomes the perfect storm waiting to happen should anything as simple as an unexpected phone call arise. It didn't take long for me to realize that changes had to be made in my life, and, especially, my attitude and perspective in order to live a life that would reflect God and what He desired.

I think about the disciples and how their lives were upended by Jesus' call to follow Him. One day they are fishing, cleaning their nets, going about their daily routines. Along comes Jesus, and you can literally hear the brakes, squealing on their routine. For nearly three years, they follow Him everywhere, living a life of unpredictability and adventure. Then suddenly, once again, life slams on the brakes and they find themselves witnessing the greatest loss they've ever seen when Jesus was crucified, hanging on the cross for a crime He didn't commit. They didn't know that their greatest loss would end up being the greatest victory for all mankind, the ability to freely come to God without all the rules and regulations of the Old Testament laws. All the disciples knew was that life had slammed on the brakes, and at that moment, they were totally unsure of what lay ahead for them. However, Jesus had prepared them on several occasions for this time. Mark 9:30-32 (and in Matthew 17:22-23) He said to them, "The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into the hands of men. They will kill him, and after three days he will rise." In the past year, we've been watching the series, "The Chosen." One of the favorite quotes is where Jesus turns to one of the disciples and says, "Get used to different." Daily life with Jesus was far from routine; in fact, it was a daily adventure. However, even after witnessing everything first-hand in their daily lives with Jesus, the disciples still stood as witnesses at the foot of the cross, unable to wrap their minds around what was happening. Sometime afterward, while the disciples were still trying to sort out the pieces of what had happened, Simon Peter stood up and proclaimed, "I'm going fishing." Maybe he just

had to resort to his default setting and do something that seemed normal to him, a routine that seemed comfortable. And the other disciples, the good ol' boys that they were, said "We're coming too." I guess there's something to be said about being out on the water, doing some night fishing with your friends that gives the world some perspective. Of course, they fished all night and didn't catch a thing. Little did they know that when morning came, Jesus was on the shore, ready to slam the brakes on their routine by miraculously filling their nets with fish on the final cast. As a bonus, they came ashore to a delicious fish breakfast cooked by Jesus himself. This is when their perspective totally changed. They had a purpose and a destiny. Even though life had to take several hard slams on the brakes, their eyes were opened to the bigger picture, and the message of the Gospel was spread far and wide.

So, when life's daily routine takes a hard brake, even if it isn't particularly pleasant, seek God and ask Him to show you the life lesson that can come from it. Remember, if we live this life as a daily adventure meant to be experienced and shared, it will become much more satisfying and fulfilling, regardless of the hard brakes along the way. We want you to know that we are here for you during those times and pray that God will bring peace, wholeness and fulfillment into your life each and every day. Be encouraged by these words.

In His Love and Service,
Jesus' Right Hand

He is risen



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HOURS	
Tues.	4:00 pm - 8:00pm
Wed	9:00 am - 11:00 am & 1:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Thurs	4:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Sat	9:00 am - 12:00 pm

What's happening at the New Virginia Public Library?

Every Wednesday Afternoon at 2:00 p.m. is Cribbage!
Every Third Wednesday at 4:00 p.m. is Book Club!

New Books This Month

Remember Me by Tracie Peterson
Storm Watch by C. J. Box
Forged in Love by Mary Connealy

Check our Facebook page for updates on upcoming activities!
www.newvirginia.lib.ia.us

Interstate 35 Girl Scout Highlights ~ Happy Cookie Time!!

The Juniors toured the Jones Family Diner in Truro to finish up their Simple Meals Badge and had some yummy pizza afterwards.

The third-grade Brownies earned their Dance Badge. We wiggled our way through the meeting doing the Macarena, Cupid Shuffle, Cha Cha Slide, Chicken Dance, and then making up our own dances to teach to the rest!

Cookies, cookies, cookies... Girl Scouts are selling! Reach out to your local Girl Scout for cookies today! We appreciate the support and the cookies are yummy!

Questions or for more information about your local Girl Scouts contact:
Sarah Lawyer at 5SarahJL5@gmail.com 515-480-0049.



New Virginia Fireworks

DONATIONS STILL NEEDED FOR 2023 NEW VIRGINIA FIREWORKS

The Saturday evening fireworks are a big part of our Old Settlers Celebration. We still need donations to pay for the 2023 fireworks. We still need approximately \$1500.00 in donations to be able to receive our March 1 early pay fireworks discount. For those of you who like to do your business online, the New Virginia Old Settlers Association has set up a Venmo account for online donations. Our link to donate is <https://venmo.com/NewVirginia-OldSettlers>. You can, also, donate to the New Virginia Fireworks Fund at City State Bank or you may, also, mail a check (please write fireworks in the memo) to the New Virginia Fireworks Fund at the following address:

City Clerk of New Virginia
PO Box 302
New Virginia, IA 50210

Any questions feel free to contact Deann Strange (515)210-8847 or
newvirginiaoldsettlers@gmail.com

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March 31, 1933 The Civilian Conservation Corps, the CCC, was founded. Unemployed men and youths were organized into quasi-military formations and worked outdoors in national parks and forests.

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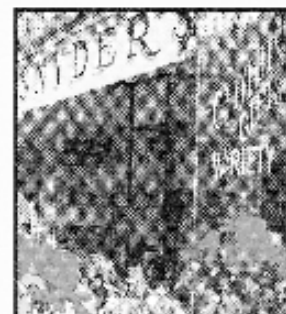
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American Legion

New Virginia Chapter

Meets Second Thursday
Of the Month at 7:00 P.M.

Breakfast Second Saturday
7:00-10:00 A.M.
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For Hall Rental
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New Virginia, IA

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February was a busy month. We celebrated my brother Jim's 74th birthday on February 7th, having 12 people here for Jim's favorite: spaghetti, salad and chocolate cake. He received many cards and fun gifts, and there was lots of conversation. Karen, Renee and I went to the Majestic Neighborhood Cinema Grill and saw the movie A Man Called Otto, enjoying food and drinks that were brought to our seats that had a shared table attached. The movie was based on the book A Man Called Ove by Fredrik Backman, a book I enjoyed as a member of the New Virginia Library Book Club. We enjoyed Super Bowl Sunday at Jim & Karen's house (not my brother Jim) with 13 people, eating barbecued ribs, chicken legs, pasta & lettuce salads and sopapilla cheesecake.

My older brother Tom & wife Gwen were here for the month of February from Tucker, GA. Part of the time, they were at their son's home west of Phoenix. All three of their grandchildren there celebrated birthdays in February. When they are in Sun Lakes, they stay at Jim's house. We all celebrated Valentine's Day with pizza and salad at Bill's, and I made a heart shaped cake (pink). On the last Saturday of the month, all three of my brothers and Mel had dinner at our house, and we had an evening of reminiscing, including looking at some of our mother's memorabilia and photos of her younger, pre-marriage days.

Much of the month was spent keeping doctors' appointments, which seem to be "a blessing and a curse" in this aging process. Fortunately, the doctors are not more than 10 miles away, but unfortunately, they are not consolidated and "linked in" with each other the way the Iowa Clinic and Unity Point are in Des Moines. I am keeping busy making a pieced baby quilt and a flannel quilt for Mel's great niece who is expecting a baby girl.

We enjoyed a short visit from a friend whom we knew in Dallas, TX and now lives in Bothell, WA. Our former priest in St. Marys, Fr. Chris Fontanini visited one afternoon, along with the couple whom he visits in Sun Lakes for a short golf vacation every February. I continued with fruit picking during February, finishing on the 27th. We picked the grapefruits, oranges and lemons at seven to nine houses per day, and seven to 15 trees per day. Our core group on Mondays was eight people. Saturdays brought out more volunteers, sometimes as high as 15. I found that this year's picking tired me more than last year's. It is such a worthwhile endeavor, with all the fruit going to St. Mary's Food Bank. Our end-of-season group party will be March 11 where there possibly will be 200 people and lots of "door prizes."

We have had gutters installed, and our contractor James continued work at our house, recoating the flat part of our roof, painting our front door and two metal gates and installing a new side door in the garage. Now we should no longer have rain come in under that door. His biggest project, however, was totally rejuvenating my laundry room. The room is small, only 6 ft. x 7 ft., with the hot water heater in it also. The washer and dryer were old and nearly filled the room. We bought an LG ThinQ washer/dryer unit, just 26 inches wide in white. So that allowed space for a stainless-steel sink with a chrome faucet and 36 in.-wide upper and lower cabinets painted white with a countertop colored a swirly gray on off-white. I wanted a chandelier, but I chose a 13 in. x 6 in. round, faceted light with LED bulb that shines like crystal. The cabinet door pulls are faceted and look like crystal, to coordinate with the light fixture. I chose Euphoric Lilac (!) as the wall color and have decorated with pictures on the walls and a vase of artificial purple flowers. It took James, three electricians and one plumber to re-do this room, and my old appliances made two families happy, I hope, since they were taken from the curb within two days.

The Arizona winter has been unusually chilly, rainy and windy. The wind blows in a lot of dust, leading to an unhealthy air quality on some days. The higher elevations in Arizona north of Phoenix have gotten a record amount of snow which is, of course, good for the ski areas. In spite of the cooler temperatures, our bougainvillea plant continues to bloom, and our grapefruit and orange trees are getting new leaves and flower buds. We are continuing to enjoy life here, but we miss Iowa and all of our friends.



Donald William Spurling, son of Junior Lee Spurling and Laura Rebecca Galleher Spurling was born February 19, 1947 in Des Moines, Iowa and passed from this life Tuesday, February 7, 2023 at his home at 75 years of age. Don received his early education at Spring Hill School and also attended Norwalk High School. He served his country during the Vietnam War with the United States Army Reserves attaining the rank of Specialist 4.

He was united in marriage to Sharon Rose Workman on June 28, 1970 at Norwalk United Methodist Church. Three children, Michael, Brenda and Kevin blessed this union.

Don worked at SuperValu Warehouse in Urbandale, Iowa for over 28 years, retiring in 2002. He also worked as a janitor for Interstate-35 Community Schools for a time. He was a dedicated member of the New Virginia Coffee Club and enjoyed camping with family and friends, watching old westerns and the Iowa Hawkeyes, mowing his yard, and watching his grandkids at their many events.

Those relatives who preceded Don in death were his father, Junior Spurling; mother, Laura Spurling; wife, Sharon Spurling; and his grandson, Austin DeHaai.

Don leaves to cherish his memory, son, Mike (Dawn) Spurling of New Virginia, IA; daughter, Brenda (David) DeHaai of Des Moines, IA; son, Kevin (Karla Ewing) Spurling of Allerton, IA; grandchildren, Stevenlee (Brittany) Spurling of Hills, MN; Brian (Tori Harris) Spurling of Winterset, IA; Dillon (Katie) Spurling of Hedrick, IA; Cole DeHaai of Des Moines, IA; Kaiden DeHaai of Des Moines, IA; Ryan DeHaai of Des Moines, IA; Logan Ewing of Allerton, IA; and Andie Sue Ewing of Allerton, IA; great-granddaughter, Scarlett; sister, Juanita (Steve) Sitter of Rosamond, CA; brother-in-law, Bob Davidson of New Virginia, IA; sister-in-law, Joyce (Greg) Wearmouth of Truro, IA; brother-in-law, Marvin (Dixie) Davidson of New Virginia, IA; as well as many other relatives and friends.

The family greeted friends from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm Wednesday, February 15, 2023 at Kale Funeral Home in Osceola.

A graveside service were held at the New Virginia Cemetery, Thursday February 16, 2023 at 11:00 am with Rev. Michael Mattson officiating.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the family.



Virginia Boosters 4-H Club News



Written by Brianna Fantz, Reporter

The Virginia Boosters 4-H Club held their March 8 meeting at 7:00 PM at the Lions Hall in New Virginia.

Brady Streeter called the meeting to order at 7:00. Roll call was 'What are you doing over spring break?' The secretary's report was unavailable, and Jaden McDonald gave the treasurer's report.

This month's old business discussion was continuing to talk about cleaning the Lions Hall and deciding on a date and time due to schedule conflicts.

The review of the monthly county newsletter began the new business, sparking conversation about upcoming dates: sheep and goat weigh-in on April 29 from 7-9 AM, getting YQCA done, Equine Extravaganza, Dairy Goat Share-a-Kid Program, and dairy goat showing and fitting. The 4-H club also discussed a summer reading program opportunity with the library and help from the extension office.

Blake Erickson made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Brianna Fantz seconded.

The presentation was given by Jaden who told the 4-H group about baseball. The hosts for this meeting were Jaden and Peyton McDonald.

The next meeting is on April 12 at 7:00 PM. Have a good rest of your month. The end.

MINT CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES

contributed by Terry Garner

Ingredients

- 1 ½ cups all-purpose flour
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ½ cup brown sugar
- 1 egg • 1 teaspoon vanilla
- heaping ½ cup semisweet chocolate chips
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- ½ cup unsalted butter, melted
- ½ cup white sugar
- ¼ teaspoon peppermint extract
- ½ cup Andes mint chocolate candies, chopped

Instructions

1. Start off by combining the dry ingredients, flour, soda, salt and set aside.
2. In a separate bowl, mix the melted butter and sugar thoroughly for about a minute.
3. Then mix in the egg, vanilla, and peppermint extract.
4. Add in the dry ingredients and mix thoroughly.
5. Mix in chocolate chips and candies.
6. Drop dough onto baking sheet using a cookie scoop and bake at 350 degrees for 10 minutes.

I doubled this recipe. I also substituted 1 bag of Andes Creme de Menthe baking chips in place of chocolate chips and candies. Andes does all the chopping for you! And I used mint extract in place of peppermint extract. It's not quite as strong. According to this website, if you use melted butter it will make your cookies chewier. These are super good cookies, you can't eat just one! From simplyhomecooked.com

BAMBS - WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE ARE ALL ABOUT!

Meet BAMBS, also known as Brooke (Maxwell), Amy (Reyes), Melissa (Phillips), Belinda (Howard), and Stacy (Young).

Our group got its start in late 2021 when some local people in our community learned that some community members could really use a hand up, and with timing being sensitive, the locals turned to social media to "crowd fund" help with that hand up. The reaction to this request was absolutely incredible, and through discussions with many in the community, we ended up showing love to two families in December 2021, another in January and yet another in February of 2022.

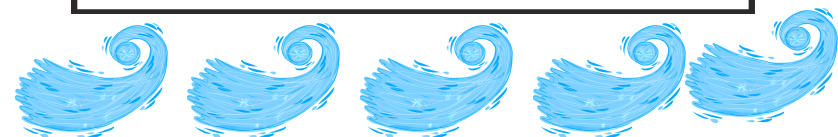
We decided to call our pop-up's "We Care Weekends." Our Facebook page was created to have one spot for those who are interested in joining in on these "We Care Weekends" to see what is going on. Sometimes we'll have fun pictures to share about the work that the community is doing, other times, we'll just provide enough information for people to understand the need. We think it's very important to afford people the integrity and dignity of staying anonymous in times like this. So please join us on Facebook!

Due to this amazing community's support, we have had the opportunity to help many families around our three little towns. We have helped some families with rent and utilities, given Christmas presents to kids, provided gift cards to families traveling back and forth to doctor's appointments, furnished hot meals to people needing a little extra love, and our local fire departments benefited from snacks, drinks and meals as a small token of appreciation, AND so much more.

As a community, we have shared thousands of dollars with people who need a helping hand. We've also seen that people WANT to help, sometimes they just don't know what to do. We try to make it easy to help by stating our goal and giving a number of donations that would be needed to reach that goal. We are so appreciative of all of the support and look forward to sharing even more love in 2023. This is where we need YOU!

If you know anyone locally that could use some help, big or small, reach out to one of the BAMBS members. We have taken requests for new pants, water bills, groceries, rent, gas money, medical bills, and numerous other things. You can find us on Facebook at "We Care Weekends," via email at brookemaxwell1@gmail.com, or send us a text at (515)306-7079.

March 12, 1888 The Great Blizzard of '88 struck the northeastern U.S. The storm lasted 36 hours with snowfall totaling over 40 inches in New York City where over 400 persons died from the surprise storm



USDA Announces Conservation Reserve

Program Signup for 2023

DES MOINES, Iowa, Feb. 16, 2023 – Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced that agricultural producers and private landowners can begin applying for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) General signup starting February 27 through April 7, 2023. CRP is a cornerstone voluntary conservation program offered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and a key tool in the Biden-Harris administration's effort to address climate change and help agricultural communities invest in the long-term well-being of their land and natural resources.

“The Conservation Reserve Program is one of the largest private lands conservation programs in the United States, offering a range of conservation options to farmers, ranchers and landowners,” said Matt Russell, FSA State Executive Director in Iowa. “CRP has and continues to be a great fit for farmers with less productive or marginal cropland, helping them re-establish valuable land cover to help improve water quality, prevent soil erosion, and support wildlife habitat. Under this administration, we have made several updates to the program to increase producer interest and enrollment, strengthen the climate benefits of the program and help ensure underserved producers can find a pathway to entry into CRP.”

Producers and landowners enrolled more than 5 million acres into CRP through signups in 2022, building on the acceptance of more than 3.1 million acres in the largest Grassland CRP signup in history. There are currently 23 million acres enrolled in CRP, with 1.9 million set to expire this year. USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) is aiming to reach the 27-million-acre cap statutorily set for fiscal year 2023.

General CRP helps producers and landowners establish long-term, resource-conserving plant species, such as approved grasses or trees, to control soil erosion, improve water quality and enhance wildlife habitat on cropland. Additionally, General CRP includes a Climate-Smart Practice Incentive to help increase carbon sequestration and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by helping producers and landowners establish trees and permanent grasses, enhance wildlife habitat, and restore wetlands.

Under Continuous CRP, producers and landowners can enroll in CRP throughout the year. Offers are automatically accepted provided the producer and land meet the eligibility requirements and the enrollment levels do not exceed the statutory cap. The Climate-Smart Practice Incentive is also available in the Continuous signup.

FSA offers several additional enrollment opportunities within Continuous CRP, including the Clean Lakes Estuaries and Rivers Initiative (CLEAR30), the State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement (SAFE) Initiative, the Farmable Wetlands Program (FWP), and the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). The CLEAR30 Initiative, which was originally piloted in twelve states in the Great Lakes and Chesapeake Bay watershed, has been expanded nationwide, allowing producers and landowners to enroll in 30-year CRP contracts for water quality practices. Under this administration, FSA also moved SAFE practices back to the Continuous CRP signup, giving producers and landowners more opportunities to participate in the initiative. Through the FWP, producers and landowners can enroll land in CRP as part of their efforts to restore previously farmed wetlands and wetland buffers, to improve both vegetation and water flow.

This administration has also made significant improvements to CREP, which leverages federal and non-federal funds to target specific State, regional or nationally significant conservation concerns. Specifically, USDA made significant improvements to CREP to reduce barriers and make the program more accessible to a broad range of producers and new types of partners. These updates included flexibility for partners to provide matching funds in the form of cash, in-kind contributions, or technical assistance, along with an investment in additional staff to work directly with partners. Through CREP, for the first time ever, three Tribal Nations are now partnering with USDA to help conserve, maintain, and improve grassland productivity, reduce soil erosion, and enhance wildlife habitat.

Grassland CRP - FSA will announce the dates for Grassland CRP signup in the coming weeks. Grassland CRP is a working lands program, helping landowners and operators protect grassland, including rangeland and pastureland and certain other lands, while maintaining the areas as working grazing lands. Protecting grasslands contributes positively to the economy of many regions, provides biodiversity of plant and animal populations, and provides important carbon sequestration benefits to deliver lasting climate outcomes.

How to Sign Up - Landowners and producers interested in CRP should contact their local USDA Service Center to learn more or to apply for the program before their deadlines. Producers with expiring CRP acres can use the Transition Incentives Program (TIP), which incentivizes producers who sell or enter a long-term lease with a beginning, veteran, or socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher who plans to sustainably farm or ranch the land.

More Information - Signed into law in 1985, CRP is one of the largest voluntary private-lands conservation programs in the United States. It was originally intended to primarily control soil erosion and potentially stabilize commodity prices by taking marginal lands out of production. The program has evolved over the years, providing many conservation and economic benefits.

USDA touches the lives of all Americans each day in so many positive ways. Under the Biden-Harris administration, USDA is transforming America's food system with a greater focus on more resilient local and regional food production, fairer markets for all producers, ensuring access to safe, healthy and nutritious food in all communities, building new markets and streams of income for farmers and producers using climate smart food and forestry practices, making historic investments in infrastructure and clean energy capabilities in rural America, and committing to equity across the Department by removing systemic barriers and building a workforce more representative of America. To learn more, visit usda.gov.

Assumption Shrine, Churchville
(Formerly Church of the Assumption)
2841 South Street,
Churchville, IA
Business Office:
c/o St. John the Apostle Church
720 Orchard Hills Drive,
Norwalk, IA 50211
Fr. Daniel Kirby

Mass Monday evenings at 5:30 p.m. (During
Lent.)
Mass : First Sunday of the month at 10:30 a.m.
(Rosary at 10:10 am)

St Patrick's Irish Settlement
3396 155th St Cumming, IA 50061
Fr Thomas Dooley - 515-462-1083
Mass: Sunday 8 am
Religious Ed: Ginny Darr, ginery@aol.com
or call 515-707-9243

Martensdale Community Church
(An Evangelical Free Church)
3953 Hoover St PO Box 200
Martensdale, IA 50160
1 mile north of Martensdale on Hwy 28
Pastor: Jeremy Kidder
641-764-2491
Associate Pastor: Daniel Moore
Sunday Worship 9:00 am
Bible Study: 10:30 am
Sr. High Youth 6 pm Sunday
Awana: 6:30 pm Wed Sept thru Apr.
Jr High Youth 6:30 pm Wed Sept thru Apr.
www.mcc-church.com

Fairview Community Church
19705 Hwy 69 Indianola, IA 50125
515-961-6069
Pastor Gearold McElwee
Cell 515-669-5519
Sunday School: 9:30 am
Sun Morning Worship 10:30 am
Sun Evening Worship 5:30 pm
Cubi Club & Twenty/20 - 5:30 pm
Adult Endeavor - 6:00 pm
Wed Bible Study & Youth Classes 7 pm

Peru Murray United Methodist Church
Pastor Brandon Campbell
No Sunday School
Peru Worship 9:00 am
Murray Worship 10:30 am

Grace Baptist Church
304 Knotts Street
New Virginia, IA 50210
Pastor Michael Mattson
www.gbcnv.org
Sunday Worship: 10:30 am
Wednesday Evening:
Youth 7 pm, Prayer 7:30 pm

St Charles Parish
305 W Main St PO Box 208
St Charles, IA 50240
Pastor: Darin Feikema
641-396-2441
www.saintcharlesparish.org
Sunday School 9 am
Worship Service 9:45 am
Fellowship time: 11 am

Truro Congregational
Christian Church UCC
155 E Garfield Box 17 Truro, IA 50257
Rev. Hugh Stone
Cell:641-414-4876
Email: hugh8@juno.com
Worship 09:00 am
Coffee & Fellowship: 10:00 am

Immaculate Conception
101 St. James St PO Box 88
St. Marys, IA 50241
Fr. Eze Umunnakwe, C.S.Sp.
Mass : Sunday 8 am
Michelle Fick (Office Manager)
immacula@myomnitel.com
Office Hours: Tues/Fri 9 am-4 pm
Religious Ed - Sunday morning
following Mass
Michelle Fick (Director) 641-297-2259

Faith Fellowship Church
164 Highway 152 Osceola, IA 50213
641-342-6603
Pastor: Sheldon Lorenson
Youth Pastor: Tyler Murrow
oefc@iowatelecom.net
Sunday School 9:00 am
Worship: 10:00

Church Directory

Calvary Baptist Church
109 N. Hartman St. Charles, IA 50240
641-396-2234
Pastor Doug Helton 641-396-2747
Sunday School – 9:30 AM
Worship – 10:30 AM
Wed. Prayer, Adult Bible Study – 6:30 PM

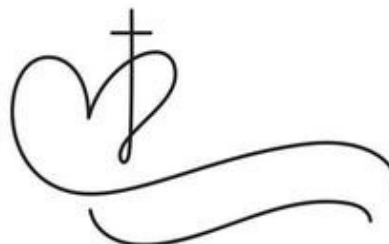
New Virginia Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
604 Main Street. / Box 112
New Virginia IA 50210
Pastor: Darin Feikema
515-490-4444 Cell: 515-770-3713
Sunday Worship: 11 AM

New Virginia United Methodist Church
301 West Street / Box 301
New Virginia IA 50210
641-449-3779
Pastor Paul Burrow
515-402-1802

Pastor's email: burrowpi@yahoo.com
Church email:NewVA-Medora@outlook.com
Sunday Worship: 10:30 AM
Fellowship following Worship Service
Quilters Tuesday 1-4 PM
Necessities Pantry open 2nd Wednesday
10-11 am & 6:00- 7:00 p.m.

Like us on Facebook:
New Virginia United Methodist Church

Medora United Methodist Church
10804 Hwy G-76 / Box 301
New Virginia IA 50210
641-449-3779
Pastor Paul Burrow
515-402-1802
Pastor's email: burrowpi@yahoo.com
Church email:NewVA-Medora@outlook.com
Sunday School: 9:15 AM (children)
Worship: 9 AM
Quilters: 1:00 P.M. Thursday



Church of Christ
10985 44th Lane Prole IA 50229
Sunday Worship: 10 AM & 6 PM
Wednesday Worship: 7 PM
Elder: Duane Proudfit 515-961-4470
Elder: Mike Penick 515-989-4165
Deacon: Fred Bown 641-764-2484
Deacon: Richard Bown: 641-764-2765

Linn Grove United Methodist Church
7483--50th Ave
(4 miles north of Martensdale)
(1 block east of Hwy 28)
Prole IA, 50229
Pastor: Bernie Colorado
515-981-4062
Sunday Breakfast: 8 - 9:30 AM
(free will offering)
Traditional & Children Sunday Worship 10 AM
Adult Sunday School-1st & 3rd Sunday 11:15 AM
Pastor's email: bernieco2003@yahoo.com

St. Paul Lutheran
(Evangelical Lutheran Church in America)ELCA
615 Iowa Ave / Box 290
Martensdale IA 50160
641-764-2752
Pastor Tim Jacobsen:
C- 515-462-0539
Tim@mystpaullutheran.com
Worship: 10:00 AM

LifePoint Church
801 N. Fillmore St.
Osceola, IA 50213
641-342-2334
Pastor Chuck DeVos
www.lifepointministries.net
info@lifepointministries.net
Sunday Worship @ 9:00 am & 10:30 am
Classes @ 9:00 am Wednesdays @ 6:30 pm

