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# Nashua REPORTER

**Break is over; Huskies return to court, mat**  
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Vol. 117, Issue 01      4 January 2024      Nashua, IA 50658 • 75 cents

## Supervisors elect new chairman

All but one board member nominated for post, but Cerwinski prevails in balloting

By **BOB FENSKE**  
*Of the Reporter*

The Chickasaw County Board of Supervisors has a new leader, but Tuesday's vote to elevate Scott Cerwinski to chairman had its share of "county intrigue."

Matt Kuhn, who had served as the board chair for the past two years, announced that he had no interest in continuing in his position. "It's time for someone else to step up," he said and opened the floor for nominations.

And there were a slew of them, too, as Steve Breitbach nominated Cerwinski, who returned the favor and nominated Breitbach. Jake Hackman nominated Kuhn, and Kuhn nominated Travis Suckow. Kuhn appeared to be taken aback by his nomination, especially

because it was coming from Hackman. "You've never supported me before," Kuhn said and asked why Hackman had made the nomination. **SEE CHAIR, 3**

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*Looking back on the year 2023, a year filled with newsworthy events*



## Nashua's House rep says he wants to amend HF 718

Thomson tells town-hall meeting attendees that state leaders don't always understand the differences between rural, urban Iowa

By **BOB FENSKE**  
*Of the Reporter*

The man who represents New Hampton in the Iowa House of Representatives said last week that he's going to go to bat for the city's library and museum that would be adversely affected by a new law that was passed by the Legislature and signed into law last spring.

State Rep. Charley Thomson covered a lot of ground during a town-hall meeting at the New Hampton Public Library, one that was relatively well-attended considering it began at 5 p.m. on a Friday that kicked off a holiday weekend.

Thomson spent almost a third of the meeting having a back-and-forth discussion about House File 718, a new law that contains some dramatic changes when it comes to how local government entities can tax property owners.

After hearing from Carnegie Cultural Center secretary Wally Murphy and New Hampton Public Library Director Carrie Becker, Thomson said he had issues with the new law, especially when it comes to "rolling in" voter-approved levies to city levies.

"They can say they preserved your freedom to have your library levy, but you just have to defend somebody else," said Thomson, who is in the middle of his first House term and represents all of Floyd and Chickasaw counties and much of

**SEE THOMSON, 2**

## Nashua Library to offer new program for senior citizens

'Coffee/Tea & Conversation' to be held on Thursdays at library

By **BOB FENSKE**  
*Of the Reporter*

Nashua Public Library Director Heather Hackman just wants to "put it out there" and see what happens when it comes to a new program the library will begin offering to senior citizens, beginning next week.

"Coffee/Tea & Conversation" will begin a week from today, Thursday, Jan. 11, and will run each week from 2 to 3 p.m.

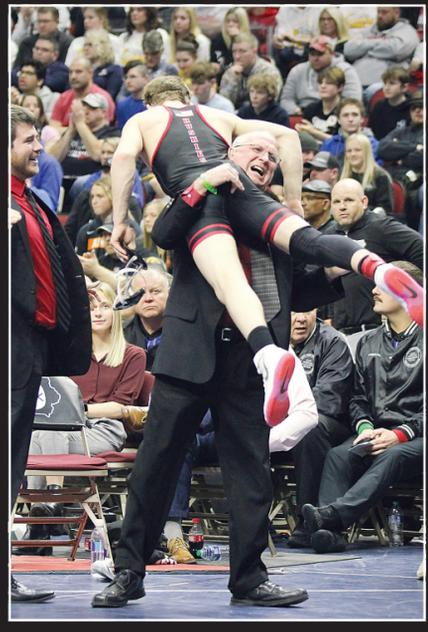
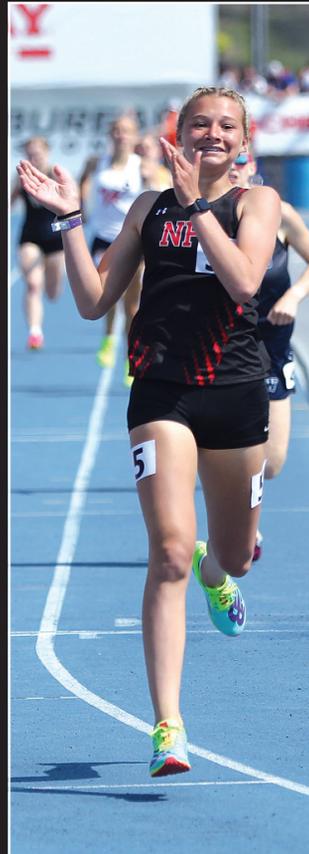
"It's something other libraries do, and something I've been wanting to do for a long time," Hackman said. "I'm going to put it out there, and we'll have the coffee and tea ready, no matter how many people show up. We just want to offer our senior citizens a fun option to be with people their own age, catch up and enjoy each other's company."

She said she avoided the morning hours for the new program so as not to interfere with the various "coffee clubs" that meet at Nashua's Subway, but she added that there are benefits to the afternoon time slot as well.

"We don't have that coffee shop or anything like that where people can gather," she said. "We're really leaving it pretty wide open. I hope they bring their knitting and crocheting or they play cards. We just want them to have a comfortable spot to gather, to talk, to catch up."

There is no cost for the coffee or tea, and the director is excited to see if the program will "take hold" of the senior citizens.

"The whole idea," Hackman said, "is that we just want them to have a spot, their spot, if you will."



# PROVING THEM WRONG IN 2023!

START OF NASHUA AREA EMS TOPS LIST OF BIGGEST STORIES FROM NEWSY YEAR

By **BOB FENSKE**  
*Of the Reporter*

In a year that produced a host of newsworthy headlines, the Reporter's top story is one that offers proof that good things happen when a community comes together for a common cause.

No. 1 for 2023 wasn't the drought, the departure of a mayor or the thrilling moments provided by our Nashua-Plainfield Huskies.

No. 1, without question, was the successful launch of Nashua Area EMS.

It not only provided ambulance service to the residents of Chickasaw County's second-largest city, it did so with a rig that was just "around the

corner," instead of in New Hampton, Charles City or Waverly.

And it proved the naysayers completely and utterly wrong.

"The support we've gotten from the fire department, from the community, and the gratitude of our residents, those are all really huge for us," Nashua Area EMS Director Zenda Vikturek said during an interview last month.

"Even people who haven't had to use our service tell us, 'Just knowing you're here is comforting.' I'm incredibly proud of what we've accomplished in a really short time."

And Vikturek could be forgiven if she had a

**SEE TOP STORY, 4**

### THE TOP-10 STORIES OF 2023

- 1) Successful launch of Nashua Area EMS.
- 2) The drought.
- 3) Nashua mayor resigns, replaced.
- 4) Voters approve diamond complex.
- 5) N-P wrestlers claim two individual state titles, two team state trophies.
- 6) Kadence Huck wins two state track titles to lead Huskies to runner-up finish.
- 7) City continues to deal with dam issues.
- 8) City tackles water issues.
- 9) County appoints new sheriff.
- 10) N-P History Day continues tradition.

# State representative says education will be hot topic during 2024 session

THOMSON: FROM 1

Bremer County. "This is a big problem. We're going to have a fight about this."

Currently, cities in Iowa can max out their basic levies at \$8.10 per \$1,000 valuation but other levies, including those that are approved by voters, can be added. New Hampton has voter-approved levies, for example, that provide 27.5 cents per \$1,000 valuation to both the library and the Carnegie.

Under HF 718, though, those levies will have to count toward the \$8.10 limit by 2029.

Murphy spoke out against the levy, pointing out that "it seems to be that the best kind of government is closest to the people ... I'm asking [you] to have this amended to empower us to tax ourselves."

Thomson said he has no issue with the intent of HF 718, but he said he has plenty of issues with how it will be implemented.

"They want to be cutting the overall tax burden, and that's fine. I think if you do the math — comparing Iowa to other jurisdictions — we are not getting our dollar's worth on government service. Our overall spending per person is too high."

But he supports reversing some aspects of the bill Gov. Kim Reynolds signed into law in 2023.

"The people in Des Moines are saying we're cutting your taxes, see? But what they're doing is cutting somebody else's budget and saying 'you figure it out.' Well, that's not a very responsible way of doing it."

New Hampton City Councilwoman Mindy Humpal told the first-term legislator that "we're having a hard time understanding how people sitting in Des Moines have a better understanding about how the local citizens here want to spend their money."



Bob Fenske/Tribune

**State Rep. Charley Thomson shares information about the upcoming legislative session during a town-hall meeting that was held last Friday evening at the New Hampton Public Library.**

Thomson said he believes some of the issues with HF 718 show the divide not between political parties but the urban and rural parts of the state.

"The people in Des Moines who have the megaphones in the Legislature tend to be the urban and suburban representatives, from places like Grimes," Thomson said. "Not that

there is anything wrong with those places, they're very nice, but we choose not to live there.

"The economics of running government and running a town are very different in Grimes than they are here."

He promised that "I intend to make a nuisance of myself on that issue"

when the Legislature convenes for its 2024 session on Monday, Jan. 8.

Among the other issues Thomson touched on Friday were education, his opposition to allowing Chinese interests to purchase ag land in Iowa and the issue of books being removed from school libraries in the state.

On education, he said he believes

there's going to "be a lot of money" moving to schools, but he added that he expects the education debate to be controversial over the next few months.

"It's going to come with some reductions that people won't like because there's a sense that there's been overspending in some areas," Thomson said. "One area in particular I can think of is school facilities and how PPEL is working that has encouraged in some places overbuilding and discarding perfectly fine facilities."

He said he would remain vigilant when it comes to any bills that allowed Iowa farmland to be sold to China, pointing out that he led the charge to reverse a bill in 2023 that "they tried to sneak past us."

Asked by Becker about the possibility of school librarians being jailed if they allow some books to get into the hands of students, Thomson said that the press has overplayed the issue.

"The press has seen a great opportunity to say that we're banning books, which is absolutely not true," he said. "We're not banning anything, we're restricting the availability of obscene material to children without parental consent."

And he returned to education later in the meeting, saying he has yet to see a bill that would dismantle Area Education Agencies in the state. He sounded a common theme when he said that he's in favor of looking for "the fat" in all government spending, but he also said that AEA's also provide valuable services.

Thomson said one of his goals is to improve Iowa's K-12 education system, one that he said several times have regressed in recent years.

"Now we have to do the heavy lifting of bringing Iowa's public schools back to being the best in the country ... and that's not one session worth of work. That will be going on for years."

## Chickasaw County Salvation Army unit wraps up a record year for Red Kettle Campaign

It was a record year for the Chickasaw County unit of the Salvation Army when it came to its annual Red Kettle Campaign.

And after Kris Markham, the coordinator of the Salvation Army in the county, accepted congratulations, she got right to her annual "acceptance speech."

"Without Fareway, without the bell ringers, without the people who donate," Markham said, "we wouldn't be able to help people. They're the ones who are the real heroes with the kettle."

This year's campaign, which started on Nov. 15 and ran through Dec. 23, raised more than \$18,500. That easily broke the record of a little more than \$16,000 that was raised during the 2022 campaign.

Markham was effusive as she talked about Fareway and its store leaders for providing the Salvation Army and its bell ringers space to conduct the campaign.

"We're so grateful for all they do and that's really where it starts," she said. "We have to have a place that we can call home and they give us one for the weeks we're ringing the bell."

— Bob Fenske

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# Richard David Hansen, 77

Richard David Hansen, age 77 of Nashua, died Monday, Jan. 1, 2024 at his home.

Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 6, 2024, at the United Methodist Church in Nashua with the Rev. Sarah Namukose officiating.

Interment will be held at Greenwood Cemetery in Nashua with grandsons Chad Sudol, Chase Sudol, Collin Sudol, Austin Walk, Taylor Walk, Matt Bryan, Ben Tiedt, Dayton Hansen, Jase Hansen, and Jaxson Hansen serving as pallbearers. Granddaughters Sarah Sudol, Olivia Sudol, Melissa Sudol, Jamie Walk, Ashley Walk, Brianna Bryan, Amanda Tiedt, Shaylee Hansen, and Kaylee Hansen will be serving as honorary pallbearers.

Friends may greet the family from 4 to 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 5, 2024, at Hugeback-Johnson Funeral Home & Crematory/Olson Chapel in Nashua. Visitation will continue one hour prior to the service at the church.

Hugeback Johnson Funeral Home and Crematory - Olson Chapel in Nashua have been entrusted with arrangements.

Born on May 25, 1946, in Charles City, to Fred and Maxine (Wolff) Hansen, Richard's life was one marked by devotion to his family, his farm and his community.

A lifelong resident of Nashua, Richard graduated from Nashua High School and soon after answered the call of duty by serving in the National Guard from 1966 to 1972. His heart, however, always belonged to the soil and skies of Iowa. Richard was a dedicated farmer, a steward of the land who found solace and joy in the rolling fields that he tended with care and respect.

On Sept. 10, 1966, Richard married his beloved wife, Carolyn (Venz) Hansen, and together they built a life filled with love, laughter, and the daily blessings of family. Their union was blessed with four children - Tami, Kim, Shawna, and Jason. He took immense pride in his role as a father, instilling in his children the values of hard work, kindness, and the importance of family.

Richard's life was a testament to his selfless nature. He was always known to have time for people, whether it was a neighbor in need or a stranger seeking advice. His presence was a comfort to many, and his willingness to lend a helping hand was just one of the many ways he demonstrated his loving and kind spirit.

An avid supporter of the Nashua-Plainfield schools, Richard never missed an opportunity to cheer on his children and later his grandchildren and great-grandchildren at their sporting events. His joy was palpable, and his encouragement never waned, no matter the score.

Richard's passions extended beyond the farm and the



Richard Hansen

bleachers. He relished in the thrill of snowmobiling and boating, activities that allowed him to experience the beauty of nature and the exhilaration of life. Yet, it was the simple pleasures that he treasured most: the yearly family vacations, the love of Branson with his wife, and the quiet moments spent watching his crops grow from the window.

One of Richard's fondest memories was a trip to Montana with his daughters, an adventure that brought him closer to the vastness of the American landscape and the tight-knit bond of his family. Dancing with Carolyn was a cherished pastime, one that reflected the rhythm of their life together—full of grace, strength, and enduring love.

Even as farming became a spectator's sport for him in his later years, Richard maintained his connection to the land and the farming community. He enjoyed conversations with fellow farmers, sharing stories and wisdom gleaned from a lifetime of cultivating the earth.

Richard's legacy is one of love and service. He was the epitome of selflessness, always putting the needs of his family and friends before his own. His memory will be honored by all who knew him, not only as a man who loved his family above all else but as a pillar of the community who embodied the very best of what it means to lead a life of kindness and generosity.

Richard is survived by son, Jason (Marisa) Hansen of Nashua; daughters, Tami (Steve) Sudol of Nashua, Kim (Mark) Walk of Nashua, and Shawna (David) DePue of Nashua; sister, Linda (Jerry) Smith of Nashua; brother-in-law, Ron (Marilyn) Venz of Charles City; grandchildren, Chad (Sarah) Sudol, Chase (Olivia) Sudol, Collin (Melissa) Sudol, Austin (Jamie) Walk, Taylor (Ashley) Walk, Brianna (Matt) Bryan, Amanda (Ben) Tiedt, Dayton (Kaylee) Hansen, Shaylee Hansen, Jase Hansen, and Jaxson Hansen; and 14 great-grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his wife, Carolyn (Venz) Hansen; his parents, Fred and Maxine (Wolff) Hansen; and parent-in-laws, Melvin and Madonna Venz.

# Doyle Edward Ramsey, 67

Doyle Edward Ramsey, age 67 of Nashua, died Monday, Jan. 1, 2024 at his home.

No formal services will be held at this time. Hugeback-Johnson Funeral Home & Crematory/Olson Chapel in Nashua have been entrusted with arrangements.

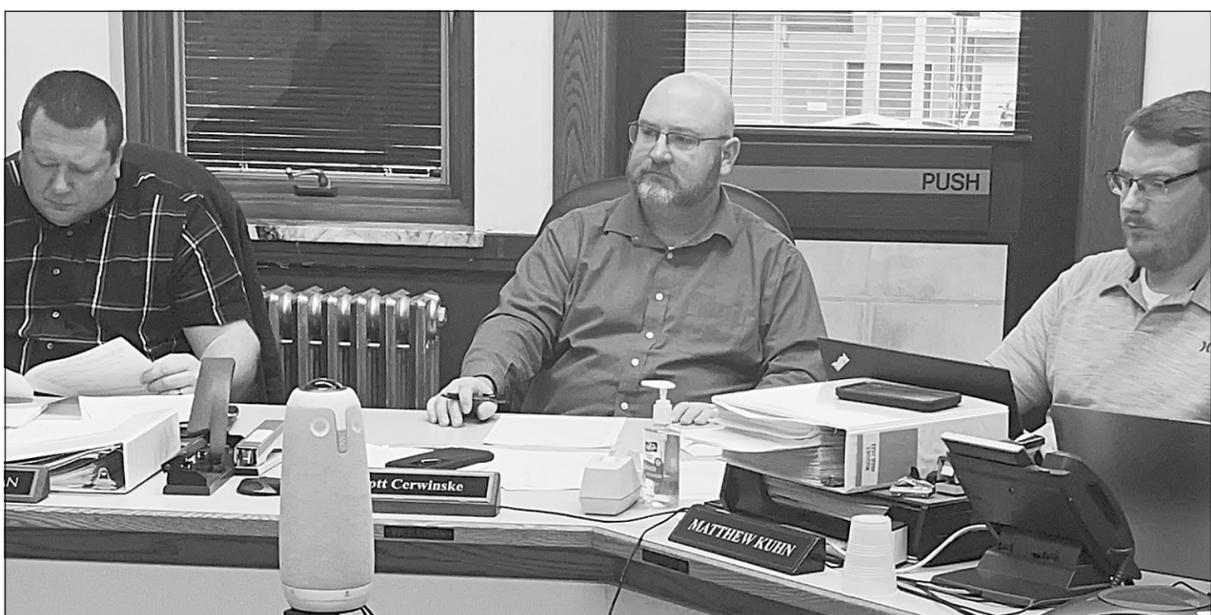
# James 'Jim' Diller, 82

James "Jim" Diller, age 82 of Nashua, died Tuesday, Dec. 26, 2023, at Waverly Health Center in Waverly.

Funeral services were held at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2024, at St. John United Church of Christ-Pleasant Hill, rural Nashua, with the Rev. Drew McHolm officiating.

Interment was held at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 3, 2024, at Oak Hill Cemetery in Lansing.

Friends greeted the family from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2024, prior to the service at the church.



New Chickasaw County Board of Supervisors Chairman Scott Cerwinske listens to a presentation by the county's head custodian, Dave Gorman, during Tuesday's meeting.

# Former Nashua City Council member to lead Board of Supervisors

**CHAIR: FROM 1**

Hackman's reply was quick. "Because I want you as a chair."

In the end, it didn't matter as the first three votes cast — by Breitbach, Suckow and Kuhn — were for Cerwinske. Hackman voted for Suckow while the new chair voted for Breitbach, who was elected as vice chairman.

That vote was 4-1, as Hackman voted "no."

Hackman served as board chairman between 2018 and 2020 but his fellow

supervisors elected Rick Holthaus to the position in 2021. After Holthaus died on Jan. 2, 2022, both Hackman and Kuhn sought the chair position, and after a 2-2 vote, Hackman dropped out of the race, at the time saying it was "the right thing to do."

Kuhn was then re-elected to the chair at the beginning of 2023 on a 4-1 vote, with Hackman voting for himself. But Kuhn's second year leading the board had its rocky moments, especially this past spring when Suckow suggested that the board replace its chairman.

But Kuhn refused to resign, and during an April 17 meeting, no motion was made to remove him and he finished out the year as chairman.

Cerwinske, a former Nashua city councilman, knocked off three-term incumbent Tim Zoll in the 2022 Republican primary for the District 2 seat that represents the southwestern part of the county, including the city of Nashua.

He then ran unopposed in that year's general election and took his seat on the board in January 2023.

# County goes back to drawing board after not getting road grant from the feds

**By BOB FENSKE**  
*Of the Reporter*

It was the federal government's version of coal in the stockings of Chickasaw County and the city of Alta Vista, and it is sending county and city officials back to the drawing board.

Chickasaw County Engineer Roman Lensing told the Board of Supervisors Tuesday morning that the county and city will not be receiving a portion of a federal Rural Service Grant that would have helped pay for a much-needed road construction project of County Road V18 from the south limits of Alta Vista to the Howard County town of Elma.

"The feds' opinion of rural is an interchange by Cedar Rapids," Lensing said, "[so it's] back to the drawing board on that — figuring out how we're

going to foot the bill for that cost. Alta Vista, of course, is in the same boat. ... We need to have some discussion with the city at some point."

Not getting the grant won't affect a road project that will be done this year on V18 from Highway 18 to the south city limits of Alta Vista that will include concrete overlay and about 2,600 feet of total road reconstruction in North Washington.

That project is still set to be let sometime this month.

The bigger project, though, is on hold, although Lensing said preliminary engineering on the project will continue through March.

"It's going to have to be addressed whether or not the county wants to assist the city with payment or what we want to do there," he said. "Everything technically outside

the center 22 is their baby."

Lensing was referring to the fact that the county is responsible for the center 22 feet of V18 as it passes through Alta Vista. The city is responsible for any other items that are not in the county's jurisdiction.

"They were going to have a hard time making it work with the grant," said Supervisors Steve Breitbach, whose district includes Alta Vista, "so I don't know how they're going to handle it now."

The supervisors and Lensing discussed a variety of options — from shrinking the scope of the project to using TIF money to help Alta Vista with some of its costs to pursuing other grants.

The county also needs to figure out how it can meet its costs. Lensing said if the county used its Farm to Market Fund, "it would take a while to foot

that bill, and everyone knows that the road in Alta Vista is pretty bad."

Supervisor Jake Hackman said he was not in favor of having the county doing its portion of the project without the city involved.

"I think it it would be foolish to just do the 22 feet," he said, "and then they have to come back and do theirs later. It would be cheaper to do any kind of improvement all together."

Lensing agreed and also expressed his disappointment with the grant decision.

"We tried pretty hard to get that grant, a lot of work was put into it. I mean this was seven counties putting this application together, so it was pretty sad to get that before Christmas, too, when they said it would be March until they announced it."

# Grant deadline fast approaching for non-profit organizations

The deadline to submit grant applications to the Chickasaw County Community Foundation's 2024 grant cycle is 5 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 15.

The online grant application can be found on the Community Foundation's website at [www.chickasawccf.org](http://www.chickasawccf.org).

Grants are awarded to projects within the program areas of arts and culture, community betterment, education and youth development, environment and animal welfare, health and human service.

Grant recipients will be announced in March.

More information can be found at [www.chickasawccf.org](http://www.chickasawccf.org).

**IOWA DEMOCRATIC PARTY CAUCUS**  
**Monday, January 15th, 2023 7:00pm**  
 You must be in-line or signed-in by 7:00pm to participate.

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

The precinct caucus is a great way to get involved in grassroots activities with the Iowa Democratic Party. All Iowa Democrats are encouraged to attend.  
 Please visit [lowademocrats.org](http://lowademocrats.org) or call the helpline (515) 216-3893 if you have a question and/or to request a Presidential Preference Ballot.

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**The 2024 Chickasaw County Republican Precinct Caucuses will be held on Monday January 15, 2024, 7:00 PM at four locations. Registration starts at 6:00 PM**

**The Pub at the Pinicon - 2205 S Linn Ave, New Hampton**  
 New Hampton City Precincts #1, #2, #3, #4  
 Dayton/Richland Precinct #7  
 New Hampton Rural Precinct #8

**Sumner/Fredericksburg Middle School Building - 300 E Main St, Fredericksburg**  
 Dresden/Fredericksburg/Lawler/Stapleton Precinct #5

**Nashua Welcome Center - 10 Amherst Blvd, Nashua**  
 Nashua/Bradford Precinct #6

**Alta Vista Memorial Hall - 208 White St, Alta Vista**  
 Chickasaw North Precinct #9

**All Precinct Caucuses will perform the following functions:**  
 1. Tally votes for a Republican Presidential Candidate.  
 2. Elect three Republican residents of the precinct to serve on the Chickasaw County Republican Central Committee.  
 3. Elect 55 delegates and 27 alternate delegates and junior delegates to attend the Saturday February 17, 2024, Chickasaw County Republican Convention.  
 4. Propose and vote on platform planks to be sent to the County Convention.

Voter registration forms will be available to register or to update your voter information.  
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# Nashua Area EMS gets off to a great start

TOP STORY: FROM 1

twinge of "I-told-you-so" in her voice as she talked about the service that began taking calls on July 1 after a year of intensive preparation to park an ambulance in the city.

Go back to the summer of 2022, when the old Chickasaw County Ambulance Council was desperately trying to find a way to make sure that county residents had access to EMS service.

They settled on a county-owned ambulance service that would provide city residents coverage through 28E agreements.

Nashua, though, was not only concerned about the price tag, but it also was adamant that it wanted a rig to be stationed in the city.

The county said no, and Nashua set off on its own.

"I know there were a lot of people at the county, in the county, who were snickering and thinking they'll never make it work," Vikturek said. "I think that gave all of us in Nashua even more motivation to make this work."

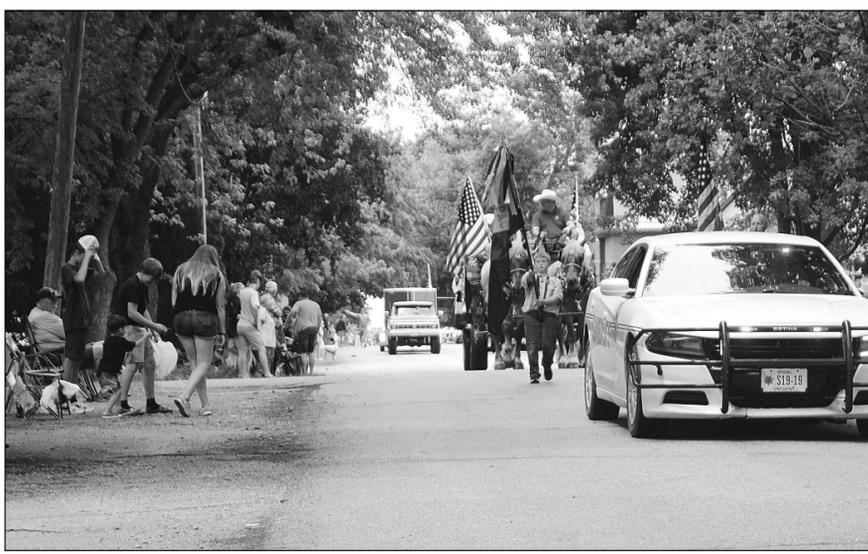
And it is working just fine; in fact, Nashua Area EMS has exceeded even the lofty expectations Vikturek had before the first call the ambulance took.

As the new year dawned, Nashua Area EMS had 20 active volunteers, which means it has been in service, as its director put it, "pretty much 99 percent of the time."

That was going to be an issue, the naysayers said. They said the county service would have to respond to Nashua often because there's no way the little city could staff an ambulance.

The naysayers were wrong, the "little city that could" was right.

"We've had a couple of hours here and there where we haven't been in service," Vikturek said, "but it's a rare thing. Since we started, the county has taken one call in Nashua, and that wasn't even because we weren't in service, that was because we were on another call."



Reporter file photo

**They may not have made our top-10 list this year, but once again, our community celebrations, like the annual Water Over the Dam Days in Nashua, hit the right notes in 2023.**

## It was a tough year to pick Reporter's top-10 stories

You know it's been a pretty newsy year when it's tough to come up with a top-10 list of stories, and that was certainly the case when it came to 2023.

But after looking through a year's worth of Reporters, here is what we came up with for the top-10 stories of 2023.

### No. 1: Nashua Area EMS

There were plenty of doubters out there when Nashua decided to start its own ambulance service, but in its first six months of service, Nashua Area EMS proved all those naysayers wrong.

### No. 2: The drought

Here's hoping this isn't a top-10 story in 2024, especially after this past year in which Nashua received just 55 percent of its normal precipitation.

### No. 3: Nashua mayor resigns

Many Nashua residents were stunned when Mayor Alex Anthofer abruptly turned in his resignation, and the city was without a mayor for almost two months before the City Council appointed one of its own, Councilman Hal Kelleher III, to finish out Anthofer's term.

### No. 4: Diamond complex

In March, Nashua-Plainfield Community Schools' voters overwhelmingly approved a measure that will allow the district to use its "state penny" fund to build a new baseball and softball complex in Plainfield, and although it took months to find a contractor at the right price, ground was broken on the site in October and construction will begin in earnest this coming spring.

### No. 5: Special wrestling team

Nashua-Plainfield's wrestling team has a long, storied tradition, and the Huskies added to it in 2023 with inspired runs to third-place finishes at both the Class 1A state duals and traditional tournament, where the Rinken brothers — Garret and Jayden — both claimed

individual state titles.

### No. 6: State track heroics

Huskies' superstar Kadence Huck claimed two state titles — in the 400 and 800 — to lead Nashua-Plainfield to an improbable runner-up finish at the Class 1A state track and field meet.

### No. 7: Dam issues

Throughout the year, the Nashua City Council dealt with issues with its dam — ranging from problems that cropped up after it was supposedly fixed two years ago to who owns the dam — and city officials lobbied the Chickasaw County Board of Supervisors to help fund some of the costs, which they agreed to by giving the city \$50,000 of its ARPA interest funds for engineering fees.

### No. 8: Working on water

The city of Nashua continued to deal with issues with its city water, and that led the City Council to change companies that provide oversight over the city's water supply. The good news is by the end of the year, the Environmental Protection Agency had lifted sanctions against the city.

### No. 9: New sheriff

In January, the Chickasaw County Board of Supervisors appointed Ryan Shawver to the sheriff's office that had been vacated by Marty Hemmert's retirement. The Sheriff's Office provides law enforcement service to the residents of Nashua.

### No. 10: History success

Nashua-Plainfield's National History Day program had another banner year as Caleb Sinnwell finished third in his division at the national contest, where Alison Mehmen and Gracie Dietz claimed the Agricultural and Rural History Outstanding Project award. Later in the year, a trio of students — Paige Franzen, Kadence Huck and Cal Levi — received the Lowell Milken Center for Unsung Heroes' Discovery Award.

# News from the Nashua Pubic Library

The Nashua Public Library is open Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

We can be reached by phone at 641-435-4635, and you can reserve books online as well through our online catalog, call the library if you need help by going online to <https://nashua.biblionix.com/catalog/>.

The library is now offering notary services to patrons. Our library director is now a notary public through the state of Iowa. If you need notary services, make sure to stop into the library or give us a call to ensure our library director is available.

We're here to help all the residents of Nashua and appreciate our patrons, so if you have questions, please don't hesitate to stop by or give us a call!

\*\*\*\*\*

Upcoming events at the Nashua Public Library include:

- Through Thursday, Feb. 29: Read-A-Latte Reading Challenge, stop by the library for details and to grab your punch card for chances to win a prize basket.
- Wednesday, Jan. 10: Library Board meeting, 7 p.m.
- Thursday, Jan. 11: Coffee/Tea & Conversation Senior Social Hour, 2 to 3 p.m.
- Wednesday, Jan. 17: Adult painting workshop — 5:30-6:30 p.m. (please call or stop into the library to sign up.) Must register to be included.
- Thursday, Jan. 18: Coffee/Tea & Conversation Senior Social Hour, 2 to 3 p.m.
- Saturday, Jan. 20: Children's painting workshop- 10:30-11:30 a.m. (please call or stop into the library to sign up.) Must register to be included.
- Thursday, Jan. 25: Coffee/Tea & Conversation Senior Social Hour, 2 to 3 p.m.
- Thursday, Feb. 1: Coffee/Tea & Conversation Senior Social Hour, 2 to 3 p.m.
- Thursday, Feb. 8: Coffee/Tea & Conversation Senior Social Hour, 2 to 3 p.m.
- Wednesday, Feb. 14: Children's Valentine's Day Workshop, 5 to 6 p.m.
- Wednesday, Feb. 14: Library Board meeting, 7 p.m.
- Thursday, Feb. 15: Coffee/Tea & Conversation Senior Social Hour, 2 to 3 p.m.
- Saturday, Feb. 17: "Magician" Rick Eugene at the library! 10:30-11:30 a.m. (Open to all ages)!

\*\*\*\*\*

Some of the new books we have at the library include:

- Energy Follows Thought by Willie Nelson
- The Secret by Lee Child
- Magic by Roland Lazenby
- Lost & Hound by Rita Mae Brown
- Wyoming Proud by Diana Palmer
- Being Henry by Henry Winkler
- A Christmas Vanishing by Anne Perry
- The Wishing Bridge by Viola Shipman
- Dirty Thirty by Janet Evanovich
- Inheritance by Nora Roberts
- The Edge by David Baldacci
- Just Once by Karen Kingsbury
- My Name is Barbara by Barbara Steisand
- The Ball at Versailles by Danielle Steel
- Tom Clancy's Command and Control by Marc Cameron
- Taste of Home Annual Recipes 2024
- Second Act by Danielle Steel
- The Exchange by John Grisham
- 50 years of Marble Rock Historical Society
- Stories of Marble Rock and People (1850-2023)
- Red Warning by Matthew Quirk \*\*Large Print\*\*
- Hour of Assassin by Matthew Quirk \*\*Large Print\*\*
- The night agent by Matthew Quirk \*\*Large Print\*\*

— Compiled by Nashua Public Library Director Heather

Find us online  
24/7 at  
[www.nhtribune.news](http://www.nhtribune.news)

## Nashua-Plainfield Calendar of Events

# JANUARY

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 5

- 4:15pm Basketball: Girls JH Game vs. Riceville @ Riceville High School
- 4:30pm Wrestling: Girls Varsity Tournament vs. Multiple Schools @ Central Community Junior-Senior High School
- 5:00pm Basketball: Boys JV Game vs. West Fork @ Home
- 6:15pm Basketball: Girls Varsity Game vs. West Fork @ Home
- 6:15 Basketball: Girls Varsity Game vs. West Fork @ home
- 7:30pm Basketball: Boys Varsity Game vs. West Fork @ home

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 6

- 8:30am Wrestling: Boys Varsity Tournament vs. Tripoli @ Tripoli High School

### MONDAY, JANUARY 8

- 4:15pm Basketball: Girls JH Game vs. West Fork MS @ Nashua-Plainfield Husky Wellness Center

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 9

- 4:15pm Basketball: Girls JH Game vs. Charles City @ Charles City High School
- 4:15pm Basketball: Boys JH Game vs. Turkey Valley @ Turkey Valley High School
- 4:15pm Wrestling: Boys JH Meet vs. Central Springs Middle School @ Central Springs Middle School, Nora Springs Campus
- 4:45pm Basketball: Boys JV Game vs. Rockford Senior @ Nashua-Plainfield HS NP Gymnasium-High School
- 6:15pm Basketball: Girls Varsity Game vs. Don Bosco Catholic @ Nashua-Plainfield High School
- 7:30pm Basketball: Boys Varsity Game vs. Rockford Senior @ Nashua-Plainfield HS NP Gymnasium-High School

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10

- Story Hour for ages 3-5 from 10 am-11 am Plainfield Public Library
- Wednesday Wonders from 3-4 pm at Plainfield Public Library

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 11

- 4:15pm Basketball: Boys JH Game vs. Central Springs Middle School @ Central Springs Middle School
- 5:00pm Basketball: Boys JV Game vs. Postville @ Postville Community Schools
- 6:00pm Wrestling: Boys Varsity Quad vs. Multiple Schools.. @ Central Springs High School
- 6:00pm Wrestling: Boys JV Quad vs. Tripoli @ Tripoli High School
- 6:15pm Basketball: Girls Varsity Game vs. Postville @ Postville Community Schools
- 7:30pm Basketball: Boys Varsity Game vs. Postville @ Postville Community Schools

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 12

- TBD Wrestling: Girls Varsity Conference vs. Osage @ Osage High School
- 4:15pm Basketball: Boys JH Game vs. Sumner Fredericksburg Middle @ Sumner-Fredericksburg Middle School
- 5:00pm Basketball: Boys JV Game vs. Northwood-Kensett CSD @ Northwood-Kensett Jr./Sr. High School Gym
- 6:15pm Basketball: Girls Varsity Game vs. Northwood-Kensett CSD @ Northwood-Kensett Jr./Sr. High School Gym
- 7:30pm Basketball: Boys Varsity Game vs. Northwood-Kensett CSD @ Northwood-Kensett Jr./Sr. High School Gym

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 13

- Youth Basketball Tournament Husky Wellness Center
- 9:30am Wrestling: Boys Varsity Game vs. Multiple Schools @ Hudson Elementary School
- 7-10 pm Dueling Pianos at The B

### MONDAY, JANUARY 15

- 5:00pm Wrestling: Boys JV Tournament Multiple Schools vs. Osage @ Osage High School
- 6:00pm Presidential Caucus NP Junior High Commons
- Extension office closed

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16

- 4:15pm Basketball: Girls JH Game vs. Tripoli @ Tripoli High School
- 4:15pm Wrestling: Boys JH Meet vs. Charles City @ Charles City High School
- 5:00pm Basketball: Boys JH Game vs. Tripoli @ Tripoli High School
- 5:00pm Wrestling: Boys JV Game vs. Newman Catholic @ Nashua-Plainfield HS NP Gymnasium-High School
- 6:00pm Wrestling: Boys Varsity Meet vs. Multiple Schools @ Star-mont High School
- 6:15pm Basketball: Girls Varsity Game vs. Newman Catholic @ Nashua-Plainfield High School
- 7:30pm Basketball: Boys Varsity Game vs. Newman Catholic @ Nashua-Plainfield HS NP Gymnasium-High School
- 6-7:30 pm Extension Council meeting

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17

- Story Hour for ages 3-5 from 10 am-11 am Plainfield Public Library

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 18

- 4:15pm Basketball: Girls JH Game vs. Clarksville @ Nashua-Plainfield High School
- 4:15pm Basketball: Boys JH Game vs. North Butler @ Nashua-Plainfield Husky Wellness Center
- 4:15pm Wrestling: Boys JH Meet vs. Riceville @ Riceville High School
- 4:15pm Wrestling: Boys JH Meet vs. Riceville @ Riceville High School

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 19

- 4:15pm Wrestling: Boys JH Meet vs. Riceville @ Riceville High School
- 5:00pm Basketball: Boys JV Game vs. Central Springs @ Central Springs High School
- 6:15pm Basketball: Girls Varsity Game vs. Central Springs @ Central Springs High School
- 7:30pm Basketball: Boys Varsity Game vs. Central Springs @ Central Springs High School
- 7-10 DJ/Line Dancing at The B

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 20

- 10:00am Wrestling: Girls Varsity Tournament vs. Mason City @ Mason City High School 8:00 am weigh-ins
- 10:00am Wrestling: Boys Varsity Conference vs. Multiple Schools @ Osage High School
- 3:00pm Basketball: Boys JV Game vs. Clarksville @ Clarksville High School
- 4:15pm Basketball: Girls Varsity Game vs. Clarksville @ Clarksville High School
- 5:30pm Basketball: Boys Varsity Game vs. Clarksville @ Clarksville High School

### MONDAY, JANUARY 22

- 4:15pm Basketball: Girls JH Game vs. North Butler Middle School @ North Butler Elementary - Allison

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 23

- 4:15pm Wrestling: Boys JH Meet vs. Multiple Schools @ Charles City High School Junior High Girls Only
- 5:00pm Basketball: Boys JV Game vs. St. Ansgar @ Nashua-Plainfield HS NP Gymnasium-High School
- 6:15pm Basketball: Girls Varsity Game vs. St. Ansgar @ Nashua-Plainfield High School
- 7:30pm Basketball: Boys Varsity Game vs. St. Ansgar @ Nashua-Plainfield HS NP Gymnasium-High School

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24

- Story Hour for ages 3-5 from 10 am-11 am Plainfield Public Library
- Wednesday Wonders from 3-4 pm at Plainfield Public Library

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 25

- 4:15pm Basketball: Boys JH Game vs. Rockford Senior @ Rockford High School
- 4:15pm Wrestling: Boys JH Meet vs. Multiple Schools @ Nashua-Plainfield High School
- 1:30-4:00 Private Pesticide Applicator CIC New Hampton Chickasaw County Extension
- 7:00-9:30 Private Pesticide Applicator CIC New Hampton Chickasaw County Extension

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 26

- 5:00pm Basketball: Boys JV Game vs. Osage @ Osage High School

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 27

- 9:00am Wrestling: Boys Varsity Tournament vs. Multiple Schools @ North Butler High School
- 7:30pm Basketball: Boys Varsity Game vs. Osage @ Osage High School

### MONDAY, JANUARY 29

- 5:00pm Basketball: Boys JV Game vs. Waterloo Christian @ Nashua-Plainfield HS NP Gymnasium-High School
- 6:15pm Basketball: Girls Varsity Game vs. Waterloo Christian @ Nashua-Plainfield High School
- Little Husky Cheerleader Performance
- 7:30pm Basketball: Boys Varsity Game vs. Waterloo Christian @ Nashua-Plainfield HS NP Gymnasium-High School Little Husky Cheerleader Performance

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 26

- 4:15pm Basketball: Girls JH Game vs. Central Springs Middle School @ Central Springs Middle School
- 4:15pm Basketball: Boys JH Game vs. St. Ansgar @ Nashua-Plainfield Husky Wellness Center
- 6:00pm Wrestling: Boys Varsity Regionals TBA vs. IHSAA @ TBA Regional Duals

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31

- Story Hour for ages 3-5 from 10 am-11 am Plainfield Public Library
- Wednesday Wonders from 3-4 pm at Plainfield Public Library

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# Huskies begin tough, hectic stretch in schedule

## GIRLS HOOPS: FROM 7

ran a man-to-man press that traps. They were able to bounce back and forth with those two things and they gave us issues." Huck, N-P's top scorer and stat leader in virtually every category this winter, led all scorers with 21 points. She scored 15 second-half points on 9-16 shooting and grabbed 10 rebounds to go along with six steals.

N-P senior Jalynn Pratt and Husky junior Paige Franzen were playing their first games back from injuries that saw them sit out several games before winter break. The Huskies were also playing their first game since the loss of junior center Josslynn Glaser - who had ankle surgery last month and could miss the rest of the regular season. Glaser scored a career high 23 points in her last game versus Osage in December.

"I think it was pretty noticeable that a lot of those girls were kicking off rust from not playing a game for a month or whatever it was for a lot of them," said Smith. "I'm hoping a few more practices and a few more games with those guys that we see better versions of all of them."

Franzen knocked down N-P's lone shot from beyond the arc with 15 seconds left in the third quarter. That 3-pointer trimmed N-P's deficit to 48-22 - which would be the score headed into the final period of play.

## N-P boys coach sees progress but wants more

### BOYS HOOPS: FROM 7

the rebound, which gave Riceville free throws on the other end. The Wildcats would make 1-2 from the charity stripe and lead 56-55.

Then controversy entered the fray.

Riceville was called for a 10-second violation underneath a minute left in regulation that didn't appear to be warranted. Referees converged and ended up giving the ball back to the Wildcats.

That wacky play - courtesy of an inadvertent whistle by the officials - was not what Mueller was focused on after the game.

"It was a big play in the game, but ultimately the one that we're beating our heads up against right now is how we let our defense totally go into whiff-mode on the last play," said Mueller. "We did not get back. We kind of wanted to just put a little pressure on when they got the ball in, but we never sprinted back."

The middle stages of the game were back and forth, but N-P did take an early 13-6 lead after an 11-0 run was engineered by the Huskies. Riceville ended up going on a big run of its own as it strung together 12 consecutive points to take an 18-13 lead.

Riceville came up with 19 steals as a team and Mueller said he thought his team probably came close to at least 20 turnovers in the game.

"I just felt defensively the



Kelly Terpstra/Reporter

### Nashua-Plainfield's Elayna O'Neill corrals a rebound during Tuesday night's game against Riceville.

Riceville buried nine 3-pointers on the evening - six of them coming in the second half.

N-P senior center Myranda Webster was also playing her first game back from an ankle injury that also saw her miss time prior to the Riceville contest. Webster tallied eight points.

N-P came up with 16 steals, but also turned the ball over 29 times.

Smith said this may be the toughest stretch of the year as

the Huskies, now 2-6, take on Central Springs (7-3, 4-2) at home on Thursday, followed by another home date the following night on Friday versus West Fork (4-5, 3-3).

"We're not going to make any excuses about it. We knew that this was what kind of faced us when we got back from break," said Smith. "We've got to up our effort level."

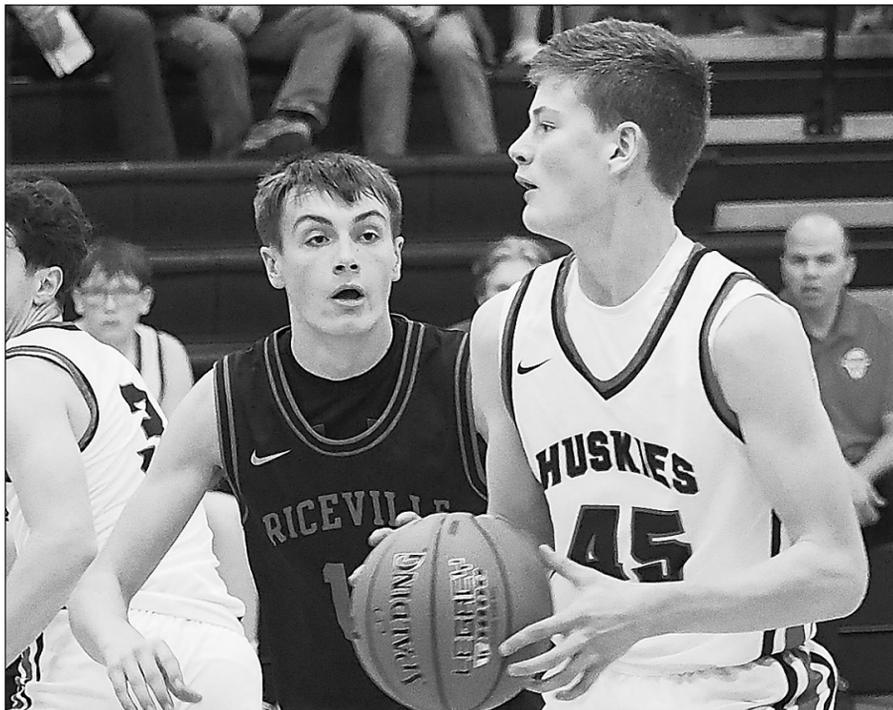
	R	A	T	T	P	F	T	
Rice	18	12	18	16	-	64		
NP	6	4	12	11	-	33		

Ava Kirk 0-1 0-0 0, Kadence Huck 9-16 3-6 21, Myranda Webster 3-11 2-2 8, Jalynn Pratt 0-3 0-0 0, Paige Franzen 1-7 1-2 4, Elayna O'Neill 0-2 0-0 0, Maci Malven 0-3 0-0 0, Marleigh Lowe 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 13-44 6-10 33.

3-point field goals - Kirk 0-1, Pratt 0-1, Franzen 1-2, Malven 0-3, Lowe 0-1.

Rebounds - Huck 10, Franzen 3, Webster 2, Kirk 1, O'Neill 1, Malven 1, Lowe 1.

Assists - Pratt 3, Huck 2, O'Neill 2. Steals - Huck 6, Webster 3, Lowe 3, Malven 2, Kirk 1, Franzen 1. Blocks - Huck 2, Webster 1.



Kelly Terpstra/Reporter

### Nashua-Plainfield's Jake Smith looks for an open teammate during Tuesday's game against Riceville.

whole night we felt like we could jog back," said Mueller. "I think they out-hustled us most of the night. I want to give them a little bit of credit. I feel like they gave the effort needed to win."

N-P senior guard/forward Trae Geise led the Huskies with a career-best 17 points. Franzen - fresh off a career-high 24 points against Tripoli in the last game before winter break - finished with 12 points. Malven hit for nine points. Foelske and sophomore forward/center Trent Rodruck each tallied eight points apiece.

"I think some points of our game are coming around," said Mueller. "Offensively, our ball

movement's a lot better. I think we maybe need to get more post touches than what we do. Defense is letting us down right now. We're having trouble guarding guys and keeping them in front of us."

N-P and Riceville are no stranger to drama and thrilling finishes when the two schools hook up. Just two seasons ago Drew Wilken drained a deep, desperation 3-pointer to sink Riceville, 51-48, at the buzzer in 2022. Riceville also won a 48-46 barnburner in 2020 over N-P.

Riceville improved to 2-7 overall and N-P fell to 2-6. The Huskies next three games are in Nashua and that stretch of

games will cap a four-game homestand. Those contests will come against Central Springs, West Fork and Rockford.

	R	A	T	T	P	F	T	
Rice	13	12	16	17	-	58		
NP	13	15	13	16	-	57		

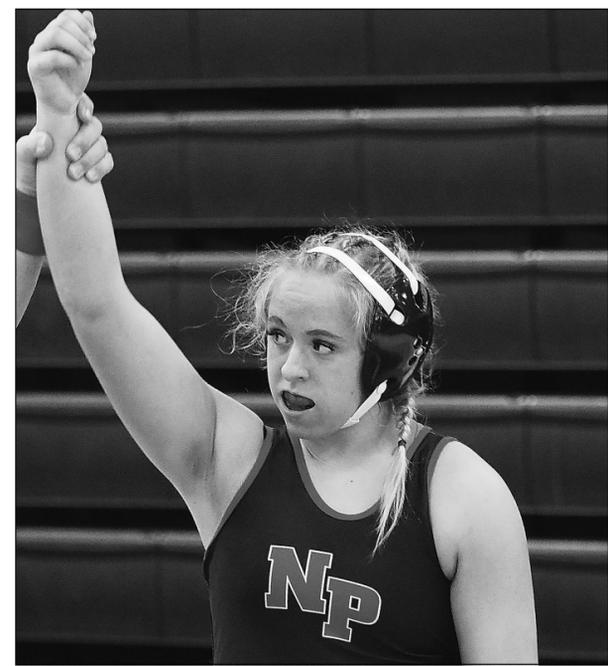
Tucker Franzen 5-15 0-0 12, Trae Geise 6-11 4-6 17, Matthew Malven 4-13 0-1 9, Landon Foelske 4-7 0-0 8, Trent Rodruck 4-8 0-0 8, Jase Hansen 0-3 0-0 0, Avery Mueller 0-2 0-0 0, Jake Smith 0-1 0-0 0, Hunter Hackman 1-3 1-2 3. Totals 24-63 5-9 57.

3-point field goals - Franzen 2-10, Geise 1-2, Mueller 1-7, Foelske 0-1, Hansen 0-1, Mueller 0-1, Smith 0-1.

Rebounds - Geise 10, Malven 6, Rodruck 6, Foelske 5, Mueller 3, Franzen 2, Smith 2, Hansen 1, Hackman 1.

Assists - Foelske 4, Geise 3, Malven 3, Franzen 2, Rodruck 1, Smith 1, Hackman 1.

Steals - Franzen 4, Geise 2, Foelske 2, Rodruck 1. Blocks - Malven 1, Hackman 1.



Kelly Terpstra/Reporter

### Navaeh Bloker has her hand raised after claiming a match win at Tuesday's Osage Invitational.

## Focus for Huskies coach is on continued improvement

### GIRLS WRESTLING: FROM 7

- Denver 135-pounder Chloe Bloker. That junior Cyclone wrestler also started out her mat career the same time as Navaeh and is 17-11 on the season.

Navaeh Bloker is a microcosm of a large portion of girls wrestlers in the state. They're somewhat of a novice to the sport, but with time and experience - they're climbing the ladder of success.

"This year is a lot better than it was last year," said Navaeh Bloker. "I got a lot more fundamentals. It comes easier to everyone. The girls that were out last year have so much improvement now this year."

Bloker got tested in a big way Tuesday morning when she stared down Slade (32-0) - who is top-ranked and just a sophomore for Southeast Polk. Slade has not lost a match in 81 tries. The freshman Ram pinned her way to a state title last year at 155 pounds. She took care of Bloker by fall in 1:43 in their quarterfinal match.

Bloker advanced to the quarters with an opening round victory by pin over Mia Reichart of Nevada in 1:27. Macie Graves of Cedar Falls, who is 29-9 on the year, pinned Bloker in just 24 seconds in consolation round two. Bloker came back to pin Elsie Hubbell of Humboldt in 1:45 in her other victory on the day. Bloker lost to Gracey Smith (18-9) of Clear Lake in her medal match in a close, 4-3, decision.

"Myself, I see more aggression - which is making my matches better," said Bloker. "I'm just happy I've been improving a lot throughout the season. If I make it to state that'd be great."

Navaeh talked about the opportunity to lock horns with much larger schools than N-P and how being a small team such as the Huskies also can have its benefits.

"It helps our small school get to see other schools in how we can improve by watching them," said Bloker "Our team, since it's so small - we're so close - it helps us be more supportive."

Eden Lamborn, a sophomore 235-pounder for N-P, did not place in her bracket. She pinned Grayce Coree of Nevada in just 1:04 in her first consolation match.

Lamborn is 15-6 on the year. Reams talked about the difference from when Lamborn and Bloker were freshman last year to the present day.

"They're completely different wrestlers than last year. It's leaps and bounds different," said Reams.

N-P also has a new wrestler out in sophomore Jayla Patten. Wrestling in her second meet of the year at 125 pounds in the junior varsity tournament - Patten won a match by fall over Kylie Babcock of Aplington-Parkersburg/Grundy Center in 2:25. Patten (1-6) placed sixth in her weight class.

Lily Jones (3-6) - a freshman 155-pounder for N-P - placed third in the JV tourney at her weight class.

What does Reams want to see out of his team the rest of the way for the Huskies?

"Continued improvement. Obviously, you want to see 'em win, but I always tell them winning isn't everything because you don't learn when you win," said Reams.

N-P wrestles at Central Elkader this Friday.

### OSAGE INVITE TEAM SCORES

Cedar Falls 201, Southeast Polk 196, Bettendorf 182, Osage 154, East Buchanan 129, Lewis Central 124, Mason City 92, Clear Lake 85, Humboldt 85, Nevada 78, Alburnett 62, New Hampton/Turkey Valley 59, Waukon 54, Central Elkader 49, South Winneshiek 43, Emmetsburg 37, St. Ansgar 30, Don Bosco 26, Eagle Grove 24, AP-GC 18, Nashua-Plainfield 12.

### NASHUA-PLAINFIELD INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

155 - Navaeh Bloker placed eighth. Champ. Round 1 - Bloker pinned Mia Reichart (Nevada), 1:27. Quarterfinal - Skylar Slade (Southeast Polk) pinned Bloker, 1:43. Cons. Round 2 - Macie Graves (Cedar Falls) pinned Bloker, 0:24. Cons. Round 3 - Bloker pinned Elsie Hubbell (Humboldt), 1:45. 7th Place Match - Gracey Smith (Clear Lake) dec. Bloker, 4-3.

235 - Eden Lamborn did not place. Champ. Round 1 - Madilyn Metz (Cedar Falls) pinned Lamborn, 5:29. Cons. Round 2 - Lamborn pinned Grayce Coree (Nevada), 1:04. Cons. Round 3 - Madison Wright (Lewis Central) pinned Lamborn, 1:59.

### JV RESULTS

125 - Jayla Patten placed sixth. Quarterfinal - Chloe Gorby (Cedar Falls) pinned Patten, 1:03. Cons. Round 1 - Patten pinned Kylie Babcock (AP-GC), 2:25. Cons. Semi - Eden Melcher (Cedar Falls) pinned Patten, 0:43. 5th Place Match - Elise Grzybek (Cedar Falls) pinned Patten, 0:50.

155 - Lily Jones placed third. Round 1 - Kennedy Long (Nevada) pinned Jones, 1:54. Round 3 - Gracie Schiller (Nevada) pinned Jones, 1:01.

## Legal Notice • Legal Notice • Legal Notice • Legal Notice

### CHICKASAW COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MINUTES December 26, 2023

The Board convened on Tuesday, December 26, 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, Jim Cook, Bassett Mayor Jim Ashley, Terry Johnson, Sheriff Ryan Shawver, EMA Director Jeff Bernatz, Custodian Dave Gorman, Joan Knoll, Kurt Knoll, Conservation Director Chad Humpal, Chair of Board of Compensation Stephanie Mashek, Board of Compensation Michael Kennedy and Doreen Cook, Recorder Shirley Troyna, Treasurer Matt Ysbrand, EMS Brannon Anderson.

Motion by Cerwinski, seconded by Suckow to approve the agenda for December 26, 2023. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Breitbach, seconded by Cerwinski to approve the meeting minutes from December 18, 2023. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Public comment: Bassett Mayor Jim Ashley made a statement that it would be cheaper and safer for the EMS crews to stay at the apartment versus renovating the EMS Building.

Motion by Breitbach, seconded by Cerwinski to appoint Joan Knoll to the Board of Health for a three-year term. Roll call: Ayes; Breitbach, Cerwinski, Suckow, Kuhn, Nay; Hackman, Motion carried.

Motion by Hackman, seconded by Breitbach to appoint Michael Pickett to the Conservation Board for a five-year term. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Hackman, seconded by Breitbach to appoint Kevin Geerts and

Suckow to appoint Steve Kuennen to the Pioneer Cemetery Commission for a three-year term. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Cerwinski, seconded by Breitbach to appoint Diane Murphy to the Pioneer Cemetery Commission for a three-year term. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Suckow, seconded by Hackman to appoint Brad Ellison to the Fredericksburg Benefited Fire District for a three-year term. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Discussed the Magistrate Appointing Commission has one opening, Civil Service Commission has one opening and City of New Hampton Planning and Zoning Commission has one opening.

Discussed Compensation Board recommendations for salaries of elected officials for FY 2024-2025.

Motion by Hackman, seconded by Suckow to approve and authorize chair's signature to Conservation Reserve Program Contract #11018D which expires September 30, 2024. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Hackman, seconded by Suckow to approve and authorize chair's signature to Conservation Reserve Program Contract #12130D which expires September 30, 2024. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Breitbach, seconded by Cerwinski to acknowledge purchase of the Dock at Airport Lake from Schwig Outdoors for \$19,534.53 per purchase policy. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Discuss updating the Chickasaw County Hazard Mitigation Plan and if the county would pay half. No action taken.

Discussed the EMS Building project bids and Aaron Thompson from the Design Connection will update building plans and get back to the board.

Motion by Breitbach, seconded by Kuhn to appoint Kevin Geerts and

Heather Jurgensen as additional Medical Examiner Investigators. Roll call. Aye; Breitbach, Kuhn, Nay; Suckow, Cerwinski, Hackman. Motion failed.

Motion by Cerwinski, seconded by Suckow to appoint Kevin Geerts as additional Medical Examiner Investigator. Roll call. Aye; Cerwinski, Suckow, Breitbach, Hackman, Kuhn. Motion carried.

Motion by Hackman, seconded by Cerwinski to approve Storage Agreement with Toys for Tots to store extra toys at the Heritage Center for up to one year. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Discussed hiring freeze. Budget work session. County Attorney, David Laudner

FY 24-25 Budget Custodian, Dave Gorman

FY 24-25 Budgets for Community Services Building, Law Enforcement Building, Heritage Center, and LEMC (Law/Emergency Management Commission)

Treasurer, Matt Ysbrand

Consensus of the Board of Supervisors to add \$180,000.00 to the EMS budget as part of the Amendment for renovations.

Committee Assignments Supervisor Kuhn, December 21, INRCOG Regional Transit, INRCOG Board meeting, INRCOG Executive meeting.

Motion by Cerwinski, seconded by Suckow to adjourn at 11:44 A.M. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Matthew Kuhn, Chairperson Board of Supervisors ATTEST: Sheila Shekleton, Auditor

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Nashua-Plainfield's Trae Geise (above) flies through the lane and gets ready to put up a shot while Trent Rodruck (below) takes a hook shot during the Huskies game with Riceville on Tuesday evening.

# Fifth-ranked 'Cats too much for N-P

Miscues prove costly for Husky girls in a non-league loss to unbeaten Riceville

By KELLY TERPSTRA  
Of the Reporter

The Riceville Wildcats can play some basketball.

It's one of the reasons the Iowa Girls High School Athletic Union (IGHSAU) has the Iowa Star North hoops squad ranked as the No. 5 team in Class 1A.

Sporting a strong junior class that saw the Wildcats win 22 games in a row last year – Riceville (11-0) stayed undefeated with a clamp-down defensive style and deep lineup that ended up being too much to handle for Josh Smith's Nashua-Plainfield Huskies on Tuesday night at home.

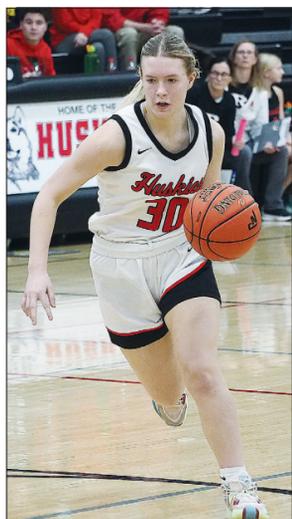
What a game for the Huskies to undertake in the first game back from Christmas break – but that's why you play the contests.

After Kadence Huck's steal and driving layup to the rim for two points to start the night's scoring – Riceville went on 13-0 run to snare command of the non-conference contest. The Wildcats kept the pressure up en route to a 64-33 victory.

"They're legit. If you're not ready to play they'll come out and kick you in the mouth, which they did," said Smith.

Riceville lost to eventual state champ Algona Garrigan in the regional finals last year and feature six juniors out of its top seven scorers.

"They're deep. I think that's a good place to start," said Smith. "They can rotate a lot of girls in there. They don't seem to skip a beat when they have other girls



Kelly Terpstra/Reporter  
Nashua-Plainfield's Jalynn Pratt (above) drives into the lane while teammate Ava Kirk (below) chases down a loose ball during Tuesday night's game against Riceville.

in there, either." Riceville was led by junior guard Jaylyn Beran – who scored 16 points. The Wildcats' duo of juniors Kylie Dvorak and Samantha Wilberding each netted 15 points apiece.

Riceville led 30-10 at the break.

"They got a couple really good guards that make it really tough," said Smith. "They ran a 2-2-1 press on us and then they

SEE GIRLS HOOPS, 5

# Huskies start 2024 with heartbreak

Riceville rallies to hand Nashua-Plainfield boys crushing defeat in first game of the new year

By KELLY TERPSTRA  
Of the Reporter

The tension mounted on Tuesday night in Nashua.

Most hoops fan could tell this one was gonna go down to the wire – and it did.

Unfortunately for the Huskies and head coach Matt Mueller – Riceville made more plays when it needed to in order to pull out the thrilling victory.

In the first game back from Christmas break for both boys hoops squads – Gunnar Smith hit a leaner near the lane that found the bottom of the net with 12 seconds left that would prove to be the game-winner.

N-P's Matthew Malven saw his runner in heavy traffic down low on the other end appear to look good, but the rim was unkind as the horn sounded and Riceville pulled off the shocker in the non-conference tilt by a winning margin of 58-57.

Mueller was left to scratch his head on the bang-bang, back-and-forth action in the final two minutes of the contest.

N-P sophomore Landon Foelske's steal at mid-court led to a layup with 21 seconds left to give N-P a one-point advan-

tage, Huskies now up 57-56. He was fouled on the play, but missed the free throw – which Riceville rebounded and headed back down the court quickly as Smith came through clutch for his Wildcats.

"You know they're not going to walk it up," said Mueller. "We hit that big shot, it's over with we thought. It's like hey, 'we got this thing.'"

N-P went on a 8-0 run to lead 41-33 with 3:48 remaining in the third period. Riceville would then proceed to go on a 11-0 run after Aidan Ebert's 3-pointer rang true just 25 ticks into the final quarter of play – Riceville up 44-41.

The fast-and-furious action would lead to a transition bucket by Tucker Franzen that tied the score, 49-49, with 5:10 left. Riceville would lead by as much as 55-49 with just a little over three minutes remaining. Malven's bucket near the rim led to a chance at a conventional three-point play with 1:31 left up on the scoreboard. Malven would miss the free throw and to make matters worse, N-P was called for a push in a fight for

SEE BOYS HOOPS, 5



# N-P girls finds the going tough on Osage mats

Bloker continues climb up the ranks, earns the Huskies' only medal

By KELLY TERPSTRA  
Of the Reporter

There was nationally ranked Skylar Slade of Southeast Polk once again dropping the hammer on the competition in the 155-pound weight bracket.

There was also the No. 1 vs. No. 2 ranked battle at 105 pounds between Don Bosco's Erica Irvine and Mason City's Layla Phillips, which Irvine won 6-0.

Then there was little, old Nashua-Plainfield with its four girl wrestlers taking on elite competition on Tuesday at the Osage Invite.

These Huskies should only get better because of it, no matter how many bumps and bruises they encounter along the way.

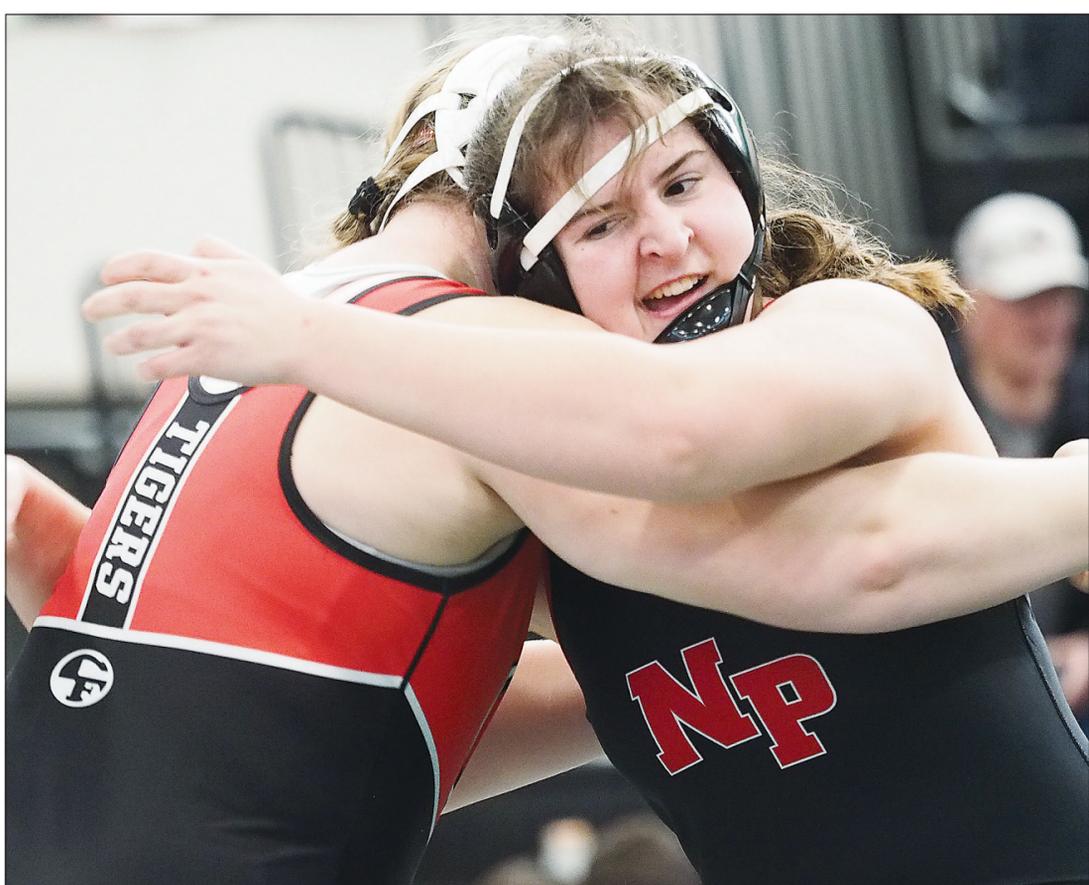
But don't mistake Reece Reams' Huskies for pushovers, either, because his N-P squad is just getting started and they're getting better.

In their second year of sanctioned competition – just like the rest of the state of Iowa – the Huskies placed 21st overall amongst an absolutely loaded field that saw several quality squads make the long trek up to Mitchell County in northern Iowa to take on the state's best.

"There's a lot of good teams here," said Reams, a 2015 N-P grad.

Cedar Falls, with its bevy of 50-plus Tiger grapplers, won the prestigious tourney with 201 points. The Rams and Slade finished runner-up in the team standings with 196 points. Bettendorf, clear down in southeast Iowa in the Quad Cities, rumbled its way to a third-place finish with 182 points. The host Green Devils of Osage were fourth with 154 points and East Buchanan rounded out the top five with 129 points. Lewis Central – near Omaha in Council Bluffs – had the longest drive of the 20-plus teams in attendance with a four-hour journey up from southwest Iowa. The Titans placed sixth with 124 points.

Quite simply put, this tournament



Kelly Terpstra/Reporter  
Nashua-Plainfield's Eden Lamborn ties up with Cedar Falls' Chloe Gorby during a first-round match at Tuesday's Osage Invitational.

at Osage is a mini-state meet and will help all wrestlers involved gear up for super regionals – which will take place on Friday, Jan. 26.

N-P won't have to drive far to attend that state qualifier – which will take place in Mason City, the Huskies chosen destination in Region 8.

That's a meet that Husky sophomore Navaeh Bloker has her sights set on.

If Bloker can achieve half the heights in her young, but burgeoning career out on the mat that her wrestling family has achieved – she will

have accomplished quite a bit.

Bloker – who placed eighth at 155 pounds on Tuesday – is 16-10 on the year and has placed in almost every meet she's wrestled at this winter. That's a big leap from when she went 6-9 last year as a freshman in her first year of competition.

Bloker turned in her basketball shoes for a wrestling singlet a couple years back and she's hoping to continue a family lineage of wrestling success that is as strong as they come.

"She has a known family history of wrestling," said Reams. "I always

call her our hammer because you can always expect her to go out and do something interesting. She always has a surprise."

Bloker is the niece of North Butler/Clarksville's MaKade Bloker (190), who along with Bearcat teammate Tanner Arjes (132) are both ranked No. 1 in the state at their respective weights. Arjes is Navaeh's cousin.

"My family's big into wrestling," said Navaeh Bloker.

Navaeh has another cousin

SEE GIRLS WRESTLING, 5

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

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

**TUESDAY**  
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.

**FRIDAY, JAN. 12**  
Girls wrestling at Top of Iowa Conference tournament, Osage, 5 p.m.  
Basketball at Northwood-Kensett, JV boys at 5 p.m., varsity girls at 6:15 p.m., varsity boys at 7:30 p.m.

**SATURDAY, JAN. 13**  
Varsity wrestling at Hudson Invitational, 9:30 a.m.

**MONDAY, JAN. 15**  
Junior varsity wrestling at Osage tournament, 5 p.m.

**TUESDAY, JAN. 16**  
Basketball vs. Newman, JV boys at 5 p.m., varsity girls at 6:15 p.m., varsity boys at 7:30 p.m.  
Boys wrestling vs. Starmont, Postville and South Winneshiek at Starmont, 6 p.m.

**FRIDAY, JAN. 19**  
Basketball at Central Springs, JV boys at 5 p.m., varsity girls at 6:15 p.m., varsity boys at 7:30.



### Master Gardener home gardening series begins Jan. 9

The Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Master Gardener program will again host the Home Gardening Webinar Series, beginning in January and ending in March. Sessions will take place every Tuesday from 6 to 7 p.m., ending March 12. Designed for anyone who is interested in gardening or horticulture, the series aims to inspire and educate. Throughout the series, participants will hear from experts at Iowa State, Cornell University, Jung Seed, Seed Savers Exchange, and the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship. The sessions are free and open to the public. Attendees can register to join through Zoom or join on Facebook Live. Zoom registration for the series is available at <https://go.iastate.edu/UOQGEJ>.

To join the Facebook Live, visit the event listing and RSVP as "attending" at <https://www.facebook.com/iastatereporters>. All webinars will be live with question-and-answer at the end. Zoom participation is limited to the first 500 attendees. Attendees will be directed to Facebook Live if the Zoom room is at capacity. Registration cannot be taken over the phone or through email. For more information, contact Alicia Herzog at 515-294-3627 or [mgardener@iastate.edu](mailto:mgardener@iastate.edu).

### Farm couple getaway returns to Decorah in February

To help farm families build relationships and set family goals, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach is offering a "Farm Couple Getaway" in February. This event is aimed at farmers wanting to take advantage of activities to improve farm family communication, work on farm or

family goal setting, farm transitions or who just would like a week-end away to discuss farm and family issues. The getaway will be held Friday and Saturday, Feb. 16-17, at the Hotel Winneshiek in Decorah. The getaway will run from 12:30 p.m. on the first day to 3:15 p.m. on the second day. There is no cost to attend the program as food, lodging and other expenses are being paid for by sponsorships. However, there is a \$50 per couple deposit to hold each reservation, refundable on the second day of the event. Registration will be on a first-come, first-served basis with registrations due two weeks prior to the session. Registration brochures can be obtained from Jenn Bentley, dairy specialist with ISU Extension and Outreach, at [jbentley@iastate.edu](mailto:jbentley@iastate.edu), or at the ISU Extension and Outreach Winneshiek County office, at 563-382-2949. Dairy specialist Larry Tranel is available at [tranel@iastate.edu](mailto:tranel@iastate.edu), or at the ISU Extension and Outreach Dubuque County office, at 563-583-6496.

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