

Nashua REPORTER

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Ambulance Council approves new contract

A night after Nashua City Council says 'no,' county group grudgingly approves new two-year deal with service

By **BOB FENSKE**
Of the Reporter

The Chickasaw Ambulance Council unanimously approved a two-year contract with the county's current ambulance provider during a meeting Tuesday evening in which council members also approved a budget and a rental agreement to house two ambulances.

The decision to sign a two-year contract with the Chickasaw Ambulance Service came one day after the Nashua City Council voted against accepting the agreement that will play the Chickasaw Ambulance Service \$217,500 in the fiscal year beginning July 1 and \$228,402 the following fiscal year.

But because Nashua is a member of the Ambulance Council, it is bound to

the contract, although like the other cities and the county that belong to the council, it does have an opt-out option on July 1, 2022. Nashua's share of the contract will be \$29,523.36 next year.

Tuesday's meeting got off to a rocky start when Bassett Mayor Jim Ashley and Chickasaw Ambulance Service owner Jeremy McGrath argued over Ashley's contention that McGrath owned a "part-time service," but cooler

heads soon prevailed.

"I want to thank Jeremy for being willing to work with us," said Supervisor Jacob Hackman, who represents the county on the Ambulance Council, "and I'd like to thank this council for keeping it civil and working to get to an agreement. This is a move forward for the citizens of Chickasaw County."

The county currently holds the cur-

rent contract with the service, one that saw Chickasaw County provide \$165,000 to the service in fiscal year 2020 and \$195,000 to the service in fiscal 2021, which ends June 30.

But the current contract was also the one that led to the county filing a lawsuit against the cities. That suit was dismissed earlier this year.

SEE AMBULANCE, 2



Bob Fenske/Reporter

Monday's winter storm that dumped up to five inches of snow on the area made for a picturesque winter scene on Tuesday at the Little Brown Church just east of Nashua.

BEAUTIFUL BUT SERIOUSLY?

LATE SEASON STORM INTERRUPTS WHAT HAD BEEN A PRETTY DANG NICE MARCH

By **BOB FENSKE**
Of the Reporter

If it was December, the scene at the Little Brown Church Tuesday morning would have been breathtaking.

The trees and ground around the historic church east of Nashua were filled with snow — making for a great winter "postcard."

Alas, it was March 16, the day after a late-winter storm dropped anywhere between 4.5 and 8 inches of heavy, wet snow on the Nashua and surrounding area.

The good news is this: It shouldn't last long.

The bad news was this: Our back are killing us after digging out from the latest storm that officially dropped 4.5 inches of snow on Nashua and left up to eight inches of new snow just to the north in Charles City.

The storm arrived with plenty of advance warning; in fact, a winter storm watch was declared by the National Weather Service

SEE WEATHER, 7



Bob Fenske/Reporter

LAST WEEK'S SIGN WAS BETTER: For regular Reporter readers, let's face it the 59 degrees that graced last week's sign was much better than the 33 we saw on Tuesday.

City gets OK for state loan to help pay for dam work

City will get \$755,000 from state and have 20 years to pay it back

By **KELLY TERPSTRA**
Of the Reporter

John Ott had good news to report to council members on Monday night in Nashua.

Ott, Nashua's City Clerk, announced the city of Nashua has been approved to receive a \$755,000 state contingency loan to help pay for repair work that was finished last fall on the hydro dam. That figure is the maximum amount of money the city could receive.

The 20-year loan, with a zero percent interest rate, will help offset the 10-year, \$1 million dam repair loan the city entered into. The \$1 million loan note included a 2.5 percent interest rate.

Ott said the payments would amount to over \$37,000 a year to pay down the initial loan.

"It will be over twice the amount of time so it will cost the tax payers less each year," said Ott.

Ott and the council also discussed the possible change of water/sewer rates and the revenue shortfalls that are associated with the current pricing index. Ott mentioned the city is having a hard time breaking even with the current rates, especially the sewer pricing per customer. That is one of the main reasons the city is looking to increase those rates.

"The cost of the contract for people services and the (2008) revenue bond pretty much eats up all of our current revenues for the sewer rates," said Ott.

A public hearing date for discussion of the sewer rates is scheduled for the April 5 city council meeting.

Nashua Mayor Butch Betsinger also stated

SEE CITY COUNCIL, 2

COVID numbers remain 'fantastic'

By **BOB FENSKE**
editor@nhtrib.com

The administrator of Chickasaw County Public and Healthcare Services sees a light at the end of the COVID-19 tunnel, but Lisa Welter is also asking county residents to remain vigilant when it comes to the Coronavirus.

"The numbers look fantastic, and I get that," Welter said on Friday after a week in which the county had just five new positive tests for COVID-19, "and that's great. At the same time, I'll say it one more time. Let's be smart, let's still do our part, let's make sure we don't have a spike. We are headed in the right direction and we don't need to take a detour now."

This week started well, too, as just one positive test was reported over the weekend and no new positive cases were listed in Welter's daily report

SEE COVID, 4

Nashua firefighters do everything they can but can't save home

Despite best efforts from three departments, Ryan and Sara Scobee home it total loss; cause of the blaze may never be known

By **BOB FENSKE**
Of the Reporter

A week later, Nashua Fire Chief Tom Johnson still felt bad, but he also knows his firefighters and those from two other departments did everything they could to save the home owned by Ryan and Sara Scobee.

"It's always hard when you go to a structure fire and you know the people," Johnson said on Tuesday when asked about the March 9 fire that literally burned the Scobee's rural Nashua home to the ground. "I knew we were in trouble as soon as we got there. It was fully engulfed on the first floor, and the second floor wasn't much bet-

ter."

Firefighters were called out around 12:45 p.m. and were on the scene for more than four hours. The Ionia and Plainfield fire departments also were called to the scene about a mile west of Nashua.

The Scobees, meanwhile, have been effusive in thanking the firefighters

who battled the blaze and the numerous area residents and businesses who are supporting them after the blaze. A GoFundMe page has been set up to help the family that lost almost everything in the fire.

"Our view is still beautiful, the sun is still shining and our community of friends and family continue to amaze

us," Sara Scobee wrote on Facebook last week. "Thank you ... we feel your love, we feel your support ... YOU are holding us up during this time."

"God is still showing up and giving us signs each and every day during this devastating time. I am dreaming

SEE FIRE, 7

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City has enough left on ‘debt limit’ to fund Greeley project

CITY COUNCIL: FROM 1

that at a recent FMC (Floyd, Mitchell, Chickasaw) Landfill meeting it was voted on to raise rates at the sanitary dumping ground. That means rates for Jendro Sanitation would also likely increase.

Maggie Burger from Speer Financial was present to discuss the numbers on the Greeley Street Project. The cost of the project is \$2.175 million, with the city on the hook for \$1.28 million in estimated project costs.

Burger said the city’s legal debt is \$4.15 million and that Nashua currently has \$2.785 million remaining of debt limit. Burger said the issuance of the bond is just under \$32,000.

The council approved an estimate from Dietz Construction to replace five windows at the fire station at a cost of almost \$8,000.

Peddler/transient merchant contract fees were also bantered about and what do with that ordinance. There has been talk to change the contract fees and requirements. Vendors would need to adhere to a checklist if that ordinance was updated and changed.

“Ninety percent would be for food trucks, but basically anybody that wants to sell something out of a mobile unit,” said Ott.

The city has made it a priority of making sure tasks get completed in the park and street departments. That’s why the discussion of utilizing work orders to get jobs done would give each department some direction and help keep the council updated on what is getting done.

The city has also been granted a \$5,000 Chickasaw County Foundation grant to help with the upgrade of electrical panels at the campground. Camping and shelter fees will also be discussed at the next park board meeting on Tuesday, March 30.

A resolution was passed to award an owner-occupied rehab contract to Glidewell Contracting for just under \$25,000 as part of the Nashua CDBG Rehab Housing program. This is the fifth house to be approved out of six potential properties or dwellings.



Members of the Chickasaw County Ambulance Council discuss the entity’s 2021-22 budget during a meeting held at Emergency Management Agency office Tuesday evening.

Council doesn’t want to wait until ‘11th hour’ again

AMBULANCE: FROM 1

after the county and the cities reached a settlement agreement that led to the formation of a new Ambulance Council that represents all nine governmental entities but has only five voting members — one from the county, one from New Hampton, one from the cities of Fredericksburg and Nashua, one from the county’s four smaller cities and one representing all nine entities.

Nashua City Council members voted down the agreement on Monday night after a relatively lengthy discussion.

“It’s to the understanding that we pay more every year and we’re not even maintaining,” Councilman Scott Cerwinski said Monday night. “We’re actually going backwards in service and paying more.”

But Fredericksburg currently “holds” the Nashua-Fredericksburg vote, and last week its City Council voted 3-2 to approve the compromise agreement that was reached at a March 2 Ambulance Council meeting.

Council members, though, on Tuesday said they want a better process in place for future contract negotiations and voted to have a committee formed that would like at hiring a consultant to study the county’s EMS needs and how best to meet them.

“We can’t wait until the 11th hour to do a contract,” Fredericksburg Mayor Jimmy Mitchell said. “We have to get ahead of this so we can truly know what our options are.”

Also on Tuesday, the Ambulance Council approved a \$250,000 budget for next year. A vast majority of those funds will go to pay the contract. Another \$16,500 will go toward “professional services,” \$15,000 is earmarked for renting a building to house the two ambulances and \$1,000 is slated for legal notices and publications.

At the same time Nashua City Council members were discussing the contract on Monday night, the New Hampton City Council was doing the same. New Hampton approved the contract on a 4-1 vote, but it also agreed to charge the Ambulance Council more than \$21,000 for the garage space the city has provided Chickasaw Ambulance Service for free in the past.

Under New Hampton’s proposal, the rent costs would be paid using the same formula that covers the contract — the county would pay 40 percent and the cities would pay the remaining based on their population.

Hackman told the Ambulance Council that he approached McGrath on Tuesday to discuss renting a building owned by McGrath and his wife. McGrath proposed a rental agreement for \$1,250 a month, or \$15,000 per year, and also said the rent would remain the same throughout the entire contract.

On Tuesday night, he pointed out that the Ambulance Service and his garage located just off of downtown New Hampton, are two separate entities with two different owners.

Even though New Hampton Mayor Bobby Schwickerath said he felt his city’s offer was “negotiable,” the Ambulance Council voted to accept McGrath’s offer for garage space.

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The second half payment for property taxes is due by March 31, 2021

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Sue Breitbach
Chickasaw County Treasurer

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Briefs

Iowa families can apply for 2021 Century, Heritage Farm programs

Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Mike Naig encourages eligible farm owners to apply for the 2021 Century and Heritage Farm Program now.

The program was created by the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship and the Iowa Farm Bureau Federation to recognize families who have owned their farms for 100 years and 150 years, respectively.

“The Century and Heritage Farm program is a great way to recognize the strength and resiliency of Iowa’s multi-generation farm families, especially after an exceptionally challenging year,” said Secretary Naig. “I am very grateful for the investments they make to protect our rich farmland and their continued commitment to our state’s agriculture community.”

To apply, download the application on the Department’s website at iowaagriculture.gov/century-and-heritage-farm-program.

Applications may also be requested from Kelley Reece, coordinator of the Century and Heritage Farm Program, at 515-281-3645 or Kelley.Reece@IowaAgriculture.gov. Written requests can be mailed to Century or Heritage Farm Program, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, Henry A. Wallace Building, 502 E. 9th St., Des Moines, Iowa 50319.

To be included in the 2021 Century or Heritage Farm Program completed applications must be received by the Department by June 1.

Iowa Health Care offers scholarships to students, veterans, employees

The Iowa Health Care Association (IHCA) Foundation is offering 75 scholarships, totaling \$167,500 to help individuals interested in pursuing or advancing their career in long-term care.

This is up from 33 scholarships offered last year. Scholarship opportunities are available for current long-term care employees, veterans and high school students.

Eligibility requirements, application guidelines and materials are available online at iowahealthcare.org/foundation. Completed applications are due by May 31.

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Dr. William Arthur Rohde, 75

Dr. William Arthur Rohde, who was known to Bostonians as Dr. Bill Boston (Dr. Bill), the founder and CEO of Voice of Edward, died Jan. 26, 2021, of metastatic pancreatic cancer at the age of 75.

Dr. Bill was born Oct. 31, 1945, to parents Clarion and Ruth Rohde.

Dr. Bill was an M.D. and psychiatrist as well as a trained biochemist. He was the chief medical director and administrator of the Massachusetts State Psychiatric Hospital and served as psychiatrist and attending physician at Brigham and Women's Hospital and McLean Hospital from the mid '70s through the mid '90s. During this time, Dr. Bill also founded and directed the Boston Psychiatric Associates, a Boston treatment clinic to help those suffering from drug addiction and alcoholism.

Dr. Bill was born and raised in a rural farming region of Iowa, Nashua Iowa. Yes, Dr. Bill had roots to the soil, the strong soil of the Midwest. He had a rich family history of grandmothers, aunts and cousins reaching back generations in Nashua.

Dr. Bill was an Eagle Scout, high school valedictorian graduate, had a keen fluency in French and German and lived a young life among his classmates whom he was proud in later life to call his family.

Dr. Bill began his college career at Cornell College, Mt Vernon Iowa, and graduated



Dr. Bill

Phi Beta Kappa with a degree in chemistry. He began medical school at Johns Hopkins summer of 1968 and moved to Harvard 1973 to study psychiatry after receiving his M.D. degree and finishing residencies in surgery and biochemical research at Johns Hopkins.

Dr. Bill had a strong desire to help others who were not as fortunate as he. This motivation and the suffering he saw at the Psychiatric Hospital propelled him to start his treatment clinic.

His theories about addiction were unique and at times were at odds with the psychiatric establishment. As Dr. Bill liked to say, his understanding of biochemistry enabled him to see addiction as a biochemical and genetic issue rather than a psychologic issue. His regret was that while he tried in later life to write and publish his theories

and findings, he was never able to complete his work.

Dr. Bill lived and loved a bon vivant life. He travelled throughout the world and counted scientists, accountants, welders, short order cooks, taxi drivers, lawyers, princes, and presidents as his friends. He loved Dublin, Paris, Key West, Provincetown, and the Greek Islands such as Santorini and found time to visit friends there.

Dr. Bill also found time to visit with his boyhood friends in the Midwest. He was fond of suggesting to those friends he visited, the preparation of wonderful dishes and cuisines he had sampled from other parts of the world. His friends, the chefs willing to try anything, found that his suggestions stood up marvelously to the Iowa/Central German cuisine of roast beef, mashed potatoes with gravy, green peas and apple pie.

Dr. Bill was a proud warrior of battles most of us do not have. He often said to his "straight friend," such as your author of this obituary, that there is a little bit of Gayness in each of us.

He would say that we all have the same feelings, loves, aspirations, hurts and failures. So, like Don Quixote, Dr. Bill inspired others to act the way the world ought to be rather than the way it sometimes is. Most of all, Dr. Bill wanted to be friends with and belong to others, a true human was Dr. Bill.

Larry L. Wright, 78

Larry L. Wright, age 78 of Northwood, passed away Wednesday, Feb. 17, 2021, in Fort Myers, Florida, after a courageous battle with COVID-19.

A Memorial Service to celebrate his life will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 20, 2021, at Conner Colonial Chapel, 1008 1st Ave. South, Northwood, with the Rev. Rob Lanphere officiating.

Larry will be laid to rest in Sunset Rest Cemetery, Northwood.

A live stream of the service may be found on the HoganBremerMooreColonial-Chapel Facebook page.

Visitation will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. on Friday, March 19, 2021, at the funeral chapel.

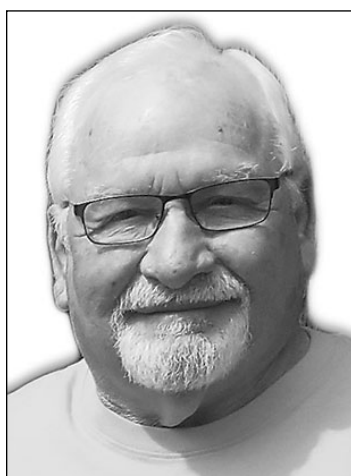
In lieu of customary remembrances, the family suggests memorials be directed to the Northwood United Methodist Church, 1000 1st Avenue North, Northwood, IA 50459 or to the Raptor Resource Project, 119 Winnebago Street, Decorah, IA 52101.

The family would appreciate masks to be worn at the visitation and memorial service.

Larry Lee Wright was born July 17, 1942 in Waverly, the son of Alden James and Louise Marianne (Legel) Wright.

He grew up on his parents' farm and loved everything related to farming.

Larry graduated from Nashua High School, continuing his education through Iowa State University, where



Larry Wright

he earned a degree in animal science.

On Aug. 23, 1964, he was married to Janet Willsher in Nora Springs, and was blessed with two children, Brian and Sharyl "Shari."

After working for W.R. Grace in Illinois for one year, the family made their home in Northwood, where Larry started working at the Northwood Coop Elevator in 1966. He became general manager in 1969.

Larry was a member of the Northwood Fire Department for many years. He was on the AG Processing Board of Directors in Omaha, Nebraska; and the Land O' Lakes Board of Directors in Minneapolis for many years.

Retirement came for Larry in 2006, and he was lucky enough to spend his time traveling the

country with Jan at his side. Together they took numerous trips to Yellowstone each year, spending winters in Florida and Arizona, and visited one of his favorite places, Alaska, several times.

Whether it was enjoying the animals and surrounding nature in their travels, time spent in his plane Cessna 182 airplane, or capturing all of it with his cameras, Larry found peace in the outdoors. He had a knack for making friends wherever the couple traveled, with an uncanny memory for people's names, events, and good jokes.

Larry's love for his family was boundless. One of his greatest joys in life was becoming a father and playing an irreplaceable role in his kids' lives. He also enjoyed raising cattle and calves for many years and attending the Worth County Fair.

Those left to cherish his memory are his beloved wife of 56 years, Jan; his children, Brian Wright of Chandler, Arizona, and Shari Wright of Mason City; a brother, James Wright and friend Brent Blackwell of Bonita Springs, Florida; brother-in-law, Bob Willsher and wife Arelene; sister-in-law, Marcia Rowley and husband Frank; as well as nieces, nephews, and numerous extended family members.

Those greeting him in Heaven are his parents, Alden and Louise.

Deadline to apply for heating assistance is April 30

Northeast Iowa Community Action Corporation (NEICAC) Family Service Offices are taking applications for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) through April 30.

All homeowners and renters are eligible to apply for the program.

LIHEAP customers will need to provide a form of identification (social security card or driver's license), and a copy of the most recent heating and electric bill. Customers will also need to provide proof of all household members' gross income.

The customer may elect to use the most recent 30 calendar days, the most recent 12 months, or the most recent calendar year as a qualification period. If the business where you worked has closed or your hours have been reduced, we may be able to help.

Eligibility for participation

is established according to the following federal income guidelines:

Households of one are limited to gross income of \$22,330, households of two are limited to gross income of \$30,170, households of three are limited to gross income of \$38,010 and households of four are limited to gross income of \$45,850.

For households with more than four members, add \$7,840 annually for each additional member.

This program is funded through the Iowa Department of Human Rights, and has been established to help qualifying low-income Iowa homeowners and renters pay a portion of their primary heating costs.

All low-income Northeast Iowans are encouraged to apply, including senior citizens and individuals with disabilities. Households burning wood or where heating is included

as part of the rent may also be eligible for assistance.

Due to COVID-19, your local Northeast Iowa Community Action Family Service Office is closed to in-person appointments.

However, the organization continues to complete applications by mail, email, phone, fax or online. For more information contact your local NEICAC (Community Action) Family Service Office or call the NEICAC central office in Decorah at (563) 382-9608 or visit our website at www.neicac.org.

Bremer County residents can call 319-352-4532 while Chickasaw County residents should call 641-394-2007 if they are interested in the program.

I want to thank everyone for all the birthday cards and best wishes I received for my 75th Birthday! It was a great birthday. Thanks again, Charlie Dietz

If
GOD
for us,
who
CAN BE
Against Us?

ROMANS 8:31

Taking on tough times

Bible chapters that help us get through challenges

What are five good chapters that we can read during really tough times in our lives?

What ones would you recommend?

The Confidence of our Calling: Romans 8

This might be one of my favorite chapters in all the Bible, whether things are going well or not. Here's why. This chapter has what has been called "the golden thread" or "chain" of salvation which is in Romans 8:29-30 "For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.

And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified." This gives us the knowledge that salvation is fully a work of God because it is God Who foreknew us, Who predestined us, Who called us, Who justified us, Who glorified us... notice it is all He Who has done these things in us...not we ourselves, thereby God receives all the glory. Doesn't He deserve it? He is the justifier Who justifies us.

This is what Paul means in Romans 3:26 "It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus." This is why "There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus" (Rom 8:1).

This chapter:

- Gives us perspective on life (Rom 8:28).
- Gives us reason to endure the present (Rom 8:18).
- Gives us a clear conscience (Rom 8:1).
- Shows us Who is responsible for our salvation (Rom 8:29-30); and
- Shows us that we are conquerors but only in Christ (Rom 8:37).

Confidence of the Shepherd: John 10

John is my favorite of all the gospels and possibly chapter 10 is my favorite chapter in this book. It is so hard to narrow down only one chapter because I love chapters 3, 6, 14 and so many others but there is something special about chapter 10.

For one thing, we see Jesus being portrayed as the Good Shepherd and how good this shepherd is that will lose none of His sheep! Jesus says "And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd" (John 10:16). This shepherd is unlike any other shepherd there is and it is "For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again.

This charge I have received from my Father" (John 10:17-18). The shepherd voluntarily laid down His life for us, Here are some reasons that I love John chapter 10, this chapter:

- Shows our security in Christ and in the Father (John 10:28-29).
- Shows that Jesus Christ is truly God (John 10:30).
- Shows that the Good Shepherd knows His sheep's voice and the sheep know His (John 10:3-5); and
- Shows that the Shepherd voluntarily died so that we wouldn't perish (John 10:15).

The Confidence of our Faith: 1 John 3

I call this chapter to the litmus test of the Christian faith. I believe that if a person professes faith in Christ and yet does not change their lifestyle, they are lying to themselves, to others and ultimately, to God.

John knew that many would come and profess Christ and many would even be part of the church but when they left the church, for what

ever reason they gave, they weren't really a part of the church in the first place (1 John 2:19) so in the next chapter (1 John 3) he provides us with rational evidence of whether a person is just professing or confessing faith in Christ or if they are really possessing saving faith in Christ.

John clearly says that a person can talk all they want about whether they are a Christian or not but here is the evidence of whether that's true: "whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother" (1 John 3:10b). The real proof is the fruit of that person's life (John 15) and not the words out of their mouth because "Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness" (1 John 3:4).

This chapter:

- Proves the fact that whoever does not sin really knows Christ (1 John 3:6).
- Shows the fact that whoever does sin doesn't really know Christ (1 John 3:9); and
- Establishes the fact that whoever sins is of the Devil and we know that whoever is truly abiding in Christ is abiding in Him because of their lifestyle of not living in sin (1 John 3:8-9).

The Confidence of our Calling: Ephesians 1

This chapter may contain the single greatest verses for evidence that God has called us and sealed us ahead of time...before we were born and even before the earth existed.

Here's why I can say that with assurance. God has said in His Word that He choose us before the foundation or creation of the world (Eph 1:4), He predestined or predetermined to have us adopted into His family (Eph 1:5), He revealed this mystery to us because it pleased Him (Eph 1:9), and it was by His predetermined counsel that we have already obtained an inheritance (Eph 1:11). None of this would be possible unless it was made so by Christ (Eph 1:20).

This chapter:

- Shows that God planned to save us long before we or the earth even existed (Eph 1:4).
- Shows that God planned all along to adopt us into His family because it pleased Him to do so (Eph 1:5); and
- Shows that our inheritance as adopted children was all His idea (Eph 1:11).

The Confidence Our Father's Love: Psalm 103

I remember giving this chapter as a Bible study to the local nursing home residents and the tenderness of this psalm made one lady cry. Why?

It was because it made her think about her own father who had many years ago gone to be with the Lord and how much her earthly father loved her but as much as he loved her, her heavenly Father loves her even more.

We are reminded to contemplate all of God's wonderful benefits (Psalm 103:2). We should remember that He is very slow to anger but rich in mercy toward us (Psalm 103:8) and that He has graciously removed our sins as far from us as infinity (Psalm 103:12). God knows that we are very fragile and that He really didn't deal with us according to our sins in the way that we surely deserved (Psalm 103:10, 14).

This chapter:

- Reminds me that God is greater than any loving earthly father (Psalm 103:13).
- Tells me that God doesn't actually give us what we deserve because of our sins (Psalm 103:10).
- Reminds me that God has taken our sins away from us so far that we cannot even imagine it in our finite minds (Psalm 103:12); and
- Tells me that His mercy is upon those who fear Him for all time (Psalm 103:17).

SOURCE:

whatchristianswanttoknow.com

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NOTICE

Greenwood Cemetery Association Annual Meeting

March 22, 2021 • 7:00 pm

At Nashua Fire Station

114 Greenwood Ave., Nashua, Iowa

Public Health nurses have another busy vaccine week

VACCINE: FROM 1

on Tuesday, when the county had just three "active" cases.

Welter said her nurses once again had a busy week with vaccinations, giving shots to 200 county residents and she said she expects by the end of this week to have all those 65 and older to either be fully vaccinated or at least have their first shot.

Meanwhile, she said she was a bit surprised by the number of calls a dedicated phone line for those under the age of 65 who have underlying health conditions, which are determined by the Centers for Disease Control.

"We didn't have the volume we thought we'd have," she said, "so [this] week we'll just have those people call our regular number (641-394-4053) for people to get on a list."

She said she appreciated the number of residents who have called to tell Public Health that they were able to get the vaccine from a different provider and again asked residents who are on one of the department's lists to continue to let Public Health officials know they no longer need the vaccine.

"The amount of time that saves really does add up," she said, "and for people who called in and are on a list, as soon as we get the vaccine, we're going to call them. We're not going to forget you, OK?"

Since the first positive test last April, Chittasaw County has had 1,197 residents who have tested positive for the Coronavirus.

Fifteen residents who contracted the virus since the pandemic arrived have passed away.

Students invited to submit artwork for 'Choose Iowa' calendar

Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Mike Naig invites school students to participate in the 2021 Choose Iowa Calendar Contest hosted by the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship.

The artwork should feature at least one aspect of Iowa agriculture — food, livestock, crops or renewable fuels, for example. Submissions will be judged on creativity and the ability to connect agriculture to everyday life. Entries must be postmarked or emailed to the Department by June 1 to be considered for the 2021-2022 Choose Iowa calendar.

The winning artists will be honored by Secretary Naig during an award ceremony held on Tuesday, Aug. 17, in the Agriculture Building during the 2021 Iowa State Fair. Their submissions will also be included in the Choose Iowa calendar that will be distributed online at ChooseIowa.com and at the Department's State Fair booth.

Students 18-years-old or younger are invited to participate. Pictures should be drawn in a horizontal orientation using only black lines on plain white, 8.5 by 11-inch paper. The pictures should not be colored in.

Entries can be emailed to communications@iowaagriculture.gov or mailed to the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, Coloring Calendar, 502 E 9th St., Des Moines, Iowa, 50319.



Dorothy Huber/Tribune

New Hampton Parks and Recreation officials say the city's pool will definitely be open this summer, but as of now, the facility is short of applicants for a variety of positions.

New Hampton pool puts out help-wanted sign

Facility officials urge Nashua residents to apply for lifeguard, WSI and other positions

By **BOB FENSKE**
editor@nhtrib.com

The New Hampton Municipal Pool will definitely be open this coming summer, but Parks and Recreation officials say they are still woefully short of applicants.

That led the Park Board last Wednesday to increase wages for lifeguards, water-safety instructors (WSIs) and others who will be employed at the pool when the facility opens on Saturday, May 29.

"We're short, no question about it," Parks and Rec Program Manager Tara Hackman said last week, "and it's really across the board. We need lifeguards, we need WSIs, we need swim-lesson aides and we haven't had anyone apply for the concession stand."

"Hopefully, the board's decision will help, but we also know that we have to get some of the kids back after last year."

And she said the department has always been willing to hire non-New Hampton residents to work at the pool and urged

Nashua students — both high school and college — to apply.

"Some of our best lifeguards and workers over the years have been kids from Nashua," she said, "and if they're interested, we'd love to have them."

In 2020, the pool remained closed throughout the summer because of COVID-19 concerns, and Hackman said Friday the facility will "definitely be open" in 2021.

The Park Board approved bumping up starting wages for lifeguards to \$9 per hour and WSIs will start at \$9.50 per hour. Board members also approved bumping up starting wages for concession stand workers and swim-lesson aides to \$8.50 per hour.

"Hopefully, that helps," Hackman said, "because obviously to be open for the hours that we normally are we have to be able to have the staff."

Parks and Recreation Director Rick Kramer said the annual "preseason" work to get the pool ready for swimmers will begin next month and that he's excited for

what he called a "normal" summer.

"We're making a few changes, we have the little playground area ready and things like that," he said, "but we missed having kids out there last year. It just wasn't the same."

Lifeguards must take a class while WSIs need to be certified, and the certification course can run anywhere between \$180 and \$250. Hackman said that she wants potential instructors interested in becoming WSIs that the department will work with them if the issue is the cost of the certification.

"We want them to know that if money is an issue, we don't want that to deter them," she said. "They just need to call us or stop in and we can figure it out."

Also, the department is continuing to seek a coordinator for the Little League T-ball program that is held in June and open to preschool and early-elementary school grades, and anyone interested in that position should contact Hackman at 641-394-5464.

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COUNTY BOARD MINUTES MARCH 1st & 3rd, 2021

The Board convened on Monday, March 1st, 2021, at 9:00 AM with all members present Byrne, Zoll, Kuhn, Holthaus, and Hackman in the Boardroom located on the second floor of the Courthouse, New Hampton, Iowa. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Holthaus. Present were Stephanie Mashek, Auditor, Jeff Bernatz, Katy Kuehn, and Melissa Bierman. Call In: Aaron Flugum and Brannon Anderson.

9:05 AM No Public Comment

Motion by Hackman, Second by Byrne to approve the agenda for March 1st & 3rd, 2021. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Motion by Byrne, Second by Hackman to approve Board minutes for February 22 & 23, 2021. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Lisa Welter called in at 9:08 AM. Brannon Anderson left at 9:09 AM.

9:10 AM Katy Kuehn and Melissa Bierman discussed increase of hours for the 2021-2022 school year. Motion carried starting April 1, 2021.

Motion by Hackman, Second by Kuhn to obtain a GSA Credit Card for the Veteran's Affairs Office and follow the GSA guidelines. Roll Call: Ayes-Hackman, Kuhn, Byrne, Zoll, and Holthaus. Motion Carried.

Melissa Bierman provided an update of the Veteran's Affairs.

Motion by Hackman, Second by Byrne to set public hearing for County Budget for FY 2021-2022, for March 22nd, 9:15 AM in the Boardroom, located on the second floor of the Courthouse. Roll Call: Ayes-Hackman, Byrne, Kuhn, Zoll, and Holthaus. Motion Carried.

Dusty Rolando present at 9:57 AM. Shirley Troyna present at 10:00 AM.

10:05 AM COVID update from Jeff Bernatz and Lisa Welter.

10:35 AM Jeff Bernatz provided a Tower Project update.

Motion by Hackman, Second by Zoll to accept the Chickasaw County Ambulance Council's draft of proposed service agreement with Northeast Iowa EMS, INC county's share in the amount of \$91,200 with the change to #13 that the payment will be due to the Ambulance services on or before August 1st, 2021. Roll Call: Ayes-Hackman, Zoll, Byrne, and Holthaus. Kuhn abstained. Motion Carried.

Shirley Troyna and Dusty Rolando left at 11:00 AM.

Aaron Flugum left at 11:45 AM. Lisa Welter left at 12:28 PM.

Motion by Hackman, Second by Byrne to rescind the motion made on February 22nd, 2021 to publish the Magistrate Appointing Commission positions on March 2nd with the New Hampton Tribune and March 4th with the Nashua Reporter. Applications due by March 26, 2021 at 4:00 PM. Roll Call: Ayes-Hackman, Byrne, Zoll, Kuhn, and Holthaus. Motion Carried.

Motion by Hackman, Second by Zoll to appoint Colleen Kruger to the Magistrate Appointing Commission effective January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2027. Roll Call: Ayes-Hackman, Zoll, Byrne, Kuhn, and Holthaus. Motion Carried.

Motion by Hackman, Second by Zoll to appoint Scott McGregor to the Magistrate Appointing Commission effective January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2027. Roll Call: Ayes-Hackman, Zoll, Byrne, Kuhn, and Holthaus. Motion Carried.

Motion by Kuhn, Second by Byrne to

appoint Brad Schwickerath to the Magistrate Appointing Commission effective January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2027. Roll Call: Ayes-Hackman, Zoll, Byrne, Kuhn, and Holthaus. Motion Carried.

Motion by Hackman, Second by Kuhn to advertise Medical Examiner Investigator open position in the two County official papers being published March 9th and 11th, respectively, with applications due on March 26th at 4:00 PM due in the Chickasaw County Auditor's office. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Discussed LEMC renovation project located at 516 S. Linn Ave. New Hampton. No Action Taken.

Committee Assignment Updates

Motion by Hackman, Second by Byrne to approve claims in the amount of \$72,068.26. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Motion by Hackman, Second by Zoll to approve claims in the amount of \$6,450.61. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Received and filed in the Auditor's Office MMP Short Form for Annual Updates for Randy Swestka Farm (ID #59070) located at 19415 Valley Ave Cresco, IA 52136.

Received and filed in the Auditor's Office MMP Short Form for Annual Updates for Poppe Farms (ID #57707) located at 1630 250th Street Ionia, IA 50635.

Received and filed in the Auditor's Office MMP Short Form for Annual Updates for KMAX Farms, LLC (ID #59490) located at 16259 Fir Ave. Elma, IA 50628.

Received and filed in the Auditor's Office MMP Short Form for Annual Updates for H.P. Wiley (ID #59391) located

at 2348 Quinlan Ave. Fredericksburg, IA 50630.

Received and filed in the Auditor's Office MMP Short Form for Annual Updates for Craig Kurtenbach (ID #67040) located at 3028 210th Street Lawler, IA 52154.

Motion by Byrne, Second by Hackman to adjourn at 12:45 PM. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion Carried.

The Board convened on Wednesday, March 3rd, 2021, at 9:00 AM with all members present Byrne, Zoll, Kuhn, Holthaus, and Hackman in the Boardroom located on the second floor of the Courthouse, New Hampton, Iowa. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Holthaus. Present were Stephanie Mashek, Auditor.

9:05 AM No Public Comment

Dave Gorman present at 9:10 AM. Hackman left at 9:37 AM.

Duane Svoboda on the phone at 9:42 AM.

Duane Svoboda left at 9:53 AM.

Change order at LEMC building located at 516 S. Linn Ave. New Hampton. Consensus of the Board was to approve the addition of Receptionist 119 in the amount of \$1,032.00, Door 110 in the amount of \$210.00, and Door 103 credit in the amount of \$350.00. The change order will be acted on the next Board of Supervisor meeting on March 8th, 2021.

Motion by Kuhn, Second by Byrne to adjourn at 10:15 AM. Roll Call: Ayes-Zoll, Byrne, Kuhn, and Holthaus. Hackman absent. Motion Carried.

Rick Holthaus, Chairman
Board of Supervisors
ATTEST: Stephanie Mashek, Auditor

No. 20873
03/16/21 03/18/21



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Nashua-Plainfield Board of Directors Regular Board Meeting March 8, 2021 Nashua-Plainfield JH Commons

The March 8, 2021, regular board meeting of the Nashua-Plainfield Community School Board of Directors was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Vice-President Rhonda Poppe. Also present were directors Cody Jensen, Laura Folkerts, and Pat Lentz; Superintendent Keith Turner; Principals Scott Striegel and Shannon Wurzer, Board Secretary Brittany McNeil; and three visitors. Absent from the meeting was Director Jeff Ulrichs.

Motion by Folkerts, seconded by Jensen to approve the consent agenda as presented:

A) approval of the agenda as presented

B) approval of the minutes of the previous regular meeting held on February 8, 2021 and special meeting held on February 22, 2021.

C) approval of the bills for payment.

D) approval of the monthly financial reports.

E) approval of the personnel recommendations as follows: approval of the hiring of Jessica Stastny Hall as JH Girls Track Coach, approval of the hiring of Taylor Wedeking as Weight Room Sponsor, approval of the Spring Coaching staff as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Mary Lou Phyfe addressed the board about transportation needs.

Motion by Lentz, seconded by Folkerts to approve a permanent bus stop near or within the Schluter Addition. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Folkerts, seconded by Jensen to approve the 28E sharing agreement with Rudd-Rockford-Marble Rock CSB to share a Human Resource Coordinator for the 2021-2022 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Lentz, seconded by Folkerts to approve the 28E business manager operational sharing agreement with Rudd-Rockford-Marble Rock School for the 2021-2022 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Jensen, seconded by Lentz to approve the 28E director of grounds and maintenance operational sharing agreement with Rudd-Rockford-Marble Rock School for the 2021-2022 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

Business Manager McNeil presented preliminary options for the 2021-2022 school budget. The Supplemental State aid has been set by the Iowa Legislature at 2.40%. The published tax rate will be set at 10.518 and can always be decreased but cannot be increased. The previous tax rate was set at 10.52228. Taxable valuations have increased. The income surtax rate will go down from .07 to .03 and is included in the overall tax rate that will be published.

Motion by Folkerts, seconded by Jensen to approve the following budget guarantee resolution: "Resolved, that the Board of Directors of Nashua-Plainfield Community School District, will levy property tax for fiscal year 2021-2022 for the regular program budget adjustment as allowed under section 257.14, Code of Iowa." Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Folkerts, seconded by Lentz to set the Certified Budget Hearing for April 12, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. in the Nashua-Plainfield Junior High Commons. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Folkerts, seconded by Jensen to approve certified staff raises at 3.06% total package increase for the 2021-2022 school year and an increase of \$600 on base for the 2022-2023 school year. The agreement also includes keeping language in the Master Contract and Certified Handbook for both years with

minimal changes. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Folkerts, seconded by Jensen to approve Resolution Fixing the Date or a Hearing on the Proposed Issuance of Approximately \$2,315,000 School Infrastructure Sales, Services and Use Tax Revenue Refunding Bonds for April 12, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Nashua-Plainfield Junior High Commons. A roll call vote was taken; yeas (Jensen, Lentz, Folkerts, Poppe) yeas (none). Motion carried unanimously.

Administrative reports were presented.

Motion by Folkerts, seconded by Lentz to adjourn the regular board meeting at 8:31 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes published are unofficial until approved by the Board of Directors at the next scheduled board meeting.

Jeff Ulrichs, President Board of Directors, Brittany McNeil Board Secretary

Nashua-Plainfield Comm. School District BOARD VENDOR REPORT .. March 2021

Vendor Name ...	Vendor Description....	Amount
AGVANTAGE FS INC	GAS & DIESEL FUEL	3,217.41
AMAZON.COM INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPLIES	1,652.75	
ANDERSON ERICKSON DAIRY CO. MILK	2,867.39	
ATLANTIC COCA-COLA CONCESSIONS/ALA CARTE ITEMS.....	7.60	
BOX MAN SUPPLIES	454.88	
BUTLER-BREMER COMMUNICATIONS.....	TELEPHONE/FAX/INTERNET	216.10
CENTURY LINK TELEPHONE/FAX	681.61	
CITY OF NASHUA	WATER & SEWER	1,153.92
CONSUMER MATH.ORG CURRICU-		

LUM.....	10.00		
DOLLAR GENERAL STORE #13633 SUPPLIES	33.50		
FAREWAY STORES, INC. FOOD.....	39.93		
GRUETZMACHER, MICHAEL ATHLETIC OFFICIAL	100.00		
IFIXIT.COM.....	TECHNOLOGY SUPPLIES.....	197.34	
IOWA BANDMASTERS ASSOCIATION	MEMBERSHIP & REGISTRATIONS	75.00	
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC BACKGROUND CHECKS 15.00 SAFETY			
IOWA GIRLS H.S. ATHLETIC UNION. MEMBERSHIP. FEES, ADMISSIONS	1,930.00		
IOWA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSN MEMBERSHIP, FEES, ADMISSIONS	1,272.00		
IOWA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ..	ATHLETIC DUES & FEES	432.85	
ASSOCIATION	I O W A HIGH SCHOOL SPEECH ASSN ..	MEMBERSHIP & ENTRY FEES.....	40.00
IOWA SCHOOLS EMP BENEFITS ASSN LIFE/DISABILITY INSURANCE.....	1,343.91		
KAMIHQ.COM	CURRICULUM.....	99.00	
KENDALL/HUNT PUBLISHING CO TEXT/WORK BOOKS 1,557.00	KJ DESIGN LLC.....	CLOTHING.....	85.00
KOLDER, ROD	ATHLETIC OFFICIAL	100.00	
KWIK STAR	SUPPLIES	167.20	
MACPARTS ONLINE COMPUTER PARTS	795.00		
MARCO TECHNOLOGIES LLC. COPIER MAINTENANCE/ SUPPLIES.....	2,290.39		
MENARDS GENERAL SUPPLIES.....	160.73		
MENARDS	MAINTENANCE		

SUPPLIES.....	119.83	
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY	ELECTRICITY.....	6,678.20
MORRIS, RANDALL ATHLETIC OFFICIAL.....	70.00	
NASHUA PLUMBING, & HEATING MAINTENANCE SUPPLIES/ REPAIRS	165.37	
NEW HAMPTON TRIBUNE/ NASHUA ADVERTISEMENTS....	213.90	
REPORTER		
ORIENTAL TRADING CO INC SUPPLIES.....	52.00	
OTHER WORLD COMPUTING	TECHNOLOGY REPAIR 2,327.56	
PARTS/SUPPLIES	2,440.82	
PAN-O-GOLD BAKING NUTRITION FOOD.....	519.38	
PAYMENT SPRING.....	DATA PROCESSING FEE.....	18.79
POWERBOOK MEDIC	TECHNOLOGY REPAIR 2,440.82	
ROCK VALLEY PHYSICAL THERAPY.. WRESTLING SERVICES	175.20	
RUDD ROCKFORD MARBLE ROCK	EDUCATIONAL SERVICES.....	70,570.04
SCHOOL	S & T COLLISION TRANSPORTATION REPAIR	531.96
SCHMIDT, MIKE ATHLETIC OFFICIAL	100.00	
SHREDDER, THE ..	SHREDDING SERVICE	42.00
SU INSURANCE COMPANY EQUIPMENT BREAKDOWN INSURANCE.....	18,211.75	
SWISHER & COHRT, P.L.C. LEGAL SERVICES.....	55.50	
SYMMETRY ENERGY SOLUTIONS, LLC.....	NATURAL GAS.....	6,783.03
T & K TRACTOR REPAIR TRANS- PORTATION REPAIR 12,523.27	TEACHERSPAYTEACHERS.COM... SUPPLIES.....	36.09

THINK SOCIAL PUBLISHING	CLASSROOM SUPPLIES	260.17	
TILL360, LLC SPEAKER FOR KIDS/ STAFF	8,075.00		
TOOLS TODAY IT TOOLS 257.68	US CELLULAR.....	CELL PHONE.....	307.80
US POSTAL SERVICE. POSTAGE PAID ENVELOPES	9.60		
US POSTAL SERVICE. POSTAGE	8.25		
WAGWORKS FLEX REIMBURSEMENT	1,015.36		
WALMART COMMUNITY	GENERAL SUPPLIES	50.97	
WASTE MANAGEMENT GARBAGE COLLECTION	256.08		
WEBER PAPER COMPANY PAPER SUPPLIES.....	82.30		
SUB TOTAL.....	152,953.41		
SALARIES SALARIES 357,555.29	LIFE INSURANCE	LIFE INSURANCE	353.40
DISABILITY INSURANCE DISABILITY INSURANCE	577.07		
HEALTH INSURANCE HEALTH INSURANCE	300.00		
BENEFIT ADD	EMPLOYEE BENEFIT	37,124.66	
IPERS	RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTIONS	36,784.48	
MEDICARE.....	MEDICARE.....	5,565.98	
SOCIAL SECURITY SOCIAL SECURITY	23,799.22		
SUBTOTAL PAYROLL EXPENSES ..	461,860.10		
GRAND TOTAL	614,813.51		

No. 20884
03/18/21

We've learned a lot since pandemic arrived

In many ways, this is an "anniversary week" here at the newspaper office, and it's not one of those good anniversaries.

A year ago this week, the main headline on the front page of the Nashua Reporter read, "A time like no other," and it was accompanied by a photo of an empty Nashua-Plainfield High School student parking lot.

In some ways, it seems forever ago.

Four days before that edition was published, Gov. Kim Reynolds had announced she was closing the state's K-12 schools for four weeks, beginning

We all know the rest. The kids never did go back to school last year, events were canceled, no spring sports were held, social distancing became part of our everyday language, some of us bought enough masks to last through 20 pandemics ... look, I could go on and on, but honest to God, I began this column thinking it would be light hearted and I intend to get back on that track.

And now a year later, so much has changed — both here at the paper and with life in general. Our sports editor, Nate DeBont, left us in late May to work for his brother, one of the best gamers in the nation. We're settled into a new office here in New Hampton; well, kind of, settled. I still have two boxes in the corner that I haven't unloaded yet

Seriously, though, we've learned a lot since that fateful week a year ago, which in reality at times seems like a thousand years ago. Granted, most of what I've learned is useless but fun. So for your amusement, I present all I learned during the pandemic:

- The memes have been fantastic. I have 3,000 pictures on my phone; I swear a thousand of them are COVID-19 memes, and when I need a laugh, I just go to my phone, call them up and scroll through.

My favorites?

"You think it's bad now? In 20 years our country will be run by people home schooled by day drinkers."

The "after isolation" conversation between two women. One asks, where's your husband? The other replies in the garden. The first says she was just out in the garden and didn't see him. The response: "You need to dig a little."

And then there's the one last fall making fun of my favorite NFL team's quarterback: "Just when you thought 2020 couldn't possibly get any crazier, Kirk Cousins has won a Monday Night Football game."

- America is beginning to "dress down," which is good news for guys like me who test every workplace dress code they've ever encountered.

Take college basketball coaches, for example. Gone, for the most part, are the suits and ties, replaced by khakis, polos and even sweat pants and comfy pullovers.

A few weeks ago, I was watching Sportscenter, and a college coach I can't remember was asked what he's learned from the pandemic? His answer had nothing to do with COVID or basketball; instead, he said, "I guess the thing I learned is really a question — what possessed us to wear a suit to coach a basketball game?"

- Toilet paper is a commodity, a valuable one at that.
- Games with relatively few fans amplify the stupidity of some spectators. I swear if I heard "over the back" one more time, I was going to punch someone, consequences be damned.

One more time, people. There is no such foul as over the back. Period.

Thank God, they "opened up" the gyms by the end of the season or else I'd be writing this piece from Marty Hemann's hotel, otherwise known as the Chickasaw County Jail.

- Working at home can be kind of cool. Again, it's all about the dress code, and at my house, the only rule is you have to wear something.

- Zoom staff meetings are like face-to-face meetings. They last forever, and most of them deal with issues that could have been solved in a 15-second email.

- We adults love talking about how kids don't get the education we did, but really, a lot of us evidently made it through school without learning how far 6 feet is and what the word "required" means.

- Finally, we learned that even the most introverted of us, at times at least, missed people.

The good news is we're almost there. Most of our elderly population has received the COVID vaccine and we'll soon be starting to vaccinate the rest of us. Granted, we're about to start giving shots



Bob Fenske has been the editor of the Nashua Reporter since 2010, and he can be reached by email at editor@nhtrib.com.



to those of us who have an underlying health condition. And if you've seen the list of those underlying conditions put out by the Centers for Disease Control, a lot of us — see "overweight" — qualify.

In the end, I want people to know I'd love to go back to March 2020, and have a "do over." Because as much as I joke about the memes, the dress codes and Zoom, the fact is that as of last Friday, more than 530,000 Americans, including 5,622 Iowans, have died because of COVID. Would some of them have passed away anyway? Absolutely. But thousands — hundreds of thousands — of them would still be here today without COVID.

And the human toll, in my mind, goes far beyond those who are no longer with us. For example, millions of elderly Americans have been isolated from their family and friends during this tragic year. For another, all those gatherings we lost, all those community celebrations that were canceled, I believe contributed to the decisiveness that was such a huge part of our country in 2020.

Seriously, think about it for a minute. At Nashua's annual Water Over the Dam Days celebration, when musicians like the Endless Summer take the stage, the crowd isn't just Republican or Democrat. It's not just young or old. It's not just factory work-

ers or white-collar professionals. Maybe I'm making too much of a simple town celebration, but let's be honest, it does bring us all together and reminds us that we have way more in common than we think we do.

So when I sit down to write my column for the March 17, 2022, Reporter, my goals — get you to smile and remind you that we really are all in this together — will be the same as they were when I pulled up a chair to the computer for this one.

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March 26, 27 & 28

Friday & Saturday 8 am - 6 pm

Sunday 10 am - 6 pm

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Legal Notice

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
PROJECT M-2021-1

Chickasaw County will receive sealed bids for LIMESTONE RESURFACING until 10:00 A.M., CDT, on the 29th day of March 2021, at the Office of the County Auditor, Courthouse, New Hampton, Iowa, at which time all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Specifications and bidding documents may be obtained from the Office of the County Engineer, Courthouse, New Hampton, Iowa 50659.

A certified check in an amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the bid, or satisfactory Bid Bond executed by the Bidder and an acceptable Surety, shall be submitted with the bid.

The County reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive technicalities, or to readvertise for bids, if the best interest of the County will be served thereby.

No.20870
03/16/21 NH
03/18/21 NR

Legal Notice • Legal Notice

**Nashua-Plainfield Community School District
Special Board Meeting/Work Session
March 11, 2021
JH/HS Commons**

The Nashua-Plainfield Community School District special board meeting/work session was called to order by President Jeff Ulrichs at 7:01 p.m. Also present were Directors Rhonda Poppe, Laura Folkerts, and Cody Jensen; Superintendent Keith Turner; Secretary Brittany McNeil; Grundmeyer Leader Services team members Trent Grundmeyer and Roger Wilcox; four Rudd-Rockford-Marble Rock Board members; and Grundmeyer Secretary Angie DeBuhr.

Motion by Poppe, seconded by Jensen to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

The joint school boards entered an exempt session to review the Superintendent candidate pool of 16 applicants. Candidate names are kept confidential at this time. Grundmeyer Leader Services reviewed the candidate profiles

and qualifications in great detail. Board members agreed to ask six candidates to the screening interviews held on March 23rd. Screening interviews will be held via Zoom in an exempt/closed session meeting. Board members will then narrow down the applicants to 2-3 and invite them for formal interviews on April 7th.

Motion by Jensen, seconded by Poppe to resume to open session. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Jensen, seconded by Poppe to adjourn the exempt work session at 9:08 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes published are unofficial until approved by the Board of Directors at the next scheduled board meeting.

Jeff Ulrichs, President, Board of Directors

Brittany McNeil, Board Secretary

No. 20890
03/18/21

Legal Notice • Legal Notice

**IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR CHICKASAW COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF
THE ESTATE OF
ALICE F. GRANDY, Deceased.
CASE NO. ESPR002941
NOTICE OF PROBATE OF
WILL, OF APPOINTMENT OF
EXECUTOR, AND NOTICE TO
CREDITORS**

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of Alice F. Grandy, Deceased, who died on or about December 4, 2020

You are hereby notified that on February 23, 2021, the last will and testament of Alice F. Grandy, deceased, bearing date of December 21, 2012, was admitted to probate in the above named court and that Joan Schmidt and Angela Schroeder was appointed executor of the estate. Any action to set aside the will must be brought in the district court of said county within the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice to all heirs of the decedent and devisees under the will whose identities are reasonably ascertainable, or thereafter be forever barred.

Notice is further given that all persons indebted to the estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned, and creditors having claims against the estate shall file them with the clerk of the above named district court, as provided by law, duly authenticated, for allowance, and unless so filed by the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice (unless otherwise allowed or paid) a claim is thereafter forever barred.

Dated: February 23, 2021
Date of second publication: 03/25/21
Joan Schmidt and Angela Schroeder, Executor of the Estate, 109 3rd St. NE, Waukon, IA 52172 and 551 Prestien Dr., Denver, IA 50622

David H. Skilton, ICIS#: AT0007261, Attorney for the Executor, CRONIN, SKILTON & SKILTON, 205 Brasher St. PO Box 39, Nashua, IA 50658.

No. 20889
03/18/21 03/25/21

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Todd Prichard
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

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QUALIFICATIONS: The preferred candidate will have graduation from an accredited four (4) year college or university with major coursework in the natural sciences, outdoor recreation or a job-related field and one (1) year of experience in a natural resource related field; or graduation from a two (2) year college or university with similar coursework and four (4) years of experience; or any equivalent combination of training & experience which will have provided the required knowledge, abilities and skills. A criminal background check and drug screening are required of this position.

SALARY: Starting salary will be \$40,000 - \$43,000 depending on qualifications. Standard county benefit package included. There is a six month probationary period.

TO APPLY: Submit a cover letter, resume and county employment application with three (3) references to: Brian Moore, Director, Chickasaw County Conservation Board, 1811 - 240th Street, Ionia, Iowa 50645-9404 or email to b.moore@chickasawcoia.org. Employment applications can be found at www.chickasawcoia.org. For questions regarding applications call 641-394-4714.

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For more information or to set up an interview please contact Zane at 641-228-3211 or at circ@charlescitypress.com.

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Family appreciates support after blaze

FIRE: FROM 1

about the days ahead when we can simply go home. Thank you all again from the bottom of our hearts! God is good."

Johnson said the exact cause of the fire may never be known. "Honestly, it burned so hot, so fast that a lot of the clues we usually can see just aren't there," he said. "It didn't take us long to realize that no matter what we did, we weren't going to be able to save the house."

He said a nearby garage suffered some fire damage but that firefighters were able to save that structure.

No one was home at the time of the blaze — the Scobees have two school-aged boys — but Johnson said the family did lose several pets.

Johnson added that a newer mutual aid agreement in which Ionia is always called to struc-

ture fires within the Nashua fire district.

"We have 31 [firefighter], but mutual aid has become so important because a lot of our guys do work out of town," Johnson said. "We've met as fire chiefs and come up with this plan, and the good thing for us is we at least know another tanker is on the way."

And while the firefighter in him knows the Scobee home wasn't going to be "saved," the "friend" in him wishes the departments could have done more.

"It's never easy to watch a family lose everything," he said, "but when you know them, it's really tough. I know our guys, I know Ionia's guys and I know Plainfield's guys did their best, but it was just one of those fires that there wasn't much we could do except save the other buildings."



Reporter file photo

We're less than 100 days away!

It's been way too long since we've had a good party in Nashua, but as of today, we are just 98 days away from Water Over the Dam Days. And after Monday's snowfall, summer and this celebration can't get here soon enough.

Briefs

Mobile Food Bank to distribute this Thursday in New Hampton

The Northeast Iowa Mobile Food Bank will make its monthly stop in New Hampton today (Thursday).

Food will be distributed from 4:30 to 6 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, 221 S. Water Ave.

Food, shelter grant applications due by the end of the month

Chickasaw County has been awarded \$10,833 in federal funds to expand the capacity of food and shelter programs in the county.

The funds are made available through the Department of Homeland Security (DHS)/Federal Emergency Management Agency under the Emergency Food and Shelter National (EFSP) Board Program.

A local board will meet on April 7, to determine how the funds are to be distributed among emergency food and shelter programs run by local service agencies in the area.

Under the terms of the grant, local agencies chosen to receive funds must: be private voluntary nonprofits or units of government, be eligible to receive federal funds, have an accounting system, practice non-discrimination; have demonstrated the capability to deliver emergency food and/or shelter programs and have a voluntary board if they are a private voluntary organization.

Public or private voluntary agencies interested in applying for EFSP funds should contact Sheri Alldredge at the Iowa Northland Regional Council of Governments by calling 319-235-0311 for an application. Applications must be received by March 31.

Medicare Open Advantage open enrollment ends March 31

Iowans currently enrolled in a Medicare Advantage plan have options to switch through the Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment period that continues through March 31.

Iowans switching Medicare Advantage Plans or switching to Original Medicare with or without a Medicare drug plan, will have new coverage start the first day of the month after your new plan gets your request for coverage.

The Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment Period isn't for people who are enrolled in Original Medicare.

WEATHER: FROM 1

Saturday morning. That turned into a winter weather advisory on Sunday and a winter storm warning Sunday night.

The storm made for some tricky travel,

especially during the day on Monday as snow fell on top of an icy glaze along highways and roads throughout the area. Several accidents were reported, but none of them included injuries.

Nashua-Plainfield Community Schools

called off school Monday and instead used the day as virtual learning day.

The snow, like we said, shouldn't last long as temperatures are expected to be in the high 40s today (Thursday) and the 50s through at least next Tuesday.

Good news is snow won't stick around long

TRACK: FROM 8

relay that placed 37th in a time of 1:42.97. Sam Fundermann, Max Hillegas and Tyson White were also on that squad. Sudol said that Hillegas pulling a hamstring prevented the squad from achieving a better time.

Hillegas, a junior, placed 66th in the long jump (11-5).

The 4x800 relay of Kaden Wilken, Kendrick Huck, Connor Lee and Zachary Zwanziger

placed 30th in 9:51.18.

Wilken, a sophomore, also finished 46th in the 60-meter hurdles (10.62).

The Huskies foursome of Hayden Munn, McKade Munn, Dylan Blanchard and Aiden Sullivan ran to a 35th-place showing in the 4x400 relay. Their time amounted to 4:24.16.

Garren Crabtree, a senior, threw the shot put for a distance of 30-10. That was good for 71st place overall.

Nashua-Plainfield's next meet will be at St. Ansgar on Tuesday, March 30.

NASHUA-PLAINFIELD RESULTS
60 meter dash - 36. Derik Auchstetter 7.52, 94. Jacob Sievers 815.

200 meter dash - 70. Winters 26.64, 84. Brody Devries 28.35.

400 meter dash - 73. James Wood 1:03.7, 75. Tucker Franzen 1:04.19.

800 meter run - 71. Caleb Lentz 2:41.96, 74. J.R. O'Neil 2:53.48.

60 meter hurdles - 46. Kaden Wilken 10.62, Titus Evans DQ.

4x200 meter relay - 37. Nashua-

Plainfield (Sam Fundermann, Max Hillegas, Tyson White, Auchstetter) 1:42.97.

4x400 meter relay - 35. Nashua-Plainfield (Hayden Munn, McKade Munn, Dylan Blanchard, Aiden Sullivan) 4:24.16.

4x800 meter relay - 30. Nashua-Plainfield (Wilken, Kendrick Huck, Connor Lee, Zachary Zwanziger) 9:51.18.

High jump - Aiden Lamborn NH.

Long jump - 66. Max Hillegas 11-5, Auchstetter DNS.

Shot put - 71. Garren Crabtree 30-10, 75. Hunter Hackman 27-10.5.

Huskies will head outdoors later this month

Let's do our part so normal comes sooner than later

SPORTS: FROM 8

in the community lending positive support to high school students involved in sports and performing arts.

We are grateful that the NFHS Network has allowed fans to watch high school events online during the past year.

Many schools have taken advantage of the NFHS Network's High School Support Program that includes two free automated-production cameras (Pixellots).

And while these units will continue to be used going forward as an option for watching events, nothing can replace fans in the stands, gyms and auditoriums.

One of the key differences in education-based activities conducted within the school and out-of-school club sports is the support of fans in the community. Students in high school activities are playing for the love of the game and to be involved in posi-

tive programs with their peers.

On a normal Friday night prior to the pandemic, more than seven million fans attended high school football games weekly across the country. And it is estimated that about 350 million people attended high school sports annually prior to the pandemic.

While we recognize it may take some time before those numbers are equaled again, things are trending in the right direction.

Recently, several states have increased the number of spectators allowed for winter sports, such as basketball, being conducted indoors. In Tennessee, attendance at games is limited to one-third of the gym's capacity; in Michigan, attendance is capped at 20 percent. In Arizona and West Virginia, however, the decisions can be made by individual schools with no set restrictions, although social distancing

must be maintained.

In Iowa, the Governor has asked that event organizers take reasonable measures under the circumstances of each gathering to ensure the health of participants and members of the public.

We have asked each school to continue social distancing and to require masks of our spectators.

These are great signs that we are moving the needle in the right direction regarding our return to a semblance of normalcy, and one day soon one of the tenants of education-based high school sports and performing arts — parents and other fans — will be back in full force throughout the state of Iowa to support high school activity programs. We encourage all school and their fans to continue to be diligent in their efforts to stop the spread of COVID-19 so that day comes sooner than later.

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March Madness is back, and it's awesome baby

I've got two words for you – COLGATE RAIDERS.
Let it ride!!!
I'm all in, baby!!!
I need my bracket and I need it now!!!
Okay, that's enough exclamation points in one column to last a lifetime.

But I'm excited, can't you tell?
It's March Madness.
Let the insanity begin.
I can't begin to explain how thankful I am, along with millions of other hoops fanatics, that the 2021 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament starts in a few days.

This is a big deal for me.
It's sure been one long year without it. I was going to use a curse word in that sentence, but I'm better than that. We all are. Everyone's been frustrated because life isn't back to normal yet, but this COVID-19 pandemic is not over. So I'm thrilled we have basketball as a diversion – even if it's a bit of a watered-down model without fans.

Around this time a full calendar year ago, the hopes and dreams of countless college basketball players, coaches and fans were crushed after COVID-19 halted any and all hope of crowning a national championship in 2020.

The tournament was canceled – not postponed.
The one thing I live and look forward to every year was kaput.
Done. Gone.

Well, that's yesterday's news as the men's tournament is scheduled to get underway in Indiana later this week. All the games will be played in a centralized location in the "Hoosier State." All the women's NCAA tournament games will be played down in Texas, specifically in or around the Austin and San Antonio area.

But every year I pick a team that flies under the radar.
We all need a Cinderella story. So if the glass slipper fits, slide it on and wear it.

That means you should always select a team that has long odds to make it deep in the tourney.

Now whether or not you strike gold with that prognostication and "cash in" on that sleeper pick as they zoom all the way into the Final Four is highly unlikely.

That's what makes it fun.
That's why the Colgate Raiders are Final Four bound, baby!!! (yelled in an annoying Dickie V voice).

No, I'm not gambling, because I have enough vices and I don't need to be rolling the dice with my bank account.

But I am super-pumped and literally counting down the hours to Selection Sunday.

This is my "One Shining Moment."

Real quick, I'd just like to throw out some interesting tidbits about the upcoming tournament and the Raiders, which are 14-1 on the year and defeated Loyola-Maryland in the Patriot League Championship game on Sunday.

Colgate, seeded 14th, is the second-highest scoring team in the nation (86.4 ppg) behind tourney favorite – undefeated and No. 1 Gonzaga.

Duke and Kentucky each won't be in the tournament at the same time. The void is glaring. That hasn't happened since 1976. Duke chose to end its run in the ACC Tournament after a positive COVID test. The Blue Devils won't be dancing for the first time since 1995. Kentucky hasn't had a losing record like they had this winter since 1989. That's only happened three times in almost 100 years of Kentucky bluegrass basketball.

Seems odd without those blue bloods, but the first couple rounds of March Madness are all about the small schools that don't get enough recognition and publicity. Cinderella is just begging for a date to the ball. Whether or not she gets there on time usually comes down to guard play and cutting down on the turnovers.

Loyola of Chicago is back in the tournament again. The Ramblers had a scintillating run in 2018 to advance to the Final Four for the second time in school history. They were an 11 seed that year.

Hoops fans should remember the tournament's darling that year – Sister Jean Dolores Schmidt, the 101-year old chaplain for the Ramblers basketball squad.

It sounded early on like she wouldn't be able to attend Loyola's opening round game on Friday. She recently provided a lifeline to her loyal players at the start of postseason play. She was put through on speaker phone to talk to the team, say a prayer, along with words of encouragement before games at the start of the Missouri Valley Conference Tournament. She said she will be rooting on the Ramblers in prayer and in spirit if she wasn't able to travel to the game.

She's 101 years old. Remarkable.

Thanks to technology, we will be able to hear her thoughts and wisdom about her team's performance in an interview. I have my fingers crossed. I would listen to her giving a take on pretty much anything, because she has to be one of my all-time favorite sports fans ever.

Update – It was announced Tuesday afternoon Sister Jean would be allowed to attend in person the Ramblers' game versus Georgia Tech.

Sister Jean – the international celebrity that she has become – is something we all need more of in our lives.

Loyola (Chicago) defeated Drake in the MVC Final to secure an automatic bid. Speaking of the Bulldogs, they got "in" on Sunday and will play in the "First Four" games.

They were definitely on the bubble. The Bulldogs, 25-4, have

produced its best season since its memorable run to the tourney 13 years ago in 2008.

One last thing, it's good to see Dick Vitale still going strong. He'll be 82 years old in June.

Sure, he probably needs to retire, but what would he do?

Basketball is his life. His work with pediatric cancer has been nothing short of amazing. It's become his life's obsession outside of basketball.

I get it, it's not 1989 anymore, Dickie V. Yes, he can be painful to listen to at times during the games he still broadcasts, but he's a legend anyway you slice it.

Without him, hoops just wouldn't be the same. I could say that about a lot of people, but there's only one P.T.P. (Prime Time Player) and it's not Bob Knight or Lou Holtz. Let's tip this thing off already.

Just Win Baby! Go Raiders!

I can't believe I just said that, I'm a Kansas City Chiefs fan.

But that's March Madness.



Kelly Terpstra has been the Reporter's sports editor since 2020, and he can be reached by email at sports@nhtrib.com.



For the first time in two years, the Nashua-Plainfield boys track team, including Sam Fundermann, were finally able to compete in a track meet as they headed to Cedar Falls last week to take part in the Dickinson Relays.

Reporter file photo

Associations: As pandemic wanes, sports will soon return to normal

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following was written by Iowa Girls High School Athletic Union Executive Director Jean Berger, Iowa High School Athletic Association Executive Director Tom Keating and National Federation of State High School Association's Karissa Niehoff.

The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted everyday life for almost a year at this point.

There is hardly anyone who would dispute the validity of that statement. In order to survive and continue moving forward during the past 12 months, we have been faced with finding new ways to accomplish our daily tasks.

Instead of meeting face to face with a group of people, we converse with people in rectangles on computer screens.

Instead of sitting together with family and friends in crowded restaurants, we pay someone to bring the food to our homes.

Instead of those shopping sprees at the nearest mall, we order online and provide more business for the army of overnight delivery vehicles in our neighborhoods.

In high school sports and performing arts, everyone from the students to coaches, officials, parents and administrators have had to adjust to new ways of doing things. In many cases, students must wear masks even in competition and isolate from their friends away from school in order to continue playing.

And while students and others have been willing to do whatever it takes to provide participation opportunities, everyone is looking for that light at the end of the tunnel.

Hopefully, most of these protocols that limit interaction will vanish when the pandemic subsides, although some aspects of the "new norm" may continue, such as online meetings.

However, there is one thing in the world of high school sports and performing arts that we desire as soon as possible at high schools throughout the state of Iowa and across the country – stadiums and auditoriums with crowds of family, friends and other fans cheering for the 12 million-plus participants in high school activity programs.

While the cardboard cut-outs and piped-in music have been creative attempts to make it feel like people are in the stands, nothing can replace parents, students and others

SEE SPORTS, 7

Husky boys open season at Dickinson

By KELLY TERPSTRA
Of the Reporter

The chance to run, jump or throw.
That's exactly what the Nashua-Plainfield boys track team did a week ago this past Tuesday inside the UNI-Dome at the Dickinson Relays on the campus of the University of Northern Iowa.

It sure beats 2020 when there was no track season.

Husky head coach Chase Sudol's approach to the only indoor meet of the year is like many prep coaches at this early juncture of the spring season. It's not where you finish that matters in March.

"I don't focus so much on the times. Just to compete at UNI is more of the focus," said Sudol.

Sudol has a considerable amount of athletes out for a high school track and field squad that competes in Class 1A. Slotting them in the right spots up and down the lineup will be his biggest obstacle in the coming weeks.

"We're really fortunate to have 37 guys out. I think we got everybody that plans on going out for track. We got a good group of kids," said Sudol. "Now it's a matter of putting some work in and seeing what we can do with some of these young guys."

N-P senior Derik Auchstetter placed 36th in the 60-meter dash among 101 entrants in the event. His time of 7.52 should be a time that can be improved upon once he hits the track outdoors and the finish line increases by 40 meters.

Auchstetter went out for track for the first time last year, only to have his season, along with everyone else's, halted because of the COVID-19 pandemic. His obvious goal this year is the famed blue oval at Drake Stadium, where Iowa holds its state meet and 111th running of the Drake Relays.

"He's a special athlete. He definitely has ability to get there," said Sudol. "We gotta get him there now. He's got a lot of learning to do. He'll be right there."

Auchstetter was a member of the 4x200

SEE TRACK, 7

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