

Nashua REPORTER

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Nashua, IA 50658 • 75 cents

Dead week is
calm before
the fall sports
season storm

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A CHURCH FIRST

PASTOR APPRECIATES HISTORY OF LITTLE BROWN CHURCH BUT MINDFUL THAT MARRIAGES JUST PART OF STORY

By BOB FENSKA
Of the Reporter

Early in his tenure as pastor of the Little Brown Church, Drew McHolm came to a decision.

He appreciated the history of the famed little church "in the Vale" and knew that the church has been home to literally thousands of weddings over the years, but on this day, he had performed seven wedding ceremonies.

"Seven, yes seven," he said, "and even though I knew that wasn't close to the record — it's actually 27 — I knew if I was going to be the pastor of this church, that just wasn't going to be the road I wanted to travel down. ... I just wasn't comfortable with a conveyor belt."

So the Scotsman came up with a new plan. There would be at least two hours between weddings, and the conveyor belt would be stowed away for a while.

"I like to personalize things so if we're doing a wedding at 11 and then another at 11:45, well, you know, that's pretty hard to personalize," he said. "I love the history of our little church, but it is a church, not a wedding chapel."

So as the Little Brown Church pastor and his wife, Jesse Boatright, and the church members prepare for the 70th annual Marriage Reunion that will be held Aug. 5-6, they're not denying one of the most important parts of the church's history but they are also emphasizing the church as a whole.

"I think there are a lot of people who just thought of us as that little church where

SEE LBC, 4



Little Brown Church Pastor Drew McHolm and his wife, Jesse Boatright, pose for a photo at what will soon be the famed church's outdoor wedding venue.



County will give Nashua dam money

Supervisors vote 3-2 to approve budget amendment that includes county ARPA funds for the city

By BOB FENSKA
Of the Reporter

The budget amendment approved by the Chickasaw County Board of Supervisors included a host of items, but anyone attending Monday morning's public hearing might have thought the county was amending its 2023-24 budget for the sole purpose of giving Nashua \$50,000 to fix the dam on the Cedar River that is located in the city.

That's because it was pretty much the only issue discussed during the 25-minute public hearing.

The amendment to the budget that began less than a month ago on July 1 was needed for a variety of reasons — ranging from taking in additional revenue to paying for items approved by the supervisors this past spring after they had

SEE SUPERVISORS, 3

Good news is heat wave will be short-lived

By BOB FENSKA
Of the Reporter

It's been somewhat of a rarity this year, the heat that is ... at least until this week.

Here's the good news for those who don't like sweltering when the temperatures are in the 90s and the humidity is tropical: The first heat wave of the summer isn't going to last long.

Heading into the final full week of July, the Nashua area had experienced just one 90-degree day. Back on June 24, the high temperature was 90, but July had been relatively cool; in fact, during the first 22 days of the month, high temperatures didn't even crack 80.

That changed this week

SEE WEATHER, 2



Bob Fenske/Reporter

Griffin Stoughton serves up one of the 160 hot dogs she sold Wednesday as part of a fundraiser for the CalebStrong Foundation.

Remembering Caleb with some 'dogs'

Colorado cousin's hot dog stand raises \$1,300 for the CalebStrong Foundation

By BOB FENSKA
Of the Reporter

Even 4 1/2 years after her cousin passed away, there's still a sparkle in the eyes of Griffin Stoughton when she talks about Caleb Ulrichs.

It's why for the past three summers, when she comes to Iowa to visit her grandparents, there's always a day set aside for the soon-to-be eighth-grader to tend to a hot dog stand and raise money for CalebStrong, a non-profit organization that provides food and gas cards to pediatric patients and families undergoing

cancer treatments or those dealing with other serious illnesses.

Everyone has favorite memories of Caleb, the Nashua-Plainfield High School senior who died in January 2019 at the age of 18 after putting up a courageous fight against leukemia.

And Stoughton, his 13-year-old cousin who lives in Colorado Springs, Colorado, is certainly not an exception.

"We didn't get to see each other a lot — maybe like two, three times a year — but when

SEE CALEBSTRONG, 2

Bait shop still going strong after 20 years

Even with a 'boss' as fickle as Mother Nature, Nub Ronnei shows no signs of slowing down

By KELLY TERPSTRA
Of the Reporter

Nub Ronnei remembers like it was yesterday when he was a kid growing up in Northeast Iowa.

The rippling waters of "The Wapsi" were calling his name.

That meant he needed to grab a pole and go fishing.

"I was just born up on the river," laughed Ronnei, owner of Nub's Bait, Tackle & More in downtown Nashua. "We were camping out along the river since we were damn near old enough to walk."

While Nub couldn't wait to get out on the water or bunker

up on the shoreline next to a stream, river or lake as a youth, using his feet to get to his "hot spot" by walking sometimes wouldn't do the trick.

In order to get there or make his way down an old dusty road, he'd often need some assistance to get back to his favorite fishing hole to cast his rod and reel.

His mother — along with his friend's parents — took turns driving himself and his buddies around to bodies of water stocked with all kinds of fish, long before the youngsters could get behind the wheel of a vehicle.

SEE NUB'S, 7



Kelly Terpstra/Reporter
Nub Ronnei gets another batch of minnows ready to sell at his bait shop in Nashua.

Retiring city employee to be honored at open house on Wednesday

Longtime city employee Dan Zwanziger will be honored during an open house retirement reception this coming Wednesday, Aug. 2.

The event will run from 5 to 7 p.m. and will be held at the Gateway to Northeast Iowa Welcome Center in Nashua. Zwanziger is retiring next week after working for the city of Nashua for the past 17 years.

Those who can't attend but want to wish Zwanziger well can send cards to him at PO Box 745, Nashua, IA 50658.

Briefs**Area cooperatives announce intent to merge; vote to be held soon**

The boards of directors of Northern Country Cooperative, Stacyville and Viafield, Charles City, have announced their intent to seek unification through a member vote. The future merger would combine the two highly respected and successful farm supply cooperatives to further strengthen the service and resources for their farmer-owners.

In the notification letter to members, it was shared that both boards entered a unification study to determine the best path forward for each cooperative. In consideration of previously shared business operations, strong financials, and shared culture and visions, it was determined that a merger would allow for optimal future growth and opportunities.

The combined cooperative will serve over 4,700 farmer members across counties in southern Minnesota and northern Iowa.

"This merger will be very beneficial for our members, employees and the many communities we represent," shares Northern Country's Board President, Dave Huper. "We are confident the combination of our respective cooperatives' strengths will bring the best in farm supply and services."

The future unified cooperative would join the two companies wholly together under a new name with no significant changes to operations or employees.

Rather, officials say the combined entity will be better positioned with the size and scale to best serve the needs of tomorrow's farm businesses.

"Each of our boards and management teams have reached this decision in the best interest of our current membership as well as future generations of co-op farmer members," stated Steve Fullerton, Viafield's Board President.

"We expect a merger to maintain the high-quality service and products our farmer customers have come to expect, while allowing for increased advantages in the marketplace, improved efficiencies, innovative offerings, and a best in class workforce."

Member voting ballots and informational packets will be mailed at a later date yet to be announced with a final vote count expected in early fall.

Conservation Board to hold float on Cedar River next week

Chickasaw County Conservation will hold a river kayak float on the Cedar River next week on Thursday, Aug. 3, at 10 a.m.

The trip will start from the Pearl Rock Canoe Access and travel to North Cedar Park in Bremer County. Boat availability is limited, so registration is required. However, if you would like to bring your own boat, please let the Chickasaw CCB know so they know how many people to expect.

Make sure to bring some water or other non-alcoholic beverage for the float. You will be required to wear a lifejacket as part of the float. There is no charge for this event. Please call 641-394-4714 to register or if you have questions.

Brass quintet to perform at Allison's Wilder Park Wednesday

At 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 2, The Metropolitan Brass Quintet will present their long history of making high quality music that appeals to a wide variety of listeners. The Group boasts a 500 piece repertoire and will perform at Wilder Park in Allison.

A variety of food and drinks are available from a vendor and Park Board but organizers suggest bringing lawn chairs.



Bob Fenske/Reporter

Both the hot dogs and the cause are well worth the wait (above) at the hot dog stands run by Griffin Stoughton, who puts together some "bundles" (below) Wednesday afternoon.

Like so many, cousin has her favorite Caleb stories**CALEBSTRONG: FROM 1**

I was here in Iowa or he came to Colorado," she said, "oh my gosh, did we have a lot of fun. He may have been a lot older than me, but we did everything together."

Her favorite Caleb story?

"You know he was really into cheerleading stunts, right? Well, I'm not the biggest girl in the world," she said with a laugh, "so he liked to fling me in the air. My mom and aunt, they'd be freaking all out, and we'd just laugh. We — Caleb, Keegan [Caleb's brother] and me — just always had fun together."

After Caleb died, his parents Jeff and Tori and his brother started the CalebStrong Foundation that has distributed meals and fuel to families who are going through the same experiences the Ulrichs had to endure in 2018 and 2019 when the family drove countless times to and from Rochester.

Here's where the hot dogs Stoughton sold on Wednesday came into play.

While visiting her grandparents — Terry and Vonne Shannon — in New Hampton, she wanted to do her part for CalebStrong. How about a hot dog stand, her grandmother suggested, and a thriving once-a-year business was born.

The Shannons, though, live on a cul-de-sac that gets very little traffic so they reached out to the Snyder family, friends who lived closer to Mikkelsen Park, who agreed to allow Stoughton to use their driveway the past two years.

But those friends sold their home and moved earlier this year so on Wednesday, the stand was set up in the driveway of Ovey and Duce Johnson.

"They asked, it's a great cause and we said absolutely," Ovey Johnson said, "and we told Griffin to put us to work, too."

And business was brisk on Wednesday. Over a four-hour period, Stoughton and her crew — the Johnsons and her grandmother — sold 160 hot dogs, chips, cookies and water. The price — a buck for each or \$3 for a bundle — was good, and by the time Stoughton closed down the stand, she had raised more than \$1,300 for CalebStrong.

"It's really nice that so many people have come out," Stoughton said, "and they're really generous. I've lost track of how many people have said 'keep the change.' ... I still miss Caleb a lot, but hopefully, things like this and CalebStrong are keeping his memory alive."



That money will go to families who are using Children's Hospital Colorado, one of the nation's top pediatric medical organizations that has facilities throughout the Denver and Colorado Springs areas.

And as much as she misses the cousin who loved "flinging" her into the air, she smiled when asked how Caleb Ulrichs would feel about the hot dog stand?

"He'd love it, I know that,"

she said. "He liked everyone for who they were, and as much as I wish he was still here with us,

I know he'd be happy that we're helping people going through a tough time."

Nashua area in desperate need of rain**WEATHER : FROM 1**

when Nashua recorded a high of 90, which turned out to be just a preamble to Thursday, when the mercury zoomed to 95 and the National Weather Service issued a heat advisory for all of Northeast Iowa. But after another hot and sultry day today, we're going to cool down into the lower 80s this weekend.

Still, the weather service reminded residents that in extreme heat that they should limit outdoor activities, stay hydrated, wear light-colored, loose-fit clothing, and check on family members and pets. They also suggest wearing caps and sunglasses while also using plenty of sunscreen.

Those who work outside for a living should:

- Drink a cup of cool water for every 20 minutes, even if you're not thirsty, and for those who

will be working outside on "long jobs," drinking a beverage with electrolytes is recommended.

- Take regular breaks to rest.
- Seek periodic breaks in air-conditioning if possible, and if it isn't, try to spend some time in the shade.

....

But what the Nashua area really needs is rain.

While New Hampton has received almost near-normal rainfall this month, the official reporting station for Nashua has seen just .99 inches of rain through the first 27 days of the month. Normal rainfall for that time period is 4.03 inches.

The latest U.S. Drought Monitor report released on Thursday showed all of Chickasaw, Bremer, Floyd and Butler counties are continuing to experience "moderate drought" conditions.

DEATHS

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OCTOBER 13 / 7:00 PM

TOM PAPA
FRIDAY
NOVEMBER 3 / 7:00 PM

ANNIE
SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 4 / 7:30 PM

MEAN GIRLS
FRIDAY/SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 17-18
7:00 PM / 2:00 PM & 7:00 PM

CELTIC WOMAN CHRISTMAS
THURSDAY
DECEMBER 7 / 7:00PM

BIG BAD VOODOO DADDY
FRIDAY
DECEMBER 15 / 7:00 PM

COME FROM AWAY
FRIDAY/SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 9-10
8:00 PM / 1:00 PM & 7:00 PM

ONE VISION OF QUEEN
SATURDAY
MARCH 23 / 7:00 PM

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David L. Richards

David L. Richards, age 53 of Devils Lake, North Dakota, and formerly of Iowa, passed away on Saturday, July 22, 2023 at Sanford on Broadway in Fargo with loving family at his side.

Visitation was held on Thursday, July 27, 2023, from 9 to 10:30 a.m., with the funeral service following at 10:30 a.m. — all at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Devils Lake.

Casket bearers were Bryan Davis, Easton Richards, Emerson Richards, Dennis Gleason, Victoria Parrish and Trysten Parrish.

David Lawrence Richards was born on June 1, 1970 in Elizabethtown, Kentucky, son of Larry and Karen (Lange) Richards.

He was reared and educated in Sioux City and Charles City, graduating from Charles City High School with the Class of 1988.

He continued his education at Iowa State University in Ames, graduating with a bachelor of science degree in 1992.

David began his working career as a manager of various lumber yards for Builders First Source in Devils Lake North Dakota; Greeley, Colorado; Roanoke, Virginia; Owatonna, Minnesota and Bettendorf. He ended his work career as the project manager for Gleason Construction. David loved working for Dennis Gleason.

On April 18, 1998, David married Samantha Carter and David became the father of Vaughn Davis, Jacob Richards and Ana Richards. They later



David Richards

divorced.

He was currently planning to marry Jocelyn Miller of Devils Lake.

David enjoyed traveling, rock and roll music, hunting, fishing, playing Nerf guns with his kids and spending time with his grandkids.

His life was too short, but we will hold David in our hearts and memories forever.

David is survived by his fiancée Jocelyn Miller; children, Samantha Vaughn (Bryan) Davis, Ray North Dakota, Jacob Richards, Devils Lake, North Dakota, and Ana Richards, Garrison, North Dakota; grandchildren, Rowan and Lucy Davis; mother, Karen Richards; brother, Greg Richards and his wife Rachel of Ionia; and other precious family.

He was preceded in death by his father Larry, paternal and maternal grandparents and niece Aspen Richards.

Janice Haus, 84

Janice Haus, age 84 of Nashua, died Thursday, July 20, 2023, surrounded by her family.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held 10:30 a.m. Saturday, July 29, 2023, at St. Michaels Catholic Church in Nashua with Father Tom Heathershaw presiding.

Interment will be in St. Michael's Church Cemetery in Nashua. Friends may greet the family from 4 to 7 p.m. Friday, July 28, 2023, at the Hugeback Johnson Funeral Home and Crematory/Olson Chapel in Nashua. Visitation will continue one hour prior to the service at the funeral home on Saturday.

Hugeback-Johnson Funeral Home & Crematory/Olson Chapel in Nashua has been entrusted with arrangements.

Work on inclusive park progressing; Kindness Square should be open this fall

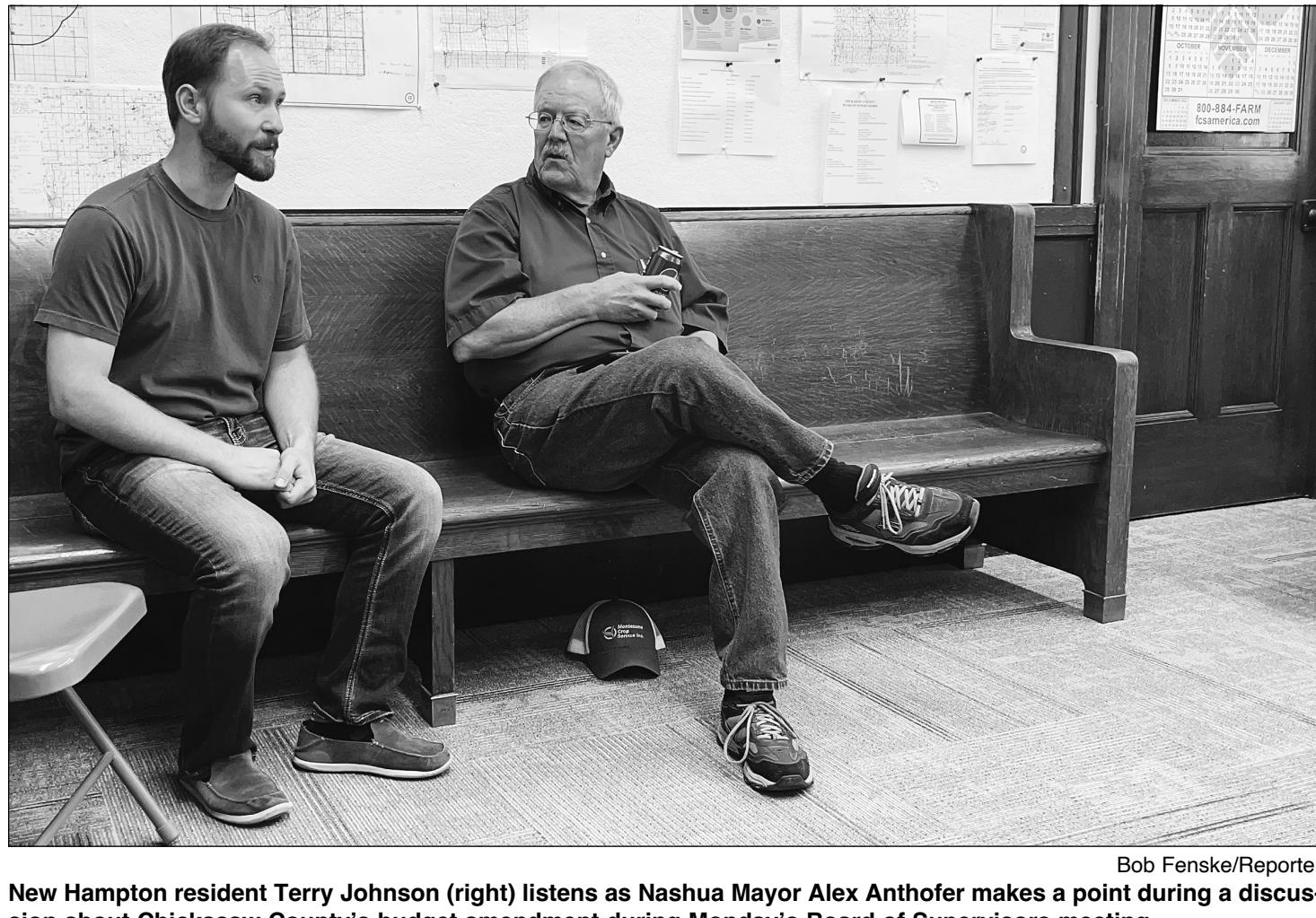
The handicap-accessible inclusive park dream shared by many residents in and around Chickasaw County residents is becoming a reality; in fact, if all goes well, Kindness Square will be up and running by mid-October.

Work on the project began earlier this summer with the tearing out of the old playground at Runion Park in New Hampton, and will kick into high gear in the near future with the installation of playground equipment, the building of a new shelter house and restrooms and the completion of sidewalks and a larger and more handicap-accessible parking area.

Hackman said Monday that the playground equipment is set to be shipped early next week and should be in New Hampton by the first full week of August. And the park will be ready for the playground. Not only is the old playground equipment removed — some of it is going to a park in Waucoma and other pieces are going to be installed at Garnant Park — but work is continuing on grading the playground and other “behind-the-scenes” things that need to be done before the equipment can be installed.

The original goal of the committee set up and charged with raising the funds for an inclusive playground was \$350,000. The committee secured those funds — through both private donations and grants — earlier this year, and a fundraiser held this past March raised another \$130,000, which will allow the shelter house, restrooms and additional sidewalk and parking to be added to the project.

— By Bob Fenske



Bob Fenske/Reporter

New Hampton resident Terry Johnson (right) listens as Nashua Mayor Alex Anthofer makes a point during a discussion about Chickasaw County's budget amendment during Monday's Board of Supervisors meeting.

Cerwinski: Property values more than worth \$50,000

already certified the 2023-24 budget.

But Monday's hearing was focused on the dam in Nashua. This past spring, Nashua Mayor Alex Anthofer approached the board and asked it if it would be willing to help the city with the dam that has had a troubled recent history.

Board members eventually agreed to give the city \$50,000 from its ARPA interest funds to help Nashua pay for engineering and other costs to evaluate the dam.

The structure underwent a \$1.2 million repair in 2020 but problems arose soon after the work was completed when a large piece of concrete appeared near the dam and forced the city to begin a full evaluation of the structure.

The issue, Chickasaw County resident Terry Johnson said Monday, is twofold. First, he said his research indicates Nashua doesn't even own the dam and second, he felt the county needed to be “fair” when it came to distributing its ARPA funds.

“In all fairness, if you give one city the money,” Johnson said, “you need to give them all the money.”

North Washington, Lawler and Ionia all submitted requests for county ARPA funds during last meetings and a fourth city, Alta Vista, did so on Monday.

Johnson, who attends board meetings on an almost weekly basis, said he felt that the county was navigating uncharted waters by giving the money to the city.

“If you are going to make improvements to an entity that the city of Nashua does not own,” he said, “that’s a poor use of taxpayer money. If Mid-America owns the lake, then they should make the repairs. They’ve got deeper pockets than

County will get possession of EMS building Monday, may not need architect to put in its living quarters

Chickasaw County will take possession of the building that will become home to the county-owned ambulance service this coming Monday, but the status of the living quarters for Chickasaw County EMS remained up in the air after the Board of Supervisors' meeting earlier this week.

County Attorney David Laudner, who joined this week's meeting on Monday, said that the county's purchase of a building just off New Hampton's downtown area that is owned by Jeremy and Lacey McGrath, will close on Monday.

Jeremy McGrath added that the closing was scheduled for 2 p.m. that day but that he would allow Chickasaw County EMS and its employees to begin moving equipment into the building earlier in the day.

The county agreed to purchase the building for \$350,000 and supervisors have discussed for several weeks how to remodel so that living quarters can be added to the structure that is located just a block off New Hampton's downtown area.

The sticking point has been a quote of more than \$35,000 for architect fees for the remodeling project that Chickasaw County Director Joel Knutson has said would cost about \$100,000.

That price tag has seemed high to supervisors, Knutson and others, including McGrath.

But when Kuhn asked Laudner if the county did need an architect, the county attorney replied that, “I don’t know if that’s necessarily true.”

HesaidhetalkedtotheAttorneyGeneral’sOfficeandlearned that because of a new law that went into effect last year, the process “may be less vigorous than we originally anticipated.”

Laudner said he would be able to discuss the issue more at this coming Monday's meeting.

The discussion came after supervisors approved a pair of purchases — new Baxter IV pumps that are used to administer IV drugs and an air compressor, the latter which is being sold by McGrath — for the ambulance service but board members backed off on purchasing a power washer from McGrath.

— By Bob Fenske

this county has.”

He turned to Anthofer and asked him “how can you put public money into something you don’t own?”

Anthofer said he believed that the city did own the dam, but even if it didn’t, he asked his own question.

“How much money would we all lose — the county and city — if we had to drain that lake?”

County Assessor Ray Armel said the amount of lost property tax revenue would be substantial, and Anthofer quickly replied that “it would be more than \$50,000.”

Board Chairman Matt Kuhn and fellow Supervisor Steve Breitbach expressed reservations about including the funds for Nashua, and Johnson also took issue with the timing of

the city’s request — pointing out that the supervisors had voted to include the funds for the city before receiving a formal written request from Nashua.

Anthofer, though, fought back and said not only had he come to the supervisors to meet with them in person but that “technically, I asked you guys if you would be willing to help. You guys gave the number of 50,000.”

He told board members and Johnson that Nashua does receive some revenue — between \$25,000 and \$35,000 — from the generators and that money is supposed to go to maintenance on the dam.

When Johnson brought up the “silt” issue that is plaguing the lake, Anthofer said that if the lake level had to be brought down, the “county side [properties] are in trouble, not the city side.”

The mayor said the city — despite the ownership issue — is going to move ahead with the repairs.

“Ultimately, it’s your decision. I have Plan A, B, C, D, so we just have to know what general direction we’re going,” he said. “The biggest thing you have is that the city doesn’t own the dam ... I’m sorry, that’s kind of sad. We’re trying to keep it going, property taxes going. We’re just wasting more time and energy not doing this.”

In the end, supervisors approved the budget amendment — including the \$50,000 for Nashua — by a 3-2 vote. Supervisors Scott Cerwinski, Travis Suckow and Jake Hackman voted for the amendment that also includes allocating money for items like new cameras for the Sheriff’s Department and new voting machines for the county — while Kuhn and Breitbach voted against the resolution.

the best way to meet the county’s ambulance service needs, and an EMS levy, if passed, could be one source of income to support that.

After the essential services resolution passed the final reading Monday, County Auditor Gloria Carr asked if the supervisors had given any thought to who might be appointed to the EMS Advisory Council. That group will examine EMS services and needs in the county and make recommendations to the supervisors for future action, which could include another EMS levy vote.

Supervisor Jim Jorgensen, who is the county’s representative on the Floyd County Ambulance Commission and serves as its chair, suggested that the members of the previous EMS Advisory Council would be a good place to start, but the supervisors took no action on that part of the process.

Floyd County once again declares EMS an ‘essential service,’ which may lead to vote on ambulance tax

BY BOB STEENSON

bsteenson@charlescitypress.com

Emergency medical services are now again officially “essential services” in Floyd County. What that will mean has yet to be decided.

The Floyd County Board of Supervisors passed the third and final reading of a resolution at its meeting Monday morning, declaring EMS “essential for maintaining the health and welfare of its residents.”

Also at the meeting the board agreed to recommend the county Planning and Zoning Commission suspend work on a proposed hazardous liquid pipeline zoning ordinance until the results of federal lawsuits filed against similar ordinances in other counties are known, and passed a recommendation that all county boards and commissions appointed by the

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Briefs**Master Gardner training available, deadline to apply is Aug. 18**

The application window is opening July 17 for the fall 2023 Master Gardner training cohort, which will be offered in 55 counties or extension regions.

Counties in the area offering fall training include: Bremer, Butler, Cerro Gordo, Clayton, Fayette, Floyd, Mitchell and Winneshiek.

Iowans wishing to complete Master Gardener training choose a county to complete training through, participate in online learning modules and attend at least four in-person training sessions organized by the county office.

After completing the 10-week training, trainees put their knowledge to work with a 40-hour internship in their training county.

Applicants have from July 17 to Aug. 18 to apply for the fall session. Training for the fall session begins Sept. 5. Learn more about the program online or through your county extension office.

"Many people have misconceptions about what the Master Gardener program truly is," said Alicia Herzog, Master Gardener statewide coordinator with ISU Extension and Outreach. "The Master Gardener training program is about more than just learning how to grow your best garden, although you will learn that as well. Trainees use knowledge gained in training to grow food for those in need, partner with area organizations to design green spaces and present programs in their local communities."

Local extension staff can help anyone with questions about joining Master Gardener training this year, including details of when and where in-person meetings will take place in their county or extension region.

For more information, Herzog can be reached at 515-294-3627, or aherzog@iastate.edu.

FEMA grants open to agencies that provide food, shelter

Agencies providing emergency food and shelter programs in Chickasaw County can apply for federal funds to assist their efforts.

The county has been awarded \$5,561 through the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency under the Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program.

A local board will determine how the funds, appropriated by Congress, are to be distributed among emergency food and shelter program run by local service agencies in the area.

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

Agencies interested in applying for EFSP funds should contact Sheri Alldredge, Iowa Northland Regional Council of Governments, at (319) 235-0311 for an application.

Applications must be received by Friday, Aug. 4.

PBS celebrates RAGBRAI with documentary this Sunday

Iowa PBS is excited to work with The Des Moines Register to bring Shift: The RAGBRAI Documentary to Iowans across the state. The documentary was broadcast statewide on Iowa PBS Tuesday and will be rebroadcast Sunday, July 30, at 1 p.m.

"As an Iowan, I am excited to show Shift on Iowa PBS and have a broader audience view our documentary. It will be exciting to see it on a channel I grew up watching," said Kelsey Kremer, co-director of "Shift: The RAGBRAI Documentary." "For us, it was important to make something that does more than just tell the history of RAGBRAI, this is a story about the people on the ride and places along the route."

The Register's one-hour documentary follows the stories of three riders and two community leaders from a host town as the riders embark on the week-long journey across Iowa. The documentary looks into the life-changing experience that riders have, and how the ride can help people find themselves.

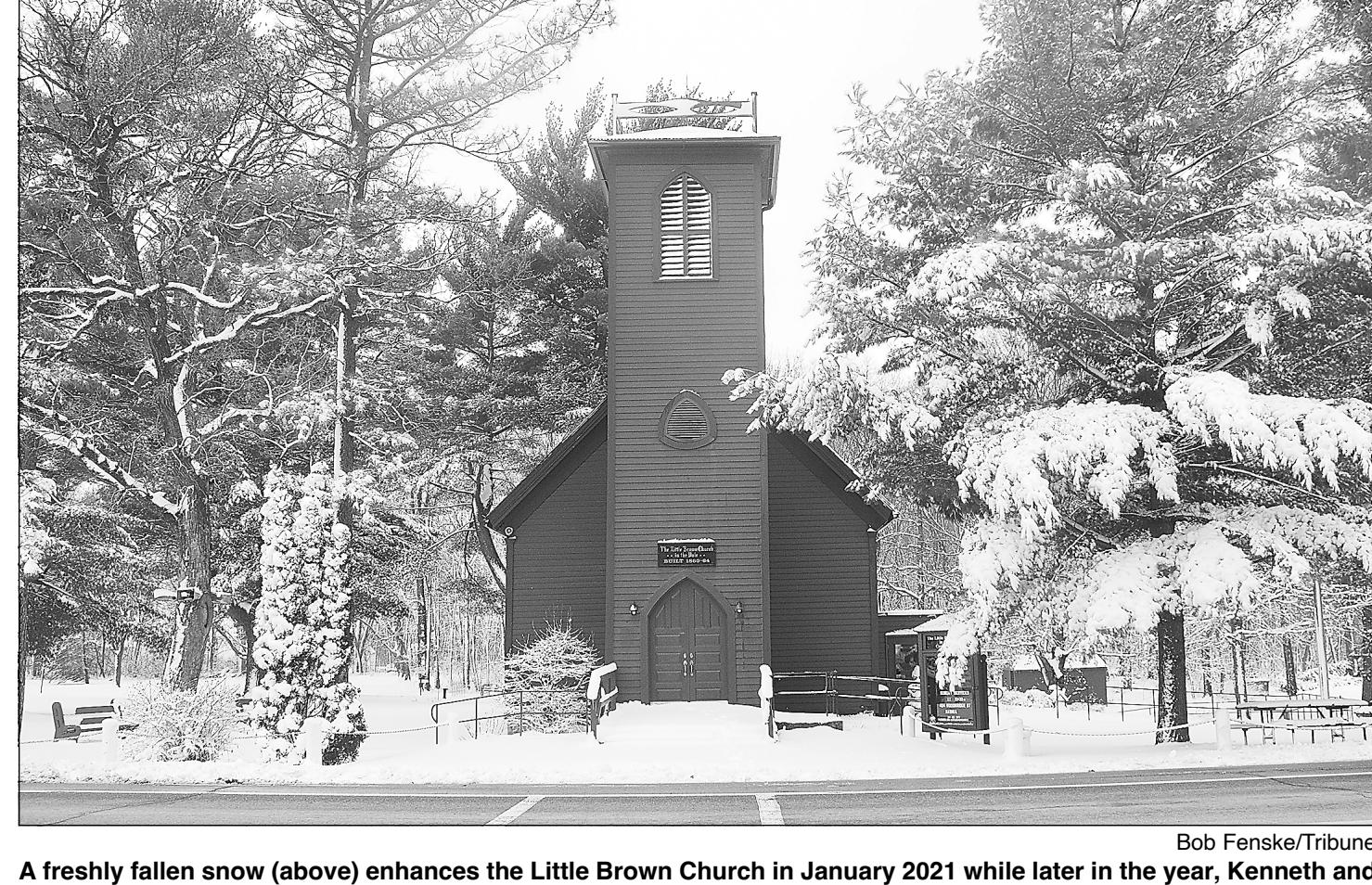
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Bob Fenske/Tribune

A freshly fallen snow (above) enhances the Little Brown Church in January 2021 while later in the year, Kenneth and Elise Weaver (below) are among the couples who renewed their vows during the church's annual Marriage Reunion.

Church is much more than a marriage destination**LBC: FROM 1**

everyone gets married," Boatright said, "but the reality is that this is a church with a strong membership that worships every week. Don't get us wrong, we love the Marriage Reunion, it's a wonderful weekend for us but there's more to us — a lot more — than weddings."

Because this year's reunion happens to be a milestone one — as McHolm put it, "anything that ends in zero or five is big" — the church is ratcheting up its game.

In addition to the worship service and vow renewal that will take place on Sunday, the event will include an appearance by singer Dustin Weiss, a Nashua native who has performed on some of the top cruise lines in the world, and the introduction of the Little Brown Church Wedding Garden that is being dedicated in honor of the late Marlys Sinnwell, the longtime church secretary.

Throw in the always on-point sermon by McHolm and the meal provided by Johnny's Southern Seafood, and the annual event, as Boatright put it, will be a "whole new reunion."

But they want it to be "new" for another reason. For too long, they believe, area residents have pigeonholed the reunion as a Little Brown Church-only event.

Not true.

"It celebrates all marriages," McHolm said, "and more than anything, Jesse and I — along with the church — want this to be a community event. Just like our church, we're open to everybody."

IT HAS BEEN five years since Drew McHolm popped into Nashua to serve as an interim pastor at the Little Brown Church.

One could say he took the proverbial road less traveled to the rural church.

Born and raised in Scotland, he moved to the U.S. more than 30 years ago and alternated between corporate work and ministry before taking over the pastoral duties at the church.

At the time, he figured he'd work for three, maybe six, months while the Little Brown Church's pastor was on sabbatical. The fact that Nashua was just a stone's throw away from

**Registrations being taken for Marriage Reunion**

The Little Brown Church's 70th annual Marriage Reunion and Vow Renewal Ceremony will begin Saturday, Aug. 5, with a pastor's reception and continue with a host of events on the following day.

At 9 a.m. Sunday, coffee and donuts will be served and be followed by the 10:15 a.m. Sing-A-Long that is held every Sunday at the church located just outside of Nashua.

The service, which will include the vow renewal, begins at 10:30 a.m., and the afternoon includes lunch on the grounds, musical entertainment by Nashua native Dustin Weiss, the presentation of awards and a host of activities for kids, including a petting zoo.

Unlike past years, the Little Brown Church is asking those who plan on attending the Marriage Reunion to register in advance — in large part because the noon meal will be catered by Johnny's Southern Seafood.

Those who are attending can register online by going to <https://forms.gle/NaQbc318dNaYAvA> or going to the church's Facebook page and following the link to the registration page.

Cedar Falls, where his wife's mother lived, made the decision an easy one.

Long story short, however, the former pastor's sabbatical turned into a resignation and the Little Brown Church asked McHolm to stay.

"One of the reasons I left Scotland and came to the U.S. was, honestly, I didn't like the weather at home — too cold," he said, "and if you look at where I've been — Florida, Texas, the Virgin Islands — you sense a theme right?"

He paused and joined his wife in a laugh.

"Nashua's not like those places."

But he did sign on — right before Iowa experienced one of its worst-ever stretches of winter, 70-plus inches of snow in a six-week period.

"Timing is everything," Boatright said with a laugh, "and we don't have it."

THE CHURCH MCHOLM took over may be the most famous in Iowa.

Built between 1860 and 1864, the church endured tough times in the late 1800s.

The railroad passed by Bradford and, instead, went through Nashua. The town's flour mill closed, and the town, originally the Chickasaw County seat slowly disappeared. For a while, the church was closed although the congregation continued to hold Sunday School.

By the early 1900s, the Society for the Preservation of

the Little Brown Church was formed. Services began anew at the church, and when the Weatherwax Quartet traveled throughout the U.S. and Canada, it in a sense put the church back on the map with its theme song, "The Church in the Wildwood."

After World War I, highways were improved and cars brought many visitors to the "Church in the Wildwood," where a new tradition had started.

When a school superintendent and a merchants' daughter were married at the church, they rang the church bell.

To date, more than 76,000 couples have exchanged marriage vows at the church. And ringing the bell remains a time-honored tradition.

MUCH HAS CHANGED in the past five years at the famous church. And for McHolm, too.

The church merged with the Nashua Community Church in the heart of the county's second largest city.

The old Community Church is now home to the Compass Outreach Center, the Little Brown Church's youth program and the site of a midweek contemporary service.

The Little Brown Church also has a new associate pastor in Sam Rambo and weekly attendance at the Little Brown Church has more than doubled in recent years.

"We have a wonderful membership," McHolm said, "and this is not a Drew McHolm

story. This is a Little Brown Church story. We've had so many people involved in doing the things we're doing today."

The church also has a new look. In addition to much-needed repairs to the outside of the building, the Little Brown Church's sanctuary underwent renovations in an effort to restore the inside of the church as closely as possible to what it may have looked like in the 1860s.

McHolm has also expanded his ministry. He now also serves as the pastor at St. John's Pleasant Hill in rural Nashua and his "Morning Brew with Pastor Drew" — a devotional he began during the days of COVID-19 — not only has been well-received by local residents and church members but are also watched by folks around the country.

He is also starting a new non-profit "Aim for the Highest" — a new program that will have its own app — for Christian businesspeople and Christian pastors, as well as other Christians.

"I want people to be able to see as much of my stuff as they care to," he said and then added with a smile, "and I tell people to steal as much of my stuff as you want because I probably stole it from someone else first."

And if that isn't enough, he and Jesse are accomplished singers and musicians who love to perform.

"We have a good life," said Boatright, who is the head of business development for Foreo, an international health and beauty company based in Sweden.

For a couple, though, that has traveled the world, rural Nashua and the church they serve is now home.

"We have seen signs — visible signs — that God wanted us here," McHolm said, "and as Jesse's mom always said, the real America is right here. The rural, blue-collar, honest work ethic is very real, and to be a part of this community, this church ..."

He paused for a moment and smiled.

"I still may not like the cold and snow; in fact, I can tell you I don't," he said, "but God gave us a great gift when he brought us here."

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News from the Nashua Public 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, by going online to <https://nashua.biblionix.com/catalog/>.

If you need any help, don't hesitate to call us at the library and we'll help you out!

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We have a number of upcoming events at the library — including the following:

- Wednesday, Aug. 2: Find Your Voice through laughter — Join us for a fun night with Absolute Science! They will be here with their Mega Foam Blaster!

This is a dry stacking foam that evaporates for easy cleanup. It shoots out 40 feet and is non-slippery, non-toxic, non-staining, non-allergenic and is also bio-degradable. It is fun for all ages, as well as the environment.

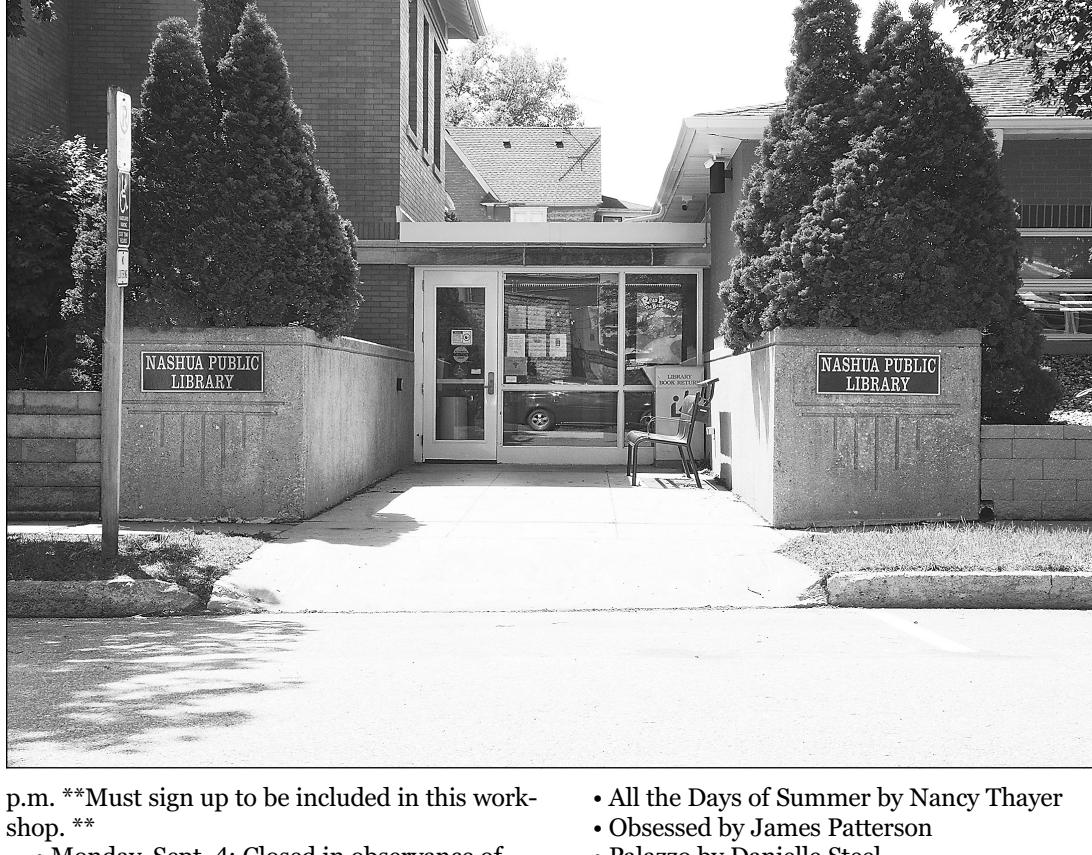
Come dressed in something you don't mind getting full of foam! Run, jump, laugh and have fun in this exciting program to end the summer program!

- Wednesday, Aug. 9: Library Board meeting at 7 p.m.

- Saturday, Aug. 19: National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium - 10:30-11:30 a.m. (Dive into the amazing world of ocean creatures with the Mississippi River Traveling Touch Tank!) Pre-Registration Required with limit of 100 participants! Sign up will be available starting Aug. 1.

You must have a ticket to guarantee a spot /and be able to do the touch tank! SIGN UP ONLY AT THE LIBRARY IN PERSON! Tickets will be given out when you sign up at the library in person! And you MUST have a ticket to get into the library during the program.

- Wednesday, Aug. 30: Adult Painting Workshop — Mini Barn Quilt Painting, 5 to 6:30



p.m. **Must sign up to be included in this workshop. **

- Monday, Sept. 4: Closed in observance of the Labor Day holiday.

- Saturday, Sept. 16: Lunch with Linda McCann (Rosie the Riveter and a host of other books), 11 a.m. to noon; Linda will be here to talk about her newest book about Rosie the Riveter. A light lunch will be served for those who attend.

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

- The Last Ride of the Pony Express by Will Grant

- Famous in a Small Town by Viola Shipman

- All the Days of Summer by Nancy Thayer

- Obsessed by James Patterson

- Palazzo by Danielle Steel

- Must Love Flowers by Debbie Macomber

- The Missus by E.L. James

- 2023 Christmas with Southern Living

- Family Handyman: Best

- Tips & Projects

- Too Late by Colleen Hoover

- Midwest State Park Adventures

- The Zoo Crew Series of 6 books by Dustin Stevens

- Hello Stranger by Katherine Center

- Secrets in the Dark by Heather Graham
- The Summer Skies by Jenny Colgan
- After Death by Dean Koontz
- The Bourne Defiance by Brian Freeman
- The Collector by Daniel Silva
- Private Moscow by James Patterson **Large Print**
- The 5 Star Weekend by Elin Hilderbrand **Large Print**

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New DVDs and Blu-Rays at the library include:

- A Man called Otto (DVD)
- Yellowstone- Season 5: Part 1 (DVD)
- The Wedding Veil (DVD)
- The Wedding Veil Legacy (DVD)
- The Wedding Veil Unveiled (DVD)
- The Wedding Veil Expectations (DVD)
- The Super Mario Brothers (DVD)
- The Super Mario Brothers (BLU-RAY)
- Avatar: The Way of water (DVD)
- Avatar: The Way of water (BLU-RAY)
- Book Club: The Next Chapter (DVD)

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The library recently received a monetary donation from David and Christine Skilton of Nashua, and we would like to publicly thank the Skiltons for their continued support of our facility.

— Nashua-Public Library Director
Heather Hackman

Legal Notice - Legal Notice

CHICKASAW COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MINUTES July 17, 2023

The Board convened on Monday, July 17, 2023, at 9:03 AM with members Breitbach, Kuhn, Cervinske and Hackman present in the Boardroom on the 2nd floor of the Court House, New Hampton, Iowa. Suckow absent. Chairperson Kuhn called the meeting to order. Also present were Auditor Sheila Shekleton, Attorney David Lauder (phone), Bob Fenske, member of the media, Public Health Director Lisa Welter (phone), Treasurer Matt Ysbrand, Engineer Roman Lensing, Assessor Raymond Armel, EMS Director Joel Knutson, Brigit Edson, and North Washington Mayor David Geerts.

Motion by Cervinske, seconded by Breitbach to approve the agenda for July 17, 2023 with the removal of Auditor Sheila Shekleton, Custodian Dave Gorman and discussion about handbook.

Roll Call: Ayes; Cervinske, Breitbach, Kuhn, Nay; Hackman. Absent; Suckow. Motion carried.

Motion by Breitbach, seconded by Hackman to approve the meeting minutes from July 10, 2023 with changes. Roll Call: Ayes; Breitbach, Hackman, Cervinske, Kuhn. Absent; Suckow. Motion carried.

No Public Comment

Motion by Hackman, seconded by Breitbach to approve RESOLUTION 07-17-23-55. A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE MINOR SUBDIVISION PLAT OF: Parcel 2023-26 in the NW1/4 OF THE NW1/4 OF THE NE1/4 OF SECTION 9, all in Township 95 NORTH, Range 11 WEST OF THE 5TH P.M., Chickasaw County, Iowa.

WHEREAS, ON THE 17th DAY OF JULY, 2023, at a regular meeting by the Board of Supervisors, Chickasaw County, Iowa a minor subdivision plat of

Parcel 2023-26 in the NW1/4 OF THE NW1/4 OF THE NE1/4 OF SECTION 9, all in Township 95 NORTH, Range 11 WEST OF THE 5TH P.M.., Chickasaw County, Iowa was presented.

WHEREAS, the minor subdivision plat of

Parcel 2023-26 in the NW1/4 OF THE NW1/4 OF THE NE1/4 OF SECTION 9, all in Township 95 NORTH, Range 11 WEST OF THE 5TH P.M.., Chickasaw County, Iowa has now been considered and should be approved. NOW

THEREFORE, it is hereby resolved by the Board of Supervisors, Chickasaw County, Iowa that said Minor Subdivision Plat be approved, accepted and the

Chairman is hereby directed to certify this Resolution of Approval. PASSED AND APPROVED on this 17th DAY OF JULY, 2023. /ss/ Matthew Kuhn, Chair, Hackman, Cervinske, Breitbach, Absent; Suckow. ATTEST: /ss/ Sheila Shekleton, Auditor. Cervinske, Breitbach, Kuhn. Absent; Suckow. Motion carried.

Motion by Cervinske, seconded by Breitbach to approve RESOLUTION 07-17-23-55. A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE MINOR SUBDIVISION PLAT OF: Parcel 2023-26 in the NW1/4 OF THE NW1/4 OF THE NE1/4 OF SECTION 9, all in Township 95 NORTH, Range 11 WEST OF THE 5TH P.M.., Chickasaw County, Iowa a minor subdivision plat of

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Chairman is hereby directed to certify this Resolution of Approval. PASSED AND APPROVED on this 17th DAY OF JULY, 2023. /ss/ Matthew Kuhn, Chair, Hackman, Cervinske, Breitbach, Absent; Suckow. ATTEST: /ss/ Sheila Shekleton, Auditor. Cervinske, Breitbach, Kuhn. Absent; Suckow. Motion carried.

Motion by Cervinske, seconded by Breitbach to approve the resolution of APRA funding requests from cities; Lawler \$50,000.00, Nashua \$50,000.00, and North Washington \$50,000.00 and Io-

nia's fund request of \$30,000.00 till there is a full board present. Ayes; Hackman, Cervinske, Breitbach, and Kuhn. Absent; Suckow. Motion carried.

Motion by Hackman, seconded by Cervinske to acknowledge resignation of Rayna Dunn, July 5, 2023. Roll Call: Ayes; Hackman, Cervinske, Breitbach, and Kuhn. Absent; Suckow. Motion carried.

Motion by Hackman, seconded by Breitbach to acknowledge resignation of Staci Vestel, June 20, 2023. Roll Call: Ayes; Hackman, Breitbach, Cervinske, and Kuhn. Absent; Suckow. Motion carried.

Motion by Hackman, seconded by Breitbach to acknowledge resignation of Staci Vestel, June 20, 2023. Roll Call: Ayes; Hackman, Breitbach, Cervinske, and Kuhn. Absent; Suckow. Motion carried.

Motion by Hackman, seconded by Breitbach to approve the resolution of APRA funding requests from cities; Lawler \$50,000.00, Nashua \$50,000.00, and North Washington \$50,000.00 and Io-

nina's fund request of \$30,000.00 till there is a full board present. Ayes; Hackman, Cervinske, Breitbach, and Kuhn. Absent; Suckow. Motion carried.

Motion by Hackman, seconded by Cervinske to give permission to Enter Premises Agreement with Karen Williams for Chickasaw County Brushing at the intersection of Akron Way and 205th St. and authorize Board of Supervisors Chairman Signature. Ayes; Hackman, Cervinske, Breitbach, and Kuhn. Absent; Suckow. Motion carried.

Motion by Hackman, seconded by Cervinske to give permission to Enter Premises Agreement with Karen Williams for Chickasaw County Brushing at the intersection of Akron Way and 205th St. and authorize Board of Supervisors Chairman Signature. Ayes; Hackman, Cervinske, Breitbach, and Kuhn. Absent; Suckow. Motion carried.

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Garage Sales

CITY WIDE GARAGE SALES Charles City will be Thursday, August 3rd through Saturday, August 5th. For full list of sales look in the August 1st Northeast Iowa Shopper.

Misc For Sale

For Sale: 2004 Chevy Craft Truck with built in shelves. Also for sale 3 craft racks with shelves, several pieces of hinged lattice and a barnboard money table. Call 317-498-7976

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GUN SHOW: August 4-6, 2023 Tyson Center, Sioux City IA Fri 3-8pm, Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. \$10 (under 14 FREE). Large selection of GUNS and AMMO for sale! More info: 563-608-4401 www.marvkrauspromotions.net

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Kelly Terpstra/Reporter

Nub Ronnei (above) sells Chris Niedert some bait at the shop he has owned for more than 20 years and where Petey (below) is usually right alongside the bait shop owner.

Bait shop's customer base come from near and far

RAGBRAI : FROM 1

"The Cedar River has a heckuva good variety of fish," said Ronnei. "Everything from your carp, catfish, northern, walleye, crappies, bluegill, perch."

Obviously, fishing is a big part of Nub's life, as he's made it his livelihood.

"When we was growing up we did a lot of fishing," said Ronnei.

Nub obviously knows fishing and is an expert on the subject.

He also understands people and enjoys talking to them and getting to know them. He hears their stories.

"You gotta pay attention to what a lot of them say – listen to 'em," said Ronnei.

Those are a just a few of the reasons "Nub's" has been a thriving business on Main Street in Nashua for two decades. Townsfolk will flock to the boat club near Cedar Lake on Saturday, Aug. 5. There, they'll celebrate Nub's 20 years of catering to the experienced angler and those just getting their feet wet in a leisure activity that brings fishermen near and far to his store on the main drag in the heart of Nashua.

The open house a week from this Saturday will have plenty of grilling options – brats, burgers and the like.

"Lot of beer and probably all you can eat," said Ronnei. "The kids can roast marshmallows and hot dogs."

Nub – the store and person – is definitely a landmark and legend in the town of 1,500 – where Ronnei's longstanding business is a just a stone's throw away from the picturesque Cedar Lake.

The doors of "Nub's" are almost always open – rain or shine.

Well, almost – key word.

"That could be seven days a week. I'm run by Mother Nature," said Ronnei. "With Mother Nature, your boss, it can get real iffy."

"Nub's" is open during the summer from from dawn until dusk.

"With Mother Nature as your boss you're always up and down," said Ronnei. "Mother Nature has been trying to knock my socks off like she did a lot of guys."

Those "other guys" have long since been gone and "Nub's" is pretty much the go-to bait shop in this corner of the state within a 30-or-40-mile radius.

That means Ronnei has seen it all in the 20 years his store has been open.

When Ronnei was laid off at his welding job in the late 80s long before he started "Nub's" – there were tons of options for anglers looking to purchase bait, bobbers or a new rod and reel that may be needed in order to catch the often elusive fresh water fish that swim in the rivers and lakes in this part of the midwest.

"There were bait shops all over. I mean we had one here in town," said Ronnei. "I think there were five in Charles City – two in Greene, two or three in Waverly, two over in Horton."

Now Nub, 68 years old and still going strong, is the only one left and the lone survivor out of all of them. He said the bait shop in town before he opened "Nub's" on July 10, 2003, had some hooks, sinkers and some fishing poles, but was more into guns and ammo.

"I thought that might not be a bad idea. Then I started paying attention to the vehicles parked around here – out of state, out



of state," said Ronnei. "A lot of people come from Des Moines. They come from all over just to fish these walleye down below the dam."

Nub said he spends a little bit more on his minnows than a lot of places do.

That may be why his customers keep coming back.

"Right now I got guys coming from the Minnesota border to come here to get bait to go back up there to go fishing. They want to be in their boats and out there by the spot they want to fish by the crack of dawn," said Nub.

He also invested around \$2,000 on the cooling system for the inside of the tank that holds his small and large minnows as well as chubs.

"That's a thousand-gallon milk tank is all it is," said Ronnei.

"Nub's" has a vast variety of fishing equipment and bait, maybe not along the lines of Hank's Live Bait & Tackle in Waterloo, but who does?

"He's gigantic compared to me," said Ronnei.

One of Nub's regulars – N-P high school student Chris Niedert – stopped by the store Wednesday afternoon to pick up two bobbers and a hook. He said he was looking to catch panfish.

If you want nightcrawlers, Casey's and Kwik Star sell that live bait and that's it.

"Nub's" offers those, plus crappie minnows, walleye minnows, chubs, red worms, wax worms, chicken liver, dip baits, etc.

You get the picture.

And if you're short a buck or two on your fishing supplies – Nub has got your back, too.

"I get the biggest kick – I give more stuff away to little kids than anything," said Ronnei. "I'll do just about anything to keep 'em off of them computers or just out of the house."

So if you make a trek over to "Nub's" in the near future, make sure to say hi and pet his friendly dog – Petey – a seven-year old terrier.

He often lets Nub know with a boisterous bark if a customer walks into the store if he's out back.

What's one of the secret's to "Nub's" success – among other things?

"You dedicate just about everything to time," he said.

Speaking of which and that begs the question – how much longer will Nub run his popular bait shop in Nashua?

Twenty more years?

"I plan on doing it probably for as long as I can," said Ronnei.



Photo courtesy of Tori Bearman

Tori Bearman and her younger brother, Ty, pose for a photo with First Citizens Bank Community President Bob Savre after the bank purchased a pig jointly owned by the Bearman siblings during the livestock auction at the Chickasaw County 4-H and FFA Achievement Show.

Brother, sister gift fairgrounds big gift

Bearmans donate proceeds from livestock auction to Big 4's planned new beef barn

BY BOB FENSKE
Of the Reporter

Let's put it this way, it was quite a week for the Bearman family – specifically Tori and her younger brother, Ty – at the Chickasaw County 4-H and FFA Achievement Fair.

The siblings competed in a number of shows and Tori was crowned the 2023 Chickasaw County fair queen, but as much success as they had in the show rings at the fair, it was what they did the last day of the show that may have the longest impact.

A pig owned by the brother and sister fetched almost \$2,000 at the livestock auction that traditionally closes out the Achievement Show while a sheep owned by Ty brought in a little more than \$4,000.

But instead of pocketing the money, the Bearmans donated the proceeds from the auction back to the Big 4 Fair Board so that they can be used to help fund an expansion of the fairgrounds' beef barn.

"We know how much it's needed," Tori said in an interview last week. "I mean that barn was really packed, and anyone who walked through it during the fair could see we need more room, a lot more room."

So when First Citizens Bank of New Hampton, through its community president, Bob Savre, purchased the siblings' pig and Midway Custom Ag's bid was the winner for Ty's lamb, the Bearmans made the decision.

"It's for something that [fairgrounds] really need," Tori said, "and Ty and I just kind of thought it was the right thing to do. We spend a lot of time at the fair, and it's an important that we have the buildings we need to have."

The auction wrapped up what turned out to be a heck of a week for the older Bearman sibling, and she's already looking forward to her new duties as the fair queen.

Asked if she was nervous on "coronation night," she couldn't help but laugh.

"Not really; OK, maybe a little," she said. "I mean I think all of us who were up there obviously wanted to win, but I also knew if I didn't get it, it wasn't going to be the end of the world. I was just kind of excited to see so many girls up there and to see who won."

And she's not too far from performing her first "duty" as queen as she will join Queen Alternate Elaina Rosonke and the Little Mr. and Miss Chickasaw royalty at the Ionia Fun Days Parade on Saturday, Aug. 5.

Three days later, she'll head to Des Moines for the Iowa State Fair, where she will join fair queens from throughout the state for a variety of activities that will conclude with the crowning of the State Fair queen on Saturday, Aug. 12.

"I'm pretty pumped about the State Fair," she said, "because I'm going to get to meet a lot of new people and get the chance to represent my county and all the people who live here."



Ty and Tori Bearman — not to mention Ty's lamb — pose for a photo with Midway Custom Ag's Dylan Borglum after he came up with the winning bid for the lamb at the Chickasaw County 4-H and FFA Achievement Show's annual livestock auction last week.

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Former Husky is looking forward to his second college football season

Munn's goal is to climb depth chart and get some varsity time with the defending Division III runner-up Knights

BY KELLY TERPSTRA
Of the Reporter

McKade Munn knows the drill.

It's a grind he's all too familiar with.

He is, after all, a football player – and a good one at that.



Munn

last year after dealing with a leg injury.

The two Huskies talked after the game, though – a contest Loras won in Dubuque at the Rock Bowl, 24-15.

Sam Fundermann, another all-district standout for the Huskies that graduated alongside Munn, was on the Knights' JV roster last fall, but is not competing with Wartburg in 2023.

Munn talked about what it's like to eat, sleep and breathe football on the collegiate level.

"It's definitely a different kind of mindset here. It's always pretty strict. If you miss breakfast, you get disciplined," said Munn. "The coaches – they're very technical with their terms. If you're doing something wrong, they're going to tell you you're doing it wrong and how to fix it. It's not going to be like a light layoff."

Munn – who won over 150 career matches for Al Frost's Huskies in wrestling at N-P and competed at state three times in the sport – talked about his progression with the Knights in football.

"I could tell definitely in the offseason I put on a lot of strength," said Munn. "It was really beneficial to have some of those JV games and see progress and get a little more opportunity to get coached and what not."

Munn said defensive end might be a possibility in the near future at Wartburg – but that would mean hitting the weights hard.

"I would definitely have to put on a few more pounds and a lot more strength," said Munn. "I'm not really sure what this next season is going to look like for me – position-wise. I'd like to stay at linebacker, but obviously I'll let the coaches put me wherever they find my best fit."

In order to make his mark on the varsity level – he may look toward special teams, if he gets the opportunity.

"I'm hoping to get involved in a lot of the special team's aspect," said Munn. "I think that would be a pretty good start."

Munn said football camp starts on Wednesday, Aug. 9. He's been involved in summer lifting and running programs with his teammates as well.

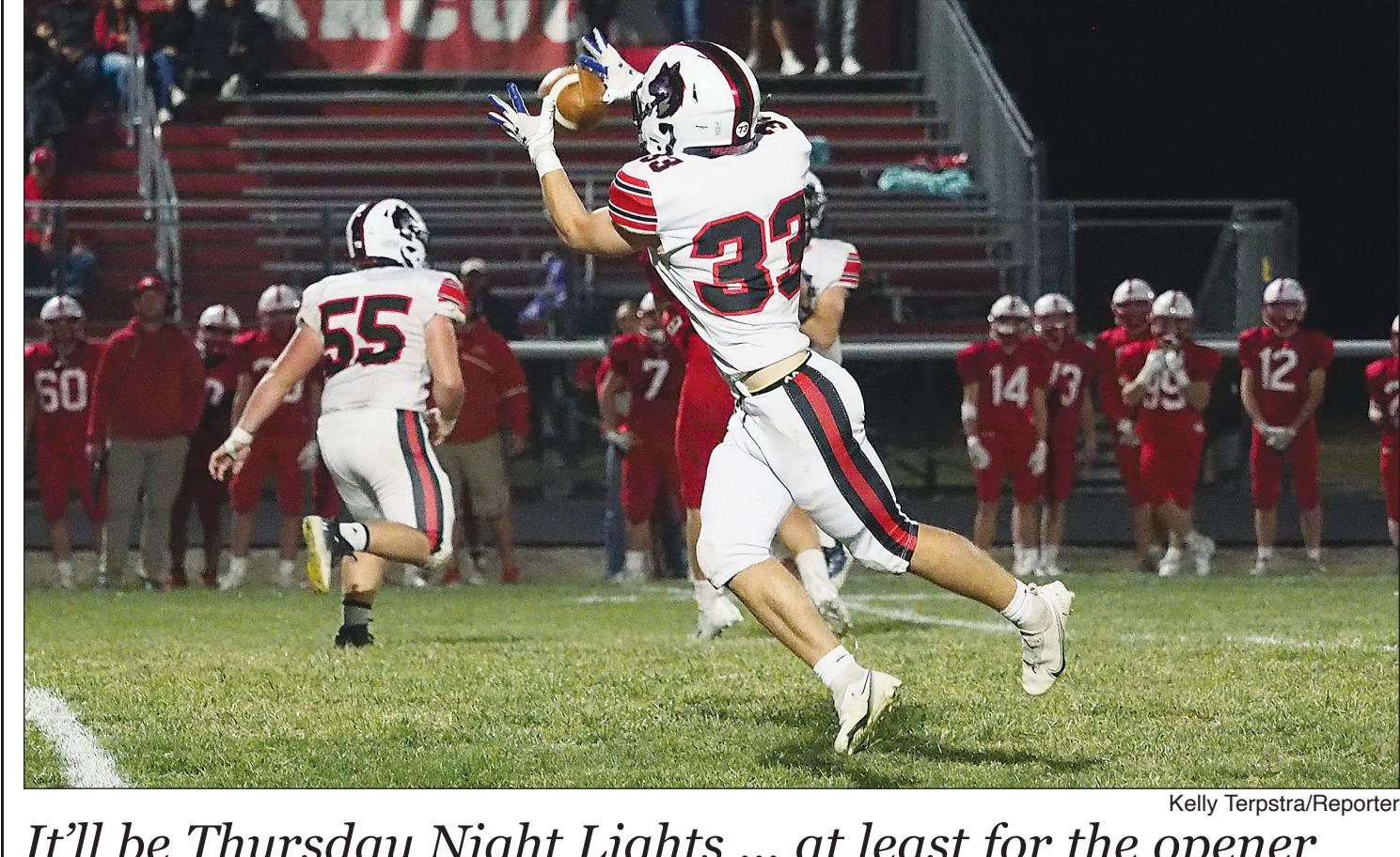
Wartburg's first varsity game is at home versus Monmouth College on Saturday, Sept. 2 at 7 p.m.

Munn – who led N-P in tackles in linebacker his senior season with 48.5 – placed seventh at 152 pounds his last go-round at the state wrestling held at Wells Fargo Arena in Des Moines. Munn also ran on the state 4x400 relay his senior year at Drake Stadium.

But this is a whole other ball game at college. He's thankful he's able to show his coaches and anybody that follows the Knights – what's he's worth and what he's all about.

"I'm grateful for the opportunity to advance my football career and I'm excited for the future to see what comes," said Munn. "I'll hopefully get my name out there somewhere."

The latter American Rivers Conference foe – Loras – also has a former Husky on its roster in sophomore Jarrett Petersen – a 6-5, 340-pound lineman that did not see any varsity action for the Duhawks



Kelly Terpstra/Reporter

It'll be Thursday Night Lights ... at least for the opener

Nashua-Plainfield's Aiden Gelner catches a screen pass in a playoff game against West Hancock last season, and the Huskies are now less than a month away from their season opener – a Thursday, Aug. 24, road date with Postville.

And yes, you read that – Thursday – correctly as the Huskies season opener with the Pirates had to be moved to Thursday because officials couldn't find referees to work the game on Friday night. "If you don't believe there's an official shortage," Nashua-Plainfield Activities Director Suzy Turner said, "I would say this kind of proves there is one. Our [assignor] tried, but it was either play on another night or we wouldn't have had a game."

The good news is that the rest of the Huskies' games this season will be held on Friday nights.

'Family Week' calm before the fall sports season storm

BY KELLY TERPSTRA
Of the Reporter

Boating, swimming or just relaxing on some sandy beach – there's plenty of time to do that if you're a high school student athlete in the state of Iowa this week.

If you're in the band or involved in speech, maybe it's the perfect opportunity to travel with the family to go see the Grand Canyon, the Rocky Mountains or take a road trip to see "The Big Apple" in New York City.

The Unified Activity Federation Non-Contact Period that runs from Sunday, July 23 until the following Sunday on July 30 will allow those trips to be made for families involved in extra-curricular activities that still want to enjoy what's left of summer vacation before fall sports get under way.

This rule handed down by the state four years ago also applies to those participating in speech and music. That means no activity is allowed by instructors or coaches that work with students in those prospective fields, whether it be practices, camps, clinics, workouts, strength and conditioning, lessons, meetings, etc.

What used to be labeled as "Dead Week" and is now called "Family Week" and has been instituted by Iowa's two governing prep athletic bodies that oversee high school athletics in the state – the Iowa High School Athletic Association (IHSAA) and the Iowa Girls High School Athletic Union (IGHSAU).

That also includes the Iowa High School Music Association (IHSMA) and the Iowa High School Speech Association (IHSSA).

After this "Dead Week" period ends on Monday, July 31, Nashua-Plainfield sports teams will begin their camps in a lead-up to Monday, Aug. 7, the first official day of practice for fall sports teams in Iowa.

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Kelly Terpstra/Reporter

Jalynn Pratt and her Nashua-Plainfield volleyball teammates, like all area high school athletes, are getting a "break" before the fall sport season begins.

That means Husky football, volleyball and cross country teams can begin practicing.

In the meantime, athletes and coaches will take a break and get ready for those start of camps that help each squad prepare for the upcoming regular season.

Or they could go camping, hiking or any number of outdoor activities that one might want to explore before school starts back up later next month.

N-P head coach Andrew Christensen – who will start his fourth season of guiding his up-and-coming and on-the-rise program – had nothing but nice things to say about the week-long layoff.

"Personally, I think that 'Dead Week' or 'Family Week' is one of the best things that the state associations have done. I look at N-P and most smaller schools, many of your athletes play three or four sports, so by the time July comes around those kids need to be able to take a short break and hopefully get away. I also think from a coaches perspective it gives me a chance to recharge my batteries a bit while at the same time get all the things ready to go

for the season like equipment," said Christensen.

Christensen has helped guide N-P to back-to-back playoff appearances the last two fall campaigns. N-P went 4-5 in 2021 and 5-4 last season. Prior to those postseason runs, N-P played to a 1-7 mark in the COVID-19 truncated season.

"The only negative that I have seen in the past was that the first year it was communicated very late so families weren't able to plan accordingly," Christensen said.

"However, now I feel like families are doing a nice job using this week to get away so that their student athletes aren't missing practice time. There are always going to be times where this week doesn't work for a trip or event, but I do think most

families try to schedule around it."

Christensen will have many key returnees back for a program that is searching for its first playoff victory since 2014. N-P starts up camp this coming Monday, as does the Husky volleyball team – under the direction of third-year head coach Mindy Foelske. The N-P cross country team doesn't hold a camp next week, but Jenn Kalainoff's group can practice, just not with coaches affiliated with N-P Schools.

Because of the quick turnaround with camps starting right after the "Dead Week," coaches and athletes need to be ready to hit the ground running as the state allows the first football game to be played on Thursday, Aug. 24 – less than a month away. Volleyball and XC are officially permitted to hold their first matches or meets three days earlier on Monday, Aug. 21.

N-P's football season opener will be at Postville on Thursday, Aug. 24. The Husky volleyball team's first regular season competition is on Tuesday, Aug. 22 at Jesup. The N-P XC team runs at the season-opening Wildwood meet in Charles City on Thursday, Aug. 31.

"I don't think that the 'Dead Week' really impacts preparation for the season because every school has it. We still have a week of camp and then three weeks of practice to be ready for the first game, so I don't think there is much change," said Christensen.

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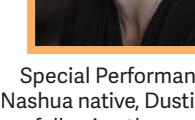
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