

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

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August 20, 2026

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THE ORPHAN TRAIN

Contributed by Sue Stills

I first learned of the project called the Orphan Train in the early 2000's when New Virginia resident, Marie Mitchell, gave a presentation about it at the New Virginia Public Library. She revealed that her father-in-law, William Albrecht Mitchell, had come to Iowa on the Orphan Train in 1904. William is the father of Merrell Mitchell, Marie's husband. Unfortunately, I don't remember further details of Marie's excellent presentation, but fortunately, I learned more details about William "Billy" from his grandson, Brian Mitchell, and his wife Jonna. William Albrecht, born in 1892, was one of six children living with their parents in New York City. Not all children who were transported on the Orphan Train were orphans, which was the case with William. When Mrs. Albrecht died, Mr. Albrecht remarried. His new wife, for whatever reasons, did not want the children. William's three sisters were sent to be raised by aunts; the oldest son, Fred, remained in New York; and William and his younger brother, Henry, were put on the Orphan Train in 1904 by the Children's Aid Society. William was about 12 at that time. The two boys arrived in Murray, Iowa, and were taken by different families who did not live very far from each other. The brothers did not see each other after that. William lived with the Mitchells, and his life with them was very hard. As with many of the children who were placed with rural folks, the children were in a position of servitude, doing hard, manual tasks on the farms. Brian Mitchell stated that his grandfather William did not talk about his early life. The Mitchells did not adopt William, but William did take the Mitchell name when he married Pearl.

Conditions were terrible at that time in New York, especially for the immigrants who flooded the city. Many families were poor and destitute, and in 1850, it was estimated that there were 10,000 to 30,000 homeless children in the city. Some children were orphaned when their parents died of epidemics like typhoid, yellow fever or the flu. Others were abandoned due to poverty, illness or addiction. Some children had suffered from abuse and ran away from home. Many children sold matches, rags or newspapers to survive. For protection against street violence, some banded together and formed gangs. In 1853, a young minister named Charles Loring Brace became concerned with the plight of street children, and he founded the Children's Aid Society (CAS). After attempting other ways of providing aid, he had the idea of sending groups of children to rural areas for adoption. After a year of dispatching children individually to farms in Connecticut, Pennsylvania and rural New York, the CAS expanded the program to the Midwest in 1854. It was his belief that farmers who would be in need of labor would welcome homeless children, take them into their homes and treat them as their own.

The first group of 45 Orphan Train children arrived in Dowagiac, Michigan, on October 1, 1854. In order to get a child, applicants were supposed to have recommendations from their pastor and a justice of the peace, but it was unlikely that this requirement was strictly enforced. Local committees were required to consult with the CAS on the suitability of local families interested in adopting children. Families were expected to raise them as they would their own children, providing them with decent food and clothing, a "common" education, and \$100 when they turned 21. Legal adoption was not required. After an arduous journey on the train and upon arriving in a town, the placement process often involved putting the children up on a stage in an almost auction-like atmosphere, often very frightening for them. If any were not chosen, they were returned to the train and transported to the next town, or the next town, or they were eventually returned to New York. What a humiliating experience that would have been. As William Mitchell experienced, some placements were not as happy as others perhaps were. Many children were used as strictly farm labor. Many were viewed as "outsiders," in their own homes, as well as at school and in the community. Many children lost their identity through forced name changes and repeated moves.

The Orphan Train Movement is now recognized as the beginning of the foster care system in the United States. Between 1854 and 1929, an estimated 200,000 American children traveled via the Orphan Trains that stopped at more than 45 states, as well as Canada and Mexico, according to the CAS. A 1910 survey by the CAS concluded that 87% of the children had done well, while 8% had returned to New York, and 5% had either died, disappeared, or gotten arrested. Charles Brace's notion that children are better cared for by families than in institutions is the most basic tenet of present-day foster care. The National Orphan Train Complex in Concordia, Kansas, is a museum and research center whose mission is to collect, preserve and disseminate knowledge about the Orphan Trains and their riders.

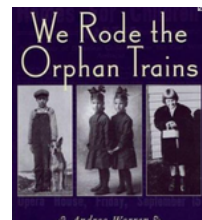
Sources: Wikipedia; childrensaidnyc.org; sitesrootsweb.com/~neadoptn/iowa.htm; orphantraindepot.org

Want to read more about the Orphan Trains? Here are a couple of suggestions.



Orphan Train
by Christina Baker Kline

We Rode the Orphan Trains
by Andrea Warren



Council Meeting Minutes

August 3rd, 2026

The Council met in regular session on Monday August 3rd, 2026, for the August council meeting. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Strange at 7:07 p.m. with Council Members Chandler, Dunkin, Galivan and Truman present. Absent Bailey. Minutes from the July meeting were approved.

Old Business: With Councilmember Bailey not present, discussion of the overhead water line at the fire station was tabled until the September meeting.

The purchase of street barricades was discussed. Galivan moved, seconded by Truman to purchase four type 2 barricades at a price of \$142.55 for each barricade. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Water utility inventory supplies have been purchased. An additional payment on the water utility G.O. bond will be made.

The batteries were replaced again in the red flashing lights at Knotts Street and East Street. The batteries were replaced locally this time instead of by company the lights were purchased from.

Work on getting the bleachers from Murray to New Virginia will start on August 21st through August 24th.

Fireworks for 2027 Old Settlers need to be ordered early to avoid a 50% price increase. The proposed fireworks purchase will be \$4700.00 to \$5000.00. Truman moved, seconded by Chandler to purchase \$4700.00 to \$5000.00 of fireworks now. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Lions Club Building update – the building qualifies for grant participation. An asbestos inspection needs to be performed this fall. The cost of the inspection and removal of any asbestos may be reimbursable by the DNR. The Lions Club will be meeting in the Hen House. The Lions Club needs four keys to the Hen House.

The Trail Committee received a \$10,000.00 grant from Prairie Meadows for phase one of the trail project. The north part of the phase one project has been completed with the help of a \$5,000.00 grant from Warren County Philanthropic Partnership. The south half of the phase one project needs an additional \$20,000.00 for completion. The Trail Committee is searching for additional grant opportunities for the \$20,000.00.

Citizen Input: There are a lot of house belongings along the curb at 304 Stansell Street. The front door will be checked for a posted notice to obtain contact information regarding the items along the curb and for mowing and trimming the property.

Plugged driveway culverts were discussed. It is the homeowners'/property owners' responsibility to maintain and keep the ends of the culverts free and clear of leaves, debris and any other obstructions to ensure proper drainage. It was discussed to charge the property owner for any driveway culverts that need to be opened and cleaned out.

Fire Department Business: Fire Chief Jake Zuercher was present to review and discuss a price quote from Danko Emergency Equipment for five sections of 2 ½ inch fire hose. Truman moved, seconded by Galivan to approve the purchase of five sections of 2 ½ inch fire hose fifty feet in length at \$447.31 for each section. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Water Utilities discussed: Water Operator Rhonda Guy was present. The July water report was reviewed. June water usage was 752,000 gallons averaging 25,000 gallons per day. Testing is in compliance with Iowa DNR permit requirements.

Law Enforcement: The Sheriff's Report from the month of July was reviewed. Officers received or initiated 17 calls for service during the month. Officers spent more than 42 hours in the City of New Virginia in July. Officers patrolled in excess of 98 miles within the city limits for the month.

Price quote options from InRoads for re-surfacing Broadway Street were reviewed and discussed. After thorough discussion, Galivan moved, seconded by Truman to approve item #3 price quote of \$42,462.00 for 1.5" mill and fill from east city limits to West Street. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried. Mayor Strange will talk to Jeff with InRoads about asphaltting the parking area on the south side of Old Settlers Park and driveway approaches.

GAMP UPDATE

A quilt made from previous truck pull shirts was found in the GAMP Building storage room closet. It was discussed to hang it on a wall behind some sort of frame in the GAMP Building.

The trash bags on the pulling track need picked up. The garbage cans will be placed behind the sponsor boards at the west end of the pulling track.

KEEP IOWA BEAUTIFUL PROGRAM

Upcoming Events in 2026: New Virginia Hometown Pride is planning and preparing for this year's End of Summer Social. They have been discussing advertising, bands, and vendors. This event is September 20th at Hickory Hills.

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.

TRI-CORNER-EXPRESS

Fund balance \$19,762.84. No new information to present to the Council.

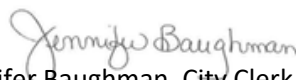
New sections of barriers around the playground equipment will be ordered to replace broken sections.

Pre-made No Parking signs from Iowa Prison Industries will be researched for placement near West and Grand Street.

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

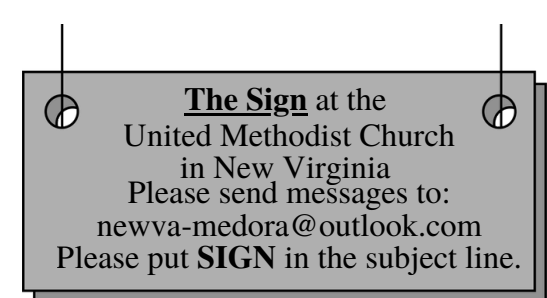
With no further business to come forth, Dunkin moved, seconded by Chandler to adjourn meeting. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:42 p.m.

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


Jennifer Baughman, City Clerk

Interested in joining
New Virginia Hometown Pride?

Contact nvhp50210@gmail.com



NEW VIRGINIA AUGUST CLAIMS REPORT

VENDOR	REFERENCE	AMOUNT	CHECK #	CHECK DATE
ALLIANT ENERGY	ELECTRIC/GAS/STREET LIGHTS	\$1,307.55	16253	8/2/2026
AT&T FIRSTNET	PHONE SERVICE	\$51.31	16281	8/11/2026
BRENT BAUGHMAN	RECORDING FEE QUIT CLAIM DEED	\$80.15	16259	8/4/2026
ELAN FINANCIAL SERVICES	TRUCK PULL EXPENSE FOOD	\$1,965.50	16254	8/2/2026
CENTRAL IOWA PEST CONTROL	PEST CONTROL	\$75.00	16260	8/4/2026
CLANTON CREEK FENCE & GATE	FENCE REPAIR	\$1,438.00	16261	8/4/2026
HIGHWAY LUMBER COMPANY	SUPPLIES FIREWORKS	\$344.10	16263	8/4/2026
HINDERS UPDEGRAFF FRANKLIN PLC	LEGAL FEES	\$536.50	16264	8/4/2026
IA MUNICIPAL WORKERS COMPENSAT	WORKERS COMP INSURANCE	\$1,303.00	16267	8/4/2026
IOWA PUBLIC RETIREMENT SYSTEM	IPERS	\$489.80	16327148	8/2/2026
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	FED/FICA TAX	\$637.56	16327149	8/2/2026
J&L SANITATION	GARBAGE SERVICE - CITY	\$62.00	16268	8/4/2026
JAKE ZUERCHER	SUPPLIES-CANDY NVOs PARADE	\$60.00	16269	8/4/2026
JOSEY GALIVAN	SUPPLIES SPRINKLER	\$19.99	16270	8/4/2026
KASTNER PYROTECHNICS	FIREWORKS	\$5,376.80	16282	8/11/2026
MARY HUSS	GAMP CLEANING	\$50.00	16283	8/11/2026
ONE BILLING SOLUTIONS LLC	AMBULANCE BILLING	\$927.27	16272	8/4/2026
ONE BILLING SOLUTIONS LLC	AMBULANCE BILLING	\$356.51	16284	8/11/2026
LINDE GAS & EQUIPMENT INC.	OEPRATING SUPPLIES	\$145.03	16273	8/4/2026
R & R MOWING SERVICE	MOWING CITY AREAS	\$975.00	16275	8/4/2026
RYAN MORRIS	DEPOSIT REFUND	\$125.00	16276	8/4/2026
WEINMAN INSURANCE	TRUCK PULL INSURANCE	\$832.63	16327150	7/17/2026
WEX FLEET UNIVERSAL	VEHCILE FUEL	\$78.40	16280	8/4/2026
WINDSTREAM	TELEPHONE/INTERNET	\$601.71	16285	8/11/2026
TOTAL GENERAL		\$17,838.81		
ALLIANT ENERGY	ELECTRIC/GAS/STREET LIGHTS	\$1,398.27	16253	8/2/2026
IOWA GOOD ROADS ASSOCIATION IN	FY MEMBERSHIP DUES	\$95.00	16266	8/4/2026
JOSEY GALIVAN	SUPPLIES BATTERIES STOP SIGNS	\$55.98	16270	8/4/2026
SAVAGE EXCAVATING	STREET MAINT STORM SEWER KNOTT	\$2,230.08	16277	8/4/2026
TOTAL ROAD USE		\$3,779.33		
AT&T FIRSTNET	PHONE SERVICE	\$23.16	16281	8/11/2026
ELAN FINANCIAL SERVICES	OFFICE SUPPLIES PAPER	\$24.97	16254	8/2/2026
FENIX USA	DATA & SOFTWARE HOSTING	\$100.00	16262	8/4/2026
HUSTON'S LAWN/SNOW REMOVAL	TESTING - WATER	\$100.00	16265	8/4/2026
IOWA PUBLIC RETIREMENT SYSTEM	IPERS	\$411.77	16327148	8/2/2026
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	FED/FICA TAX	\$567.08	16327149	8/2/2026
MICROBAC LABORATORIES INC	WATER TESTING	\$19.50	16271	8/4/2026
MUNICIPAL SUPPLY INC	OPERATION EQUIP REPAIR SUPPLIE	\$3,233.70	16252	7/28/2026
PROFESSIONAL OPERATIONS MANAGE	OTHER CONTR SERV WATER	\$1,113.00	16274	8/4/2026
PROFESSIONAL OPERATIONS MANAGE	OTHER CONTR SERV WATER	\$1,113.00	16286	8/11/2026
SNYDER PLUMBING LLC	OTHER CONTR JET CITY MAIN	\$1,500.00	16278	8/4/2026
WARREN WATER DISTRICT	WATER USAGE/LOAN PAYMENT	\$4,718.25	16279	8/4/2026
TOTAL WATER UTILITIES		\$12,924.43		
GENERAL		\$2,522.13		
WATER		\$2,089.85		
Total Payroll Paid		\$4,611.98		
***** REPORT TOTAL *****		\$39,154.55		

August 20 is a day for celebrating...

National
Bacon
Lovers Day



New VIRGINIA PUBLIC LIBRARY

www.newvirginia.lib.ia.us



Check out our
program calendar
on the website
or Facebook
for more details

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Iowa Adventure Pass provides
library cardholders the
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Library Hours:

Tues: 4 - 8 pm
Wed: 9 - 11 am/ 1 - 8 pm
Thurs: 4 - 8 pm
Fri: Closed
Sat: 9 am - noon
Sun & Mon: Closed



**NEW VIRGINIA
FARMERS MARKET**
Old Settlers Park
9am-NOON
September 26th



Public Notice

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

City of New Virginia	
July 2026	Deposits
General	\$5,105.96
GAMP	\$669.49
Fire	\$2,481.53
Elf Club	\$ 0.00
Road Use	\$9,429.25
LOST	\$6,905.69
Debit Service	\$ 13.36
Water Utilities	\$10,006.41
Grand Total	\$34,611.69



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

Truro City Council Minutes

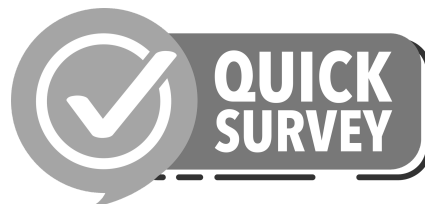
August 3, 2026

Community Center

Mayor Pro Tem Lyndsay Cannoy presided over and called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Ancel Kennedy, Jason Phillips, and Matt Masters and Julie McMichael were present, and Mayor Bryan Arzani was absent. Fire Chief Terry Stills and Public Works Director Ronnie Hults were also absent. No one from the public was present to speak. Cannoy asked for a motion to approve the Agenda. Motion to approve the agenda by Phillips/Masters. All Ayes, motion carried. The Sheriff's Report was acknowledged by the Council and the Emergency Management Director's Report, and the Water/Wastewater Reports were not available. The Fire & Rescue Report was acknowledged by the council with 4 fire calls and 15 EMS calls. The codification of ordinances process will continue with a special meeting on August 31, 2026. Motion to approve the new Fire Recruit Colton Dennis by Phillips/McMichael. All Ayes, motion carried. Jenny and Dillan Jacobe were present to address the Council and represent the Jacobe Family regarding the Junk and Junk Vehicles ordinance and their property. A motion was made to give them an extension until the next Truro City Council meeting on September 8, 2026, to have all the junk and junk vehicles removed from their property or the city will proceed with the process of removal. A motion was made approve an amend the Recycling Ordinance to increase the Recycling Rate from \$7.00/month to \$8.00/month per WM increase in fuel surcharge by (First Reading and vote) Phillips/Masters. All Ayes, motion carried. A Second Reading and vote at next meeting on August 31, 2026. The City would like to acknowledge Folds of Honor for helping with the flagpole ceremony in June. A motion was made to approve the consent items by Phillips/McMichael. All Ayes, motion carried. Motion to adjourn was made by Phillips/Masters. All Ayes, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m. Special Meeting to be held at the Community Center on 8.31.26 at 6:00 p.m. **Next regular city council meeting is set for 9.8.26 at 6:00 p.m.**

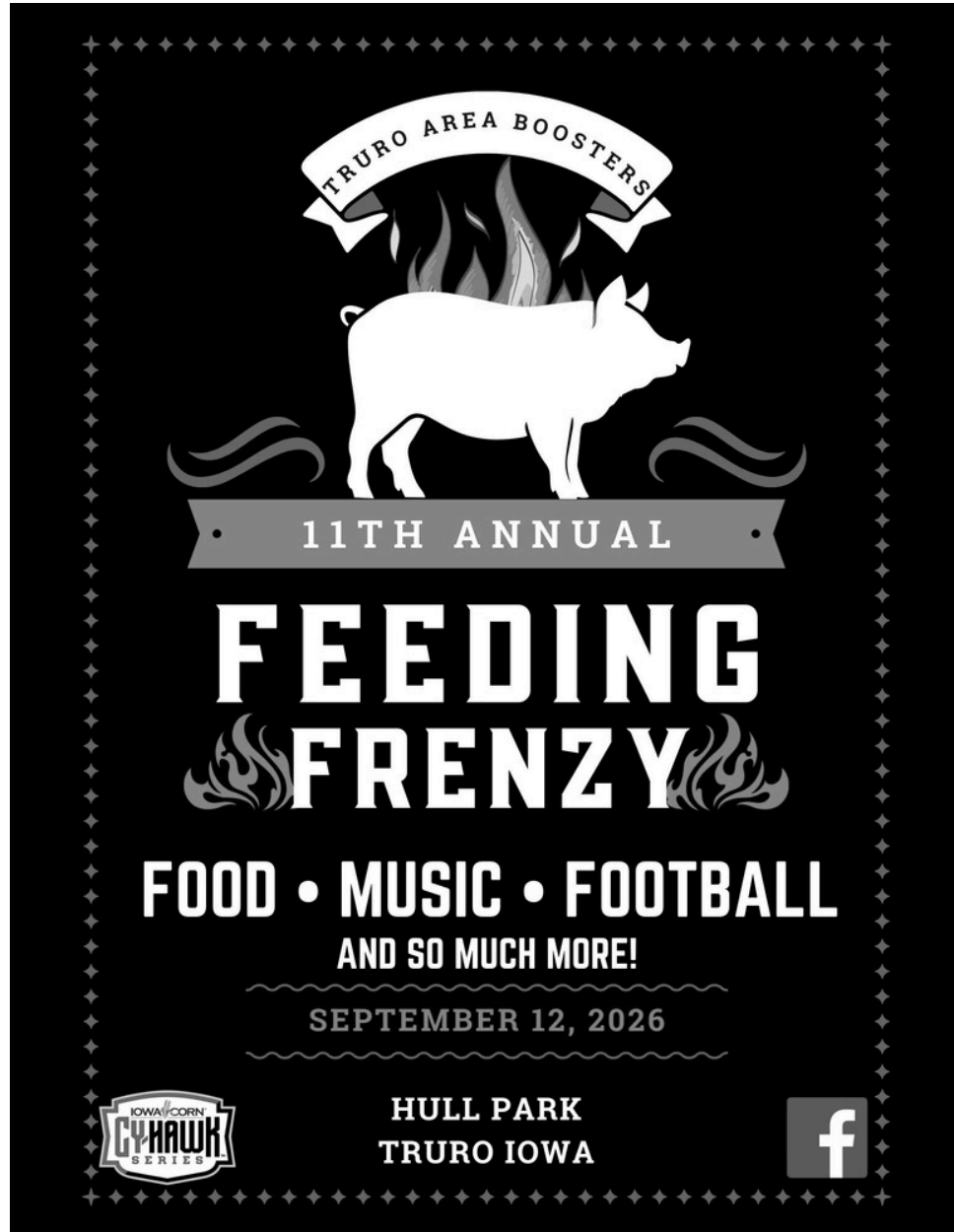
Bryan Arzani, Mayor

Attested: Janelle Adams, City Clerk



Please take a few minutes to complete this community survey for the Truro Public Library by scanning the QR code. Your feedback will help us better understand and assess the needs of our community and guide future library services and programs. Paper copies of the survey will also be available at Truro City Hall and the Truro Public Library for anyone who is unable to complete the survey online.

thank you!



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OmniTel Communications Grants for the 2nd Quarter of 2026

The Board of Directors of OmniTel Communications has awarded grants to the following organizations: Charles City Art-A-Fest, Floyd County Fair, St. Ansgar Booster Club, Marble Rock Veterans Memorial Park, Truro Area Boosters, Rudd Commercial Club, Shop On State, The Plymouth Betterment Committee, Floyd County Food Pantry, Floyd Pullers Association, Ferst Readers Madison County Iowa, North Iowa Fair Association.

The next grants will be awarded in October. 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.

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 Library Teen Craft Night!



first Thursday
of every month
4:30-6pm

Join 4-H!

Virginia Boosters 4-H Club



Meets 3rd
Wednesday
of each month
from September
through June.



Exhibit at the
Warren County Fair.



Great opportunity to
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participate in community
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Enrollment begins
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Have Fun!



FIRST MEETING
September 16 at 7 PM
GAMP Building

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★ There is an enrollment fee. ★



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KINDERGARTEN - 3RD GRADE

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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16



6:00 PM



Gary Allen Memorial Park Building



Kindergarten - 3rd Grade



QUESTIONS?

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allysa.spear@gmail.com



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Floats**

provided by the
Virginia Boosters
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LEARN.
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HAVE FUN!



Check out the 4-H exhibits at the
Iowa State Fair at the Bruce L. Rastetter 4-H Exhibits Building
August 13-23, 2026

Who
doesn't like
a spa day?



Nancy Crabtree, Owner
5145 Vermont St
New Virginia
Home #: 641-449-3290
Cell #: 515-313-6738

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



The Dog Days
of Summer run from
July 3 to August 11
each year. This is
traditionally the
hottest, most humid
stretch of summer.



Gerry Allen Memorial Park Community Building

809 West Street, New Virginia, IA 50210

N.V. City Limits

All Other Renters

Full Day Rental \$150

\$175

Half Day Rental \$100

\$125

Hourly Rental \$25

\$25

Deposit \$125.00 due at time of reservation, rental fee due prior to event. All

Non-Profits groups - there will be no rental fee.

Signed rental agreement required.

Certificate of liability insurance for rental over 50 people is required.

All renters must cleanup at the conclusion of their event.

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New Virginia Christian Church

11 am Sunday Worship

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



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Tough Day?



- ~ Broken Screen?
- ~ Computer Won't Start?
- ~ Password Removal
- ~ Computer Too Slow?
- ~ Virus/Hacker Removal
- ~ Need Ink? Or Supplies?
- ~ Need Business Cards?
- ~ Need Banners?
- ~ Need copies? Prints?

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From the Kitchen of...

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

CABBAGE AND BACON

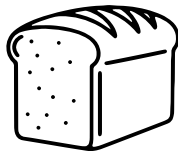
- 1 pound of bacon, cut into 1-inch chunks
- 1 head of cabbage, cut into small chunks, or shredded

Mix the cabbage and bacon together in a 9 x 13 metal pan. Lightly salt, and you can put a few pats of butter on top, if your bacon is pretty lean. Cover with aluminum foil, and cook on the grill at a medium heat for 20 minutes. Uncover, and stir around to re-locate everything and mix it up better. Cover again and cook for another 20 minutes or so. Salt to taste, and enjoy.



Eeewwww.... What's That Smell????

You know that meat you let go bad in the basement fridge? Or that cooler that you forgot about after your fishing trip? You've cleaned it numerous times but no matter what, it still stinks to high heaven. Wad up a bunch of newspaper sheets and place in there, then shut the lid or door. After a few days, the smell will disappear. You may need to do this 2 or 3 times, depending on the level of your forgetfulness, but it works!



With the many opportunities for buying fresh bread at our local markets, here are a few suggestions to help keep it fresh. Wrap it in wax paper or a beeswax wrap, and store in a breadbox. Use paper or linen bags for crusty bread to preserve texture. Avoid refrigeration unless your climate is extremely humid—most bread goes stale faster in the fridge than on the counter.

SWEET & TANGY REFRIGERATOR PICKLES

Contributed by Kim McWilliams

5 cups of cucumbers, sliced 1/8 to 1/4 inch thick dependent on your preference; if using store bought, remember to wash thoroughly to get wax coating off

1/2 cup onion, sliced or 1 tablespoon minced dried onion (optional)

1 cup sugar

1 cup vinegar

1 teaspoon mustard seeds

1 teaspoon celery seeds or fennel seeds

1 teaspoon ground turmeric

Place the cucumbers in the glass jars until 1/2 inch from top of the rim.

Combine the sugar, vinegar, mustard seeds, celery or fennel seeds, and ground turmeric in a small saucepan and bring to a boil. Remove from heat and pour over cucumbers in the jars. Put on lids.

Let the jars sit on the counter 1 to 2 days and then put them in the refrigerator. They can be stored in the refrigerator safely for up to 2 months....if they last that long.

Makes 1 quart.

Recipe from creativehomemaking.com

GLAZED CARROTS

Contributed by Sue Stills

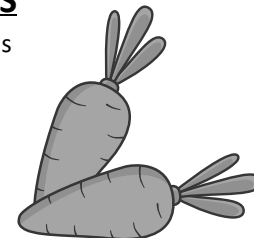
1 1/2 pounds carrots, peeled and cut into 1/2 inch thick slices, diagonally

1/4 cup butter

1/4 cup brown sugar

1/4 tsp. salt

1 T. chopped parsley, optional



Place carrots in a large pan and add 1 1/2 cups of water. Bring carrots to a simmer. Cook 8-10 minutes or until carrots are tender. Be sure carrots are cut into uniformly-sized pieces so they cook at the same rate. Drain off any excess water. Add butter, brown sugar and salt to the pan. Stir to coat carrots. Cook an additional 4-5 minutes, stirring occasionally, until a sauce has formed. Sprinkle with parsley, if desired. Serves 6.

Bear Oil Oatmeal Chocolate Chip Cookies

Ingredients

- 1 cup bear oil, at room temp
- 3/4 c. brown sugar
- 3/4 c. granulated sugar
- 2 large eggs
- 1 t. vanilla extract
- 2 c. all-purpose flour
- 2 1/2 c. oats, quick or old-fashioned
- 1 t. baking soda
- 1/2 t. salt
- 2 c. chocolate chips

Instructions

1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. No need to grease your cookie sheets.
2. Mix the bear oil and the sugars together, then add in the eggs and vanilla and mix.
3. Combine the flour, oats, baking soda and salt and slowly mix into wet ingredients. Stir in the chocolate chips.
4. Drop by tablespoonful onto cookie sheet. Bake for 10 minutes or so. Cookies will be light in color, but just starting to turn brown around the edges.

Bear oil is rendered bear fat. If you don't have any in your kitchen, try using any vegetable oil instead!

t.g.





A MESSAGE FROM DR. GOSSEN

I-35 CSD SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Roadrunner Families and Community,
Many of you have probably seen information about the 2026 bond proposal being shared throughout our community and on social media. As we move forward, our goal is to make sure our families and community members have access to clear, accurate information about what is being proposed and why. We have created an album on the district’s Facebook page with information about the bond proposal, so I encourage you to take a look, ask questions and learn more about the work that has gone into developing this proposal.

Information shared online is one part of the conversation. In the coming weeks, we will also offer opportunities for community members to learn more and ask questions in person. These conversations will provide a chance to hear more about the proposal, understand the community-identified priorities and learn how the proposed projects address the identified needs.

I encourage everyone to review the information, ask questions and take part in these conversations. Our community has an important voice in the future of I-35 CSD , and we want everyone to have the opportunity to understand what is being considered.

With gratitude,
Michael Gossen, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

ACTIVITIES SCHEDULE EARLY SEPTEMBER 2026

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

- 9/4: Away vs. Underwood, 7:00 p.m.; Varsity
- 9/11: Home vs. Clarke Community, 7:00 p.m.; Varsity

HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL

- 9/1: Home vs. WCAC Triangular Varsity Volleyball, 4:30 p.m.
- 9/12: Away at Chariton Tournament, 10:00 a.m.; Varsity/JV at Chariton High School

HIGH SCHOOL BOYS & GIRLS COUNTRY

- 9/3: Away at West Central Valley Invitational, 4:30 p.m. at WCV Middle School
- 9/8: Away at Winterset Cross Country Invitational at Lakeview Country Club

**Scan the QR code to see
the complete calendar
for September. The I-35
Activities Calendar is
now on Bound.**



Our next step.

In 2022, a community-based group identified a two-phase plan to improve the district’s academic and activity facilities.

On November 3, there will be a vote to allow the district to fund phase 2 of the district’s long-range facility plan. The first phase, which was funded using state sales tax dollars, included new softball & baseball fields and renovated high school science classrooms. The second phase will complete the outdoor activities complex and address space needs in both the secondary and elementary schools. This phase will be paid for with a property tax levy, which requires a vote.

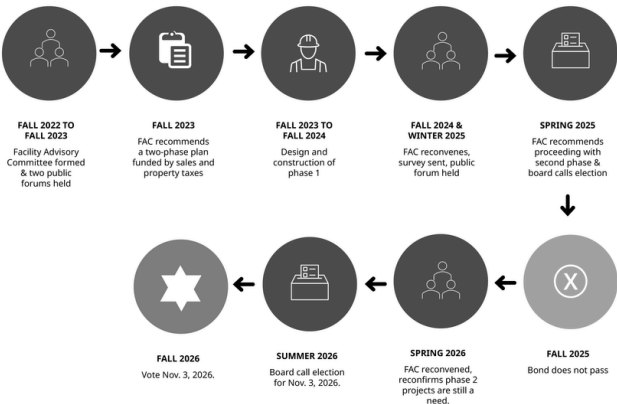
COMPLETING PHASE 2 OF THE LONG-RANGE FACILITIES PLAN.

»»» VOTE NOVEMBER 3
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**Scan the QR code
to visit the
facilities website
learn more.**



HOW DID WE GET HERE?



»»» VOTE NOVEMBER 3

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The Plan

WHAT'S THE PLAN?



REORGANIZED AND RENOVATED CLASSROOMS

- Creates additional classrooms
- Moves 7-8 into secondary wing
- Groups Pre-K & Daycare together
- Adds air condition to gym and kitchen
- Renovated library



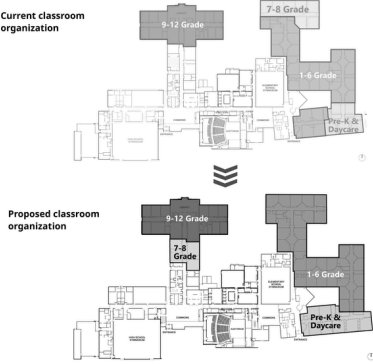
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WHAT'S THE PLAN?



REORGANIZED AND RENOVATED CLASSROOMS



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WHAT'S THE PLAN?



OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES & SITE IMPROVEMENTS



Improving the district's outdoor facilities was the top community priority that came out of a 2024 survey.

- Grass field
- Home bleacher seating for 1,000
- New loop road improves access & traffic flow
- 8-lane track, shot put & discuss
- Additional restrooms
- Expanded outdoor learning and play areas
- Visitor bleachers
- More parking

»» VOTE NOVEMBER 3

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The Funds

HOW WILL THE PROJECT BE FUNDED?



PHASE 1	PHASE 2
COMPLETE IN 2024	VOTE NOV. 3, 2026
\$6 MILLION	\$12.3 MILLION
Funded with sales tax dollars DID NOT AFFECT PROPERTY TAXES	Funded with a general obligation bond REPAID ANNUALLY THROUGH PROPERTY TAX LEVY

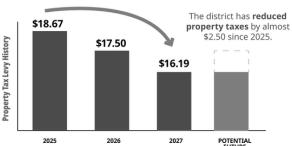
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WILL MY TAXES GO UP?



If the proposed bond passes, it is possible for the district to take on new debt while keeping the overall property tax rate at \$16.19. There is always a chance, though, based on a variety of unknown future factors like state law changes or overall property valuations, that the overall tax rate could go up. The most honest answer is: a tax increase is always possible, whether the district passes a bond or not.

THE I-35 SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD HAS BEEN WORKING TO REDUCE PROPERTY TAXES AND WILL CONTINUE TO LOOK FOR WAYS TO SAVE TAXPAYERS MONEY.



»» VOTE NOVEMBER 3

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The Vote

WHAT WILL THE BALLOT SAY?



On November 3, 2026, a date pre-determined by state law, residents of the I-35 District in Clarke, Madison, and Warren counties will have the opportunity to vote to allow the district to use a general obligation bond to fund the second phase of its facility master plan, including improvements to learning spaces and a new activities complex. The following language will appear on the ballot.

"Shall the Board of Directors of the Interstate 35 Community School District in the Counties of Clarke, Madison, and Warren, State of Iowa, be authorized to contract indebtedness and issue General Obligation Bonds in an amount not to exceed \$12,300,000 to provide funds to remodel, repair, improve, and equip the school building, including reconfiguration of academic spaces, HVAC, mechanical and exterior improvements; to build, furnish, and equip athletic facilities, including a new stadium and track, parking, and site improvements, and for related improvements to repurpose the existing track and field, bleachers, and press box; and for site and access improvements to the school campus?"

»» VOTE NOVEMBER 3

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HOW DO I VOTE?



- Vote Absentee In-Person**
In-person absentee voting is available beginning October 14 through 5 p.m. November 2, the day prior to the election. Vote in your county auditor's office or satellite locations, if available.
- Vote Absentee by Mail**
Submit requests to receive absentee ballots by mail between August 23 and October 19. Ballots must be received by 8 p.m. on Election Day. Hand deliver your ballot to the auditor if you do not mail it in time. Scan the QR code to request absentee ballot request form.
- Vote In-Person on November 3**
The only way to vote on Election Day is by casting a vote at your assigned polling place. Contact your auditor's office or scan QR code to confirm your polling place.

»» VOTE NOVEMBER 3

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UNDER CONSTRUCTION

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-City of New Virginia

2026 Tri-Corner-Express Ad Prices

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 Half Page-Vertical (5x9.5) \$85
 Full Page- (10.5x9.5) \$175

Thank You, Birth Announcement,
 Birthday & Anniversary:
 0-50 words: \$5,
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 Over 100 words: \$.10/word,
 Photo: \$5

Obituary & Wedding:
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RIKKI-STYLIST

KAMDIN-STYLIST

KAITLYN-ESTHETICIAN

Kephart Family Bike Races

2 Years & Younger

Girl: Eden Houchins Boy: None

3 Years Old

Girl: Lauren Keeler

Boys: 1) Watson Houchins 2) Ben Broadbent

4 Years Old

Girls: 1) Scout Busby 2) Rowan Brommel

Boys: 1) Austin Keeler 2) Emmett Scrivner 3) Benny Smith

5 Years Old

Girl: None

Boys: 1) Walt Busby 2) Ben Schauf 3) Leo Godfrey

6 Years Old

Girls: 1) Sloane Stuart 2) Kassidy Morris

Boys: 1) Lawson Johnston 2) Dax Baranak

7 Years Old

Girls: 1) Nora Jurno 2) Leah Broadbent 3) Gracelyn Scrivner

Boys: 1) Willy Smith 2) Jameson Saxton & Gus Busby 3)

Dawson Baranak

8 Years Old

Girl: Ellie Venn Boy: Bowen Daniels

9 Years Old

Girls: 1) Nora Broadbent 2) Reese Dersheid

Boys: 1) Brantley Graff 2) Myles Scrivner 3) Jace Wickett

10 Years Old

Girl: Avery Venn Boy: Briggs Stuart

11 Years Old: None

12 Years Old: Girl: Kelsey Strange Boy: None

13 & 14 Years Old:

Girls: 1) Raegan Derscheid 2) Ella Stuart Boy: None

15 Years & Up:

Girl: None Boy: Lincoln Stanley



NVOS Event Results



Kephart Family Foot Races

2 Years & Younger

Girls: 1) Saylor Boudreaux 2) Madilinn Smith 3) Campbell Brommel

Boy: Wayne Black

3 Years Old

Girls: 1) Lauren Keeler 2) Lainey Zuercher

Boys: 1) Ben Broadbent 2) Watson Houchins

4 Years Old

Girls: 1) Scout Busby 2) Lakyn Venn 3) Lakelynn Mason

Boys: 1) Emmett Scrivner 2) Benny Smith 3) Austin Keeler

5 Years Old

Girl: None

Boys: 1) Leo Godfrey 2) Walt Busby 3) Ben Schauf

6 Years Old

Girls: 1) Kassidy Morris 2) Sloane Stuart

Boys: 1) Lawson Johnston 2) Hayes Kephart 3) Dax Baranak

7 & 8 Years Old

Girls: 1) Ellie Venn 2) Gracelyn Scrivner 3) Nora Jurno

Boys: 1) Bowen Daniels 2) Gus Busby 3) Dawson Baranak

9 & 10 Years Old

Girls: 1) Bentleigh Mason 2) Brynlee Schaffer 3) Parker Leonard

Boys: 1) Briggs Stuart 2) Myles Scrivner 3) Brantley Graf

11 & 12 Years Old: None

13 & 14 Years Old: None

15 Years & Up:

Girls: 1) Kelsey Morris 2) Kaitlyn Morris

Boys: 1) Jordan Cummings 2) Tyler Stanford 3) Zayne Merrifield

Retired Class: None

Junior Division

1st Place Quinn Bortell- Choosing Texas

2nd Place Jane Alcalá- The One That Got Away

3rd Place Aleeyah B & Piper Bailey- Last Friday Night

Adult Division

1st Place Bre Brown- Broken Wings

2nd Place Gracey Carico- Jar of Hearts

3rd Place Lynn Beeker- Harper Valley P.T.A.

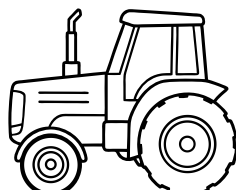
Karaoke in the Park Winners



Cribbage Tournament

1st place-Eric McLain
2nd place-Jeff McLain
3rd place-Dustin Decker

Pedal Tractor Results



0-30 pounds Little Tykes

1) Lanie Zuercher
2) Ivy Henrichs
3) Joe Jorgensen

31-40 pounds Small Fries

1) Leo Halbur
2) Scout Busby
3) Simon Jurno

41-50 pounds Rookies

1) Walt Busby
2) Nora Jurno
3) Raegan Brommel

51-60 pounds
Intermediates

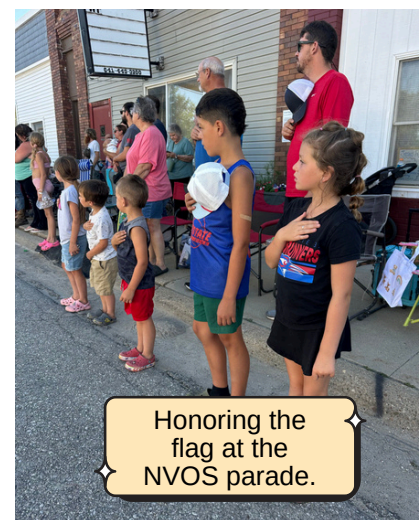
1) Brantley Graf
2) Eric Welch
3) Gus Busby

61-75 pounds Pros

1) Ross Welch
2) Alainah Farrell
3) Gracelyn Scrivner

76-100 pounds Expert

1) Clifton Lowery
2) Myles Scrivner
3) Jace Jorgensen



Honoring the
flag at the
NVOS parade.

Parade Winners

Large Float:

1st place- New Virginia Garden Club

2nd place- Iowa Right to Life

3rd place- Claas Farm Point

Small Float:

1st place- Pink Tractor Foundation

2nd place- Fett for House

3rd place- Collins Contracting

Classic Cars & Tractors:

1st place- Tyler Willke

2nd place- J4 Family Farms-Keegan Jones

3rd place- Clarke County Old Iron

Walking Groups:

1st place- Boy Scout Troop 119

2nd place- Zajicek for Iowa Senate

3rd place- Warren County Republicans

Horses:

1st place- Southern Iowa Saddle Shop

2nd place- Ox Silverado Shires

3rd place- Dean Weeks

Miscellaneous/Most Unusual & Tractors:

1st place- Barry Henrichs-1941 White Half-truck

2nd place- Lance Henrichs

3rd place- Shelley Nelson & Allie

Decorated Bikes/Motorcycles/ATV's:

1st place- Busby Auction Service

2nd place- Keifer Bedwell, Drake Nelson
& Brett Ford



Kiddie Parade Results

1st place: The Heiman Girls

2nd place: The Black Brothers, Waylon & Wayne Black

3rd place: Bowen and Ada Daniels

1900-1954 Stock

- 1) Linn White- 1925 Ford TT 1 ton
- 2) Julianne Henry- 1950 Chevy Convertible
- 3) Carol Evison- 1929 Model A Ford Sport Coupe

1900-1954 Modified

- 1) Jerry Boles- 1932 Ford Coupe
 - 2) Dale Kephart- 1949 Business Coupe Custom
- 1955-1959 Stock:** Frank Scovel-1957 Sedan Delivery
1955-1959 modified: Rick Kimmel- 1957 Ford Custom 300

1966-1972 Stock

- 1) Kelly Adair- 1967 Chevy Camaro
- 2) Connie Kephart- 1970 Chevy Chevelle Convertible SS
- 3) Kenneth Ruth- 1969 Pontiac Firebird

1966-1972 Modified

- 1) Ron Hogan- 1967 Chevy Nova II
- 2) John Davidson- 1967 Chevy Chevelle SS 396

1973-1990 Stock

- 1) Chris Bauer- 1986 Buick Grand National
 - 2) Carson Jones- 1973 Dodge Charger
 - 3) Justin Fugate- 1979 Pontiac Firebird Formula
- 1973-1990 Modified** James Dolan- 1979 Pontiac Trans Am

1991-2016 Stock

- 1) Mitchell Bauer- 2003 Chevy Monte Carlo
- 2) Tom Clark- 1994 Pontiac Firehawk
- 3) Richard Bassett- 2000 Chevy Corvette

1991-2016 Modified

- 1) Rayfield Lawrence- 2012 Chrysler 300
- 2) Richard Knapp- 2009 Dodge Challenger

2017 & Up Stock

- 1) Carter Manning- 2020 Dodge Challenger RT 50th Anniversary
- 2) Brandon Olson- 2021 Wide Body Challenger Scat Pack
- 3) Kimberly McFarland- 2023 Dodge Challenger

2017 & Up Modified

- 1) Matt Decker- 2023 Dodge Charger SRT Hellcat
- Tie 2nd Place- Schroeder- 2021 Dodge Challenger Scat Pack
Tie 2nd Place- Ryan Law- 2018 Dodge Challenger TA 392

Trucks, SUVs & Vans 2WD Stock

- 1) Julianne Henry- 1971 Chevy C-10
- 2) Mike Blackford- 1963 Ford F100

Trucks, SUVs & Vans 2WD Modified

- 1) Brad Lamb- 1968 Chevy C10 Stepside
- 2) Gary Slye- 1955 Chevy 3100 half ton

Trucks, SUVs & Vans 4WD Stock

- 1) Brock Bush- 1976 Ford F25
- 2) Mike Hagen- 1978 Chevy K20

Trucks & Vans 4WD Modified

- 1) Heather Decker- 2015 Jeep Grand Cherokee SRT8
- 2) Gary Knight- 1978 K20 Chevy Silverado

Pro/Street Race: Ray Mincy- 2018 Dodge Challenger Hellcat

Special Interest: Shelley Nelson- 2020 Polaris Slingshot

Motorcycle

- 1) James Dolan- 2023 Road Glide
- 2) Tristan Johnson- 2002 Yamaha V-Star 1100

Pete Ahrens Memorial Award: Julianne Henry- 1950 Chevy Convertible

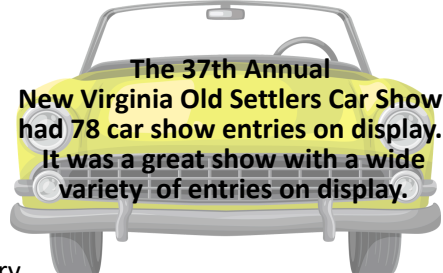
Mayor's Choice Trophy: Gary Knight- 1978 Chevy Silverado K20

Best Paint: Rick Kimmel- 1957 Ford Custom 300

Best Interior: Rayfield Lawrence- 2012 Chrysler 300

Best Motor: Matt Decker- 2023 Dodge Charger SRT Hellcat

Best of Show: Kelly Adair- 1967 Chevy Camaro



Pictured L to R: Lakyn Venn, Waylon Black, Lainey Zuercher, Lauren Keeler, Lionna Faith & Lincoln Faith.



Lance's quilt of valor was accepted by his parents, Matt and Nicole Strange.

NVOS Event Results

Little Miss & Mister New Virginia Contest

We were very fortunate to have six awesome contestants for Little Miss & Mister New Virginia 2026.

Lakyn Venn- Age 4- Lakyn loves cheering, bubbles & playing outside.

Waylon Black-Age 5- Waylon loves riding his dirt bike and four-wheeler.

Lainey Zuercher-Age 3- Lainey loves being outdoors, animals & helping with anything & everything.

Lauren Keeler-Age 3- Lauren loves going camping, riding the four-wheeler, helping in the garden, baking & swimming.

Lionna Faith-Age 3- Lionna loves Barbies, playing dress up & throwing down with her brothers.

Lincoln Faith-Age 5- Lincoln loves Sonic, being with Grandma Tricia & Legos.

Little Miss was won by Lakyn Venn and Little Mister by Waylon Black. They all received goody bags with a colorful water bottle, a bouncy ball, a doodle pad, a magic egg and other fun items because every one of them is a winner.

Quilts of Valor

PVT Lance Strange is a 91 Bravo Wheel Mechanic currently stationed with the 82nd Airborne Division at Ft. Bragg, North Carolina.

SPC Nick Hauge serves with Detachment 1, 1168th Transportation Company in Marshalltown, where he is expanding his technical expertise to include MTV, LTV, and M1088 tractor-trailer systems.



Pictured L to R Steve (dad), Nancy (mom), and Nick Hauge

Bill Riley Talent Search Results

We were lucky enough to have 8 sprout division contestants and 12 senior division contestants. The contestants all had wonderful performances highlighting their talents and made the competition very close and challenging for the judges to pick the winners as there can be no ties. Their talent made for a very entertaining program by these very skilled contestants.

Sprout Division Winners

1 st place-, Graysan Hurley, Age 12, Altoona, Lyrical Dance solo to This

2 nd place-Evyn Davis, Age 12, Des Moines, Dance solo to I Lived

3 rd place-Eloise Pohlmann, Age 8, Truro, Vocal solo to My New Philosophy

Senior Division Winners

1 st place-Tali Messer, Age 16, West Des Moines, Vocal solo to Too Young to Be Old

2 nd place-Raegan Green, Age 16, Altoona, Contemporary Dance solo to It's Getting Bad Again

3 rd place- Ingrid Oakley, Age 13, Ankeny, Musical theater vocal solo to When He Sees Me

Graysan Hurley and Tali Messer will be representing the New Virginia Old Settlers Bill Riley talent competition at the Iowa State Fair.





Saint Charles Old Settlers 2026 King & Queen: Gary & Dawn Vettters

Gary and Dawn have been proud members of St. Charles community since 1994, when they made the move from Des Moines and settled at the base of Willow Bend Trail—an area fondly known by locals as “Monkville.” Drawn to the peaceful woods and natural beauty of Madison County, they quickly embraced the small-town spirit and built a life rooted in community, service, and connection. Gary and Dawn brought with them a spirit of service and curiosity shaped by their careers—Dawn as a teacher and elementary principal in Des Moines and Gary through a career in seed research—experiences that helped shape the ways they would later invest their time and talents in the St. Charles community.

Over the years, the Vettters have become deeply woven into the fabric of St. Charles. Dawn has been especially dedicated to enriching community life through her work with St. Charles public library, where she volunteered for more than a decade. She led weekly Storytime for five years and played an active role in the Summer Reading Program, helping foster a love of learning and creativity in the local children.

Her commitment to community development extends even further. Dawn served for five years as both a member and chair of the St. Charles Community Foundation before helping to establish the Caring Neighborhood Circle, an organization focused on supporting local needs through grant funding. As a grant writer, she has contributed several impactful community projects. She also served seven years on the board of Covered Bridges Scenic Byway, helping promote and preserve one of the area’s most treasured assets.

Dawn’s passion for the arts shines through her work teaching summer art camp alongside her friend Sue Cornelison, providing young people with opportunities to explore creativity and self-expression. She has played a role in fundraising efforts for the new sculpture park, celebrating the installation of its first sculpture, The Heart of Iowa, hopefully unveiling later this summer.

Together, Gary and Dawn are active members of St. Charles Parish. Gary has served in many leadership roles at the church. He is known for his willingness to lend a helping hand—especially with clean-up projects and for his well-earned reputation as an expert with the chainsaw.

Family has always been central to Gary and Dawn’s story. Their children, Jaci and Jarek, are graduates of Interstate 35 High School, as is Jaci’s husband Matt Edwards. Jaci and Matt make their home in Escondido, California, with their three children—Vetter, VelaDawn, and Vara. Closer to home, Jarek and his wife Ashley reside on Willow Bend with their children, Nora and Julian, continuing the family’s deep roots in the place Gary and Dawn have long cherished.

Part of what Gary and Dawn treasure most about St. Charles is the way everyday life is rooted in connection and community. Whether through faith and friendship at St. Charles Parish, morning stretches in the yoga studio, sharing coffee and conversation at the Tiger Lily, encouraging creativity through The Art Hub, or simply enjoying the rhythms of small-town life, the Vettters have found St. Charles to be a place where meaningful relationships flourish and community truly feels like family.



Gary and Dawn feel deeply honored to receive this recognition from a community they love so dearly. St. Charles has been more than a place to live—it has been a home, a place filled with meaningful friendships, shared purpose, and opportunities to serve alongside neighbors. They are profoundly grateful for the many relationships and experiences that have enriched their lives—and they are thankful to be part of such a caring and special community.

15

Saint Charles Old Settlers 2026 Button Honorees: Larry and Janet Adair



Larry was from Lineville, Iowa, and Janet was from Leon, Iowa. They were married on July 14, 1963, at the First Baptist Church in Lineville. After their marriage, they lived in Osceola and Ankeny before settling in the community they would proudly call home—St. Charles.

Larry and Janet moved to St. Charles on December 17, 1977, with their three children, Shelley, Sonia, and Kelly.

Shortly after moving to St. Charles, Larry joined the Lions Club. He remained an active member for 42 years and served as president from 1987 to 1988. Larry and Janet worked at the Old Settlers bingo stand for many years alongside their friends Keith and Dixie Murphy and Don and Luanne Overton. Janet and Luanne also coordinated the Lions Club blood drive for several years.

Larry served as the community’s Santa Claus, handing out candy to children on Main Street and visiting residents at the Manor during the holiday season. Larry also served on the St. Charles Manor Board and was a member of the St. Charles Volunteer Fire Department for approximately ten years.

In 1982, Larry and Janet purchased the grocery store from Dean and Dorothy Brooks. While Larry continued working in concrete construction and helping at the store, Janet managed the day-to-day operations until the store closed in 1987.

Larry was instrumental in repairing and improving many of the streets in St. Charles. He helped construct David’s Path, the sidewalk connecting town to the Imes Covered Bridge. In addition, Larry served on the Old Settlers Stage committee and was integral to planning, demolition, and construction of the new stage, which replaced the old concrete-block stage. His expertise in construction and pride in the community helped complete the project in 2017— a lasting contribution to the community.

Above all, Larry and Janet cherished their family and their community. Their family would like to thank the people of St. Charles for the love, support, kind words, and cherished memories shared following Larry and Janet’s passing. Their impact on this community will not be forgotten, and their legacy of service, generosity, and dedication will continue to inspire others for years to come.



SCOS 2026 was a fun one! We celebrated the 25th anniversary of the United States of America in style. Despite the heat, we had good participation in all of the events and activities. Below is the listing of the activities and their winners. Congratulations to all.



Cribbage Tournament Results

- 1st Jeff McLain Score- 605
- 2nd Cristhan Cruz Score- 605
- 3rd Brooke Matlage Score- 600



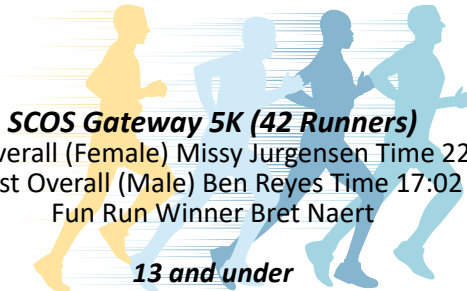
MadCO Bags Tournament

- 1st Place- Barn Baggers- Josh McKinney & Ben Plank
- 2nd Place Boys R Back- Steve Allsup & Luke Cataldo
- 3rd Place Average & Averager- Drew Hearberlin & Trevor Morgan

Family Feud- 4 S's-

Eric, Mackenzy & Miles Scrivner, Pete & Holly Seibert

Cow Pie Bingo- Steve Smith, St. Charles



SCOS Gateway 5K (42 Runners)

- First Overall (Female) Missy Jurgensen Time 22:04
- First Overall (Male) Ben Reyes Time 17:02
- Fun Run Winner Bret Naert

13 and under

- 1st- Female -----
- 1st Male Marshall Beck

Ages 14-19

- 1st Female Ellie Vanderwerf
- 1st Male Austin Vanderwerf

Ages 20-35

- 1st Female Brittany Annis
- 1st Male Ben Reyes

Ages 36-50

- 1st Place Female Missy Jurgensen
- 1st Place Male Jeremy Annis

Ages 51+

- 1st Female Shelley Peck
- 1st Male Stacy Clark



Parade Winners (26 Entries)

Large Float

- 1. #27 Wild River Studio
- 2. #26 Kennedy Family

Small Float

- 1. #29 Adair Family-Old Settler Button Honorees
- 2. #20 - Ready Roll Offs

Walking/Animals/Bikes

- 1. #40 Wildwood Ranch
- 2. #2 Boy Scouts, Pack 119

Car/Truck/Tractor

- 1. #12 Lupkes
- 2. #25 Bubba Paints/Freedom Rock Foundation

Best Theme Interpretation: The Fitch Family- Happy Birthday, USA



3 on 3 Basketball Tournament

- Junior Winners 3 Point Potatoes
- Senior Winners Danny Burgers
- Disc Golf Winner
- Winner- Nate Phillips

Pickleball Tournament

- Singles winner- Keegan Strange
- Doubles winners Keegan Strange & Korey Kirkpatrick

Silent Auction Winners

- Imes Bridge Mug by Gunner Hutton Kim Downs
- Barn quilt by Becky Porter Kim Downs
- Patriotic Barn Board by Deb Brant Allison Leeper
- Patriotic Quilt by Sandi Lathrum Kathy Beaman
- 2 VIP 4-day Hinterland Passes Aaron Tslepy
- 2 VIP 4-day Hinterland Passes John/Sharon Walker
- 3-D Heart of Iowa replica Aaron Tslepy



Quilt of Valor- Jim Burhans
Presented by Barb Huston

SCOS Ohana Pedal Pull (36 entries)

Age 3

- 1. Ty Llewellyn
- 2. Rose Llewellyn
- 3. Magdalen Halbur

Age 5

- 1. Henry Hutton
- 2. Leo Halbur
- 3. Naomi Truex

Age 7

- 1. Gracelyn Scrivner
- 2. Houston Benoit
- 3. Charlotte Shoemaker

Age 9

- 1. Ryder Llewellyn
- 2. Myles Scrivner
- 3. Mabel Lathrum

Age 4

- 1. Alaiha Camacho
- 2. Emmett Scrivner
- 3. Myron Nelson

Age 6

- 1. Maverick Baker
- 2. Emma Tiernan
- 3. Calvin Losh

Age 8

- 1. John Llewellyn
- 2. Noah Tiernan
- 3. Sawyer Lester

Age 10

- 1. TJ Hutton
- 2. Gabriel Camacho



Coloring Contest (28 entries)

Ages 4 and Under

- Rowyn Naert
- Rowan Brommel

Ages 7-9

- Brylee Gray
- Sawyer Lester

Ages 12-13

- Josie Kimmel
- Addison Hansen

Ages 5-6

- Emryn Naert
- Daisymae Kimmel

Ages 10-11

- Vivian James
- Breslin Brown

Ages 18 and up (Adult)

- Cheryl Williams
- Desirae Kimmel





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JESUS' RIGHT HAND



In the world of social media and influencers, we hear a lot about people “practicing gratitude.” It makes me laugh sometimes. How many times do you think we need to “practice” before we get it right? It seems like when we begin to get our life together, something comes along, and we have to start all over again. Practice, practice, practice. Gratitude journals, posters, positive vibes on mugs, t-shirts and bumper stickers. Everyone has a proven method to conquer this gratitude mountain, but we still continue to practice. Gratitude in the Bible is known as thankfulness, praise, and so much more. I found the following list from years ago, and I can’t credit the author because it remains a mystery. I submit to you, “Through it all ... I am Grateful.”

- I am grateful that God is always with me, even if my feelings try to tell me otherwise.
- I am grateful God has given me life, breath, and subsistence to get through this day.
- I am thankful that I have a Father who loves me more than anyone on this planet ever has or ever will.
- I am thankful there’s nothing I can do to make Him love me one bit less or one bit more than He already does.
- I am thankful that every breath I take is in His hands.
- I am grateful that Jesus has a way to navigate me through anything life can throw at me, including when others treat me unfairly.
- I am grateful that all my hopes and dreams don’t have to be satisfied on this side of eternity.
- I am grateful that nothing in this world, or the actions of any person, can keep me from the life and freedom God has for me.
- I am grateful that Jesus will get the last word on everyone and everything in this world. He hasn’t yet, but He will.
- I am grateful He is bigger than any injustice, calamity, lie, or failure.
- I am grateful that there’s always a way for me to encourage and be helpful to others who are going through difficult times.
- I am grateful for friendships that love through anything, and don’t assume the worst of motives in moments of pain.
- And, I am grateful that beauty and joy will once again rise from the ashes of my calamities and lead me to peace.

There is so much that can be added to this, but simplicity often speaks loudly. This article isn’t going to be long because, quite honestly, I have some major mountains in my life currently that require quite a bit of my attention. But I am grateful, thankful and give praise to God for never leaving me or forsaking me despite my mistakes, errors in judgment and oftentimes impatience with situations. I can operate as a fully flawed human being knowing that my Creator, my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be by my side, guiding me and comforting me. God has gathered a tremendously loving and dedicated group of volunteers at Jesus’ Right Hand who work tirelessly to make all types of food available for anyone who walks through our doors. They endure everything that could possibly be thrown their way yet still walk back through the door week after week. They are each other’s family where some have no family any longer. They are unique, and they are a gift to God’s Kingdom. Every ministry, church and outreach should have at least one of them in their midst, and we are blessed to have many, many more. So, I will end this article in saying, I am grateful that God has gathered the greatest group of brothers and sisters in the Lord to a little place called Jesus’ Right Hand. I don’t say it often enough, but you all are the best, don’t ever forget it!

In His Love and Service,
Jesus’ Right Hand

Sue & Mel
Mississippi River, Alma, WI



scribblings from



ue by Sue Stills

Here we are, midway through summer. I am enjoying our time in Iowa. Some days have been enjoyably cool, with other days quite hot (but not 115° hot like in Phoenix), but the humidity is not something I am used to anymore. Summer is the time for so many celebrations in Iowa – the various county fairs, the great Iowa State Fair, RAGBRAI LIII, the National Balloon Classic in Indianola, the Hinterland Music Festival, the town Old Settlers celebrations, the Library Summer Reading programs, Vacation Bible Schools, Class and Family Reunions, and many other gatherings of family and friends. Instead of mingling with crowds, we have enjoyed quiet times in our Airbnb on Highway G50. I have read three books so far, played many games on my phone and practiced my lines for a November play I will be in. Mel and I have eaten lots of sweet corn. He keeps busy doing jigsaw puzzles, and he also mows the extensive grass at the Airbnb. I attended the musical The Marvelous Wonderettes presented by the Carousel Theatre of Indianola. We enjoyed visiting with Mel’s niece and her husband in Ankeny after the wedding shower for their younger daughter. Mel and I are helping at Jesus’ Right Hand in New Virginia for their Monday Fresh Food Giveaway. We have eaten at various restaurants with family and friends, including my outing to the Urban Cellar with the New Virginia Red Hat group, the Chattie Hatties. I attended a meeting of the dynamic New Virginia Garden Club. Their membership and activities are very changed from years ago when I was a member. We shopped at the New Virginia Farmers Market on the second Saturday of July; it was organized and managed by the Garden Club. I am continuing to hand quilt on Tuesdays at the NVUMC. Saturday July 18 found us helping at the Methodist Church when 200+ members of the Red Rock Threshers drove their tractors into New Virginia and stopped for lunch at the church. My St. Marys Red Hat friends, the Belles of St. Marys, invited me on an outing to Humeston, IA. There we ate at the Grassroots Café, shopped at Snyder’s, and visited the Humeston Depot Museum. The museum is located in a preserved train building, and the exhibits feature local photographs, historical items and memorabilia about Humeston. Organized as an Iowa corporation on February 12, 1881, the Humeston & Shenandoah Railroad was built with 113 miles of track. The name was changed to “Railway” in 1896. The track was built connecting Humeston westward to Shenandoah, Iowa. Primary traffic on the line in the early 1900s was bituminous coal mined in southern Iowa, grains, cattle and livestock, less-than-carload merchandise, and timber products. There was also considerable passenger business up until about 1920. The Great Depression, automobiles, trucks, and improved roads led to the decline in freight and passenger traffic. The H & S line segments were abandoned over time, with the last segment being abandoned in 1983.

We enjoyed camaraderie and a great meal at the Immaculate Conception Church’s annual Chicken Dinner in St. Marys on August 2. We took a road trip to Rochester, MN, August 5-7 to visit friends from Sun Lakes. We four attended a unique evening in Berne, MN, the Berne Wood-Fired Pizza and Summer Concert. Hundreds of people gathered on the grounds of the Zwingli United Church of Christ with their lawn chairs, coolers, plates, napkins, etc. to listen to live music and eat pizza. The band playing was Six Mile Grove, a five-piece alternative country band based in Rochester, and I enjoyed their music. Admission was free, and the pizza was \$25 and tasted good. Our excursion the next day took us to Wabasha, MN, on the Mississippi River. There the Chippewa River joins the Mississippi, and hundreds of bald eagles congregate year-round to hunt fish. The National Eagle Center is an educational, interpretive center and museum there. We drove up a high bluff to Buena Vista Park in Alma, WI, for fantastic views of the Mississippi, 500 feet above Alma. We had ice cream for lunch in Alma.

August 7-9 found us visiting Mel’s sister and brother-in-law Joan and Joe Forman in Galena, IL. We never ran out of conversation, ate well, and played Mexican Train Dominoes. We plan to attend a Stills Family Reunion at cousin Charlie’s on August 16. We then hope to cram in more time with friends before heading back to Arizona at the end of August. I hope you all have been enjoying the summer, whether you have been on the go or have just been taking it easy.

ROAD TRIPPING

Contributed by Terry Garner 

Iowa 80

World's Largest Truckstop

Last Friday found us heading out to our Amish friends' house to spend the weekend with them. The girls had dressed some chickens for me, and we needed to pick them up. They get hamburger from us since we have that on hand, so we packed up the cooler and off we went.

Rollie hates driving on Interstate 80 because it's always so busy, with semi-trucks roaring around you. Instead, we drove up to Highway 92 and traveled east most of the way. The landscape and farms were beautiful. We still can't believe they plant crops on some of those hills!

A little ways west of Davenport, we did get on the Interstate to head east toward our jumping-off point to Delmar. In Walcott, Iowa, there is a huge truck stop touted as the largest truck stop in the world: Iowa 80—The World's Largest Truckstop. It always looks so interesting and fun, so we decided to stop and have lunch at one of the restaurants.

According to their website, they have seven restaurants: Wendy's, Starbucks, Pizza Hut, Taco Bell, Dairy Queen & Orange Julius, Blimpie's, and Iowa 80 Kitchen. We also saw a Gramma's Kitchen across the street that advertised home-style food. We chose the Iowa 80 Kitchen.

They have a buffet, or you can order off the menu, whichever you prefer. Rollie loves buffets, but I'm not a fan, so I went with the menu. I had a crispy chicken wrap, and it was really good! Rollie chose the buffet and said the fried chicken was good. I thought it was a little overpriced, but in a place like that, you expect it, so it was no surprise. When the food is good, though, you don't mind so much.

After we ate, we strolled around a bit and took in the sights. When we first walked in, we remarked that it resembled a mall. The middle is big and open, with lots of trinkets and souvenirs for you to purchase, of course, along with clothing, knick-knacks, toys, and things of that nature. The individual stores and restaurants are off to the sides.

We wandered into a truck accessories shop called the Super Truck Showroom. They have everything imaginable for your big truck. There were refrigerators, all kinds of lights for your truck, both inside and out, horns, hood ornaments, chrome parts, and custom gear. They even have a service desk where you can order parts for your rig. They had everything! The truck stop is owned by the Moon family and was opened in 1964 after that initial stretch of Interstate was built. They are open 24/7 and welcome more than 5,000 visitors a day! The Walcott Truckers Jamboree is held there every July, and a truckers' museum sits across the street, offering more than 100 restored rigs for you to admire.

Other services include pet-friendly areas for those traveling with their furry friends, as well as a dog-wash station to get your pooch cleaned up.

All that sitting in your truck for long stretches can be hard on your back, so you can even see a chiropractor while you're there. If you have a tooth needing some attention, there's a dentist, too. Get a haircut in the barbershop, then get some exercise in the workout room while your laundry is finishing up before you hit the road again.

This place has it all! A library, movie theater, private showers—you name it, they've got it! Check out the Iowa 80 Truckstop next time you're in eastern Iowa. It really is a sight to see!



more to share

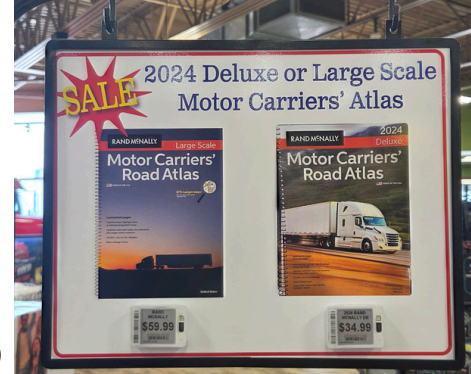
From the New Virginia Garden Club

Contributed by Susan Miller

More to Share - from the New Virginia Garden Club. My white Christmas cactus is blooming on the north side of the house, the white lilac is blooming again, the white hydrangeas are in full bloom and so are the white gladiolas. What season is this? For those of us fortunate enough to live in southern Iowa it's the second chance season. For our flowers, both annuals and perennials, keep them deadheaded to prolong blooms or help the plant to regenerate and rebloom. We can also plant some vegetable seeds to harvest this growing season.

First, dead heading; it's a tedious and mind numbing task, but it is also rewarding. Keep pansies, violas, geraniums, petunias, zinnias, marigolds and other annual plants looking fresh and help the plant to regenerate with new blooms. Simply take the scissors and cut off the spent bloom, a haircut! Dried flower heads hold seed which you can gather for the next growing season. Some perennials will rebound and rebloom too, dianthus, butterfly bushes, daisies. Some perennials should be deadheaded to help the root grow hardy - lily, peony. Do NOT mow off peony bushes no matter how ugly they are. Wait until after a hard frost in late October or November to mow off the spent peony foliage. Cutting it off earlier will result in fewer and smaller blooms the next year. An exception is if the plant has heavy fungal infestation, then please do cut off the dead foliage and burn it. Don't compost it. September is the ideal time to split peonies, so removing some foliage for that purpose is fine too.

For your vegetable garden - some items are done and you have space to replant. Corn, bundle stalks for fall decor. Most onions, potatoes and beets have been harvested so use that space to plant bush green beans - consider Strike or Roma II to plant in August for September yields. It's a great time to plant lettuce, carrots, beets too. Compost seed with straw to keep seed cool as hot summer days can 'cook' seed. In cleaning off spent vegetable plants, don't be tempted to remove asparagus fronds! The best time to remove those large plants is in March to April. Leaving them on helps trap snow which will insulate the root, and don't remove the frond while the plant is still green. The plant needs to photosynthesize all summer and fall to store adequate energy reserves in the root system until next Spring's harvest. Like Peonies, the exception is if there is a pest or fungal infestation, then remove the affected fronds and burn them after frost has turned the fronds brown. Another action you can take to help your vegetable plants thrive is to remove vegetables that have grown too large or are damaged. Okra, zucchini and cucumbers that we missed? Pick them. Feed to goats or chickens or compost. This will help the plant to direct its energy into giving you fresh produce. Hopefully these little tips will be your second chance of this growing season and help you to enjoy your garden more and longer.



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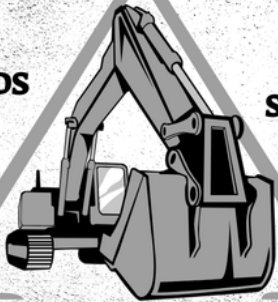
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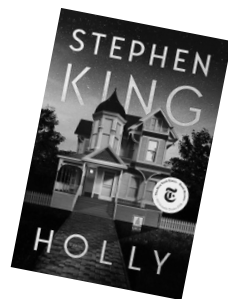
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Book Review by Sue

HOLLY by Stephen King



Holly Gibney is a private investigator featured in six other Stephen King books. In this book, she has been hired by a mother to find her 20-something daughter who has disappeared in July 2021. The bulk of the story occurs in 2021, with some chapters featuring action in 2018 and 2020. The COVID epidemic was raging at that time. Since Holly's partner in their detective agency is quarantined with COVID, Holly is on her own in her search. As she investigates further, she finds that there have been other disappearances of young people which she eventually ties to a pair of sinister, elderly professors. Their method and reasons for the kidnappings are so horrible that this quote from police detective Izzy Jaynes sums up the story, I think: "Just when you think you've seen the worst human beings have to offer, you find out you're wrong. There's no end to evil." This King book was not as scary as many of his other books, but it was still imaginative, weird and interesting to me.



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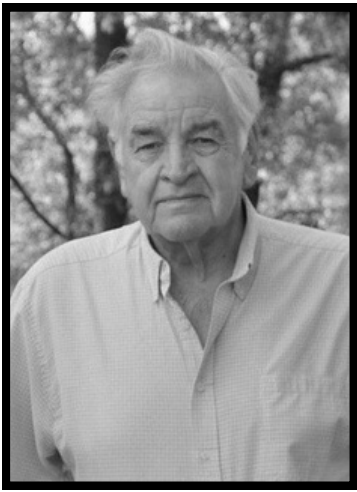
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LEONARD DALE BROWN



Leonard Dale Brown, the son of Leonard John Brown and Arlie May (Luce) Brown, was born on January 22, 1936, in Grand River, Iowa. He passed away on Friday, July 10, 2026, at Holland Farms Senior Living in Norwalk, Iowa, surrounded by his family.

Dale grew up in Grand River, Iowa, where he attended school and met his high school sweetheart, Joan Fay. The couple was married on August 22, 1955, in Leon, Iowa, beginning a loving partnership that spanned more than 70 years.

Together, they traveled throughout several states as Dale worked as a mechanic and heavy equipment operator. His career in construction took the family wherever the work led, including projects that helped build highways and interstates across South Dakota, from Sioux Falls to Rapid City and into Colorado. Along the way, Dale and Joan raised their family, creating a home wherever life took them. As construction work slowed, they returned to Iowa, settling in Granger, where Dale continued operating heavy equipment and was part of the construction of the Saylorville Dam.

In 1967, Dale began working as a mechanic for Firestone, where he dedicated 30 years before retiring. In 1968, Dale and Joan made their home in St. Charles, Iowa, where they became devoted members of the community. Dale and Joan worked tirelessly, with the support of their family and friends to create the St. Charles Welcome Center (now the Gate Way). When Joan served as mayor for several years, he was proudly by her side using his skills, while offering unwavering support in every way he could.

Dale and Joan were especially proud of their property at Sun Valley Lake. They spent countless hours transforming it into a place where their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren could gather, make memories, and enjoy time together for generations to come.

Dale also had a passion for racing stock cars at tracks in Mount Ayr, Decatur, and throughout southern Iowa. He enjoyed camping, riding motorcycles with Joan, and traveling the country together, making memories wherever the road led them.

Above all else, Dale was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and friend. He cherished his family and found his greatest joy in the time they spent together. His kindness, strong work ethic, and quiet devotion to those he loved will be deeply missed and forever remembered.

Dale was preceded in death by his parents, Leonard and Arlie (Luce) Brown; his sons, Joseph Dale Brown and Patrick Edwin Brown; his daughter, Donna Patterson, and her husband, Michael Patterson; his sister, Doris German, and husband, Bill; his brothers, Clarence Brown and John Brown; his stepmother, Maxine Munyon Brown Baker; and his parents-in-law, Joseph and Mary "Mamie" Fay.

23

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Left to cherish Dale's memory are his loving wife of 70 years, Joan Brown; his sons, Timothy (Sindy) Brown of St. Charles, Iowa, and Christopher (Stephanie) Brown of St. Charles, Iowa; his grandchildren, Melinda (Dale) Zimmerman of Whittemore, Iowa, Tyler (Brandon) Patterson of West Des Moines, Iowa, Sarah (Darren) Hansen of St. Charles, Iowa, Brantley Brown and Breslyn Brown of St. Charles, Iowa; his great-grandchildren, Owen Zimmerman, Olivia Zimmerman, Addison Hansen, Benjamin Zimmerman, and Alana Hansen; his sisters, Joyce (Carrol) Rose and Sherry (Larry) Blaisdell; his sister-in-law, Rhonda Brown; along with many nieces, nephews, other relatives, and dear friends.

A celebration of Dale's life will be held at a later date, with service details to be announced by the family.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the Pink Tractor Foundation or St. Charles Fire and Rescue in Dale's memory.

Online condolences may be shared with the family at www.kalefuneralhome.com.



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10:30 am - 12:00 pm	Fire Station Open House
10:45	Tricycle Races
11:00 am - 1:30 pm	Face Painting
11:15	Minnow Races
11:30 am - 3:30 pm	Bingol
11:30 am - 2:00 pm	Robin's Snack Shack
11:30 am - 2:00 pm	Kids Corner
12:00 - 3:00	Car, Truck, & Tractor Show
12:00 - 3:00	Chicken Poop Bingo & Baton Drop
12:00 - 4:00	Dunk Tank
1:00	Pie Baking Contest
4:30 - 5:30	Lip Sync Contest
5:30 - 6:00	Story of St Marys Ghost
6:00 - 6:30	Flag Retirement Ceremony
6:30-7:30	Nail Driving Competition
7:30	Line Dance
8:00 - 11:00	Street Dance

Northside Tavern Beer Garden 10:00 am - 11:00 pm



CONTESTS:



DON'T GHOST THE CLASSICS!

Wander over across from the church to see the beautiful classic vehicles and tractors on display.

Cast your vote for your favorite!

@ 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm

BAKE A PIE TO DIE FOR!

Whether your pie is a family secret or a new creation, bring it to the competition for a chance to be crowned this years Best Pie Baker!

@ 1:00 pm

Pies submitted into the contest will be given out for free samples, please use disposable pie pans

RAISE YOUR SPIRITS

Watch brave souls perform their favorite songs in our lip sync showdown. The more costumes, props, and dance moves, the better!

@ 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm

NAIL IT BEFORE THE GHOSTS DO!

Test your speed, aim, and determination in this fun challenge. Sign up for the male or female brackets!

Who can drive a nail home the fastest and claim bragging rights?

@ 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

KIDS CORNER:



Let your kids have a "ghostly" fun time playing games and earning prizes!

\$ 10 per pass (face painting not included)

LOCATED ON THE LITTLE LEAGUE FIELD!
11:30 AM - 2:00 PM



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Church Directory

Grace Baptist Church

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

St. Charles Parish

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

Truro United Church of Christ

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

Immaculate Conception

101 St. James St., PO Box 88
St. Marys, IA 50241
Fr. David Nkrumah
Rectory Phone 641-534-4691
712-304-5966 (Emerg. only)
dnkrumah@dmdioocese.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

Calvary Baptist Church

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

Assumption Shrine, Churchville (Formerly Church of the Assumption)

2841 South Street,
Churchville, IA
Business Office:
c/o St. John the Apostle Church
720 Orchard Hills Drive,
Norwalk, IA 50211
Fr. Daniel Kirby
Mass Monday evenings at 5:30 p.m.
(During Lent.)
Mass : First Sunday of the month at 10:30 a.m.
(Rosary at 10:10 a.m.)

St. Patrick's Irish Settlement

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

Martensdale Community Church

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

Fairview Community Church

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

Faith Fellowship Church

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

New Virginia Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)
604 Main Street. / Box 112
New Virginia, IA 50210
Pastor: Darin Feikema
515-250-5116
Sunday Worship: 11 AM

New Virginia United Methodist Church

301 West Street / Box 301
New Virginia, IA 50210
641-449-3779
Pastor Paul Burrow
515-402-1802
Pastor's email: burrowpi@yahoo.com
Church email: NewVA-Medora@outlook.com
Sunday Worship: 10:30 AM
Fellowship following Worship Service
Quilters Tuesday 1-4 PM
Necessities Pantry open 2nd Wednesday
10-11 AM & 6:00-7:00 PM
Like us on Facebook:
New Virginia United Methodist Church

Medora United Methodist Church

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

Church of Christ

10985 44th Lane Prole, IA 50229
Sunday Worship: 10 AM
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: bernico2003@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

Public Release for Schools Operating the National School Lunch and Breakfast Program

The Iowa Department of Education, Bureau of Nutrition and Health Services, has finalized its policy for free and reduced price meals for students unable to pay the full price of meals served under the National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, Special Milk Program and the Afterschool Care Snack Program.

State and Local school officials have adopted the following family size and income criteria for determining eligibility:

INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES (Effective 7-1-2026)

Household Size	Free Meals					Reduced Price Meals				
	Yearly	Monthly	Twice a Month	Every two weeks	Weekly	Yearly	Monthly	Twice a Month	Every two weeks	Weekly
1	20,748	1,729	865	798	399	29,526	2,461	1,231	1,136	568
2	28,132	2,345	1,173	1,082	541	40,034	3,337	1,669	1,540	770
3	35,516	2,960	1,480	1,366	683	50,542	4,212	2,106	1,944	972
4	42,900	3,575	1,788	1,650	825	61,050	5,088	2,544	2,349	1,175
5	50,284	4,191	2,096	1,934	967	71,558	5,964	2,982	2,753	1,377
6	57,668	4,806	2,403	2,218	1,109	82,066	6,839	3,420	3,157	1,579
7	65,052	5,421	2,711	2,502	1,251	92,574	7,715	3,858	3,561	1,781
8	72,436	6,037	3,019	2,786	1,393	103,082	8,591	4,296	3,965	1,983
For each additional family member add:	7,384	616	308	284	142	10,508	876	438	405	203

Households may be eligible for free or reduced-price meal benefits one of four ways

- Households whose income is at or below the levels shown are eligible for reduced price meals or free meals, if they complete an application for free and reduced price school meals/milk. Households may complete one application listing all children and return it to your student's school. When completing an application, only the last four digits of the social security number of the household's primary wage earner or another adult household member is needed.
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) households, students receiving benefits under the Family Investment Program (FIP) and students in a few specific Medicaid programs are eligible for free or reduced price meals. Most students from SNAP and FIP households will be qualified for free meals automatically. These households will receive a letter from their student's schools notifying them of their benefits. Households that receive a letter from the school need to do nothing more for their student(s) to receive free or reduced price meals. No further application is necessary. If any students were not listed on the notice of eligibility, the household should contact the school to have free or reduced price meal benefits extended to them. If you feel you would qualify for free meal benefits and received notification qualifying for reduced price benefits, complete an application for free and reduced price meals. Households must contact the school if they choose to decline meal benefits.
- Some SNAP and FIP households will receive a letter from the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (Iowa HHS) which will qualify the children listed on the letter for free meals. Parents must take this letter to the student's school to receive free meals.
- SNAP or FIP households receiving benefits that do not receive a letter from Iowa HHS must complete an application with the abbreviated information as indicated on the application and instructions, for their students to receive free meals. When the application lists an assistance program's case number for any household member, eligibility for free benefits is extended to all students in a household.

Eligibility from the previous year will continue within the same school for up to 30 operating days into the new school year. When the carryover period ends, unless the household is notified that their students are directly certified or the household submits an application that is approved, the students must pay full price for school meals and the school will not send a reminder or a notice of expired eligibility. An application cannot be approved

unless complete eligibility information is submitted. Applications may be submitted at any time during the year. If a family member becomes unemployed the family should contact the school to complete an application. Households notified of their student's eligibility must contact the school if the household chooses to decline the free meal benefits.

Foster children are eligible for free meal benefits. Some foster students will be qualified for free meals automatically through the state direct certification process. Their host family will receive notification of these benefits. Families that receive this notification from the school need to do nothing more for their foster students to receive free meals. If a family has foster students living with them and does not receive notification and wishes to apply for such meals, instructions for making application for such students are contained on the application form. A foster student may be included as a member of the foster family if the foster family chooses to also apply for benefits for other students. Including students in foster care as household members may help other students in the household qualify for benefits. If the foster family is not eligible for free or reduced price meal benefits, it does not prevent a foster student from receiving benefits. Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) participants may be eligible for free or reduced price meals based on a completed application.

When known by the school, households will be notified of any child eligible for free meals if the children are enrolled in the Head Start/Even Start program or are considered homeless, migrant or runaway. If any children are not listed on the notice of eligibility, contact the school for assistance in receiving benefits. If households are dissatisfied with the application approval done by the officials, they may make a formal appeal either orally or in writing to the school's designated hearing official. The policy statement on file at the school contains an outline of the hearing procedure. School officials may verify the information in the application, and that deliberate misrepresentation of information may subject the applicant to prosecution under applicable state and federal criminal statutes. Households should contact their local school for additional information.

There will be no discrimination against individuals with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) in the school meal programs.

Nondiscrimination Statement: This explains what to do if you believe you have been treated unfairly. In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the State or local Agency that administers the program or contact USDA through the Telecommunications Relay Service at 711 (voice and TTY). Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at [How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint](#) and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Mail Stop 9410, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Iowa Non-Discrimination Statement: (revised 7-1-25) It is the policy of this CNP provider not to discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, age, or religion in its programs, activities, or employment practices as required by the Iowa Code 216.6, 216.7, and 216.9. If you have questions or grievances related to compliance with this policy by this CNP Provider, contact the Iowa Civil Rights Commission, 6200 Park Ave, Suite 100, Des Moines, IA 50321; phone number 515-281-4121 or 800-457-4416; website: <https://icrc.iowa.gov/>.



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Virginia Boosters 4-H Club Earns Top Herdsmanship Honors at Warren County Fair



The Virginia Boosters 4-H Club was recognized for its outstanding dedication and teamwork by earning the Top Herdsmanship Award at this year's Warren County Fair. The herdsmanship competition recognizes exhibitors who maintain clean, organized, and welcoming livestock areas throughout the fair. Judging is based on animal care, stall cleanliness, safety, educational displays, and the professionalism demonstrated by club members. Members of the Virginia Boosters 4-H Club worked together throughout the week to ensure their animals were well cared for and their exhibit area reflected the high standards of the 4-H program. Their consistent effort and attention to detail earned them the fair's highest herdsmanship honor.

Pictured: Jaden McDonald, Jase Blackford, Peyton McDonald, Briana Fantz, Blake Erickson, and Rosemary Seward



2026 Granny Basketball National Tournament In the Books

Thirty-two teams and over 400 Grannys from Iowa, Texas, Missouri, California Louisiana, Kansas and Wisconsin ages 50 to 94 participated in the 3-day event. They play 1920s six-on-six half court style basketball. Tournament was held July 17-19 at the Prairie Trail Sports Complex in Ankeny. Our team out of Indianola placed 5th out of 12 teams in our division.

- Format: Six-on-six vintage rules where players are limited to two dribbles and passing across zones.
- Special Tradition: If a player hits the floor during play, a timeout is immediately called and everyone yells "granny down" to ensure their safety.
- Organization: Managed by the Granny Basketball League, which features over 50 teams across multiple states.
- If you love basketball, whether you played in school or not, this game is for you.
- Contact Paula Shultz at 515-650-7991 to make your dreams come true and join the team. You can read more about Granny Basketball at www.grannybasketball.com

2026 Granny Basketball National Tournament



NEW VIRGINIA WALKING TRAIL

27

Help us Celebrate Dixie Low

As she turns 80 on
September 23rd!

Please shower her with cards,
well wishes & memories!

Cards can be sent to:

Dixie Low
302 Taylor St
PO Box 92
New Virginia, IA
50210



Interstate 35 FFA members helped lay the first
section of the new walking trail in New Virginia.



COMMUNITY PHOTO CORNER



Share your photos!

We'd love to feature YOUR photos! Send us snapshots of gardens, flowers, kids' summer adventures, pets, farm life, local events, or anything that captures summer in our Tri-Corner-Express communities.

Please include a one-sentence description to go with it!

Email photos to tricorner@newvirginia.com.

We can't wait to see what you've been up to!



Beth Voltmer's grandkids enjoy swimming in their pond and finish the day by watching the fireworks show put on by the Galivan family.

-Submitted by
Beth Voltmer



Norville and his cousin enjoying the Farmers Market in New Virginia.



Bret Naert (8) wins first place in the 1-mile race at SCOS. Participants could race in a 5k or 1-mile race.



Sawyer (11) and Savannah (4) took a few days to chase Big Boy 4014 from Kansas City to Topeka, KS.

-Submitted by
Kim Townsend



2026 Saint Charles Old Settlers

Hayden Keller narrated a Human Timeline representing 250 years of American history and events from the Revolutionary War through to current day. Kids dressed up representing a specific event or time in history. Kids participating: Hazel & Thomas Hutton, Miles, Gracelyn & Emmet Scrivner, Gabriel, Mia & Alaiyah Comacho, John Llewellyn, Mabel Lathrum, Maryanne Russell, Parker & Lowen Joekel, Cayden Meyers