

Briefs

Topics covered include how to safely set up devices, social media awareness, online scams and how not to fall victim to scams.

Church Services

NEW HAMPTON

TRINITY LUTHERAN

223 S. Water
trinitylutherannewhampton.org
641-394-2552
Pastors Dan Christensen
and Sue Cira
Service times: 6 p.m.
Wednesday; 9 a.m., Sunday.

HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC

202 N. Broadway
641-394-2105
Father Jim Goerend
Mass times: 4 p.m.,
Saturday; 8 and 10 a.m.,
Sunday.

NEW HAMPTON
METHODIST

201 N. Locust Ave.
641-394-2893
Pastor Paula Hemann
Service time: 9 a.m.
Sunday.

REDEEMER LUTHERAN

611 W. Court St.
saudejerico.com
Pastor Peter Faugstad
Service time: 4 p.m.
Saturday Divine Service.

HARVEST CHURCH

481 S. Linn Ave.
harvestcares.com
641-394-4380
Pastor: Josh Jacobs
Service time: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday.

PRAIRIE LAKES

234 S. Linn Ave.
prairielakeschurch.org
641-456-6880
Pastor Cory Orr
Service times: 9 a.m.,
Sunday.

UNITED CHURCH OF
CHRIST

4 E. Court St.
Service time: 10:30
a.m.

JERICO

JERICO LUTHERAN

2512 120th St., New
Hampton
saudejerico.com
Pastor Peter Faugstad
Service time: 10:30
a.m., Sunday Divine Service.

SAUDE

SAUDE LUTHERAN

2949 Stevens Trail, Lawler
saudejerico.com
Pastor Peter Faugstad
Service time: 8:30 a.m.,
Sunday Divine Service.

IONIA

UNITED CHURCH OF
CHRIST

firstumcnewhampton.com
Service time: 9 a.m.
Sunday.

ST. BONIFACE CATHOLIC

Father Jim Goerend
Mass: Saturday, 6 p.m.

LOURDES

OUR LADY OF LOURDES
CATHOLIC

Rev. Telesphore Dusabe
Mass time: Saturday, 4
p.m.

ALTA VISTA

ST. BERNARD CATHOLIC

Rev. Telesphore Dusabe
Mass time: Saturday,
March 29, 6 p.m.

ELMA

IMMACULATE

CONCEPTION CATHOLIC

Rev. Telesphore Dusabe
Mass: Sunday, 7:15 a.m.

ST. PETER LUTHERAN
CHURCH

Pastor Bruce Miller
107 Wood St. Elma
Service time: 9 a.m.
Sunday.

ELMA CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Pastor Paula Hemann
207 Plum Street Elma
Service time: 10:30
a.m. Sunday.

NORTH WASHINGTON

IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION

Father Jim Goerend
Mass: Saturday, March
29, 6 p.m.

Christ's passion

Jesus submitted to death because He wanted to save us

When the word “pas-
sion” is used today,
it usually refers to an
intense feeling — of
either love or hate.

So, it may seem odd
that Christians refer to
the suffering and death
of Jesus Christ as “the
Passion.”

Our modern word,
“passion,” comes from
the Latin word for suffer-
ing.

On the night when He
was betrayed by Judas,
Jesus was well aware of
what was about to hap-
pen. The Gospel of Luke
tells us that Jesus prayed
to God the Father, say-
ing, “Father, if you are
willing, remove this cup
[of suffering] from Me”

(Luke 22:42).

So, why did Jesus sub-
mit to the suffering and
humiliation that was to
come, when He could
have easily used His
power as the Son of God
to save Himself?

He submitted to death
on the cross because He
wanted to save you.

Jesus’ Passion is about
intense love — the love
He feels for you and for
all people.

We all need Jesus.

“For all have sinned
and fall short of the glory
of God,” the Bible tells us
in Romans 3:23.

Remarkably, the Bible

also says Jesus was
“delivered up for our
trespasses and raised
for our justification”
(Romans 4:25).

Your sins have been
paid for by Jesus. You’ve
been declared “not
guilty” by God because of
Jesus.

Believe it and it’s
yours.

The 40 days leading up
to Easter are called Lent.
This is a time to pause, to
reflect and to be sorry for
our sins as we look for-
ward to the joy of Easter
morning, when Jesus
Christ rose from the dead
as victor over sin, death
and the devil.

This is the remedy



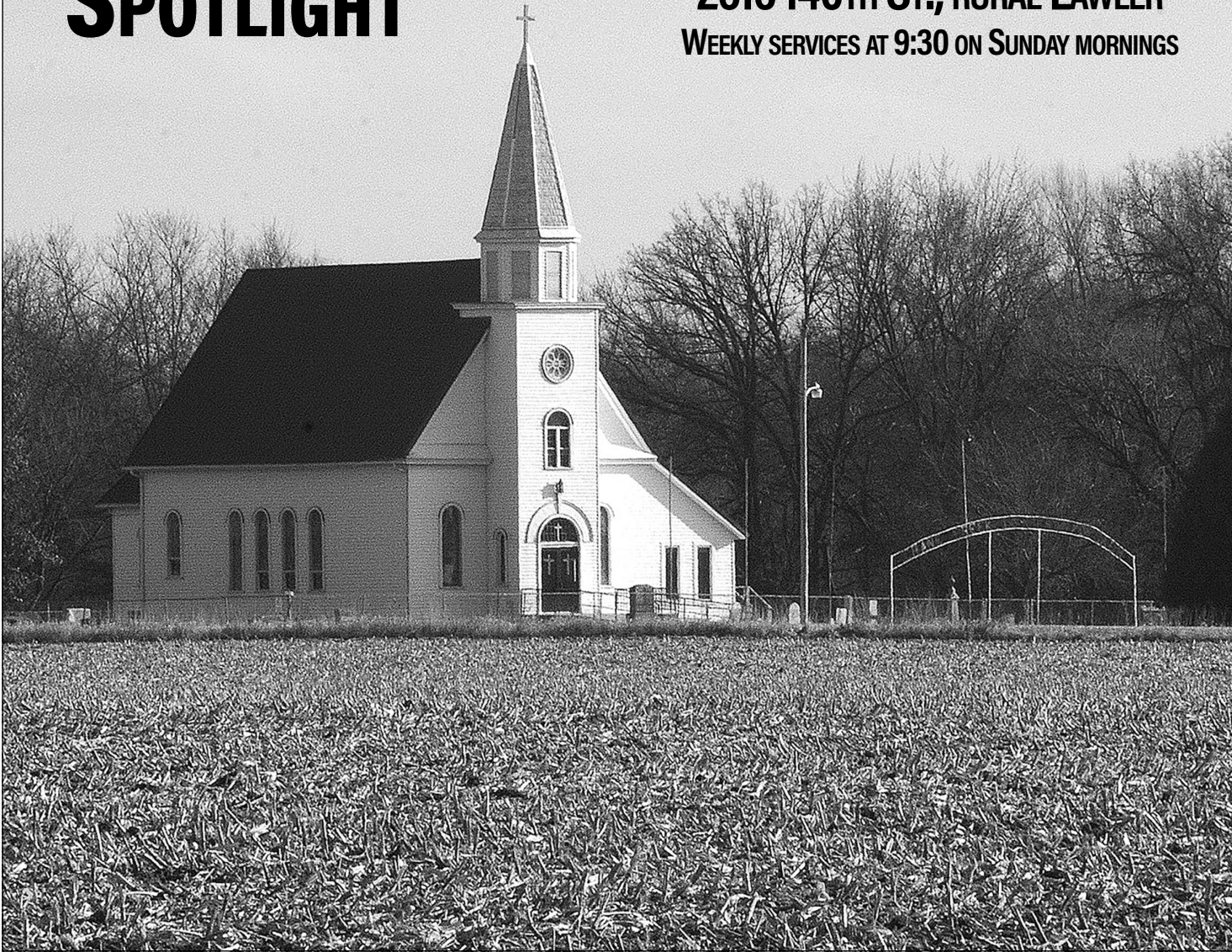
*The Rev. Ronnie Koch is the
pastor at St. Paul’s Lutheran
Church in Fredericksburg, and
this column was co-written
by the Rev. Dr. Matthew C.
Harrison, the president of The
Lutheran Church-Missouri
Synod.*

for sins and disappoint-
ments and bad con-
sciences.

In Jesus there is for-
giveness and peace.

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and protects the way of his faithful ones.

Proverbs 2:8

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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: 6:30
p.m. Friday.

ST. MICHAELS CHURCH

602 Cedar Street
Father Tom Heathershaw
Service time: 6:30
p.m. Saturdays.

ST. JOHN’S UCC -
PLEASANT HILL

10009 Union Ave.
Pastor Drew McHolm
Service time: Sunday,
9 a.m.

LAWLER

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CARMEL CATHOLIC
CHURCH

3030 Highway 24
Father Nick Radloff
Mass: Saturday, 4 p.m.;
Ash Wednesday, 6 p.m.

IMMANUEL CRANE
CREEK LUTHERAN
CHURCH

2616 140th St, Lawler
Pastor Sue Cira
Service time: 9:30
a.m., Sunday.

FREDERICKSBURG

ST. PAUL’S LUTHERAN
CHURCH-MISSOURI
SYNOD

222 S. Washington Ave.
Pastor Ron Koch
Service time: 8:30
a.m., Sundays.

PEACE UCC CHURCH

221 Oak St.
Pastor Scott Smith
Service time: 9 a.m.,
Sundays.

FREDERICKSBURG

UNITED METHODIST

111 S. Hamilton Ave.
Pastor Alex Johnson
Service time: 10:15
a.m., Sundays.

WAUCOMA

ST. MARY CATHOLIC

218 3rd St. NW
Father Nick Radloff
Mass: Sunday, 8:30
a.m.

ST. LUCAS

ST. LUKE CATHOLIC

215 East Main
Father Nick Radloff
Mass: Sunday, March
30, 10:30 a.m.

PROTIVIN

HOLY TRINITY

124 N. Main St.
Father Nick Radloff
Mass: Sunday, March
30, 8:30 a.m.

LITTLE TURKEY

ASSUMPTION OF THE
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

3303 160th St.
Father Nick Radloff
Mass: Sunday, 10:30
a.m.

CLARKSVILLE

FIRST UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

31015 150th Street
Rev. Peter Wenzel
Service time: 10 a.m.,
Sundays.

Five Moves for Young Investors

If you're just beginning your career, what are your financial priorities?

You might have student loans to deal with. And you may even be thinking about saving for a down payment on a house. These are certainly significant issues, and yet, you shouldn't ignore your long-term goals, such as retirement — which is why you may want to get started as an investor. And as you invest, consider these suggestions:

1. Take advantage of your opportunities. Even while addressing your other concerns, such as loan payments, you may well have space in your life to invest — if you take advantage of the opportunities presented to you. For example, if you work for a business that offers a 401(k) or other retirement plan, try to put in as much as you can afford, or at least enough to earn your employer's matching contribution, if one is offered. And you may find that contributing to a traditional 401(k) or similar plan is more affordable than you think, as your contributions may be deductible, lowering your taxable income.

2. Think long-term. Some people make the mistake of seeking short-term gains by trying to "time" the market — that is, they try to "buy low and sell high." While this is a great strategy in theory, it's almost impossible to follow, as no one can really predict market highs and lows. The most successful investors follow a long-term strategy and don't jump in and out of the market.

3. Know your risk tolerance. Your investment choices should be based partially on your risk tolerance. Typically, the more investment risk you take on, the greater the potential reward, but it works the other way, too — riskier investments can result in greater losses, at least in the short term. You need to find a risk level with which you are comfortable. Also, your risk tolerance can change over time — when you get close to retirement, for instance, you might want



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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

to invest more conservatively than you did when you still had decades ahead of you in the working world.

4. Diversify your investments. The financial markets affect different investments in different ways, which means that, at any given time, some investments will perform better than others. But if you only owned one type of investment or asset class, your portfolio could suffer if a market downturn had a particularly strong effect on that investment or asset.

By spreading your investment dollars among a range of investments, you'll have more opportunities for success, and you can help reduce the effects of market volatility on your holdings. Keep in mind, though, that diversification, by itself, can't guarantee profits or protect against all losses.

5. Prepare for the unexpected. You don't always know when you'll face a large expense, such as a medical bill or a major home repair. If you're not prepared, you could be forced to dip into your long-term investments, such as your 401(k), to pay for these costs. To help avoid this problem, you may want to take steps such as keeping a cushion of cash in your portfolio and building an emergency fund containing several months' worth of living expenses, with the money kept in a liquid account.

By putting these moves to work, you can help yourself make progress on an investment journey that could last a lifetime.

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

Edward Jones, Member SIPC

School to get new phone system, electronic sign

By Bob Fenske
editor@nhtrib.com

It's not a good sign when school officials have to get on eBay to try to find replacement parts for their phone system.

And that's exactly what New Hampton Community Schools has had to do recently so on Monday night, the School Board approved a recommendation from Superintendent Jay Jurrens to install a new phone system despite the fact that the current system was installed when the new middle school opened in 2019.

It's a long and convoluted story, but Jurrens on Monday afternoon said the district had little choice. The reason is Panasonic got out of the phone business in 2022, and over the course of the past three years, replacement parts have become increasingly difficult to find.

"Seriously, Jeremiah [Cantu, the district's technology director] has gone on eBay to get parts, and when we can't find them there, we're going to be out of luck," Jurrens said. "It's

getting harder and harder to find, and obviously, you need phones."

Board members approved spending about \$38,000 for the new system, but Jurrens did bring a silver lining with his recommendation. The monthly cost for the district's system will drop almost in half.

The board also approved purchasing a new electronic sign to replace the one that currently can be seen from the intersection of Linn Avenue and Main Street by the elementary school.

The issue is that one of the panel's on the current sign, which is 24 years old, no longer works.

"It's time probably anyway," Jurrens said, "but with that panel out, we've had to try to avoid using the bottom right corner."

The new sign will be slightly larger and have much finer resolution. It will also fit on the current "stand" and board members agreed to spend just under \$35,000 to purchase the board that highlights both upcoming events and student achievements.

MercyOne fundraiser seeks gently used handbags for fundraiser

In an effort to raise funds for MercyOne New Hampton Medical Center, a gently used handbag sale will be taking place in April.

Gently used purses, handbags, totes, fashion backpacks, wallets or belt bags may be donated at Luana Savings Bank, Bank Iowa in New Hampton and Lawler, First Citizens Bank, Fidelity Bank, Security Bank or the MercyOne New Hampton clinic and hospital lobbies from March 5 through April 7.

Items will be sold by the Friends of MercyOne on Wednesday, April 16 from 8:30 to 4:30 p.m. in the Health Education Center, where a bake sale will also be held.

Funds raised will purchase needed equipment for MercyOne New Hampton.

PROPERTY TAXES ARE DUE & PAYABLE

The second half payment for property taxes is due by March 31, 2025

You may also pay online at www.iowatreasurers.org E-check payments are \$.25 (less than a stamp) and Mastercard, Visa and Discover credit cards are subject to a service delivery fee.

Matthew Ysbrand
Chickasaw County Treasurer

CHECK US OUT AT NHTRIBUNE.NEWS

Spring must be near; Severe Weather Awareness Week is here

To the Tribune

The Chickasaw County Emergency Management Agency, Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM), National Weather Service (NWS), and Iowa Emergency Management Association (IEMA) have joined together to promote Severe Weather Awareness Week, which will be marked next week.

Severe Weather Awareness Week is an opportunity to highlight the importance of being aware of, and prepared for, severe weather through a different focus each day:

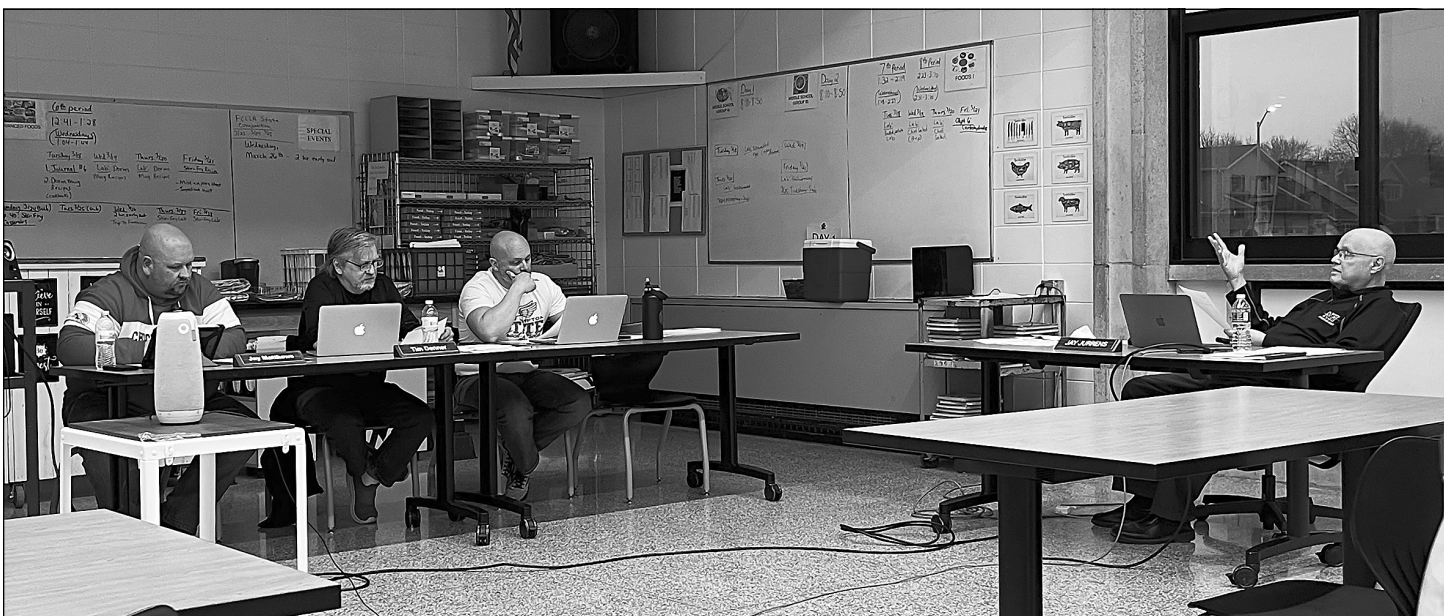
- Monday – Lightning Safety
- Tuesday – Tornado Safety
- Wednesday – Preparedness
- Thursday – Hail and Wind Safety
- Friday – Flood Safety

The annual statewide tornado drill will

take place on Wed., March 26, beginning at 10 a.m. Additional information about the tornado drill can be found on local NWS websites.

For more information on severe weather preparedness, visit ready.iowa.gov

Follow Chickasaw County Emergency Management Agency, HSEM, IEMA, and NWS on social media using the hashtag #iawx, #SWAW and #ReadyIA.



Bob Fenske/Tribune

New Hampton Superintendent Jay Jurrens (right) goes through his annual "Budget Preview" with School Board members (from left) Jay Matthews, Tim Denner and Ryan Shawver during Monday night's meeting.

Superintendent confident proposed max levy rate will decrease

SCHOOL BOARD: FROM 1

cent increase for a commercial property.

But that's because the residential property — valued at \$100,000 this year — is valued at \$110,000 for the upcoming year while the commercial property — valued at \$300,00 this year — is valued at \$330,000 for the 2025-26 levy rate. However, two weeks ago during a Chickasaw County Board of Supervisors meeting, Assessor Ray Armel called the notifications misleading because this is not a "re-evaluation year," meaning that 94 percent of properties in Chickasaw County did not go up in value.

Jurrens also pointed out that the proposed tax levy is based on the Legislature approving a 3.5 percent increase to Supplemental State Aid (SSA), which determines per-pupil funding for school district around the state.

"That's not going to happen," Jurrens said Monday afternoon, "and I can guarantee you that. It would obviously be easier if the Legislature had set SSA by now, but more years than not, we're preparing budget without knowing SSA. You err on the high side, but knowing that the House has approved 2.25 [percent] and the Senate is at 2 [percent], right there you know it's going to go down."

Lawmakers have a self-imposed deadline of passing the State Supplemental Aid (SSA) rate for public K-12 schools within 30 days of the governor's budget being released. That deadline was in February. While there is no penalty for not passing SSA within this time frame, a delay in passing this measure can cause issues for schools that must submit their budgets in

early March.

The House's bill not only includes a 2.25 percent increase to SSA but also a one-time allocation of 0.6 percent for per-pupil, as well as an increase for some school districts to help "equalize" per-pupil costs.

The reality is that much of the tax-rate levy is formula driven, which means because New Hampton's enrollment increased by 22 students this past fall, more property tax dollars need to be collected.

Local school districts, though, do have control of some levies, and Jurrens conceded that New Hampton will be raising the amount of money it collects for two of them — cash reserve and management. The former needs funds to cover the district's special education deficit, and the superintendent said that the latter's levy is increasing as the district's property and casualty insurance premiums continue to skyrocket.

"We're seeing our premium go up 15 percent again this year," he said, "and it is a little frustrating. The last five years we've paid \$1.5 million in premiums and have had \$66,000 ion claims. And honestly, it covers less, but you have to have it obviously."

During Monday night's meeting, board member Tim Denner asked Jurrens when the district would learn what SSA will be set at in 2025-26?

"I hope it's soon ... I've certainly been around long enough to know that it could be the very last day of the session at 2 o'clock in the morning," Jurrens replied.

He also pointed out that the state's Revenue Estimating Conference met last week and predicted state revenues would fall 6 percent for the 2024-25 fiscal year

and by 8 percent in the upcoming fiscal year.

"It's concerning," Jurrens said Monday afternoon, "but [state lawmakers] are talking about maintaining what they said they would but dipping into state reserves. They seem determined to fund their priorities — education is one of them — but we just don't quite know where they're going to land."

During the interview, Jurrens repeated what he would tell board members a few hours later.

"I don't want to mislead people; the levy rate is going to go up," he said, "but it's not going to be quite as bad as it looks. My guess is we'll end up somewhere in between \$11.80 and \$11.90."

Monday night's board meeting ended with the School Board moving its public hearing on the max levy from this coming Monday to Monday, March 31, to comply with publication requirements. That hearing will be held at 6:30 p.m. in New Hampton High School's family and consumer classroom (the old cafeteria).

Board members opened Monday's meeting with a public hearing on the district's Instructional Support Levy, and after no members of the public offered either written or oral comments, board members approved continuing the ISL for five years.

Jurrens said New Hampton's ISL brings in about \$647,500 a year. Most of the funds, almost 91 percent, come from income surtaxes.

"We basically do the minimum we're required to do with property tax," said Jurrens. "This isn't a tax increase; we've had this in place for years, but we have to renew it every five years."

Briefs

LifeServe blood drive set for 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/schedule.

Fun in the Son to hold fundraiser on March 30

Fun in the Son Day Care and Preschool, Fredericksburg, is having a dinner, silent auction, and bake sale on Sunday, March 30, from 11a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Fredericksburg Community Center. The menu includes lasagna, garlic bread, green beans, desserts, and beverages. A freewill offering will be taken for the meal.

The silent auction consists of items contributed by local businesses and individuals. Anyone wishing to contribute an auction item or baked goods for the bake sale should contact Janiece Kramer at (563)237-6117.

Fun in the Son Day Care and Preschool is a nonprofit, state licensed Christian child care cen-

Thank you for all the cards, gifts, phone calls and coming out to help me celebrate my 95th birthday party. All was appreciated. Special thank you to my family for making my day special. Speedy recovery for those unable to attend due to illness.

Norma Peters

The New Hampton Lion's Club would like to thank the New Hampton community & surrounding area for their strong support at our 53rd Annual Pancake/French Toast Breakfast on March 9th.

Thank you to Chickasaw County Pork Producers, Fidelity Bank, First Citizens Bank, Nosbisch Insurance, AgVantage FS, Luana Savings Bank, Ionia Locker, Deb El Food, Bodensteiner.

We do appreciate your patronage.

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	H	L	P
Wednesday	58	27	--
Thursday	67	34	--
Friday	77	44	.29
Saturday	44	20	--
Sunday	44	19	--
Monday	68	36	--
Tuesday	63	36	--

Forecast

Thursday: Sunny and breezy with a high of 39 and a low of 29.

Friday: Partly sunny but slight chance of rain; high 49, low 24.

Saturday: Mostly sunny with a high of 42 and a low of 29.

Sunday: Cloudy with rain or snow likely and a high of 46 and a low of 27.

Extended forecast: We'll dry out as we start the work week and have seasonal temperatures with highs in the 40s and lows dropping into the 20s.

Meetings

MONDAY

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

History

- In 1778, Benjamin Franklin, Silas Deane and Arthur Lee present themselves to France's King Louis XVI as official representatives of the United States, and they seek French aid for the American fight for independence against Britain.
- In 1852, Harriet Beecher Stowe's anti-slavery novel, "Uncle Tom's Cabin," is published.
- In 1854, in Ripon, Wisconsin, former members of the Whig Party meet to establish the Republican party to oppose the spread of slavery into the western territories.
- In 1965, President Lyndon B. Johnson notifies Alabama's Gov. George Wallace that he will use federal authority to call up the Alabama National Guard in order to supervise a planned civil rights march from Selma to Montgomery.
- In 1995, several packages of deadly sarin gas are set off by a Japanese "doomsday cult" in the Tokyo subway system killing twelve people and injuring over 5,000.

Birthdays

- American comedian, actor, screenwriter and director Carl Reiner was born in 1922.
- Fred Rogers, better known as just "Mr. Rogers," was born in 1928.
- Former supermodel and Sports Illustrated swimsuit model Kathy Ireland turns 62.
- American film director Spike Lee turns 68.
- Legendary NHL star Bobby Orr turns 77.
- Hal Linden, who played the title role on TV's "Barney Miller," turns 94.

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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Wayne Joseph Tenge, 83



Wayne Joseph Tenge, age 83 of New Hampton, died Friday, March 14, 2025, at his home surrounded by family.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held 10:30 a.m. Thursday, March 20, 2025, at Holy Family Parish, New Hampton, with the Rev. James Goerend celebrating the Mass.

Interment will be in Calvary Cemetery, New Hampton.

Friends greeted the family from 4 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 19, 2025, at the Hugeback-Johnson Funeral Home & Crematory in New Hampton where there was a 3:30 p.m. family Rosary and a 7 p.m. Parish Scripture Service. Visitation continues an hour prior to the Mass at the church on Thursday.

Wayne was born on July 17, 1941, the son of Edmund and Magdalena (Wegner) Tenge at the old St. Joseph's Hospital in New Hampton. He was the third sibling in the family of seven children — five boys and two girls — and grew up on the family farm northwest of North Washington.

At an early age he learned the value of hard work and responsibility and these lessons he would carry with him throughout his lifetime. During those early years he did his share of farm chores, milking cows and working in the fields. He had to come straight home from school, change clothes and get right to work. There was little time for fun but when the opportunity arose he spent it hunting and fishing in the area.

Wayne attended St. Mary's School in North Washington graduating with the class of 1959. He purchased his first car after graduation, a 1953 Ford, which he was proud of and that led to a lifetime passion for cars of which he had several over the years. Even though he enjoyed growing up there, he knew farming was not in his future. In 1961 he moved to New Hampton where he remained for the rest of his life.

He enjoyed roller skating at the Crystal Ball roller rink and it was there he met a young New Hampton girl, Willa Cooney. They skated and dated and were married in 1963. To this union three children — Lora, Kevin and Lisa — were born. They were later divorced.

Wayne's first job was at Card Motor Company (now New Hampton Auto Body), working on cars which was right up his alley. Later on he took a job with the Home Gas Co., driving the bulk truck and later sales manager. He also worked for a short time at Lynor Engineering (now Tri-Mark), where they sent him to Owatonna, Minnesota, to learn the tool and die trade.

When Sara Lee started operations in 1972 he went to work there in the maintenance department and remained there for 28 years until the plant closed. During his time there he served for many years as chief union steward for the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers and also served on contract negotiating committees.

While working at Sara Lee he rekindled a spark with a former teenage friend, Darlene (Dusheck) Nehl, who also worked there. They never really dated back then but always remained friends and kept in touch for over 25 years until fate brought them together and they realized they were meant to be. They were married in 1986. They both retired from Sara Lee after the plant closed in 2000.

After retirement Wayne was not one to sit and watch TV all day. He was busy fixing or fabricating things in his garage workshop. He could fix almost anything. He always kept a to-do list in his pocket and everything always got done. He used to say "I can get up in the morning with nothing to do and by noon I'm so far behind I'll never catch up."

He enjoyed his home and loved the outdoors, working in the yard alongside his wife, Darlene trying to keep things neat and orderly. He was a very meticulous person so everything had to be just so. He was

Laura Katherine Koeff, 95

Laura Katherine Koeff, age 95 of Nashua, died Thursday, March 13, 2025, at Denver Sunset Home in Denver.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, March 20, 2025, at St. John's United Church of Christ-Pleasant Hill, rural Nashua with the Rev. Drew McHolm officiating.

Interment will be held at St. John's United Church of Christ-Pleasant Hill Church Cemetery.

Friends may greet the family from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Thursday, March 20, 2025, at St. John's United Church of Christ-Pleasant Hill, rural Nashua, before the service.

The family has entrusted Hugeback-Johnson Funeral Home & Crematory/Olson Chapel with arrangements.

Vera Louisa Gebel, 92



Vera Louisa Gebel, age 92 of New Hampton, died Monday, March 10, 2025, at her home.

A Memorial Mass will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, March 25, 2025, at Holy Family Parish in New Hampton with the Rev. James Goerend celebrating the Mass.

Friends may greet the family from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Tuesday, March 25, 2025, at the church prior to the Memorial Mass.

Vera Louisa Gebel — a cherished mother, grandmother and friend — passed away peacefully on March 10, in New Hampton at the age of 92.

Born on Sept. 4, 1932, the daughter of Alvin and Helen (Bartels) Maseman in Alta Vista, Vera lived a life marked by love for her family and a spirit that brightened the lives of all who knew her.

Vera's early years were spent in her hometown of Alta Vista, where she attended local schools and blossomed into a young woman of ambition and charm.

After graduating from Elma High School, she embarked on a career that would see her become a beloved figure in the towns she called home. Her work at the local Hardware Store in Elma was just the beginning of her journey, as her industrious nature led her to Waverly, working at a grocery store, and eventually to New Hampton, where she became a familiar face at Tom's Pharmacy for several years.

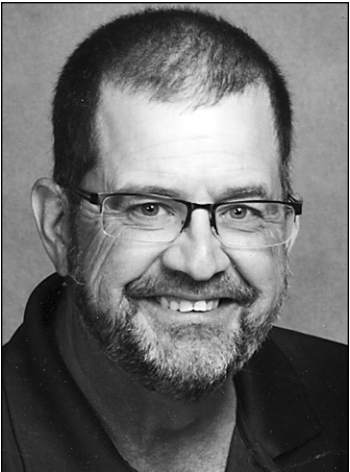
On Nov. 27, 1954, Vera's life was enriched by her marriage to Robert Gebel. Together they welcomed two children, Kelly and Julie, into their world, and although the couple later divorced, Vera's role as a devoted mother remained steadfast.

Her career path took another turn when she joined the team at the Pinicon in New Hampton, where she worked until her well-earned retirement. Even as she juggled her professional responsibilities, Vera became known as the "Avon Lady," a role she relished, selling beauty products and bringing joy to her local clientele.

Vera's interests were as vibrant as her personality. She relished the simple pleasures of life, such as cocktail hour with friends at local establishments, where laughter and stories were shared freely.

Her love for the outdoors was evident in her fondness for

Steven M. Busta, 63



Steven M. Busta, age 63 of Little Turkey, died Tuesday, March 11, 2025, at his home.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, March 22, 2025, at Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church, Little Turkey, with the Rev. Nick Radloff celebrating the Mass.

Interment will be in St. Mary's Cemetery, Little Turkey.

Friends may greet the family from 4 to 7 p.m. Friday, March 21, 2025, at the Hugeback-Johnson Funeral Home & Crematory in New Hampton where there will be a 3:30 p.m. Family Rosary and a 7 p.m. Parish Scripture Service. Visitation continues from 9 to 10 a.m. Saturday at the funeral home.

Steven Mark Busta was born October 31, 1961, in New Hampton, the son of Ben and Lorraine (Dvorak) Busta. He received his education in the Turkey Valley Schools, graduating in 1980. Even as a high school student, he was deeply involved in the agricultural community — working on the farm, raising cattle and handling custom round baling, while also raising corn and beans.

Steven's zest for life was not limited to his agricultural endeavors; he relished the camaraderie and adventures shared with friends, including some memorable ski trips.

During an encounter at the Brite Spot in Lawler in 1982, Steven met the love of his life, Susan Stark. From a casual meeting to a steady relationship that blossomed in 1986, they exchanged vows on November 14, 1987, at Assumption Parish in Little Turkey, uniting their lives in a ceremony that celebrated their deep affection.

Steven and Susan started their family, welcoming four beautiful children into the world, and they made their home on the Busta Farm, just south of Little Turkey. There, Steven's passion for farming continued to flourish as he expanded into raising hogs, showcasing his versatility and dedication to providing for his family.

In 1997, with a spirit of lifelong learning, Steven returned to NICC and earned his degree in 2000, embarking on a new career path as an electrician.

His first position with Mracek Electric was a stepping-stone that led him to Luther College in Decorah, where he joined the Maintenance Department. His time at Luther was marked by joy and camaraderie, as he cherished the good times and friendships formed with his co-workers.

After two decades at Luther College, Steven transitioned to MercyOne New Hampton Medical Center, where he con-

Dr. Richard K. Reams, 76



Dr. Richard K. Reams, age 76, known to many as Dr. Dick, passed away at his home in North Liberty, on Monday, March 10, 2025, surrounded by family.

Dr. Reams was known for his unwavering and steadfast commitment to prioritizing and caring for his patients as a family physician in New Hampton, then in Tucson, often times in the family kitchen or wherever a patient may need him.

Dr. Richard Reams is survived by his wife, Brita; children, Dr. Angie Reams Schauer (Lynden), and Alicia Herring; his sister, Judith (Bill) Brandenburg, Evansdale; his grandchildren, Henley and Haven Schauer, and Levi, Ava, Vera, and Sullivan Herring;



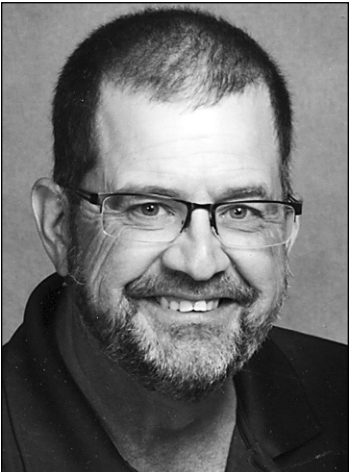
Vera Gebel

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Richard Reams

nephew, David (Rebekah) Wendland; great nieces and nephews, Katelyn Wendland and her children, Sophia and

walks and her desire to bask in the sunshine whenever the weather allowed.

Reading was another passion, and Vera could often be found lost in the pages of a good book, transported to worlds far and wide.

Above all, Vera's family was the epicenter of her world. She cherished every moment spent with her loved ones, and her face lit up at the sight of her grandchildren. Her spirited nature was a beacon of light for her family, inspiring them with her unwavering positivity and zest for life.

Vera's impact on her family cannot be overstated. She was a woman of resilience, warmth, and an unquenchable spirit that will be remembered by all who had the privilege of knowing her. Her departure leaves behind a legacy of love, laughter, and the enduring power of a life well-lived.

Vera is survived by her two children; Kelly Gebel of Rochester, Minnesota, and Julie Gebel-Malik of Illinois; four grandchildren, Makel Riley, Jackelyn Gebel, Jululia Malik and Julani Malik; five great-grandchildren, Addison Tomfohrde, Annie Riley, Evelyn Riley, Harper Tomfohrde, and Miley Tomfohrde; and two sisters, Verna Harms of Denver, and Verla Alexander of Roseburg, Oregon.

She was preceded in death by her parents; great-granddaughter, Emma Tomfohrde; and brother-in-law, Duane Harms.

continued to apply his electrical expertise for another two years. His professional journey was a testament to his adaptability, skill, and unwavering work ethic.

Steven's "best life" unfolded in the years of his retirement. With the same passion and vigor that characterized his earlier years, he embraced a host of activities that connected him to the outdoors. Rebuilding his motorcycle, hunting, fishing, trapping, and simply being part of nature were pursuits that brought him immense joy. His hands, ever-creative and skilled, breathed new life into old tractors and warmed his home with wood he had cut himself.

Steven crafted toy boxes for his cherished grandchildren, infusing each creation with love and care. Even when illness prevented him from building one for Sarah's family, his selflessness shone through as he ensured one was made.

Survivors include his wife, Susan; children, Matthew (Kelly) Busta of Poulso, Washington, Natalie (Chris) Niedbalski of Omaha, Nebraska, Carolyn Busta of Decorah, and Sarah (Kelby) Reicks of Waucoma; six grandchildren, Annelise, Rosalie, Maisy, Owen, Isabelle and Baron; sister, Alice (Robert) Kuennen of Cedar Falls; brother, James (Rita) Busta of Mountain Grove, Missouri; mother-in-law, Helen Stark of Cresco, and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; sister, Mary Ann Ott; father-in-law, Dean Stark; and brothers-in-law, Jean Ott, Greg Stark and Larry Stark.

Maddox, and Austin (Danielle) Wendland; former son-in-law, Tony Herring; and multiple family, friends, and wonderful patients.

Visitation with family will be held at Grace Community Church, 2707 S. Dubuque St, North Liberty, on Saturday, March 29, 2025, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

A service honoring Dr. Reams will immediately follow the visitation. The family invites all to join them in a Celebration of Life and reception at Tin Roost, 840 W. Penn St, North Liberty, following the service at 4:30 p.m.

More information and a full obituary may be found on Dr. Reams' page at www.NeptuneCremationDesMoines.com.

New Hampton, Turkey Valley will explore more sharing opportunities

BY BOB FENSKE
editor@nhtrib.com

Turkey Valley School Board member Don Manderfield couldn't help but smile at the start of a joint meeting with the New Hampton School Board Monday evening.

"I was kind of missing you guys," he said. "It seems like forever since we've met."

Granted, his tongue was firmly planted in his cheek, for this has been a school year with plenty of joint meetings as the two boards went to work to find a new superintendent to replace Jay Jurens, who is retiring at the end of the school year.

But despite a successful process that led to the hiring of current AGWSR Superintendent Erik Smith, the two boards got together for their annual joint meeting to go over how the sharing process has worked.

Jurens is in his eighth year as the superintendent for both districts, and he gave board members an update on the current sharing agreements that provide each district thousands of dollars in state sharing incentives each year.

Board members also discussed the possibility of adding to those sharing agreements with the upcoming retirement of Turkey Valley Business Manager Janice Brown.

Jurens floated the idea of the two districts sharing that position, with New Hampton Business Manager Christy Roethler working for both districts.

He said he wanted to gauge interest from board members and that if they were piqued by the idea, he would have Roethler meet with Brown so that the former could see if she was comfortable taking on new duties.

Roethler said she was interested, but that if she took the new shared position, she'd like to give up her current duties as transportation director, another position the two districts share.

Jurens said he had a candidate in mind who would work part-time — two hours in the morning at Turkey Valley and two hours in the afternoon at New Hampton.

Members of both boards expressed interest in the two ideas, but they won't act on



Bob Fenske/Tribune

Turkey Valley School Board member Don Manderfield talks with incoming New Hampton and Turkey Valley Superintendent Erik Smith before Monday night's joint board meeting.

either until their April board meetings.

"I think we have a good partnership," Turkey Valley Board President Don Blazek Jr. said, "and we're always looking for partnerships that benefit both districts."

His counterpart, New Hampton Board President Jay Matthews, agreed.

"What's made this work so well is the good communication we have," he said, "and I think we've seen that ever since we first went down this road."

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	NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING -PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX LEVY Proposed NEW HAMPTON Property Tax Levy Fiscal Year July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026	
Location of Public Hearing: New Hampton High School FCS Room	Date of Public Hearing: 3/31/2025	Time of Public Hearing: 06:30 PM
Location of Notice on School Website: https://www.new-hampton.k12.ia.us/page/school-budget-information		

At the public hearing any resident or taxpayer may present oral or written objections to, or arguments in favor of the proposed tax levy. After the hearing of the proposed tax levy, the Board will publish notice and hold a hearing on the proposed budget.

	Current Year Tax Dollar	Final Property Levy FY 2025	Budget Year (No change in Property Tax Dollars Levied)	Effective Property Tax Dollar Levy 2026	FY	Budget Year Property Tax Dollar Levy 2026	Proposed FY
General Fund Levy	1	4,430,185		4,430,185		4,842,281	
Instructional Support Levy	2	33,563		33,563		56,859	
Management	3	670,771		670,771		819,254	
Amana Library	4	0		0		0	
Voted Physical Plant and Equipment	5	0		0		0	
Regular Physical Plant and Equipment	6	187,439		187,439		192,486	
Reorganization Equalization	7	0		0		0	
Public Education/Recreation (Playground)	8	0		0		0	
Debt Service	9	910,665		910,665		938,064	
Grand Total	10	6,232,623		6,232,623		6,848,944	

	Current Year Tax Rate	Final Property FY 2025	Budget Year (No change in Property Tax Dollars Levied)	Effective Property Tax Rate FY 2026	FY 2026	Budget Year Property Tax Rate FY 2026	Proposed FY 2026
Grand Total Levy Rate		11.30803		10.93678		12.02104	
Property Tax Comparison	Current Year	Property Taxes	Proposed	Property Taxes		Percent Change	
Residential property with an Actual/Assessed Value of \$100,000/\$110,000		524		627		19.66	
Commercial property with an Actual/Assessed Value of \$300,000/\$330,000		2,313		2,802		21.14	

Note: Actual/Assessed Valuation is multiplied by a Rollback Percentage to get to the Taxable Valuation to calculate Property Taxes. Residential and Commercial properties have the same Rollback Percentage at \$150,000 Actual/Assessed Valuation. The Proposed Property taxes assume a 10% increase in property values for the year as a comparison to the current year.

Reasons for tax increase if proposed exceeds the current:
The reasons for the tax increase are because we had a large special ed deficit, we underestimated last year's percent increase in our Property Casualty/Liability Insurance, and we've been notified that we have to assume an unlimited 1% deductible for wind/hail damage.
No. 24728
3/20/25 New Hampton Tribune
www.iowapublicnotices.com

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CHICKASAW COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MINUTES March 10, 2025

The Board convened on Monday, March 10, 2025, at 9:00 AM with members Breitbach, Carter, Cerwinski, Suckow and Hackman present in the Boardroom on the second floor of the Court House, New Hampton, Iowa. Chairperson Hackman called the meeting to order. Also present were Board Secretary Sheila Shekleton, Attorney David Laudner, Bob Fenske, member of media, Enterprise Media Chris Hall, Sheriff Ryan Shawver, Custodian Dave Gorman, Engineer Roman Lensing, Board of Health Joan Knoll, Terry Johnson, Assessor Raymond Arnel.

Motion by Breitbach, seconded by Cerwinski to approve the agenda for March 10, 2025. Roll Call: All Ayes: Motion carried.

Review and approve Pathways Contract for spending Opioid Funds on Education. The Board of Supervisors will wait till a later date to discuss.

Motion by Suckow, seconded by Breitbach to acknowledge the resignation of Melissa Johnston, Clerk in the Auditor's office, effective March 14, 2025. Roll Call: All Ayes: Motion carried.

Paper Bids: Rapid Printers: \$51.49 per case, 40 cases, total \$2,059.60. Riley's Radio Shack: \$55.00 per case, 40 cases, total \$2,200.00.

Motion by Breitbach, seconded by Breitbach to accept Rapid Printer's bid for \$51.49 per case, 40 cases, for a total of \$2,059.60. Roll Call: All Ayes: Motion carried.

Motion by Cerwinski, seconded by Suckow to approve the wage increase for James Ludwig, Secondary Roads, from \$27.71 to \$29.17, for probationary completed per union contract. Roll Call: All Ayes: Motion carried.

Public Comment: Letter from Jeremy McGrath was given to Supervisors but there was already one sent to them.

Motion by Cerwinski, seconded by Suckow to approve RESOLUTION NO. 03-10-25-12 A RESOLUTION ABANDONING AND REVERTING A ROADWAY RIGHT-OF-WAY EASEMENT LOCATED IN THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER (SW ¼) OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER (SW ¼) OF SECTION 20, TOWNSHIP 95 NORTH, RANGE 14 WEST OF THE 5 TH P.M. IDENTIFIED AS PARCEL #1 IN A SURVEY RECORDED ON FEBRUARY 13, 2025, AS INSTRUMENT # 2025-0158 IN CHICKASAW COUNTY, IOWA, AND AUTHORIZING A CONVEYANCE BY QUIT CLAIM DEED TO ANNETTE M. WOOD WHEREAS, ALL OF THAT PART OF THE ROADWAY RIGHT-OF-WAY EASEMENT LOCATED IN THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER (SW ¼) OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER (SW ¼) OF SECTION 20, TOWNSHIP 95 NORTH, RANGE 14 WEST OF THE 5 TH P.M. IDENTIFIED AS PARCEL #1 IN A SURVEY RECORDED ON FEBRUARY 13, 2025, AS INSTRUMENT # 2025-0158 IN CHICKASAW COUNTY, IOWA, AND AUTHORIZING A CONVEYANCE BY QUIT CLAIM DEED TO JUSTIN D. CARPENTER WHEREAS, ALL OF THAT PART OF THE ROADWAY RIGHT-OF-WAY EASEMENT LOCATED IN

that the roadway right-of-way easement be abandoned and revert to the owner of the adjacent real property; and WHEREAS, Annette M. Wood is the owner of the adjacent real property; and WHEREAS, Iowa Code section 306.11 authorizes the Chickasaw County Board of Supervisors to abandon a roadway right-of-way easement reversion that will not change the existing traveled portion of the roadway or deny access to any roadway by adjoining landowners without conducting a hearing and merely by resolution; and WHEREAS, the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors of Chickasaw County, Iowa, and the Chickasaw County, Iowa, Auditor shall be authorized to sign a quit claim deed transferring any and all ownership interest in the roadway right-of-way easement to Annette M. Wood as the owner of the adjacent real property. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Chickasaw County, Iowa, that ALL OF THAT PART OF THE ROADWAY RIGHT-OF-WAY EASEMENT LOCATED IN THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER (SW ¼) OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER (SW ¼) OF SECTION 20, TOWNSHIP 95 NORTH, RANGE 14 WEST OF THE 5 TH P.M. IDENTIFIED AS PARCEL #1 IN A SURVEY RECORDED ON FEBRUARY 13, 2025, AS INSTRUMENT # 2025-0158 IN CHICKASAW COUNTY, IOWA, hereby is abandoned, and the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors of Chickasaw County, Iowa, and the Chickasaw County, Iowa, Auditor hereby are authorized to sign a quit claim deed reverting and transferring any and all ownership interest Chickasaw County, Iowa, has in ALL OF THAT PART OF THE ROADWAY RIGHT-OF-WAY EASEMENT LOCATED IN THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER (SW ¼) OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER (SW ¼) OF SECTION 20, TOWNSHIP 95 NORTH, RANGE 14 WEST OF THE 5 TH P.M. IDENTIFIED AS PARCEL #2 IN A SURVEY RECORDED ON FEBRUARY 13, 2025, AS INSTRUMENT # 2025-0159 IN CHICKASAW COUNTY, IOWA, to the owner of the adjacent real property, Annette M. Wood. HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Chickasaw County, Iowa, that ALL OF THAT PART OF THE ROADWAY RIGHT-OF-WAY EASEMENT LOCATED IN THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER (SW ¼) OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER (SW ¼) OF SECTION 29, TOWNSHIP 95 NORTH, RANGE 14 WEST OF THE 5 TH P.M. IDENTIFIED AS PARCEL #2 IN A SURVEY RECORDED ON FEBRUARY 13, 2025, AS INSTRUMENT # 2025-0159 IN CHICKASAW COUNTY, IOWA, hereby is abandoned, and the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors of Chickasaw County, Iowa, Auditor hereby are authorized to sign a quit claim deed reverting and transferring any and all ownership interest Chickasaw County, Iowa, has in ALL OF THAT PART OF THE ROADWAY RIGHT-OF-WAY EASEMENT LOCATED IN THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER (SW ¼) OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER (SW ¼) OF SECTION 29, TOWNSHIP 95 NORTH, RANGE 14 WEST OF THE 5 TH P.M. 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Supervisors appear cool to idea of reducing cut to Public Health

SUPERVISORS: FROM 1

thrive. Does your reduction in budget want to be responsible for that?"

Franzen said that she has worked in health care her entire life and that she understands "you have to have money to work a budget, but there has to be other ways to trim the budget. ... "It seems asinine that we're cutting services," Franzen said, "to people that need them, that we want to keep in our community."

Heit, who said she worked in public health for 26 years, agreed.

"It just doesn't seem fair to people that need the services," she said. "Back in my day, there were many freezes of all of the wages and there were other options that were available that were done. I just feel it's a really, really sad situation."

BOARD MEMBERS said, as of Monday, the projected GB budget would have an ending fund balance of 27 percent, and they have often said that the rule-of-thumb they use is to

have at least a 25 percent ending fund balance when a fiscal year ends.

The reason is twofold — one, is to have emergency funds on hand, and maybe even more importantly, to have money "in the bank" for the first three months of a fiscal year to cover expenditures made before property taxes are collected.

When supervisors received proposed budgets earlier this year, they said that if nothing changed, the ending fund balance for GB would have been 19 percent.

Board Chairman Jake Hackman, though, said he is always wary when it comes to those ending fund balances.

"You can say it's 27 percent ending fund balance," Hackman said, "but that's a very unknown question until we know the books close on July 1."

Supervisor Issac Carter, though, wondered aloud if the county could restore some funding to Public Health by reducing the projected ending fund balance to 25 percent.

"If we get to the 25 [percent], would be willing to give anyone to Public Health so they can keep an employee," Carter asked. "I know it's not going to

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 ½ 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.

No. 24720

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

Legal Notice

NOTICE OF TRUST AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS
IN THE MATTER OF THE DORIS M. MILLER REVOCABLE TRUST OF DORIS M. MILLER, DECEASED

To all persons regarding Doris M. Miller, deceased, who died on or about February 1, 2025; you are hereby notified that Vickie Nehl and Richard Miller are the trustees of the Doris M. Miller Revocable Trust.

Any action to contest the validity of the trust must be brought in the District Court of Chickasaw County, Iowa, within the later to occur of four months from the date of second publication of this notice, or thirty days from the date of mailing 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 trustees at the addresses listed below via certified mail, return receipt requested, by 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 (unless otherwise allowed or paid) a claim is thereafter forever barred.

Dated this 12th day of March, 2025.

Vickie Nehl, Trustee
207 S. Reinhart Ave.
Alta Vista, IA 50603

Richard Miller, Trustee
1709 190th St.
New Hampton, IA 50659

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

Date of second publication:
27th day of March, 2025

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Bob Fenske/Tribune

Chickasaw County resident Nancy Franzen (left) makes an impassioned plea to the Board of Supervisors to restore funding to Public Health and Homecare Services during Monday's board meeting.

be a popular topic but [if] it was discussed, they could bring in more revenue and keep one."

But his idea generated little, if any, support from fellow board members.

There appeared to be more agreement — albeit not unanimous — to use ending fund balances to allow the county to spend about \$327,000 more from its GB and GS funds than their projected revenues.

"I think we have to use the ending fund balance," Supervisor Steve Breitbach said. "I don't think we can balance this year, but next year

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

No. 24691

3/13/25 New Hampton Tribune
3/20/25 New Hampton Tribune
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Legal Notice - Legal Notice

OFFICIAL NOTICE
BEFORE THE UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF IOWA TO THE CITIZENS OF CHICKASAW COUNTY:

Notice is given that Corn Belt Power Cooperative, Humboldt, Iowa, pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 478, has filed a petition with the Iowa Utilities Commission (IUC) for amendment of franchise to maintain and operate an electric transmission line setting forth the following as the maximum voltage, starting points, routes, and termini of the existing line:

EXHIBIT A
69,000 Volts Nominal
(72,500 Volts Maximum)
Electric Transmission Line
Chickasaw County, Iowa

The south endpoint of this line is in the Northeast Quarter of Section 17, T-94N, R-12W of the 5th P.M., Chickasaw County, Iowa; and the south terminus of this line is in the Northeast Quarter of Section 17, T-94N, R-12W of the 5th P.M., Chickasaw County, Iowa.

The north endpoint of this line is at the Northeast Corner of the Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 8, T-94N, R-12W of the 5th P.M., Chickasaw County, Iowa; and the north terminus of this line is in the Southeast Quarter of Section 2, T-94N, R-14W of the 5th P.M., Chickasaw County, Iowa.

The south terminus of this line is the Corn Belt Power Cooperative Fredericksburg substation, located in the Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 17, T-94N, R-12W. The south endpoint of this line is a connection point with an existing Corn Belt Power Cooperative 69kV transmission line, on private right of way, along the west boundary of the Corn Belt Power Cooperative Fredericksburg substation property, located approximately 215 feet south of the North Quarter Corner of Section 17, T-94N, R-12W.

Thence northerly, as a single circuit 69kV transmission line, on private right of way, along the north-south center section line of Section 17, T-94N, R-12W, to a connection point with an existing Corn Belt Power Cooperative/New Hampton Municipal 69kV double circuit transmission line, on private right of way, along the south boundary of United States Highway 18, near the northeast corner of the Corn Belt Power Cooperative Fredericksburg substation property, located approximately 75 feet south and 5 feet west of the North Quarter Corner of Section 17, T-94N, R-12W; approxi-

is going to be awfully tough. So everyone needs to be prepared."

Along with other supervisors, he pointed out that a bill making its way through the Legislature that could limit counties to just 2 percent growth in tax-asking in future years would make a balanced GB/GS budgets a must.

Hackman, for example, said he understood Carter's point, "but what are we safe with as an ending fund balance?"

And, he too, expressed concern about how state lawmakers this year could affect county budgets in the future.

"If the lawmakers in Des Moines get their way, are we going to live with only a 2 percent tax-asking growth? That's going to be tough to run rural counties when there's not much tax-base growth."

Supervisor Scott Cerwinski echoed Breitbach's comments when it came to both this year's and future years' budgets.

"As much as I would like to see this a balanced budget," he said, "I think we're going to have to use the ending fund balance. I would agree with Steve's statement. I don't think we have a choice this year, but next year, we're going to have to really crack down."

One board member, Travis Suckow, though continued to call for a true balanced budget.

DAM : FROM 1

Auditor's Office, was the fact that it believed the city didn't own the dam when the ARPA funds were given to Nashua in the summer of 2023. That had long been the contention of rural New Hampton resident Terry Johnson, who is a regular attendee at Board of Supervisors meeting and who has been outspoken on the issue.

mately 0.03 mile.

Thence north, as the west circuit of the Corn Belt Power Cooperative/New Hampton Municipal 69kV double circuit transmission line, on private right of way, along the north-south center section lines of Sections 17 & 8, T-94N, R-12W, crossing the public road right of way of United States Highway 18, to a point on private right of way, and there ending, at the Northeast Corner of the Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 8, T-94N, R-12W; approximately 0.27 mile.

The north endpoint of this line is a connection point with an existing Corn Belt Power Cooperative 69kV transmission line, on private right of way, at the Northeast Corner of the Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 8, T-94N, R-12W. The north terminus of this line is the Corn Belt Power Cooperative Bradford substation, located in the Southeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 2, T-94N, R-14W.

The total distance of this 69,000 Volts line is approximately 0.30 mile.

A map showing the route of the electric line may be obtained at no cost by calling (515) 332-7746 or by writing to Corn Belt Power Cooperative; Attn: Dan Shiflett; 1300 13th Street North; P.O. Box 508; Humboldt, IA 50548-0508.

Orders issued and documents filed in this docket (No. E-21520, Amendment No. 1) may be viewed by searching under the docket number in the IUC's electric filing system (EFS) at efs.iowa.gov. Objections to the granting of the amendment to franchise may be filed electronically using EFS or filed in writing with the IUC no later than 20 days after the date of second publication of this notice. Instructions for submitting an electronic filing can be found in EFS; written objections must be mailed to the Iowa Utilities Commission, 1375 E. Court Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50319.

The date of the first publication is March 13, 2025. The date of the second publication is March 20, 2025.

IOWA UTILITIES COMMISSION
BY: Jon Tack
General Counsel
Dated this 6th day of March, 2025.

No. 24713

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

He also expressed concerns about the possible use of a so-called "floaters" who would work in the three elected officials' offices in the courthouse.

"I talked to treasurers last week in Des Moines," Ysbrand said, "and they said every employee they've ever shared has failed ... because the one office wants them at the same time as the other one. They said that's where they've had trouble with it."

Suckow, though, pointed out that the county has used a floater in the past, and he didn't see any reason why it couldn't do so again.

FINDING AGREEMENT

on the budget — or at least enough so to set a public hearing on it — is important because the county is running out of time to make sure it's 2025-26 tax levy and budget is certified by the state-mandated deadline of April 30.

Supervisors will hold a public hearing this coming Monday on its max levy, and that hearing is set for 9 a.m. in the board room, although Hackman said he has reserved the courtroom in case there is a high turnout.

Board members, though, want to publish the public hearing notice on the budget next week so that the public hearing can be held on April 14, one day before the Secondary Roads Department budget needs to be certified with the Iowa Department of Transportation.

One intriguing question was posed by County Attorney David Laudner: does the county have a proposed balanced budget?

"It would seem rare — outside of like Jake said "an emergency" — to spend all of that 7.5 [million] and it feels like we always have additional revenue because we always underestimate that so yes, these are numbers but are they the true numbers that represent a true \$327,000 deficit?"

Laudner asked if county leaders had numbers that showed average percentages of both spending and revenues.

"Even if we brought in every single penny we promised or we say we're going to bring in and we only spend 95 percent," he said, "5 percent of seven and a half million is \$375,000. There's your deficit right there."

Supervisors take no action on dam report

DAM : FROM 1

"The deed itself was open to interpretation," Laudner said, "and I think their interpretation — while I strongly disagree with their interpretation — their interpretation is a valued interpretation to have. So even if I respond or you guys direct me to respond on your behalf, I'm not sure what good that does."

After the reaudit report was issued on Feb. 24, Nashua City Clerk John Ott said that ownership of the dam was a "technicality" at the time of the award. He added that the city now has legal proof that it owns the dam that created Cedar Lake, a cornerstone of the county's second-largest city. The State Auditor's report agreed, stating that a quit claim deed that was prepared by the MidAmerican Energy Corporation and grants ownership of the dam to the city was filed with the Chickasaw County Recorder's Office on Dec. 3, 2024.

Laudner said that when the State Auditor's Office traditionally finds evidence of wrongdoing, state code requires the office to share its findings either with the county attorney's office or with the state attorney general. He said Monday, neither his office or the Attorney General's Office has received the report.

'A Matter of Balance' begins next week at library

"A Matter of Balance: Managing Concerns About Falls," an award-winning workshop designed to increase the activity levels of older adults with concerns about falling will begin its eight-week run at the New Hampton Public Library next week.

Classes will be held from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. each Monday and Thursday, March 24 through April 17.

During the sessions, participants learn to:

- Promote exercise to increase strength and balance
- Set realistic goals for increasing activity
- Improve the environment to reduce fall risk factors
- View falls and fear of falling as controllable

Preregistration is required by contacting Carrie Becker, New Hampton Public Library director, at 641-394-2184. A minimum of eight participants is required.

Each participant will receive a detailed training manual. The program costs for the workshop is being covered by the New Hampton Public Library.

Northeast Iowa Area Agency on Aging serves 18 counties in Northeast Iowa and is one of six Area Agencies on Aging in Iowa. With a mission of helping older persons respond to their evolving needs and choices, NEI3A strives to improve older Iowans' lives, their caregivers, and their communities by providing information, services, and support to enable aging at home. For more information, visit www.nei3a.org.

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Chickasaw girls to have new coach next winter

After four years at the helm of New Hampton hoops program, Leichtman tenders resignation

By Bob Fenske
editor@nhtrib.com

New Hampton High School is in search of a new head girls basketball coach after the man who has held the job for the past four seasons resigned last week.

David Leichtman, in a letter he submitted to Activities Director Cory McDonald on Wednesday and during an interview on Thursday, said the “time is right” for him to step down as he cited family considerations in giving up the post he’s held since the 2021-22 season.

“In some ways, it’s really hard because I still love coaching,” Leichtman said Thursday morning, “but with everything going on right now, it was a relatively easy decision because family has to come first.”

Leichtman said his father is battling cancer and also pointed out that he became a grandfather for the first time this past winter.

“At this point taking care of my father is now [my] No. 1 priority,” he wrote to McDonald, “and I’ll be able to Grandpa more in Montana.”

Leichtman, who had a 27-59 career record, said he believes that New Hampton girls basketball is ready to take a big step

forward next season.

“The timing is right as we just finished the NEIC conference, and we head to the Upper Iowa Conference [next season],” he said. “This will lead to a new journey for girls basketball that has the utmost potential. It has been a great four years, as we all were battle tested in the NEIC.”

New Hampton played to a 5-16 record in 2024-25, and although the Chickasaws went winless in the four-team NEIC, they showed considerable improvement throughout the season and put together a three-game winning streak late in the regular season.

Three of the team’s fop four scorers — Leichtman’s daughter, Ava, Chloe Weigel and Jordan Thronsdon — were underclassmen. Throw in three other players — Caycee Crawford, Aleigha Cahoy and Kaymi Hackman — who saw considerable playing time this winter, and Leichtman believes the next New Hampton coach will have a solid nucleus.

“I think one of the things I constantly said this year was how hard our girls worked,” he said, “and I think this program has a bright future. As much as I’ll miss it, though, it was time to step away and take care of the most important part of my life and that’s my family.”



Kelly Terpstra/Tribune

New Hampton girls basketball coach David Leichtman talks with his players during a game this past winter.

On Tap for the Chickasaws, Trojans

FRIDAY

Turkey Valley boys and girls track at UIC Indoor, Luther College, 4 p.m.

TUESDAY

New Hampton boys and girls track at NEIC Indoor, Luther College, 4:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, APRIL 1

New Hampton trapshooting vs. South Winneshiek and Oelwein, 4 p.m., doubles vs Oelwein, 6 p.m. Fredericksburg Sportsman’s Club.

Turkey Valley boys and girls track at Summer-Fredericksburg Frostbite Relays, 4:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, APRIL 3

New Hampton trapshooting vs. Echo Valley and Butler

County, Fredericksburg Sportsman’s Club, 4 p.m.

New Hampton girls and boys soccer vs. Charles City, 5 p.m.

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

FRIDAY, APRIL 4

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

New Hampton girls soccer vs. Clear Lake, 5 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 5

New Hampton trapshooting at Nashua invite, 8 a.m.

MONDAY, APRIL 7

New Hampton trapshooting vs. Waverly and Turkey Valley, 4 p.m.

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

TUESDAY, APRIL 8

New Hampton boys golf vs. Charles City, 4 p.m.

New Hampton trapshooting vs. Nashua/Charles City, 4 p.m.

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

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

Chickasaw Women’s Pool

Week 20 March 12

	W	L	GB
Kenny’s Tavern I	106	74	0
Dak’s Tap I	105	75	1
NH Country Club	98	82	8
Bowlaway Lanes	97	83	9
Kenny’s Tavern II	95	85	11
Hide A Way	87	93	19
Dak’s Tap II	66	114	40
The Office	66	114	40

RESULTS

Kenny’s Tavern I - 7, Hide A Way - 2
Dak’s Tap I - 7, Kenny’s Tavern II - 2
NH Country Club - 6, Bowlaway Lanes - 3
The Office - 5, Dak’s Tap II - 4

THREE-GAME WINNERS

Kenny’s Tavern I - Tina Britt & Kristy Kirkus
Dak’s Tap I - Pat Halvorson & Sheila Schwickerath
NH Country Club - Staci Vrzak & Jessica McCabe
Dak’s Tap II - Brandee Reams & Sammii Rucker



Kelly Terpstra/Tribune

New Hampton’s Beau Serie (left) and Chickasaw teammate Dylan Maloy duke it out in the 55-meter dash prelims at the Wartburg Indoor on Tuesday while Austyn Kleppe (below) tosses the shot put.

It’s the Chickasaw boys’ turn to take to the track

New Hampton freshman places in shot put at Wartburg meet, but just competing is a ‘win’ for young Chickasaw athletes

By Kelly Terpstra
sports@nhtrib.com

Austyn Kleppe and Beau Serie are on opposite ends of the spectrum in their prep track and field careers.

One is just starting on the varsity level, while the other Chickasaw on Scott Jenkins’ boys track squad is hoping to put the finishing touches on a productive athletic tenure in resounding fashion later this spring.

Both standout Chickasaws blasted out of the blocks for the first time in an official competition in 2025 as New Hampton began its indoor season at the Wartburg Indoor on Tuesday in Waverly.

And from the likes it, there should be plenty to cheer about for Jenkins’ young squad.

Kleppe, one of just four freshmen in the 36-man shot put field, impressed.

If you’re a Chickasaw fan and you don’t know who he is quite yet – give it time, because you’ll find out sooner than later.

Kleppe may want to check the math on his tosses because he thought he fell just short of 42 feet in the throwing ring – which would have qualified him for a varsity letter. The athletic ninth-grader more than exceeded that distance.

“My thought going into the season is just trying to do the best I can, not worrying so much about a place,” said Kleppe, who wrestles at 190 pounds, plays first base on the baseball team and is running back and linebacker in football.

The beginning of Kleppe’s varsity oval career – at least the one where he’s not running – started out with a bang as he placed sixth in the shot put with a toss of 43-7.75.

As an eighth-grader, he contracted food poisoning at the state meet and threw 35 feet. He said he holds the seventh-grade record at NH with a toss of 38-5.

What’s the key to success in his mind to get the heavy metal ball to fly through the air at an award-winning distance?

“Don’t worry – just go out there and perform your best,” said Kleppe. “That’s what I’ve been told by Coach (Jordan) Rommes. I just try to keep pushing myself everyday. I don’t let the highs get too high or the lows get too low.”

Kleppe also ran in the open 200 where he placed 22nd in a time of 26.23.

Serie, in his final run at NH as a senior, broke seven seconds in the 55-meter dash preliminary round. He intently watched the video board alongside his mother at the indoor meet to see if he had a chance to crack the finals, but he just fell short.

Serie’s time was 6.93 – good for 12th



New Hampton’s Colin Shatek runs a leg of the 4x800 relay on Tuesday in Waverly.

“I was just looking to get under seven. I feel that was a reasonable spot,” said Serie, who led the Chickasaws in rushing last year out on the gridiron with 1,120 yards and 13 touchdowns.

Penciled in heat four right next to sophomore teammate Dylan Maloy – Serie said he didn’t get that good of a start. That’s probably one of the main reasons he didn’t advance on to the eight-man finals.

“It would have been nice, but it is the start of the season. There’s always room for

improvement,” said Serie.

Asked what it’s like to run right next to his fellow Chickasaw – Maloy placed 20th in 7.12 in lane two, while Serie won the heat in lane three – and Serie had this to say.

“It definitely makes me want to beat ‘em more,” laughed Serie about getting a better time in the sprint event than his teammate.

Serie is optimistic that New Hampton can rise to the occasion this spring and be proud of their accomplishments out on the oval.

“We’re just a really young team and I’m just trying to do my part in helping others get better and trying to do better myself,” said Serie.

New Hampton’s best finish in a relay was in the 4x400, where Edgar Rodriguez, Carson Laures, Dylon Schmitt and Cade Carpenter came up with a 3:49.06, which was seventh-best amongst 18 entrants.

WARTBURG INDOOR NEW HAMPTON RESULTS

55 dash prelims - 12. Beau Serie 6.93, 20. Dylan Maloy 7.12.
200 dash - 22. Austyn Kleppe 26.23, 27. Eliott Eiler 27.11.
400 dash - 9. Carson Laures 56.79, 25. Will Dieterich 1:03.28.
Shot put - 6. Kleppe 43-7.75, 31. Jaxon Kuehn 32-2.5.
4x200 - 10. Jay Pickar, Ethan Carter, Eiler, Serie 1:40.35.
4x400 - 7. Edgar Rodriguez, Laures, Dylon Schmitt, Cade Carpenter 3:49.06.
4x800 - 9. Kamdyn Trower, Riley Berns, Emmett Kuehner, Colin Shatek 10:17.07.

Boys state basketball tourney heading to Ames

To the Tribune

A century after playing championships inside State Gym, the Iowa High School Athletic Association (IHSAA) and Iowa State University (ISU) will enter a new era together in 2027, when the state boys basketball tournament will move to James H. Hilton Coliseum.

An initial five-year agreement with support from Discover Ames will place the five-day, 32-team boys’ tournament inside Hilton Coliseum as the first-of-its-kind multi-use CyTown district is developed at the Iowa State Center and slated to come online in 2027.

“We couldn’t be more excited about what this opportunity will offer our student-athletes, schools, and supporters as they experience an elite basketball environment at Hilton and an awesome new tournament community in CyTown and Ames,” IHSAA executive director Tom Keating said. “Our sincere appreciation goes to everyone who has helped make this possible at Iowa State University, Discover Ames and Cyclone Athletics.”

Lauded as one of the nation’s finest college basketball venues,

Association moves championships for three sports to Iowa PBS

For the first time ever, three Iowa High School Athletic Association (IHSAA) championships in football, wrestling, and basketball are coming to Iowa PBS.

The state’s public broadcasting network will produce and broadcast finals from the three most-watched boys’ high school sports starting in fall 2025-26. Through a multi-year initial agreement, each of the selected championship events will appear on statewide Iowa PBS and stream for free through both Iowa PBS and IHSAA.

“The stories of Iowa student-athletes, teams, coaches, and communities are at the center of our Iowa PBS Sports coverage,” said Andrew Batt, executive director and general manager at Iowa PBS. “We are excited to extend our award-winning, in-depth broadcasts to the IHSAA and mutually ensure statewide access of these games across all 99 counties of Iowa and beyond. Every Iowan deserves an opportunity to witness these athletes pursue a championship on our state’s most extensive broadcast and streaming network.”

Iowa PBS’s live broadcast and streaming of IHSAA championship sports will be in addition to the statewide network’s existing coverage of Iowa Girls High School Athletic Union championships for various sports.

Hilton Coliseum boasts consistently strong attendance for the Cyclones’ men’s and women’s basketball programs with a capacity of 14,267, and the programs annually rank among the national leaders in home attendance.

ISU will make facilities at

Hilton and the attached and updated Scheman Building available for the IHSAA event.

Opened in 1971, ISU Athletics installed a new state-of-the-art video board, LED ribbon boards and an audio system ahead of the 2024-25 season, and has also complet-

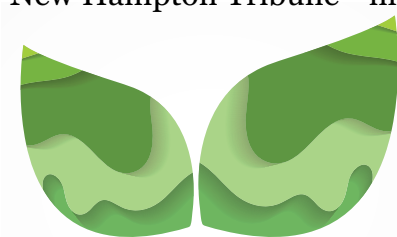
ed upgrades to its team locker rooms within the facility.

The Scheman Building is in the midst of a significant renovation which has created new hospitality spaces for Cyclone contests as well as other special events that the facility attracts.

The surrounding CyTown district – announced in 2022 and expected to be up and running in 2027 – will feature space for retail, food and beverage, common areas, and a 200-room Marriott hotel, The Cardinal.

“On behalf of Iowa State University, thank you to the IHSAA board, Tom Keating, and Tom’s staff for deciding to bring the Athletic Association’s state basketball tournament to Ames to experience Hilton Magic,” Iowa State Director of Athletics Jamie Pollard said. “We are excited to host this great event and our staff looks forward to working with the IHSAA to make this special for the athletes, coaches and fans whose teams reach the state tournament each year.”

“This is a major win for Iowa State University and our communities’ hotels and restaurants,” he added.



NATIONAL AG WEEK

March 16-22, 2025

Farmers hoping markets rebound

FARMERS: FROM 14

of Supervisors meeting last year. It came from his father, and it goes something like this: "It takes a long time to get dry, but it can get wet in a hurry."

Breitbart, like Hackman, isn't overly concerned about the drought; in fact, he said the rain that fell earlier this month is finding its way into the soil.

"We're fine, the tile is running and I don't think it's an issue, plus it's going to rain tomorrow," he said Tuesday evening. "I don't think a lot of farmers are losing much sleep over that."

Other issues aren't so cut and dry, Hackman said.

Corn prices aren't exactly robust, but they're better than soybean prices.

"We're seeing guys talking about planting more corn than they might have originally planned," Hackman said. "The problem is our biggest customer is China, and with corn, at least we're finding other markets. Trade wars aren't good for agriculture, everyone knows that."

At the same time, Hackman looked back on what turned out to be an extremely challenging 2024 season and said there may be lesson in what happened a year ago.

Yes, farmers dealt with a rainy spring and an even wetter early summer before the spigot was turned off and drought conditions, which plagued Iowa for much of 2023, returned with a vengeance. But while it wasn't a bin-busting crop, farmers held their own with corn yields although soybeans did suffer.

As ISU Extension Agronomist Terry Basol said last fall, soybeans simply didn't have "enough gas" to make it to the finish line.

"I'll stand by what I said in the fall," Hackman said. "As crazy as last year was, it still wasn't a disaster. It was an average year, and that was a win considering everything that got thrown at us."

Still, there's always hope in the spring, and as challenging as 2025 looks, Hackman said the farmers he works for are raring to go.

"It's March, I know that," he said Tuesday morning, "but I'm telling you, it's like every other year. They're itching to go, and a lot of things can happen in a growing season. Hopefully some of those challenges turn around because it's good for everyone — not just farmers. When they're making money, they're spending that money in town and it helps everyone."

Applications open for Century or Heritage Farm recognition

To the Tribune

Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Mike Naig invites eligible Iowa farm owners to apply for Century or Heritage Farm recognition as part of the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship's (IDALS) Century and Heritage Farm Program.

The program was created by the Department and the Iowa Farm Bureau Federation to honor families who have owned their farms for 100 years and 150 years, respectively.

"Century and Heritage Farm families embody the very best of our state, showcasing the strength and perseverance that define Iowa agriculture. The pride, stories, and legacies of these multi-generational farm families are truly inspiring," said Secretary Naig. "The Century and Heritage

Farm ceremony at the Iowa State Fair is a celebration of Iowa agriculture, and I look forward to honoring these families every year. I encourage eligible families to submit their applications and join us at this great event."

To be recognized in 2025, completed applications must be postmarked or received by the Department by June 1, 2025. The ceremonies honoring the 2025 Century and Heritage Farm families will be held on August 14, 2025, in the historic Livestock Pavilion at the Iowa State Fair.

"Agriculture drives our great state, and it's an honor to partner with IDALS to recognize the multi-generational farm families leading that progress," said Iowa Farm Bureau President Brent Johnson. "Century and Heritage Farm families have deep

roots in Iowa and these awards are a great way to honor their stories of dedication, innovation and perseverance."

To apply, download and complete the application found on the Department's website and return it to:

Century and Heritage Farm Program
Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

Wallace State Office Building
502 E. Ninth St.
Des Moines, IA 50319

You may also request an application from Kelley Reece, coordinator of the Century and Heritage Farm Program, at 515-281-3645 or kelley.reece@iowaagriculture.gov.

This is the 49th year of the Century Farm Program, which started in 1976 as part of the Nation's Bicentennial Celebration.

Why we celebrated Tuesday; a National Ag Day primer

What Is Ag Day?

It's a day to recognize and celebrate the abundance provided by agriculture. Every year, producers, agricultural associations, corporations, universities, government agencies and countless others across America join together to recognize the contributions of agriculture.

When Is Ag Day?

Ag Day was celebrated on March 18, and National Ag Day falls during National Ag Week.

Who Hosts Ag Day?

The Agriculture Council of America hosts the campaign on a national level. However, the awareness efforts in communities across America are as influential — if not more — than the broad-scale effort. Again this year, the Ag Day Planning Guide has been created to help communities and organizations more effectively host Ag Day events.

What Is Ag Day All About?

Ag Day is about recognizing - and celebrating — the contribution of agriculture in our everyday lives. The National Ag Day program encourages every American to:

Understand how food and fiber products are produced.

Value the essential role of agriculture in maintaining a strong economy.

Appreciate the role agriculture plays in providing safe, abundant and affordable products.

Why Celebrate Agriculture?

Agriculture provides almost everything we eat, use and wear on a daily basis. But too few people truly understand this contribution. This is particularly the case in our schools, where students may only be exposed to agriculture if they enroll in related vocational training.

By building awareness, the Agriculture Council of America is encouraging young people to consider career opportunities in agriculture.

Each American farmer feeds more than 165 people ... a dramatic increase from 25 people in the 1960s. Quite simply, American agriculture is doing more - and doing it better. As the world population soars, there is an even greater demand for the food and fiber produced in the United States.

What Can I Do to Help?

Put simply, get involved! Your participation in Ag Day is critical in helping us spread this positive message about agriculture. If you are interested in planning an event, download your Planning Guide today. Of course, there are other ways you can lend your support, including sending a letter to your local newspaper, calling your Congressional representatives or simply sharing information about agriculture with youngsters in your community.

More Information?

Contact the Agriculture Council of America at (913) 491-1895.

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NATIONAL AG WEEK

March 16-22, 2025

Why a thriving ag sector is vital

Metro Creative Solutions

Inflation has been a hot topic for several years running.

Many businesses have been forced to raise their prices in an effort to combat a host of variables, including materials costs, labor shortages and political uncertainty across the globe.

That's been hard on consumers' and business owners' pocketbooks, and precisely when inflation will simmer down remains a mystery.

Though the cost of many goods and services has skyrocketed in recent years, discussions about inflation often focus on the rising cost of groceries.

According to USDA Economic Research, food prices in the United States rose 23.6 percent between 2020 and 2024. That's led many people to cut back on luxuries like dining out. As people dine out less, they may be looking to expand their culinary horizons at home, and that goal is best achieved when the agricultural sector is put in position to meet consumer demands.

Indeed, that link is just one of the

many ways that a thriving agricultural sector benefits everyone.

• **A strong agricultural sector greatly benefits the economy.** Job creation is widely cited as a pathway to economic recovery, and a well-supported agricultural sector can create millions of jobs.

The agricultural tech firm Sabanto estimates 2025 began with around 2.4 million unfilled jobs within the agricultural sector. A 2022 report from Maryville University indicated the agricultural sector contributes \$7 trillion to the U.S. economy, employing as much as 10.3 percent of the nation's workers.

The link between a thriving agricultural sector and a strong economy is undeniable, making it a worthy endeavor to support policies that prioritize agriculture.

• **A thriving farm is a productive farm.** Modern grocery stores offer an abundance of healthy foods, and many of those foods are grown on farms.



The Farm Bureau reports that a single acre of land can grow various crops, producing as much as 50,000 strawberries or just under 2,800 bushels of wheat.

Consumers who enjoy visiting grocery stores that offer an array of fresh, nutritious foods, including fruits and vegetables, should know that those options are only available when a

thriving agricultural sector is prioritized.

• **Farms are vital to production of other products as well.** Maryville University notes a thriving agricultural sector is involved in more than just food production. IFP Energies notes that bio-based chemistry uses raw materials derived from biomass, such as plants like wheat,

corn and potatoes, to produce an array of products, including inks, dyes and detergents.

So it's not just the foods people eat that can be traced to a thriving agricultural sector.

Bio-based chemistry also is considered green because it promotes a reduction of the environmental impact of industrial production.

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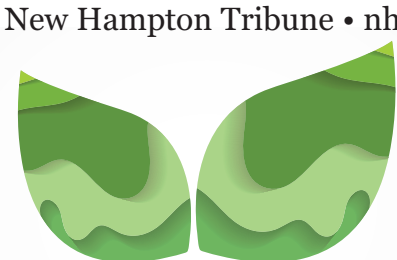
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NATIONAL AG WEEK

March 16-22, 2025



Another great banquet for the Cattlemen!

The Chickasaw County Cattlemen's Association held its annual banquet on March 1 at the Pub at the Pinicon, where the organization handed out scholarships to area high school seniors (above) and enjoyed a tasty (left) prime rib meal.

Those receiving scholarships included (from left) Beth Pickar, Caleb Utley, Carrie Schwickerath, Kimberly Jordan, Luella Reicks, Aleah Eichenberger and Karla Pickar.

The event also included live and silent auctions that helped raise money for association programs and scholarships.

Photos courtesy of Joanne Tupper



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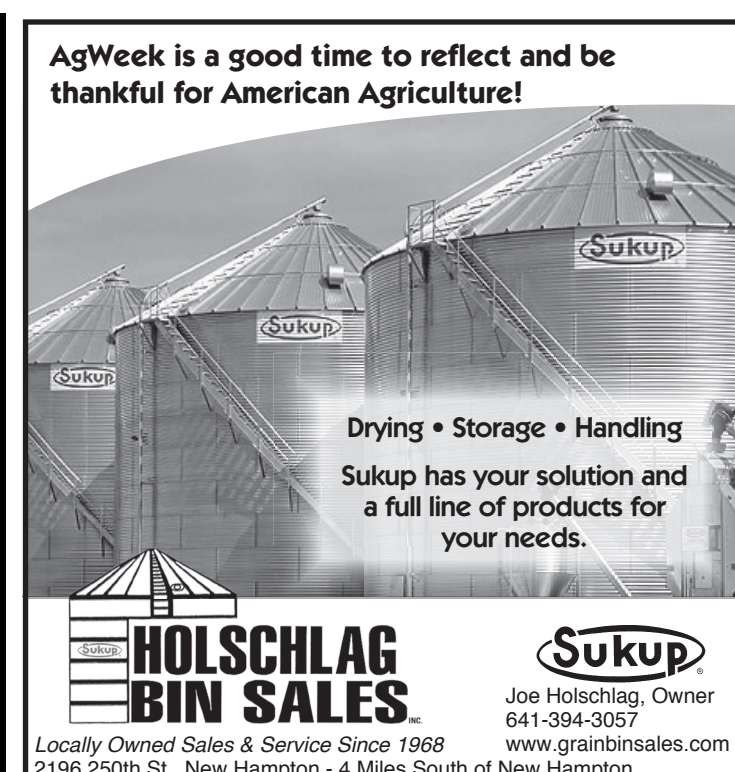
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Iowa also ranks first nationally in several conservation practices used to protect soil and water quality — such as water quality wetlands, bioreactors, saturated buffers, grassed waterways, filter strips, buffer strips, pollinator habitat, conservation tillage, and terraces.

Additionally, Iowa ranks second in both soybean and oat production, No. 4 in cattle on feed, No. 7 in turkeys, No. 9 in sheep and lambs, and No. 11 in milk production, according to the United States Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS).

— Iowa Farm Bureau

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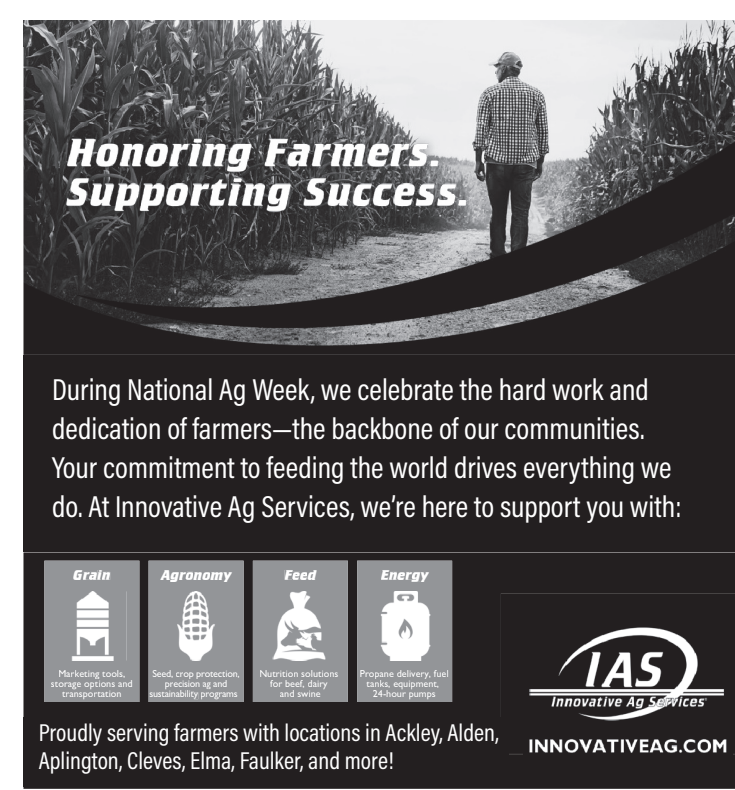
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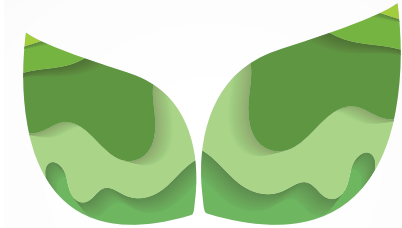
Ben Larson
NMLS 1625057

Adam Zeien
NMLS 1520271

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*Source: American Bankers Association. FDIC. Data as of 03/2024.

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NATIONAL AG WEEK

March 16-22, 2025



Photo courtesy of Joanne Tupper

Pork producers present annual scholarship
Chickasaw County Pork Producers Association member Joanne Tupper presents the organization's 2025 scholarship award to Luella Reicks during the association's banquet that was held in January.



Bob Fenske/Tribune

We may be a long way from harvest, but as we celebrate National Ag Week, we're not too far away from seeing farmers in Chickasaw County in their fields getting ready to plant this year's crop.

Gearing up for a challenging year

It may not long before farmers will be doing pre-planting field work, and they are itching to go

By BOB FENSKE
editor@nhtrib.com

Farmers in and around Chickasaw County are getting closer to kicking off the 2025 growing season. Just ask Corey Hackman, a certified crop specialist for the AgVantage FS.

"We've got farmers just a couple of counties to the south of us who have been doing field work," he said Tuesday morning, "and honestly, depending on what this storm does, we may not be too far away up here in Chickasaw County either."

As farmers celebrate National Ag Week — which began on

Sunday, ends on Saturday and included National Ag Day on Tuesday — they're dealing with plenty of challenges. From drought conditions that continue to affect all of Northeast Iowa to sluggish markets to worries about how a trade war that is heating up will affect them, there's a lot on the plates for Iowa farmers as they head into the 2025 growing season. "Everyone knows that in farming you have good years, you have tough years," Hackman said, "and unfortunately right now, we've got some challenges."

And the drought isn't one of them, at least in my opinion. But you know, these guys have been through this before and they just work through it and hope for the best." The U.S. Drought Monitor in its latest report that was released last week says that pretty much of all of Northeast Iowa is still experiencing what officials call "moderate drought" conditions. It reminds us of one the lines that area farmer Steve Breitbach said during a Board

SEE FARMERS, 11

National AgWeek!

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This National Ag Week, we celebrate the farmers and producers who work tirelessly to provide the food, fiber and other agricultural products that are the lifeblood of our community.

Thank You!

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