



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from

**First State Bank**



"Where Community Matters" 401 Main Street, Nashua, IA 50658

# Nashua REPORTER

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28 December 2023

Nashua, IA 50658 • 75 cents

Huskies end  
2023 with  
dominating  
quad!

Page 6



## County attorney: I'm not looking to leave

Comp Board member brings up 'possibility' but Laudner says although he will listen to offers, he is not actively pursuing new job

BY BOB FENSK  
Of the Reporter

A Chickasaw County Compensation Board member told the Board of Supervisors Monday that he feared a mass exodus from the courthouse if county leaders don't approve the recommendations for pay raises that his board made earlier this month.

And that board member, Mike Kennedy, used one elected official, County Attorney David Laudner, as an example.

"Another thing is the possibility that Chickasaw County could lose its county attorney," Kennedy said when talking about concerns about turnover in county offices. "There are not a lot of lawyers wanting to come north of Highway 20. There's

going to be a hell of a demand for experienced county attorneys in this area."

Kennedy used Winneshiek County as an example — pointing out that it lost its assistant county attorney and that its top attorney may retire in the near future — and he also said that it was his understanding that Laudner has "had phone calls from other counties."

"If he gets up and takes a walk, this county is in serious, serious trouble," Kennedy said. "I just don't think that we can continue to think that we can just give nominal raises to people who have important jobs."

Laudner, though, said

SEE ATTORNEY, 3

*Ring in the New Year  
Safely*

The Nashua Reporter reminds you to party responsibly this New Year's Eve.

If you plan on consuming alcohol, make arrangements beforehand for a ride home.

*See you in 2024!  
Nashua REPORTER*



## It wasn't a typical Christmas

Temperatures in the 50s and an inch of rain are pretty nice presents

BY BOB FENSK  
Of the Reporter

On a most decidedly unlike-Christmas Day, one could have forgiven area farmers if they were "singing in the rain."

The drought isn't over, for sure, but boy in a year like 2023, a Christmas weekend that included temperatures in the 50s and an inch of rain was the best present Santa Claus could deliver.

And as Jack Richardson said when his family made a Christmas Day stop at a Chickasaw County convenience store on their way from Cannon Falls, Minnesota, to North Liberty on Monday night, it "beats the hell out of 10 inches of snow." Yes, indeed it does.

Officially, Nashua received .33 inches of rain on Christmas Eve and .66 on Christmas Day, and since the rule of thumb is a tenth of an inch of rain equals an inch of snow, Richardson wasn't wrong.

More importantly, though, was in a two-day period, New Hampton got .99 inches of precipitation, and it fell on ground that hasn't frozen yet and was bone dry. From Oct. 15 to Sunday, Nashua had just .96 inches of rain, exacerbating an already ugly drought picture.

As Chickasaw County Board of Supervisor member Steve Breitbach, who also farms, put it before Monday's meeting, "It doesn't solve [the drought], but by God, it helps."

Nashua hasn't had above-normal

SEE WEATHER, 2

## CHRONICLING A YEAR OF DROUGHT

Jan.	1.41	1.13	124.8
Feb.	3.07	1.24	247.6
March	1.60	2.05	78.0
April	1.85	3.79	48.8
May	1.93	5.12	37.7
June	1.63	5.89	27.7
July	1.17	4.74	24.7
Aug.	1.50	4.25	35.3
Sept.	3.30	3.64	90.7
Oct.	2.16	2.75	78.5
Nov.	0.29	1.81	16.0
*Dec.	1.04	1.28	86.0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>20.95</b>	<b>37.69</b>	<b>55.6</b>

\* Rainfall and normal amounts through Dec. 26.

SOURCE: National Weather Service, La Crosse, Wisconsin



Photos courtesy of Jenn Kalainoff  
Nashua-Plainfield Elementary School Presley Loy (above) shows off her autographed poster while high school student-athlete Elayna O'Neill (right) signs a poster for a youngster during an "Autograph Day" that was held last week.

## A CHRISTMAS STORY ABOUT GIVING

SOMETIMES, AN AUTOGRAPH CAN BE THE COOLEST GIFT A YOUNGSTER CAN RECEIVE DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON

This is a Christmas story.

OK, maybe it isn't the one you're expecting, but



Bob Fenske has been the editor of the Reporter since 2010; he can be reached by email at editor@ntrib.com.

as I looked through the pictures Jenn Kalainoff sent me from Nashua-Plainfield's "Autograph Day" that was held last week, a thought — one we hear often during the yuletide season — popped into my head.

It is better to give — sometimes just of your time or a simple little autograph — than to receive.

Who knew that a signature could bring so much joy?

Five days before Christmas, we all found out, and Jenn's pictures prove it.

I loved the smiles you see on the faces of the kids — the younger ones, that is — and save for a brief moment when I was bummed I hadn't got to see those grins in person, I smiled, too.

Here's a little bit of the back story.

SEE AUTOGRAPH DAY, 5



Nashua-Plainfield Elementary School students eagerly watch their "heroes" sign their Husky winter sports posters last week.

## If county remodels ambulance station, it will use city, county funds

BY BOB FENSK  
Of the Reporter

The Chickasaw County Board of Supervisors want more information before signing off on a contract to have the building that houses Chickasaw County EMS remodeled to include living quarters.

But board members, or at least three of them, said Monday that if

they do move ahead with the remodel, they want to use money from the EMS budget, not the county's Capital Improvements Project fund, to pay for the project.

During their final meeting of 2023, the board first discussed the estimate they received from Design Connections President Aaron Thompson during a meeting held on Dec. 18, and board members agreed that they needed

more information before they proceeded with the project.

An hour and a half later, the EMS building located just off the New Hampton downtown area came up during discussion on a budget amendment that board members will consider in the new year.

Three supervisors — Travis Suckow, Scott Cerwinski and Jake Hackman — said they felt that the money needed

to come from the Chickasaw County EMS budget, which includes money put in not only by six cities but also the county.

"I don't know right now," Suckow said. "I don't like to use that capital projects [fund], I'll say that."

During the Dec. 18 meeting, Cerwinski had floated the idea of using both capital improvement funds and the EMS budget to cover the costs,

but on Tuesday, he backed away.

"I was in favor of splitting it a bit," he said, "but then I don't know if capital projects is fair to the two communities that aren't part of the ambulance project."

The EMS service came online this past Jan. 1, and it provides service to rural residents of the county and six

SEE AMBULANCE, 2

# 'Heat wave' breaks as the new year approaches

## WEATHER: FROM 1

precipitation since February, and according to data from the National Weather Service office in La Crosse, Wisconsin, the city has received just 55.6 percent of the precipitation it normally receives in a year.

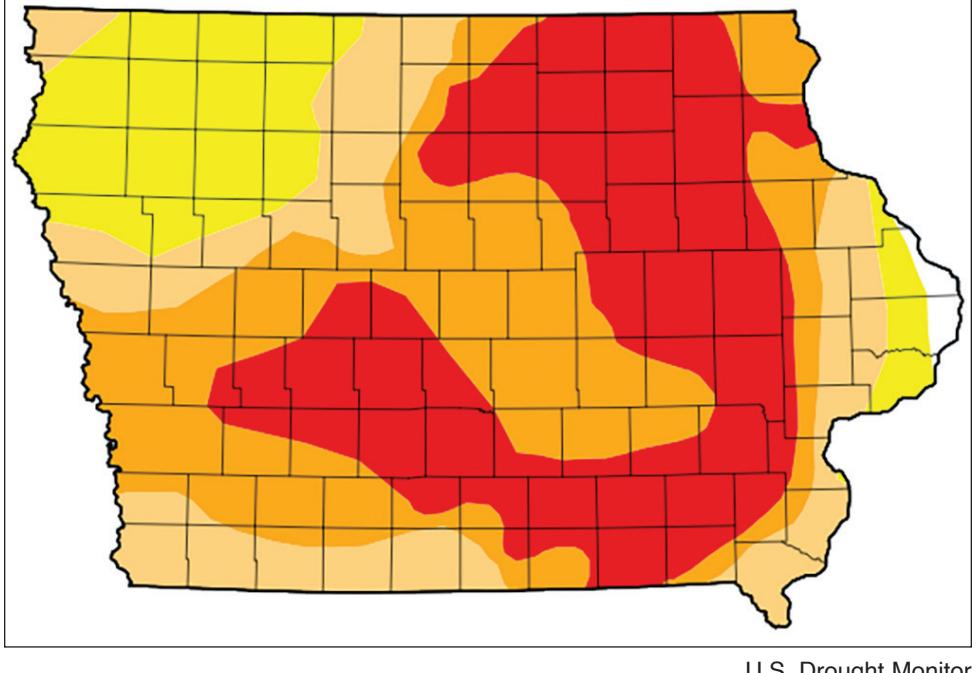
November was exceedingly dry in the area, which received .29 inches of rain during the month, and December had been shaping up as even worse before the Christmas weekend rainfall.

Still, farmers wouldn't mind seeing more rain fall before the ground freezes because the picture painted by the U.S. Drought Monitor hasn't improved one iota since farmers took their crops out of the field this fall.

All of Chickasaw, Bremer, Fayette and Floyd counties are still classified as suffering from "extreme drought" while all of Butler, save for a sliver in the southwest part of the county, is in the same boat.

So the rain was welcomed, as were, for many, the warm temperatures that had the heartier folks among us doing their last-minute Christmas shopping in shorts.

Although the weather service office in La Crosse doesn't keep track of record tem-



U.S. Drought Monitor

**The latest U.S. Drought Monitor, which was released last Thursday, shows that almost all of Iowa is suffering from some form of drought. The dark red on the map, which includes the Nashua area, is suffering from "extreme drought."**

peratures in Nashua, New Hampton broke or tied six temperature records from Friday through Monday, including:

- Friday's high of 48 broke the record for Dec. 22 set in 2019 by one degree.
- Saturday's high of 48 tied the record for Dec. 23 set in 2020.
- Saturday's overnight low of 37 tied the warmest mark set in 1931.
- Sunday's high of 52 broke the Christmas Eve record of 51 set in 1936.

• Sunday's overnight low of 40 shattered the mark of 34 set in 1936.

- Monday's overnight low of 46 set the record for warmest that had been 40, set in 1936.

But the "heat wave" came to an end on Tuesday, when the high was 35, and although we may see a 40-degree temperature today or Friday, it's going to be much more seasonable as we head into the new year.

## Farm Bureau accepting scholarship applications from ag students

High school students who plan to pursue an agricultural major or minor after their 2024 graduation are encouraged to apply for Iowa Farm Bureau President Brent Johnson.

Applicants must be tied to an Iowa Farm Bureau membership in good standing, have a minimum 2.5 GPA and accepted into an accredited higher education institution, including community colleges and technical schools.

ingenuity of the next generation," says Iowa Farm Bureau President Brent Johnson.

This application qualifies students for both county-level

Students must apply online by Jan. 31, 2024, at [iowafarm-bureau.com/scholarships](http://iowafarm-bureau.com/scholarships). A key aspect of the application includes an essay detailing the student's extracurricular activities, community service, their commitment to agriculture and two character reference letters.

scholarships, where available, and the state scholarship. Each of the 100 county Farm Bureaus across the state will select one student from their local area to be considered for the \$2,500 state award. From this pool, three students from each of Iowa Farm Bureau's nine districts will be selected as scholarship recipients.

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Chrome Parts Hanger/Inspector (2nd shift)

Assembly B Operator (3rd & Weekend shifts)

Die Cast A Operator (1st, 2nd & 3rd shifts)

Die Cast B Operator (1st, 2nd & 3rd shifts)

Stamping B Operator (3rd shift)

Material Handling B Operator (2nd shift)

Machining B Operator (2nd & 3rd shift)

Tool & Die Machinist (2nd & 3rd shifts)

Finishing A Operator (3rd shift)

Plastics B Operator (3rd shift)

Plating B Operator (1st shift)

Utility B (1st, 2nd & 3rd shifts)

\$2.00 PER HOUR  
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POSITIONS

If more than one position is of interest, an application must be completed separately for each position. For consideration, ensure that your application is completed in its entirety and includes full work history.



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Subscription rates are based on your mailing address.

Year Subscription: In Chickasaw County, \$40; Outside of Chickasaw County, \$48

## Bassett mayor tells supervisors to keep renting living quarters

### AMBULANCE: FROM 1

after the first year in operation, if there is more than \$750,000 in that account for two consecutive quarters, the county is required to waive cities' payments until that account drops under \$750,000.

Supervisors on Tuesday appeared to be leaning toward using \$180,000 of EMS money for the project that Design Connections estimates will cost \$183,307. Hackman and other supervisors also pointed out that there is still about \$49,000 in ARPA funds if the project costs more.

**THAT \$183,307** estimate falls under the threshold of \$196,000 that if exceeded means, under Iowa Code, the county would have to bring in an architect and follow state-mandated bidding processes to complete the remodeling project.

Board members didn't want to pull the proverbial trigger on agreeing to a deal with Design Connections because they want to make sure that using a fire-resistant wall meets state code.

For months, the county was under the assumption that the building would need a sprinkler system, but on Tuesday morning, Thompson said via phone that the two-hour firewall is allowed under state law.

A week earlier, he submitted an estimate of more than \$270,000 for the remodeling project if the county used a sprinkler system.

But on Tuesday, board members wanted to know the exact estimate Thompson has for the project, because his initial one for a firewall doesn't include the cost of a second stairwell that would be required or the cost of ethernet.

Cerwinski expressed concerns about the project if it went over budget and exceeded the \$196,000 threshold, but County Attorney David Laudner said later in the meeting that "as I read the code — and there are those who interpret this differently — if you're under \$196,000 when the project is bid out, you're fine, you've met the requirements. Now, I don't think you can play games with that."

Bassett Mayor Jim Ashley, during the board's weekly public comment segment, said he wasn't sure the county should even remodel the building. Instead, he proposed continuing to rent living quarters for the ambulance crew.

"Did a little figuring and why not keep the apartment that you already have? At \$1,200 a month and \$200,000 [to pay for the remodeling], it would last you 13 years," Ashley said. "You remodel that building down there, and in two months, I guarantee you someone's going to say, 'I smelled smoke last night' and you're going to be right back to where you are now."

## Former Charles City resident receives a life sentence for murder of Chickasaw County man

A former Charles City resident who was found guilty of murder in a Howard County case has been sentenced to spend the rest of his life in prison.

Sayvonne Eugene Jordan was sentenced last week in Howard County District Court to life in prison without the possibility of parole on a conviction of first degree murder, and to up to 10 years in prison on a charge of abuse of a corpse, with the sentences to be served consecutive to each other.

District Court Judge Laura Parrish also sentenced Jordan to pay \$150,000 in restitution to the family of the victim, Jonathan Esparza, a New Hampton resident who was 30 at the time of his death.

Jordan, age 27, was living in Elma when he was arrested in January this year, but he has listed his address as Charles City and Waterloo previously, and he was being held on unrelated charges in Floyd County Jail when he was arrested for the Howard County murder.

A Howard County jury deliberated about three hours after Jordan's trial ended on Nov. 8 before finding him guilty of both charges. Jordan has filed notice he is appealing the judgment and the sentence.

— Bob Steenson, Charles City Press



Bob Fenske/Reporter

**Chickasaw County Attorney David Laudner (front) listens as then-Nashua Mayor Alex Anthofer talks to the Board of Supervisors in July.**

## Chairman: Comp Board wants good relationship with supervisors

### ATTORNEY: FROM 1

after Monday's meeting that he is not "actively" looking for another job. The former Palo Alto assistant county attorney was appointed by supervisors to his current post in the fall of 2021 and won election to a full four-year term in 2022.

Palo Alto Attorney Peter C. Hart, though, recently announced that he will resign his office, effective Feb. 1, and Laudner said he has been contacted by Palo Alto County officials about his interest in the position.

Laudner on Monday said "I'm happy where I'm at" and that he "had no intention of leaving," but at the same time, he wasn't going to "close" the door when it came to any potential job offers down the road.

Kennedy said his concern as a member of the Compensation Board, though, was county wide and that "I'm really afraid if we have continued turnover, we're going to sooner or later have a hell of a problem over here."

The longtime New Hampton resident and attorney said he hoped that supervisors would leave the Compensation Board's pay raise recommendations intact.

During its meeting on Dec. 6, Compensation Board members voted 5-2 to ask the supervisors to increase the pay of the county's attorney, auditor, recorder, sheriff and treasurer by 9 percent and to

give pay raises of 3.2 percent to the Board of Supervisors.

A year ago, the Comp Board recommended 20 percent raises for county officials in an effort to attract qualified candidates and keep pay in line with similar-sized counties and private-sector jobs. Supervisors scaled back those raises to 9 percent.

And in November, the Board of Supervisors reached a consensus in which it urged the Comp Board to not give them pay increases this year.

Compensation Board Chairwoman Stephanie Mashek, though, said on Monday that supervisors needed at least a 3.2 percent raise to cover cost-of-living inflation over the past year.

She also pointed out that she and her fellow board members realized that the raise for the sheriff's office might not be fully in compliance with Iowa's "Back the Blue" law.

Doreen Cook, one of two Comp Board members who voted against the motion setting the recommendations, disagreed, pointing out that the city of Boone, which has a similar population to Chickasaw County, pays what amounts to \$8.37 per resident to its police chief while the Comp Board's recommendation for a 9 percent raise for the sheriff equated to \$8.50 per resident.

Cook also said that Chickasaw County's

elected officials were paid near the average of the eight counties closest to Chickasaw in population — pointing out that the auditor was being paid a little below the average while the recorder and treasurer were making by a few hundred dollars a little more than the average.

Supervisors didn't take action on the Compensation Board recommendations, although Jake Hackman said he was having a "hard time how you came up bringing everyone up to 9 percent."

Board Chairman Matt Kuhn said it was too early for board members to consider the recommendations, especially in a year in which budgeting will be a difficult task for county leaders.

"I think we're [too] early in the budgeting process to go and pluck a number there today," he said.

Mashek didn't argue, but she added that the Compensation Board wants to be a "partner," if you will, with the supervisors.

"You have the ability to pluck in the numbers and see where they fit and then discuss it at a later time," Mashek said. "I'm happy to come back and represent the Board of Compensation."

"Again, we want to work with you guys ... but we've understood that in the past that the tendencies have always stayed the same. We want a good working relationship with the Board of Supervisors."

### Dennis K. Enck, 76

Dennis K. Enck, age 76 of Nashua, died Friday, Dec. 22, 2023, at Linn Haven Rehab and Healthcare in New Hampton.

Arrangements are pending at Hugeback-Johnson Funeral Home & Crematory in Nashua.

Online condolences for the Enck family may be left at [www.hugebackfuneral-home.com](http://www.hugebackfuneral-home.com).

**FROM ALL OF US  
HERE AT THE  
REPORTER ... HAVE  
A SAFE AND HAPPY  
NEW YEAR!  
WE'LL SEE YOU NEXT  
YEAR!**

### Newspaper Claim's Listing CHICKASAW COUNTY AUDITOR

12/9/23 through 12/22/2023

Vendor Name, Vendor Payment

Amount 20/20 FX, DATA SUPPLIES \$1,303.34

AG VANTAGE FS, BRUSHING CHEMICAL.....\$53.31

AIRGAS, CYLINDER RENTAL.....\$326.31

ALTA VISTA, CITY OF, AV SHOP UTILITIES.....\$71.62

ANDERSON, WILMARSH, VAN DER MAATEN, BELAY & FRETHEIM, TEMP ASSISTANT ATTY - NOV 2023.....\$3,550.44

ARVEL, RAY MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT FOR ISAA MEETING.....\$179.48

AT & T, PHONE BILL FOR NOVEMBER.....\$45.02

ATCO INTERNATIONAL, CUSTODIAL SUPPLIES @ COUNTY BLDGS.....\$175.70

BLACK HAWK COUNTY TREASURER, 4TH QTR MEI FEES - COUNTRY RESIDENTS...,\$540.00

BLACK HILLS ENERGY, NAT GAS OUTSIDE SHOPS.....\$3,778.93

BLACKHAWK AUTOMATIC SPRINKLERS ANNUAL SPRINKLER INSPECTION.....\$235.00

BMC AGGREGATES, ROCKS \$2,387.07

BOEHMER, KATIE, DEC 12 MEETING.....\$25.00

BOUND TREE MEDICAL, MEDICAL SUPPLIES.....\$1,690.33

BRUENING ROCK PRODUCTS, ROCK.....\$2,426.92

BUTLER CO REC, POWER @ ANCHOR.....\$351.28

BUTLER COUNTY RURAL ELECTRIC, ELECTRIC @ OLD LAND-FILL.....\$58.92

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#### CHICKASAW COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MINUTES

December 18, 2023

The Board convened on Monday, December 18, 2023, at 9:00 A.M. with members Breitbach, Suckow, Kuhn, Cerwinski, and Hackman present in the Boardroom on the 2nd floor of the Court House, New Hampton, Iowa.

Chairperson Kuhn called the meeting to order. Also present were Auditor Sheila Shekleton, Attorney David Laudner, Bob Fenske, member of the media, Chickasaw County Cemetery Commission Dale Liddle, Judy Liddle & Diana Murphy, Doreen Cook, Bassett Mayor Jim Ashley, Terry Johnson, Stanton Electric Chuck Stanton, EMS Director Joel Knutson, Sheriff Ryan Shawver, Darren Steinlage Construction Darren Steinlage, Assessor Raymond Armel, EMS Director Jeff Bernatz, Custodian Dave Gorman, Engineer Roman Lensing

Motion by Suckow, seconded by Breitbach to approve the agenda for December 18, 2023. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Motion by Hackman, seconded by Cerwinski to approve the meeting minutes from December 11, 2023 with changes. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Public comment: Doreen Cook asking about new hires and response time.

Bassett Mayor Jim Ashley asking about 28E Agreement with the cities and the EMS bills.

Discussed the EMS Building project bids.

Motion by Suckow, seconded by Breitbach to approve the part-time hire

Samantha Streeter as a Paramedic for EMS at the wage of \$22.99 starting December 18, 2023. Roll call: Ayes; Suckow, Breitbach, Cerwinski, Kuhn. Nay: Hackman. Motion carried.

Motion by Suckow, seconded by Breitbach to approve the part-time hire Cally Mueller as an EMT for EMS at the wage of \$15.66 starting December 18, 2023. Roll call: Ayes; Suckow, Breitbach, Cerwinski, Kuhn. Nay: Hackman. Motion carried.

Motion by Hackman, seconded by Suckow to approve EMS Supply Fee Schedule effective January 1, 2024. Roll call: Ayes; Hackman, Suckow, Breitbach, Cerwinski, Kuhn. Motion carried.

Discussed Chickasaw County Cemetery Commission FY24-25 Budget Request.

Motion by Hackman, seconded by Breitbach to approve Family Farm Tax Credit Applications; 45 New Family Farm Tax Credit Applications and 46 Family Farm Tax Credit Removals Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Hackman, seconded by Cerwinski to proceed with repair of the twenty-two window sills for the Community Service Building not to exceed \$5,000.00. Roll call: Ayes; Breitbach, Cerwinski, Suckow, Kuhn. Abstained: Hackman. Motion carried.

Secondary Roads Engineer Roman Lensing gave department updates.

Discuss updating the Chickasaw County Hazard Mitigation Plan with EMA Director Jeff Bernatz and tabled until next week to do some research.

Motion by Breitbach, seconded by Cerwinski to proceed with repair of the twenty-two window sills for the Community Service Building not to exceed \$5,000.00. Roll call: Ayes; Breitbach, Cerwinski, Suckow, Kuhn. Abstained: Hackman. Motion carried.

Motion by Hackman, seconded by Cerwinski to proceed with repair of the twenty-two window sills for the Community Service Building not to exceed \$5,000.00. Roll call: Ayes; Breitbach, Cerwinski, Suckow, Kuhn. Abstained: Hackman. Motion carried.

Motion by Hackman, seconded by Cerwinski to proceed with repair of the twenty-two window sills for the Community Service Building not to exceed \$5,000.00. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Hackman, seconded by Breitbach to approve Homestead Tax Credit Applications; 169 New Homestead Tax Credit Applications, 194 Homestead Tax Credit Removals, 1,049 Homestead Exemption Applications, and 6 Homestead Exemption Application Denials Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Hackman, seconded by Cerwinski to proceed with repair of the twenty-two window sills for the Community Service Building not to exceed \$5,000.00. Roll call: Ayes; Breitbach, Cerwinski, Suckow, Kuhn. Abstained: Hackman. Motion carried.

Motion by Hackman, seconded by Cerwinski to proceed with repair of the twenty-two window sills for the Community Service Building not to exceed \$5,000.00. Roll call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Hackman, seconded by Breitbach to approve the removal of 22 Homestead Tax Credit that no longer qualify due to ruling by the Department of Revenue. and to authorize chair's signature Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Hackman, seconded by Cerwinski to approve the removal of 22 Homestead Tax Credit that no longer qualify due to ruling by the Department of Revenue. and to authorize chair's signature Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Hackman, seconded by Cerwinski to proceed with repair of the twenty-two window sills for the Community Service Building not to exceed \$5,000.00. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

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# Those future Huskies look up to the current ones

## AUTOGRAPH DAY: FROM 1

Before the winter sports season kicked into high gear, the members of the Nashua-Plainfield basketball and wrestling teams, along with the cheerleaders, gathered in our school's cozy little gym and took an "all-sports picture."

In years past, the Huskies would have an "Autograph Night" so after a hoops doubleheader or a wrestling quadrangular, the high school student-athletes would sit at tables in the school lunch room and hallways and sign the posters for any kids that were in attendance.

This year, Nashua-Plainfield changed it up. Instead of having a "night," Nashua-Plainfield student-athletes had a "day." The kids popped over from the elementary school, got their posters and went to work finding their favorite Huskies. No trying to juggle schedules, no late nights for a team that might have to get on a bus early the next morning for a tournament or a game. I liked it, and I was excited to cover it.

But life, as it always does, happened, and instead of hanging out with Nashua-Plainfield students of all ages, I was driving a friend of mine to a treatment center in Sioux City that day.

Like I said, I was bummed when I saw Jenn's pictures that I had missed it.

Still, I can pontificate, because I believe there is a lesson in those pictures.

The big kids matter to the little kids.

They are, in so many ways, their heroes, and I hope these current Huskies realize just what a "hello" or a smile means to those young kids who come to their games and cheer for them.

It. Is. Everything.

I, as I often do, will meander a bit here.

My two sons were blessed with athletic ability I never had, and they gave their old man plenty of memorable moments before they graduated from high school — Josh in 2018 and Noah in 2019. I was never all-conference in anything; they were both in a lot of things.

But the pictures I most cherish from those days that now seem long ago aren't the ones of them making a tackle, grabbing a rebound, throwing a shot put or placing an extra-base hit to the gap.

It's the ones where they helped with



**Cam Smith and Logan Feldman (above) shows off their autographed posters while fellow Nashua-Plainfield Elementary School students Dax McMichael adds another signature to his collection.**



YSF football or sat in an elementary classroom and read to kids.

Over the years, Josh and Noah had

tire of me saying "do the right thing because there are little kids watching you and they look up to you." I said it over and over and over ... enough to get an eye roll or two.

So that's my message to the Nashua-Plainfield High School student-athletes who signed those posters last week. Do the right thing.

Maybe they're reading this and giving the old reporter an eye roll of their own, but my rebuttal to that is the pictures that Jenn Kalainoff, as she often does, graciously shared with the Reporter.

So if you're a current Husky, I'd ask you to look at the photos that accompany this column. And then you'll know that there are a whole bunch of future Huskies who are watching you and who are looking up to you — and not just in a literal sense, either.

I said this is a Christmas story, and I will stand by that statement.

Last week, the Nashua-Plainfield High School winter sports student-athletes gave their time and their signatures to kids who walked over from the elementary school.

And that's a pretty precious gift — before, during and after Christmas.

# No. 5 Huskies take on No. 1 Osage next week

## WRESTLING: FROM 1

wrestled an almost full dual against Forest City as the Indians had wrestlers in 13 of the 14 weight classes. But the Huskies still made it quick. Carey (165), Tate White (190), Sullivan (215), Brase (113), Rinken (126) and Blanchard (157) all scored first-period falls, and the Huskies also got pins from Dietz-McDonald (175), Connor Sullivan (106), Zwanziger (132) and Gelner (150) also picked up pins.

"Forest City had some tough, physical kids, but our guys came out fighting," Frost said. "We got on a roll, and I think even though we probably didn't put our best dual lineup out there, we finished off a pretty solid night of wrestling."

Now, the Huskies are focused on the second half of the season, one that, from experience, Frost knows will move quickly.

"Jan. 30 is regional duals, and I'm telling you right now what I told the guys, Jan. 30 is going to be here in a hurry," he said. "We've got some work to do. Losing the two meets to Lake Mills, that stings a little bit, but we've wrestled some really good competition the first half of the season. Now, it's go time."

And go-time starts with a doozy as the Huskies will return to the mat next Thursday with a triangular against St. Ansgar and Osage. The host Green Devils are the top-ranked team in the latest Iowa Wrestling Coaches and Officials Association's Class 1A rankings.

"We've got some solid teams coming up — starting with Osage," Frost said. "West Hancock's down the road, we've got some good Saturday tournaments. This is the time we've got to start putting it all together."

**ON TAP FOR OUR NASHUA-PLAINFIELD HUSKIES**

### TUESDAY

Girls wrestling at Osage Invitational, 10 a.m.  
Basketball vs. Riceville, JV boys at 5 p.m., varsity girls at

6:15 p.m., varsity boys at 7:30 p.m.

### THURSDAY, JAN. 4

Basketball vs. Central Springs, JV boys at 5 p.m., varsity girls at 6:15 p.m., varsity boys at 7:30 p.m.



### Boys wrestling vs. Osage and St. Ansgar at Osage, 6 p.m.

### FRIDAY, JAN. 5

Girls wrestling at Central Elkader Invitational, 4:30 p.m.  
Basketball vs. West Fork, JV boys at 5 p.m., varsity girls at

6:15 p.m., varsity boys at 7:30 p.m.

### SATURDAY, JAN. 6

Boys wrestling at Tripoli Invitational, 8:30 a.m.

### TUESDAY, JAN. 9

Basketball vs. Rockford, JV boys at 5 p.m., varsity girls at 6:15 p.m., varsity boys at 7:30 p.m.

### THURSDAY, JAN. 11

Basketball at Postville, JV boys at 5 p.m., varsity girls at 6:15 p.m., varsity boys at 7:30 p.m.

Wrestling vs. Central Springs, West Hancock and North Butler at Manly, 6 p.m.

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Monday, January 15th, 2023 7:00pm

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Chickasaw Democrats will meet at the following location(s):

Precincts 1-4,7-9: New Hampton Elementary School - Cafeteria, 206 W Main

Precinct 5 (Stapleton/Fredericksburg): Fredericksburg City Hall, 151 W Main

Precinct 6 (Bradford): Nashua Plainfield Middle School - Commons, 612 Greeley St.

The purpose of this year's caucus is to:

1. Discuss and adopt proposed resolutions to be added to the county platform.
2. Elect Unbound Delegates and Alternates to the County Convention
3. Elect Precinct Committee Persons to the County Central Committee

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Kelly Terpstra/Reporter

Nashua-Plainfield's Jayden Rinken (above) takes an opponent to his back during the Nashua-Plainfield Invitational while teammate Tate White (below) works to finish off a takedown in a meet wrestled earlier this month.

## Huskies close out 2023 with a bang

Nashua-Plainfield wins 37 of 42 matches in dominating performance at Top of Iowa quadrangular

By BOB FENSKY  
*Of the Reporter*

Nashua-Plainfield capped 2023 with a mat performance that was, in a word, dominating.

### Dual rankings

Here are the latest Class 1A state dual rankings from the Iowa Wrestling Coaches and Officials Association:

1. Wilton
2. Albion
3. Don Bosco
4. Lake Mills
- 5. Nashua-Plainfield**
6. Jesup
7. West Hancock
8. Hinton
9. Logan-Magnolia
10. Emmetsburg
11. Wapsie Valley
12. MFL MarMac
13. Lisbon
14. West Branch
15. Underwood
16. Missouri Valley
17. Nodaway Valley
18. Interstate 35
19. Pleasantville
20. Earlom
21. Denver
22. Akron-Westfield
23. Riverside
24. Shenandoah

And the quad gave the Huskies some needed momentum heading into 2024, especially considering the fact that Nashua-Plainfield was coming off a rare three-loss day at the Battle of Waterloo on Dec. 16.

"You know, the competition wasn't obvi-

The Huskies put together a 37-5 match record as it rolled to three victories — 66-15 over North Union, 78-6 over Rockford and 73-5 over Forest City — at a Top of Iowa Conference quadrangular in Rockford last Thursday.

Nashua-Plainfield came up with 24 pins, was the recipient of 11 forfeits, claimed one major decision and won a decision; in other words, it was a quick night for the Huskies, who improved to 15-5 in dual meets.

The Huskies won 11 of the first 12 matches against North Union, took advantage of seven forfeits and recorded six pins against Rockford and then built a 57-0 lead on its way to pounding Forest City.

Start with the North Union match that saw Jackson Carey (165), Maverick Dietz-McDonald (175), Titus Evans (190), Aiden

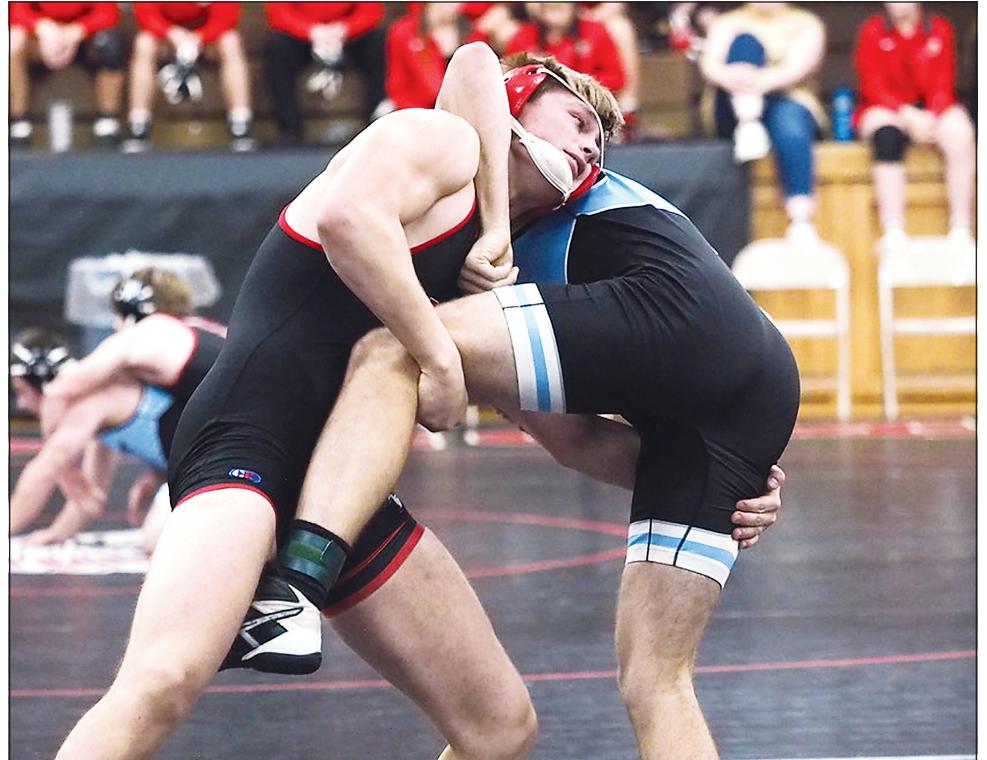
Sullivan (215), Nic Brase (113), Hayden Munn (120), Luke Zwanziger (126) and Jayden Rinken (132) all pick up pins.

"North Union struggles with numbers, but they always seem to have four, five guys who are real physical wrestlers," Frost said, "and I thought we looked pretty solid."

Dylan Blanchard (157), Dietz-McDonald (175), Sullivan (215), Isaac Jones (285) and Jonathan O'Neill (144) all recorded first-period pins and save for Aiden Gelner's third-period fall at 150, not a single match in the Rockford dual made it into the second period.

After getting a combined 13 forfeits in the first two duals, Nashua-Plainfield

**SEE WRESTLING, 5**



Kelly Terpstra/Reporter

### Jumping right back into it

Nashua-Plainfield basketball players like Landon Foelske and Ava Kirk and their teammates are going to be busy hoopsters to start off 2024 as the Huskies, starting with home games against Riceville, begin the new year by playing six games in a span of 11 days.



Nashua-Plainfield heavyweight Isaac Jones ties up with an opponent during the Huskies' home tournament earlier this month.

## Town Hall Meetings!

Meet in person with State Representative Charley Thomson to discuss the upcoming session of the Iowa General Assembly.

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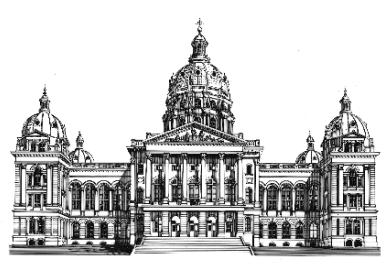
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