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Supervisors 'close' on budget

Public Health takes biggest hit; administrator says homemaker services to be cut

By BOB FENSKY
editor@nhtrib.com

After weeks of trying to use "sharpened pencils" to close gaps in its 2025-26 budgets, the Chickasaw County Board of Supervisors unsheathed its proverbial knife last week and made dramatic cuts to various budgets proposed by department heads.

And after a meeting that lasted

ASSESSOR: MAX LEVY
NOTIFICATIONS ARE ONCE AGAIN "MISLEADING."

— PAGE 10

more than three hours last Wednesday, county board members appeared to have solved their General Basic (GB)

riddle that had befuddled them for so long, and when the numbers were crunched during a department head meeting on Tuesday morning, the county didn't have a balanced budget when it came to GB and General Supplemental (GS) but had closed the gap between expenditures and revenues by almost \$350,000.

"For the most part, this looks a lot better than a week ago," Supervisor

Scott Cerwinski said Tuesday.

Board Chairman Jake Hackman thanked the department heads for their work on the budget, saying "we came a long ways," but the question remained unanswered if the cuts to the proposed budget for the fiscal year that begins July 1 are complete.

At times, Tuesday's meeting got

testy. Ditto for last week's meeting when Public Health and Homemaking Services saw its budget slashed \$358,000 from the

SEE SUPERVISORS, 12

Area mental health disability services shutting down soon

It still remains unclear how services will be provided under state-mandated replacements

By BOB FENSKY
editor@nhtrib.com

As the end nears for County Social Services (CSS), the chairman of its board says there are a plethora of unknowns when it comes to how area residents who need help accessing behavioral health and disability services will be served.

The reason? The state is "realigning" its system for Mental Health Disability Services, known by its acronym MHDS.

Chickasaw County Board of Supervisors Chairman Jake Hackman, the chair of the CSS board said the reality is that once the realignment becomes effective on July 1, the organization that includes 12 counties, will cease to exist and during a recent interview, Hackman expressed his concerns.

"It's tough," he said. "The thing we're worried about, too, is what is the state going to do? Are they going to leave rural Iowa [behind]? Are they going to staff back? Are they going to make potential hires of the CSS staff to move their programming forward or are they going to be housed in Polk County?"

CSS has been in existence since 2009, and according to its mission statement, it "connects

SEE CSS, 6

Bay Valley Foods, with 54 employees, to 'phase out' plant

By BOB FENSKY
editor@nhtrib.com

Don't get Tammy Robinson wrong because the New Hampton Economic Development director said it was tough to hear that Bay Valley Foods will begin phasing out its operation and close sometime later this summer.

Employees were notified by company officials on Tuesday, March 4, that the plant that has been a staple of the city's west-side industrial park for 30 years will close.

"We have to turn it into a positive somehow," she said. "That has to be our goal. We need to try to fill the building and make sure we give our employers here an opportunity to

SEE BAY VALLEY, 6



Bob Fenske/Tribune

New Horizons-Chamber Director Liz Zweibohmer (above) presents the Chamber Sponsor of the Year Award to Pocketful of Posies owner Kayla Smith while Jean Laures (below) is overcome with emotion as she thanks the chamber for honoring her late husband, Vern, with the Lifetime Achievement Award during Friday's Annual Dinner & Awards Gala.

CELEBRATING THE THREE F'S

FAITH, FAMILY AND FRIENDS TAKE CENTER STAGE AT NEW HORIZONS-CHAMBER ANNUAL DINNER & AWARD GALA

By BOB FENSKY
editor@nhtrib.com

The mantra for Vern Laures revolved around the three "F's" and he often said that "faith, family and friends are what this life is all about."

So it was an emotional moment on Friday evening when Laures, who passed away at the age of 85 on Feb. 20, was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award during the New Horizons-Chamber Annual Dinner & Award Gala that was held at the New Hampton Golf and County Club.

On a night in which chamber officials handed out a host of

awards and announced its 2025 Heartland Days Parade grand marshal, it was "Vernie" who took center stage.

"I just don't know what to say," said his wife, Jean Laures, after the announcement was made. "Thank you, thank you. Vern would be so proud, and he did say family and friends meant everything to him."

His youngest son, Mitch, said that his father would be the first to say he would be "honored and humbled" by the award, and he went out of his way to mention the other Lifetime Achievement Award finalists — Doug Schueth

SEE GALA, 2



Bob Fenske/Tribune

Lions breakfast draws big crowd to the school

More than 1,000 show up for club fundraiser

By BOB FENSKY
editor@nhtrib.com

The same guys did the same jobs they do every year, but make no mistake about it, the 2025 New Hampton Lions Club Pancake and French Toast Breakfast had a different feel to it.

And the numbers back it up, too, as the annual event, always held on the morning when Daylight Savings Time begins,

had its first "four-digit" crowd in several years.

Lions Club member Matt Kuhn said more than a 1,000 residents partook in the breakfast, the highest number this decade, but better yet, more people enjoyed the event at New Hampton High School.

"We had more meals served, and the number of carry-outs was down," Kuhn said, "and I

SEE BREAKFAST, 4



Members of the New Hampton Lions Club serve up breakfast Sunday morning.

Bob Fenske/Tribune

Boomers

Check out our great sponsors and stories that focus on the Baby Boomer Generation

Pages 13-16



Busy month

Instructors, band students in the midst of busy month as Parade of Bands nears

Page 3

Off and running

The New Hampton girls track team kicks off its indoor season

Page 11

Carnegie's 'leprechaun shenanigans' to kick off programs at the museum

The Carnegie Cultural Center has several activities on tap this month — ranging from programs dealing with St. Patrick's Day to a Sunday storytime to Legos to art created by Nashua-Plainfield school students.

• On Saturday, March 15, the New Hampton museum will hold some "leprechaun shenanigans" from 10:30 a.m. to noon. Activities include building a leprechaun trap, reading a story and a photo booth. A special St. Patrick's Day snack will be served.

• On Sunday, March 16, at 1:30 p.m., the Carnegie will hold its "Sunday Story," where milk and cookies will be served.

• On Thursday, March 20, the museum will have "Lego Creations" program that will run from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

• And on Sunday, March 30, Nashua-Plainfield Schools will hold an open house art exhibition at the museum from 1:30 to 3 p.m.

For more information about the programs, call the museum at 641-394-2354.



Bob Fenske/Tribune

Mitch Laures accepts the Lifetime Achievement Award on behalf of his father, Vern, from New Horizons-Chamber board member Kerstin Schwickerath on Friday evening.

'Brisk' chamber gala hits all the right notes

GALA: FROM 1

and Jackie Perkins and Theresa Rasmussen.

"I think it speaks to the kind of company an award like this holds," Mitch Laures said. "Doug and Jackie and Theresa, there are so many people in this community and in this room who are worthy of an award like this. Just look to your left and your right and think about the wonderful things that we've done as a community and as a chamber and as families and as individuals in this great community."

He added that Vern Laures, who spent 61 years building Vern Laures Auto Center into a New Hampton institution, was always proud of "all of the positive, forward movement" in New Hampton.

"Everyone knows his saying," Mitch Laures said, "but I think tonight he might tweak it a little bit. Faith, family and friends is what this community is all about."

The presentation of the Lifetime Achievement Award

THE AWARD WINNERS AT THE GALA

Here are the finalists and the winners (in bold) who were announced at the New Horizons-Chamber Annual Dinner and Award Gala on Friday evening

Rising Star Award: Crystal Ball Roller Skating Rink, Kenny's Tavern and Rebel Diamonds.

Customer Service Excellence Award: LeisureTime Golf Cars, LS Supply, Muscari, Office World/Rapid Printers and Schueth Ace Hardware.

Business Volunteer of the Year Award: Bank Iowa, First Citizens Bank and Hassman Construction.

Chamber Sponsor of the Year: Pocketful of Posies.

Community Spark Award: Becky Babcock, **Cory McDonald** and Nick Noehl.

Behind-the-Scenes Champion: Bob and Kim Hackman, Brian Quirk and Patty Phillips.

Local Loyalty Award: Lynn Hollister, Brenda Parks and Kerstin Schwickerath.

Volunteer of the Year Award: Chad and Mindy Humpal family, Nick and Emily Sanford family and Bobby and Emma Schwickerath family.

Lifetime Achievement Award: Vern Laures, Theresa Rasmussen and Doug Schueth and Jackie Perkins.

2025 Heartland Days Parade grand marshal: Chickasaw Mutual Insurance Association.

make the chamber click year in and year out.

The event drew a capacity crowd to the country club, where chamber members not only enjoyed an outstanding meal and plenty of great conversations but also had a chance to meet incoming New Hampton and Turkey Valley Superintendent Erik Smith.

The gala ended with the announcement that Chickasaw Mutual Insurance Association employees will serve as the grand marshals of the parade that kicks off New Horizons-Chamber's biggest celebration of the year, Heartland Days.

And Zweibohmer also shared with members that New Horizons will soon be unveiling a new app that will include a membership directory and a community-wide schedule of events.

"It was a really good night," Zweibohmer said, "and we're just so grateful for the turnout and the support our members give us, not just on a night like tonight but throughout the entire year."

highlighted an event that hadn't been held in years and moved at a brisk pace.

Chamber Director Liz

Zweibohmer said bringing the annual dinner back was important so that the organization could celebrate the people who



Liz Zweibohmer and Morgan Underwood (above) announce the 2025 Heartland Days Parade grand marshal while Tammy Robinson (right) presents Brenda Parks with the Local Loyalty Award.



Community Spark Award winner Cory McDonald (left) reminds Gala attendees that "every day is a great day to be a Chickasaw" while incoming New Hampton Superintendent Erik Smith (above) shares a few words during Friday's event.

Carnegie's 'leprechaun shenanigans' to kick off programs at the museum

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For more information about the programs, call the museum at 641-394-2354.

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For band kids, it's a mad March!

Hectic month will end with Monday's Parade of Bands

BY BOB FENSKA

editor@nhtrib.com

Not a single shot will be taken or a basket made, but make no mistake about it, New Hampton's band directors and their instrumentalists are experiencing their own version of March Madness right now.

Between honor bands, the Jazz Dessert Show that was held last Friday, various contests, a visiting clinician and the upcoming Parade of Bands concert on Monday, it's been a hectic month for Jenny and Justin Adam and their students.

"March is definitely the busiest month," said Jenny Adam, who directs the bands at the middle school.

"It is so rewarding to see students get to participate in so many different types of events," said her husband, who directs high school instrumentalists. "Despite the burnout I get around this time of year, it's worth it to see how excited students get to have unique, fun musical experiences and learn from the wider community around them."

Still, the band "plate" in March is heaping.

And yes, the band directors are looking forward to the Parade of Bands that will begin at 7 p.m. on Monday at

the competition gymnasium.

"I look forward to taking a nap after Parade of Bands," Justin Adam joked.

The directors, though, are proud of how their students have responded. They pointed to last Friday's Dessert Show as an example of how band students have kept their focus.

"With honor bands, jazz contests, home concerts, and solo festival preparations going on at the same time," Justin Adam said, "we adopt the mantra of 'one thing at a time' where we can. Focus on the next upcoming thing, then we switch gears. The variety keeps things fun."

Both the directors are hoping that the community will turn out on Monday and celebrate its young musicians who have been working on Parade of Bands music since this past fall.

Jenny Adam said that as busy as March is, it's the best month of the school year.

"The Jazz Dessert Show is my favorite concert of the year," she said, "It's more low key being in the cafeteria and the kids really enjoy eating desserts afterwards. I think that concert really provides a lot of camaraderie," she said.

"The Parade of Bands is definitely a close second — it's really fun to get



Kelly Terpstra/Tribune

New Hampton High School Jazz Band members — (from left) Kirsten and Lauren Nuss and Kye Rausch — play their saxophones during last Friday night's Jazz Dessert Concert.

to showcase just the band kids at an event."

And she said the upcoming concert will have a "food" theme, including a program that looks like a menu.

While her husband will get his long-awaited nap, some of Jenny

Adam's students won't be quite done with the arts because the middle school musical begins its two-day run a week from today on Thursday, March 20.

And the middle school band director said both she and Choir Director Jill Cantu are cognizant how busy

some of their students are.

"Mrs. Cantu and I share a lot of students," she said. "Our biggest thing is trying to make sure we don't overload the kids. We've worked together to try to spread out our performances the best we can."



Members of the New Hampton High School Jazz Choir — (left, from left) Brenna Thronson, Beth Pickar, Skyler Bugenhagen, Easton Monteith, Elleri Eike and Zoey Dreckman — sing "At Last" while guitarists Makayla Sabelka and Michaela Balik play with the Middle School Jazz Band.

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Carefully Consider Social Security Decisions

Your Social Security benefits can be an important part of your retirement income — but when should you start collecting them? It's a big decision, so you'll want to consider your options carefully.

Essentially, you'll need to decide whether you're going to take your benefits as early as possible — age 62 — or if you should wait until your "full retirement age" or even longer. If you begin accepting benefits at 62, they'll be about 30% lower than if you waited until your full retirement age, which is 67 if you were born in 1960 or later. And if you wait until 70, your benefits will be about 24% higher than at your full retirement age.

In deciding when to claim benefits, you'll want to weigh these factors:

- Income needs — If you need the money to help meet your daily cost of living, then you may not feel you have much of a choice about when to take Social Security. However, if you have sufficient income from other sources, such as your 401(k) or other retirement accounts, you may be able to delay taking benefits until they're much larger.

- Employment — If you're still working and you haven't reached your full retirement age yet, it might be a good idea to wait before claiming Social Security because your benefits will be reduced by \$1 for every \$2 earned above \$23,400.

In the year in which you reach your full retirement age, your benefits will be reduced by \$1 for every \$3 earned above \$62,160. (But once you reach your full retirement age, Social Security will adjust your payments to credit you for the months during which your benefits were lowered because of your income.)

- Life expectancy — None of us can say for certain how long we'll live — but you may have some hints. For example, if you have a family history of longevity, and you're in good health, you might decide it makes sense to delay taking



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Social Security until your full retirement age, or even later, as you could potentially have more years of receiving larger checks.

- Spouse — If you're married, decisions about when to claim benefits could affect you or your spouse. The spouse with lower Social Security payments may be eligible to receive spousal benefits, which, when combined with their own benefits, can reach up to 50% of the higher-benefit spouse's payment at their full retirement age.

To qualify, the lower-benefit spouse's benefit at their full retirement age must be less than half of the other spouse's full-retirement-age benefit. But if the lower-benefit spouse claims their benefits before their full retirement age, their own retirement benefit and the spousal benefit will be reduced.

Also, the lower-benefit spouse reaches their maximum benefit amount at their full retirement age — they won't receive additional benefits even if they or the higher-benefit spouse delays taking benefits past their respective full retirement ages.

One other point to keep in mind: If the higher-benefit spouse claims early, the survivor benefit to the other spouse is reduced, but if the higher-benefit spouse delays their benefit beyond their full retirement age, the survivor benefit is increased.

By making the appropriate choices, you can help maximize your Social Security benefits — and possibly enjoy a more comfortable retirement.

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

Edward Jones, Member SIPC



A common site Sunday morning at New Hampton High School is a full cafeteria for the annual New Hampton Lions Club Pancake and French Toast Breakfast.

Lions have plenty of 'experience' with breakfast jobs

BREAKFAST: FROM 1

think a lot of people took advantage of the nice day and came out. ... It was nice to see the cafeteria full."

Lions Club President Rick Kramer agreed.

"It did feel like the old days," he said, "and the atmosphere was good, the pancakes and French toast were great and the company was pretty fine, too."

We know we say it every year, but one of the truisms of the event is that Lions Club members know exactly what they're doing each and every year when they show up to work the breakfast. Those who make the pancake batter, get the sausages ready, mix up the batter and prepare the French toast

and pancakes are, in a word, experienced. Ditto for those who serve the food, oversee the high school students who help clear the tables and do the dishes.

As both Kramer and Kuhn put it, once you land a job at the breakfast, you keep it, which begged the question: How do you get a new job at the annual event?

"Well, you become a new member," Kuhn said with a laugh.

Still, despite all that experience, there is plenty of planning that goes into it.

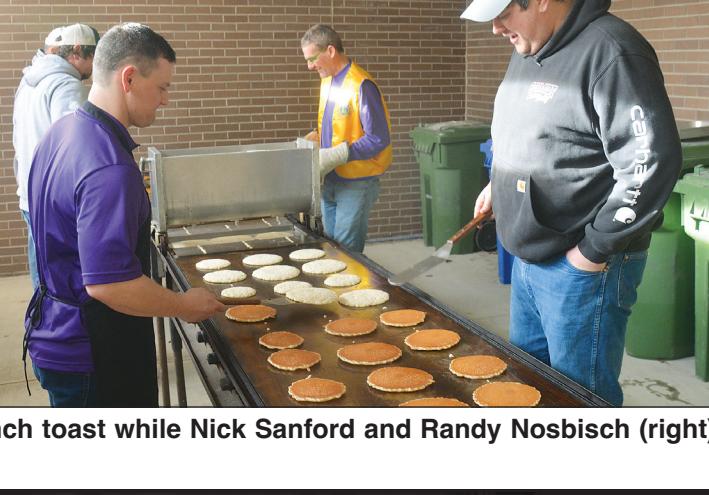
"It does help that we have a lot of people who know exactly what they're doing and how they're doing it," Kuhn said, "but it does take planning."

Once Christmas passes, a group of Lions goes to work on ordering the food, seeking

donations and getting tickets sold to the event. And while the breakfast has drawn solid crowds and raised thousands of dollars for various Lions programs throughout its 53-year history, the line that at times stretched outside the doors was a sign that it continues to be wildly popular for those of us who just don't like to cook when we've "lost" an hour of sleep.

"It was a good day, a really good day," said Kramer, who noted that the breakfast and the club's annual youth wrestling tournament are the club's biggest fundraisers. "It was nice to see that [commons] area so full, and we appreciate everyone who came and supported us."

He paused and laughed. "And we'll be back next year, same time, same place."



Phil Zwanziger and Grant Anderson (left) cook up the French toast while Nick Sanford and Randy Nosbisch (right) flip some pancakes Sunday morning.



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Rev. Telesphore Dusabe

Mass time: Saturday, 6
p.m.

ELMA

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC

Rev. Telesphore Dusabe

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Pastor Paula Hemann

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NORTH WASHINGTON

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Father Jim Goerend

Mass: Saturday, 6 p.m.

A strange punishment

Because Jesus went to the cross, we have peace, redemption

Why was Jesus on the cross? It's an important question.

This method of torture was typically reserved for non-citizens of the Roman Empire who had broken the law of the land in some way.

But that was not true of Jesus. At least three times, the Roman governor who heard Jesus' case said, "I find no guilt in him."

Jesus was innocent of any crime against the Roman government. So why was He flogged by Roman soldiers and nailed to a Roman cross?

Over 700 years before Jesus was born, Isaiah prophesied about Jesus

suffering and death in Jerusalem: "But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed" (Isaiah 53:5).

Isaiah tells us why Jesus was wounded, crushed, chastised, and whipped. It was for our transgressions, our iniquities, our peace, our healing.

Pontius Pilate found no guilt in Jesus, but God finds plenty in us because we have sinned against His holy commands. We have not lived the righteous life that God requires of us—not even close.

It was for our many sins, sins like pride, hatred, lies, lust, greed, and selfishness, that Jesus went to the cross. He had done nothing wrong, but He willingly carried our wrongs. He offered Himself in our place to make atonement for every sin to His Father.

One of our Lenten hymns puts it well:

What punishment so strange is suffered yonder!

The Shepherd dies for sheep that loved to wander;

The Master pays the debt His servants owe Him,

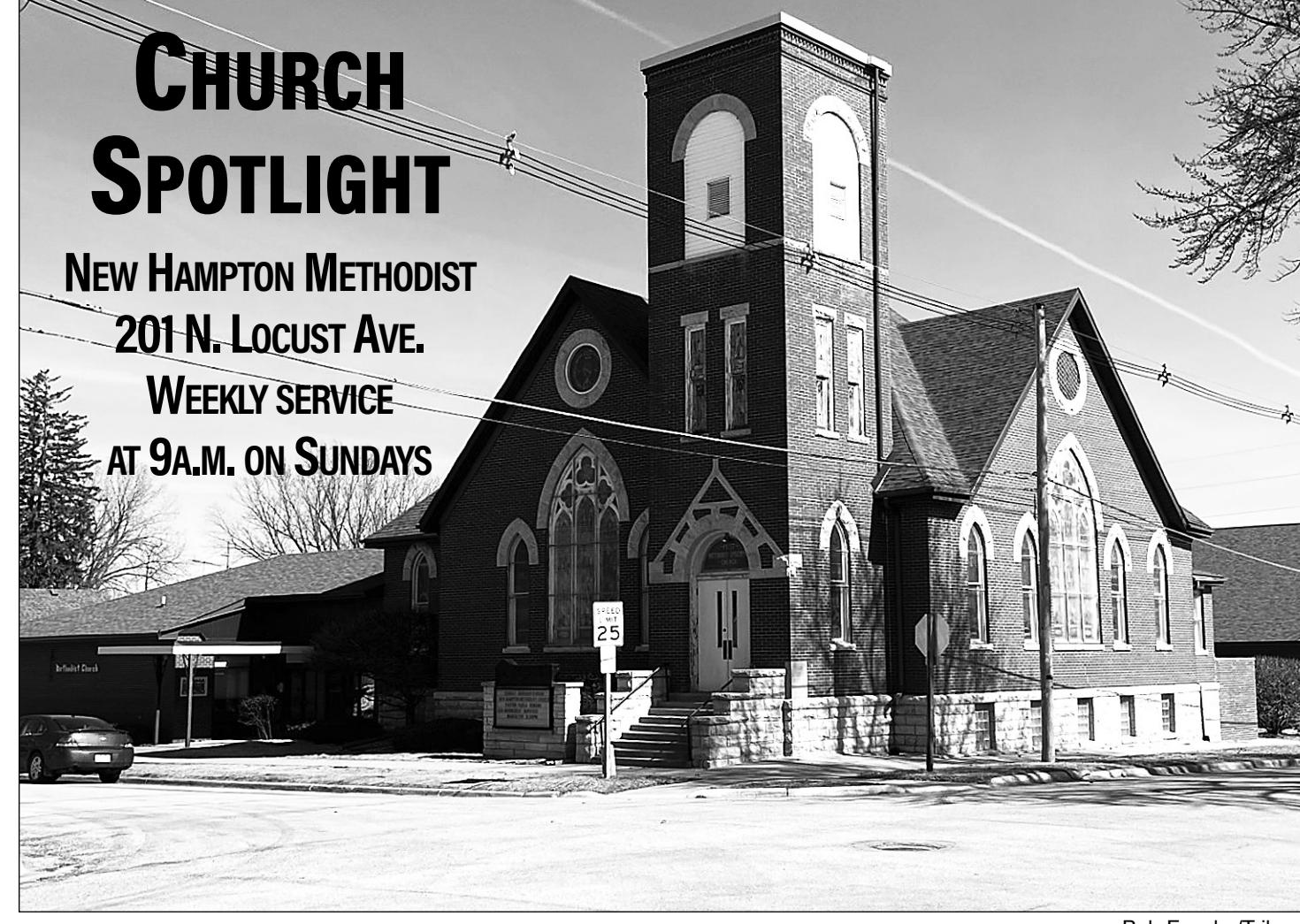
Who would not know Him. (Johann Heermann, 1585-1647)



Pastor Peter Faugstad serves Redeemer Lutheran Church in New Hampton and the Jerico and Saude congregations northeast of town (<https://saudejerico.com/>).

Because Jesus went to the cross, we have peace with God.

Because He went to the cross, we have redemption from all our sins.



Bob Fenske/Tribune

Church hosting Lenten suppers and speakers

The New Hampton Methodist Church will kick off a series of Lenten suppers and speakers this coming Wednesday, March 19, at the church. The programs will be held from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., and a freewill donation will be taken during the suppers that will be held each Wednesday through April 9.

I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.

1 John 5:13



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Church Services

NASHUA

LITTLE BROWN CHURCH

littlebrownchurch.org

Pastor Drew McHolm

Service times: Sing-A-Long Service, 10:15 a.m., and worship service at 10:30 a.m., Sunday.

REPUBLIC CHURCH

1794 280th St., Ionia

Pastor Sarah Namukose

Service time: 10:30 a.m. Sundays.

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

314 Brasher Street

Pastor Sarah Namukose

Service time: 9 a.m. Sundays.

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN

300 Merrill St.

Pastor Todd Burrichter

Service time: 9 a.m. Sundays.

CEDAR POINT CHURCH

310 Main Street

Pastor Darin Cerwinski

Service time:

Almanac

	H	L	P
Wednesday	29	16	.12
Thursday	39	28	--
Friday	41	24	.09
Saturday	42	28	--
Sunday	57	30	--
Monday	68	30	--
Tuesday	49	29	--

Forecast

Thursday: Mostly sunny with a high of 66 and a low of 50.

Friday: Mostly sunny and breezy during the day with rain and thunderstorms in the evening; high 73, low 40.

Saturday: Rain likely, with snow showers possible; high 52, low 20.

Sunday: Mostly sunny; high 36, low 20.

Extended forecast: We'll warm up as we start the work week with highs in the 50s on Monday and in the 60s Tuesday.

Meetings**MONDAY**

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

- New Hampton School Board, 6 p.m., High School Family and Consumer Science Room.

- New Hampton City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall.

History

- In 1781, the German-born English astronomer William Herschel discovers Uranus, the seventh planet from the sun.

- In 1836, less than a week after the disastrous defeat of Texas rebels at the Alamo, the newly commissioned Texan General Sam Houston begins a series of strategic retreats to buy time to train his ill-prepared army.

- In 1865, with the main Rebel armies facing long odds against much larger Union armies, the Confederacy, in a desperate measure, reluctantly approves the use of African-American troops.

- In 1881, Czar Alexander II, the ruler of Russia since 1855, is killed in the streets of St. Petersburg by a bomb thrown by a member of the revolutionary "People's Will" group.

- In 1942, the Quartermaster Corps (QMC) of the United States Army begins training dogs for the newly established War Dog Program, or "K-9 Corps."

Birthdays

- American tennis star Coco Gauff turns 21.
- American rapper Jack Harlow turns 27.
- Film actor Emile Hirsch, who starred in "Into the Wild," turns 40.
- Former MLB star first baseman Will Clark turns 61.
- American film star William H. Macy, who starred in "Fargo," turns 75.

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.

Tribune

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TRIBAdvertiser at
641.394.2111**Barbara Jirak, 97**

Barbara Jirak, age 97 of Little Turkey, died Monday, March 10, 2025, at Good Samaritan Home in West Union.

A Memorial Mass will be held at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, March 18, 2025, at Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church in Little Turkey with the Rev. Nick Radloff celebrating the Mass.

Inurnment will be held at St. Marys Catholic Cemetery, Little Turkey.

Friends may greet the family from 4 to 7 p.m. Monday, March 17, 2025, at Hugeback-Johnson Funeral Home & Crematory in New Hampton where there will be a 7 p.m. Scripture Service. Visitation continues an hour prior to the Mass at the church in Little Turkey on Tuesday.

Barbara Clara Jirak passed away peacefully on March 10, 2025, at Good Samaritan Nursing Home in West Union. Born on Jan. 7, 1928, the daughter of Frank and Mary (Franzen) Riha, on a farm South of St. Lucas, Barbara's early years were filled with the joys of rural life which laid the foundation for her enduring love of nature and the simple pleasures it brings.

Barbara's education began in St. Lucas and continued after her family moved to the Waucoma area, where she graduated from St. Mary's Catholic School in Waucoma in 1946. It was at a local basketball game that Barbara met the love of her life, James Jirak. Their love quickly blossomed, leading to their marriage on Sept. 14, 1949, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Waucoma.

Together, they welcomed five children, forming a family that would become the center of Barbara's world. James and Barbara celebrated their 75th wedding anniversary on Sept. 14, 2024.

Barbara was a true partner on the family farm, working side by side with Jim. She had a genuine passion for farm life, caring for animals such as sheep, rabbits, and chickens, pigs all to support and nurture her family.

Her green thumb was evident in her large vegetable garden, where she skillfully canned the harvest annually, ensuring her family enjoyed the fruits of her labor throughout the year.

Barbara drove her children (and the neighbor kids) to Catholic school in Waucoma for 12 years and then two years to Catholic School in Protivin, making sure they never missed a day of school.

The joy of travel and dance was a significant part of Barbara and Jim's life together. They could often be found gracefully moving across the dance floor at polka dances throughout Northeast Iowa. Their love for

**Barbara Jirak**

adventure took them on many journeys, including annual family fishing trips to Canada, a tradition that spanned an impressive 50 years. Barbara's adventurous spirit also led her and Jim to explore many destinations around the globe.

Barbara's talents were many and varied. She was an exceptional cook and baker, always ready to welcome guests with a delicious dessert. Her hobbies were a reflection of her creative and active nature, including crocheting, embroidery and collecting glass baskets. She also discovered a love for the game of golf, embracing its challenges with enthusiasm.

A woman of strong faith, Barbara was a dedicated 75-year member of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church in Little Turkey. She served her church community as an active member of the Rosary Society, the Catholic Daughters, and as a Eucharistic minister. Barbara found great joy in participating in all church activities, especially the church picnic, which she looked forward to every year.

Those who knew Barbara would describe her as loving, kind and faith-filled. Her presence was a beacon of warmth and generosity, and her legacy is one of unwavering commitment to her family, her community, and her faith. Barbara's life was a testament to the impact that one person's love and dedication can have on those around them.

Barbara is survived by her three children, Jerome (Gayle) of Waucoma, Joan (Alvin) Bakley of Tuthill, South Dakota, and Janet (Mel) Bodensteiner of West Union; 22 grandchildren; 39 great-grandchildren; and two sisters-in-law, Jeanie Riha of Waucoma, and Shirley Riha of Waucoma.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, James in 2024; two daughters, Joyce Uhlenhake and Jane Gilb; and siblings, Jake (Verena) Croatt, Loretta (Alex) Rausch, Edward (Agnes) Riha, Matt (Mary) Riha, Angela (Bill) Brannon, Leonard (Millie) Riha, Francis Riha and Dan Riha.

Property Transfers

Wilma H. Lensing to Wilma H. Lensing TR and Wilma H. Lensing REV TR; BEG AT SE COR SE 33-96-13 L2 SW NW 35-96-13 L1 SE NW 35-96-13 E1/2 W1/2 SE 34-96-13 E1/2 SE 34-96-13 NE NW 35-96-13 NW NW 35-96-13 S1/2 EX L1 & EX PARCEL B NW 35-96-13.

Rodney L. Hinz to Wayne Horning and Michelle Z. Horning; EX L1 SE SE 30-06-14,

Rodney L. Hinz to Earl Holt and Esther Holt; N30AC NE NE 19-96-14 N30AC NW NW 29-96-14.

Stacey S. Bendickson and Jackie D. Bendickson to Mason Lembke; E7R NASHUA COLERS ADDITION Lot: 1 Block: 7 E7R N18-1/2" NASHUA COLERS ADDITION Lot: 5 Block: 7.

Betty JM Wadey EST, Betty J M Wadey WST, Lisa Wessels EX and William Wadey EX to William R. Wadey, Douglas Wadey, Lisa Wessels and Wesley Wadey; N112' NASHUA CENTRAL ADDITION Lot: 1 Block: J N112' E12' NASHUA CENTRAL ADDITION Lot: 2 Block: J.

Earl S. Nolt and Esther Z. Nolt to Steven M. Oberholtzer and Dianna R. Oberholtzer; N301C NE NE 16-96-14 Parcel: 190519100001.

Bonnie L. Keller to Sue A. Liddle, Eric A. Jungbluth and Bonnie L. Keller LE; S22' NEW HAMPTON GURLEYS ADDITION Lot: 5 Block: 1 N45' NEW HAMPTON GURLEYS ADDITION Lot: 6 Block: 1.

John M. Terhark and Marilyn J. Terhark to New Hampton Industrial Development Corp.; L23 OF L23 SW SW 07-95-12.

James E. Laures and Joann C. Laures to Gordon F. Davis and Melanie Y. Davis; PARCEL F NW NE 01-94-13.

John F. O'Brien and John Paul O'Brien to Michael McNeil and Carol McNeil; N1/2 E8R L4 OF W1/2 SW 07-95-12.

Jason J. Klimesh, Jason Klimesh, Christina M. Klimesh and Christina Klimesh to Travis M. Ruttman and Tina M. Pinter; LOT 2 OF LOT12 SE NW 07-95-12.

Marlowe Steege EST, Heather Steege EX, Karla Steege Justice EX, Karla Steege Justice EX. Karla Steege Krueger EX and Karla Steege Krueger EX to Poppy Properties LLC; FREDERICKSBURG NO ADDITION Lot: 1 Block: 12.

Joseph Dunn and Judy Dunn to Tammi Shafer and Gage Shafer; ONE HALF UNDIVIDED INTEREST NW SW 27-97-14.

Jill Bryant and Matthew Bryant to Glen Nosbisch IRREV TR and Cecilia Nosbisch IRREV TR; NEW HAMPTON CARE FREE SECOND ADDITION Lot: 6 Block: 1.

Speicher Investments LLC to Treyton R. Wurzer; EX W70' FREDERICKSBURG RAILROAD ADDITION (FB) Lot: 12 Block: 3 N1/2 EX W70' FREDERICKSBURG RAILROAD ADDITION (FB) Lot: 11 Block: 3 W8' N90' OF VACATED ALLEY FREDERICKSBURG RAILROAD ADDITION (FB) Block: 3.

Michael R. Murray to Travis Gruenberg, Denise Lenz Gruenberg and Denise Lenz Gruenberg; COMM AT NE COR N1/2 NW 07-95-11.

Florence 'Flo' Kathryn Boos, 93

Florence "Flo" Kathryn Boos died Wednesday, March 5, 2025 at Colonial Manor of Elma.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, March 8, 2025 at Holy Family Parish in New Hampton with the Rev. James Goerend celebrating the Mass.

Interment will follow at the New Hampton City Cemetery with Flo's six grandchildren serving as pallbearers and her great-grandchildren serving as honorary pallbearers.

Friends greeted the family from 4 to 7 p.m. on Friday, March 7, 2025 at Hugeback-Johnson Funeral Home & Crematory in New Hampton where there was a 7 p.m. Parish Scripture Service. Visitation continued an hour prior to the Mass on Saturday at the church.

Flo was born on May 17, 1931, in New Hampton, the daughter of Nick and Bertha (Jenn) Jacobs.

She grew up in Ionia and attended St. Boniface Catholic School, graduating with the Class of 1950.

Flo met the love of her life, James Boos, at a high school basketball game in Ionia. He first caught her eye on the court, and a few weeks later, she caught his at the skating rink. Their love blossomed, and they were married on April 11, 1953, at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Ionia.

They were married for 71 years and together, they built a beautiful life, welcoming three children — Debbie, Jim and Steve.

**Flo Boos**

The couple made their home in Devon, where Flo initially worked at Salisbury in Charles City before dedicating herself to farm life alongside Jim. She embraced the hard work of raising chickens, dairy cows and pigs, driving tractors and handling all aspects of farm life.

In 1972, she joined Sara Lee as a maintenance secretary, where she worked diligently for over 20 years until her retirement in the early 1990s.

Flo had a deep love for gardening, always tending to a large garden and canning a variety of foods. She was also an avid bowler, competing in leagues for many years and achieving great success.

In the early 1960s, she and Jim purchased their first boat and developed a deep passion for the Mississippi River, eventually acquiring a houseboat and later a home in McGregor. Their time on the river brought

them immense joy and cherished friendships.

Travel was a significant part of Flo's life. She and Jim explored Europe, Hawaii and Mexico, and took numerous cruises.

As devoted Iowa Hawkeyes fans, they held season tickets for football and basketball games, traveling to various Big Ten stadiums and attending multiple bowl games, including three Rose Bowls.

They also found joy in playing cards, participating in several neighborhood card clubs where they formed lasting friendships.

In the late 1980s, Flo and Jim began wintering in Florida, escaping the cold and enjoying visits from their children and grandchildren.

Flo was a vibrant woman who lived life to the fullest, embracing every moment with energy and enthusiasm.

Flo is survived by her husband, Jim of New Hampton; one daughter, Debbie Wegner of New Hampton; two sons, Jim (Carol) Boos of New Hampton, and Steve (Shellie) Boos of New Hampton; six grandchildren, Nicole (Andy Kurtz) Boots of Waterloo, Emily (Matt) Ackerson of Cedar Falls, Andrea (Paul) Carroll of McGregor, Tyler (Erin) Boos of New Hampton, Jake (Sheryn) Boos of Denver, and Dylan (Kallie) Boos of Cedar Falls; 18 great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; one sister, Elaine (Jim) Elenz; one son-in-law, Gary Wegner.



Bob Fenske/Tribune

Bay Valley Foods' manufacturing plant is located in New Hampton's west-side industrial park.

NHED director: There's interest in plant and employees**BAY VALLEY: FROM 1**

hire some of those employees."

Robinson said the drying plant, which specializes in non-dairy creamers, currently employs 54 workers and that her office will eventually hold what is called a "dislocated worker evening" with those employees but that Bay Valley allowed Robinson to drop off "re-employment fliers" for those currently working at the plant.

"I've already had two employers reach out to me and want to know how they can contact the dislocated workers because they have openings," Robinson said. "We are by all means assisting with the employees. At this time



Photos courtesy of Rachel Bauer

Advancing to the state FFA competition were New Hampton entries Beth Pickar (left) and the Experience the Action team that included (back row, from left) Kaidance Hall, Braelyn Rosonke, Carrie Schwickerath, Alexa Mashek and Brooklyn McShane, along with "audience members" Adrianna Kinley, Bailee Tenge and Payten Steine

New Hampton FFA students have successful day at district convention

To the Tribune

New Hampton High School FFA chapter members had a big day at Saturday's Northeast District Convention that was held in Waterloo, as the chapter had two competition entries earn trips to the state convention.

Beth Pickar received a second-place gold rating in job interview to qualify for next month's state competition while Experience the Action members Carrie Schwickerath, Braelyn Rosonke, Alexa

Mashek, Brooklyn McShane and Kaidance Hall — along with "audience members" Adrianna Kinley, Bailee Tenge and Payten Steine — also earned a second-place gold rating and advanced to state.

Brenna Thronsdson received a fifth-place gold rating in prepared public speaking while Troy Federspiel earned a sixth-place silver rating in extemporaneous speaking.

Other results for the chapter included:

- Greenlee Pittman received

a gold rating in greenhand quiz, Aiden Zeien and Aiden Underwood both received silvers while Carter Dreckman earned a bronze.

Jacob McDonald received a gold rating on the chapter text while Ella Knutson, Tristin Meek and Addie Douglas all earned silver ratings. Taylor Dowd finished with a bronze rating.

William Klassen received a silver rating in farm business management while Ben Douglas, Nolan Swehla and Caleb Utley earned bronze ratings.

Those who want to order

ing.

Jennifer Eichenberger was a district officer candidate and Addie Douglas and Knutson served as district delegates.

Legal Notice

Public Notice

IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR CHICKASAW COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF

David W. Livingston, Jr., Deceased Probate No. ESPR003277

NOTICE OF PROOF OF WILL, WITHOUT ADMINISTRATION

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of David W. Livingston, Jr., Deceased, who died on or about January 30, 2025.

You are hereby notified that on the 25th day of February, 2025, the Last Will and Testament of David W. Livingston, Jr., deceased, bearing date of the 18th day of December, 2024, was admitted to probate in the above named court and there will be no present administration of the estate. Any action to set aside the will must be brought in the district court of said county within the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing this notice to all heirs of the decedent and devisees under the will whose identities are reasonably ascertainable, or thereafter be forever barred.

Dated this 26th day of February, 2025

Thomas Tobin

Executor

Collin M. Davison
ICIS Pin No. AT 0010905
Laird Law Firm
403 Main Avenue
P.O. Box 187
Clear Lake, Iowa 50428

Attorneys for Executor

Date of second publication 3/20/25

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NEWS BITS FROM OUR PAST COMPILED BY TERRI JOSEPHSON

Week of March 9

1950 (75 years ago)

The coaches of the Northeast Iowa Conference met in New Hampton to pick an all-conference first and second team. Ball of New Hampton was named as center on the first team, Blietz and Lynch were given honorable mention as forwards and Drape was given honorable mention as a senior.

Legal Notice - Legal Notice

Notice of Sheriff's Levy and Sale
IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT
IN AND FOR 19-CHICKASAW
COUNTY.

State of Iowa 19-Chickasaw County
Iowa District 19-Chickasaw County,
Case # EQCV004350, Civil# 24-000484
US Bank Trust National Association,
not in its individual capacity but sole as
owner trustee for VRMTG Asset Trust
VS

Duane Eichenberger, Patsy Eichenberger, parties in possession, absolute
resolutions investments, LLC, JHPDE
Finance I, LLC

Special Execution

As a result of the judgment rendered
in the above referenced court case, an
execution was issued by the court to the
Sheriff of this county. The execution or-
dered the sale of defendant(s)

Real Estate Described Below
To satisfy the judgment. The Prop-
erty to be sold is

LOT ONE OF THE NW 1/4 OF THE
NE 1/4 OF SECTION 36, TOWNSHIP
94 NORTH, RANGE 13 WEST OF THE
5TH P.M.

Property address: 2170 300th ST
Fredericksburg, IA 50630.

The described property will be of-
fered for sale at public auction for cash
only as follows:

Sale Date: 04/10/2025
Sale Time: 13:00
Place of Sale: Chickasaw County
Sheriff's office lobby, 116 N Chestnut,
New Hampton, IA 50659

This sale not subject to Redemption.
Property exemption: Certain money
or property may be exempt. Contact your
attorney promptly to review specific pro-
visions of the law and file appropriate
notice, if acceptable.

Judgment Amount \$66,975.47

Cost \$13,696.98

Accruing Cost PLUS

Interest \$10,899.57

Sheriff's Fees Pending

Attorney Richard Reinblatt
13160 Foster Ste 100
Overland Park, KS 66213
(913)663-7600

Date 12/30/2024

Ryan Shawver
Chickasaw County Sheriff

No. 24530
3/13/25 New Hampton Tribune
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March 15 is a double deadline for all tax payers to remember. It is the last day that federal income taxes for 1949 can be filed and also the last day for those who must file an estimate for their 1950 income taxes. Final date for filing the state income tax is March 31.

1975 (50 years ago)

A new program for young area families is being organized by the Chickasaw County Extension Service. Serving as a Young Families Program Aide to help carry out the project will be Mrs. Don (Nancy) Schneider of New Hampton. She will organize small groups of mothers and pre-school children to get together in a private home once or twice a month from now until the end of May.

Each meeting will feature a educational home economics-related project. This program is open to all interested mothers and pre-schoolers.

The position of head football coach at New Hampton High School has been filled. The New Hampton Board of Education hired Steve Lounsberry, who will succeed Rupert Hartshorn at the football helm. The board also confirmed the retention of Hartshorn as the school's athletic director, Hartshorn had previously held the head coach and A.D. posts jointly.

Lounsberry was a varsity line coach under Hartshorn. The other two assistants, Jerry Rochford, offensive backfield and Dave Petersen, defensive backfield, will continue in those capacities under Lounsberry.

2000 (25 years ago)

A former New Hampton resident, Dean Hassman, has invented and patented a tool which enables a person to install drywall alone. The patent was received for the tool named "Evergreen-RockLedge" on Nov. 9, 1999. The tool is a device for installing drywall or others sheet materials over an existing ceiling. Hassman, the son of Paul Hassman, New Hampton and the late Lucille Hassman, is a graduate of New Hampton High School.

New Hampton teachers and coaches Scott Frerichs and Bill Boyd were recognized at the district basketball game for recent state-level awards they received. Chickasaw head football coach Scott Frerichs was named Class 3A "Coach of the Year" by the Iowa Football Coaches Association, and Bill Boyd was named

"Umpire of the Year" by the Iowa Baseball Coaches Association. The awards were presented by New Hampton superintendent, Robert Longmuir.

2015 (10 years ago)

Chris Eiler, optometry doctor at Eye Care Associates in New Hampton, has recently returned from his third trip to Tegucigalpa, Honduras, where he works with a mission, The Hands of Christ, to provide eye glasses to those in need. Eiler got involved with this mission, The Hands of Christ, through church he attended when living in Tennessee.

This is the first year a team from First United Methodist Church in New Hampton has sent a team. The team consisted of Pastor Candie Carey, Dee Larkin, Bob Sobolik and Eiler.

St. Joseph Community School recently held its Jump Rope For Heart day. The students spent their gym time jumping rope or doing a jumping activity.

The Jump Rope For Heart event is a fundraiser done by the schools and organizations for the American Heart Association and for every \$50 raised one life is saved. The students worked to fundraise before the event and all together, St. Joe's raised \$2,135 for the American Heart Association.

2020 (5 years ago)

A location change wasn't going to cause any problems for the New Hampton Lions Club members when it came to their annual French Toast and Pancake Breakfast. After all, they've been doing this for 48 years, and some of the same guys have been doing the same jobs for that long.

Their new digs was the cafeteria at New Hampton's new middle school. The Lions served almost 900 people on Sunday.

A record-breaking season, one in which the Turkey Valley's boys basketball team won a school-record 22 games, has netted the Trojans plenty of postseason recognition. The Trojans, who shared the Upper Iowa Conference crown with MFL-Mar-Mac, had two all-league first team players.

Ethan Leibold became a rarity as he was named to the all-UIC first team for the fourth straight year. Keegan Balk was also a first-team pick. Eli Nymeyer and Eli Reicks took second team honors and Kannon Leuenberger and Garrett Kurtenbach were honorable mention selections. All the all-conference honorees are seniors, save for Kurtenbach, who is a sophomore.

Legal Notice

IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT
FOR CHICKASAW COUNTY IN
THE MATTER OF THE

DAVID W. LIVINGSTON, JR.

TRUST DATED

DECEMBER 18, 2024

DAVID W. LIVINGSTON, JR.,

DECEASED,

probate no. ESPR003277

NOTICE IN COMPLIANCE WITH
IOWA CODE SECTION 633A.3110

To All Persons regarding David W. Livingston, Jr., Deceased, who died on or about January 30, 2025.

You are hereby notified that Thomas Tobin Trustee of the David W. Livingston, Jr. Trust dated December 18, 2024, and any Amendments thereto.

Any action to contest the validity of the Trust must be brought in the District Court of Chickasaw County, Iowa, within the latter to occur of four (4) months from the date of second publication of this Notice or thirty (30) days from the date of mailing of this Notice to all heirs of the decedent settlor and the spouse of the decedent settlor whose identities are reasonably ascertainable. Any suit not filed within this period shall be forever barred.

Notice is further given that any person or entity possessing a claim against the Trust must mail proof of the claim to the Trustee at the address listed below via certified mail, return receipt requested, by the later to occur of four (4) months from the date of second publication of this Notice or thirty (30) days from the date of mailing this Notice if required or paid, or otherwise satisfied.

Dated this 26th day of February, 2025.

DAVID W. LIVINGSTON, JR.

TRUST DATED DECEMBER 18, 2024

Collin M. Davison

ICIN No. AT00100905

Attorneys for Trustee

Laird Law Firm, P.L.C.

11 Fourth Street N.E.

P.O. Box 1567

Mason City, Iowa 50402-1567

Date of second publication

20th day of March, 2025.

No. 24696

3/13/25 New Hampton Tribune

3/20/25 New Hampton Tribune

www.iowapublicnotices.com

Legal Notice - Legal Notice - Legal Notice - Legal Notice - Legal Notice

CITY COUNCIL COUNCIL
CHAMBERS MONDAY

MARCH 3, 2025 7:00 P.M.

The City Council of the City of New Hampton met in regular session in the Council Chambers at 112 East Spring Street, New Hampton Iowa at 7:00 p.m. Monday, February 17, 2025. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Geerts at 7:00 p.m. Council members present were Speltz, Denner, Humpal, Larsen, Porath, Schickerath. Also in attendance were City Attorney Todd Prichard, Conrad Rosendahl, Casey Mai, Tammy Robinson, Jace Hall and Bob Fenske.

1. Approve meeting agenda
2. Approve City Council Minutes of February 17, 2024.

3. Approve City Claims of \$119,876.61

4. Airport Commission Minutes 2-25

5. Class C Retail Alcohol License Pub at the Pinicon 2-25-2025

Moved by Larsen, seconded by Speltz; that the Consent Agenda be approved as presented. Ayes – Six. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

Moved by Denner, seconded by Schickerath; That Resolution NO 6711 RESOLUTION SETTING TIME AND PLACE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING AT 7:00 PM, APRIL 7, 2025 FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING THE CONSOLIDATED GENERAL FUND TAX LEVY FOR THE CITY'S FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 BUDGET, be approved. Ayes - Speltz, Denner, Humpal, Larsen, Porath, Schickerath. Nays – None. Absent - None. Resolution Approved.

Police Chief Conrad Rosendahl is requesting to hire Jace Hall as police officer effective March 9, 2025. With this hire, the police department will be at full staff. Hall will attend the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy in May 2025. Prichard requested a Training Expense Reimbursement Agreement be prepared prior to Hall's start date. Moved by Larsen, seconded by Humpal; that the meeting adjourn at 7:24 pm. Ayes – Six. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

Moved by Porath, seconded by Humpal; that the meeting adjourn at 7:24 pm. Ayes – Six. Nays – None. Absent – None. Motion carried.

ATTEST: KAREN CLEMENS,
CMC City Clerk

STEVE GEERTS, Mayor

COUNCIL CHAMBERS CITY HALL

MONDAY, MARCH 3, 2025 7:00
P.M.

CITY - WRITTEN SINCE FEBRUARY
17, 2025

John Deere Financial, Supplies (Police
WA SR ST Fire) 582.16

USPS, Postage for Utility Bills (WA SR)

..... 227.82

Total Written 809.98

CITY - TO BE WRITTEN

Bodensteiner, End Loader Battery
(Street) 384.02

Capital Sanitary Supply, Paper towels
(Custodial) 169.84

Chickasaw County Auditor, Share of
Hotel/ Motel Tax Revenue 1,871.40

City Laundering Co, Uniforms (WA SR
ST) Mats (SR St) Tissue (Fire)

..... 632.93

Croell Inc, Snow Removal - 2 hrs.....

..... 260.00

Culligan Water, DI Equipment Rental,
Filter (Sewer) 398.31

Douglas, Ken, February Mileage - Read-
ing Meters (97 x \$.7) (WA) 67.90

Total Written 809.98

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(Street) 384.02

Capital Sanitary Supply, Paper towels

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Assessor says tax-levy notices are once again 'misleading'

Forms being published, mailed out use 10 percent valuation increase but Armel says values did not change for 94 percent of county's properties

By BOB FENSK
editor@nhtrib.com

The public notices that governmental taxing entities had to publish before setting their 2024-25 levies were, as Chickasaw County Assessor Ray Armel put it last spring, "misleading."

So the state changed the form that is both sent out to property owners and published as a legal notice.

But last Wednesday, Armel said that the new forms are just as misleading.

A year ago, as counties, cities and schools prepared their 2024-25 max levies, they were required to list the tax impact of a residential property with a valuation of \$100,000 both in the current and upcoming fiscal years. They also had to do the same for a commercial property with a valuation of \$300,000 in both fiscal years.

That meant that the level of tax increase was muted because it did not take into account valuation increases.

"You've got to remember that every odd number assessment year is a re-evaluation year," Armel said during a Board of Supervisors meeting last week. "That's where we re-value all property by code, based upon what has occurred in the marketplace over the prior years."

So that meant that those notices last year didn't take into account that 2024-25 was a "re-evaluation year."

This year wasn't, yet this year's form takes the tax impact of a residential property valued at \$100,000 last year but now



Bob Fenske/Tribune

Chickasaw County Assessor Ray Armel (left) shares information about the form all tax-collecting government entities are required to send to property owners during a Board of Supervisors meeting last week.

has a \$110,000 value — a 10 percent increase. It provides the same for the \$300,000 commercial property, meaning it's looking at a tax impact of \$330,000.

Yet, Armel said during Wednesday's meeting that 94 percent of properties in Chickasaw County saw no increase to their valuations.

Supervisors and county officials, though, know they will in all likelihood be inundated with questions because in the form that has been put out on various social media sites and will be published in its two legal newspapers — the New Hampton Tribune and the Nashua Reporter — show that a \$100,000 urban residential property paid \$274 in county taxes this year and will pay \$308 in 2025-26, an increase of 12.41 percent. A rural residential property, according to the form, would see a 12.81 percent increase — from \$437 to \$493.

Armel, though, showed supervisors that urban residential properties without a valuation increase would have a county tax bill of \$280, an increase of \$6, or 2.1 percent, while a rural property without a valuation increase would have a county

tax bill of \$448, an increase of 2.3 percent.

"I think that was the misleading factor there with last year's statement," Armel said, noting that last year's form didn't take into account the increase in valuations many properties had. "Now, this year's statements are misleading again because the '24 assessment is not a re-evaluation year. So to say you go from \$100,000 and add 10 percent ... is again misleading because 94 percent of our properties did not receive an increase in value."

When Armel had finished his presentation, Board of Supervisors Chairman Jake Hackman urged residents who have questions about the statements that will be mailed out later this month and that detail max levies for tax-collecting entities to reach out to those entities.

"You look and see a 12 percent increase or a 13, 14 percent increase, and I get it, that's going to be concerning," he said, "but the information Ray presented is more accurate than what those statements are going to be. Ask questions because we want to be transparent and we want people to understand how this works."

To elected officials, department heads, staff, citizens and property owners of Chickasaw County

Welcome to FY25/26 budget year. It has been very tough to try and figure out this budget for the next FY. We have come a long way over the years managing this budget while being in a position of never knowing what the state might do after our budget is set, that will affect our property tax laws, therefore go back on our set budget possibly.

Why are we here, some examples but not limited to, HF718, exemption to age 65-plus homestead and military for this year and next. By which approximately 1,263 homesteads voluntarily signed up for as one resident is 65-plus and 512 veterans voluntarily signed up for. Also, the city of New Hampton TIF district using values for themselves, which is OK but hurts the county evaluations by approximately 88,000 less dollars for this year and next. Also 65-plus and military exemption approximately \$35,000 this year and \$72,000 next year.

These are just a couple examples of why things have made this year difficult. Not saying these things are wrong, but it puts an effect on the overall funds for county departments. This is real dollars lost to make this budget work, but the state allows this to happen, so much of it is out of the boards control!

How we get money to run the county departments is different than most people think. Property tax is currently maxed out and has been for many years at \$3.50 per \$1,000 of evaluations and general supplements is around \$1.90 per \$1,000 but is limited to what it can be spent on.

Some money comes from the state roll backs and state and federal funding, with the understanding that this is not coming in like many past years.

Some county departments also make money through contracts for services provided to cities, state, Medicare, Medicaid, private pay, insurances, etc. All of this is making it truly hard to keep the budget balanced as reimbursements back are not enough to cover said service. We have a financial obligation to keep property owned by Chickasaw County taxpayers up to safety standards whether it be land, buildings, roads, bridges, equipment; along with all the things that run the everyday parts of the county business.

Staff and county citizens want more, I don't blame you all. Although, inflation is high, and as much as we want the same services to stay the same or add this and that, when the balance runs out, what is there left to do?

Our county does not have enough tax base from buildings, homes, commercial/industrial, etc. to run like those counties that do have the tax base to do those things. While it is great to have all the things we would like, we have to be able to afford those things if you would say. Therefore, we have to work together to come up with solutions.

I feel we have tried some options that have been hard because we have to start somewhere each year and that is why this is so hard and it hurts sometimes. We may have to lose staff, co-workers, friends and for that I apologize.

I don't blame anyone for bettering themselves if that day comes. If the funds are not there and we are maxed out on what we can even ask, our hands are tied on the overall budget and these things have to be looked at. Not because we think anyone has done a bad job or we don't need a service and the great things in our county are not needed, but with the tax base that we do have we have to be able to pay for the everything we have.

There is a difference between how county taxes are made that I think some people don't understand. In Chickasaw county we are pretty rural when approximately 70% of the base is from the rural properties and 30% of the tax base is in the urban areas or the nine cities. So, from every 1.00 dollar collected, .70 cents come from rural property. Also, this year and next year approximately 299 parcels in the city of New Hampton are not generating any funds for county taxes towards general and supplemental levies because the city elected to keep it for TIF projects. Again, not saying this is wrong, but I am saying this takes away funds that could be allocated towards county funds.

The rural pay an additional levy rate at 3.55 per 1,000 dollars for rural services only. But from the 2020 census, our cities are more populated than our rural townships, with approximately 60 percent of our population living in one of our nine cities. Bringing us to where rural taxpayers are having to be 70% of the county tax base.

I hope we can do our best to keep Chickasaw County a great place to live, work, and get involved in. We all need to try and grow our rural county with more homes, industrial and commercial property; bring people to our county; that is how we can grow our tax base to generate more funds for all the things we'd like to have here.

If anyone has ideas, please reach out to me or any other Board of Supervisor member. Remember, we all live here too. We, all five of us, have had great discussions when we've talked budgets and I want to personally thank them for all the time and hard work they have done this year.

It is more than a 20-hour work week as we are here for our constituents 24/7 attending meetings and things outside of our regular scheduled board meetings. Keep up the good work board!! Also, the staff of Chickasaw County, thank you for all your work and dedication to residents and property owners of Chickasaw County!!

Have an opinion? Write a letter!

The New Hampton Tribune welcomes letters to the editor.

Deadline for letters is noon on Fridays, and all letters must be signed and include a phone number for verification purposes.

To submit a letter to the editor or a Guest View, e-mail editor@nhtrib.com.

I gave those lawmakers that earful at recent forum, and now it's your turn

Letter to the Editor

or simply flee accountability by avoiding difficult subject and leaving as quickly as possible.

Representative Thomson, for instance, falsely asserted that the Waukee Public Library faced legal trouble over obscenity complaints, when in reality, the only complaint involved a "Blind Date with a Book" program—an initiative also hosted by other Iowa libraries, including my own.

Furthermore, Thomson misrepresented the cost of gender-affirming healthcare in Iowa's prison system, stating that it exceeds \$1 million per year.

This could not possibly be accurate,

as Iowa prisons cover no cosmetic procedures and hormone replacement therapy costs about \$30/month. He also perpetuated the baseless fear that schools have no recourse when a transgender student commits sexual assault in a restroom, despite admitting that no such incident has occurred in Iowa. Of course, the judicial system would handle a sexual assault, even if it occurred in a public school.

In my professional life as a registered nurse, if I were to change a longstanding policy with no evidence-based practice (in the biz, we call that EBP), and it dictates everything we do), and then I lied to my patients about the change, and that change resulted in harming my patients, I would face two repercussions:

sions: I would lose my job and never be allowed to practice as a nurse again.

Despite peaceful pleas and protests, trans and nonbinary Iowans are no longer protected by anti-discrimination laws.

This legislation harms their ability to get housing, healthcare, and employment.

Legislators cite some bizarre claim that trans people are a threat to women.

I am a woman, and I reject the claim. Statistics reject the claim. The majority of Iowans reject this claim.

I acknowledge the challenge of the New Hampton Tribune's position in this political climate.

I am also challenged in providing an inclusive, safe learning and community gathering space for everyone, and to support thorough research and critical thinking, in an era that will be marked in history books by American division and misinformation.

I implore the New Hampton Tribune to provide the public with accurate, fact-based coverage.

Our community deserves to know the truth about the laws being passed and the impact they will have on our neighbors, friends, and families.

India Watson, Ionian Community Library director

Sports Briefs**IHSAA announces new football districts**

New Hampton's football district for the next two seasons is going to look very much like the one it has had for the past two years.

Save for swapping out Oelwein for Forest City, Class 2A, District 3 didn't change that much when the Iowa High School Athletic Association made its every-other-year changes to Iowa's football districts and group last Wednesday.

The new District 3 includes the Chickasaws, Crestwood, Forest City, North Fayette Valley, Osage and Waukon.

Meanwhile, Turkey Valley will remain in eight man's District 3, but its district changed more dramatically than the Chickasaws' as three new schools — Dunkerton, Janesville and Tripoli — were placed in the district that also includes holdovers Don Bosco, Waterloo Christian and West Central.

The 2025 announcement marked the second cycle with a socioeconomic factor added for football classifications.

Approved in 2023 by the State Board of Education, the classification adjustment will reduce 40 percent of a school's free or reduced lunch (FRL) count from its annual enrollment to determine their final classification number.

As in the past, the IHSSA will announce schedules for teams later this spring.

Lift-A-Thon set for Wednesday

New Hampton High School and Middle School student-athletes are heading to the weight room next week as the Lettermen's and Letterette Clubs hold their annual Lift-A-Thon to raise funds for new weights, accessories and speed and agility equipment.

The event will be held on Wednesday, March 19, with middle school students lifting at 3:45 p.m. and high school athletes taking over at 5 p.m.

Student-athletes raise money by seeking pledges from family, friends and community members based on the amount of weight they bench press during the event.

For more information on how to donate to the fundraiser, reach out to a student-athlete or call Dennis Pagel, Jordan Rommes, Cory McDonald or Krissy Anderson at 641-394-2134.

News Briefs**St. Pat's pork chop dinner set for this Sunday**

A grilled pork chop is on the menu for the St. Patrick's 39th drive-through supper this Sunday.

The Alta Vista Municipal Hall is where those hungry souls can pay and pick up the meal, which will include a grilled pork chop, dressing, corn, potatoes and gravy, coleslaw and pie. Serving is from 3 to 6 p.m.

Tickets are \$16 in advance for adults and children — or \$17 at the door — and are available from parishioners or New Hampton Fareway, AV Express in Alta Vista or Security State Bank in New Hampton and Elma.

Raffle tickets are also available.

In case of inclement weather, a snow date has been set on March 23.

LifeServe blood drive is March 25

There will be a LifeServe community blood drive on Tuesday, March 25 at the New Hampton Community Center, 112 E. Spring St. New Hampton, from noon until 5:30 p.m.

Appointments are encouraged and may be made by texting LIFESERVE to 999-777, by calling 800-287-4903 or by visiting the website at lifeserve.info.



Kelly Terpstra/Tribune

New Hampton senior Kinsley Hackman (above) sprints to the finish line in the 55-meter dash while Chickasaw teammates Riley Vsetecka and Greta Kuehner (below) compete in the 400 at an indoor track meet that was held at Wartburg College on Monday afternoon.

Chickasaw girls get chance to compete

New Hampton opens track season that will focus on quality, not quantity

BY KELLY TERPSTRA

sports@nhtrib.com

Leave it to good old Mother Nature to bring out the sun on Monday with a mercury that eclipsed 70 degrees in technically the third week of March.

Welcome to Iowa, where outdoor enthusiasts or pretty much anybody that lives in middle America takes the good with the bad when it comes to outside elements.

Yes, it was definitely shorts weather in a month that can be as unpredictable as a roulette wheel.

Of course that meant that same sunny and unseasonably warm spring day coincided with the start of the indoor track season for prep athletes across Iowa.

If that doesn't make sense, you haven't lived in Iowa long enough.

That indoor get-together included the New Hampton Chickasaws girls squad and their head coach Jeanette Laures, who didn't have far to travel to take part in the Wartburg Indoor meet down in Waverly.

Laures, who officially began her 20th season as Chickasaws' head coach at that meet held on the campus of her alma mater — Wartburg College — had this to say about what would have been a perfect day to run, jump and throw — outside.

"It never fails. It happens like that every single year. Then watch the outdoor season and it's probably going to snow again," laughed Laures.

In all seriousness, a snowflake-filled spring day this far up north in Iowa is certainly not out of the question — but neither are fast times produced this early for Laures' Chickasaws. NH won't sport a large roster (22 kids out), but the Chickasaws will feature plenty of key returnees and exciting newcomers that will definitely be worth the price of admission this spring if you're planning on taking in a high school track and field event.

"We know that every single one of the girls that we have is going to play a key role on the team in some way. Our job is always to find the best ways that we can utilize everybody's talent," said Laures. "We might end up moving kids from one event to another because maybe they can help the team out in a different way that they did in the previous year just because we don't have a lot of kids. They are all very athletic and talented kids. We want to find a very positive role for all of our girls."

Laures — who took over the reins of New Hampton's girls track and field program in 2006 — returned to her roots (she's a 2000 Wartburg grad) on Monday at the orange inside oval that featured a whole host of teams from all across the state.

There was southeast Iowa's Class 4A Ottumwa, 1A's Clarion-Goldfield-Dows and South Tama, who competes in Class 3A. Powerhouse girls programs like Iowa City West, Waukee Northwest and West Des Moines Valley also rubbed shoulders with the rest of the co-ed field — though the "big boys" often only bring their younger JV runners to compete indoors, but not always.

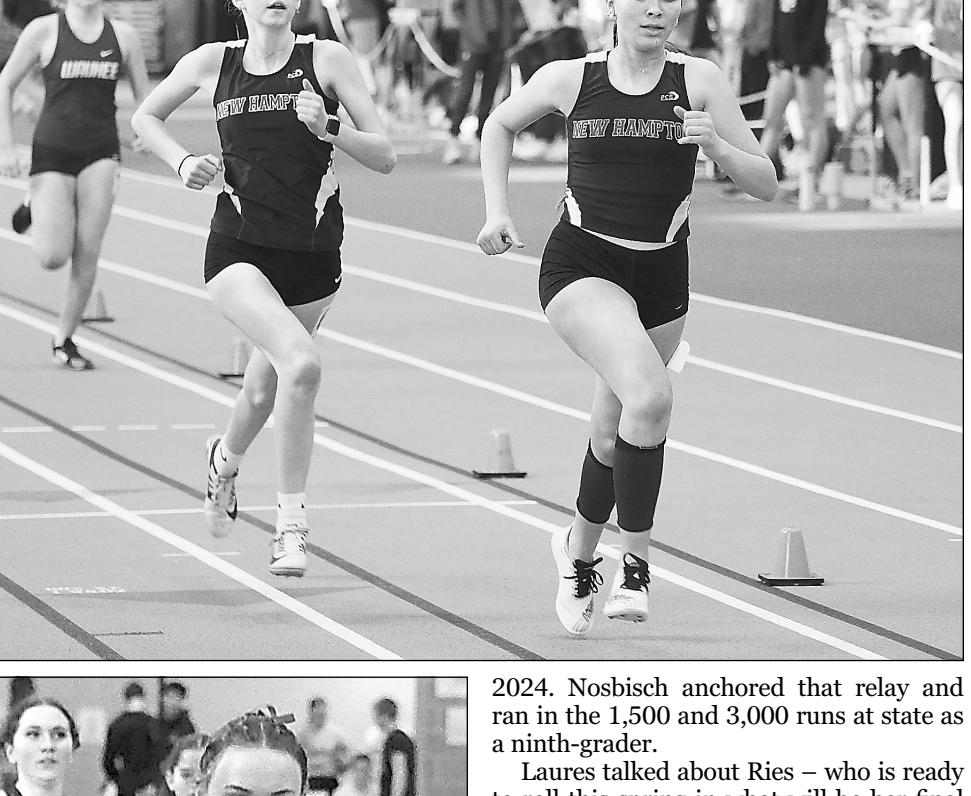
Like Laures has stated before — you get a little bit of everything at an indoors meet with the official start of spring still a week away.

"There aren't very many indoor meets around. They travel. At these indoor meets you get everything from your 1A to 4As. You might have a state champion and then you might have someone who's never done track before," said Laures. "It's kind of fun to watch all levels of competition."

What will surely be fun to watch this spring is New Hampton's progression as the Chickasaws' stars pick up speed as the season moves into April and Laures' underclassmen start to make their mark.

To put it simply, this is just the start of what should be another impressive run for New Hampton.

"We always look at our indoor meets as scrimmages to kind of see where we



New Hampton's Capri Lester focuses

on the finish line as she runs the 200.

are. We try to get girls in a lot of different events so we can see where our strengths and weaknesses are," said Laures. "Nothing about that changes."

Back this year for New Hampton are seasoned veterans in seniors Taylor Ries, Kinsley Hackman and Natalie Nosbisch. That award-winning Chickasaw trio is no stranger to the blue oval down in Des Moines at the state meet as each has haulied in state medals and has been competing on that fast track since freshmen.

"We look for Taylor and Kinsey as returning letterwinners and state qualifiers in multiple events over the last several years to be really key performers for us this year," said Laures. "They've done a great job of leading the team through all of our warmups and setting a very positive tone on the team."

Ries placed 10th in the 400 hurdles (1:07) last year and was 20th in that same event as a sophomore. She ran the opening leg a year ago on NH's 4x400 relay at state that just missed the finals. She also ran the first leg on the Chickasaws' 4x800 state team, which finished 13th in

2024. Nosbisch anchored that relay and ran in the 1,500 and 3,000 runs at state as a ninth-grader.

Laures talked about Ries — who is ready to roll this spring in what will be her final go-round.

"She works really hard in the offseason to prepare her conditioning for track," said Laures.

"I look for really big things from her this year. She's focused and ready to enter the year and maybe get some hardware down at the state meet."

Also back for New Hampton that ran at state is junior Madison Shawver, the lead leg on last year's 16th-place state sprint medley squad along with Hackman and Ries.

Hackman placed 19th in the open 400 last year and had to overcome the dreaded lane eight, up against the wall at Drake Stadium.

Hackman ran 8.10 in the 55-meter dash prelims on Monday, which was good for 16th place.

Another major piece of the puzzle for New Hampton in 2025 is sophomore Sophie Glaser, who ran the third leg on that aforementioned state 4x800 team last year. Glaser ran second leg in that event on Monday and helped propel New Hampton to a number-two finish in 10:41 with the squad of Ries, freshman Adrianna Kinley and sophomore Kinslee Rings.

NH's 4x400 relay, comprised of Ries, sophomore Capri Lester, freshman Jersey Pemble and Rings placed fifth in 4:26. The Chickasaws' 4x200 relay also placed fifth in 1:55 with the foursome of freshman Aleigha Cahoy, Shawver, sophomore Ava Leichtman and Hackman.

Glaser ran to an eighth-place finish in the open 800 in a time of 2:44.

New Hampton travels to Mason City next Tuesday for the Riverhawk Invite and concludes the indoor portion of its season at Luther Decorah College in Decorah at the NEIC meet on Tuesday, March 25.

NEW HAMPTON RESULTS

55 dash prelims - 16. Kinsley Hackman 8.10, 25.

Madison Shawver 8.39.

55 hurdle prelims - 27. Kadence Rings 10.82.

200 dash - 17. Capri Lester 29.63, 32. Rings 31.52.

400 dash - 23. Greta Kuehner 1:13.54, 25.

Riley Vsetecka 1:14.43.

800 run - 8. Sophie Glaser 2:44.99, 16. Ella Knutson 2:55.83.

1,500 run - 16. Juanita Cardona 6:15.29.

High jump - 14. Adrianna Kinley 4-4, 20. Jersey Pemble 4-2.

Long jump - 17. Bailee Tenge 13-4.5.

Shot put - 17. Braelyn Rosonke 26-9, 23.

Sydney Laures 24-1.5.

4x200 - 5. Aleigha Cahoy, Shawver, Ava Leichtman, Hackman 1:55.95.

4x400 - 5. Taylor Ries, Lester, Pemble, Kinslee Rings 4:26.03.

4x800 - 2. Ries, Sophie Glaser, Kinley, Ki. Rings 10:41.67.

Chickasaw**Women's Pool**

Week 19 March 5

W L GB

Kenny's Tavern I 99 72 0

Dak's Tap I 98 73 1

Bowlaway Lanes 94 77 5

Kenny's Tavern II 93 78 6

NH Country Club 92 79 7

Hide A Way 85 86 14

Dak's Tap II 62 109 37

The Office 61 110 38

RESULTS

NH Country Club - 6,

Kenny's Tavern I - 3

Dak's Tap I - 6, Hide A

Way - 3

Bowlaway Lanes - 8,

Dak's Tap II - 1

Kenny's Tavern II - 9, The

Office - 0

THREE-GAME WINNERS

NH Country Club - Leslie

Noehl & Cathy Knutson

Bowlaway Lanes - Krissy

Anderson & Ann Crook;

Maria Roethler & Carrie

Geerts

Kenny's Tavern II - Karen

Schwier & Sue Matthews;

Dawn Philo & Carie

Gorman; Michelle Rosonke

& Jess Heying

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Supervisors want to talk with treasurer about decision to cut only half a position

SUPERVISORS: FROM 1

department's requests from GB and General Supplemental (GS).

That drew the ire of Jeremy McGrath, one of two Board of Health members who attended the meeting. During that meeting last week, McGrath said that the department will probably have to eliminate home care services, which account for 84 percent of Public Health's revenues.

"By eliminating home health, we're eliminating the revenue," he said, "so that seems ass backwards to me. The department that makes the most revenue in the county is the one [you're] cutting the most by over double, basically half of what you need, that makes no sense."

The Board of Health, meanwhile, met on Friday and agreed to institute a wage freeze, cut three of its 14 employees and also reduce the county's environmental health director from 35 to 30 hours a week.

Public Health Administrator Lisa Welter said before Tuesday's meeting that her department will have to do away with its homemaker services that range from helping residents with cooking, getting groceries, cleaning and laundry.

Supervisors, though, said last week the growing deficit between expenditures and revenues gave them little choice. That deficit for 2023-24 was \$428,702.60, according to a document that Board of Health member Joan Knoll passed out to supervisors during the meeting.

"I know that probably gets rid of home care, but it's not part of the state code," Supervisor Scott Cerwinski said, "and we're losing money and we can't afford it. ... The way I look at is you guys are losing the largest amount. I mean \$428,000 is a lot of money."

McGrath said he was frustrated that while some departments began the process with relatively large increases to their budgets, Public Health had requested a 1 percent increase in the budget it submitted to supervisors.

"Maybe we made the mistake by running a tight budget and trying to be fiscally responsible as we could," he said. "I guess we should have padded the hell out of it."

NOT THAT OTHER departments and others who receive county funding were spared.

The issue supervisors have said for weeks is that the proposed GB budget expenditures left the county \$363,000 short of reaching its goal of having the recommended 25 percent ending fund balance at the end of the fiscal year. They have also pointed out its combined GB and GS expenditures in 2025-26 were \$749,000 more than its projected fiscal year revenues.

Board members began last week's meeting "leading by example," as Board Chairman Jake Hackman put it, and cut more than \$40,000 from its GB/GS budgets. They agreed to not take a pay raise in 2025-26 and also scaled back on expenses like mileage and lodging, which accounted for about \$20,000 in GB savings.

And then after more than an hour of discussion, they went to work on budgets. By the time they were finished, they had sliced about \$535,000 from GB budgets. While Public Health's \$250,000 cut in GB was the highest, the Sheriff's Office had \$130,000 trimmed, the Treasurer's Office lost \$50,000, non-departmental expenditures were cut \$30,000, the Auditor's Office lost \$25,000, Environmental Health was cut \$15,000, the Recorder's Office

had \$10,000 trimmed and Veterans Affairs took a \$5,000 cut.

AFTER THE BOARD returned from a short recess last Wednesday, Hackman said he had just learned that Bremer County had just announced that its Treasurer's Office it will no longer be open to the public on Tuesdays.

"Change has to happen, and I know it's tough," Hackman said. "That's a big county just south of us that is actually shutting the door to the Treasurer's Office one day a week to the public. None of these decisions is easy, but if we don't have the money to spend, we can't spend it, right?"

Also on Wednesday, board members considered — and rejected — offering severance packages to employees the county will lay off. Supervisors two weeks ago reached a consensus to eliminate a position in the Treasurer's Office, the Auditor's Office, the Sheriff's Office and Public Health and decided not to fill a half-time vacancy in Public Health.

Board members on Wednesday appeared to be inclined to offer laid-off employees two months of health insurance but indicated the county can't afford to do things like pay out some of the sick leave employees have accrued.

"I'd be in favor of the health insurance for a couple of months," Supervisor Steve Breitbach said. "It won't affect the GB, but if we pay them some sort of severance package, I don't think we have the money to do it."

By Tuesday, even the health insurance seemed in jeopardy because there is a chance the money to pay those premiums would have to come from GB.

MAYBE THE MOST contentious part of Tuesday's meeting came with the news that Treasurer Matt Ysbrand's resubmitted budget does not include the elimination of one full-time position.

Ysbrand said his budget includes the elimination of one-half of a position, with the half position being picked up by the Auditor's Office, which had the resignation of clerk Melissa Johnston approved during the regular Board of Supervisors meeting Monday.

"My intention is probably cut down the other half of that when we have a retirement," Ysbrand said during Tuesday's meeting.

"Is there an option? Because I would have liked to do that," Welter said. "I have retirements coming up in the next couple of years."

It appeared that three supervisors — Cerwinski, Issac Carter and Breitbach — first learned about the proposal during Tuesday's meeting, and all three, along with Hackman and Travis Suckow, said they want to meet with Ysbrand during Monday's meeting.

"I guess I was gone the week it was thrown out there to begin with," Ysbrand said. "My revenue is increasing by \$100,000 and I agreed to cut half of an employee or I proposed that. I also have another budget that [Auditor] Sheila [Shekleton] has that would cut the full employee."

"... If we're bringing in another \$100,000 and I'm cutting half of an employee, that's why I presented this budget. I don't feel like I had a chance to defend my department."

McGrath, meanwhile, continued to ask how Public Health could have its current fiscal year budget chopped 23 percent while some other departments were receiving increases, albeit smaller than proposed.

He also pointed out that the

Board of Supervisors, despite the cuts they made, will still have a slightly larger budget next year than it has this year.

That drew the ire of Suckow.

"Your letter that you wrote everybody," Suckow said to McGrath, "you're right I didn't cut anything out of my budget this year, except for I said I was willing to adjust my wages. But I eliminated my health care last year, \$9,000. I did add a little bit of mileage ... because I think that's important to do your job. But I'm going to tell you also as of now, my mileage is gone. ... So my two meetings in Postville, one in Mason City and one in Waterloo is on me."

With his voice rising in anger, Suckow added that "don't tell me I'm not cutting. You want to go at somebody, go ahead."

When the budget discussion was finally over, County Attorney David Laudner asked the question on everyone's mind: "Are you comfortable with it?"

Board members began the process last month with a \$749,000 gap between GB and GS expenditures and revenues. The numbers on the screen Monday showed GB and GS expenditures are now \$306,000 more than revenues.

Last month, most supervisors said they wanted to find the \$363,000 needed to have GB with the recommended 25 percent ending fund balance.

Legal Notice

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT
CHICKASAW COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE
OF SANDRA L. MAHAN Deceased
Probate No. ESPR003278

NOTICE OF PROBATE OF WILL,
OF APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTOR, AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To All Persons interested in the Estate of Sandra L. Mahan, Deceased, who died on or about December 26, 2024.

You are hereby notified that on the 25th day of February, 2025, the last will and testament of Sandra L. Mahan deceased, bearing the date of the 4th day of December, 2020, was admitted to probate in the above-named court and that David Brunning was appointed executor of the estate. Any action to set aside the will must be brought in the district court of said county within the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice to all heirs of the decedent and devisees under the will whose identities are reasonably ascertainable, or thereafter be forever barred.

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

Dated this 10th day of March, 2025.

David Bruning
Executor of estate
9 1/2 E. Main St., Apt. 2
New Hampton, IA 50659

Christopher F. O'Donohoe
ELWOOD, O'DONOHOE,
BRAUN & WHITE, LLP
Attorney for executor
101 North Locust Avenue,
P.O. Box 310
New Hampton, Iowa 50659
ICIS Pin #: AT0005848

Date of second publication
20th day of March, 2025.

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3/13/25 New Hampton Tribune
3/20/25 New Hampton Tribune
www.iowapublicnotices.com

PASSED, APPROVED, AND AD-
OPTED THIS 3RD DAY OF MARCH,
2025. /ss/ Ayes: Cerwinski, Breitbach,
Suckow, Carter, Hackman Attest: Sheila
Shekleton, Auditor Detailed document
on file at Auditor's office and on county's website https://www.chickasaw-
county.iowa.gov

Motion by Breitbach, seconded by
Suckow to approve RESOLUTION
03-03-25-10 A RESOLUTION APP-
ROVING THE MINOR SUBDIVISION PLAT OF: Parcel 2025-7 IN THE
SE1/4 OF THE SE1/4 OF section 29
all in Township 96 NORTH, Range 12
WEST OF THE 5TH P.M., Chickasaw
County, Iowa WHEREAS, ON THE 3rd
day of March, 2025 at a regular meeting
by the Board of Supervisors, Chickasaw
County, Iowa a minor subdivision plat
of Parcel 2025-7 IN THE SE1/4 OF THE
SE1/4 OF section 29 all in Township 96
NORTH, Range 12 WEST OF THE
5TH P.M., Chickasaw County, Iowa
Was presented: WHEREAS, the minor
subdivision plat of Parcel 2025-7 IN THE
SE1/4 OF THE SE1/4 OF section 29
all in Township 96 NORTH, Range 12
WEST OF THE 5TH P.M., Chickasaw
County, Iowa Has now been considered
and should be approved. NOW THERE-
FORE, it is hereby resolved by the Board
of Supervisors, Chickasaw County, Iowa
that said Minor Subdivision Plat be ap-

proved, accepted and the Chairman is

hereby directed to certify this Resolu-
tion of Approval. PASSED AND APP-
ROVED ON this 3rd DAY OF MARCH,
2025. /ss/ Ayes: Breitbach, Suckow,
Carter, Cerwinski, Hackman Attest:
Sheila Shekleton, Auditor Detailed doc-
ument on file at Auditor's office and on
county's website https://www.chicka-
sawcounty.iowa.gov

Motion by Breitbach, seconded by
Suckow to adjourn at 11:10 AM. Roll
Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Cerwinski, seconded by
Suckow to adjourn at 11:10 AM. Roll
Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Hackman, seconded by
Suckow to adjourn at 11:10 AM. Roll
Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

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Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Hackman, seconded by
Suckow to adjourn at 11:10 AM. Roll
Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Cerwinski, seconded by
Suckow to adjourn at 11:10 AM. Roll
Call: All Ayes. Motion carried.



BOOMERS

senior guide

How to budget for retirement

The following are a few steps to creating a retirement budget.

After what feels like a lifetime in the workforce, retirement is a welcome change for many individuals. Upon retiring, people often engage in hobbies they may have previously relegated to the back burner. Travel opportunities increase in retirement, and retirees may live more relaxed and less stressful lives.

Stress stemming from a looming retirement can creep up for those people who have not taken the time to account for how their finances will change once they're no longer working. Without a consistent

salary or other income coming in, retirees may have to

change their habits and spending accordingly. This is particularly true for those who did not sock away enough in retirement savings.

The key to enjoying retirement is creating a retirement budget and sticking to it. Budgeting sets retirees up for more enjoyable golden years. The following are a few steps to creating a retirement budget.

- Add up all of your income. As retirement nears, it can be helpful to sit down with a financial professional and calculate all of the income streams that ultimately will be replacing your paycheck. These include Social Security benefits, tax-advantaged retirement accounts like IRAs and 401(k)s, pensions, taxable investments, and even part-time earnings. This will give you a picture of projected income, which can be divided by the number of years you expect to spend in retirement.

- Figure out your mandatory expenses. Charles Schwab suggests considering the spending items that you will really need in retirement. These can include housing, utilities, clothing, medical insurance costs, and transportation. These needs may change through the years, so the budget can be reevaluated each year.

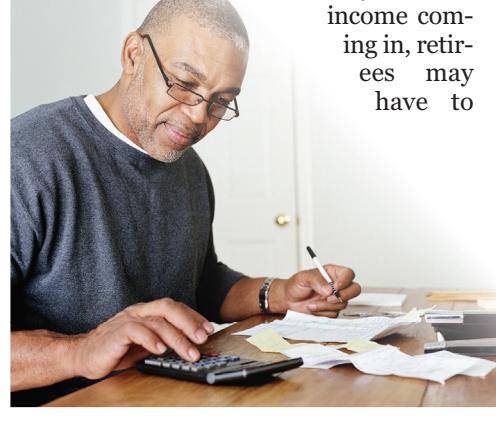
- Calculate any discretionary expenses. Spending that falls in the "want" territory

may include travel, hobbies, gifting family members like grandchildren, and any big purchases like a boat or vacation timeshare.

- Consider expenses that may go up. While certain expenses may go down, like commuting costs, grocery bills, and expenses related to children, bills for utilities, recreation, property taxes, and more likely will increase through the years.

- Compare projected income against projected expenses and see where the chips fall. If you find that income streams fall short, you may have to adjust investments before your retirement or you may have to take a part-time job after retirement. Sometimes spouses may not be able to retire at the same time if one person's salary will be needed to continue covering all expenses.

- Don't overlook health care. Although you may be covered by Medicare and an insurance plan from a former employer, supplemental premiums and out-of-pocket costs may continue to rise during retirement. According to the 2024 Fidelity Retiree Health Care Cost Estimate, on average, a 65-year-old person may need \$165,000 in after-tax savings to cover health care expenses.



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Keep your brain sharp as you age

Older adults interested in strengthening their brains may want to consider these strategies.

Cognitive decline is on the minds of many adults as they get older. Memory loss and trouble processing things can sometimes be a side effect of aging, as Everyday Health says the brain changes in size and structure as a person gets older. These changes can affect how well the brain works over time. Furthermore, illnesses affecting the brain, such as Alzheimer's disease, may start showing their symptoms in people when they've reached their mid-60s, says the National Institute on Aging.

Cognitive decline and dementia are not a certainty of aging. But older adults interested in strengthening their brains may want to consider these strategies.

ADDRESS HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE

High blood pressure can

increase the risk of heart disease and stroke. Maintaining healthy blood pressure and cholesterol levels is associated with better cognitive function, according to data published in 2021 in the Journal of Alzheimer's Disease.

USE ALL YOUR SENSES

Harvard Health says the more senses used in learning something, the more of the brain that is involved in retaining the memory. Studies have shown that images paired with pleasant aromas leads to better recall later on.

EXERCISE REGULARLY

Staying physically active helps maintain blood flow to the brain, which also helps reduce the risk for hypertension.

EAT BRAIN-HEALTHY FOODS

According to Cone Health Medical Group, studies show eating fish rich in omega-3 fatty acids, like tuna, salmon

and mackerel, decreases risk for cognitive decline. People should avoid saturated fats, trans fats and hydrogenated oils.

READ AND WRITE FREQUENTLY

According to a study in the journal Neurology, regular reading and writing in one's older years reduced the rate of memory decline by 32 percent. Joining a book club or simply reading more on one's own can improve cognition. Similarly, writing improves memory and communication abilities and can help strengthen the brain as well.

DRINK HEALTHY BEVERAGES

Tea and coffee can improve alertness and focus, as they're rich in polyphenols and antioxidants. A Place for Mom says caffeine in these beverages can help solidify new memories. Avoid drinking sugary beverages and limit consumption of alcohol, as neither boasts brain-boosting properties.

Managing Medicare Rules

While Medicare provides critical health care assistance to seniors, it doesn't cover everything.

Understanding which services are and are not part of the Medicare plan can help you put a plan in place before you have a pressing health issue.

EYE EXAMS

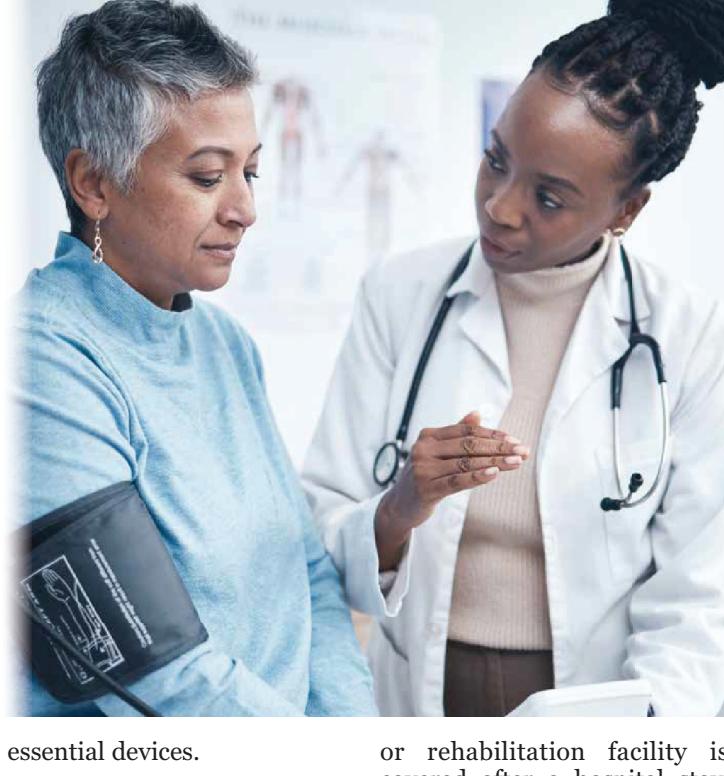
Medicare typically does not cover routine eye exams, eye glasses or contact lenses, except in specific situations like post-cataract surgery and diabetic eye exams. Consider private vision insurance plans or the discounted vision services provided by organizations like AARP to manage these costs.

DENTAL WORK

Most dental procedures are not covered — including routine cleanings, dentures and fillings. Seniors may need to obtain separate dental insurance or find low-cost dental clinics and discount programs.

HEARING AIDS

Hearing aids are not covered, so many seniors end up paying out of pocket. Others turn to supplemental insurance plans that include hearing aid benefits or take advantage of community programs that offer financial support for these



essential devices.

PODIATRY SERVICES

Medicare covers certain treatments for foot conditions, but does not include routine foot care services. Look into Medicare Advantage plans that may offer enhanced podiatry coverage. Community health clinics may also provide free or low-cost services.

NURSING HOME CARE

There is only limited coverage for nursing home care. Specifically, short-term skilled nursing care in a nursing home

or rehabilitation facility is covered after a hospital stay, but long-term custodial care or assisted living expenses are not. Look into your Medicaid eligibility or long-term care insurance options.

CHIROPRACTIC SERVICES

Medicare provides coverage for spinal manipulation and certain chiropractic services related to specific medical conditions, but it does not extend to comprehensive ongoing chiropractic care.

MASSAGE THERAPY

Massage therapy for general relaxation or wellness is usually not covered by Medicare. Look for practitioners who offer senior discounts or consider other therapies covered by Medicare like acupuncture and physical therapy.

COSMETIC SURGERY

Medicare does not reimburse for elective cosmetic surgeries or procedures performed solely for aesthetic reasons. You'll have to explore private financing options or consider non-surgical cosmetic treatments.

OVERSEAS CARE

Healthcare services obtained outside the United States are not generally covered by Medicare. Exceptions are made only for rare emergency situations or specific cases. Seniors who frequently travel or live part-time elsewhere should consider travel insurance or international health insurance.

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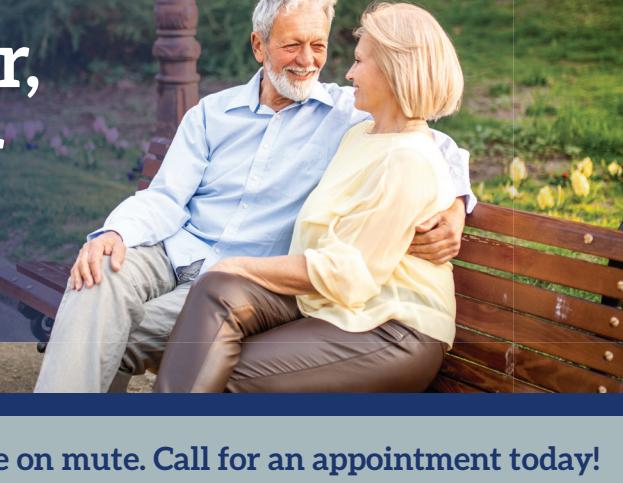


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Experiencing Hearing Loss?

Having trouble hearing? You're not alone: Some 55% of those over 75 have some sort of hearing loss. In adults aged 64-74, it's 22%.

There are many reasons why, but chief among them is the aging process itself. Presbycusis is diagnosed, and may involve changes to nerves used to hear, the blood flow to the inner ear or how the brain processes speech and sounds.

Symptoms of Hearing Loss

Presbycusis typically devel-

ops gradually, according to experts. Common indicators include challenges in hearing softer voices and difficulty understanding speech in a noisy place. Some find it hard to understand conversations over the phone. Sufferers may frequently ask friends and family to repeat themselves, wrongly perceive that others are not speaking loudly enough or mumbling, and turn up the volume on televisions and radios to levels that are uncomfortable to everyone else.

Preventive Measures

In many cases, hearing loss could have been avoided. If your hearing is still in great

shape, practice good ear health. Steer clear of loud noises and use ear protection. A healthy diet can also help prevent hearing loss. Look for foods that are rich in nutrients like omega-3 fatty acids, potassium, zinc and magnesium. Doctors usually recommend fish, leafy greens, eggs and bananas. If your hearing is starting to fail, see a doctor right away. Neglecting the problem could make it worse.

Treatment Options

Hearing loss can lead to related symptoms such as fatigue, dizziness, vertigo and tinnitus. Several factors can worsen presbycusis, including diabetes, long-term exposure to loud noises, inadequate cir-

culation and certain medications. If left untreated, hearing loss can lead to strained social interactions. It's also been associated with various mental health issues, including anxiety, depression, paranoia and cognitive decline.

Getting Help

Hearing aids are commonly recommended for older adults who need to recover some of their diminished hearing, though they are not the only solution. Doctors may recommend medication or some form of aural rehabilitation to address what has always been a multi-faceted problem. Unfortunately, Medicare covers hearing tests but will not cover



the expense of your hearing aids. You may have to use private funds to fill this gap. Some charitable organizations offer assistance to seniors.

Senior Scams Why Seniors Are Targeted

Scams targeting seniors are a growing concern, costing older Americans billions of dollars annually.

According to the FBI's Elder Fraud Report, adults aged 60 and older reported losing over \$3.4 billion to fraud in 2023, an 11% increase — which as on top of a 35% increase in 2022. year. Nasdaq reported about 1 in 10 elderly Americans are scammed each year and that, in 2024, \$77.7 billion of all reported global fraud was linked to senior victims. The average loss per victim was \$34,000.

Seniors are targeted for several reasons, making them more vulnerable to these deceptive schemes. One major factor is financial stability. Many

seniors have accumulated savings, own property or receive a steady income from pensions or Social Security. Scammers see this as an opportunity to exploit a perceived abundance of resources. Additionally, older adults may be less familiar with newer technologies, such as online banking or digital payment platforms, leaving them susceptible to phishing emails, fake tech support calls or fraudulent websites.

Cognitive decline can also play a role. While not all seniors experience memory or decision-making difficulties, those who do may find it harder to recognize scams or remember warning signs. This makes them easy targets for repeated fraud attempts. Social isolation is another contributing factor. Scammers often prey on loneliness, using friendly conversa-

tions to gain trust before introducing fraudulent schemes.

Romance scams, for instance, frequently target older adults looking for companionship. Some of the most common scams targeting seniors include government impersonation scams, sweepstakes scams, robocall scams, tech support scams, confidence/romance scams and investment scams.

While seniors are prime targets, efforts to combat scams are increasing. Organizations like the National Council on Aging (NCOA) and the AARP Fraud Watch Network provide resources and education to help seniors recognize and avoid scams. Law enforcement agencies, including the

FBI and local police departments, also work to track and prosecute fraudsters. One effective prevention method is rais-

ing awareness among seniors and their families. Education campaigns teach seniors to identify red flags, such as unsolicited requests for personal information or high-pressure tactics demanding immediate payment. Families can play a critical role by helping older relatives monitor financial accounts and reviewing unusual transactions together.

Legislation also offers protections. For example, the Senior Safe Act of 2018 encour-

ages financial institutions to train employees to detect elder financial abuse and report suspected scams.

Additionally, the FTC and Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) work to enforce laws and provide resources to safeguard seniors' assets. Despite these efforts, scams targeting seniors remain a significant issue. Staying informed and vigilant is key to reducing losses. By fostering open communication and providing

seniors with tools to protect themselves, communities can help shield vulnerable individuals from falling victim to fraud.

Older adults should remember: when in doubt, pause and verify. A quick check with a trusted friend or family member could prevent financial loss and emotional distress. Together, we can build a safer, more informed community for everyone.

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Signs a loved one might need assisted living

Assisted living facilities can ensure men and women get the help they need to live as fully and actively as possible.

Assisted living facilities provide an invaluable service. When a medical condition, developments associated with aging or another variable affects an individual's ability to live independently, assisted living facilities can ensure such men and women get the help they need to live as fully and actively as possible.

It's not always easy to identify when an individual may need to move into an assisted living facility.



Some individuals choose to do so on their own, but families often make such decisions together. As families work to determine if a loved one should move into an assisted living facility, they can look for various signs that suggest the time is right to do so. According to the Elder Care Alliance, signs that an individual may benefit from assisted living include:

- Requiring routine reminders to take medication
- Noticeable changes in weight, including weight loss or gain
- Loss of mobility or increase in falls
- Signs that household maintenance is being neglected
- Difficulty with daily tasks like grooming and meal preparation

- Increased isolation
- Loss of interest in hobbies

It's important for families to recognize that some of the signs noted above might suggest the presence of a condition or disease that would not, if treated successfully, compromise an individual's ability to live independently. For example, the SilverSneakers program offered through Tivity Health notes that weight gain among seniors may be attributable to slower metabolism, a less active lifestyle or menopause for women. Each of those conditions can be addressed without requiring a relocation to an assisted living facility. Family members are urged to discuss anything that seems to be affecting a loved one's ability to live independently with that person's

health care team before they consider if a person needs to move into an assisted living facility. It's equally important to ask a loved one's health care team which type of facility they think might be most beneficial if, in fact, they think it's in an individual's best interest to relocate. No two facilities are the same, and the Elder Care Alliance notes many specialize in specific types of care, such as tending to individuals with cognitive issues like dementia or physical issues like limited mobility.

Assisted living facilities help millions of individuals every day. Families can work together to decide if a loved one can benefit from moving into such a facility.

Over 60? How to maintain a healthy weight as you age

A registered dietitian can help people develop eating and exercise plans that will help them achieve and maintain a healthy weight.

Age often brings wisdom, experience, and for many people, some body weight changes that might affect their health over time.

Maintaining a healthy weight

is important throughout life, but as a person gets older, it can be harder to keep extra pounds off. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says obesity prevalence was 44.3 percent among adults between the ages of 40 and 59 in May 2024. Obesity prevalence was 51.5 percent for people age 60 and older. According to a report from the Government of Canada, 40.1 percent of seniors are overweight, and 28.1 percent are obese. Yet some older adults also are underweight and

struggle to keep weight on. It's important to note that a healthy weight for one age group may not be the same for another. Verywell Health says a healthy weight and BMI range for adults over age 65 could translate into carrying extra pounds. The National Institutes of Health says a BMI of 25 to 27, which normally is considered overweight, may offer benefits to adults over the age of 65 by way of bone health side effects that protect against osteoporosis. Some studies also

indicate that being underweight can increase risk of disability, dementia and even cancer or heart failure.

Before one binges at the all-you-can-eat buffet, it is important to discuss weight with a doctor and develop a customized plan that takes individual variables, including age, into consideration. In addition, these tips can help people maintain a healthy weight.

- Spread out smaller meals. Eat five to six small meals per day to help with digestion and circumvent slower metabolism.

- Eating smaller meals also may help seniors who find they don't have appetites and push away food.

- Vary the foods you eat. Eat more vegetables, whole grains, fish, beans, and low-fat or fat-free dairy. Try to keep meat and poultry lean, only splurging on fattier cuts once in a while.

- Watch empty calories. Empty calories come from sugars, sugary beverages and processed foods with little or no nutritional value, indicates



WebMD. Instead, when choosing calories, look for whole, nutritional foods.

- Eat more protein. Older adults are at risk of losing muscle mass, so protein is essential.

- Protein also helps a person feel fuller longer, which can help with avoiding eating empty calories or overeating in general.

- Consume extra fiber. As a person gets older, fiber can help prevent constipation, colorectal cancer and hemorrhoids. Whole-grain fiber also reduc-

es the risk of heart disease. In addition, whole grain fiber is filling, which can help with weight control.

- Exercise daily. Weight loss involves a formula in which more calories are burned than consumed. For those who need to shed some pounds, increasing physical activity through low-impact exercise can help. Bike riding, swimming, pickleball, yoga, and other activities can be beneficial.

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