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

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WHEN CORN HUSKING WAS KING

Reprinted with permission from The Trade Express

The corn stood dry and golden beneath an autumn sky. Down the rows waited the wagons, each fitted with a tall bangboard, while horses shifted patiently in their harnesses. Men checked the leather straps around their hands and adjusted the small steel hooks they would use to tear through the dry husks. Around that ordinary Midwestern cornfield, however, was a sight that would seem almost unbelievable today. Thousands of people had gathered to watch.

They arrived by automobile, truck and train. Some came from neighboring farms while others traveled from distant states. Families packed lunches, bundled their children against the autumn chill and walked across harvested fields to find a place where they could see. They had come for a sporting event of sorts, although there would be no baseball bats, footballs or racetrack. They had come to watch men pick corn.

For a brief time in American history, one of the hardest and most ordinary jobs on the farm became a spectator sport, and the men who could do it faster than anyone else became heroes.

Before mechanical corn pickers became common, harvesting corn was accomplished one ear at a time. A team of horses pulled a wagon slowly between the rows while the farmer moved alongside it. He grasped an ear, tore away the husk, snapped the ear from the stalk and threw it toward the wagon. A good husker developed a rhythm-rip, snap, throw. The ears struck the tall wooden bangboard on the side of the wagon with a steady thump before dropping into the wagon box.

The work sounded simple enough but doing it quickly for hour after hour was another matter. Dry stalks scratched faces and arms. Husks cut fingers, and cold autumn weather stiffened hands. Experienced huskers sometimes finished the day with cracked or bleeding skin. To make the job faster, farmers used a husking peg or hook. Early pegs could be little more than a sharpened piece of hardwood held against the palm by a leather loop. Later steel hooks and leather hand protectors made it easier to split the husk and strip it from the ear.

A skilled hand husker could pick 100 bushels or more during a long day's work, and reputatuons were made in the cornfield. Farmers knew who the fast men were, and naturally those men knew who they were, too. Before long, the question was bound to arise: Who really was the fastest corn husker?

In 1922, Henry A. Wallace, then editor of Wallaces' Farmer, began promoting organized corn-husking competition. Wallace, who would later serve as U.S. Secretary of Agriculture and Vice President of the United States, was deeply interested in agriculture and better farming methods. Farmers made plenty of claims about how much corn they could husk in a day, and organized competition offered a way to put those claims to the test. It also gave farmers an opportunity to watch the techniques used by the fastest men in the field.

Local and state competitions followed, and in 1924 the first National Corn Husking Contest was held in Iowa. Speed was important, but it wasn't everything. Contestants were given a section of standing corn and 80 minutes to husk as much as possible. Corn left behind counted against them, as did excessive husks left attached to the ears.

A careless husker could fill his wagon quickly and then watch his winning total disappear through deductions. To win, a man had to be both fast and clean.

The first national championship was won by Iowa farmer Fred Stanek, who finished with a net total of 24.3 bushels in 80 minutes. To understand just how fast he was moving, consider that Stanek handled roughly 2,000 ears of corn during the contest. During the final minutes, he was reportedly throwing more than 50 ears into the wagon every minute.

Stanek had become America's first national corn-husking champion, and something much bigger than anyone probably expected had begun.

The contests grew rapidly. County champions advanced to state contests, and state champions competed at the national level. Farm magazines published the results and newspapers told the stories of the winners. Later, radio broadcasts carried the sounds of the competitions into homes across the country.

By 1930, approximately 30,000 spectators were attending the national event, and the crowds continued to grow. The contests began to resemble a combination of a championship sporting event, county fair and farm show. Automobiles filled acres of makeshift parking lots. Vendors sold food, bands played and farm machinery companies displayed their newest equipment. Families made a day of it.

Then came the moment everyone had been waiting for. The starting signal sounded and the huskers plunged into the rows. Suddenly the field was filled with the tearing of dry husks and the hollow pounding of ears striking the bangboards.

The champions did not simply work fast. Each developed his own technique. Some preferred a husking peg while others used a hook. Some worked with little protection on their hands. Every movement mattered because a fraction of a second saved on one ear became a considerable advantage after thousands of ears.

Fred Stanek proved especially difficult to beat and eventually won four national championships, but other remarkable huskers soon emerged. In 1932, Carl Seiler of Knox County, Illinois, won the national championship with a net 36.914 bushels. Seiler was left-handed, which meant his wagon's bangboard had to be positioned on the opposite side from those used by most competitors. Seiler also knew something about endurance. During one stretch of regular farm work, he reportedly averaged 136 ½ bushels of corn a day for 22 days. His best single day's work reached 183 bushels.

These men weren't demonstrating some quaint novelty for an audience. They were extraordinarily skilled at work that was familiar to nearly every farmer watching them, and that may have been a large part of their appeal. The people standing along the fields knew exactly how difficult the job was.

Perhaps nothing illustrates the popularity of corn husking better than the 1935 National Corn Husking Contest in Indiana. Approximately 110,000 people came to watch.

The champion that year was 27-year-old Elmer Carlson of Iowa. For 80 minutes, Carlson ripped away husks, snapped ears from the stalks and sent them flying toward his wagon.

Continued on page 26.....

Justin Strange
Mayor
mayor@newvirginia.com

CITY OF NEW VIRGINIA

Jennifer Baughman
City Clerk
641-449-3492
cityclerk@newvirginia.com

Council Meeting Minutes
November 2nd , 2026

The Council met in regular session on Monday November 2nd, 2026, for the November council meeting. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Strange at 7:00 p.m. with Council Members Bailey, Chandler, Dunkin, Galivan, and Truman present. Minutes from the October meeting were approved.

Old Business: A manual flush valve for the urinal at the GAMP Building is approximately $180.00. An automatic flush valve is approximately $500.00. A manual flush valve will be purchased and installed to get the urinal back in proper working order.

The asphalt milling project at the GAMP parking area has been completed.

Asphalt millings to be used for a base for the bleachers at GAMP Park was discussed. This will be considered next spring. A cost estimate will be obtained.

Citizen Input: The Clover Kids and 4-H Club would like to judge the Christmas light contest together this year. The Christmas light contest will continue this year and the Clover Kids and 4-H Club will judge the displays.

Two houses have been sold recently in town. It was discussed to start up the Welcome Basket to new people that move into New Virginia. Items and information to place in the baskets were discussed. It was also discussed to have Kim McWilliams and Stephanie Galivan head up this project.

Fireworks for Old Settlers was discussed. The Iowa Fireworks Farm currently has a special $10,000.00 fireworks package for $5,000.00. **This special is only available until the end of the year. The fireworks account and business sponsor donations will be used to pay for the fireworks.** Truman moved, seconded by Chandler to purchase the special $10,000.00 fireworks package from Iowa Fireworks Farm for $5,000.00. A roll call voted was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Fire Department Business: No new fire department business to discuss.

Water Utilities discussed: The October water report was reviewed. September water usage was 710,000 gallons averaging 24,000 gallons per day. Testing is in compliance with Iowa DNR permit requirements.

Law Enforcement: The Sheriff's Report from the month of October was reviewed. Officers received or initiated 8 calls for service during the month. Officers spent more than 36.5 hours in the City of New Virginia in October. Officers patrolled in excess of 120 miles within the city limits for the month.

GAMP UPDATE

It was discussed that the north side of the GAMP Building needs power washed due to a moss build-up on the metal.

KEEP IOWA BEAUTIFUL/HOMETOWN PRIDE UPDATE

The committee is also looking for more members. If interested in joining, people are encouraged to attend the monthly meeting on the first Tuesday of the month at the library at 6:00 p.m.

ELF CLUB

No new information to present to the Council.

Kim McWilliams will schedule to have the star placed on the Christmas tree in Old Settlers Park.

TRI-CORNER-EXPRESS

Fund balance $16,623.25.

No new Tri-Corner-Express business to discuss.

A letter from Simple City (City software provider) was reviewed. It provided an overview of what Simple City has planned for 2027.

The InRoads Broadway Street asphalt project was discussed. The shoulders still need to be graveled. There are no approaches to Felton, East, and Main Streets. It was discussed to see if the West Street intersection can be feathered out.

Chandler moved, seconded by Bailey, 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 Chandler to adjourn meeting. A roll call vote was taken: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

The December council meeting is scheduled for Monday December 7th, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. **December meeting date – Monday December 7th, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.**

There will be a special council meeting on Tuesday November 17th, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. to approve the 2025-26 City of New Virginia Annual Financial Report.

Jennifer Baughman

Jennifer Baughman, City Clerk

PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of New Virginia will receive sealed bids for snow removal from city streets, alleys, and sidewalks to include GAMP property for the 2026/2027 winter season. The bid should also include the walking/biking trail sidewalk from Church Street to the cemetery road pending its completion before the end of the year. The bid should be figured to include fuel and salt for sidewalks & intersections. Payment will be made monthly based on weather conditions that require snow removal. See details/requirements for snow removal listed below. The City reserves the right to refuse any and all bids.

Bids must be received by December 4th, 2026 by 12:00 p.m.

Please send bids to:

City Clerk – P.O. Box 302 – New Virginia, IA 50210

More specific details/requirements include: Continuous blading of streets from start of snow to end of snow on accumulations of 1 inch or more; priority will be the fire station front apron, overhead doors, walk-in doors and alley & parking on the south side of the fire station and GAMP parking & bldg. entrance area at community bldg. when events are scheduled; treat major intersections with salt as necessary; accepted bid could be terminated if snow removal is not performed to expectations/requirements.

KEEP IOWA BEAUTIFUL
KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL AFFILIATE

Interested in joining
New Virginia Hometown Pride?
Contact nvhp50210@gmail.com

Recycle
Nov 27
Dec 10
Dec 24

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.

NEW VIRGINIA NOVEMBER CLAIMS REPORT

VENDOR	REFERENCE	AMOUNT	CHECK #	CHECK DATE
ALLIANT ENERGY	ELECTRIC/GAS/STREET LIGHTS	$2,039.88	16357	11/1/2026
AT&T FIRSTNET	PHONE SERVICE	$54.31	16379	11/10/2026
BOUND TREE	MEDICAL SUPPLIES	$1,336.89	16380	11/10/2026
BRENT BAUGHMAN	MILEAGE AMBULANCE	$144.26	16362	11/5/2026
ELAN FINANCIAL SERVICES	TECHNOLOGY WIX WEBSITE 3 YEARS	$1,817.68	16358	11/1/2026
HY-VEE	MEDICATIONS	$295.66	16365	11/5/2026
IA MUNICIPAL WORKERS COMPENSAT	WORKERS COMP FY27	$1,303.00	16366	11/5/2026
IOWA PRISON INDUSTRIES	BARRICADES FOR EVENTS	$627.22	16356	10/16/2026
IOWA PUBLIC RETIREMENT SYSTEM	IPERS	$435.63	16327203	11/2/2026
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	FED/FICA TAX	$581.17	16327204	11/2/2026
J&L SANITATION	GARBAGE SERVICE - CITY	$62.00	16368	11/5/2026
JUG TRUCKING LLC	GAMP PAKRINKG LOT ASPHLAT	$3,528.00	16369	11/5/2026
MARY HUSS	GAMP CLEANING	$100.00	16370	11/5/2026
LINDE GAS & EQUIPMENT INC.	OEPRATING SUPPLIES	$145.03	16372	11/5/2026
R& R MOWING SERVICE	MOWING CITY AREAS	$1,300.00	16374	11/5/2026
WASTE MANAGEMENT	RECYCLING	$1,278.73	16376	11/5/2026
WEX FLEET UNIVERSAL	VEHCILE FUEL	$110.95	16381	11/10/2026
WIEGERT DISPOSAL INC	PORTA POTTIES CLEANING	$300.00	16377	11/5/2026
WINDSTREAM	TELEPHONE/INTERNET	$602.93	16378	11/5/2026
	Total General	$16,063.34		
INROADS ASPHALT PAVING +MATERI	STREET MAINTENANCE EAST CITY	$42,462.00	16367	11/5/2026
	Total Road Use	$42,462.00		
AT&T FIRSTNET	PHONE SERVICE	$24.40	16379	11/10/2026
NEXT METERS	DATA & SOFTWARE HOSTING	$100.00	16363	11/5/2026
HUSTON'S LAWN/SNOW REMOVAL	TESTING WATER	$100.00	16364	11/5/2026
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	WET TAX 092026	$512.07	16327191	10/29/2026
IOWA PUBLIC RETIREMENT SYSTEM	IPERS	$375.75	16327203	11/2/2026
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	FED/FICA TAX	$522.92	16327204	11/2/2026
MICROBAC LABORATORIES INC	WATER TESTING	$19.50	16371	11/5/2026
PROFESSIONAL OPERATIONS MANAGE	OTHER CONTR SERV WATER	$1,113.00	16373	11/5/2026
WARREN WATER DISTRICT	WATER USAGE/LOAN PAYMENT	$4,219.50	16375	11/5/2026
	Total Water Utilities	$6,987.14		
	GENERAL	$2,234.06		
	WATER	$1,906.47		
	Total Payroll Paid	$4,140.53		
	TOTAL FUNDS	$69,653.01		



The Tri-Corner-Express is owned and operated by the City of New Virginia. Our mission is to provide residents of our TriCorner community with factual information about city services, community events, local organizations, and matters of public interest. To remain fair, neutral, and informative for all readers, we do not publish opinion pieces or articles advocating specific viewpoints on controversial issues. Instead, our focus is on sharing news, announcements, events, and information that keeps our communities informed and connected. We appreciate the communities engagement and welcome submissions that inform, educate, and celebrate our communities.

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Be sure to include a note letting us know
the subscription is a Christmas gift,
and we'll take care of the rest!
Thank you for supporting the Tri-Corner-Express
and keeping local news alive in our communities.
Merry Christmas!

Public Notice

All New Virginia 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.

City of New Virginia	
October 2026	**Deposits**
General	$ 47,045.34
GAMP	$ 815.24
Fire	$ 38,401.58
Elf Club	$ 0.00
Road Use	$ 4,844.79
LOST	$ 5,602.36
Debit Service	$ 14.50
Water Utilites	$ 11,332.51
Grand Total	**$108,056.32**

Scout Food Drive

Scout Pack and Troop 119 will be handing out bags for our annual food drive on **Sunday, November 8th**, starting at **2 pm** in St. Charles, Truro, and New Virginia. We will pick the bags up starting at **2 pm, November 22nd**.
Note: this is a two week interval instead of one week as in previous years.

There is a great need for this drive. Jesus' Right Hand will receive the non-perishable food donations and distribute to those in need.
Please call Pat Thornburgh with any questions at 515-681-0748.



NEW VIRGINIA Farmers MARKET

Last one of the season!
Dec. 5th, 10am to 2pm, GAMP 801 West St.
Great vendors, lunch by Lions Club, activities

12th Annual Christmas Lighting Contest

The City of New Virginia will be having a residential Christmas Lighting contest this year. Cash prizes will be split among the three best displays. The displays will be judged by members of a youth group.
The deadline to have your displays out is **December 6, 2026**.
Contact Jennifer Baughman, City Clerk with any questions at cityclerk@newvirginia.com or 515-971-3897

NEW VIRGINIA HOMETOWN PRIDE

Letters to Santa!

Print off the coloring sheet from our Facebook page or stop by the library to pick one up. Once filled out, put it in the gingerbread mail box inside the New Virginia library by *December 10th* to receive a letter from Mrs. Claus!

NEW VIRGINIA METHODIST CHURCH

301 WEST ST, NEW VIRGINIA

ANNUAL DINNER AND AUCTION

Saturday, December 5
Serving from 5 - 6:30 pm
Auction at 7 pm

Free Will Donation
Carry Out Available

Ham Balls and Pork Roast
Leg of Lamb
Salads, Desserts, Drinks



The New Virginia Lions are hosting Santa Claus at the American Legion, 408 East St, on Dec. 13th, 2 - 4 pm. Get your picture with Santa, eat cookies and sandwiches, and do some activities.

OmniTel COMMUNICATIONS | TRANSFORMING YOUR LIFE... one gig at a time

The next grants will be awarded in January 2027. Grant applications can be found at www.omnitel.biz/charities.

OmniTel Communications invites public and private non-profit organizations to submit applications for funding to help with specific projects and events in your community. The purpose of OmniTel's Charity Grant Program is to positively impact on the quality of life in the communities which we serve. Greatest consideration is given to the projects and events that benefit the most people. No Charity Grant will be awarded to individuals for personal gain (i.e. pageants, school trips, etc.). All applications are reviewed at the first board meeting of each quarter. Completed applications may be submitted at any time during the year. Civic organizations may request up to $1,000, non-civic related organizations may request up to $500, school activities and summer youth programs may request up to $250.

TRI-CORNER EXPRESS EXTRA!

NOVEMBER 2026 | SERVING ST. CHARLES & SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES. | VOLUME #3-32

HELP MAKE THE KIDS' CHRISTMAS SHOPPING DAY MAGICAL!

DONATIONS NEEDED: WE NEED GIFTS!

THINK:
JEWELRY, MUGS, ORNAMENTS, HOME DÉCOR, BOOKS, GAMES, CRAFT SUPPLIES, BAKEWARE, SPORTS GEAR, HATS, GLOVES & SCARVES, WRAPPING SUPPLIES!

2ND ANNUAL KIDS SHOP
CHRISTMAS STORE
BENEFITING THE ST. CHARLES LIONS CLUB

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2026 | 1–5 PM
LOCATED AT: THE TALK SHOP LOUNGE

KIDS SHOP | 1-4 PM
For 6th grade & younger.
ALL ITEMS $1 EACH!
FREE WRAPPING!

NEW! ADULT SHOPPING | 4-5 PM
For those above 6th grade.
ITEMS $1–$5.
Wrapping not included.

DONATION DROP-OFFS
- THE TALK SHOP LOUNGE
- TIGER LILY CAFE
- WILD RIVER STUDIOS

Need pickup? Contact us!

NO CLOTHING DONATIONS PLEASE!
(Hats, Gloves, Scarves OK)

100% OF PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE ST. CHARLES LIONS CLUB!
THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING A GREAT LOCAL CAUSE!

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!
facebook.com/KIDS SHOP CHRISTMAS

St. Charles Public Library
113 S Lumber Street

scplibrary@myomnitel.com
641-396-2945

Library Hours:
Sun: 1 - 5 pm
Mon: 10 am - 6 pm
Tues: 12 - 8 pm
Wed: Closed
Thurs: 12 - 8 pm
Fri: Closed
Sat: 9 am - 12 pm



St. Charles

CONTACT INFO
Tracy Kozak
St. Charles City Clerk
641-396-2545
clerk@stcharlesia.us
Mayor: Brian Fitch

ST CHARLES HOLIDAY SPARKLE
AT THE GATEWAY- 202 E. MAIN

Trees & Trimmings



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5 NOON TO 6 P.M.
- DECORATED TREES
- NATIVITY SCENES
- CHRISTMAS QUILTS
- SELFIE WITH PRANCER
- PURCHASE HOME TOUR TICKETS
- COOKIES AND HOT COCOA

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6 NOON TO 5 P.M.
- DECORATED TREES
- CHRISTMAS QUILTS
- NATIVITY SCENES
- **SANTA** 1 TO 2:30 PM.
- SELFIE WITH PRANCER
- PURCHASE HOME TOUR TICKETS
- COOKIES AND HOT COCOA



St. Charles Holiday Sparkle

Holiday Tour of Homes

Sunday, December 6
1 - 5 p.m.

Tour the homes of:

Lois & Ken Stanley
Nancy & Randy Calvert
Margo & Steve Bobst
Mary & Bill Seibert



Tickets- $10 per person
Watch for pre-sale information.
Tickets are also available on the day of the tour at The Gateway.

All proceeds to the St Charles Gateway Tourism Board

the city of Truro Est. 1884

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CONTACT INFO
Janelle Adams
Truro City Clerk
641-765-4586
trurocityclerk@gmail.com
Mayor: Bryan Arzani

Truro City Council Minutes
November 2, 2026
Community Center

Mayor Bryan Arzani presided over and called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Ancel Kennedy, Jason Phillips, Julie McMichael, Matt Masters were present, and Lyndsay Cannoy was absent. Fire Chief Terry Stills, Public Works Director Ronnie Hults, and Superintendent Dr. Gossen were also present. Arzani asked for a motion to approve the Agenda. Motion to approve the agenda by McMichael/Phillips. All Ayes, motion carried. No one from the public was there to speak. Fire Chief Terry Stills presented The Fire & Rescue Report with 3 fire calls and 11 EMS calls. Stills stated that the Fire Association bought an ambulance and is donating it to the City of Truro. They are currently working on a plan to buy a tanker in the future. Stills gave Austin Sciarrotta the floor to talk about his continuing education to be an EMT instructor, calls they have received since January 1st , and a third-party billing for transports. Dr. Gossen presented an update on I-35 Schools regarding the bond referendum, preventative maintenance plan, and a comprehensive policy review. The Council acknowledged the Sheriff's Report. The Emergency Management Director's Report was not available. Public Works Director Hults presented the Water/Wastewater Report. A motion to approve the SFR (Street Finance Report) by Phillips/Kennedy. Roll Call: Phillips, McMichael, Kennedy, Masters all Ayes, motion carried. A motion to approve the AFR (Annual Financial Report) by Kennedy/McMichael. Roll Call: Phillips, McMichael, Kennedy, Masters all Ayes, motion carried. A motion to approve Resolution 2026-20 for the 2005 Ford Ambulance by Kennedy/Phillips. Roll Call: Phillips, McMichael, Kennedy, Masters all Ayes, motion carried. A motion to approve Resolution 2026-19 authorizing the transfer of funds to cover debt payments by Masters/Phillips. Roll Call: Phillips, McMichael, Kennedy, Masters all Ayes, motion carried. Matt Masters suggested coming up with a plan to address the maintenance of other streets in Truro followed by a discussion. The Library Board inquired if we could change the criteria of the members of the Library Board. It was discovered you can only change the make up of the members through a public referendum. Motion to proceed with city cleaning up the Jacobe property pending final review on 11.6.26 was made by Phillips/Masters. All Ayes, motion carried. The Council would like to acknowledge Ronnie Hults, Public Works Director, with his dedication and ability to handle multiple large projects happening in the City. They would also like to thank Tiegen Wood for his continuous consulting for Public Works. Ronnie Hults presented the Maintenance Department Report. A motion to approve the consent items by Phillips/McMichael. All Ayes, motion carried. A motion to adjourn by Masters/McMichael. All Ayes, motion carried. Time: 7.21 p.m.

Next regular City Council meeting is on December 7, 2026.

Bryan Arzani, Mayor Attested: Janelle Adams, City Clerk

WWW.TRURO.LIB.IA.US

TRURO PUBLIC LIBRARY



Sunday & Monday: Closed
Tuesday: 9:30 am - 3:30 pm
Wednesday: 3:30 - 6:30 pm
Thursday: 10 am - 6 pm
Friday: Closed
Saturday: 9 am - 12 pm

SEE PROGRAM CALENDAR LOCATED ON WEBSITE OR FACEBOOK FOR MORE DETAILS



Truro Community Fridge

Located at the Truro Public Library
114 E Center Street

We accept non-perishable food. Anyone in our community of Truro can take advantage of the food that is in the fridge or pantry.

Open during library hours.

For more Information:
641-765-4220
www.truruo.lib.ia.us



Truro Library
Teen Craft Night!

first Thursday of every month
4:30-6pm



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Who doesn't like a little me time, refocus?



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New Virginia
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Cell #: 515-313-6738

Chad A. Daniels
Professional Land Surveyor
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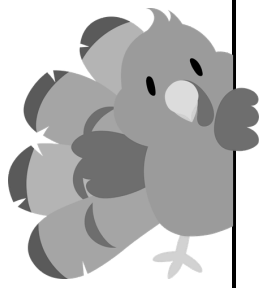
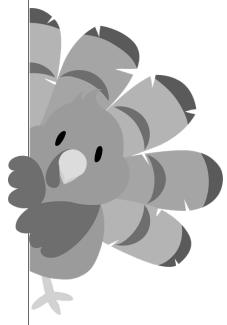
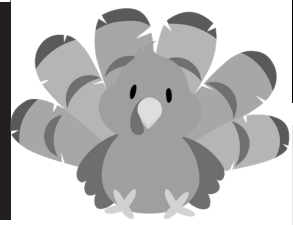
STEP WITH YOU







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From the Kitchen of...

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to share your recipes with our readers!
If you know of a great cook, let us know. We'll feature some of their recipes!

Zuppa Toscana Soup

- 1/2 cup diced onion
- 1 lb. sausage
- 3 garlic cloves (minced)
- ½ tsp. dried oregano
- 1 cup half and half
- 1 lb. potatoes, cut into bite-sized pieces
- 6 c. chicken broth
- 3 c. baby spinach
- salt and pepper to taste

In a large pan over medium heat, saute onion and sausage until sausage is cooked through, 5-8 minutes. Add garlic and saute for an additional 1 minute. Add sausage mixture, oregano, potatoes and broth to a large slow cooker. Cook until potatoes are tender, high for 3-4 hours or low for 7 hours. Stir in remaining ingredients and serve.
www.Fareway.com

WASHING WINDOWS

When washing windows, use crumpled up newspaper instead of rags. It absorbs fast and leaves no streaks!

Did you know that those browned bits of food left in the pan after roasting or frying are called "fond"? Fond is a French word and means base. Deglaze that pan by adding a small amount of broth or other liquid to the pan and scraping up the browned bits as it cooks and reduces. Add it to your sauces, soups, and other dishes for an added punch of flavor.

Slow Cooker Sweet Potatoes

From the Pioneer Woman Magazine

Ingredients

- 5 lbs. sweet potatoes (6-7), peeled and cut into 1 ½ to 2-inch chunks
- 2 tablespoons cornstarch
- 4 tablespoons salted butter, cubed
- 1 cup packed light brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon pumpkin pie spice
- ¼ teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- Juice of 1 orange
- Pinch of kosher salt
- Chopped toasted walnuts and chopped fresh parsley, for topping

Instructions

Toss the sweet potatoes with the cornstarch in a bowl to coat well. Transfer to a 6-quart slow cooker and dot with the butter. Sprinkle with the brown sugar, pumpkin pie spice and cayenne. Add the vanilla, orange juice and ¼ cup water; season with the salt. Cover and cook on high, stirring once or twice, until the potatoes are tender, 3 to 4 hours.
Toss the potatoes once more and transfer to a serving dish. Sprinkle with walnuts and parsley.

Notes

I made these and they are good! Go a little lighter on the cayenne if you don't do hot, but definitely leave it in there. These would make a good side dish for Thanksgiving, and you can set it and forget it with the slow cooker. A plus on a busy holiday.

t.g.

CREAMED CARROTS

Contributed by Terry Garner

4 cups or so of frozen carrots (fresh works too)
½ to 1 stick of butter
1 cup or so of cream
salt or other seasonings of choice

Place the carrots and butter in a saucepan, salt and cover, and cook slowly til the carrots are soft. Add the cream and simmer a while longer, uncovered, maybe 10-15 minutes or so.

This was a recipe from Julia Child that I found online. I followed her instructions pretty closely the first time around, but have since streamlined it to suit my needs. Fast and easy! I used carrots I grew in my garden. I've never been a carrot fan, but these have changed my mind for sure!

SCOTCHAROOS



Best Ever

1 cup light corn syrup
1 cup sugar
1 ½ cups peanut butter
6 cups Rice Krispies
1 cup milk chocolate chips
1 cup butterscotch chips

Butter a 9 x 13 dish, set aside. In a saucepan over medium heat, cook the syrup and sugar until sugar is dissolved but don't boil it. Take off the stove and add the peanut butter, stir until smooth. Stir in the Rice Krispies. Spread mixture in the buttered dish. Melt the chips, then spread over the cookies. Cut while they are still warm.
Angie Camp gave me this recipe when she was little (and I was young), and it's been a staple in my kitchen ever since.

t.g.

A MESSAGE FROM MR. GRANDON

I-35 CSD SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Roadrunner Families and Community,

Thank you to everyone who took the time to participate in the Bond 2026 election. The proposal received support from the "simple majority" of voters but did not reach the 60% supermajority required for passage. While the outcome means the proposed repairs, compliance efforts and other general improvements cannot move forward as presented, the facility needs identified through our planning process remain.

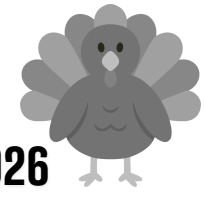
We have a responsibility to care for our buildings, address maintenance concerns, and provide safe, functional spaces for students and staff. Edge Construction has been engaged to give an updated assessment building conditions, identify immediate concerns, and help develop a preventative maintenance plan. This information will help guide decisions about where attention and resources are needed most.

Our attention remains on the daily work of educating students. That means supporting strong classroom instruction, helping students build foundational skills, and providing appropriate challenges and support as they progress. It also means offering opportunities for students to explore their interests, develop their strengths, and prepare for the options available to them after graduation.

The goal is for every student to make progress, recognize their potential, and leave Interstate 35 with the knowledge and skills to take their next step. That responsibility guides the work happening in our classrooms every day and remains central to the decisions we make as a district.

Go Roadrunners!
Dr. Michael Gossen
Superintendent

REMINDER:
THANKSGIVING BREAK IS NOVEMBER 25-27, 2026



AROUND *Roadrunner Country*

UPCOMING STUDENT EVENTS

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS | *Please check online calendar for full details.*

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL | Boys & Girls

Typical Times: 4:00 PM (JV Girls), 5:00 PM (JV Boys), 6:15 PM (Varsity Girls), 7:30 PM (Varsity Boys)

- **11/23: Boys vs. Mormon Trail, 6:00 PM (Varsity Only Scrimmage)**
- 11/24: Girls @ Central Decatur, 6:00 PM (JV) and 7:30 PM (Varsity)
- **12/1: I-35 vs. WC Valley *(Mega Night - JV-Girls, JV-Boys, Varsity-Girls, Varsity-Boys)***
- **12/3: I-35 vs. AC/GC, *(Mega Night - JV-G, JV-B, Varsity-Girls, Varsity-Boys)***
- **12/4: I-35 vs. Earlham, *(Mega Night - JV-G, JV-B, Varsity-Girls, Varsity-Boys)***
- 12/8: I-35 @ Ogden, *(Mega Night -JV-Girls, JV-Boys, Varsity-Girls, Varsity-Boys)*
- 12/11: I-35 @ Madrid *(Mega Night - JV-Girls, JV-Boys, Varsity-Girls, Varsity-Boys)*
- 12/15: I-35 vs. Panorama, *(Mega Night - JV-Girls, JV-Boys, Varsity-Girls, Varsity-Boys)*

HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING | Boys & Girls

- 11/19: Girls Wrestling Quad @ Saydel High School South Gym, 5:30 PM
- 11/21: Girls North Metro Wrestling Invite @ Urbandale High School, 9:30 AM
- 12/3: Girls Dual Wrestling @ Ogden High School, 5:30 PM
- 12/4: Boys Cliff Keen Independence Invite @ Independence High School, 2:00 PM
- 12/5: Boys Winterset JV Wrestling Tournament @ Winterset High School, 9:00 AM
- 12/5: Boys Cliff Keen Independence Invite @ Independence High School, 9:00 AM
- 12/5: Girls Dual Tournament @ Central Decatur High School, 10:00 AM
- **12/10: Boys Wrestling Quad @ Interstate 35 HS Gym, 5:30 PM**
- 12/11: Saydel JV Wrestling Invite @ Saydel High School North Gym, 4:15 PM
- 12/11: Saydel Girls Invitational @ Saydel High School South Gym, 10:00 AM
- 12/12: Saydel Boys Tournament @ Saydel High School South Gym, 10:00 AM
- 12/17: Boys Wrestling @ Earlham High School, 5:30 PM
- 12/18: Boys JV Worlds @ Indianola MS School Fieldhouse, 5:00 PM

MIDDLE SCHOOL SPORTS | *Please check online calendar for full details.*

Basketball | 8th Grade, 4:00 PM; 7th Grade, 5:00 PM

- 11/19: Girls @ Panorama, **Boys vs. Panorama in I-35 Elem. Gym**
- 11/23: Girls @ East Union; **Boys vs. East Union in I-35 Elem. Gym**
- 11/24: Boys @ SE Warren; **Girls vs. SE Warren in I-35 Elem. Gym**
- 11/30: Boys @ Ogden; **Girls vs. Ogden in I-35 Elem. Gym**
- 12/3: Girls @ WC Valley; **Boys vs. WC Valley in I-35 Elem. Gym**
- 12/10: Girls @ Earlham; **Boys vs. Earlham in I-35 Elem. Gym**
- 12/14: Boys @ Martensdale-St. Marys; **Girls vs. MSTM in I-35 Elem. Gym**
- 12/15: Girls @ Mount Ayr; **Boys vs. Mount Ayr in I-35 Elem. Gym**
- 12/17: Boys @ Central Decatur; **Girls vs. Central Decatur in I-35 Elem. Gym**

Wrestling | Girls & Boys Events begin at 4:30 PM

- 12/7: Clarke MS Co-Ed Wrestling Meet @ Clarke Community MS/HS Gym
- 12/8: Boys Middle School Wrestling @ Carlisle High School WAC
- 12/15: Co-Ed Middle School Wrestling @ Wayne High School Gym

PERFORMING ARTS

Band & Choir | Concerts begin at 6:30 PM

- 12/7: 5th/6th Grade Band & Choir Winter Concert @ I-35 Auditorium
- 12/8: 7th-12th Grade Band & Choir Winter Concert @ I-35 Auditorium

ELEMENTARY NEWS:

CONFIDENT READERS, WRITERS, AND THINKERS

Dear Roadrunner Families,
At I-35 Elementary, we're focused on helping students build the foundational skills they need to become confident readers, writers, and thinkers. Here are a couple of ways that work is taking shape in class.

Building Strong Readers
We monitor reading fluency through the FAST CBM Assessment, which uses short, one-minute readings to measure how accurately and smoothly students read. These assessments help teachers track progress and identify skills that may need additional attention during WIN (What I Need) Time.

Reading fluency is about more than speed. When students can recognize words accurately and automatically, they can focus more of their attention on understanding what they read, making connections, and learning from the text.

Families can support this growth at home through sight word practice, rereading fluency passages, participating in our Five Book Challenge, and making time to read together. Even a few minutes of consistent practice can make a difference!

Inside the Classroom: CER Writing
Our elementary students are also learning to organize their thoughts and explain their thinking through CER writing. CER stands for Claim, Evidence, and Reasoning. Students learn to make a clear claim, support it with facts or examples, and explain how their evidence supports their thinking.

This strategy helps students move beyond simply giving an answer. It encourages critical thinking, stronger writing, and the ability to communicate ideas with confidence across subject areas.

The luckiest principal in the world,
Principal Woods



SECONDARY NEWS:

PREPARING FOR LIFE BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Dear I-35 Students & Families,

As students move through middle and high school, the expectations for their learning continue to grow. They are challenged not only to understand new information but also to apply what they know, think critically, solve problems, and take greater ownership of their education.

Learning with Purpose: Building Skills for What's Next
At I-35, we help students connect their education to opportunities beyond high school. For students interested in a technical career, Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses provide opportunities to develop practical skills and apply classroom concepts to real-world projects. Students pursuing a college path can take advanced academic courses that challenge their analytical and critical thinking skills. Some can also take college-level courses through DMACC when eligible. For all students, we also offer courses that help students prepare for the responsibilities of everyday life, from understanding personal finances to completing tax paperwork and other practical tasks. These experiences help students explore their interests and build skills that will serve them in whatever path they choose.

Taking Ownership: Developing Independence and Responsibility
An important part of growing into an independent learner is recognizing that students have a responsibility in their own success. This means managing time, keeping track of assignments and deadlines, communicating with teachers, asking questions, and seeking help when needed. As students progress through secondary school, they are expected to take an increasingly active role in monitoring their academic progress and following through on commitments that support their goals. Learning to advocate for themselves and take responsibility for their choices is an important part of preparing for life beyond school.

Our goal is for students to leave I-35 with more than the credits needed to graduate. We want them to have the knowledge, skills, and independence to make informed decisions and navigate whatever comes next. Go Roadrunners!

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Email photos to tricorner@newvirginia.com. We can't wait to see what you've been up to!





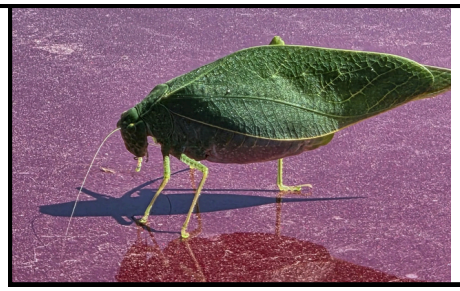
A load of vintage cars at Maverick by New Virginia. Holy cow! Does this bring back memories, or what!
To name a few-Chevy BelAir Nomad, Dodge Challenger, Chevy Chevelle, Plymouth Roadrunner, Ford Mustang, Oldsmobile Cutlass Supreme, Pontiac GTO, Dodge SuperBee



Congratulations to the Jr. and Sr. Tackle football teams for their undefeated regular season, September 12 to October 10. Winterset hosted the final Championship October 24th. They began each game announcing the players individually. The play by play calls during each game were top notch. Both teams played well but didn't win.
Thank you Coaches and players for all your hard work. BEEP BEEP!







A katydid on the hood of my truck. Terry Garner



Megan Eddy placed 5th in Women's Open, Jim Stuart received 2nd place in Men over 50.

MSTM Unites in Pride and Gratitude at Annual Veterans Day Assembly

In a small-town school district like Martensdale-St. Marys, the ties between the classroom and the community run deep. That connection was on full display on Veterans Day, as the district gathered to pause, reflect, and pay tribute to the men and women who have selflessly served in the United States Armed Forces.

The morning began with warm small-town hospitality, as the MSTM FFA chapter hosted coffee and donuts to welcome visiting veterans before the program. Once inside the gymnasium, students, staff, and families filled the bleachers while local veterans took seats of honor down on the gym floor, surrounded by the community they helped protect.

With the large American flag hanging proudly as a backdrop, the high school band opened the ceremony by filling the gym with patriotic music, immediately setting a tone of reverence and Blue Devil pride. Seeing the guests of honor gathered together on the floor—looking out at the students, parents, and neighbors in the audience—underscored just how closely military service is woven into the fabric of the Martensdale-St. Marys community.

Adding to the visual tribute was the school's annual "Veteran Wall of Fame," a meaningful tradition displayed each year featuring rows of hearts inscribed with the names of military members tied to the district, with decorations colored by the district's kindergarten classes. Principal Jon Fitzpatrick brought that display to life during the assembly, reading aloud the lengthy list of veterans and active service members connected to Martensdale-St. Marys as relatives, friends, and neighbors as a way to honor their courage and sacrifice.

A standout moment of the assembly came when two sixth-grade students stepped forward to share their own words of appreciation. Reading their Veterans Day essays aloud to the crowd, the students offered a thoughtful reminder that the next generation understands and values the freedoms defended by those seated before them.

The district was also deeply honored to welcome guest speaker Colonel Christine F. Root, who shared inspiring, meaningful words about service, leadership, and the enduring importance of Veterans Day—setting a powerful example for MSTM students. To bring the celebration full circle, students walked onto the gym floor to personally present handmade thank you cards to the veterans in attendance, sparking smiles and quiet moments of connection across generations.

Events like the Veterans Day assembly highlight what makes a close-knit community like Martensdale-St. Marys so special. By coming together under one roof, students and staff not only expressed lasting gratitude to the veterans and active service members in the MSTM family and surrounding areas, but also reinforced the shared values of respect, service, and hometown pride that define the district.



Annual Veteran Wall of Fame



Students give veterans handmade thank you cards.


A preschool student hands a thank you card to guest speaker, Colonel Christine Root, as Superintendent Bill Watson, also a veteran, looks on.



Students Calvin & Nora Nesvik stand proudly with their veteran grandfather, Richard Lechtenberg.

JESUS' RIGHT HAND

I saw a commercial recently that aired on our local WHOTV 13 channel shortly after the elections. It featured people celebrating the end of all the political ads while the Hallelujah Chorus played in the background. It thanked the viewers of that channel for being patient during the election season, but it really was a lighthearted poke at the muck and mire that transpired especially during these past few months. I even mentioned that it would be refreshing to watch a pharmaceutical commercial listing 25 possible side effects instead of having all the constant mudslinging. That commercial made me laugh, and it truly reflected the state of many people's minds on November 4th.

But in all seriousness, it made me think about how such a deep divide had descended into everyone's lives. It cuts straight through the world, weaving its way down into even the most personal of relationships, dividing marriages, families and even our own human mind. Scripture states that a house divided against itself cannot stand (Mark 3:25 and Luke 11:17). Can you imagine the mudslinging that would take place if Jesus was on the ballot? I could fill up all the pages of this newspaper going down that rabbit hole, so I'll just leave you to your imagination for a while.

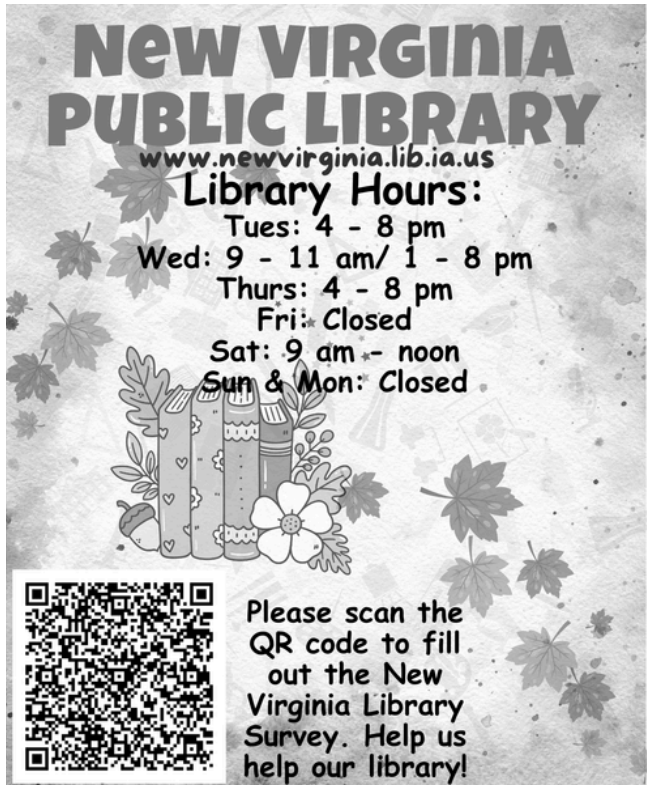
However, the matter that weighs most on my heart at this time is the fact that most people really didn't know the candidates beyond the things they were being fed in the media. There are always exceptions with those who do their research, but for the most part, we are all just sheep who eat what we are being fed. (ouch!) This goes so far beyond the political scene and is present in our everyday lives. Some see a person panhandling at a major intersection and quickly look away thinking, "Yeah, I bet they're homeless, they probably make more in one day that I do all week." At the opposite side of the scale, there are others who bend over backwards, spend tons of money and time just to be seen in the company of someone who is experiencing their 15 minutes of fame at the moment (only to find out they weren't what they appeared to be!).

Over 20 years ago, David and I had the opportunity to attend several ministerial conferences where some ministers that we looked up to were going to be speaking. It was very intimidating, and we felt like guppies in an ocean. Afterward, was a time of fellowship that gave us a chance to meet everyone attending. We struck up a conversation and eventually a friendship with two men who were also attending the conference. The first gentleman was an older man that David referred to as "The Godfather" because he just looked the part. The second man was a very gentle, soft-spoken man who was very kind and listened more than he spoke. We instantly bonded with them both simply because there was a connection. Neither seemed remarkable in any way, and neither of them was in a hurry to tell us anything about their background. They were just men of God who loved Jesus, and that was enough for us. On the last day, The Godfather gave us his contact information because he wanted to keep in touch with us. We later found out that he was an accredited doctor, outstanding in his field of specialty, and was someone who has helped us a great deal in finding alternatives to some medical issues we had been experiencing. The soft-spoken gentleman handed us a book as we were leaving and shook our hand. I began to read the book on the way home from Dallas, and by the time we had made it through Oklahoma, I had read the entire book out loud to David. That book changed our lives and we would have never thought the soft-spoken man who gave it to us would have such a powerful ministry. The truth of the matter is that if we would have known about their background BEFORE we had met them, we would have been intimidated and probably would not have struck up friendships with them because they would have been way out of our wheelhouse. But we got to know them on a personal level first.

Has that ever happened to you? Have you formed assumptions about someone or something because of something you've heard or read? Just like all the mudslinging during the election season, did we realize these are all human beings that at one time were someone's little girl or little boy, who have parents, siblings, children and friends? What would happen if you would strike up a friendship with one of them, not knowing who they are or what they do for a living? Then suddenly, you find out that they are on the opposite side of the political fence as you? How about someone who helped you pick up the groceries you dropped in the parking lot? What if they were someone who just was released from prison? Jesus was a friend to them all, and He stirred up some political muck with the people of His time. He didn't show favoritism to those who were "important," and He didn't shove aside those who others found as unsavory. Their occupation, social status, accomplishments and jaded past didn't have any influence on Jesus. He did what His Father sent Him to do. He was in divine alignment with God (John 5:19, 5:30, 6:38 & 8:26) and did not operate out of His own will.

So, are we following Jesus' example? I'll leave it there. It's a question that we all need to ask ourselves from time to time. Please know that ALL are welcome through our doors, and your status on this earth doesn't not determine how you are treated. You'll be loved and accepted just where you are at. Be encouraged by these words. In His Love and Service, Jesus' Right Hand







ROAD TRIPPING



Contributed by Terry Garner

Missouri Deer Hunt

The second weekend of November will find Rollie and me, our two neighbor boys (young men now) and our nephew and his son traveling down to Missouri for their deer season down there. The boys like to be able to use their rifles to hunt deer, and Missouri allows that, so off we go for a weekend of fun and fellowship. If you've never spent time with Cody and Levi Holtry and Andy and Tucker Keller, you've been missing out!

I used to hunt along with them but have bowed out now. I just like to go along and listen to their stories, and cook for them, and give motherly advice whenever I can. Not that they listen…..

We camp at the Lake Paho Conservation Area about three miles west of Princeton, Missouri. It's a beautiful little park owned by the Missouri Department of Conservation. There are no hook-ups, but camping is free, and since we have a generator, we don't much care about having hook-ups. Every year, there will be pretty much the same group of guys there doing the same thing we are. We've become acquainted with some of them and enjoy our yearly visits. It's just over an hour from home, so it's an easy drive to make.

There are 2,350 acres in the park, allowing plenty of public hunting opportunities. We almost always see deer out and about while driving around the perimeter of the park. The park is surrounded by farmland, which we all know is good for deer habitat. We've all had great luck there; it's a deer hunter's paradise. Occasionally, we drive to other public hunting areas close by, and those are loaded with deer also.

The boys have friends whose parents own land around Bethany, and they are generous enough to let us hunt, so sometimes, we drive over there and hunt, then run into Bethany to eat breakfast at Toot-Toot's. It's a restaurant known for their buffet, it's been in operation since the 1980's. Rollie loves their buffet and loves buying breakfast for the boys. Whenever they mention that we don't need to buy, we tell them that's what old people are for. Some mornings will find us scoping out other breakfast restaurants around. We've found some good ones there in Princeton and a little farther to the north in Mercer.

Evenings, we'll cook in our Dutch ovens, and the boys will cook up some venison in various ways. I promise you, we never go hungry! I make cookies and desserts to take along, and will add a mom's touch to the menu every night with other stuff. I love feeding people, and this crew will make you feel like you're getting your money's worth. These boys love my cooking, and I love them!

The lake encompasses 273 acres and is known for its great fishing. It's stocked with channel catfish, white crappie, sunfish, and white bass. Electric-only or slow-speed motors are permitted on the lake. The boys have not tried fishing there, but Andy says this year, he's going to give it a whirl. So, we may have fish for supper one night!

The weather this year is supposed to turn off cold for opening weekend. Highs are predicted to be in the 40's, with lows in the 20's. I have a good furnace in my camper, so I'm not much worried. It's really sort of fun to camp in the cold temps, it makes standing around a fire that much more meaningful! And I have a little something extra to add to my hot chocolate I made for the trip!

The boys delight in telling stories about Rollie and their hunting adventures. I think my favorite one is when they made him sleep back in a cubbyhole in Cody's camper, before I went along and took ours. It was made for little people, and little we are not! He got back there ok, but when it was time to get up the next morning, he was all twisted up in the covers and had a heck of a time finding his way out of there. The boys were laughing too hard to be of much help to him. They said it took him some time to extricate himself from his situation. I wish I could have been a mouse in a corner that day!

Take a drive sometime down Highway 65 through Lineville, Iowa, on down to Princeton, and then out to the lake west of town. It's a beautiful drive, especially this time of year. When you leave, take a different route back home. There are several little highways and gravel roads that offer some great scenery, and it's not all that far from home. Safe travels!

VIRGINIA BOOSTERS 4-H CLUB

The Virginia Boosters 4-H Club meeting was held on October 21, 2026, calling to order at 7:08 PM under President Nora and adjourning at 7:44 PM. The meeting featured presentations by Ava, Evie, and Morgan, alongside a series of unanimous 29/29 vote decisions that shaped the club's financial and community initiatives. The treasurer's balance was read, the club officially voted to sponsor two holiday children for the holiday season, purchase markers and supplies for Santa Day, and split the cost between the club and members for the barn quilt event. Members also reviewed a rejected proposal for fair signs (0/29 votes) and brainstormed several future fundraising ideas, including a Chili Cookoff and a "Fill a Clover" initiative. Beyond internal business, the club reviewed important regional reminders, including the November 15th enrollment deadline to avoid a 25fee(20 for Clover Kids, $50 for 4-H) and the upcoming Warren County 4-H Awards Night on Sunday, November 8th at the Milo Community Center. The session concluded by organizing the next meeting for November 18th, which will be hosted by Rosemary, Jase, and the Nelsons. Also, voting for the 2026-2027 Officer Team was done with the following result:: Nora Nelson reelected as president, Ella Scott elected as vice president, Drake Nelson as treasurer, Keifer Bedwell as photographer, Sophie Helgeson as reporter, Penne Helgeson as secretary, and Rosemary Seward as banner club representative. The club also had a pumpkin decorating contest. Members decorated pumpkins and shared them with each other.







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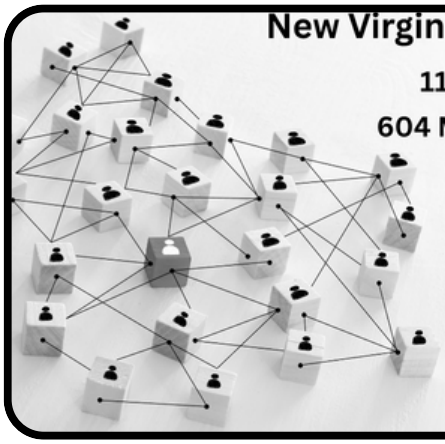

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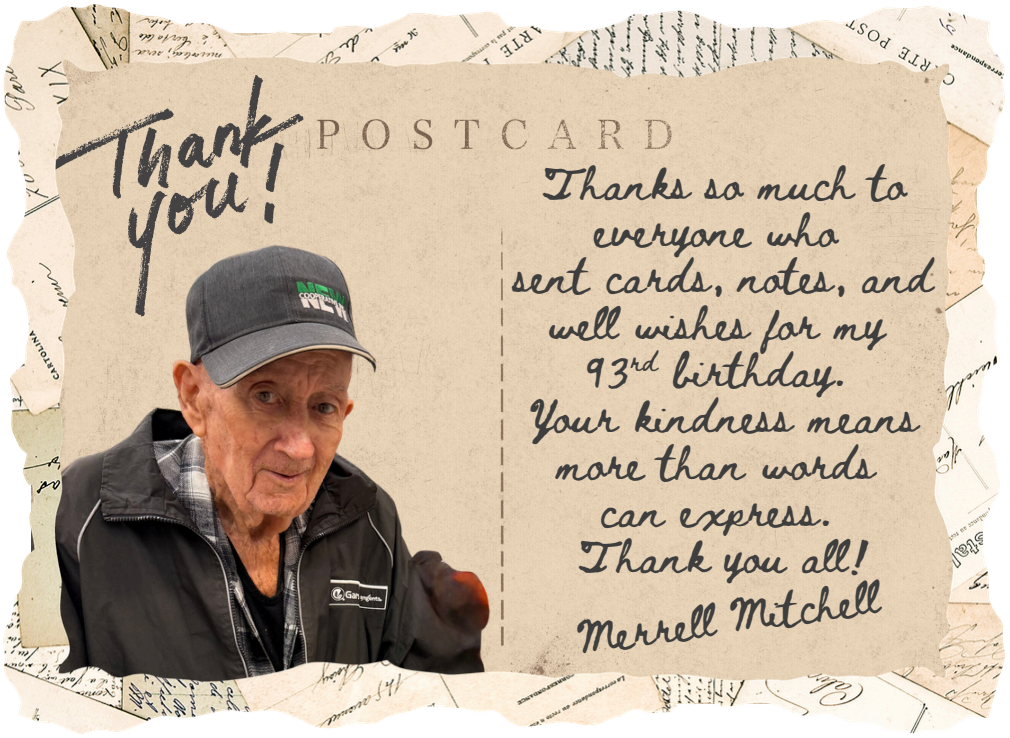
THE CRASH
by Freida McFadden
Reviewed by Sue Stills

Tegan is a 23-year-old, single lady who is eight months pregnant, has little money and no circle of friends. Because of her fondness for tuna, she calls her baby Little Tuna. She lives in rural Maine and sets out at night to drive two hours to her brother's as a snowstorm develops. Caught in a blizzard on icy roads, she crashes into a tree. Her left ankle is severely injured, and she has no cell phone service. She is rescued by a huge, scary man named Hank who takes her home to his wife, Polly. The couple put Tegan in their basement, in a hospital bed, and Polly, a nurse, tends to her there in spite of Tegan's pleas to be taken to a hospital. As the story unfolds, we find that none of the characters is who we think they are, except Tegan who remains steadfast in her desire to survive and to protect baby Tuna. Chapters 31-69 were written in an interesting way, with each revealing the inner thoughts of either Tegan or Polly. This was certainly a book I could hardly put down.







LIHEAP IMPACT accepting applications for Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

DES MOINES, Iowa — IMPACT Community Action Partnership is taking applications for the 2026–2027 Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) that began October 1, 2026, and runs through April 30, 2027.

Those eligible to apply In October include households with elderly members age 60 or older, or a family member who is disabled. Applications for all other income-eligible households will begin November 1, 2026.

Families in Boone, Jasper, Marion, Polk, or Warren counties can apply online by visiting www.impactcap.org/energyassistance. Families who prefer a phone or in-person appointment can schedule an appointment online or by calling 515-518-4770. Families who prefer to apply by mail may request an application to be mailed to them by calling 515-518-4770 or emailing info@impactcap.org.

Applicants will need to furnish a form of identification; a copy of their most recent heating and electric bill; social security or I-94 cards; and proof of gross income for all household members for the past 30 days, the most recent 12 months, or for the past calendar year. More detailed information is available on IMPACT's website.

This assistance is based on household income and size, dwelling and fuel type and other factors. Eligibility income maximums for participation is established according to the following Federal Income Poverty Guidelines:

Household Size	Annual Gross Income* **
1	$31,920
2	$43,280
3	54,640
4	$66,000
5	$77,360
6	$88,720
7	$100,080
8	$111,440

*For households with more than eight members, add $11,360 for each additional member.

**All income will be annualized. Income will be collected for a 30-day period.

The program is funded by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) through the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services, Community Access and Eligibility Division, Community Action Agencies Unit, and has been established to help qualifying low-income Iowa homeowners and renters pay for a portion of their primary heating costs. This program is not designed to pay a household's total energy cost. The program will provide supplemental assistance based on several factors. Those factors include total household income, household size, dwelling type, and type of heating fuel, among others.

IMPACT Community Action Partnership's mission is to reduce the barriers and burdens that families in poverty experience by increasing access to essential needs. IMPACT serves over 55,000 individuals annually in five Central Iowa counties: Boone, Jasper, Marion, Polk, and Warren. IMPACT collaborates with more than 400 community partners to deliver the following essential services: housing, energy, food and hygiene products assistance, and local community-based assistance including disaster assistance. IMPACT's key services include housing, energy, and food assistance.

IMPACT is one of 1,000 nationwide and 16 statewide community action agencies.

3226 University Ave | Des Moines, IA 50311 | Ph 515-274-1334 | Fax 515-274-9833 | INFO@IMPACTCAP.ORG

2026 Caring Neighbors Circle Wrap-Up

Caring Neighbors Circle members gifted lots of craft items to the Interstate 35 TAG Program at their November meeting. Students will enjoy the donations that included: cribbage board, stamp pads and stamps, paints and paint brushes, crochet needles and yarn, ribbons and buttons, clothespins, latch hook kits, plastic zipper storage bags, glue gun/glue sticks, and much more!

Caring Neighbors Circle 4th quarter checks were written to the St. Charles Community Foundation. Member Kim Downs, co-chair for SCCF, introduced six new board members: Danielle Bagley, Jeff Dawson (co-chair), Samantha Flaherty (Treasurer), Keri Froeling, Erin Goering (secretary), and Stacy Schultz. Outgoing treasurer, Kathy Beaman and outgoing secretary, Sue McDonald, were recognized. Also recognized were volunteers from CNC who helped with Covered Bridge Breakfast/Bake Sale which brought in $1,600. Up to 50% of this organization's money is returned to the community in the form of grant money to selected non-profit applicants.

Savory snacks & hot cider, brought by CNC members, was enjoyed during an activity where attendees tried to guess a members's identity by their hobbies, collections, and something surprising about themselves. Door prizes were awarded to two members who tied for most correct guesses.

Since its beginning in 2020, CNC has provided over $57,000 to organizations that promote community betterment! Both men and women make up our current membership of 33. Text Caring Neighbors Circle on Facebook for more information or come to one of 2027 6:30 pm meetings at St. Charles Lions Hall: March 1st, June 7th, September 13th, November 1st.



Pictured: Maggie Llewellyn, I-35 Enrichment Program Coordinator, with students, Maryanne Russell and Madison Edwards, holding bow created from donated ribbon.

Clarke Electric Leads the Way in Electric Utility Technology

OSCEOLA, Ia. — Clarke Electric Cooperative has received national recognition for its use of Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) technology to improve electric system reliability, operational efficiency and service to its cooperative members.

Honeywell Technologies presented its 2026 Data & AI Innovation Award to the cooperative during the company's Utilities Summit in Tampa, Fla., in September.

"This award reflects our commitment to finding new and better ways to serve our members," said Chad McIntosh, Clarke Electric Cooperative General Manager. "By putting advanced technology and data to work, we can make more informed decisions that help us respond more effectively to our members' needs."

Clarke Electric is the only electric cooperative in the nation to fully deploy Honeywell's AMI technology. Clarke Electric Engineer Brad Wilson and Meter Technician Scott Davis accepted the award and were recognized by Honeywell at the Summit for their outstanding work implementing the technology.

"I'm especially proud of Brad and Scott for their leadership, expertise and persistence throughout this implementation," McIntosh said. "Bringing this technology online took many months of planning, coordination, testing and problem-solving, and their dedication was instrumental in making it a success. Their work reflects the kind of forward-thinking approach that helps position our cooperative at the forefront of innovation in the electric utility industry. This recognition is well deserved and demonstrates what can be accomplished when talented employees embrace new technology and work together toward a common goal."



Photo identification, from left: Christopher Lanker, Honeywell Technologies vice president and general manager, Energy, Americas, Industrial Automation; Brad Wilson; Scott Davis; Amol Motivata, president, Smart Energy, Honeywell Technologies; and Jeff Barlow, solutions architect, Honeywell Technologies.

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Scribblings from Sue

by Sue Stills

Time seems to be flying by – it's nearly Thanksgiving, and signs of Christmas are evident in the stores and in the number of catalogs I have received in the mail. I avoid shopping malls, preferring to buy through catalogs and Amazon. Mel and I give money to our "kids" and "grandkids," and I give silly gifts to my brothers and sister-in-law and a couple of nice gifts to Mel. Our sector of Sun Lakes will have garage sales this Saturday, and that is where I find most of my silly gifts, as well as at the dollar store. My brothers say "no gifts," but what is the fun in that?

In last month's Scribblings, I described the play in which I would be performing, *Tennessee Wet Rub*. Well, it's all over now, having been performed November 4-8. The play went very well. None of us is perfect, and when we had some skipped lines, we ad-libbed in order to help get each other "back on track," or we just carried on. We received a standing ovation after each performance. When we mingled with the audience after the play was over, we all received many compliments about the play and our performances. I had informed many friends about the play, and several of them attended, as well as Mel and my brother Jim. Unfortunately, my brother Tom was unable to attend because his wife Gwen was taken to the hospital (again) with an infectious hematoma in a recent back surgery site. Tom was a Set Consultant for the play, but the Director coerced him into doing a lot more work than he had agreed to doing.



When the Costumer did not communicate about having my first costume, the Director asked me to make a dress. So I did, in five days. Well, it was not used, and I wore a blouse, short skirt and a sweater (Salvation Army/Goodwill) that the Costumer provided. I found and altered a dress for my second costume, and I provided the two pairs of shoes that I wore. We five actors could not have achieved success without our two backstage helpers, the props lady, the sound man, and the lighting lady, not to mention, of course, the Director and Assistant Director. Many more helped in selling tickets, ushering, making table centerpieces, assembling and disassembling the set, and probably many more behind the scenes tasks.

After our "curtain call" after our first performance, we were totally surprised when the author of the play, Kim E. Ruyle, joined us! Our Director had been communicating with him for months, and he agreed to come to our first two performances. He lives in WI and has family in AZ. He seemed pleased with what we did, and he gave each of the actors a personal note of thanks. I'll bet not many actors get to meet their playwright! The photos are of me by myself, and the group photo shows my fellow cast members, with Mr. Ruyle sitting next to me.



This all was a lot of work and also a lot of fun. Who knows what's next?

Other noteworthy events here were our celebration of my brother Tom's 80th birthday. On Mel's 80th birthday several years ago, Tom and Gwen gave him 80 brand new birthday cards, so I gave them back to Tom! Our Mexican key lime tree is producing, and Mel makes limeade every day. The "snowbirds" are returning, including our next-door neighbor from Seattle. And last but not least, our weather is fabulous, 50s to 70s and 80s! Mel and I will get together with my family for Thanksgiving. We wish you all many blessings for a wonderful Thanksgiving!



more to share

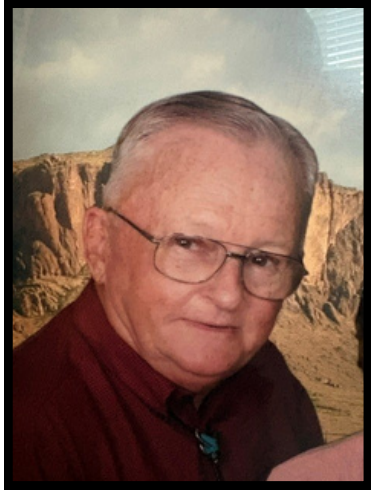
From the New Virginia Garden Club

Contributed by Susan Miller

Halloween has passed, but does that mean it's the end of the pumpkin season? Certainly not. There's a lot to do about pumpkins. The carved jack-o'-lanterns have probably rotted by now, and there are multiple options for that pumpkin. The rotted pumpkin can be added to the compost bin; breaking it into chunks will help it decompose. If you don't have a compost bin, bury the chopped pumpkin in your garden and top with soil. The pumpkin will decompose and add organic matter and nutrients back into the soil. Those carved pumpkins can also be fed to animals and wildlife. Please don't ever feed an animal pumpkins that have been painted or have glitter and other decorations added. I've seen Facebook posts accepting pumpkins to feed chickens. In the wild, deer, squirrels, rabbits and some birds will gladly feed on pumpkin flesh and seeds, lightly chopped. Pumpkins left for wildlife should only be placed on private property and never taken to parks or other public property. Whole pumpkins will last much longer if kept sheltered from freezing conditions. Some will last for months. This makes them perfect to continue to decorate your yard and porch for Thanksgiving. I have painted pumpkins white to add to winter yard decoration too. What about eating your pumpkins? If a pumpkin is soft or shows any signs of decay or rot, it should never be eaten. Not all pumpkins are created equal. Yes, all pumpkins are edible. The smaller, Pumpkin Pie pumpkins, are the variety to search for if you want to make your own pumpkin puree for cooking. Larger, jack-o'-lanterns pumpkins are edible, but the flesh will be less sweet, stringy and watery. And don't ignore the seeds! You may want to gather seeds for two reasons: to plant for next year and to eat. Keep in mind if you want to harvest seeds to plant next year that many pumpkins are hybrid varieties, so the seeds from this year might result in a different pumpkin next year in as far as size, shape, color and quality. Harvested seeds need to be thoroughly dried. First remove all pulp and strings. Then, spread the seeds on newspaper or paper towels and allow them to dry in a dark, warm and dry location for about two weeks. Once dry, store the seeds in a glass jar and keep in a cool, dry area such as a basement. The seeds will remain viable for four to six years.

Let's eat some seeds! Seeds from all types of pumpkins are edible and nutritious. In the grocery store you will often see pumpkin seeds listed as pepitas. Pepitas are seeds from an oilseed pumpkin. You can eat pumpkin seeds whole or shelled, unlike sunflowers that have a tough shell. Pumpkin seeds are fun to eat and have a lot of health benefits. Eating them with the shell will add fiber to your diet. The seeds are packed with nutrients like magnesium. Magnesium is important to keep our bones and hearts healthy. It also helps to regulate blood sugar. Pumpkin seeds also contain zinc, iron and antioxidants. Pumpkin seeds do contain 163 calories for a one-ounce serving, so eating in moderation may be important for some. Try this simple recipe. Wash pumpkin seeds in a colander, removing the last bits of flesh. Spread them out on a parchment-lined baking sheet. Allow to dry overnight. Then pour seeds into a bowl, lightly drizzle with olive oil and coat with your favorite seasonings like salt, paprika, garlic and onion powder. Spread them back out on parchment and then roast them in a 250 degree oven until they are crispy, about an hour. Let cool. These can top salads and be added to trail mix or just pop them in your mouth. For a sweeter version try cinnamon and sugar.





JAMES HAROLD DORMAN

James “Jim” Harold Dorman, 87, passed away at The Groves Assisted Living Facility, Goodyear, Arizona on Monday, November 2, 2026.

Jim was born on December 7, 1938, to Herman and Harriet (Morse) Dorman in Madison County, Iowa. He graduated from Truro High School in 1957 as class president. After high school he worked at Natural Gas Pipeline in Truro. In 1958 he joined his father in the family business, Truro Farm Equipment Company. On July 18, 1958, Jim married Janis Lynne (Kirby) Dorman in Truro, Iowa. They were blessed with three children, Brent, Craig and Kevin.

Jim purchased Truro Farm Equipment from his father in 1966. He ran the business successfully until it closed in the 1980s after the sale of International Harvester’s agricultural division to Case Corporation. In 1989 he and Janis moved to Casa Grande, Arizona to be near Jim’s parents. While in Arizona, Jim worked for Bell Gas Inc., of Roswell, New Mexico. This position allowed him to explore the beautiful state of Arizona. Jim later worked for a hardware company in Casa Grande. He was in high demand by local contractors due to his expertise!

Jim was a charter member of the Truro Lions Club. He was a director of the Iowa Retail Farm Equipment Association for 10 years. He supported the startup of Living History Farms. He was a past member of the Truro Congregational Christian Church. He was involved with many civic activities including serving as a Truro city council member and mayor in 1984 during its centennial celebration.

Jim and Janis enjoyed camping. Many weekends were spent at state parks such as Nine Eagles, Red Haw and Rock Creek. Their children enjoyed these trips very much – fishing, swimming and hiking! They also camped for many years at the Old Threshers Reunion in Mt. Pleasant with their close friends Dean and Twila Brant.

Jim was an avid gardener. His yard in Truro was full of flowers, plants, trees and even a fishpond. Jim and Janis also had a large vegetable garden. In Arizona, he learned about desert plants and created a backyard oasis. He became a subject matter expert in desert flora. Jim also collected antique tractors and engines. He brought to Arizona a 1938 Farmall F-20 tractor, 1961 Cub Cadet garden tractor and a 1928 International Model M stationary engine to name a few. Jim and Janis were also collectors. One example was their farm toy collection that numbered over 900 items.

Jim was preceded in death by his wife, Janis; his parents, Herman and Harriet (Morse) Dorman; his parents-in-law, Howard and Mary (Simmerman) Kirby; his brothers Lowell and Howard; sisters Shirley McClure and Carol Sue Thacker; sisters-in-law Uralee “Lee” (Walk) Dorman and Joyce (Kirby) Roberts; and brothers-in-law Eugene McClure and Joe Roberts.

Jim is survived by his children, Brent (Virgene) Dorman of Goodyear, Arizona, Craig Dorman of West Des Moines and Kevin Dorman of Glendale, Arizona; 5 grandchildren, Danielle (Sean) Gill of Chicago, Jamie (Brian) Glodowski of Columbus, Ohio, Dennis (Amy) Dorman of Omaha, Kelly (Tom) Ruden of West Des Moines, Joe (Hannah) Dorman of Clive; 9 great grandchildren, Avery Gill, Leo Glodowski, Christina, Maria, Jonah and Romy Dorman, and James, Logan and Grayson Ruden; and 1 great-great-grandchild, Amiyah Mae Dorman. He is also survived by his sister Dixie (Bill) Madsen of Cedar Falls, Iowa; sisters-in-law Nedra (Lowell) Dorman of Anthem, Arizona, and Susan (Mike) Cronin of Riverside, Iowa; and brothers-in-law Mike Cronin of Riverside, Iowa, Bill Madsen of Cedar Falls, Iowa and Carter (Carol) Thacker of Bossier City, Louisiana.

Jim enjoyed life and especially loved interacting with and helping people. He will be greatly missed by his family and all who have had the pleasure of knowing him.

Burial will occur later at Young Cemetery (Truro, Iowa).

Memorials are suggested to Jesus’ Right Hand, 413 West Street, P.O. Box 223, New Virginia, Iowa 50210 (jesusrighthand.com).

Online condolences may be made at www.kalefuneralhome.com.

Interstate 35 FCCLA and FFA Join Forces to Feed Local Farmers

Members of the Interstate 35 FCCLA and FFA chapters recently teamed up to show their appreciation for local farmers through a community service initiative called “Feed the Farmers.”

Students from both organizations worked together to prepare and provide meals for hardworking farmers during the busy harvest season. Meals were delivered to farmers at Heartland Co-op in Winterset and New Cooperative in Osceola.

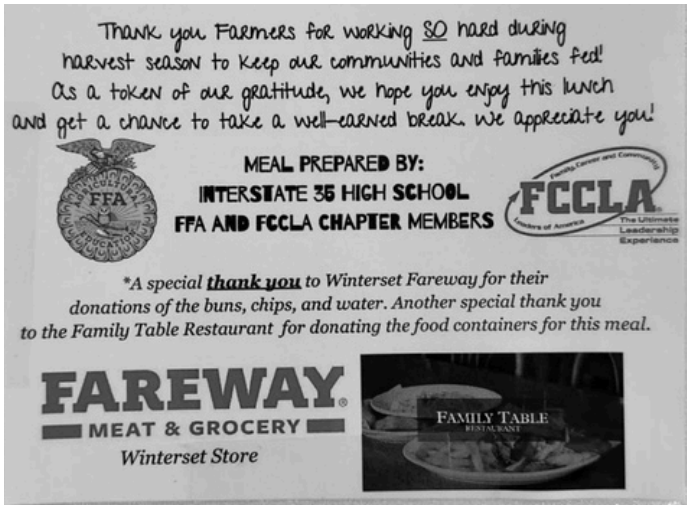
The project provided an opportunity for students to give back to the agricultural community while demonstrating teamwork, leadership and service.

The collaboration also highlighted the strong connection between the school's Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs. By bringing together student leaders from FCCLA (Family, Career and Community Leaders of America) and FFA, the chapters were able to put their skills into action while supporting those who work tirelessly to feed their communities.

Both chapters were excited to collaborate on this meaningful project and proud to show their appreciation for local farmers.

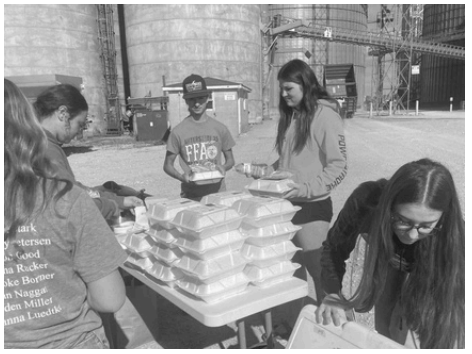
Through efforts like “Feed the Farmers,” Interstate 35 students continue to demonstrate the importance of community involvement, leadership and working together to make a positive difference.











Madison County Health Care System

News Release

MADISON COUNTY HEALTH CARE SYSTEM | An Affiliate of MERCYONE

For Immediate Release
October 19, 2026

Media Contact
Sarah Bradley, (515) 462-9749, sbradley@madisonhealth.com

Over 87,000 Iowans Face Medicare Plan Cancellations as 2027 Open Enrollment Begins

Winterset, IA - The Medicare Open Enrollment Period (OEP) for 2027 Medicare Advantage and Part D Prescription Plans opens today, October 15, 2026, and runs through December 7, 2026. Ahead of this year's enrollment window, more than 87,000 Iowa Medicare beneficiaries statewide received notice that their current Medicare plan is being canceled or discontinued in their county - including an estimated 614 beneficiaries in Madison County.

A complete list of affected Medicare Advantage, Cost, and Part D plans, along with affected counties, is available on the SHIIP-SMP website at:

"It's more important than ever that Iowa Medicare recipients open and read mail from their Medicare plan to understand changes to their coverage and explore their 2027 options," said Kristin Griffith, Iowa's SHIIP-SMP Director. "SHIIP-SMP is stepping up to empower Iowans with the knowledge, confidence, and support they need to find coverage that best serves them at the lowest possible cost."

In Madison County, local Medicare beneficiaries should be on the lookout for the following:

- Cancelled Plans:
- Wellmark Advantage Health Plan - Blue Medicare Advantage PPO (PPO) (H5900-001) (Plan members in Madison: 293)
- Aetna - SilverScript Choice (PDP) (S5601-050) (Plan members in Madison: 150)
- UnitedHealthcare - AARP Medicare Advantage from UHC IA-1 (HMO-POS) (H5253-209) (Plan members in Madison: 171)

Critical Coverage Changes

- Loss of Mayo Clinic Network:
- A major change for 2027 is that Iowans will no longer be able to purchase Medicare Advantage plans that provide in-network coverage with the Mayo Clinic with the cancellation of both Wellmark and Medica's Medicare Advantage PPOs.
- Guaranteed Issue Rights:
- Iowans whose Medicare Advantage plans are canceled qualify for a "Guaranteed Issue" right. This allows them to switch to Original Medicare and purchase an available Medicare Supplement (Medigap) policy without medical underwriting—meaning insurers cannot deny coverage or charge higher premiums due to pre-existing health conditions.

"Having the ability to switch from Medicare Advantage to Original Medicare with guaranteed issue is a rare opportunity that isn't typically available to Medicare Advantage enrollees," Griffith noted. "It is vital for Iowans to weigh all their options given these significant changes."

Key Deadlines to Avoid Coverage Gaps

- December 7, 2026: Standard Open Enrollment deadline for comparing and selecting 2027 Medicare Advantage and Part D plans.
- December 31, 2026: Deadline for individuals losing their plan to select new coverage without experiencing a gap in coverage starting January 1, 2027.
- February 28, 2027: Deadline to make changes under a Special Enrollment Period for those whose plans were canceled.

Medicare beneficiaries who fail to enroll in a new plan by December 31, 2026, risk coverage gaps on January 1, 2027, which could lead to substantial unexpected medical and prescription expenses.

Tools and Support for Iowans

With over 700,000 Medicare beneficiaries in Iowa, SHIIP-SMP is offering self-service resources alongside 1-on-1 counseling:

- Online Self-Service Resources: The SHIIP-SMP website offers answers to frequently asked questions and instructional video guides on creating a Medicare.gov account, using the Medicare Plan Finder tool, and comparing Part D or Medicare Advantage plans.
- 24/7 National Helpline: Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) for around-the-clock help comparing plans.
- Local 1-on-1 Assistance: Visit the "Find a Counselor" page at shiip.iowa.gov or call 1-800-351-4664 to connect with a local SHIIP-SMP site. Counselor availability is limited, and appointments fill up quickly.





Madison County - at the hospital (515) 462-5370
Clarke County - at the hospital (641) 223-4346

TESTIMONIAL

Lately, we've been hearing about cancelations for several insurance plans through Medicare. People are having to pick a new insurance plan and just don't know where to start. Folks, I am speaking from experience here. When I turned 65 and signed up for Medicare, the folks at SHIIP helped me immensely. They informed me that since I had been employed by the federal government, I needed to stay with the insurance plan I already had, instead of opting for one of the Medicare plans. I had no idea! I would have dropped mine, got one of the plans offered by Medicare, and been none the wiser. With that help from a SHIIP counselor, I made the right decision that will affect me for the rest of my life!

The counselors at SHIIP are volunteers that give of their time freely to help you. They do not have a stake in any insurance plans or receive any money for the advice they give. They are simply there to help you make the right decision for YOU. It can make the whole daunting process a lot easier and smoother for you. Talk to a SHIIP counselor.

Terry Garner

"Find A Counselor"
https://shiip.iowa.gov/

Continued from page 1.....

When the corn had been weighed and the deductions made, his winning total was 41.52 bushels. That represented roughly 3,700 ears of corn--nearly 47 ears every minute for 80 minutes. He wasn't simply throwing corn as quickly as possible, either. He still had to husk cleanly and leave little enough corn behind to avoid costly deductions.

The following year brought an even more astonishing scene. The 1936 national contest was held on an Ohio farm where melting snow helped turn the field into mud. That didn't stop the crowds. Contemporary estimates varied, but reports placed attendance at roughly 140,000 to 160,000 people. Tens of thousands of automobiles had to be parked, and state highway patrolmen helped direct the traffic. There were bands, food stands, farm machinery displays and new automobiles to inspect.

All of it revolved around one of the oldest and most familiar jobs on an American farm—picking corn.

Winning a national corn-husking championship brought more than bragging rights. The champions' photographs appeared in newspapers, reporters interviewed them and companies wanted them to endorse gloves, husking hooks and other products. After Carl Seiler's 1932 victory, newspapers across the country wrote about him and letters arrived from strangers. He even reportedly received marriage proposals from women who had read about the new champion.

Radio made the huskers more famous still. By the 1930s, broadcasts allowed people far from the contest field to follow the action. Listeners could hear the announcer describing the progress of the huskers, the excitement of the crowd and, in the background, the unmistakable sound of ears of corn striking the bangboards.

There was something especially appealing about these champions during the difficult years of the Great Depression. They weren't movie stars or wealthy celebrities. They were farmers and hired men who had become famous because they were extraordinarily good at the same difficult work thousands of farm families performed every autumn. For one day, the farm itself became the stadium.



As competition intensified, the winning totals continued to climb. At the 1940 national championship in Iowa, 27-year-old Irvin Bauman of Woodford County, Illinois, posted a net score of 46.58 bushels in 80 minutes.More than 150,000 spectators reportedly attended. The following year, the national contest came to La Salle County, Illinois, where Floyd Wise won with 45.37 bushels. At that pace, ears of corn were flying toward the wagon at a rate of more than one every second.

Yet while the huskers were becoming faster, American farming was changing even faster.

Visitors to the great corn-husking contests could sometimes see the future waiting just beyond the competition field. Farm equipment manufacturers were displaying mechanical corn pickers. The machines weren't yet found on every farm, but their advantages were obvious. A machine did not develop cracked fingers. It didn't need to stop because its hands were bleeding, and it could harvest corn at a rate no man, however skilled, could maintain.

Mechanization had already begun changing the harvest during the 1920s and 1930s, and America's entry into World War II accelerated changes throughout rural life. After the 1941 championship, the great original era of the National Corn Husking Contest came to an end.

The skill did not disappear overnight. Plenty of corn was still picked by hand, and memories of the great huskers remained strong. Gradually, however, the familiar sounds of an autumn harvest changed. For generations, harvest had meant horses walking slowly between rows of dry corn and the steady thump of ears striking a wooden bangboard. Increasingly, the sound of machinery took its place.

Corn-husking competition itself never completely disappeared. Decades later, enthusiasts revived organized contests, and hand-husking competitions are still held today. Modern contestants strap on their hooks and head down the rows much as their predecessors did a century ago. Men, women, senior competitors and young people still test themselves against the corn and against one another.

The crowds are smaller now. No one expects 150,000 people to pour into a cornfield to watch a husking contest. Perhaps that is what makes the old photographs so remarkable.

Look closely at one of those black-and-white photographs from the 1930s. There is the cornfield. There is the wagon. There is a farmer doing something his neighbors did every fall. Then look beyond him and see the thousands upon thousands of spectators who came to watch.

They understood something that can be easy to overlook.

There was skill in ordinary work. There was satisfaction in mastering a difficult job and pride in doing it well.

And once upon an autumn afternoon, when the starting signal sounded, the horses began walking and the bangboards started ringing, the fastest hands in the cornfield could become heroes.





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 Family Church
Non-demoninational services
held every Sunday at 11 am
100 S. Railroad St.
(Truro Community Center)
Truro, IA 50257
Pastors Joe & Amanda Watts
(515)326-0860
amandawatts418@gmail.com

Turo 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: truroucchurch@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. David Nkrumah
Rectory Phone 641-534-4691
712-304-5966 (Emerg. only)
dnkrumah@dmdiocese.org
Mass: Sunday 10:00 a.m.
Kristin Hook (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

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
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

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

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

I-35 BOOSTER CLUB

IGNITING DREAMS & SUPPORTING TEAMS

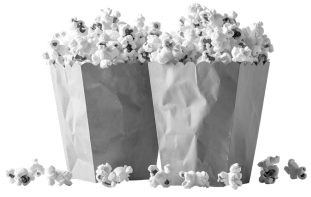
The Interstate 35 Booster Club helps support our Roadrunner activities and programs behind the scenes throughout the year. We manage and coordinate concessions at all home events, support program requests and organize apparel sales which help support the Booster Club. In turn, that allows us to provide resources and opportunities for Roadrunners students and activities. Every time you volunteer, you help make a difference!

VOLUNTEER FOR WINTER CONCESSIONS!

We ask that one slot be covered per high school and/or middle school winter athlete in your family. Other volunteers also welcome! You can also work a spring or summer athlete shift now. Just note it on your sign-up slot. (Ex: John Smith - Track & Field).

SIGN UP NOW!

www.i35roadrunnerboosters.org



Interested in joining the I-35 Booster Club?

Help support Roadrunner extracurricular activities by joining the Booster Club! Members meet monthly at 5:30 PM to review program requests and plan for upcoming events. Email i35boosters@gmail.com to learn more about the I-35 Booster Club.

I35 Holiday FAIR

SUPPORT LOCAL VENDORS!

SATURDAY DECEMBER 5TH

- 3G Farm
- Amy's Gifts and Grabs
- Angela's Baked goods
- Avon
- Barefoot Daisy
- Borchard Acres
- El Delicioso Street Tacos
- Food Drive
- Frosting Queen Cupcakes & Copper Jewelry
- I-35 Booster Club
- Lavender & Honey Hills
- Miriah's Sweet Treats
- Modified Orignals
- Myss Roselin
- Pampered Chef & Tonelli Paper & Ink
- PaperPie
- Pivotal Massage - Chair massage
- Print Smith
- Reginia Thome
- Rosebud Designs
- **Santa | Come Say Hi!**
- Scentsy
- Simply Emily
- Sips - Drink Truck outside
- Small Town Sips
- Stitches and Such
- Sunny Time Homestead
- Tastefully Simple and Jordan Essentials
- Vanillaholic
- Wearmouth Apiary
- Woodworking items

There's still time to join as a vendor!

EMAIL US AT I35BOOSTERS@GMAIL.COM

Kids HOLIDAY Shop

ST. CHARLES, IA

For Kids
PREK-6TH GRADE

Only $1/item
NEW & GENTLY USED ITEMS AVAILABLE SO KIDS CAN SHOP FOR FAMILY MEMBERS.

SUNDAY, DEC. 6TH