

CITY OF NEW VIRGINIA IOWA
PO BOX 302
NEW VIRGINIA, IA 50210

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

March 19, 2026

Annual Subscription: \$20.00

Contact Information: tricorner@newvirginia.com
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or call 515-249-6371

TRI-CORNER-EXPRESS



Deliver to current resident

February Publishing Costs

Printing: \$485.00

Postage: \$733.75

Presorted Standard
U.S. Postage Paid
New Virginia, IA 50210
Permit No. 99

NEXT AD DEADLINE
April 8, 2026

NEXT MAILING DATE
April 16, 2026

St. Marys' "Toonerville Trolley" or "Doodle Bug" Train

Reprinted with permission by the Warren County Historical Society

This was the passenger train that made a twice daily trip on the Chicago Burlington and Quincy Railroad, which ran from Des Moines through a whole string of towns south and west of Des Moines, including St. Marys.

The Des Moines, Osceola & Southern Railroad built a narrow gauge track in 1881. There are several stories about why it did not go through the town of St. Marys. One story was that people wanted too much for the land and another that they were afraid of the noise. They by-passed St. Marys and built it ¼ mile to the west, where west St. Marys stands.

The railroad serving St. Marys cut the northern tier of section 16 of Jackson Township into two pieces and then headed off for St. Charles. The railroad depot and small area surrounding the depot were purchased in December 1888 by the railroad from this original 240-acre piece of land that was owned by Nicholas Croat. It is also believed by some that Nic Croat thought it would be better west of St. Marys so it would divide his farm into a 160-acre piece and an 80-acre piece.

The depot was built in 1890 on the west side of the main tracks by George Durschell. To get to the freight platform, there was a crossing on the north side of the depot. This crossing allowed one to drive to the 100-foot-long corncrib that was about 150 feet south of the depot. Across the two sets of tracks were a coalhouse and a three-compartment granary that would hold 1,000 bushels of grain in each bin. About 50 feet south of this were the stockyards, consisting of four livestock pens, one of which had a roof over it. The St. Marys Shipping Association owned the large scale that was next to the stockyards. Hogs and cattle were loaded out on Sunday nights on the 9:00 pm freight. This got them to the Chicago markets for Monday morning business.

According to Hallie Ewing, this railroad was described as the most crooked, most round-about piece of railroad in Iowa. The saying was, before you got over the twists and turns, the sun had shone through every window on both sides of the train.

The Burlington Railroad assumed control of the narrow-gauge line and widened the tracks to standard gauge. From then on it was known as the CB&Q. The final conversion was accomplished in the first week of November 1896.

Now, it also had passenger trains that took St. Marys passengers four miles to Wick, about eight miles to Martensdale, on to Prole, Norwalk and finally Des Moines. This 25-mile trip took about one hour. In the 1930s, it cost 60 cents to go to Des Moines. The passenger train was painted dark green with red-and-black trim and yellow lettering according to John McNeer. The passenger area was outfitted with green plush seats for about 24 people.

In the beginning, the post office was in the depot and run by Frank Hennes, first depot agent, 1890-1910. Mr. Hennes also kept a small store where some groceries were sold. Other agents were John McClave, 1910-1927 and M.G. Patrick, (Jim Patrick's father), who was the last agent, 1927-1931. Custodians served thereafter until the train stopped. They were Rosa McClavy, 1931-1939; Gertrude Gehringer 1939-1947 and Margaret Berning, 1947.

The CB&Q had asked to abandon this line but was denied. When the flood of June 4, 1947, washed out large portions of track, they were finally granted permission to never replace it. Train service to St. Marys was stopped immediately. The depot was later dismantled and removed.

From Railroads and Depots of Warren County, Iowa by Louise Pilmer and Iowa History Journal, December 2009, page 25, John McNeer



Photo of the
St. Marys depot
found on
FaceBook

Council Meeting Minutes March 2nd, 2026

The Council met in regular session on Monday March 2nd, 2026, at 7:05 p.m. for the March council meeting. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Strange with Council Members Bailey, Chandler, Dunkin, Galivan, and Truman present. Minutes from the February meeting were approved.

Old Business: The pop machine at the GAMP Community Building has been fixed and is now taking dollar bills. An order will be placed for pop cans for the machine.

Galivan continues to work with the company that the blinking red lights for the East Street stop signs were purchased from. Troubleshooting options to get the lights working have not worked to this point.

Assistance programs are being pursued regarding the sewer issue at 705 West Street.

A bid for re-crowning South Street has not been received as of the March council meeting.

There have been inquiries about locations for memorial benches and memorial trees. Locations will be determined.

The east entry door to the GAMP Community Building has been repaired but a new panic bar assembly is needed.

Citizen Input: Karen Krehlik was present with questions regarding the Gun Club being built west of Town. Krehlik was referred to the Warren County Board of Supervisors and Warren County Zoning Board for further action regarding her questions about the Gun Club, as the property is outside of the city limits and out of the City Council's jurisdiction. After discussing various Gun Club questions, Krehlik requested that the City inform citizens of any future businesses or organizations looking at moving and building in New Virginia or close proximity to New Virginia.

Chandler voiced a citizen complaint about the Lions Park basketball court holding water.

The Garden Club asked Mayor Strange if the City Council would be interested in hearing about some of their proposed projects. The Council wants to hear about the Garden Club's proposed projects.

Fire Department Business: Fire Department Officers met with some of the Trustees and Township Clerks of Virginia Township, Squaw Creek Township, Jackson Township and Fremont Township on February 23rd to review the 2025 EMS and fire calls. Also, the proposed 2026-27 fire and EMS budget was reviewed and discussed.

Water Utilities discussed: Water usage for the month of February was 755,581 gallons averaging 26,985 gallons per day. The water report for February was reviewed. All water testing is in compliance with IDNR permit requirements.

Law Enforcement: The Sheriff's Report for the month of January was reviewed. There were 5 calls for service received or initiated by Deputies. Officers spent in excess of 43 hours in the City for the month. Officers patrolled in excess of 153 miles within the city limits for the month of January.

The Sheriff's Report for the month of February was reviewed. There were 14 calls for service received or initiated by Deputies. Officers spent in excess of 42 hours in the City for the month. Officers patrolled in excess of 187 miles within the city limits for the month of February.

The City Attorney is leaving the law firm of Hopkins & Huebner and initiating a new law firm. The Council reviewed a letter regarding options for City legal representation. After reviewing the options, Truman moved, seconded by Chandler to retain Brent Hinders at the new law firm of Hinders, Updegraff, and Franklin, P.L.C. pending hourly fee rate. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Bailey moved, seconded by Galivan to open public hearing on proposed Resolution No. 2026-04 – A RESOLUTION TO SET MATTER FOR PUBLIC HEARING ON APRIL 6TH, 2026 AT 7:00 PM TO VACATE STREET/ALLEY AND DISPOSE OF REAL PROPERTY, LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS: The 16 ½ foot East/West Alley lying between Lot 16 of Block D and Lot 17 of Block E of the Original Town Plat of New Virginia, Warren County, Iowa A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

With no citizens present and no written responses or email responses received in response to Resolution No. 2026-04, Galivan moved, seconded by Dunkin to close the public hearing regarding Resolution 2026-04. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Bailey moved, seconded by Truman to pass and approve Resolution No. 2026-04 – A RESOLUTION TO SET MATTER FOR PUBLIC HEARING ON APRIL 6TH, 2026 AT 7:00 PM TO VACATE STREET/ALLEY AND DISPOSE OF REAL PROPERTY, LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS: The 16 ½ foot East/West Alley lying between Lot 16 of Block D and Lot 17 of Block E of the Original Town Plat of New Virginia, Warren County, Iowa. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Galivan moved, seconded by Chandler to open public hearing on proposed Resolution No. 2026-05 – A RESOLUTION TO SET MATTER FOR PUBLIC HEARING ON APRIL 6TH, 2026 AT 7:00 PM TO VACATE STREET/ALLEY AND DISPOSE OF REAL PROPERTY, LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS: The 16-foot North/South Alley lying between Lots 25, 26, 31, and 32 of Block 4 of Taylors Subdivision of Outlots 2 and 3, City of New Virginia, Warren County, Iowa. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

With no citizens present and no written responses or email responses received in response to Resolution No. 2026-05, Truman moved, seconded by Galivan to close the public hearing regarding Resolution 2026-05. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Truman moved, seconded by Bailey to pass and approve Resolution No. 2026-05 – A RESOLUTION TO SET MATTER FOR PUBLIC HEARING ON APRIL 6TH, 2026 AT 7:00 PM TO VACATE STREET/ALLEY AND DISPOSE OF REAL PROPERTY, LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS: The 16-foot North/South Alley lying between Lots 25, 26, 31, and 32 of Block 4 of Taylors Subdivision of Outlots 2 and 3, City of New Virginia, Warren County, Iowa.. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Galivan moved, seconded by Truman to finalize the 2026-27 City of New Virginia budget plan to complete information required in proposed tax rate form and schedule proposed tax rate public hearing for April 6th, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Chandler moved, seconded by Galivan to approve 28E Agreement and contract for fire protection and emergency response services with Squaw Creek Township, Warren County, State of Iowa. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Chandler moved, seconded by Galivan to pass and approve Resolution No. 2026-06 – A RESOLUTION APPROVING AGREEMENT AND CONTRACT FOR FIRE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE SERVICES WITH SQUAW CREEK TOWNSHIP, WARREN COUNTY, STATE OF IOWA. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

GAMP UPDATE

LED lighting for the GAMP Community Building was discussed. Galivan moved, seconded by Truman to change out all the lights in the GAMP Community Building to LED lighting. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Warren County is renting the GAMP Building for the primary election on June 2nd, 2026 and November 3rd, 2026 for the general election.

Truck pull prep meetings will start. The first meeting is scheduled for Thursday April 2nd, from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

KEEP IOWA BEAUTIFUL PROGRAM

April 26th - Kite Flying at NV Cemetery; Spring – Country Dance? Contra Dance?; September 20th – End Of Summer Social at Hickory Hills. Ideas discussed – Drive-thru dinner; Game nights @ Lions Hall. The Committee is looking for new avenues for getting information out to the public. New merchandise considerations include T-shirts and stickers.

The Trail Committee has submitted grant applications to Prairie Meadows and Warren County Philanthropic Partnership for the first phase of the trail project.

ELF CLUB

No new information to present to the Council.

TRI-CORNER-EXPRESS

Fund balance \$23,794.13. No new information to present to the Council.
 The City mail included a flyer from Indian Country Apartments in Indianola that will be posted in the Post Office.
 The Council was updated on GWorks payments fee structure.
 City Officials met with Lions Club Members to look at the storage areas in the Lions Hall. Other discussion regarding the Lions Hall Building included having the roof looked at this spring for any needed repairs, pest control, and determining the maximum capacity.
 City-wide garage sale will be Saturday, May 9th.
 City-wide curbside cleanup day will be May 16th.
 Bailey moved, seconded by Truman to approve payment of all City bills. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.
 With no further business to come forth, Dunkin moved, seconded by Bailey to adjourn meeting. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.
 The April council meeting is scheduled for Monday April 6th, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.
April meeting date – Monday April 6th, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

Jennifer Baughman
 Jennifer Baughman, City Clerk

March 20th

National “Won’t You Be My Neighbor” Day



The Sign at the United Methodist Church in New Virginia
 Please send messages to: newva-medora@outlook.com
 Please put **SIGN** in the subject line.

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



NEIGHBOR SPOTLIGHT

Karma Kimzey couldn't name just one neighbor, she says they all help her out in several ways. A.J. is her go-to guy for snow removal, Emily H. uses her as a guinea pig for new recipes, and Lee C. re-attaches her car parts as they come loose, dragging along behind her. He also has fixed her shed door after she mis-took it for part of the lawn. (Twice.) Thanks, neighbors!

NEW VIRGINIA MARCH CLAIMS REPORT

VENDOR	REFERENCE	AMOUNT	CHECK #	CHECK DATE
ALLIANT ENERGY	ELECTRIC/GAS/STREET LIGHTS	\$1,357.85	16058	3/2/2026
AT&T FIRSTNET	PHONE SERVICE	\$51.31	16080	3/13/2026
BOUND TREE	MEDICAL SUPPLIES	\$418.32	16064	3/3/2026
ELAN FINANCIAL SERVICES	TECHNOLOGY	\$283.67	16059	3/2/2026
HOPKINS & HUEBNER PC	LEGAL SERVICE LIONSHALL/TRAILS	\$1,591.00	16066	3/3/2026
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	STATE TAXES	\$66.49	16327042	3/2/2026
IOWA PUBLIC RETIREMENT SYSTEM	IPERS	\$463.85	16327043	3/2/2026
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	FED/FICA TAX	\$609.92	16327044	3/2/2026
J&L SANITATION	GARBAGE SERVICE - CITY	\$62.00	16068	3/3/2026
MARY HUSS	GAMP CLEANING	\$100.00	16069	3/3/2026
OFFICE OF AUDITOR STATE OF IA	ANNUAL FEES - PERIODIC EXAM	\$800.00	16081	3/13/2026
ONE BILLING SOLUTIONS LLC	AMBULANCE BILLING	\$304.00	16070	3/3/2026
PAY PLUS ARCHTRANS	CC FEES AMBULANCE BILLING	\$14.44	16327036	2/16/2026
PAY PLUS ARCHTRANS	CC FEES AMBULANCE BILLING	\$3.42	16327037	2/18/2026
PAY PLUS ARCHTRANS	CC FEES AMBULANCE BILLING	\$1.61	16327040	2/19/2026
LINDE GAS & EQUIPMENT INC.	OEPRATING SUPPLIES	\$149.56	16071	3/3/2026
WASTE MANAGEMENT	RECYCLING FEBRUARY & MARCH	\$2,458.66	16077	3/10/2026
WEX FLEET UNIVERSAL	VEHICLE FUEL	\$179.01	16074	3/3/2026
WINDSTREAM	TELEPHONE/INTERNET FIRE	\$601.24	16075	3/3/2026
ZIEGLER CAT	OPERATIONAL EQUIPREPAIR GENERAT	\$3,942.64	16076	3/3/2026
GENERAL TOTAL		\$13,458.99		
ALLIANT ENERGY	ELECTRIC/GAS/STREET LIGHTS	\$1,171.77	16058	3/2/2026
HUSTON'S LAWN/SNOW REMOVAL	SNOW REMOVAL 2/19-20	\$990.00	16067	3/3/2026
ROAD USE TOTAL		\$2,161.77		
AT&T FIRSTNET	PHONE SERVICE	\$23.12	16080	3/13/2026
FENIX USA	OPERATING SUPPLIES METERS	\$11,529.13	16065	3/3/2026
HUSTON'S LAWN/SNOW REMOVAL	TESTING WATER	\$100.00	16067	3/3/2026
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	STATE TAXES	\$55.91	16327042	3/2/2026
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	WET TAX FEBRUARY 2026	\$490.50	16327046	3/6/2026
IOWA PUBLIC RETIREMENT SYSTEM	IPERS	\$393.83	16327043	3/2/2026
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	FED/FICA TAX	\$547.70	16327044	3/2/2026
PROFESSIONAL OPERATIONS MANAGE	OTHER CONTR.SERV WATER	\$1,113.00	16072	3/3/2026
WARREN WATER DISTRICT	WATER USAGE/LOAN PAYMENT	\$4,865.25	16073	3/3/2026
WATER UTILITY TOTAL		\$19,118.44		
GENERAL		\$2,404.51		
WATER		\$2,015.57		
Total Payroll Paid		\$4,420.08		
***** REPORT TOTAL *****		\$39,159.28		

City of New Virginia	
Feb 2026	Deposits
General	\$ 3,688.62
GAMP	\$ 778.52
Fire	\$9,223.01
Elf Club	\$ 0.00
Road Use	\$13,128.37
LOST	\$4,980.94
Debit Service	\$ 11.89
Water Utilities	\$12,417.67
Grand Total	\$44,229.02

"If you are interested in joining New Virginia Hometown Pride, please contact nvhp50210@gmail.com"

Saturday
April 4, 2026

New Virginia

Easter
EGG
HUNT

Meet at the
New Virginia Methodist Church at 9:30 am
Hunt will begin at 10 am after divided into age groups

In case of bad weather, the hunt will be held
at the New Virginia Lion's Hall

Also:
Pictures with the
Easter Bunny
Candy & Prizes

To donate candy,
please contact
Deann Strange
515-210-8847

NEW
VIRGINIA
CITY WIDE
SALE
MAY 9th

SPRING
CLEAN-UP
MAY 16TH

SEE
WEBSITE
FOR
MORE
DETAILS

NEWVIRGINIA.COM/COMMUNITYEVENTS

NEW VIRGINIA CEMETERY

STARTING
MONDAY, APRIL 6TH

CLEANING AROUND THE
HEADSTONES WILL BEGIN,
IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SAVE ANY
ORNAMENTS OR FAUX FLOWERS,
PLEASE COLLECT
THE ITEMS
PRIOR



THANK YOU, CEMETERY GROUNDS KEEPER

NEW VIRGINIA CHRISTIAN CHURCH

ANNUAL CHICKEN AND HAMBALL DINNER

Sunday, April 19th
11:00 am - 1:00 pm
503 West St



Free Will Offering

Take Out Available

BINGO
& **Dinner**

NV Lions Club

March 29th
April 19th

~

Dinner at 5pm
Bingo
5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

4



Breakfast for Dinner Fundraiser

Free Will Donation

Serving Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs, Bacon, Sausage, Biscuits
and Gravy

Dine-in or to-go containers available

Thursday March 26, 2026, 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 additional marching band uniforms and
some instruments due to a growing program. Come support
our local students!



Hosted and served by the members of
Neophyte Lodge #301, New Virginia



OPEN HOUSE

Bailey Farms Barn and Venue

Harpors by Bailey Farms



April 19th, 2026 1 to 4 pm

Visit both locations and meet with over 40 vendors

Harpors by Bailey Farms

3014 Scott St

New Virginia IA 50210

and

Bailey Farms Barn and Venue

7919 G 76 HWY

New Virginia IA 50210

*Venues for
any event*

www.harporbybaileyfarms.com

www.baileyfarmsbarnandvenue.com

Gerry Allen Memorial Park Community Building

809 West Street, New Virginia, IA 50210

N.V. City Limits

All Other Renters

Full Day Rental

\$150

\$175

Half Day Rental

\$100

\$125

Hourly Rental

\$25

\$25

Deposit \$125.00 due at time of reservation, rental fee due prior to event. All Non-Profits groups - there will be no rental fee. Signed rental agreement required.

Certificate of liability insurance for rental over 50 people is required. All renters must cleanup at the conclusion of their event.

Visit us at www.newvirginia.com or call:

Kim McWilliams (515)321-0652 for more information

NANCY'S

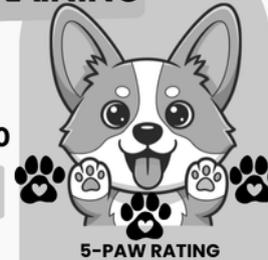
DOG GROOMING

BOARDING & TRAINING

Nancy Crabtree,
Owner

5145 Vermont St
New Virginia, IA 50210

Home #: 641-449-3290
Cell #: 515-313-6738



5-PAW RATING

March 20th International

HAPPINESS day

Come Support Our

Bake Sale



hosted by Virginia Boosters 4-H Club

SATURDAY APRIL 4

9:30-11 AM

Will be set up near the Easter Egg Hunt

proceeds go to Virginia Boosters 4-H Club

Let's Go Fly a Kite

Sunday,
April 26th

2:00-4:00
(weather permitting)

At the
New Virginia
Cemetery



Come out for some kite flying fun!

- *Free kites (while supplies last)
- *Sweet treats and water
- *Yard games and bubbles

This event is brought to the community by:

New Virginia
Hometown
Pride

We are on Facebook! Like and follow our page- 'New Virginia Hometown Pride' to keep up on future events.



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

The City of New Virginia has purchased the Lions Club at 503 West St, New Virginia.

All previously scheduled rentals and group events will be honored.

(Non-Profit and Youth Groups are free of charge)



To rent the Lions Hall, please contact Kim McWilliams at (515)321-0652 or Stephanie Galivan at (515)321-6715



NV Truck Pull
June 27th

24 HOUR

BEEM'S TOWING & RECOVERY

Heavy & Light Tow Service

1131 HWY G76 New Virginia, IA 50210



Starting & Lockouts

Tire Changes

Flatbed



Call Us Today
515-777-5290

5beemstowing@gmail.com

2026

Tri-Corner-Express Ad Prices

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Half Page-Horizontal (10.5x5) \$85

Half Page-Vertical (5x9.5) \$85

Full Page- (10.5x9.5) \$175

Thank You, Birth Announcement,
Birthday & Anniversary:

0-50 words: \$5,

51-100 words: \$10,

Over 100 words: \$.10/word,
Photo: \$5

Obituary & Wedding:

(Including 1 photo) \$40,

Additional photo: \$5

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West Street, New Virginia

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www.betsyreineck.com

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RIKKI-STYLIST

KAMDIN-STYLIST

KAITLYN-ESTHETICIAN

New Virginia

LIBRARY

Tues: 4 - 8 pm

Wed: 9 - 11 am & 1 - 8 pm

Thurs: 4 - 8 pm

Fri: CLOSED

Sat: 9 am - Noon

Sun & Mon: CLOSED

To view our
Wishlist:



www.newvirginia.lib.ia.us



The Last Bookshop in London by Madeline Martin

In August of 1939, 23-year-old Grace Bennett and her best friend Viv took a bold step and moved to London from their small English country village, renting a room in Grace's mother's friend's home. Grace reluctantly agreed to work in a bookshop even though she had no interest in reading. Her organizational skills and pleasant manner brought order and many customers to the dusty, disorganized shop. Air raid sirens warned people as the threat of war began. In September 1940, the London Blitz began, and the German Luftwaffe bombed the city for 56 days and nights. Grace joined the Air Raid Precautions (ARP) civilians and assisted citizens to bomb shelters, enforced blackouts and checked on residents after the bombing ceased. She witnessed many deaths and demolished homes and buildings. Grace developed a love of reading and began reading to the civilians while they were in the shelters, and she continued her reading at the bookshop. Her storytelling was a comfort to the community, showing that books have the power to unite us. They provided a means to escape from the loss and fear during some of the darkest days that London had experienced.

This was a very enjoyable book.

Reviewed by Sue Stills



Thank you for choosing
City State Bank as your favorite
Warren County bank!

Proud to be helping Warren County
grow since 1895.

Thank you

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www.citystatebank.com

GRIMES
INDIANOLA
MADRID
MARTENSDALE
MOUNT AYR
NEW VIRGINIA
NORWALK

The Madison Warren
Ecumenical Association

Invites
the graduating classes of

INTERSTATE 35
AND
MARTENSDALE ST. MARYS
SCHOOLS

As well as family, friends and faculty
to

Baccalaureate 2026

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29TH

7:00pm at

Martensdale St. Marys High School



Refreshments will follow

What is a Baccalaureate?

The baccalaureate service is a non-denominational worship service held before the actual commencement ceremony to honor, reflect upon, and bless the graduating classes. It offers a more quiet, intimate and meaningful opportunity to celebrate achievements, prepare for the future, and be thankful for the support of the community. The Madison Warren Ecumenical group of churches has been hosting this service for over 25 years and are very proud of this partnership with the two schools. Many churches and schools have discontinued the practice because of a multitude of reasons, but we as the spiritual community feel that this is an important way to send off our graduates on the next phase of life's journey.

GATHER THE PEOPLE



Sunday, March 29th
St. Charles Parish Fellowship Hall

Ham Ball Dinner-
Free Will Offering
Serving 3:00pm to 5:00pm
"Cantata Lite"
Entertainment at 4:00pm

Hosted by Madison Warren Ecumenical Association



STRANGE'S SPECIALTY TIRE & AUTO

- TIRE SERVICES
- COOLANT SYSTEM REPAIR
- ROUTINE MAINTENANCE
- MAJOR MECHANICAL REPAIR

515-249-4426

3370 TYLER ST, NEW VIRGINIA, IA 50210

That
"Love Thy Neighbor"
thing...
I meant that.
-God

New Virginia
Christian Church

11 am Sunday Worship

604 Main St
New Virginia, IA



414 Maple St.
Murray IA 50174
641-447-2504

114 W. Main St.
St. Charles IA 50240
641-396-2860

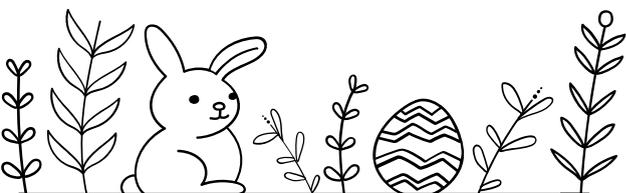
info@kirkagency.com

KIRK AGENCY
RYAN KIRK

Email: Ryan@KirkAgencyPC.com
Cell: 515-577-3356

PROTECT YOUR BRAND

Home, Auto, Umbrella
Commercial and Small Business
Farm and Ranch, Livestock and Crop





more to share

Contributed by Susan Miller

From the New Virginia Garden Club. *Get Ready, Get Set, Get Growing!*
Perennials (the plants that return every year, I like to think of them as an investment) Dianthus, rhubarb, hosta, and many other perennials can be divided when they are an inch tall. Iris and peonies need to wait until fall to divide.

Aren't plants fun! Sometimes I wonder why something doesn't flourish in my garden and then I investigate. I've had many "Ah-hah" moments and more "Duh" moments. Some of the best perennials come from sharing with friends and neighbors. Did you know there is a gardener's tradition that if a friend gives you a start of a plant for your garden, you shouldn't say 'Thank you'? I would suggest an exchange even if that means an IOU.

Once you can work the soil in your garden or raised bed, sow seeds that are fast-germinating and cool season vegetables like radishes, spinaches and lettuces. If planted during the heat of the summer, the radishes will be hot and leaf vegetables may be bitter. Tradition has it that potatoes and onions are to be planted on Good Friday, April 3rd this year. Admittedly, I'm not normally a potato grower. But, I'm determined to plant some this year. Many local nurseries are well stocked with a number of varieties of potatoes, onions and asparagus roots. Make your purchases soon so you don't miss out on your favorite varieties. I may even go a bit rogue and plant sweet potatoes but these don't go in the ground until mid-May. A tribute to Ann Williams!

This is also the time to plant bare root trees, shrubs and roses. First of April is a great time to plant seedlings of cool weather tolerant pansies and snapdragons. Just in time for Easter.

Another folk lore is to plant peas when lilac leaves are the size of mouse ears. My lilacs are budded. I'd better buy pea seed!

I hope this inspires you to plant and grow. Gardening is nutritional, artistic, fulfilling and rewarding. It is work and requires some investigation, but we are generally graciously rewarded. One of my closest friendships came about through sharing of garden lettuce. The best lettuce I've had.

Most of us are planning our gardens and looking forward to the growing season. If this is you, or you know someone who is a gardener, please shop the Flower Power Fundraiser that benefits the New Virginia Garden Club. The club receives at least 40% of all sales. These proceeds help us to plant the Plant-Grow-Share Community Garden that provides free produce to our community. <http://NVGardenClub.fpfundraising.com>. Items can be shipped all over the US.

Please share this link with your gardening friends. The deadline to order is May 15th. Happy Growing!

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Truro City Council Minutes

March 2, 2026

Community Center

Mayor Bryan Arzani presided over and called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Ancel Kennedy, Julie McMichael, Matt Masters, Jason Phillips and Lyndsay Cannoy were present. Fire Chief Terry Stills and Public Works Director Ronnie Hults were also present as well as Heith Hockenberry from EMC Insurance and Rhonda Guy from Professional Operations Management. No one from the public was present to speak. Arzani asked for a motion to approve the Agenda. Motion to approve the agenda by McMichael/Cannoy. All Ayes, motion carried. The Sheriff's Report was not available. The Emergency Management Director's Report was acknowledged by the Council. Terry Stills presented the Fire & Rescue Report with 8 fire calls and 5 EMS calls. Stills reported that 2 of their trucks are in the shop for repair. He also stated there will be a Breakfast Fundraiser on 3.28.26 from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. There will also be an Easter Egg Hunt on 4.4.26 at 9:00 a.m. Ronnie Hults presented the Water/Wastewater Report. Rhonda Guy also presented the exit plan for Ronnie to take over with his Wastewater license/Affidavit signer on April 1, 2026. Rhonda will be available for the City of Truro on an as needed basis. Heith Hockenberry presented the City of Truro with a \$3,497.21 dividend check. He stated it was the second largest amount in the program's history. Heith also discussed the upcoming insurance renewal for the City of Truro. Motion was made to approve Resolution 2026-9 to appoint Lyndsay Cannoy Pro-Tem Mayor for the City of Truro by Kennedy/Phillips. All ayes, motion carried. Motion was made by McMichael/Phillips to set the date for the Public Hearing for the Proposed Tax Levy for 3.25.26. All ayes, motion carried. Motion was made by Masters/Phillips to approve Amendment to Resolution 2026-6 to correct the legal description of real estate from the purchase of land from Julie and Richard Jr. McMichael to the City of Truro. All ayes, motion carried. Motion was made by Phillips/Kennedy to approve Resolution 2026-10 to place "No Parking" Signs in the alley(s) in conjunction with the commercial areas on Center Street at the City Council's discretion. All Ayes, motion carried. The City Council would like to acknowledge Becki Morris, Courtney Peasley (City Clerk of Humeston, IA), Tracy Kozak (City Clerk of St. Charles, IA), and Teresa Rotschafer (Iowa League of Cities) for assisting the Truro City Clerk in various city matters. The City Clerk, Janelle Adams, presented the City Clerks Monthly Report. Motion to approve consent items by Kennedy/Phillips. All Ayes, motion carried. Motion to adjourn was made by Masters/McMichael. All Ayes, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Next regular city council meeting is set for 4.6.2026 at 6:00 p.m.

Bryan Arzani, Mayor

Attested: Janelle Adams, City Clerk

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Saturday,
March 28th,
7 - 10 am

Event by Truro Fire & Rescue
145 S West St, Truro, IA

Come join us for a delicious free-will breakfast!
We will be serving pancakes, biscuits & gravy, and sausage.
Serving will begin at 7AM and end at 10AM.
All are welcome!

Thank you for supporting Truro Fire Association!



April 4th at 9 am

Event by Truro Fire & Rescue
Located at the Truro City Park



From the Kitchen of.....

EASY BLENDER LEMON PIE

Creamy Italian Sausage Tortellini Soup

1 19 oz. bag of frozen tortellini
2 cans Italian style diced tomatoes
1 8 oz. brick of cream cheese

1 lb. Italian sausage
1 bag of fresh spinach
32 oz. chicken broth

1. Brown sausage in large pot.
2. Add rest of ingredients to the pot and cook for 20 minutes or until hot and cheese is melted, on medium heat.

Talk about good! And easy too! Try this recipe I found in a new quilt magazine (Press Quilt) that showed up in my mailbox a few days ago. Of course, I didn't have tortellini or store-bought diced tomatoes on hand so I had to improvise. I browned my Italian Sausage, (made fresh last week from a wild hog!) along with some onion I found wasting away in my fridge. Then I dumped in two pint jars of home-canned chicken broth, two pint jars of my own Italian Tomato Sauce, 1 box of frozen spinach, (cuz who keeps fresh spinach on hand?) and a brick and a half of cream cheese (cuz who doesn't love cream cheese?). After it simmered a while and the cream cheese was pretty much melted, I threw in some noodles I made last week and cooked it till the noodles were done. You could substitute another kind of pasta if you liked. *t.G.*

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Basil: Essential for pesto. Also known for protection and prosperity.

Rosemary: Delicious on chicken. Helps purify air and add a fresh scent. Great for hair & skin.

Mint: Wonderful addition to tea. Good for bees and butterflies. Known for boosting mental clarity.

Herbs are a great filler for flower beds and when brushed against, produce wonderful smells. Most can also be grown in water in a windowsill for overwinter use.



Sue Stills sends this recipe for lemon pie this month. It does sound like a good (and easy!) recipe for Easter!



Graham cracker pie crust
2 medium-size lemon
14-oz. can sweetened condensed milk
8-oz. tub Cool Whip, thawed
Yellow food coloring, if desired



Wash lemons, cut into quarters, remove seeds. Put lemons, sweetened condensed milk and Cool Whip into blender or food processor. Process until smooth. Add a little yellow food coloring if you want the mixture to look more yellow. Pour into pie crust. Put into freezer for 24 hours. Let thaw a little before serving. Top with Cool Whip or other whipped cream when serving, if desired.

Try this refreshing pie with your Easter dinner!



Make your own self-rising flour. Mix together 2 cups of all-purpose flour, 1 T. baking powder and 1 t. salt.

SUPERFINE SUGAR

If a recipe calls for superfine sugar, also known as caster sugar or baker's sugar, and you don't have any on hand, just make your own. Measure out the amount of sugar called for, plus a little extra, and pulse in a blender or food processor until it feels like fine sand, but not powdered sugar. It's easier to cream with butter, and to dissolve in drinks!

Homemade Egg Noodles



1 cup of egg yolks
1/3 cup of HOT water
3 cups of flour (approximate)
salt (optional)

Mix ingredients together or let your stand mixer do it for you, until you have a good, stiff dough. Toss some flour on your counter or island, and knead a few times until smooth, not sticky. Put the dough back in the bowl and cover with a tea towel for half an hour or so. Resting the dough will help to roll it out. Roll out thin and cover with the tea towel again. Leave overnight or for 8 hours or so. Cut in long strips about 2 inches wide or so. Stack the strips, using flour to keep them from sticking. Cut stack in half, then cut the noodles from the short end as narrow as possible. Using a chef knife helps. Make them before you go to bed, then cut them up the following morning. You won't have your counter space tied up during the day that way. If you have a pasta roller, follow directions for using it.

[Welcome to Our Kitchen Page!](#)

Do you have a kitchen question or a cooking tip you'd love to share with our readers? Maybe you have a favorite recipe or a clever technique that makes meal prep easier and more enjoyable. We'd love to hear from you! Email us at tricorn@newvirginia.com to share your favorite recipes, cooking tips, and tricks for spending quality time in the kitchen. Have a question? Send it our way — your topic might be featured in an upcoming article!



DAVID LEE SHANE

David Lee Shane, age 75, of Fenton, MI, passed away Sunday, February 22, 2026. Funeral services will be held March 21, 11:00 am at Linden Presbyterian Church, 119 W. Broad St, Linden. Pastor Dawn Russell officiating. Burial immediately following the service in Fairview

Cemetery, Linden. Visitation will be held at the church 10:00 am to 11:00 am. In lieu of flowers, those desiring may make contributions to Fisher House Michigan (Fisherhousemichigan.org). Fisher House is a non-profit which provides housing for families of hospitalized Veterans. David was born on August 1, 1950 in Osceola, IA, the son of Clifford Paul and Kathleen Mae (Hagan). He was a 1968 graduate of Interstate 35 High School in Truro, IA. He grew up in New Virginia, IA & still had many good friends living there. He was a Vietnam Veteran serving in the U.S. Air Force. He married Cynthia Anne Hyde July 25, 2005 in Fenton. He had resided in Fenton since 2003, coming from Durand/Munising. David retired from Fowlerville Machine in Fowlerville. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, and wandering around the Upper Peninsula.

Surviving are: his wife, Cynthia; children, Dusti (Brian) Hoffman of Ocean City, MD, Dawn (Shannon) Duffy of Clearwater, FL, David Shane of Detroit, Christina (Chris) Lewis of Byron, Alex (Erica) Dethoff of Okemos, and Kelly McQuisten of Munising; grandchildren, Madison, Ashleigh, Kaitlyn, Mason, Leah, Devin, Noah, Hannah, Andrew, Ashley, Samantha, Cameron, Colin, Courtney, and Andria; great grandchildren, Liam, Hazel, Hudson, Isla, Kaesyn and Elowyn; uncle, Robert (Jeanette) Hagan of Iowa; and his best friend, Norville (Karen) Huston of Iowa.



LARRY PHILLIPS, SR.

Larry Marvin Phillips, Sr., a beloved father, grandfather, uncle and friend, departed this life on March 3, 2026, at the age of 83. Larry was born on September 15, 1942, in Winterset, Iowa, and his journey ended peacefully at the Indianola Good Samaritan Center in Indianola, Iowa.

Larry's life was a testament to hard work, dedication, and love for family. After graduating from Truro High School in 1961, he pursued further education at Universal Trade School in Omaha, Nebraska. His career began as a machinist, and he went on to work as a mechanic at Eagle Iron Works and as a repairman for Massey Ferguson. In 1974, he embraced his passion for farming, joining his brothers to cultivate the land full time.

He proudly served his country during the Vietnam War with the United States Army, achieving the rank of SP5 (T). His service was a source of pride and an example of his commitment to duty and honor.

Larry's interests were as diverse as they were inspiring. He had a keen eye for collecting quilts, farm toys, and antiques. He enjoyed scrapbooking, delving into genealogy, and was an avid reader, especially of newspapers and magazines. Above all, Larry cherished time spent with his grandchildren, nieces, and nephews, who brought him immeasurable joy.

A member of the Winterset V.F.W. Post #8142, Larry was deeply connected to his community and valued the camaraderie and fellowship it provided.

Larry was preceded in death by his parents, Richard Elmer Phillips and Alice Louise Phillips; his brothers, Terry Kay Phillips and Gary Richard Phillips; and his grandparents, Elmer and Catherine Phillips, and Newton and Myrtle Sankey.

He is survived by his son, Larry Marvin (Cindy) Phillips, Jr. of West Des Moines, Iowa; grandchildren, Adam (Niki Anderson) Phillips of Pleasant Hill, Iowa, and Abigail (Tye) Scott of Kasota, Minnesota; and great-grandchildren, Anna, Haley, Tyler, Mazie, Makenzie, Ayla, and Berkley. He also leaves behind his sisters-in-law, Kathy Phillips and Nancy Phillips, both of Truro, Iowa, along with numerous nieces, nephews, and countless friends who will miss him dearly.

The family would like to say how thankful and wonderful the staff at Indianola Good Samaritan was, especially Larry's nurse Tiffany.

Services to celebrate Larry's remarkable life were held on Tuesday, March 10, 2026, at 10:30 am at the Truro Congregational United Church of Christ, with Pastor Riley Dykstra officiating. Friends were invited to gather and share memories on Monday, March 9, 2026, from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm at Kale Funeral Home in Osceola. For those unable to attend in person, a live stream of the service will be available on Larry's tribute wall at www.kalefuneralhome.com beginning at 10:30 am, Tuesday. Interment with Military Rites followed at the Ebenezer Cemetery near Peru, Iowa.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Truro Congregational United Church of Christ. Online condolences can be expressed at www.kalefuneralhome.com.

Larry Marvin Phillips, Sr. touched many lives and leaves a legacy of love and strength. He will be remembered fondly and missed deeply by all who knew him.

CLAUDE "SCOOTER" HUSBANDS

The Stills family was saddened to learn of the passing of Claude "Scooter" Husbands on February 7, 2026 in Oklahoma City, OK, at the age of 76. Scooter was the husband of Sherry Norris Husbands and the son-in-law of Don and Evelyn Stills Norris. He was a graduate of Iowa State University. His remains will be interred in the New Virginia Cemetery at a later date.



A MESSAGE FROM MR. GRANDON

I-35 CSD SUPERINTENDENT

Greetings I-35 Community –

As we begin looking ahead to warmer spring weather, I'd like to share some information about the upcoming ISASP test with our community.

ISASP Testing Begins Soon

Each spring, students across Iowa participate in the Iowa Statewide Assessment of Student Progress (ISASP). At Interstate 35, students in grades 3–11 will begin testing the week of March 30. Students will complete assessments in math, reading, and writing. 5th grade, 8th grade, and 10th grade students will also complete the science assessment.

- **Elementary students** will test over two weeks. 4th and 6th grade students will test March 31–April 3, followed by 3rd and 5th grade students testing April 7–10.
- **Secondary students** in grades 7–11 will test March 31–April 3. On Tuesday-Thursday of that week, students will report to their designated testing classroom by 8:10 a.m. Following this dedicated assessment time, the secondary building will operate on a late start schedule with shortened class periods.

ISASP assessments help measure student learning and growth in relation to the Iowa Academic Standards. The results allow educators to better understand how students are progressing, while also helping guide decisions related to instruction and academic support.

These results also contribute to Iowa's School Performance Profiles, which provide a public snapshot of how schools are performing academically across the state. Families and community members often use this information to better understand how well schools are helping students meet state learning standards.

Families can support students during testing by encouraging good sleep, a healthy breakfast, and on-time attendance, which is especially important during the assessment window.

Thank you for partnering with us to help our students do their best.

Go Roadrunners!

Chad Grandon

REMINDER: SCHOOL RESUMES MARCH 23TH AFTER SPRING BREAK!



APRIL ACTIVITIES

HIGH SCHOOL TRACK & FIELD - VARSITY

Events for boys and girls are at 4:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

- 3/31: Boys V @ Earlham High School
- 4/2: Girls V @ Clarke High School
- 4/6: Boys V & Girls V @ Nodaway Valley High School
- 4/9: Boys V @ Clarke High School
- 4/14: Boys V @ Central Decatur HS; Girls V @ Collins-Maxwell HS
- 4/16: Boys V @ Clarke HS, 4:45 p.m.; Girls V @ Central Decatur HS
- 4/20: Girls V @ Van Meter High School
- **4/21: Boys V & Girls V @ I-35 High School**
- 4/23: Boys V & Girls V @ Martensdale-St. Marys High School
- 4/27: Girls V @ Winterset High School
- 4/28: Boys V @ Mount Ayr High School

HIGH SCHOOL GOLF - VARSITY

Events for boys and girls are at 4:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

- **4/6: Boys V & Girls V @ Deer Run Golf Course**
- 4/9: Boys V @ Boone HS
- 4/10: Girls V @ Osceola
- 4/11: Boys V & Girls V @ CAM 10:00 a.m.
- 4/13: Boys V & Girls V @ DM Christian
- 4/14: Boys V @ Woodward Golf Club; 1:00 p.m.
- 4/17: Boys V @ Panorama; 9:30 a.m.
- 4/20: Girls V @ Central Decatur
- 4/21: Boys V @ Central Decatur HS
- 4/21: Girls V @ Earlham HS
- 4/23: Boys V & Girls V @ Woodward Golf Club
- 4/25: Boys V & Girls V @ Grundy Center 8:00 a.m.

MIDDLE SCHOOL TRACK & FIELD

- 4/13: Boys MS & Girls MS @ Clarke High School, 4:15 p.m.
- 4/21: Boys MS & Girls MS @ Mount Ayr HS, 4:00 p.m.

ELEMENTARY UPDATE: READ ACROSS AMERICA WEEK

Students across the district had a great time celebrating Read Across America Week, a nationwide effort to encourage a love of reading. Throughout the week, classrooms participated in a variety of literacy activities while also enjoying a fun spirit week with themed days like Wacky Wednesday and Crazy Sock Day. To kick off the week, older Roadrunners partnered with younger students to spend time reading together. Enjoy some photos below. You can also visit the "Class of 20XX" Facebook pages using the QR codes below. Scroll to see more photos and other recent school fun. It's all part of *The Roadrunner Experience!*

4-YEAR-OLD PRESCHOOL & 3RD GRADE



KINDERGARTEN & 6TH GRADE



1ST GRADE & 4TH GRADE



2ND GRADE & 5TH GRADE



**CLASS OF 2039
(4YO PRESCHOOL)
FACEBOOK PAGE**



**CLASS OF 2038
(KINDERGARTEN)
FACEBOOK PAGE**



**CLASS OF 2037
(1ST GRADE)
FACEBOOK PAGE**



**CLASS OF 2036
(2ND GRADE)
FACEBOOK PAGE**



**CLASS OF 2035
(3RD GRADE)
FACEBOOK PAGE**



**CLASS OF 2034
(4TH GRADE)
FACEBOOK PAGE**



**CLASS OF 2033
(5TH GRADE)
FACEBOOK PAGE**

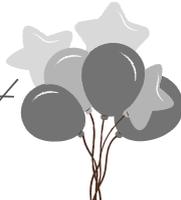


**CLASS OF 2032
(6TH GRADE)
FACEBOOK PAGE**



SECONDARY UPDATE: KEY DATES FOR SPRING 2026

- March 30: Ninth Grade Orientation for 2026-27 year @ 5:30 p.m. in the HS Commons
- April 18: Promenade @ I-35 HS 4:00 p.m./Prom 8-11 p.m. @ Red Acre Barn
- April 24: Senior Cap & Gown Pictures @ 9:00 a.m. in the HS Commons
- April 29: Baccalaureate @ Martensdale-St. Marys High School
- May 20: Deadline to order yearbooks. No extras will be ordered.

PROM *Night!* 

SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2026

- PROMENADE: 4:00 PM AT THE I-35 HIGH SCHOOL GYM
- DANCE: 8-11:00 PM AT THE RED ACRE BARN
- AFTER-PROM: 12-4:00 AM AT I-35 HIGH SCHOOL



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JESUS' RIGHT HAND

Who is my neighbor? That was a question that kept rolling around in my mind recently when I received an email from the Food Bank of Iowa. One of the articles suggested that we refer to our clients as "Neighbors." I had to ponder this point in my mind, wondering if it would cause confusion in our area, especially since we helped a rather large population of southern and central Iowa. So, who exactly is our "Neighbor?" I just had to figure this out before I woke up another morning with Mr. Rogers in my brain singing "Won't You Be My Neighbor?"!

The dictionary defines a neighbor as "one living or located near another." This is the definition that most of us are familiar with, meaning our next-door neighbor, or the neighbor down the street. However, there is a second definition that opens up the meaning: "A fellow human being." This starts to bring things a little more into focus. Going to the Bible, the meaning deepens even more when you look at what Jesus taught and the true intentions behind the Scripture.

In Luke 25:25-37, we find the parable of the Good Samaritan. In this passage, a lawyer asked Jesus, "Who is my neighbor?" Historically, the Jews were taught to not have any contact with tax-collectors, Gentiles (non-Jews) and especially Samaritans. Jesus makes it clear in this parable that our neighbor is anyone around us, regardless of their ethnic, religious, or social/economic status. Then Jesus says that loving our neighbor means we must step away from religious beliefs that lack practical love for others. We can say we are Christians, can regularly go to church, and even evangelize the lost; but Scripture is clear that all of that is just vanity and meaningless noise if we're not living out the gospel by loving our neighbor in practical ways. Bringing it forward to today's situations...when some think about our urban, poor, or minority neighbor, what immediately comes to mind? "They're lazy." "They lack personal responsibility." "They're just getting what they deserve." No, they need love, respect and a chance.

Scripture tells us we need to challenge and reject this kind of thinking. To truly love our neighbor means we must believe the best about our neighbors and reject the stereotypes and generalizations that either we've been told or we believe about our neighbor. This is so true in some of our churches today. There are many who have been pushed to the fringes of the church and society, pounding on the door to come in, yet so many refuse to answer the door! There have been so many situations recently that I have been witnessing where people have shut "neighbors" (or co-workers, or even family) out of their lives, refusing to acknowledge them or even look their way just because of their lifestyle or a mistake they have made in their past. Why? Sometimes you are the only Gospel some people will ever witness. In shutting certain people out of your life because of your holy convictions, you are depriving them of an opportunity to feel the true love of God in their lives. All it takes is one moment of God's love to turn a hardened heart into one that God can change. If it was so wrong to be around "sinners," then why did Jesus do it? He ministered to all three of those populations that were taboo: Tax collectors, Gentiles and Samaritans! And what was the result? Their hearts were softened and they became believers. God isn't telling us to be in bed with the world. He is telling us to be at their bedside, comforting, loving and caring for them. Of course, if you are experiencing consistent abuse from any source, please separate yourself for your own safety and well-being!

Maybe my soapbox is standing higher at this time because of all the unrest in the world today. Maybe it's because there is one person reading this that needs to realize that they are not going to condone certain behaviors simply by being around someone who doesn't share your spiritual beliefs. This divisive behavior has crept into our churches by pitting denomination against denomination, brother against sister, and parent against child. How will they ever know the love of God if you are absent and can't (or won't) demonstrate it in a practical, personal way? So far, I haven't caught poverty, laziness, or LBGTQ from anyone I've encountered. There has been no compromise of my Christian beliefs or values. I haven't lost my passion for Jesus, and I most certainly have not lost my love for my fellow human beings. In fact, it has grown stronger. For, how will they hear without a preacher? (Romans 10:14-15). A few sacred cows may have been tipped, but I'm just following in the footprints of my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Please be encouraged and motivated by these words. They were written with uncompromising love. We are here for you if you should need us for prayer, encouragement, and even food.

In His Love and Service,
Jesus' Right Hand



DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

Contributed by Sue Stills



Daylight Saving Time - love it or hate it! The time change to turn clocks ahead one hour took place on the second Sunday in March (March 8 this year) and will end on the first Sunday in November (November 1 this year) when we turn our clocks back one hour. DST was first implemented in the U.S. with the Standard Time Act of 1918, a wartime measure for seven months during World War I in the interest of adding more daylight hours to conserve energy resources. Year-round DST or "War Time" was implemented again during World War II. The Uniform Time Act of 1966 standardized DST with the intent of simplifying the official pattern of where and when DST is applied within the U.S. Permanent DST was signed into law by President Richard Nixon in January 1974, but President Gerald Ford repealed year-round DST in October 1974.

Daylight Saving Time is not observed in Arizona and Hawaii, nor in the U.S. territories of American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and the U.S. Minor Outlying Islands. The exception in Arizona is the Navajo Nation, a native American reservation in northeastern Arizona, northwestern New Mexico and southeastern Utah. It maintains the same time throughout tribal lands despite state borders. When we went to Grand Canyon National Park, we stayed two nights in Cameron, AZ, which was in the Navajo Nation and which observed DST. When we drove west to the Park, we were not in DST. We certainly got confused about what time it was as we drove several times from Cameron to the Park and back! By staying on Mountain Standard Time year-round, Arizona avoids extending sunlight into the late evening which would drive up air-conditioning costs. Without DST, sunsets occur earlier (around 8 p.m. instead of 9 p.m.), allowing homes to cool down sooner. The state formally opted out of DST in 1968.

Potential benefits of DST include more evening daylight for outdoor recreation, increased safety by reducing crime and traffic accidents, and economic boosts for retail and leisure industries. By aligning waking hours with sunlight, mood may be improved, and physical activity may be encouraged, such as walking, biking and sports. Actual savings in energy consumption is inconclusive.

Opponents cite disruption in a person's natural circadian rhythm causing sleepiness and decreased concentration until the body adjusts. Some negative health effects have been reported, including a higher risk of strokes, heart attacks and mood disturbances.

DST is not beneficial to farmers because it disrupts early-morning routines, delays field work due to morning dew and confuses livestock schedules. Farmers follow the sun, not the clock.

DST has been discussed and debated for years as to whether to make it permanent or abolish it completely! What is your opinion?

ROAD TRIPPING

Contributed by Terry Garner

A Family Hog Hunt And Getting Skunked

Last month, my friend Rob from Wisconsin along with his daughter's family, and me and Posie all went down to Texas for a hog hunt with our Missouri and Texas friends. What a great time we had! It was good to see our hunting buddies and to all be together for a few days.

They all showed up at my house on Wednesday night. We turned their horses out in the lot to eat and drink, they let their dogs out to do their business, then loaded them back up in the boxes, and off to bed we went to get some sleep.

We got up at 3 o'clock a.m., got the horses and mules loaded and pulled out of the driveway at 4:08 a.m. Not bad, considering we had to load five horses and mules (Rob and I saddled ours first), let the dogs take care of business again, get three kids up and ready, and head out.

We like leaving early to miss most of rush hour in Kansas City, but it seemed like this time, we were part of the action. We dropped down out of Kansas City on Interstate 49 towards Joplin, then west on Interstate 44 to Big Cabin, Oklahoma, and south from there on Highway 69. We were surprised at the amount of traffic on Highway 69. While it's usually pretty busy, it's manageable, but this time there was just lots more traffic, including semis. It finally dawned on us that it was probably due to the wildfires going on in Oklahoma and Kansas. Later we heard that Interstate 35 had been shut down that day due to those same wildfires.

About an hour into our trip, I remembered that I'd failed to load up the cooler I had ready with food I'd cooked for our supper that night and through the weekend. Rob and I talked about just stopping at a Walmart before we got there and loading up on stuff to cook. After a while, we remembered that we go by an Amish store south of Choteau, Oklahoma, that we like, so we stopped there instead. We picked up some brats for not too much money, and boy, were they good. I got some cheese to go with our summer sausage for lunches while out hunting too. I'm kind of glad I forgot the beefburger I'd made!

Friday, we hunted along the Red River. We didn't see much hog sign, but finally, on the way back to the trucks, the dogs bayed up. We made our way to them, and that poor thing had been caught in a snare someone had set for coyote. Easy catch, and one of the little boys got his first hog.

Saturday, we hauled over to Sam's place and hunted on his ranch over by Clarksville, Texas. We only got two hogs over there, usually we get more, but hey, that's why they call it hunting. We still had a good time, got in some good riding, and didn't have any major wrecks, thank goodness. That ranch is usually pretty boggy in places, and I hate boggy! So does Vicki, my mule.

Sunday, we hunted on Roy's neighbors. Still not much pig sign, but toward the end of the hunt, we bayed one up, and one of the kids got to stick that one. The guys gutted it, tied it on Crystal's mule, and we rode off. We hadn't gotten far, when Posie struck again and chased one right back by us. We could see her right on its tail! Go Posie! I love it when my Iowan dog outhunts those southern dogs that do it all the time!

They bayed that one up and one of the kids got to kill that one too. The young guys were gutting it, and us "old people" were just sitting there on our mules watching, like old people are supposed to do. Rob says, "Hey, what's that dog digging up?" One of the dogs was digging right by where the boys were taking care of the hog. Rob wondered if it was a skunk. Posie was standing off to the side, and I said, "Well, it wouldn't be a skunk, cuz Posie would leave out if it was a skunk." About that time, that dog dug a skunk out of that hole that we'd all been milling around on. Everybody started hollering and leaving out, even Posie. Of course, the skunk proceeded to do what skunks do, and you should have seen those boys. We're talking about young men in their twenties, big stout boys, they work in a feedlot all day, every day, around all kinds of stink, and they got to gagging and coughing, I thought they were gonna fall off their horses. I got to laughing so hard at Jesse and Nick, I thought I was gonna fall off my mule! What a hoot!

Yesterday, I went riding, and right before we got home, my dogs found them a skunk too. Posie and I got upwind in a hurry, but the rest of them left their brains in the hole where they found the skunk. Consequently, they all had to sleep in the pen last night during that thunderstorm while Posie and I were all curled up in the house where it was nice and warm and dry! Sorry about your bad luck, guys!

I texted Jesse last night, told him I missed him on our skunk hunt. He was rather rude and said he was glad he couldn't make it! Haha!



On Wednesday February 18th the Red Hats from St. Marys/St. Charles and Chattie Hatties Red Hats from New Virginia met at the Talk Shop in St. Charles for a Red Hat outing. Great entertainment was provided by Margaret Brommel's son-in-law and his fellow performers. All enjoyed music from country, standard and oldies. Great food, conversations and entertainment.



BIG NEWS FOR THE GREAT WESTERN TRAIL!

We are thrilled to announce that the Warren County Conservation Board (WCCB) has been awarded a State Recreational Trails Grant! This vital funding will allow us to rehabilitate two sections of the trail currently in greatest need of repair.

The repairs will cover a total of 1.4 miles across two key stretches:

- Martensdale: From the Trailhead at Iowa Ave. to 30th Ave.
- Churchillville: From Main Street to Hamilton Street.

Project Funding Breakdown- Funding Source Amount: State Grant Funds \$543,200.00; Local Contribution \$282,800.00; Total Project Investment \$826,000.00

🙌 A Heartfelt Thank You! This achievement was a team effort. We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to the Iowa DOT, Warren County Board of Supervisors, Friends of Warren County Conservation, and our support letter contributors. This project would not be moving forward without your incredible support.

About the Grant: The Iowa State Recreational Trails grant program provides essential funding to government agencies and non-profits for the development and maintenance of public trails. Managed by the Iowa DOT, this competitive program requires a minimum 25% local match. These funds support critical infrastructure

like paving and bridge construction to ensure Iowa's trail system remains a premier destination for all. Warren County Conservation Facebook post from February 23, 2026



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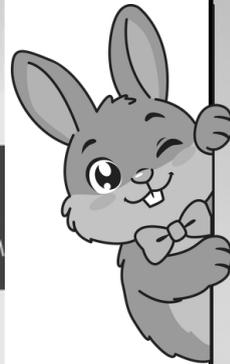
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515-577-2583 PLS17532@gmail.com

**New Virginia Legion
Post 281**

Meeting: 2nd Thursday of the
Month, 7 pm

Community Breakfast: 2nd
Saturday of the Month,
7 - 10 am,
Take-out available

Hall Rental: Contact Roger
Kitner 515-230-8494



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SCRIBBLINGS FROM SUE

by Sue Stills

Caring Neighbors Circle Hears Needs of Community Organizations



We had more late-winter Northern visitors near the end of February and in early March. Our son James (60) from New York City visited us February 22-27. He had boarded his plane just as the blizzard was starting, so he had no problem with his flight. We mainly had quiet times at home and on the patio, and we also had a fun evening with my brothers, sister-in-law and friend Renee. I made Maid-Rite loose meat sandwiches, coleslaw, beans and brownies. Can't go wrong with that menu, right? I drove James on some errands, he and Mel got haircuts (more expensive than what Spike's used to be), and James experienced juicing tangelos and grapefruit. James had to take pictures of Bill's grapefruit, orange and lemon trees, as he had never seen such abundance on trees.

I had one day to ready my guestroom and guest bathroom before our grandson Josh (31) and wife Mary (29) arrived from Bowie, MD, on March 1. They rented a car at the Phoenix airport because they wanted to drive to Joshua Tree National Park in California, spending two nights there. During their time here, we again had a family dinner here – pizza and salad. We, Josh and Mary had an evening of watching RAGBRAI on YouTube which they enjoyed (and made us nostalgic). They returned to MD on March 7.

The address of Joshua Tree National Park is Twentynine Palms, CA. It is 140 miles east of Los Angeles. Native Americans stewarded this land for thousands of years. Wanting to protect this desert area in the 1930's, American activist Minerva Hoyt persuaded President Franklin Roosevelt to proclaim Joshua Tree National Monument in 1936. In the 1994 California Desert Protection Act, Congress renamed the area Joshua Tree National Park. Today the Park protects 792,510 acres, over 80 percent of it managed as wilderness, where the Mojave and Colorado deserts converge. The Park enjoys a wealth of biological diversity, including many cactus species, trees, birds, reptiles, small mammals, desert tortoise and desert bighorn sheep.



The wild-armed Joshua tree is not a tree but a succulent, yucca brevifolia, a member of the agave family. It is the largest yucca in the world. Its waxy, spiny leaves expose little surface area, efficiently conserving moisture. Joshua trees can grow over 40 feet, at a rate of one inch per year, and some may live as long as 150 years. Clusters of cream-colored flowers bloom February through April, then the tree grows its branches. The yucca moths are the only things capable of pollinating the tree, and in turn, the moth relies on the tree for seeds which the moth larvae feed on. How was the Joshua tree named? There is a legend that when Mormon immigrants travelled across the Colorado River in the 19th century, they saw the outstretched branches of the Joshua tree and believed they were guiding them through the desert, similarly to Joshua being a guide in the Bible. This may not be accurate, but it makes a nice story. Sources: National

Park Service brochure; becausetees.com

As I wrote in my Scribblings in January, I was involved in Childrens Theatre through the Sun Lakes Community Theatre (SLCT), performing Dr. Seuss' "Horton Hatches the Egg" for kindergarten and first-grade children at 21 elementary schools. Our performances are now completed, and we had a "cast party" at the Director's house with plenty of food and camaraderie. Of the 20 people involved (two of the ladies are from Iowa), I already knew 17 of them, and it was an opportunity to get to know three new friends. ➔

Five community organizations were present at the March 2nd Caring Neighbors Circle's first quarterly meeting of 2026. Since more than 3 groups were present, a drawing selected 3 presenters. These groups had 4 minutes to present and 4 minutes to answer questions from CNC members.

I-35 PTO; Kristen Harris & Ashley Graf

I-35 Youth Soccer; Jessica McCoy and Ashley Graf

Sue Cornelison Summer Art Camp; Dawn Vetter

Having listened to the presenters, CNC members voted; CNC's \$1,600 monies will be awarded to Sue Cornelison Summer Art Camp. Note: I-35 Youth Soccer and I-35 PTO were recipients of checks totaling \$130 from CNC members.

Don Pierce, Lions and Mary Seibert Gateway Welcome Center were given 2 minutes to present and 2 minutes of member questions. These organizations were encouraged to return to upcoming meetings. Don Pierce, Lions rep, thanked members for 2025 CNC monies that were used to get the electronic community sign on Main Street completed. He informed members that Tracy Kozak, City Clerk, will be the contact for signage.

CNC members voted to amend bylaw meeting dates and times--CNC meetings at Lions Hall will begin at 6:30 pm on first Monday of March, June, and November and 2nd Monday of September (due to Labor Day).

2026 meeting dates: March 2 June 1 September 14 2nd Monday (1st Monday = Labor Day) November 2

Next meeting: 6:30 pm, Monday, June 1, 2026 (doors open at 6)

I35 FFA Alumni & Supporters

Meeting date: 1/22/26

ATTENDEES: 3 Officers and 2 Members

Meeting called to order at 7:03pm

Last Meeting Follow-up:

1. Secretary's Report - Read and approved
2. Treasurer's Report - \$3,266.81
- a. Owe Emily Gearig \$117 for FFA Denver Goodie Bags
3. Tier Sponsorship - E. Gearig motion to roll out tier sponsors in summertime lasting 26-27, 2nd by D. Brownlee
- a. Create a banner with sponsors' names to display at sporting and FFA events
- b. Send out sponsorship letters in June, with annual membership beginning in July.

New Business: 1. Pancake Breakfast vs. Taco Bar Fundraiser- Decision to host a Taco Bar this spring

2. Chapter Outreach a. Contest Help - Mrs. Luedtke is looking for volunteers to critique contest for sub-districts
- b. Senior Banners - D. Erwin motion to pay for senior banners, 2nd by E. Gearig
3. Application for senior awards due 4/10 EOD to Hannah - have ready to e-mail to Mrs. Luedtke prior to spring break.

Meeting adjourned 7:45pm

ACTION ITEMS: 1. Update Senior Award application

NEXT MEETING: March 5, 2026 @ 7pm, St. Charles Lions Hall

The SLCT presented its third annual Variety Show March 7-8. It was not a competition, just an evening of fun featuring Sun Lakes residents, family and friends. There were 19 acts involving 28 people performing singing, dancing, stand-up comedy, poetry reading, comedy skits and piano playing. I worked backstage with four other ladies, and we were responsible for making sure the acts were ready at their appointed times, opening and closing the curtains, lighting, and moving props such as chairs, a table, a music stand, the piano and piano bench. It was fun, and the audiences enjoyed the evenings.

Our fruit trees are getting ready to bloom and release their wonderful fragrance. So spring is definitely in the air!

Church Directory

Grace Baptist Church

304 Knotts Street
New Virginia, IA 50210
Pastor Michael Mattson
www.gbcnv.org
Sunday Worship: 10:30 am
Thursday Evening:
Bible Study 6:30 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 United Church of Christ

155 E. Garfield St., P.O. Box 17
Truro, IA 50257
Contact: Riley Dykstra, Student Pastor
Cell: 515-865-9392
Church: 641-765-4524
Email: truroucccchurch@gmail.com
Worship 10:00 am
Coffee & Fellowship: 11:00 am

Immaculate Conception

101 St. James St., PO Box 88
St. Marys, IA 50241
Fr. George BoachieNyarko
515 210-2490 (Emerg. only)
gnyarko@dmdioocese.org
Mass: Sunday 10:00 a.m.
Sarah Gehringer (Office Manager)
641-297-2359
immacula@myomnitel.com
Office Hours: Tues. & Thurs. 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Religious Ed - Sunday morning
following Mass
Michelle Fick (Director) 641-297-2259

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

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 a.m.)

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, ginginery@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

Faith Fellowship Church

1694 Hwy 152,
Osceola, IA 50213
641-414-3935
Pastor: Scott Davis
Youth Pastor: Tyler Murrow
ffcosceolapastor@gmail.com
Sunday School 9:00 am
Worship: 10:00 am

New Virginia Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)
604 Main Street. / Box 112
New Virginia, IA 50210
Pastor: Darin Feikema
515-250-5116
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 PM
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New Virginia United Methodist Church

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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
Wednesday Worship: 7 PM
Elder: Duane Proudfit 515-537-9142
Elder: Mike Penick 515-989-4165
Deacon: Dave Henderson 515-250-5760
Deacon: Richard Bown: 515-681-0491

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 / P.O. Box 290
Martensdale, IA 50160
641-764-2752
office@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

Peru United Methodist Church

301 Brown St.,
Peru, IA 50222
Pastor Sharman Eaton
Social Time @ 8:30 am
Coffee and Snacks
Worship 9:00 am



News Release

Contact:
Anna Golightly, Conservation Assistant
515-462-4884 x3
Anna.Golightly@ia.nacdnet.net

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Conservation Poster Contest Entries Due May 1

WINTERSET, IOWA, March 5, 2026

The Madison County Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) encourages students from kindergarten through 12th grade to participate in the Conservation Poster Contest. Entries are due to the SWCD in which the student's school is located by Friday, May 1. Posters must reflect and include the title of the contest theme: "Soil. Where It All Begins," which celebrates the incredible power of soil to support life in all its forms!

Posters are judged based on conservation message, visual effectiveness, originality, and universal appeal. The SWCD commissioners will judge entries and forward the winners to Conservation Districts of Iowa (CDI). State winners will be forwarded to the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) to compete at the national level, where winners will be announced during NACD's Annual Meeting in 2027.

The Hand-Drawn Poster Contest is open to K-12 students and divided into five grade divisions (K-1, 2-3, 4-6, 7-9, and 10-12). Posters must be made on regular poster paper; the size can range from 8.5 x 11 inches to 22 x 28 inches, but NACD recommends the size of 11 x 17 inches on 60 lb. paper. Mediums can include paint, crayons, colored pencils, charcoal, stickers, magic markers, paper, or whatever inspires students (with the exception of three-dimensional effects).

The Digital Poster contest is open to 7th -12th grade students with two divisions (grades 7-9 and 10-12). Posters can be horizontal or vertical, measuring 8.5 x 11 inches. Students should refer to the contest rules for additional requirements and details.

This year, Madison SWCD is offering local prizes for the winners and runners-up in each of the seven divisions: winners will receive a Casey's gift card for \$10, and runners-up will receive a Casey's gift card for \$5. CDI awards cash prizes for regional (\$35) and state (\$50) winners.

NACD awards cash prizes for first (\$200), second (\$150), and third (\$100) place at the national level.

More information about the Conservation Poster Contest is available on CDI's website at: <https://cdiowa.org/get-involved/poster-contest/>. Madison SWCD's website has additional information about all opportunities for students at: <https://www.madison-swcd.org/for-students/>. Madison County Soil and Water Conservation District is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Students from any county can submit entries for the poster contest; they just need to make sure to submit it to the Soil and Water Conservation District where the student's school is located (so I-35 students would submit to Madison SWCD)

PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of New Virginia will receive sealed bids for mowing, trimming/weed control around structures, fences, barriers, and maintenance of Gerry Allen Memorial Park to include labor & fuel. Payment will be on a monthly basis for the 2026 mowing season.

Must be capable of furnishing own mower, weed eater for trimming. The disc golf course located in the back west side of the park will need to be mowed on a regular basis. The rest of the back west side of the park will need to be mowed 3 or 4 times or per request during the mowing season. Must provide a copy of proof of insurance. The City reserves the right to refuse any and all bids.

Bids must be received by Saturday April 4th, 2026.
For any questions, call 515-577-8987.

PLEASE SEND BIDS TO:
City Clerk, P.O. Box 302, New Virginia, Iowa 50210

PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of New Virginia will receive sealed bids for mowing, trimming and maintenance of the Lions Park, Old Settlers Park, around the fire station, Library, Hen House, 10 foot square area around Welcome Signs on North Street and Broadway Street and the City right of way on the east side of Border Street between Broadway Street & the Methodist Church alley to include around the storm water intake for the 2026 season.

The bid should include labor & fuel to be paid on a monthly basis for the 2026 season. Must be capable of furnishing own mower and weed eater for trimming. Must provide copy of proof of insurance. The City reserves the right to refuse any and all bids.

Bids must be received by Saturday April 4th, 2026.
For any questions, call 515-577-8987.

PLEASE SEND BIDS TO:
City Clerk, Box 302 New Virginia, Iowa 50210

UPCOMING FAIR EVENTS:

MADISON COUNTY FAIR

- March 28th:
Swine Weigh-Ins, 8-10 am
- May 2nd:
Sheep & Goat Weigh-ins, 8-10 am

CLARKE COUNTY FAIR

2026 WEIGH-IN DATES

Cattle:	December 20, 2025	9am-11am
Swine:	April 11, 2026	9am- 10am
Sheep/Goat:	April 25, 2026	9am-11am
Rabbit Tattoo:	June 13, 2026	9am-10am
Poultry PT Testing:	June 20, 2026	9am-10am

Animals will be tagged at weigh in

Retinal Image Fee: \$8.00/head

Clarke County Fairgrounds and Event Center
2070 W. McLane Street, Osceola Iowa 50213





Interstate 35 FFA Celebrates National FFA Week and Earns Honors at District Convention

Members of the Interstate 35 FFA Chapter recently celebrated National FFA Week while also finding success at the South Central District FFA Convention, highlighting the chapter's commitment to leadership, agricultural education and community involvement.

During National FFA Week, members participated in a variety of activities designed to grow leaders, strengthen agriculture and build connections within the community. Throughout the week, students showcased their FFA spirit with themed dress-up days, encouraging participation and pride across the school. The chapter also hosted its annual Ag Olympics, giving members the opportunity to work together in friendly competition while building teamwork and leadership skills. One of the highlights of the week was Drive Your Tractor to School Day. FFA members drove their tractors to campus, followed by a parade that allowed elementary students to line the streets and learn more about agriculture. The event served as a fun and interactive way to connect younger students with the importance of farming and agricultural careers. To show appreciation for school staff, the chapter hosted a complimentary breakfast as a thank-you for their continued support throughout the year. The Interstate 35 FFA chapter would like to extend a special thank you to Milo Locker, Beeler Pork, Anderson Erickson Dairy and City State Bank of New Virginia for generously donating items for the breakfast.

In addition, the chapter organized a coloring contest for elementary students to participate in during National FFA Week. For the first time, members designed and created the winners' awards using the chapter's 3D printer, adding a personal and innovative touch to the recognition.

Members also represented Interstate 35 at the South Central District FFA Convention on Saturday, March 7, earning numerous honors and advancing several events to the State FFA Convention.

Several members received gold ratings, qualifying them to compete at the state level. Brooke Bortner and Jenna Rucker earned gold for their Reporter's Book, while Brooke Bortner also received gold for the Chapter Website. In the Greenhand Quiz, Evolett Wells placed sixth and Keifer Bedwell placed tenth, both earning gold ratings. Jack Kirk and Ella Stuart also received gold ratings in the Discovery Quiz, advancing to state. The chapter also had a team named alternate to state in the Ag Impact competition, where Lola Fales, Claire Tuttle, Carly Gehringer, Brooke Beener and Kenzie Tidmen placed third. Several students earned silver ratings in their respective events. Addison Scrivner received silver in Public Speaking, while Keaton Good earned a silver rating for Secretary's Book. In team competition, the Greenhand Quiz team of Drake, Charlie, Gaea, Evolett Wells and Keifer Bedwell placed second overall. The chapter was also represented by Gaea and Charlie, who served as voting delegates during the convention. Three seniors were honored with the Senior Academic Achievement Award: Josi Dutrey, Carl McMichael and Ross Boughman. Two members of the chapter also ran for district office. Kenzie Stark and Keaton Good both campaigned for positions, an achievement that reflects the dedication they have shown through their involvement in FFA and their supervised agricultural experience (SAE) projects. The chapter celebrated a major accomplishment when Keaton Good was elected the 2026-2027 South Central District Sentinel, giving Interstate 35 representation on the district officer team.

In addition, the Interstate 35 FFA Chapter was named one of seven Superior FFA Chapters in the district, advancing the chapter to the state level for recognition.

With district competition complete, members are now preparing for the State FFA Convention, where they hope to continue their success and potentially advance to the national level once again.



Virginia Boosters 4-H Club Donates Food Drive Items to I-35

President Nora Nelson presented the results of the recent food drive to Ms. Hanrahan at I-35, celebrating the success of the community effort hosted by the Virginia Boosters 4-H Club. Thanks to the generosity of members and supporters, the drive collected enough items to fill three boxes of donations. The food will help support both the school's food pantry and the backpack program, which provides meals for students and families who need extra support.

Club leaders expressed appreciation to everyone who contributed items and helped spread the word about the drive. Their efforts will help ensure the programs can continue assisting students and families in the community.

"Thank you to all the members who donated and helped make this drive a success," the club shared. "Your support makes a real difference."

The I-35 FFA Chapter is celebrating an incredible showing at the

2026 Sub-District Leadership Development Events held at Melcher-Dallas

Members represented the chapter with pride, determination, and outstanding skill—bringing home numerous top honors and advancing to the next level of competition.

2026 Sub-District Results

Leading the way with first-place finishes were:

Brooke Bortner – 1st Place Gold Website; Advanced to Districts
 Addison Scrivner – 1st Place Gold Public Speaking; Advanced to Districts
 Jack Kirk – 1st Place Discovery Quiz
 Drake Nelson – 1st Place Greenhand Quiz

The Parliamentary Procedure team earned 3rd Place Gold (Alternate to Districts), including Kenzie Stark, Betsy Jones, Jenna Rucker, Lilly Petersen, and Keaton Good.

Additional team and individual honors included:

Silver Chapter Program – Shelby Vyskocil, Gaea Adix, Connor Bryant
 Bronze Conduct of Meetings – Gus Erwin, Charlie Phillips, Abby Lyons, Keifer Bedwell, Easton Goering, Wyatt Lawyer, Drake Nelson
 Bronze Ag Sales – Lilly Maxwell
 Bronze Ag Broadcasting – Eilan Naggar
 2nd Place Discovery Quiz – Ella Stuart
 4th Place Discovery Quiz – Lola Fales, Carly Gehringer, Waylon Weeks
 6th Place Greenhand Quiz – Evolett Wells

"Our members represented us incredibly well, and we couldn't be more proud of their hard work and dedication," chapter advisor shared. "Their commitment, preparation, and teamwork truly paid off. We are excited to see what they accomplish next."

Exploring Agriculture at the Iowa Ag Expo

In addition to competition success, members of the I-35 FFA Chapter recently traveled to the Casey's Center for the Iowa Ag Expo. Students explored interactive exhibits, discovered cutting-edge farming technology, and learned more about the wide range of agricultural career opportunities available in Iowa. Members also gained a deeper understanding of how agriculture impacts Iowa's economy while enjoying time together as a chapter. The trip provided both valuable insight and memorable experiences.

District Officer Candidates Announced

The chapter is also proud to announce that Kenzie Stark and Keaton Good have earned a place on the South Central District Officer ballot. Kenzie Stark will run for South Central District Treasurer, and Keaton Good will run for South Central District Sentinel. On March 7, both candidates resent their speeches to the delegate body at District Convention. Earning a spot on the ballot is an impressive achievement, and the chapter encourages the community to congratulate these two student leaders as they take this next step. With strong performances, hands-on learning experiences, and emerging student leaders, the I-35 FFA Chapter continues to demonstrate excellence in and out of competition.

