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# New Hampton TRIBune Chickasaw County

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## Supervisors OK max levy

County will increase tax-asking for Rural Services Basic by up to 11.38%

By BOB FENSKE  
editor@nhtrib.com

The Chickasaw County Board of Supervisors found its super majority Monday and approved the county's maximum levy for the 2023-24 fiscal year that begins July 1.

But board members passed on setting the last of two required public hearings for next year's budget and

tax levy.

Still, Monday's approval of the so-called max levy was critical to keeping the budget process on track.

Under state law, the first of two public hearings is held before a county can approve the maximum amount of tax-asking - the total amount of property taxes the county will collect. Once the max levy is approved, a county can lower the tax-asking but it can't

raise it.

Under the proposal supervisors considered Monday, the county's tax-asking for General Basic and General Services was \$4.44 million, a 1.99 percent increase from the \$4.36 million the county received from property owners for GB and GS this year.

But because the proposed budget's tax-asking for Rural Services Basic jumped 11.38 percent - from \$2.07

million this year to \$2.3 million

next year - state law required the supervisors to approve the max levy with yes votes from at least two-thirds of the board's members.

During Monday's meeting, just two residents — New Hampton's Jeremy McGrath and Fredericksburg's Doreen Cook — spoke and both said they felt

there were ways the county could cut its budget.

McGrath took aim at the board's decision late last year to give elected officials 9 percent raises.

**SEE BUDGET, 8**

## County holds off on picking home for EMS

Supervisor rescinds original motion to have county-owned service be based at Heritage

By BOB FENSKE  
editor@nhtrib.com

The Chickasaw County Board of Supervisors, over the objections of Chickasaw County EMS Director Joel Knutson, came close Monday to making a decision to house the county-owned ambulance service at the Chickasaw Heritage Building.

But after a discussion that lasted for almost an hour, the supervisor who made the motion rescinded it.

The debate was pointed at times, with Knutson echoing the thoughts of Jeremy McGrath, the previous ambulance provider, who told board members earlier in the meeting that it would be "crazy" not to have the ambulance based at the Community Services Building.

Knutson once again said that the move to the Heritage would cost the service personnel — saying that two of the eight ALS paramedics have told him that they will leave the service if they are forced to work out of the Heritage and that he believed 50 percent of his "daytime" backup crews would not be able to be on-call.

Fredericksburg resident Doreen Cook, who along with her husband owned the Chickasaw Ambulance Service until 2009, said she was disappointed that the service's employees appeared to be the driving force behind basing the ambulance at the CSB.

"I have heard one Board of Supervisor member say something to the effect that they must not care about this county," she said. "It's not up to the employees as to where it is. When they get hired, they get hired to do a job, no matter where it's at."

But Knutson said that while he understood some of Cook's points, he added that "there's nobody waiting to take their place. In this instance, I'm really asking you guys to listen to

**SEE AMBULANCE, 3**



Bob Fenske/Tribune

**Samuels Group President Sid Samuels makes a point as he discusses a potential new law enforcement center and jail during a joint board meeting of the Chickasaw County Board of Supervisors and the New Hampton City Council Monday night.**

## The pitch: \$13.2 million jail, law center

Consultant tells county, city leaders to forego 'full-scale' jail, build holding facility

By BOB FENSKE  
editor@nhtrib.com

A consultant hired by the Chickasaw County Board of Supervisors, with assistance from the New Hampton City Council, recommended Monday night that the county build a new "holding-facility jail" to replace the current jail that, as Samuels Group employees put it, "is approaching the end of its useful life."

Samuels Group officials made their recom-

mendations during a joint meeting of the Board of Supervisors and the City Council, and said the estimated cost for a new law enforcement center that would house both the Chickasaw County Sheriff's Office and the New Hampton Police Department and jail was \$13.24 million.

They added that if the county wanted a "full-scale" jail, the additional cost would be \$9.23 million, which would bring the total project cost to about \$22.47 million.

But they emphasized that while the site they

considered — across South Linn Avenue from the Pub at the Pinicon and Morris Landscaping — has room for a jail, they did not believe the county should build it.

They also broke down the costs so that the county would know that its portion of the center would cost around \$10.41 million while the city's police department would be an additional \$2.81 million.

**SEE JAIL, 2**

## City Council OKs extra pay for police sergeant

Scally will receive third of former chief's salary until Nosbisch's replacement named

By BOB FENSKE

editor@nhtrib.com

Paul Scally believes if he's doing two jobs, he ought to be paid for both of them, or at least partially for one of them.

And the New Hampton City Council on Monday night agreed with the police sergeant as they increased his pay while the city is without a police chief.

Since Zach Nosbisch worked his last day as police chief on March 3, Scally has been the top-ranked member of the Police Department and has managed the chief of police responsibilities. So on Monday, he requested that he receive one-third of Nosbisch's former salary, which works out to \$445.62 a week, in

addition to his regular pay wage of \$27.86 per hour.

"I've been making all the decisions," he told council members. "After March 3 basically but the week starting March 6, I've been making every decision for this police department. No matter how big or small, I make the call so there should be, in my opinion, some compensation."

Scally conceded that he is not "fully doing all the chief responsibilities," which is why he asked for a third of Nosbisch's former salary.

"I think one-third is fair, guys. I'm making all the calls until we get somebody," he said.

**SEE CITY COUNCIL, 5**



Tribune

**Hey, kind of a spring day!**

New Hampton High School freshman Edgar Rodriguez practices getting out of the blocks during a track practice Monday afternoon on one of the few spring-like days we've had so far this year. The bad news, though, is that it isn't exactly going to last and by today, highs may not get out of the 30s.

**See FORECAST, Page 6**

## Engineer asks for 6 percent raise, gets 9 percent hike

By BOB FENSKE

editor@nhtrib.com

Chickasaw County Engineer Roman Lensing came to Monday's Board of Supervisors meeting hoping for a 6 percent raise.

He got it ... and then some.

Lensing laid out his case, if you will, during Monday's meeting by stating that he used the directive from the Board of Supervisors this past fall to department heads to keep their budget increases for the 2023-24 fiscal year to 6 percent.

He also pointed out that the \$116,600 salary he would receive under his proposal

**SEE RAISE, 2**

## A mat all-American

Former New Hampton/Turkey Valley wrestling star places at NCAA national tourney

Pages 9-12



## National Ag Week

Check out some great reader-submitted photos as we celebrate ag's week!

Pages 9-12



## Debut run

Turkey Valley track teams get first meet in at UIC Indoor

Page 18

# Consultant: Facility takes 'care of the needs' of county

## JAIL: FROM 1

And Sid Samuels, the group's founder and president, said the facility being proposed had gone through six revisions and provided for the needs of the county.

"Our recommendation every time — it's never changed — is to build for the county," he said, "so that when you go out and ask for a bond and someone comes from the public and says, 'Are you truly looking out, are you really taking care of us?' Absolutely. You're designing and constructing a facility that takes care of the needs for the residents of Chickasaw County."

**MONDAY NIGHT'S** presentation was broken down into three parts — a review of the existing facility that was built in 1957, come up with a solution and determine the cost of that solution.

The Samuels Group's Greg Wilde told city and county leaders and a crowd of about 50 residents that his group found 17 primary issues with the current jail facility.

They ranged from issues with the sally port, booking rooms, holding cells, the lack of classifications and security problems.

The state jail standard, Wilde said, is to be able to classify — or segregate — a minimum of five types of prisoners, and the current jail can only have two classifications.

He pointed out that because of the size of the jail and the way it was built, prisoners are often moved into areas that include the facility's IT and laundry facilities.

"If someone really wanted to do some damage," Wilde said, "it would be way, way too easy."

He said "there's not a way" to add classifications to the facility because of the "way the facility was created."

Wilde added that it's not just the safety of staff and inmates that is at risk in the current facility.

"We've heard repeatedly that attorneys are getting more and more reluctant to come in here to visit with their clients, just because they're face to face, and if you're delivering bad news to your client, do you want to be face to face?"

**THE SOLUTION**, the Samuels Group believes, is to build a new facility, although officials added that they looked at the current jail site as a possibility.

Wilde told county and city leaders that streets would have to be closed, utilities would have to be moved and that even then, "it is so limited ... it would be almost impossible to squeeze it in."

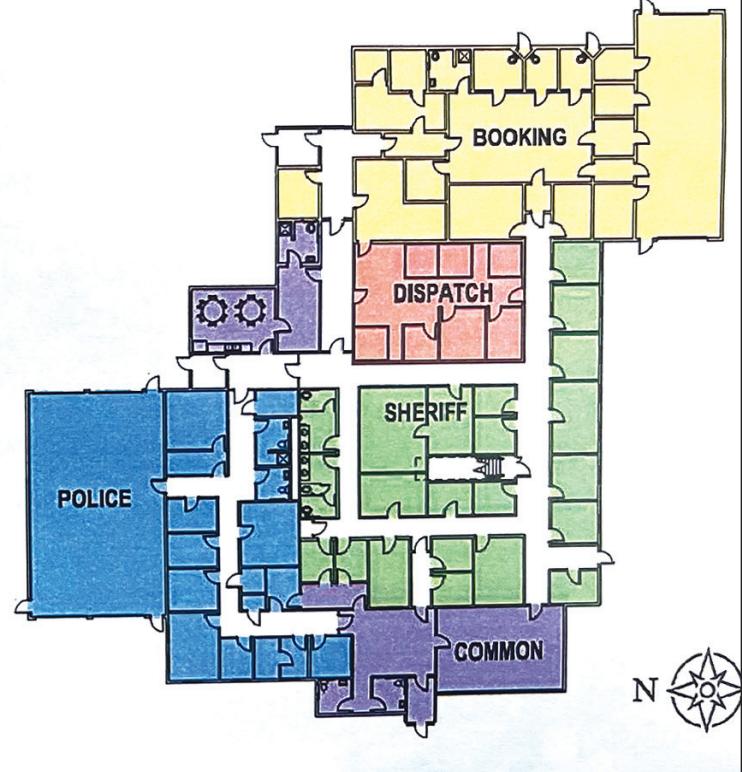
Samuels Group used the site on South Linn because it is land owned by the New Hampton Industrial Corporation and would be available to the county at no cost, but they, along with Chickasaw County Sheriff Ryan Shawver, said they looked at other sites — including the Chickasaw Heritage Building Center.

"We took the state jail inspector down there," Shawver said, "and he said you can pump as much money into this place as you want to and I'll never certify this as a correctional facility."

They came up with a facility that would include a booking and holding area, the Sheriff's Office, room for dispatchers and the New Hampton Police Department, as well as a full-scale jail.

## OVERALL SCOPE OF NEW LAW ENFORCEMENT FACILITY

- Secure, safe Booking and Holding with Sally Port
- Include Sheriff Department
- Include Dispatch
- Include Police Department
- Provide Shared spaces for Sheriff and Police as possible



A preliminary design of a proposed law enforcement center and holding jail was part of the packet that the Samuels Group presented to the Chickasaw County Board of Supervisors and the New Hampton City Council during a joint meeting held Monday.

But after studying the costs of holding inmates in surrounding counties' facilities, they recommended that the facility only include holding cells.

Shawver explained what that would mean during a typical arrest.

"So what we're proposing, upon initial arrest, the person comes into our facility," Shawver said. "They're going to be detained there until court to have their initial appearance hearing. ..."

"At that time, the judge says you're released or you're held on bond. If they can not post bond, then it's our problem to find will Fayette take them? Will Floyd County take them? Will Winneshiek County take them? Will Howard County take them. ... They'll stay with us 24 hours or less; if they're our inmate for longer, they'll go somewhere else."

**THE BIG QUESTION**, of course, from not only the Board of Supervisors and the City Council but also from residents was the cost and how the facility would be paid off.

If the city decides to move its Police Department into the facility and joins forces with the county, the two entities can form an "authority board" with representatives from each to finance and run the facility. If an authority board asks for a bond referendum, it would need a simple majority of voters to approve it.

But if the city decides to keep its police in

its current location — one that Samuels Group found numerous issues with — the facility would cost less because the police portion of \$2.8 million would be removed from the price tag but a bond referendum would need a 60 percent approval rate to pass.

The state jail inspector last fall told county leaders that he was willing to work with the county, but he also said it was important for the county to begin making plans to correct the deficiencies of the current facility, and along with rising construction costs, that does make time somewhat of the essence.

"If you were to wait and continue to kick that can down the road," Samuels said, "chances are that can is going to get pretty heavy."

He said the best estimate that his group came up with is that the county levy rate would increase by about 68 cents per \$1,000 valuation while city property owners would see taxes increase by about \$1.34 per \$1,000 valuation.

The Samuels Group gave several examples of tax impacts by using real properties in the county, including:

- A residential property in Nashua that included a three-bedroom, two-bathroom house built in 1911 that's estimated selling price is \$129,000 would see an annual tax impact of \$43 a year.

- An acreage in the Alta Vista area with an estimated selling price of \$225,000 would see taxes increase by \$66 a year.

A home in New Hampton that could sell for around \$145,000 would see an annual tax impact of \$93.

Ag land property in the county would see an additional \$1.06 per acre in taxes each year.

The officials from the Samuels Group said now it is up to the Board of Supervisors and the City Council to decide what they want to do. They added that the group is willing to work with the entities on helping with any future referendums and pointed out that the Samuels Group has always been successful in passing a jail referendum on the first attempt.

Sid Samuels did ask those in the crowd to consider the liability and safety issues before passing judgment on a new jail facility.

He pointed out that the current jail's sally port is really nothing more than a residential garage.

"You're asking your law enforcement to handle somebody who's under the influence of drugs," Samuels said, "get them out of that car, get them through that door, down that little skinny hallway, get them processed and get them into a cell."

"When you think about the risks and the liabilities that are associated with that, that is nothing compared to what we're talking about. ... What we're talking about is the minimal amount we need to do from a county [standpoint] to secure someone, to hold somebody and to get them ready to go somewhere else."

## Supervisors bump up raise for engineer

### RAISE: FROM 1

about Lensing's proposal.

"You've shown to be a leader of the Secondary Roads Department so is 6 percent enough? I know what other counties are paying," he said, "and they're paying a lot more than this. He's proven himself."

He also pointed out that

supervisors voted to give elected officials 9 percent pay raises.

"If you're not going to move it," he said, referring to those pay raises, "I think he deserves

a 9 percent, too, as a very strong department head."

Supervisor Travis Suckow asked if Lensing's budget could handle the raise without a budget amendment, and Lensing said he thought it could — joking "it depends on how much you want to go up."

Board members then voted unanimously to give Lensing a 9 percent raise, taking his annual salary from \$110,000 to \$119,900.

## Stars & Stripes Spectacular set for April 1 in Lawler

The Lawler Sons of the American Legion will hold its annual Stars & Stripes Spectacular on Saturday, April 1, at the Starlite Ballroom in Lawler.

The evening will begin with a 5:30 p.m. meal that will include choice roast beef, sides and desserts and free table wine and a live auction is set

to begin at 7 p.m.

Tickets for the event are \$25 and can be purchased by calling Curt Franzen at 563-380-6333 or Gene Blazek at 563-278-7150.

Proceeds from the event will go to Retrieving Freedom, an organization that trains and provides service dogs to veterans.

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# A GOOD DAY FOR A WALK ... OR A RUN



As Tribune Sports Editor Kelly Terpstra made his way to Turkey Valley Tuesday, he caught some people enjoying a rare day in which it actually felt like spring.

There was New Hampton resident Pam Mai (above) walks her Shih Tzu named Loretta Lynn — Mai also has two other dogs who are named Elvis Presley and Patsy Cline — just down from Mikkelsen Park on Spring Street on East Spring Street.

Once in Jackson Junction, Terpstra caught a picture of Turkey Valley middle schoolers (right) Bella Stika, Hazel Nieman and Gavin Berst taking part in a track practice with their teammates.

Kelly Terpstra/Tribune



## Briefs

### Supervisors approve fourth amendment to current year's budget

The Chickasaw County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved Monday what board members said will be their fourth and last amendment to its 2022-23 budget.

Inflation issues, the start-up of the new county-owned ambulance service, the county taking over the Chickasaw Heritage Building Center and other pressing needs have led the four budget amendments, and the latest one included a \$163,950 increase to the Sheriff's Office to cover salary and benefits, a new vehicle, the boarding of prisoners and the high cost of fuel.

Supervisors worked out the details of the budget amendment during a meeting on March 6 because they wanted to know what the county's ending fund balances would be to help the budget and tax levy for the fiscal year that begins on July 1.

Board members also learned that there is more interest from both government agencies and non-profit organizations to use office space at the Heritage. Board members gave the green light to both Riverview and Juvenile Court Services to move into the old county home located south of New Hampton.

But they also learned that organizations like Pathways, CSS, Probation Services and Inspiring Lives — the latter leased the building for nine years before departing last summer — are interested in the facility.

Inspiring Lives is looking to run some of what it calls its "day hab" programs at the Heritage.

### MercyOne scholarship applications due by April 1

MercyOne New Hampton is accepting applications for both the Friends of MercyOne Healthcare and its Vinanna Holschlag Nursing scholarships.

Four Friends of MercyOne \$750 scholarships are available to graduating seniors or non-traditional students who reside in the MercyOne New Hampton service area while four Holschlag scholarships are available in the amount of \$1,500.

Applicants for the Friends of Mercy One scholarships must plan to further their education in a health care field. Some qualifying fields of study include but are not limited to medical records technicians (transcription and coding), pharmacy and pharmacy techs, laboratory techs, radiology techs, dietetics, physical /respiratory therapy, psychology/mental health, as well as nursing and pre-medicine.

Holzschlag scholarships will be awarded to students pursuing a career in nursing and who exemplify character and ideals as determined by the Auxiliary Executive Board.

Applications for both scholarships are available on the hospital's website, [www.mercyone.org/newhampton](http://www.mercyone.org/newhampton), and completed form must be returned no later than April 1.

For more information on the scholarships, contact Jennifer Monteith at 641-394-1626.

### Register for Tai Chi arthritis and fall prevention class by April 14

Northeast Iowa Area Agency on Aging (NEI3A) is offering Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall Prevention classes in Fredericksburg from April 18 through June 8. Classes will be held at the Fredericksburg Community Center (151 West Main Street) each Tuesday and Thursday from 10 to 10:45 a.m.

Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall Prevention offers a gentle exercise option that can help reduce the risk of falling by improving strength, balance, coordination, and flexibility.

This class is offered on a \$4 suggested contribution per class for those over 60. For participants under 60, there will be a \$4 charge per class. Space is limited, and registration is required. Please register by calling Carol Mackintosh at 319-269-0509 or emailing [handmack63@gmail.com](mailto:handmack63@gmail.com) by April 14.

### Cover crop workshop to be held in West Union

Iowa Learning Farms, in partnership with Consortium for Cultivating Human And Naturally reGenerative Enterprises (C-CHANGE), will host a cover crop workshop on Tuesday, March 28 from noon-2 p.m. at the West Union Event Center. Farmers and landowners are welcome to attend the free event, which includes a complimentary meal catered by the West Union Event Center.

The workshop will be held in the West Union Event Center, 10201 Harding Road, West Union.

The event is free and open to farmers and landowners, though reservations are required to ensure adequate space and food.

For reasonable accommodations and to RSVP, please contact Liz Ripley at 515-294-5429 or [lif@iastate.edu](mailto:lif@iastate.edu). Attendees will be entered in a drawing that evening for ISU Prairie Strips honey.

For more information about Iowa Learning Farms, visit [www.iowalearningfarms.org](http://www.iowalearningfarms.org).

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### EMS director says he'll be 'very, very' concerned if service is based at Heritage

#### AMBULANCE: FROM 1

the EMS responders that are doing their job."

He added that a move to the Heritage would put the viability of Chickasaw County EMS in question.

"If we want to see this service stay in business and survive, we have to be flexible," he said, and when Cook asked him if he was saying the service could not survive at the Heritage, he answered, "I'm very, very, very concerned that it will not be feasible any longer."

Knutson said that currently, New Hampton residents who live in the city and can meet the response time required by the service can be at home during their shifts. Once the service finds a permanent home, he said those workers will be paid minimum wage if they decide to be at home while waiting for calls.

"Similar size services in our region," he said, "this is the policy they follow."

He said if the move is made to the Heritage, he will lose two employees who provide eight to 10 paramedic shifts a month.

"That means one-third of the month where we [would] have no ALS coverage," he said, "which means we can't take inter-facility transfers, where we make the majority of our funds. And if we have no backup, we [also] can't take transfers."

He said that's because once the first crew is "called out," he would have to have the backup crew — many whom work other jobs — report to the Heritage because they wouldn't be able to meet the response time the service requires. That would also increase the cost of the service because those backup crew members would be receiving full EMS pay, instead of the on-call pay.

Supervisor Travis Suckow, who represents the Fredericksburg and Lawler areas, remained unswayed, even after Knutson pointed out that if the county purchases a third ambulance and there are enough Fredericksburg residents to staff it that the third ambulance could be in the city 60 to 70 percent of the time.

Suckow pointed out that he drove from the courthouse to the Heritage in just under five minutes and with "that being said and listening to everybody that I've talked to in my area, I think I'm going to make a motion to move things forward — to move this out to the Heritage."

Knutson, however, strongly advised against the board voting on the motion — saying

that the board should at least wait for the Samuels Group to complete its study on how much it would cost to base the ambulance at the CSB or the Heritage.

Board Chairman Matt Kuhn agreed.

"We're paying the Samuels Group now to look at what this is going to cost," he said, "do you know what it's going to cost?"

"No, I don't," Suckow answered, "but this is a county service and the program that he put up [last week], to me, it looked like everything from the Heritage was quicker."

Yet during his presentation at the board's March 13 meeting, Knutson had told supervisors that a software program he used showed that the "county will have a 74 percent slower response time for 67 percent of our calls if the station is built."

Supervisor Steve Breitbach also was opposed to placing EMS at the Heritage.

"I'm totally against it going out to the Heritage," he said, "mainly because of the volunteers that we have in New Hampton. We're not going to have them out at the Heritage. We just heard from the previous provider that said it should not go out to the Heritage; it should be at the Community Services Building. I think he would know as much as anyone where it should go."

Cook though said she considered herself a former provider and that she was for the Heritage.

Other board members, like Jake Hackman, said they were frustrated because there were no costs attached to the moving of departments.

"How much does it cost to move Public Health [out to the Heritage], things like that, we don't know," he said. "Would I like to consolidate? Oh yes. Do we have enough money to do it all? Probably not."

Suckow ended up rescinding his original motion and made a new one in which the county would ask the Samuels Group to get a proposal to move EMS, Public Health and the Rescue Squad to the Heritage, and Scott Cerwinski seconded it.

"The only thing I'm concerned about," Hackman said, "is did we just throw \$4,800 out the window?"

After more discussion, Suckow again rescinded his motion and board members asked Kuhn to talk with the Samuels Group to see when the original report — the one comparing the cost of housing EMS at the two buildings — would be available.

### PROPERTY TAXES ARE DUE & PAYABLE

#### The second half payment for property taxes is due by March 31, 2023

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Matthew Ysbrand  
Chickasaw County Treasurer



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Saturday by Appointment

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Rustic Edge Salon



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## SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY FOR HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

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223 S. Water  
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Pastors Kevin Frey  
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**Service times:** 6 p.m.  
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202 N. Broadway  
641-394-2105

Father Jim Goerend

**Mass times:** Saturday, 4 p.m.; 8 and 10 a.m. Sunday.

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST & UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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201 N. Locust Ave.

Pastor Dong Hun Shin

**Service times:** 9:15 a.m.  
Sunday at FUMC and 10:30 a.m. Sunday at UCC.

**REDEEMER LUTHERAN**

611 W. Court St.

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Pastor Peter Faugstad

**Service time:** 4 p.m.

Saturday Divine Service

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641-394-4380

Pastor Anthony Harris

**Service time:** 10:30 a.m. Sunday.

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234 S. Linn Ave.

prairielakeschurch.org

641-456-6880

Pastor Cory Orr

**Service times:** 3:30 and

5:30 p.m., Saturday.

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saudjerico.com

Pastor Peter Faugstad

**Service time:** 8:30 or

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Service (check website).

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Pastor Peter Faugstad

**Service time:** 8:30 or

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Service (check website).

**IONIA****UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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Pastor Dong Hun Shin

**Service time:** Sunday,

8 a.m.

**ST. BONIFACE CATHOLIC**

Father Jim Goerend

**Mass time:** Saturday, 6 p.m.

**LOURDES****OUR LADY OF LOURDES CATHOLIC**

Rev. Jerry Kopacek

**Mass time:** Saturday, April 1, 4 p.m.

**ALTA VISTA****ST. BERNARD CATHOLIC**

Rev. Jerry Kopacek

**Mass time:** Saturday, 6 p.m.

**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Student Pastor Sue Cira

641-364-2115

**Service time:** Sunday,

8 a.m.

**ELMA****IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC**

Rev. Jerry Kopacek

**Mass:** Sunday, 7:15 a.m.

**ST. PETER LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Pastor Bruce Miller

107 Wood St. Elma

**Service time:** 9 a.m.

Sunday.

**NORTH WASHINGTON****IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

Father Jim Goerend

**Mass:** Saturday, April 1,

6 p.m.

# Jesus does understand us

Our Savior is truly human as well as truly divine

"And Jesus wept."

This simple three-word line is credited as being the shortest verse in many translations of the Bible and we will hear it this coming weekend in the Gospel reading from John.

Many of us, at some point in our lives, have experienced the death of a loved one, whether that's a grandparent or parent, sibling, spouse, child or friend.

We mourn and grieve for our loved one and may often wonder if Jesus understands the grief and pain we go through at the loss of a loved one.

This line in the Gospel

reading shows us that Jesus — truly human as well as truly divine — does understand.

Jesus' dear friend has died and he weeps for him and while this powerful scene demonstrates Jesus' humanity, there is another, more important line in this weekend's Gospel.

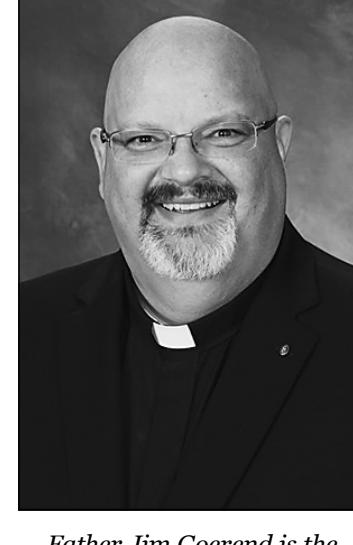
Before weeping at Lazarus' grave, Jesus encounters Martha and she pours out to Jesus her pain and anguish at the passing of her brother.

Jesus tells Martha, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die."

There, in that sentence, Jesus tells us of resurrection from the dead and the promise of eternal life through him and he calls us to walk with our sisters and brothers and be the light of the world to all people.

I would like to share this quote with you from the Rev. Billy Graham:

"If we are going to touch the people of our communities, we too must know their sorrows, feel for them in their temptations, stand with them in their heartbreaks. Jesus Christ entered into the arena of our troubles, and He wept with them that wept and rejoiced with



Father Jim Goerend is the priest for the Good Shepherd Cluster, which includes Catholic parishes in New Hampton, Ionia and North Washington

them that rejoiced."

May the remaining season of Lent be fruitful in your relationship with Jesus as we approach Holy Week and the glory of the Resurrection!

Likewise He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you."

**Luke 22:20**

## Maundy Thursday: The day Jesus was betrayed

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Beginning today, we will look at the three days — Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday — that are vitally important to the Christian faith.

Jesus sacrificially met His followers' deepest need--that of new spiritual life and the forgiveness of sins.

He even loved His enemies, and He calls us to show love to those who don't appear to deserve it. Just as Jesus loved sinners "to the end" (or "to the max") John 13:1) when He had nothing to gain from them, so must we.

The Bible says that there was nothing attractive about sinful mankind that drew Him to love us. God loved us while we were yet sinners (Romans 5:8).

While Scripture doesn't forbid us to commemorate days like Maundy Thursday, the main question is are we observing Christ's new command to love---especially those who deserve it least?

"Beloved, let us love one another. For love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love." (1 John 4:7-8)

Many churches observe Maundy Thursday with a Communion service and a foot-washing ceremony. These traditions help Christians reflect on the sacrifice of Jesus and his commandment for us to love and serve others.

**What Does Maundy Thursday Mean?**

Often, during communion, a pastor will read the following passage about what happened on the events of Maundy Thursday:

1 Corinthians 11:23-26: "For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had

given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes."

Every time we participate in communion, we recognize what happened during the events of Maundy Thursday. That our Lord Jesus was betrayed, to be tried and crucified the next day on Good Friday.

**What Happened in the Garden of Gethsemane?**

In the Garden of Gethsemane, after Jesus prays in earnest to the Lord, the disciple Judas Iscariot leads a mob to Jesus to arrest him and try him in a kangaroo court, which ultimately leads to his execution.

Jesus predicts this will happen earlier in the night.

Before these events take place, Jesus participates in the Last Supper with his followers, in which he breaks the bread and passes around a cup of wine, signifying His sacrifice. In the Garden of Gethsemane, he pleads with the Lord to take away the cup of wrath from him but also submits to the Father's will. The apostles fall asleep during these hours of agony and anxiety.

In the end, many Christians know about Good Friday and Easter Sunday, but we have to recognize the day that preceded these events. The day in which Jesus broke bread, prayed in the Garden, and yielded to his unjust arrest.

— christianity.com

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## Time for Financial ‘Spring Cleaning’

Now that we've put winter behind us — at least on the calendar — it's time for us to think about sprucing up our homes, inside and out. But it also may be time to do some financial spring cleaning.

Some of the same ideas involved in tidying up your home can also be used to help put your financial house in order. Here are a few suggestions:

- **Dust off your investment strategy.** As you look around your home, you might find that many items — tables, desks, bookshelves, and computer and television screens — could benefit from a good dusting. And, once you've accomplished this, you'll get a clearer view of all these objects. Similarly, your investment strategy needs to be “dusted off” every so often, so you can see if it's still working to help you move toward your financial goals, such as a comfortable retirement. Over time, your personal circumstances and risk tolerance can change, and these changes may lead you to reexamine your future financial and investment decisions.

- **De-clutter your portfolio.** If you took a survey of your home, would you find duplicates or even triplicates of some things — brooms, vacuum cleaners, toasters, and so on? If so, it may be time to do some de-cluttering. And the same could be true of your portfolio — you might have several identical, or substantially identical, investments taking up space. If so, you might want to replace these redundancies with investments that can improve your diversification. While diversification can't guarantee profits or protect against losses in a declining market, it may help reduce the impact of market volatility on your holdings.

- **Get organized.** If your closets are overstuffed, with clothes and miscellaneous items crammed on shelves and the floor, you may well have trouble finding what you're looking for — but with a little straightening up, your searches will



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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

become much easier. And when you're trying to locate financial documents, such as investment statements or insurance policies, you'll also benefit from having everything organized in one central location. Even if you get most of these documents online, you can save what you need and keep them in a file on your desktop, laptop or tablet. (And it's also a good idea to tell your spouse, adult child or another close relative how these documents can be accessed, just in case something happens to you.)

- **Protect yourself from dangers.** If you look around your garage, shed or other storage area, you may well find some objects — such as gardening tools, paint thinners, engine fluids and leaning ladders — that could be dangerous if they aren't stored properly. As part of your spring cleaning, you'll want to remove these hazards to safeguard yourself and your family. But have you addressed the various financial risks that could threaten your loved ones? For example, if something were to happen to you, could your family members maintain their lifestyle? Could your children still go to college? To guard against this risk, you may want to discuss protection strategies with a financial professional.

Spring cleaning can pay off — in a cleaner, safer home environment and in helping ensure your financial strategy continues to work hard for you.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

Edward Jones, Member SIPC



New Hampton City Council member Kalista Porath-Daly (right) makes a point during a discussion about giving Police Sgt. Paul Scally additional pay while the city is without a police chief.

## Council will allow parking near Little Sprouts

### CITY COUNCIL: FROM 1

“If I get called out, I have to come out. Like I said before, I think it could be a half but I think that's a little too much based on everything else.”

Under his proposal, he would receive an \$11.14 per hour wage increase, which would be \$5.58 more than what Nosbisch's hourly wage was.

City Clerk Karen Clemens had concerns about the proposal.

“I had an employee work [alone] almost two weeks and do three jobs,” she said. “And I am just concerned about precedent. I understand that this is a department head position, but she was doing my job.”

Scally said that the chief's responsibilities could fall either on himself or the mayor and that “two-thirds of the salary, you're not going to be” paying out.

Public Works Director Casey Mai said he believed the council should grant Scally's request.

“In today's world, you look at how difficult it is to hire a police officer,” he said. “It is damn hard. I know my guys are in the same boat. Right now, that position is posted. You've seen the candidates that came in the first time. You've seen how difficult it was when you tried to hire the last two officers. The last thing you want to do is have a lot of stress come on to him and all of a sudden he quits or another officer quits.”

Council members then voted unanimously to approve Scally's request, and his pay will be increased until a new police chief begins work in the city.

Also on Monday, council members tweaked a proposed ordinance dealing with traffic around the First United Methodist Church, which is also home to Little Sprouts Daycare.

During its March 6 meeting, the council approved the first reading of an ordinance that would place a four-way stop at the intersection of North Locust Avenue and East Court Street, place a stop sign on East Hale Street at its intersection with North Water Avenue and not allow parking on 132 feet of the west side of North Locust between 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.

First United Methodist Church member Karl Fliris told council members on Monday that he was “fully in favor” with the stop signs but had concerns about the no-parking part of the ordinance — pointing out that it would be an inconvenience to residents in the area and also for those church members who were going into the sanctuary during the work week.

“Where are people going to park who live in those homes and apartments,” Fliris asked. “And for our church members, that's where we park when we have to do work or go into the church. I would respectfully ask that you don't do the no-parking.... I just don't see how that no-parking affects any daycare users.”

Council members agreed, and passed the second reading of the ordinance with the no-parking portion deleted.

In other business from Monday's meeting:

- Council members approved allowing Ashley Schuchhardt to open a daycare business in her home in the 600 block of North Foley Avenue.

- The City Council gave the TRIBE Trail Committee the go-ahead to purchase additional land for the third phase of the trail.

- And after a lengthy discussion, council members gave the Parks and Recreation Department permission to burn two different brush piles in the Garnant Park area, but they also asked the department to have the city's Street Department help “break up” the piles and for the New Hampton Fire Department to be notified of the controlled burn.

## School levy rate to inch up in 23-24

New Hampton to hold public hearing on next year's budget in April

BY BOB FENSKE

[editor@nhtrib.com](mailto:editor@nhtrib.com)

The bad news is that the proposed tax levy rate for New Hampton Community Schools is going up next year.

The good news? It's still the second lowest rate the school has had in the seven years since voters approved the \$19.415 million bond referendum that led to the building of a new middle school, industrial technology and vocational agriculture center and competition gym.

During Monday night's School Board meeting, Superintendent Jay Jurrens gave board members his “annual preview” on the budget and tax levy that must be certified this year by April 30.

Much of a school district's levy is based on a formula put together by the state, and Jurrens told board members that the district's proposed levy rate for 2023-24 will be \$10.87131 per \$1,000 valuation, an increase of 2.9 percent from this year's levy rate of \$10.56435 per \$1,000 valuation.

Still, the proposed rate is far less than the \$12.21976 per \$1,000 valuation rate that the district had for the 2017-18 fiscal year, the first in which the district began paying back the bonds to finance the construction projects.

“I don't think anyone ever wants to see it go up,” Jurrens said in an interview Monday afternoon, “but we are up students and that levy rate looks

really good compared to what it was when we first had the bond on the books.”

The board will hold a public hearing on the budget and tax levy during its April 20 meeting.

Also on Monday, the board set a public hearing for the April 20 meeting on the school district's 2023-24 school calendar.

Jurrens first presented the calendar to the board during its February meeting, and on Monday, he brought back changes that were made to the calendar after he received feedback from the staff.

He said the current version of the calendar — the one that will be up for approval in April — includes a start date of Aug. 23, having two-hour early-outs for the first three days and adding a day off on Friday, Feb. 16.

“We heard a lot of comments about a break sometime in February or March,” Jurrens said. “We have an in-service day on that Monday so parents could plan a four-day weekend, and plus, that Friday is the state wrestling tournament and it's always a nightmare trying to find subs.”

In other news from Monday's meeting:

- Board members decided to once again take part in a program that allows the district to lock-in its natural gas cost for the year. New Hampton will be charged \$143,833.70 for natural gas for the 2023-24 school year.

- Honestly, I wasn't sure about it,” Jurrens said Monday, “but we are up students and that levy rate looks

“but you see the rate and you realize you can lock down a price, which is always nice, and it's hard for us to say no.”

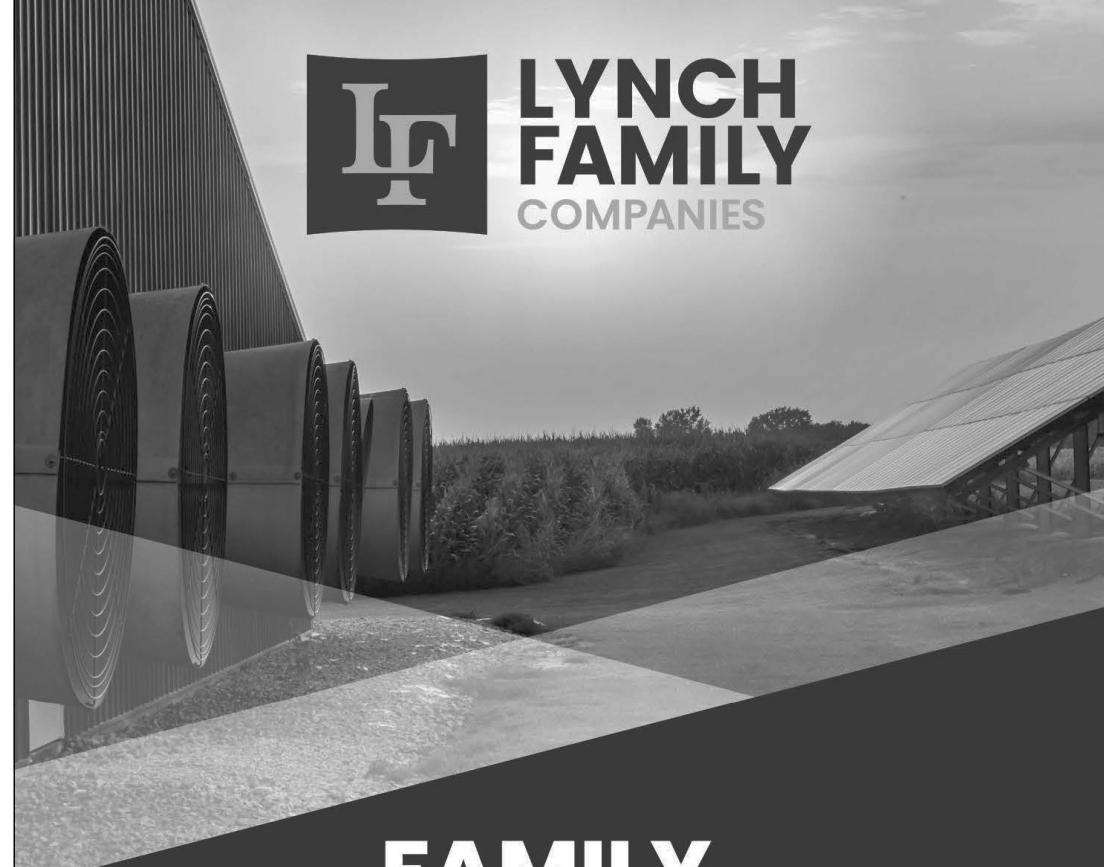
- The School Board also made the decision to switch auditors, despite a relatively steep increase in costs.

The board awarded a three-year contract to Hacker-Nelson, which bid \$27,315 for the 2023 audit, \$28,135 for the 2024 audit and \$28,990 for the 2025 audit. That bid was much higher than the district received from its current auditor, Nolte Corman and Johnson, a Newton firm that would have charged the district \$11,000, \$13,000 and \$15,000.

But the board has grown frustrated with the countless delays with its current auditor; the board didn't receive its 2021 audit until last month, almost a year after the deadline for audits to be turned in.

- Finally, board members did not sign an agreement with the TRIBE Trail Committee to use school property for the third and final phase of the project.

The district had verbally agreed that it would allow the trail to use the property, and Jurrens said the district intends to follow through on that commitment. However, in addition to including a clause that says the trail can be placed on the top of the berm but that berm can't be lowered in the process, board members also want a sign agreement that the district will not have to pay for repairs to the trail if work must be done on the berm.



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**Almanac**

	H	L	P
Wednesday	51	28	--
Thursday	42	12	.27
Friday	20	5	--
Saturday	22	8	--
Sunday	38	13	--
Monday	49	27	--
Tuesday	54	31	--

**Forecast**

**Thursday:** Partly sunny with a high of 40 and a low of 26.

**Friday:** Mostly sunny with a high of 46 and a low of 30.

**Saturday:** Mostly sunny with a high of 47 and a low of 31.

**Sunday:** Mostly cloudy with a high of 48 and a low of 31.

**Extended forecast:** We can't get spring to spring, you know, as highs will be in the 40s and lows in the 20s to start the work week.

**Meetings****MONDAY**

• Chickasaw County Board of Supervisors, 9 a.m., Courthouse.

**History**

• In 1775, during a speech before the second Virginia Convention, Patrick Henry responds to the increasingly oppressive British rule over the American colonies by declaring, "I know not what course others may take, but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!"

• In 1839, the initials "O.K." are first published in The Boston Morning Post. Meant as an abbreviation for "oll korrekt," a popular slang misspelling of "all correct" at the time and OK soon becomes an everyday part of American speech.

• In 1998, "Titanic" ties the Academy Awards record set by Ben Hur in 1959 with 11 Oscars.

• In 2011, actress Elizabeth Taylor, who appeared in more than 50 films, won two Academy Awards and was synonymous with Hollywood glamour, dies of complications from congestive heart failure at the age of 79.

**Birthdays**

• German-American Werner Von Braun rocket scientist was born in 1912.

• Roger Banister, the English track star who became the first man to run a sub-4-minute mile, was born in 1929.

• NBA Hall of Fame center Moses Malone was born in 1955.

• NBA star Kyrie Irving turns 31.

• County music singer Brett Eldredge turns 36.

• Iowa born film and TV actress Michelle Monaghan turns 47.

**Corrections**

• The Tribune wants to make sure all information it presents is accurate and correct.

If you see an error, please call Editor Bob Fenske at 641-394-2111.

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**Kevin Ondrashek, 58**

Kevin Ondrashek, age 58 of Elma, died on Monday, March 13, 2023, at his home.

Mass of Christian Burial was held at 11 a.m., on Saturday, March 18, 2023, at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Protivin, with Father Nick Radloff officiating.

Visitation was held from 9 to 11 a.m. prior to the start of the service; with Recital of the Rosary at 9 a.m.

Burial was at Holy Trinity Cemetery.

Kevin was born on August 14, 1964, in Winneshiek County to Lawrence and Rosalin (Holder) Ondrashek.

He attended Fredericksburg High School and graduated in 1983.

In 1984, Kevin met the love of his life, Dorothy Meyer. They were together for 38 years. He attended NICC and studied carpentry and masonry.

Kevin spent much of his life farming, and being a farmhand wherever needed.

He loved Czech Days in Protivin, you would seem him working at the beer tent with his beloved PIVO. In his spare



**Kevin Ondrashek**

time, Kevin enjoyed fishing, traveling, food, and collecting sap to make maple syrup.

Kevin is survived by his mother, Rosalin Ondrashek, his girlfriend of 38 years, Dorothy Meyer; siblings, Charles (Jerry) Ondrashek, Roger Ondrashek, Marcia (Rick) Nesvik, and Sheila (Don Hildahl) Klimesh; Godchild, Savanna Nesvik; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father, Lawrence Ondrashek.

John Phife, age 83 of Nashua, died Friday, March 17, 2023, at Tripoli Nursing and Rehab in Tripoli.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, March 23, 2023, at St. John Lutheran Church in Nashua with the Rev. Todd Burrichter officiating.

Military honors will be conducted by the Nashua Ralph Nicholson VFW Post 6792 immediately after the service outside of the church.

Friends greeted the family from 4 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 22, 2023, at Hugeback Johnson Funeral Home & Crematory/Olson Chapel in Nashua. Visitation continues an hour prior to the service at the church on Thursday.

Online condolences for the Phife family may be left at www.hugebackfuneralhome.com.

John was welcomed into the world by his parents — Roy and Alice (Rogers) Phife — in Central City, Iowa on July 3, 1939, the youngest of three siblings, beginning a long, wonderful life that saw him touch the lives of countless people.

He grew up in Central City and was a member of the Central City High School Class of 1957. As a kid he worked for numerous area farmers, milking cows and baling hay, developing a strong work ethic that would carry him throughout his life.

After graduating high school, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy where he trained and worked as an electronics technician aboard the U.S.S. George K. MacKenzie, a Gearing Class Destroyer in the Pacific. He often spoke of his time in the Navy, recounting his many adventures in Japan while on shore leave. After receiving his honorable discharge 4 years later, John went to work for Collins Radio in Cedar Rapids.

After graduating high school, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy where he trained and worked as an electronics technician aboard the U.S.S. George K. MacKenzie, a Gearing Class Destroyer in the Pacific. He often spoke of his time in the Navy, recounting his many adventures in Japan while on shore leave. After receiving his honorable discharge 4 years later, John went to work for Collins Radio in Cedar Rapids.

After selling the bar, he worked part-time at the Nashua Town and Country Club until one day, the mayor of Nashua asked him if he would consider applying to be a police officer in town. He embarked on a long and outstanding career in law enforcement, rising through the ranks to become Nashua's police chief. His people skills made him a natural small-town officer. He'd talk someone out

**John Phife, 83**

**John Phife**

While working at Collins, a young woman named Mary Lou Lumley took notice of him and the two began dating. They were married on Oct. 27, 1963—beginning an adventure that would last for 59 1/2 years.

The couple had two children — Lynette and Steve — and lived in Cedar Rapids for several years before John was transferred to Wichita, Kansas for work in Winter of 1973. During a trip back to Nashua that spring to visit Mary Lou's family, John went up to the Townhouse and came home a few hours later with an announcement: he had purchased the popular bar.

For seven years, he owned and operated the Townhouse. John loved working at the bar and talking with those who stopped into the Townhouse.

After selling the bar, he worked part-time at the Nashua Town and Country Club until one day, the mayor of Nashua asked him if he would consider applying to be a police officer in town. He embarked on a long and outstanding career in law enforcement, rising through the ranks to become Nashua's police chief. His people skills made him a natural small-town officer. He'd talk someone out

of doing something rather than giving them a ticket, and he was especially good with kids.

After 22 years as a Nashua police officer and chief, John wasn't done serving his adopted hometown; instead, he became Nashua's mayor and served the town well for seven years. By his example, he impacted lives and showed residents — both those who had lived in Nashua their entire lives and those who were newcomers — how great Nashua is as a community.

John also was a longtime member of the Ralph Nicholson VFW Post 6792.

But as much as he accomplished in his life, his No. 1 priority was always his family. He loved his wife Mary Lou and he was a great dad to Lynette and Steve. They would go camping and fishing and spent infinite amounts of time playing catch and shooting hoops. He passed on his love for dogs, which were always a part of the Phife home.

He was an incredibly proud grandfather, who loved following their many sports, music,

and theater activities.

John was one of a kind, and he'll be terribly missed by his family, his friends and the community of Nashua.

John is survived by his wife,

Mary Lou of Nashua; his daughter,

Lynette (Duncan Strong)

Phife of Winnipeg, Canada;

his son, Steve (Lisa) Phife of Waverly; four grandchildren,

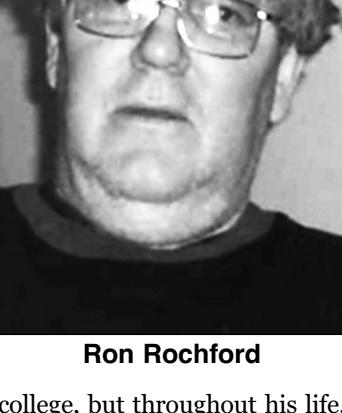
Alex McGregor of Winnipeg, Canada; Mariah (Steven Hamonic) McGregor of Chicago;

Afton (Jacob) Riggs of West Des Moines; and Austin (Abbie Staack) Phife of Cedar Falls; one brother, LeRoy (Rita) Phife of Geneseo, Illinois; and one sister,

Carolyn Hoerner of Boone.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother-in-law, Dr. Thomas Hoerner; and a nephew, Ricky Phife.

Ronald Lee Rochford, 66



**Ronald Lee Rochford**

began having children, he was a great uncle.

Ron loved sports and was a passionate fan of the Iowa Hawkeyes, the Green Bay Packers and the Chicago Cubs, and he loved watching the Packers win the Super Bowl in 2011 and the Cubs breaking a 108-year drought by winning the 2016 World Series. He also enjoyed keeping up with the news on television, and he was a big fan of music — especially classic rock.

All those who knew and loved him are going to dearly miss him, but they also know today he is healthy and in a far better place spending time with his parents and his big brother.

Ron is survived by two sisters, Elizabeth "Betsy" Staub and Diana Erickson; two aunts, Marilyn Rochford and Bonnie Meighan; nieces and nephews, David (Laura) Erickson, Dana Lindsey, Aaron (Megan) Rochford and Dustin (Kelli) Rochford; 10 great-nieces and nephews, Davide Lee Erickson, Zavier McGee, Isiah McGee, Brooklyn Lindsey, Malachi Erickson, Elisabeth Lindsey, James Lindsey, Adrian Rochford, Serenity Rochford and Brair Rochford.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, Thomas Rochford.

**NEWS BITS FROM OUR PAST COMPILED BY TERRI JOSEPHSON****Week of March 19****1948 (75 years ago)**

The City Council considered parking meters for the business district of New Hampton with the Parko Meter, representative at their meeting Monday evening.

A plan for 240 meters was discussed and they would be placed beginning at the Legion Hall and extending the next two blocks west and one half block north and one half block south of Main Street on Locust and Chestnut Avenues.

The New Hampton School Board met Monday evening for their first meeting since the election.

Howard David was elected president of the board. Other members are Lowell Seeliger, Irvin Jepson, Dan Donovan and Walter Pose.

Donovan and Pose were elected at the last election to succeed J.C. Schueth, who served 15 years and J.P. Rigler, who was a member 12 years. Both Schueth and Rigler were not candidates for re-election.

Alfred Kelson is secretary to the board, a position he has held for about 20 years.

**1973 (50 years ago)**

Installation of 50 permanent blood pressure equipment units has been completed at Saint Joseph Community Hospital, New Hampton.

The units are mounted on the wall near each bed at the hospital and according to a hospital spokesman, use of the new units will provide more

accurate blood pressure readings for patients, in addition to being more convenient for hospital staff members.

Total cost of the units was \$1800 and they were purchased by the Hospital Auxiliary and given to the facility. Funds for the purchase included over \$1,100 in proceeds from the February Auxiliary-sponsored Charity Ball.

On Sale at Liddle's Super Valu: Shrimp, \$1.99/lb Bag; Rib Steaks, \$1.39/lb.; Head Lettuce, 29 cents; Orange Juice, 5 cans for \$1.00; Butter, 59 cents per lb.; Cottage Cheese, 69 cents. Ctn.; Sliced Peaches, 3 cans for \$1.00; Pineapple, 5 cans for \$1.00; Nestle Chocolate Chips, 39 cents/bag.

**1998 (25 years ago)**

Kindergarten students in the New Hampton Community School District will attend school all day, every day for the entire school year, beginning in the fall of 1998 after approval was given by the School Board at a recent meeting.

Currently, kindergarten students attend half days for the first quarter, then all day for the balance of the school year.

The matter had been tabled at the February meeting to give district residents a chance to express their opinions. Board members, along with administrators, stated that comments on the plan were favorable.

New Hampton residents have been watching that Maytag washer churning away in the window of HomeTown TV and Appliance.

The sign questioned, "When will it die?"

Well, it died on March 13, 1998, at 8:33 a.m. The Maytag was started at 11:51 a.m. on Feb. 8, 1994.

Thats 1,291 days running 24 hours day and night. That figures out to be 84,230 cycles, 3,621,898 gallons of recycled water.



Photos courtesy of Carol Speicher

## Cattlemen have plenty to celebrate

Member of the Chickasaw County Cattlemen's Association Board of Directors — (front row, from left) Nick Peterson, Carol Speicher, JoAnne Tupper, Nolan Webster, (middle row) Andy Glaser, Scott Glaser, (back row) Griffin Poppe, Chet McGregor, Kirk Lynch, Scott McGregor and Robert Lines — pose for a photo during the organization's annual meeting that was held at the Pub at the Pinicon earlier this month.



The Cattlemen's Association handed out scholarships to six high school seniors — (front row, from left) Eadie Suhr, Norah Orthaus, Ashley Rosonke, Trevor Peterson, Landon Pratt and Bo Harrington.

Harrington's parents are Louie and Shelley Harrington. Bo attends Nashua-Plainfield High School.

Orthaus' parents are Jim and Michelle Orthaus, and she attends New Hampton High School.

Pratt's parents are Jim and Erin Pratt, and he attends Nashua-Plainfield High School.

Peterson's parents are Bob and Amy Peterson of Ionia, and he attends Charles City High School.

Rosonke's parents are Dean Rosonke and Barb Kobliska, and she attends New Hampton High School.

Suhr's parents are Ed and Lavonne Suhr of rural Fredericksburg, and she attends Sumner-Fredericksburg.



During the meeting, the Cattlemen's Association honored the cattle winners from this past summer's Chickasaw County 4-H and FFA Achievement Fair — including (from left) Luella Reicks, Alison Mehmen, Beth Schwickerath, Nic Brase and Nolan Swehla.

## Soil and Water scholarship program taking applications through May 1

Two scholarships in the amount of \$750 each will be available for high school seniors to apply for, sponsored by the Chickasaw County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD), Fidelity Bank & Trust, Bank Iowa, Luana Savings Bank, Security State Bank, Farmers Win Coop, First Citizens Bank, and Lincoln Savings Bank.

Selections will be made based on leadership, character, career, scholastic achievement, and conservation message and will need to be submitted to the Chickasaw Soil and Water Conservation District at 420 W. Milwaukee Street, New Hampton, by May 1.

High school seniors can apply for the 2023 scholarship by visiting the website at <http://www.cdiowa.org/awards.html>.

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**Briefs****Spuds N More set for this Saturday in Fredericksburg**

Peace UCC Church of Fredericksburg is hosting a baked potato bar on Saturday, March 25 from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Fredericksburg Community Center, 151 W. Main in Fredericksburg.

For a free will contribution, the meal will offer baked potatoes "with all the fixins," a salad bar and "delicious" desserts.

Carry outs are available; call Norma Leach at 563-419-0149.

**Monthly blood drive to be held Tuesday in New Hampton**

LifeServe Blood Center will hold its monthly blood drive from noon to 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 28, at the New Hampton Community Center.

Those willing to donate blood are encouraged to make an appointment by calling 800-287-4903, texting LIFE-SERVE to 999-777 or by visiting [lifeservebloodcenter.org](http://lifeservebloodcenter.org).

All types of blood are needed, but officials say there is a critical shortage of O-positive, O-negative and A-negative blood types.

**New Hampton Running Club to hold annual 5K run/walk April 1**

The New Hampton Running Club's seventh annual 5K run and walk will take place on Saturday, April 1 at 8 a.m. Registration begins at 7 a.m. at Mikkelsen Park, 110 East Spring St. in New Hampton. Awards will be given to first through third places in each age group.

Entry fee will be \$35 and may also be completed online at <http://getmeregistered.com/NewHamptonCC5K>.



Bob Fenske/Tribune

**The curtain goes up tonight!**

New Hampton Middle School students (from left) Sydney Laures, Brooke Vestal and Troy Federspiel run through a scene for the school's annual musical that will begin its two-day run tonight (Thursday) at the New Hampton Elementary School Auditorium. The curtain goes up for "Everybody's Groovy!" at 7 p.m. each night, and the show features more than 50 middle school students, who are directed by Jill Cantu and Chad Pemble.

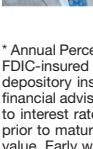
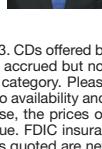
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**Second public budget hearing may come April 10****BUDGET: FROM 1**

"I would just like to give you my opinion where I could possibly see that levy reduced," McGrath said. "I think that could at least be cut in half; it would save you quite a bit of money. Six percent may be more reasonable, but I think 9 percent I think is too much, especially since they have so many new ones."

Cook, meanwhile, questioned the staffing level of county departments.

"I also agree with Jeremy," she said. "I think 9 percent increase is way too much, considering the new people we have in office.... The things I

don't hear in the discussion ... that is the cutting of staff."

She lauded County Attorney David Laudner, who decided not to hire an assistant county attorney, saying he was the lone elected official who had looked at staffing needs. She also said that all county workers should be working 40 hours a week to receive full benefits and if they aren't working 40 hours, they should be hired on a part-time basis so the county wouldn't have to pay for their benefits.

Cook said she believed there were other savings possible — including having workers cross-trained between departments in the courthouse.

"So if somebody is gone,

somebody from another department can come in and fill in," she said.

Board Chairman Matt Kuhn said that one of the reasons the county had increased salaries by 9 percent was because of the smaller pay increases elected officials have received in recent years.

He also expressed concerns about the RSB ending fund balance being just 13 percent of the annual RSB budget. Supervisors in recent weeks agreed to lower the tax-asking from \$2.52 million to \$2.3 million by using more money from its local option-sales tax (LOST) funds to cover the county's portion of the new ambulance service and by dipping into reserves to cover the costs of the RSB budget.

"I don't get how the ending fund balance was so low before... I'm just concerned that we're backing ourselves in a corner," said Kuhn, who pointed out that state lawmakers are considering a bill that would limit the increases counties could impose on property taxpayers. "[If that happens], we're going to be put into a tight spot. I'm just concerned we're going to back ourselves into a corner."

But Kuhn did support the max levy when supervisors voted, as did the rest of the supervisors — save for Jake Hackman, to move the budget

along.

Hackman, during a break in the meeting, said that he felt supervisors were just asking too much from RSB property owners.

Board members, though, did not set the next date for a public hearing, despite County Attorney David Laudner's concerns about a "time crunch" he believes supervisors are facing.

Technically, counties have until April 30 to certify their budgets, but because the Iowa Department of Transportation has a deadline of April 15 for secondary roads departments to have their budgets into the state, Laudner told board members that he would feel more comfortable if the county had its budget certified by then.

If the board had set a hearing date on Monday, it could have had a public hearing as early as April 3, but by waiting until next Monday to set the hearing, the earliest date a public hearing can be held will be April 10.

"So you're going to send the engineer's budget down to Ames [the DOT] without it being certified," Laudner asked.

Kuhn said the county's private auditor had told supervisors they could do it, if they had to, as long as they didn't change the Secondary Roads Department budget after April 15.

"Has Ames OK'd that? Because the private auditor has nothing to do with that," Laudner said. "She can say whatever she wants to say, but ultimately it's Ames that's going to tell you if that's legit or not.... My fear would be that we send it down and there's a last-minute change to it or someone doesn't get the votes for it, then what happens?"

Laudner told board members it was up to them on how they proceeded but "that is fraught with disaster in my opinion."

Board members, though, said they would do their best to set a public hearing for April 10 so that the budget can be certified by April 15.

**Student Briefs****UIU dean's list**

Upper Iowa University is pleased to announce the dean's list for the fall 2022 semester. To be honored, the undergraduate must have earned a minimum 3.50 GPA and be enrolled as a full-time student.

Among those named to the Dean's List was Raquel Schmitt, a Birth-Grade 3: Inclusive Settings major from Waucoma.

**UIU graduates**

Upper Iowa University is pleased to announce the names of its December 2022 graduates.

The honored students included Samantha Quam of New Hampton and Ellie Loesch of Fort Atkinson.

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MARCH 21<sup>ST</sup>-27<sup>TH</sup>



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## It's that antsy time of the year

Area farmers are getting ready to go as the 2023 planting season nears

BY BOB FENSKO  
*editor@nhtrib.com*

Terry Basol has been around farmers his whole life, which is why he knew exactly how "the guys" were feeling on Monday and Tuesday, when our little corner of the world got at least a hint of spring.

"It reminds you how little time you have before the harvest," he said Tuesday, "and I guarantee you the guys are getting a little antsy. We're getting closer, and days like yesterday and today, you just want to get going."

The ISU Extension agronomist who is based at the Northeast Iowa Research Farm just outside of Nashua paused and laughed.

"A lot of farmers have nice

shops these days, so they've been working on their equipment all winter," he said, "but when you get a little feeling that spring is coming, trust me, those guys are spending those days making sure the tractors are ready, the planters are ready ... well, that everything's ready."

Again he laughed.

"Legally, with the insurance rules out there, they can't plant until April 11," he said, "but trust me, someone, somewhere is going to be planting on April 11. We all love spring, but I think farmers get maybe even more excited than the rest of us. They're ready to go."

NATIONAL AG Week kicked off with National Ag Day on Tuesday and runs through this coming Monday.

Take a look at the graphic that accompanies this story and you can see just how vital agriculture is to us here in Chickasaw County. And in Iowa, agriculture plays a key part of the entire state's economy.

According to the Iowa Farm Bureau, Iowa agriculture is responsible for a direct economic output of \$88.3 billion and more than 315,000 jobs contributing \$17.57 billion in wages.

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Iowa's farm exports products to every corner of the globe, and our farmers here in Chickasaw County are a part of all of it.

They're coming off a year in which they faced challenges like a drought that plagued much of Iowa throughout the summer, yet farmers persevered and brought in an excellent crop last fall.

"I think it was all in timing ... we got rain crucially when it needed the most," Basol said. "I know if you had told me last July we were going to have the kind of crop we brought in I probably wouldn't have believed you, but timing is everything."

Basol said the other key factor in bringing in a good crop in

[SEE AGRICULTURE, 12](#)



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# NATIONAL AGRICULTURE WEEK

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*There's nothing quite like farm life!*



Submitted by April Kinley

Beautiful sunset while dad gets planting wrapped up for the day.



Submitted by April Kinley

Beautiful sunset while dad gets planting wrapped up for the day.



Submitted by Elizabeth Njus



Submitted by Shannon Dietz

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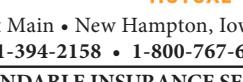
  
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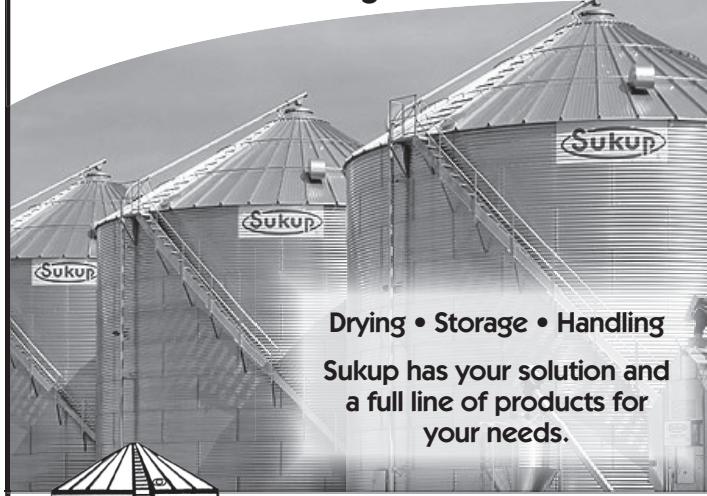
  
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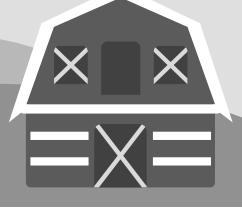
  
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# NATIONAL AGRICULTURE WEEK

MARCH 21<sup>ST</sup>-27<sup>TH</sup>



Submitted by Amanda Schindelar  
This baby goat was lucky to come out and play in the snow.



Submitted by Kayla Strempe  
Every farm girls dream.

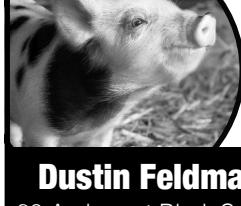


Submitted by Abby Hillegas  
Houston and peanut the calf.



Submitted by Amanda Schindelar  
Feeding the goats some grass.

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Call us to schedule your butchering. Officially Inspected Facility.

Processed Meat Pickup Hours: Mon.-Fri. 7am-5:30pm; Sat. 7am-12pm  
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Sat. 6:30am-12pm (last order at 11:45am)

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We thank farmers for their tremendous work ethic, determination, devotion and perseverance that feed and support our community.

**New Hampton Chiropractic Office**  
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16 N Water Ave. • New Hampton, IA 50659  
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Thank you to all the area farmers for your hard work. We salute you during National Ag Week.

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Nearly 90% of Iowa's land area is devoted to growing food  
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Call us for all your farm tax needs.

**It all starts on a farm**



Ag week salutes the working men and women who are involved in the business of agriculture. Farmers gamble on the weather, brave the elements, and work long, hard hours to produce the food we all need. We salute the farmers in the area.

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New Hampton, IA 50659  
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641-394-2187

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New Hampton, IA  
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**Celebrate National Ag Week**

Thank all the people who work hard to feed the world, look after crops and livestock, and contribute to agricultural production.

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- Vision Crop Consulting-Tony Utley
- First Security Bank & Trust - Ionia
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- New Hampton Red Power

\$200+

**State Degree Members**

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- Luana Savings Bank
- Omega Machine Tool Inc.
- Rausch Bros. Trucking, Ionia
- Conway Markham Funeral Home
- H & R Block Tax Service
- The Pub at The Pinicon
- New Hampton Vet Clinic

\$100+

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- HRS LLC Surveying
- Geerts Plumbing & Heating
- L & S Supply & Rental
- New Hampton Auto Body
- Nosbisch Insurance
- Pat Finnegan Construction
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- Tri/Mark Corp.
- New Hampton Nursing & Rehab
- Vern Laures Auto Center
- Country Carpentry

\$50+

**Greenhand Degree Members**

- Crystal Ball Skating Rink
- Kennedy & Kennedy Law Office
- Mitko LLC
- Phillips Refrigeration
- Dungey's Furniture & Gifts
- Stanton Electric
- C & D Rentals (Chip & Darlene)
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- Trailer RV Ranch

\$25+

**Platinum Members**

- Mid-Tech Services, Inc.
- R & R Welding
- Bank Iowa
- Five Star Coop
- Melissa Lea Reicks Foundation

\$500+

Thank you for your Membership and support towards FFA Scholarships & Leadership Activities

# NATIONAL AGRICULTURE WEEK

MARCH 21<sup>ST</sup>-27<sup>TH</sup>



## Spring brings out optimism in farmers

### AGRICULTURE: FROM 9

2022 was the fact that the harvest season — save for a little rain at the start of the soybean harvest — was almost perfect weather wise.

LIKE THE agronomist said, the 2023 growing season is fast approaching, and Basol was asked if farmers would take a repeat of 2022?

"The harvest and the results? Yes," he said. "The rest of the worries? Absolutely not. Seriously, it was a nerve-wracking season last year."

And farmers are going into 2023 still facing some drought conditions. Parts of Chickasaw County remain classified as abnormally dry by the U.S. Drought Monitor, but Basol pointed out the drought is far worse in western Iowa than it is here.

Still, he'd love to see some rain fall in the next month to help build up soil moisture profiles.

"We're a little low, nothing to panic about but still we could use some nice rains," he said, "and yes, I said rain, not snow."

The other challenge facing growers this year is the high cost of "inputs."

"Commodity prices are average, solid," he said, "but the cost of getting the crop in, that kind of offsets those prices."

Still, he said the farmers he's talked to are ready to get into the proverbial batter's box and see if they can hit one out of the park.

"Everyone's always optimistic in the spring," he said, "and they should be. We weathered the winter storms, the weather's getting nice and you just always feel like it's going to be a good year. And here's hoping it is."



### AGRICULTURE COUNCIL OF AMERICA PRIMER

The Agriculture Council of America (ACA) is an organization uniquely composed of leaders in the agriculture, food and fiber communities dedicated to increasing the public awareness of agriculture's vital role in our society. The Agriculture Council of America and the National Ag Day program was started in 1973.

#### Core Values

ACA believes that every American should:

- Understand how food and fiber products are produced.
- Appreciate the role agriculture plays in providing safe, abundant and affordable products.
- Value the essential role of agriculture in maintaining a strong economy.
- Acknowledge and consider career opportunities in the agriculture, food and fiber industry.

#### Key Initiatives

The primary focus of ACA is to conduct the National Agriculture Day Program which occurs in March of every year.

ACA will:

- Support and encourage programs and activities in observance of National Agriculture Day by organizations, companies and individuals.

- Provide planning information and materials in support of National Agriculture Day programs and activities.

- Inform trade and general media about National Agriculture Day and provide information to increase awareness.

- Involve the agricultural public relations community in support of National Agriculture Day.

#### Administration

ACA is a not-for-profit (501-c-6) organization and maintains the ACA Education Foundation which is an educational foundation (501-c-3) organization. These organizations are supported through a management contract with the National Agri-Marketing Association (NAMA).

#### Funding

To accomplish its purpose, the ACA receives funding from companies, associations, foundations and individuals. Contributions to the ACA Education Foundation may be tax-deductible.

**Thank our Farmers for their dedication and hardwork on the farms!**

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**NATIONAL AG WEEK**  
MARCH 21-27, 2023

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**Happy Ag Week!**

Thank you farmers for your hard work and dedication for the Ag Industry that feeds and fuels the world.

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On National Ag Day, thank a farmer for all they do!

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New Hampton, IA 50659



**Conrad American**

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From All of Us



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**Legal Notice • Legal Notice****ELECTRIC UTILITY - COMMUNICATIONS BOARD ROOM MONDAY MARCH 13, 2023 5:00 P.M.**

The Board of Trustees of the New Hampton Municipal Light Plant met for a regular meeting on Monday March 13, 2023 at 5:00 pm in the board room at the Communications Office at 112 East Main Street, New Hampton, IA.

Board members present were Anderson, Babcock, Cantu, Dahl and Hendricks. Babcock was absent. General Manager Brian Quirk and City Clerk Karen Clemens were also present.

The meeting was called to order by Board Chair Anderson at 5:00 p.m.

Moved by Babcock, seconded by Hendricks; that the agenda be approved as presented. Ayes – Five. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

Moved by Hendricks, seconded by Cantu; That the minutes of the February 13, 2023 regular meeting minutes be approved. Ayes – Five. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

Moved by Babcock, seconded by Hendricks; That claims in the amount of \$41,803.44 be approved. Ayes – Five. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

Moved by Dahl, seconded by Babcock; that the Finance Reports for February, 2023, be approved. Ayes – Five. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

Steve Samec, CPA with Hacker, Nelson & Co, PC, was in attendance to discuss the audit of FY2021/2022 for the NH Municipal Light Plant. Moved by Babcock, seconded by Cantu; That the Fiscal Year Audit for 2021/2022 be approved and filed with the Iowa State Auditor's office. Ayes – Five. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried. O'Donohoe arrived at 5:20 pm

**5:00 PM PUBLIC HEARING**

The Chairperson announced that this was the time set pursuant to Resolution of the governing body and public notice given as required by law for the meeting and hearing upon the proposition of approving and consenting to the Amended and Restated Lehigh-Webster Transmission and Webster Terminals Facilities and Operating Agreement, as further amended.

The Chairperson then asked the Secretary whether any petitions or objections to the proposed action or to the form of the Amended and Restated Lehigh-Webster Transmission and Webster Terminals Facilities and Operating Agreement, as further amended, or with respect to any matter related thereto had been filed. The Secretary reported that no objections or petitions opposed to said matters had been filed.

The Chairperson then asked for oral objections to the proposition of approving and consenting to the Amended and Restated Lehigh-Webster Transmission and Webster Terminals Facilities and Operating Agreement, as further amended, or to the form of the Amended and Restated Lehigh-Webster Transmission and Webster Terminals Facilities and Operating Agreement, as further amended, or with respect to any matter related thereto had been filed. The Secretary reported that no objections or petitions opposed to said matters had been filed.

The Chairperson then asked for oral objections to the proposition of approving and consenting to the Amended and Restated Lehigh-Webster Transmission and Webster Terminals Facilities and Operating Agreement, as further amended, or with respect to any matter related thereto had been filed. The Secretary reported that no objections or petitions opposed to said matters had been filed.

Quirk requested the Board to approve 40 hours of vacation for Ryan Pickar. Pickar did not receive vacation hours at the time of hire, which had been standard practice. Moved by Hendricks, seconded by Babcock; That the Ryan Pickar receive 40 hours of vacation, effective immediately; and the benefit of vacation time for new hires be Lt Plant Board approved and will be based on experience.

Ayes – Five. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

City Clerk Clemens will discuss updating the employee handbook with Attorney Kit O'Donohoe.

General Manager Report:

1.Lt Plant staff changed injectors in #7

2.Staff is continuing to complete locate and work on underground issues.

3.Quirk would like to hire a NHHS student as a summer intern who is planning on attending lineman school at

Resolution approved.

ATTEST: KAREN CLEMENS,

City Clerk

GRANT ANDERSON,

Board Chair

STER TRANSMISSION AND WEBSTER TERMINALS FACILITIES AND OPERATING AGREEMENT, AS FURTHER AMENDED, be approved. Ayes

- Anderson, Babcock, Cantu, Dahl, Hendricks. Nays – None. Absent – None. Resolution approved.

NHMLP employee, Ryan Pickar, has successfully completed the 1st year apprentice exam and should receive a wage increase of \$2.00/hr retroactive to February 24, 2023. Moved by Babcock; seconded by Hendricks; THAT RESOLUTION NO. 988 A RESOLUTION TO INCREASE THE HOURLY WAGE OF RYAN PICKAR BY \$2.00 EFFECITIVE FEBRUARY 24, 2023 FOR SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE 1ST YEAR OF THE APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM, be approved. Ayes - Anderson, Babcock, Cantu, Dahl, Hendricks. Nays – None. Absent – None. Resolution carried.

ATTTEST: KAREN CLEMENS,

City Clerk

GRANT ANDERSON,

Board Chair

**LIGHT PLANT MARCH 13, 2023 5:00 P.M.**

NIMECA.Monthly Power Bill, CTS Improvement .....

\$287,066.77

JJ Kane,Backyard Machine .....

\$58,300.00

Miller Property Maintenance.Down payment on Transport of Backyard Ma-

chine .....

\$972.00

Madison National Life Ins Co.Supple-

mental Life, Term Life & AD&D..

.....\$79.50

USPS.Postage for Utility Bills .....

\$142.09

MercyOne- NH,Drug Screening .....

.....\$65.00

UnityPoint Clinic,Drug Screening .....

.....\$42.00

US Cellular,iPad Service .....

\$54.16

Black Hills Energy,Engine Fuel,Heat .....

.....\$6,924.71

Miller Property Maintenance.Final Bal-

ance on Transport of Backyard Ma-

chine .....

.....\$972.00

Visa,Operation,Distribution,Office Sup-

plies .....

.....\$4,028.04

USPS.Postage for Utility Bills .....

\$133.21

Alexa Grande Aquino,Refund final bal-

ance .....

.....\$18.72

USPS.Postage for Utility Bills .....

\$119.52

Altec Industries, Inc.Digger Repair,

Backyard Machine Repair .....

.....\$2,687.53

Reimbursement,Medical Reimburse-

ment .....

Bodensteiner Implement Company

Oil .....

\$49,07

Bond Transfer,Transfer .....

\$59,000.00

CarQuest of New Hampton,Headlight .....

.....\$70.61

City Laundering Co.,Industrial Launder-

ing Services .....

.....\$124.29

DGR,SCADA, Distribution, Stolz,

Power Plant Projects .....

.....\$9,151.57

Five Star Cooperative,Gas .....

.....\$744.17

Fletcher-Reinhardt Company,Meter

Seals, Meter Base .....

.....\$1,378.76

Garratt Callahan,Cooling Tower Control

Valves .....

.....\$1,694.88

Hometown TV & Appliance,TVs &

Brackets .....

.....\$1,453.06

Jendro Sanitation,Refuse .....

.....\$77.57

John Deere Financial,Brake Fluid,Sup-

plies .....

.....\$313.44

L & R Manufacturing, LLC,Aluminum,

Screws .....

.....\$636.91

LS Supply & Rental,Nails, Lumber .....

.....\$94.70

Mick Gage Plumbing & Heating, Inc.

Install Check Valve & Meters .....

.....\$4,388.16

NAPA Auto Parts,Jack Stands, Supplies

.....\$150.29

New Hampton Electric, Inc.,Work on

Starters, Supplies .....

.....\$1,208.88

NHMU Joint Expense Reimbursement

.....\$797.24

NHNU Phone .....

.....\$89.66

New Hampton Tribune Publications

.....\$163.80

New Hampton, City of,Utility Bill .....

.....\$85.07

NIMECA,Annual APPA Dues .....

.....\$3,077.21

NIMECA,Disability Insurance .....

.....\$216.50

Rapid Printers / Office World,UPS Ship-

ping .....

.....\$81.23

Schuetz Ace Hardware,Drill Bit, Tape,

Paint, Wire Brush, Misc Supplies

.....\$625.18

**TOTAL TO BE APPROVED .....**

.....\$401,803.44

**PAYOUT CHECKS WRITTEN SINCE FEBRUARY 13, 2023**

AFLAC,Supplemental Insurance .....

.....\$48,121

Ameritas Variable Life Insurance,De-

ferred Comp .....

.....\$90,00

Ameritas Variable Life Insurance,De-

ferred Comp .....

.....\$90,00

EFTPS,FICA & Federal Taxes .....

.....\$4,178.24

EFTPS,FICA & Federal Taxes .....

.....\$4,212.84

Iowa Dept of Revenue,State Withholding

.....\$1,529.99

Treasurer, State of Iowa,IPERS .....

.....\$6,029.17

Wellmark,Health & Dental Insurance

.....\$7,663.84

**Total Payroll .....**

.....\$24,974.89

No. 22815

03/23/23

**Legal Notice • Legal Notice****TELECOMMUNICATIONS UTILITY BOARD ROOM,MONDAY, MARCH 13, 2023,5:15 P.M.**

The members of the Telecommunications Board of Trustees met for a regular meeting on Monday, March 13, 2023

# CLASSIFIEDS

New Hampton Tribune • nhtribune.news

Thursday • 03.23.23 • A14

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#### TRACT 1: 78 +/- Gross Acres, 75.31 Tillable Acres

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Farmers Win Coop is currently seeking applicants for this position:

### TRAVELING BOOKKEEPER

Candidates will travel as needed to locations to assist with Bookkeeper duties. The Bookkeeper's responsibilities involve recordkeeping, communications, clerical tasks, and operating the grain scale and ticketing system.

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To be considered for

### Farmers Win



these positions, contact Courtney Hageman, Human Resources: 563-237-5324 chageman@farmerswin.com

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At Farmers Win Cooperative, Crop Scout Interns are given an opportunity to connect classroom agronomic knowledge to the field first-hand. Throughout the season, you will learn to identify weeds, diseases, and insects affecting crop growth and development. You will gain experience testing soil and plant nutrients and analyze reports used to make crop input recommendations with an experienced Agronomist.

**Farmers Win** To be considered for these positions, contact Courtney Hageman, Human Resources: 563-237-5324 chageman@farmerswin.com

**Coop**

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# Lifting for a Good Cause



Photos courtesy of Dennis Pagel

New Hampton seniors Carter Cahoy (spotting) and Aiden Roberson (lifting) take part in the Lift-A-Thon last week Wednesday. The sponsored event helps raise money for weight room improvements at NHHS and actively benefits Chickasaw athletic programs. All students grades 7-12 could take part in the event. Participants had four attempts to lift the most weight they could for a one-rep max on the bench press.

[Legal Notice](#) • [Legal Notice](#) • [Legal Notice](#) • [Legal Notice](#)


Photos courtesy of Dennis Pagel

Claire Geerts (above) spots an entrant in the Lift-A-Thon and Braden McShane (below) tries with all his might to bench press for a good cause on Wednesday at New Hampton High School.



## 2022 WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR LAWLER WATER SUPPLY

This report contains important information regarding the water quality in our water system. The source of our water is groundwater. Our water quality testing shows the following results:

CONTAMINANT	MCL - (MCLG)	Compliance		Date	Violation	Source
		Type	Value & (Range)		Yes/No	
Lead (ppb)	AL=15 (0)	90th	2.20 (2 - 3)	2020	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	AL=1.3 (1.3)	90th	0.806 (0.0763 - 1.220)	2020	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
<b>950 - DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM</b>						
Chlorine (ppm)	MRDL=4.0 (MRDLG=4.0)	RAA	2.1 (2.05 - 2.17)	12/31/2022	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Nitrite [as N] (ppm)	1 (1)	SGL	0.141 (ND - 0.141)	2022	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
<b>01 - FINISHED WATER SAMPLE TAP, #2</b>						
Combined Radium (pCi/L)	5 (0)	SGL	1.2	01/23/2018	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	N/A (N/A)	SGL	39.6	04/07/2022	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Added to water during treatment process
Nitrite [as N] (ppm)	1 (1)	SGL	0.0928 (ND - 0.0928)	2022	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits

Note: Contaminants with dates indicate results from the most recent testing done in accordance with regulations.

### DEFINITIONS

- Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) – The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) -- The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- ppb -- parts per billion.
- ppm -- parts per million.
- pCi/L -- picocuries per liter
- N/A -- Not applicable
- ND -- Not detected
- RAA -- Running Annual Average
- Treatment Technique (TT) -- A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- Action Level (AL) -- The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) - The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) - The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
- SGL -- Single Sample Result

No.22826

03/23/23

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\*APY = Annual Percentage Yield. APY is accurate as of 1/30/2023 and is subject to change. Interest on CDs is compounded quarterly. APY is subject to change after account is opened. Interest rate locked when account is opened except for bump-up CDs, which can be converted to a higher rate once during their terms. Penalty may be imposed for early withdrawal, and fees could reduce earnings on account. Other rates and terms available. Withdrawal of earnings could reduce APY. Membership required to open a CD and is subject to qualifications and a minimum \$5 share deposit. Federally insured by NCUA.

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**MARCH 28TH, 2023**

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**Trojans open outdoor season next week at Sumner-Fred****TV TRACK: FROM 18**

800," said Scott. "Overall, he'll be fine. He has a good chance to qualify in the open mile."

Oliver Schmitt, an all-state football player like Hanson, did not compete on Friday, but Scott said he'll be a big factor in meets. Schmitt will take on the hurdles this spring and also be a key component in other events for the Trojans.

"We always experiment a little bit, just kind of see what kids can do and what the competition is going to be like," said Scott. "Once districts come out, we'll have a better idea on who we can beat. Usually we try to spread kids out and get times in different things just so we have options when that time comes."

TV was second in the distance medley with the team of Hayek, Busta, Franzen and Nieman. The foursome ran a 4:08. The Trojans were also runner-up in the 4x200 with the group of Troy Schmitt, Hayek, Franzen and Busta. Their time at the finish line was 1:40.

The Trojans girls squad will be represented by co-coaches this spring, Dalton Hackman and Sarah Bakula will share coaching duties and while

TV lost perhaps its best runner in school history to graduation in Jaylyssa Blazek, TV should win their fair share of races this year.

Also lost to graduation are Kourtney Schmidt, Cambree Kruse, Josie Weber and Kara Reicks. Those four were members of TV's state-qualifying distance medley relay. Kruse was a state alternate on the dmed.

Senior Jaclyn Schmitt qualified for state in the shot put last spring and finished in second place in that event at Decorah. She recorded a toss of 31-3.5.

Freshman Jenna Thronson ran a time of 30.44 in the open 200 – good for third place. Another freshman for TV – Layni Schuchhardt – also placed third in the 800 run in 2:54.

Seniors Olivia Snyder and Clare Courtney ran in the 55 dash. Snyder was fourth (8.02) and Courtney was seventh (8.26).

"We have a great senior group returning that has set the tone at practices thus far this year. They have taken on the role of leadership," said Hackman.

Hackman said the group's strength is their unity and determination. The bunch also works well together and supports each other.

TV has 17 girls out and eight of those athletes are freshmen – which



Kelly Terpstra/Tribune

**Turkey Valley track coach Mark Scott signals one lap left in the girls distance medley relay at the UIC Indoor at Decorah last Friday.**

means the future should be bright for the Trojans.

"We are a young team, so a lack of experience and getting our freshmen group up to speed is important," said Hackman.

The Trojans distance medley of junior Ryann Schmitt, Snyder, freshman Addison Steinlage and Schuchhardt earned a silver medal with a second-place showing in 5:15.

TV opens the outdoor season this

coming Tuesday on March 28 at Summer-Fredericksburg.

**TURKEY VALLEY GIRLS RESULTS**

200 dash - 3. Jenna Thronson 30.44, 10. Aubrey Hoffert 34.84.

400 dash - 5. Addison Lutgen 1:19.77, 10. Karen Ventura 1:23.65.

800 run - 3. Layni Schuchhardt 2:54.3, 8. Delaney Busta 3:37.7.

55 hurdles - 6. Kinsey Reicks 10.8, 10. Haylee Hanson 11.01.

55 dash - 4. Olivia Snyder 8.02, 7. Clare Courtney 8.26.

Shot put - 2. Jaclyn Schmitt 31-3.5, 10. Hoffert 22-11.

4x800 - 3. Schuchhardt, Addison Steinlage, Karstyn Lukes, Busta 12:21.9.

Distance medley - 2. Ryann Schmitt, Snyder, Steinlage, Schuchhardt 5:15.33.

4x200 - 5. Turkey Valley 2:06.61, 10. Turkey Valley 2:15.16.

Shuttle hurdle - 4. Turkey Valley (NT).

4x400 - 6. Turkey Valley 5:14.03, 8. Turkey Valley 5:17.21.

**TURKEY VALLEY BOYS RESULTS**

200 dash - 2. Noah Hanson 23.87, 4. Troy Schmitt 25.71.

400 dash - 14. Tucker Reicks 1:09.65 800 run - 2. Russell Nieman 2:22.2, 15. Tucker Reicks 2:58.6.

55 dash - 3. Hanson 6.83, 4. Schmitt 7.05.

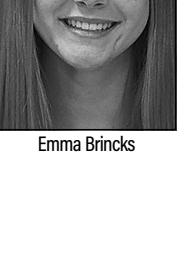
Distance medley - 2. Chase Hayek, Burke Busta, Ryan Franzen, Nieman 1:49.79.

4x200 - 2. Schmitt, Hayek, Franzen, B. Busta 1:40.86, 7. J.D. Kruse, Miguel Diaz, Logan Busta, Dariaen Keyes 1:49.79.

4x400 - 1. Hayek, Franzen, B. Busta, Hanson 3:51, 10. Kruse, Diaz, L. Busta, Keyes 4:25.8.

**Here's to a great spring, Trojans****Turkey Valley girls golf**

Annika Bodensteiner



Emma Brincks



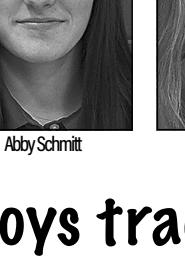
Morgan Kuennen



Karstyn Lukes



Sophia Rivera



Abby Schmitt



Kaitlyn Schroeder



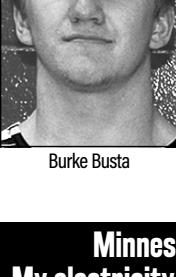
Mariah Thronson



Morgan Vsetecka



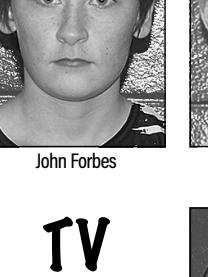
Halle Weber

**Turkey Valley boys track**

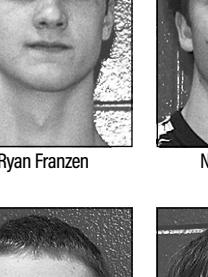
Burke Busta



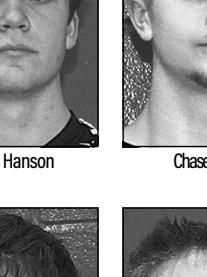
Logan Busta



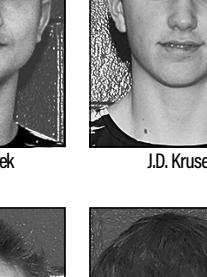
John Forbes



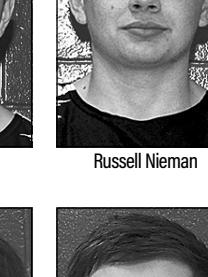
Ryan Franzen



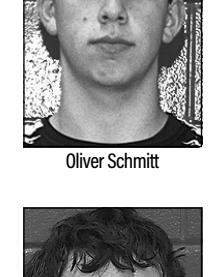
Noah Hanson



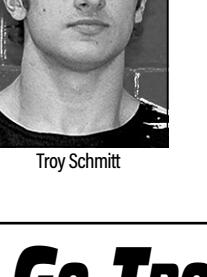
Chase Hayek



J.D. Kruse



Russell Nieman

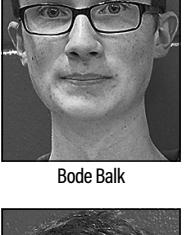


Oliver Schmitt

Not pictured: Miguel Diaz, Dariaen Keyes and Tucker Reicks

**TV boys golf**

Not pictured: Lucas Jackson and Parker Reicks



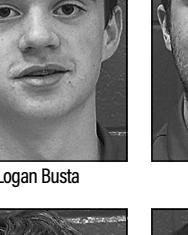
Bode Balk



Calvin Bodensteiner



Carson Busta



Logan Busta



Braylen Byrne



Garrett Dietzenbach



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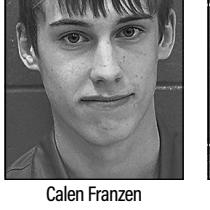
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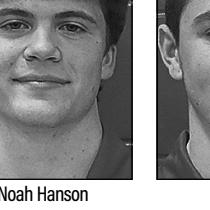
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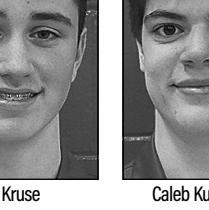
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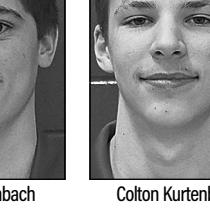
Calen Franzen



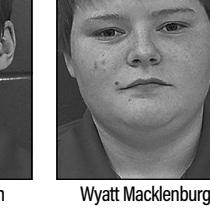
Noah Hanson



J.D. Kruse



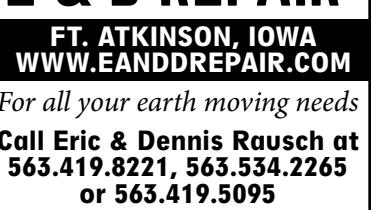
Caleb Kurtenbach



Colton Kurtenbach



Wyatt Macklenburg



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**Turkey Valley girls track**

Delaney Busta



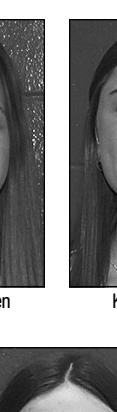
Clare Courtney



Haylee Hanson



Aubrey Hoffert



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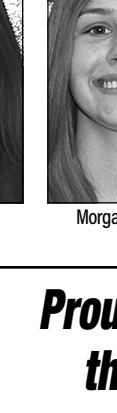
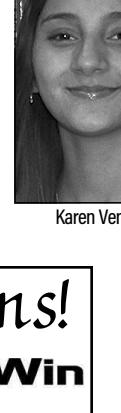
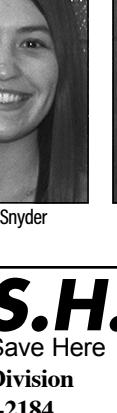
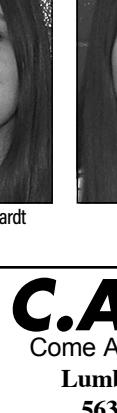
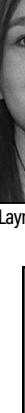
Agents ~ John Cuvelier, Renee Thronson cuvy1955@gmail.com reneiaol@gmail.com

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## ON TAP FOR THE CHICKASAWS, TROJANS TUESDAY

Turkey Valley boys and girls track at Sumner-Fredericksburg Coed, 4:30 p.m.

### THURSDAY, MARCH 30

New Hampton soccer at Charles City, 5 p.m., varsity at 5 p.m., JV to follow.

New Hampton boys and girls track at Waverly-Shell Rock Coed Invitational, 5 p.m.

### FRIDAY, MARCH 31

Turkey Valley boys and girls track at North Fayette Valley Coed, 4:30 p.m.

### SATURDAY, APRIL 1

New Hampton trap-shooting at Nashua-Plainfield Invitational, 8 a.m.

New Hampton soccer at Postville tournament, 9 a.m.

### MONDAY, APRIL 3

New Hampton boys track at Decorah Early Bird, 4:30 p.m.

### TUESDAY, APRIL 4

New Hampton boys golf vs. MFL-Mar-Mac and North Fayette Valley, 4 p.m.

Turkey Valley girls track at Postville Relays, 4:30 p.m.

Turkey Valley boys track at Edgewood-Colesburg Invitational, 4:30 p.m.

New Hampton soccer vs. Postville, varsity at 5 p.m., JV to follow.

New Hampton girls track at Mason City Relays, 5 p.m.

## BOWLING

### COFFEE CUP

STANDINGS	W	L
Rochford Insurance	22	6
Hugeback/Johnson	20	8
Mid-Tech Machining	15	13
ExSalont	14.5	13.5
Geerts Plumbing	12	16
Elma Gals	12	16
Vern Laures Auto	10.5	17.5

### MARCH 15 RESULTS

Hugeback/Johnson 4, ExSalont 0  
Rochford Insurance 3, Dummy 1  
Vern Laures Auto 1, Mid-Tech 3  
Elma Gals 4, Geerts Plumbing 0

### LEADERS

**High individual games:** Kristy Kirkus 220, 216, Linda Lechtenberg 194

**High individual series:** Kirkus 584, Linda Lechtenberg 554, Karen Schmitt 493

**High team games:** Hugeback/Johnson 462, 445, Mid-Tech Machining 444

**High team series:** Hugeback/Johnson 1,350, Mid-Tech Machining 1,248, ExSalont 1,234

**MOST PINS OVER AVG. (GAME)**

Kirkus 53

**MOST PINS OVER AVG. (SERIES)**

Sister Vicky Arndorfer 89

**SPLITS CONVERTED**

Kirkus 6-7, Karen Schmitt 5-7

Karen Schmitt, Secretary

## Chickasaw

### Men's Pool

Week 22 March 13

	W	L
Brite Spot	107	73
Big Willie's	102	78
HereZ 2 U	100	80
Dak's Tap 2	98	82
The Pub	93	87
Butch's I	93	87
VFW	87	93
Butch's 2	83	97
Dak's Tap 1	81	99
Hide-A-Way	81	99
The Office	65	115

### RESULTS

Dak's Tap 2 5, Big Willies 4

Brite Spot 6, The Pub 3

Hide-A-Way 5, HereZ 2

U 4

Butch's 2 5, The Office 4

Butch's 1 6, VFW 3

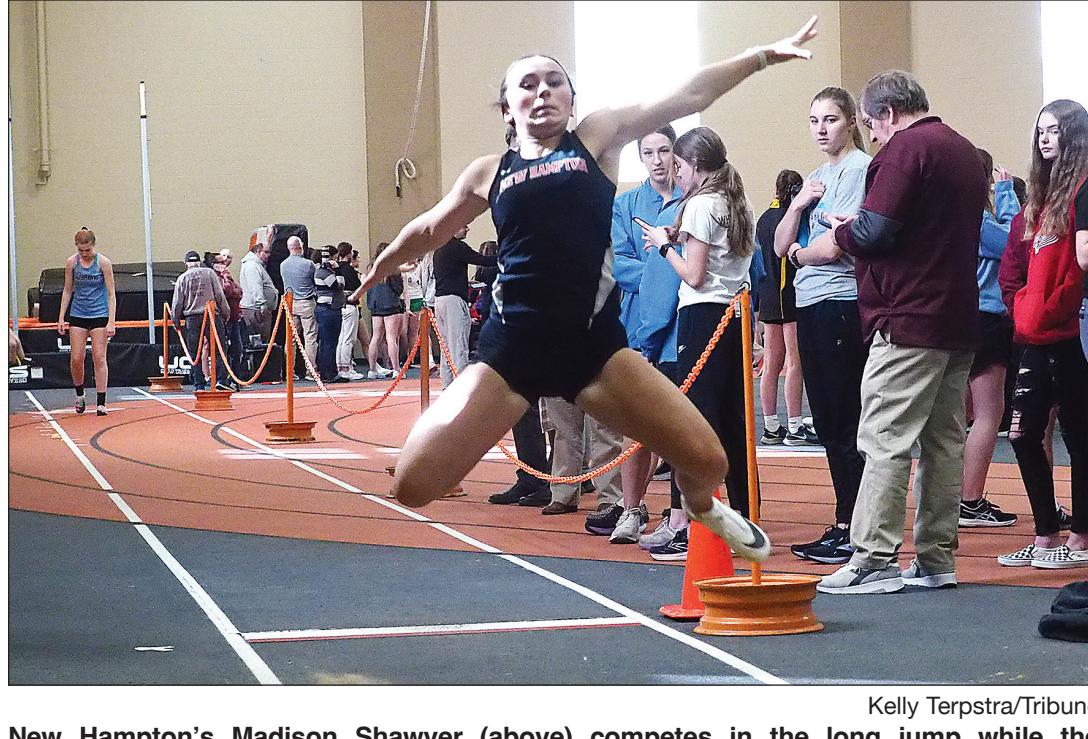
Dak's Tap 1, bye

### THREE-GAME WINNERS

Brite Spot: Jason & Marty

### TABLE RUN

Big Willies: Cody



Kelly Terpstra/Tribune

New Hampton's Madison Shawver (above) competes in the long jump while the Chickasaws' Tristan Willadsen (below) clears a hurdle at the Wartburg Indoor last week.

## Senior enjoys running in 'open' events

### NH TRACK: FROM 18

Pesek. NH just nipped Waukee Northwest at the tape, as the Wolves ran a 4:23.11.

"We're happy with where we are in many events. The 4x400 is running about where they were at this time last year! That's exciting because we know we have some versatility with 400/800 runners," said Laures.

NH's 4x800 relay was runner-up in a time of 10:46 with the squad of Natalie Nobsisch, Megan Pickar, Knutson and freshman Tegan Dungey.

Dungey placed seventh in the 1,500 run in 5:28 and Nobsisch was ninth (5:43).

Ries earned a fifth-place showing in the open 200 in 28.25 and Pickar was eighth in the 400 dash in 1:06.

Carter Cahoy is in store for a big senior season. Cahoy shot out of the gates a week ago Tuesday with a third-place result in the 55 dash finals (6.83). That edged junior teammate Braden McShane by a whisker. McShane wound up fifth in 6.85.

Cahoy and McShane each ran on the state-qualifying distance medley squad last year at state. This year – in Cahoy's last run – he may be starring alone by himself in some events this spring.

"I didn't do much open stuff last year, so I'm excited to try some more open stuff," said Cahoy. "I'm also trying out the long jump this year. We'll see how that goes."

Cahoy and McShane have already run a time in the 4x100 earlier this month at the ISU Indoor that has them knocking on the door of the Drake Relays. That event's not run on the smaller 200-meter track at Wartburg, but that didn't mean the two talented Chickasaw athletes weren't thinking about that race in Waverly.

"If we get that handoff, we'll probably be in the 44s. That hasn't happened in a couple years here, at least," said McShane.

McShane, who is supremely talented on the football field, baseball diamond and wrestling mat, stretched his legs along with Cahoy in the 4x200. The Chickasaws' relay placed third behind first-place Washington and runner-up Belle Plaine with a time of 1:40.12. Aiden Roberson led off the relay, followed by freshman Dylén Schmitt.

Roberson, a senior, was 10th overall in the 55 hurdle prelims in 8.93 and Cahoy ran to another 10th-place showing in the open 200 in 25.01.

Chickasaw senior Peyton Anderson – a recent state qualifier in wrestling and a two-time state competitor in cross country – placed third in two events. He engineered a third-place run in the open 800 (2:14) and was also third in the 3,200 run in 10:52.

Carsyn Leistikow upped his personal best in the shot put by over four feet. The senior Chickasaw shattered his previous PR of 36-7 to place 14th overall with a heave of 40-9.5.

NH ran at its last indoor meet of the season when it took to the blue oval of the NEIC Indoor at Luther College on Tuesday.

### NEW HAMPTON GIRLS RESULTS

55 dash prelims - 7. Hailee Pesek 7.87, 25. Josie Speltz 8.38.

55 dash finals - 5. Pesek 7.85.

55 hurdles prelims - 1. Carlee Rochford 8.68, 39. Addison Trower 11.77.

55 hurdles finals - 1. Rochford 8.74.

200 dash - 5. Taylor Ries 28.25,

27. Camryn Smith 30.94.

400 dash - 8. Megan Pickar 1:06.81, 11. Braelyn Rosonke 1:08.51.

800 run - 11. Kandice Eggerichs



2:49.78, 13. Kirsten Reicherts 2:56.66.  
1,500 run - 7. Tegan Dungey 5:28.17, 9. Natalie Nobsisch 5:43.45.  
High jump - 10. Pesek 4-6, 14. Rosonke 4-4.  
Long jump - 1. Rochford 17-3, 20. Madison Shawver 12-10.  
Shot put - 11. Claire Geerts 30-9.5, 12. Madison Schaufenbuel 30-9.  
4x200 - 11. Shawver, Smith Trower, Speltz 2:03.78.  
4x400 - 1. Ries, Rochford, Emma Knutson, Pesek 4:23.02.  
4x800 - 2. Nobsisch, Pickar, Knutson, Dungey 10:46.81.  
**NEW HAMPTON BOYS RESULTS**  
55 dash prelims - 4. Carter Cahoy 6.87, 7. Braden McShane 6.93.  
55 dash finals - 3. Cahoy 6.83, 5. McShane 6.85.

55 hurdles prelims - 10. Aiden Roberson 8.93, 26. Tristan Willadsen 10.36.  
200 dash - 10. Cahoy 25.01, 33. Karson Kolbet 26.66.  
400 dash - 19. Ryan Willadsen 59.16, 29. Elliott Eiler 1:03.34.  
800 run - 3. Peyton Anderson 2:14.41, 21. Jarrin Robinson 2:35.85.  
3,200 run - 3. Anderson 10:52.57.  
Long jump - 24. Bryce Flugum 15-7, 27. Kale Venem 15-2.  
Shot put - 14. Carsyn Leistikow 40-9.5, 18. Marshall Zeien 37-2.5.  
4x200 - 3. Roberson Dylén Schmitt, McShane, Cahoy 1:40.12.  
4x400 - 9. McShane, 10. Willadsen, Schmitt, Roberson 3:52.89.  
4x800 - 15. Robinson, Landon Bruess, Caden Rochford, Braiden Schaufenbuel.



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“ My Mom, Perri, was the kind of Mom that welcomed everybody in. But when she got some tough news, she was hesitant to invite ‘hospice’ into her life.

Once we learned that their service wasn't about dying but living well now, it opened her mind. They really got to know our family, and it felt like Mom was their only patient. That was so comforting.”

– Bryan Earnest, son

## IHSAA announces districts for football

Following a Zoom meeting of the Iowa High School Athletic Association Board of Control last week, the association released district and group assignments for the 2023 and 2024 football seasons.

New Hampton will remain in Class 2A, District 3, which includes holdovers Crestwood and Osage, as well as newcomers North Fayette Valley, Oelwein and Waukon.

Turkey Valley, meanwhile, will remain in Eight-Man, District 3, which has a new look for this cycle with only Riceville and West Central remaining from the past two years.

Other teams in the district will be Central Elkader, Don Bosco, Kee High and Waterloo Christian.

The 2023 football season will be the first with a socioeconomic factor added for classifications. Approved this winter by the State Board of Education, the classification adjustment will reduce 40 percent of a school's free or reduced lunch (FRL) count from their annual enrollment to determine their final classification number.

The IHSAA will release each team's non-district opponents and schedules later this spring.



Bob Fenske/Tribune

## Gearing up for golf

Adam Ewert sets up a hole for his simulator while New Hampton teammate Kyler Glenn watches his shot on another simulator Monday afternoon.

# Chickasaws shine brightly at Wartburg Indoor

New Hampton track coaches gets solid performances in second meet

By KELLY TERPSTRA  
sports@nhtrib.com

There were over 30 teams in attendance at last week Tuesday's Wartburg Indoor that saw both New Hampton track teams come up with award-winning performances.

Although there were no acceptance speeches given by any Chickasaws – like at the most recent Oscars – it's safe to say that there should be many blockbuster efforts this spring that should be rewarded with plenty of medals.

Jeanette Laures – the longtime NH girls coach – has one of the more talented squads in Class 2A.

Track is arguably Carlee Rochford's most proficient sport and she demonstrated why in her lone field event. Rochford leaped a terrific 17-3 in the long jump to secure first place. Her best leap at last year's state meet was 17-6.75 – which earned her a third-place medal. Rochford also won the 55 hurdle finals in 8.74. Rochford placed sixth in that event last year at state.

Hailee Pesek, a junior, proved that she may have what it takes to be a state sprinter this year. Pesek placed 13th in the 400 dash at state last spring. She competed in that event as a freshman as well, but Laures has decided to have Pesek give it a go early on in the 55 dash. Pesek placed seventh in prelims

(7.87) and wound up fifth overall in the finals (7.85).

"Hailee has really been showing us her diversity in the short sprints and the high jump. We're doing some experimenting with her so we can make the best decisions down the road," said Laures.

Pesek jumped 4-6 in the high jump – which slotted her in 10th place.

New Hampton placed fourth in the 4x400 last year at state and the Chickasaws fared well in that event again at Waverly – winning the relay in 4:23.02 with the group of Taylor Ries, Rochford, Emma Knutson and

**SEE NH TRACK, 17**



New Hampton junior Hailee Pesek takes part in a drill during practice Monday, which thanks to an assist from Mother Nature, was held outside on the track.

Bob Fenske/Tribune

## Add all-American to the lengthy list of Blockhus feats

Former Chickasaw star and current Gopher makes it to the stand at NCAAs for first time

By BOB FENSKE  
editor@nhtrib.com

For Michael Blockhus' legions of fans, Friday night's Twitter tweet from "Minnesota Wrestling" was pure gold.

"It's been a long time coming for the redshirt senior, but finally Michael Blockhus can stand on that podium and call himself an ALL-AMERICAN!"

Blockhus had just put together an impressive 6-2 victory over Indiana's Graham Rooks in the "blood round" – where the winner is an all-American and the loser's season is done – at the NCAA Division I wrestling tournament in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

The former New Hampton/Turkey Valley star could add all-American to an impressive list of wrestling accomplishments that include a four-time finalist at the Iowa state wrestling tournament, a three-time state champ and four-time national qualifier.

And he had to do it the hard way.

After opening the tournament with a 3-2 win over Oklahoma State's Victor Voinovich, Blockhus lost an overtime heartbreaker to Northwestern's Yahya Thomas to fall to the back side of the bracket.

But on Friday, he beat Caleb Tyus of SIU-Edwardsville 8-5 before qualifying for the blood round by beating Cal-Poly's Dom Demas 3-1 in sudden victory, wrestling's version of overtime.

The former Chickasaw then beat Rooks before dropping his final two matches to Iowa's Max Murin and Missouri's Brock Mauller, but still, it was good enough for Blockhus, who came into the meet seeded 10th, to become an all-American for the first time of his collegiate career.

Before heading to college, Blockhus, who wrestled his first two years of high school at Crestwood before open-enrolling to New Hampton, where he compiled a gaudy 81-1 record, led the Chickasaws to two state dual titles and won two individ-



Photo courtesy of Melissa Blockhus

University of Minnesota wrestler Michael Blockhus holds his all-American trophy on the podium at the NCAA Division I wrestling tournament this past Saturday evening.

ual state championships.

Blockhus qualified for the NCAA tournament for the first time in 2020, when he was wrestling for the University of Northern Iowa, but that tournament was canceled at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

He then transferred to Minnesota and qualified for both the 2021 and 2022 national tournaments, going 1-2 at both.

# ONE AND DONE

Turkey Valley's Troy Schmitt sprints to the finish line in the 200-meter dash while the Trojans' Haylee Hanson competes in the 55-meter hurdles at the Upper Iowa Conference Indoor that was held last Friday at Luther College.

## TROJANS GET ON THE TRACK FOR THEIR LONE INDOOR MEET

By KELLY TERPSTRA  
sports@nhtrib.com

Mark Scott is fast approaching a silver anniversary for the Turkey Valley Trojans.

The TV track coach is still going strong after taking over the program in the late 1990s – although the salt and pepper in his hair is also an indication that he's a veteran of the game.

Scott, who has led TV track since 1999 – 24 years ago – has a squad that has a decent contingent of quality athletes in his lineup despite relatively low numbers out for a school the size of Turkey Valley.

Scott took most of his roster to TV's lone indoor meet of the season – the Upper Iowa Conference league meet on Friday on the campus of Luther College in Decorah.

Back this year are seniors Noah Hanson, Ryan Franzen and Chase Hayek – who were all key players in TV's 4x400 relay that medaled in seventh place last year at state. The trio helped produce a blue-ribbon performance in the event at Decorah. The group, along with

junior Burke Busta, clipped out to a 3:51 run, almost 10 seconds faster than runner-up North Fayette Valley – which hosted the meet.

"I thought it was a good start to the year. Our 4x200 and 4x400 on varsity ran pretty well," said Scott. "We're still trying to see what the freshmen can do, obviously."

Scott – who has coached the Trojan football program for two decades – said he has 13 kids out this year, about the same number as last spring.

Hanson finished second in the open 200 in 23.87 and was third in the 55 dash in 6.83. Troy Schmitt, another senior for TV, crossed the tape in fourth place in the 55 dash. His time was 7.05. Schmitt was also fourth in the 200 dash in 25.71.

Russell Nieman, a junior, wound up second in the 800 run in a time of 2:22. Scott said he is looking to qualify for state in the mile run.

"Russell needs to get in shape. He's dealing with a little bit of an ankle, leg thing for the

**SEE TV TRACK, 16**



Russell Nieman (left) anchors the Turkey Valley distance medley relay while Addison Steinlage (right) runs a leg on the Trojans 4x800 at the UIC Indoor.

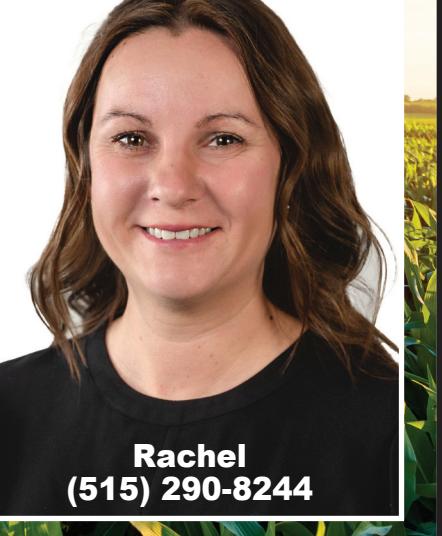
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