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Bob Fenske/Tribune

Chickasaw County Fair Queen Carrie Schwickerath is crowned by her predecessor, Emma Brincks, Saturday evening while the day before, Miles Holthaus, leads his cow through the ring during competition at the Chickasaw County 4-H and FFA Achievement Show that was held at the Big 4 Fairgrounds in Nashua.

SHOW OVERCOMES CHALLENGES

DESPITE LESS-THAN-IDEAL FAIR WEATHER, ACHIEVEMENT SHOW GIVES 4-H, FFA MEMBERS A CHANCE TO SHINE

By BOB FENSKE
editor@nhtrib.com

It wouldn't be a Chickasaw County 4-H and FFA Achievement Show without Mother Nature rearing her head.

And 2025 was certainly no exception. Then again, the heat, for the most part stayed away. The rain, however, didn't.

"We definitely had to battle that rain, especially [Thursday and Friday]," Chickasaw County ISU Extension Youth Coordinator Makaela Kime said Saturday. "We did lose power for about five minutes yesterday, and that was interesting during our bucket bottle show but overall, everyone just kind of went with the flow and we survived."

SEE SHOW, 13



'Good ride' comes to an end for longtime city firefighter

After almost 50 years with New Hampton Fire Department, Geerts makes tough decision but says the timing is right

By BOB FENSKE
editor@nhtrib.com

The words, at times, came slowly Monday as Steve Geerts talked about his remarkable firefighting career.

For almost 51 years, the New Hampton Fire Department was a huge part of his life, so as he talked about his decision he made last week to hand in his pager and retire from a job he's held since October 1974, he did so with a voice chock full of emotion.

"It was time, I know that ... but it doesn't make it any easier," he said. "So much of my life, and my family's life, too, has been being a fireman. It's hard to walk away ... even if I know it's the right ... thing ... to ... do."

He looked up and smiled. "I'll tell you this much: I'm going to miss the camarade-

rie more than anything else," Geerts said. "Some of the best friends I've made — heck, most of the friends I've made — are because I was a fireman. I don't know how to say it, but I feel blessed that I got to do this for as long as I did."

He was asked about the pager going off at 3 a.m. and he flashed a quick grin.

"That, I probably won't miss," he said, "but pretty much everything else, you bet, I'm gonna miss it. I really believe that it's important that we serve our community, and I got to do that for almost 51 years."

But the time commitment that comes with being New Hampton's mayor — a post he was elected to in 2023 — and a few other issues finally led him to walk away from the

SEE FIREMAN, 6



Longtime New Hampton Fire Department member Steve Geerts poses for a photo in his home's basement that is filled with firefighting memorabilia.

Bob Fenske/Tribune

Public Health makes pitch for restored funding

Supervisors considering budget amendment, but other departments also hoping to tap into higher-than-expected ending fund balance

By BOB FENSKE
editor@nhtrib.com

Kyle Hennessy knows firsthand just how much the budget cuts Chickasaw County Public Health and Homecare Services suffered earlier this year have affected county residents.

The New Hampton resident who suffers from cerebral palsy and is deaf brought his concerns to the Board of Supervisors Monday afternoon, reading a short statement to the board members who made the decision to reduce Public Health's budget by more than \$350,000.

"I am here to talk about Public Health home care," he said. "I need them to help me. They get me ready for work or the day. It was not good without them. They are so good at showing up and helping me. Please help me. Thank you."

Hennessy, who works part-time for New Hampton Community Schools as the district's webmaster and community relations representative, made his comments early during Monday's meeting, and board members spent considerable time later in the day discussing a possible 2025-26 budget amendment to replace the air-conditioning unit at the courthouse.

During its July 7 meeting, supervisors learned that the county's ending fund balance at the end of the 2024-25 fiscal year was almost \$2.94 million, up more than \$1.3 million what they projected when they were putting together the budget for the fiscal year that started on July 1.

Board members had requested that department heads let them know if they had requests that they would like to see included in a budget amendment. And several department heads did

SEE SUPERVISORS, 8

RESIDENTS EXPRESS
CONCERN ABOUT
CLOSURE OF BRIDGE.

— PAGE 7

Celebrating church

Our Lady of Lourdes gets set for a very special Steeple Days as church celebrates 150th anniversary

Page 5

More than golf

Annual Josie's MidSummer Classic brings together friends from both near and far

Page 14

Tough loss

New Hampton's softball season comes to end with heartbreaking 2-1 loss

Page 14



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Fashion for Every Body

No matter your size, shape or gender identity, there are stylish options for every couple walking down the aisle.

Fall weddings offer the perfect backdrop for personal style to shine. As leaves turn and the air cools, wedding attire trends shift toward rich textures, deeper colors and layers that blend beauty with comfort. Bridal designer Jackson Wiederhoeft told Brides that inclusivity when it comes to wedding wear means many different things, including designing beautiful outfits for plus-size people, petite people, and trans and non-binary people. “Size inclusivity means finding ways to support all these experiences and more,” he said.

Wiederhoeft said size inclusivity and body positivity go hand-in-hand. He also said everyone is different. “Two people with the exact same measurements can carry weight in totally different ways and have completely different body types,” he said. “Especially for the wedding look, it needs to be immaculately made to perfectly fit and support you.”

CELEBRATE YOUR SHAPE
The key to great wedding fashion is fit, not size. Custom tailoring ensures your outfit flatters your body, whether you are rocking a ballgown, a sleek suit or something uniquely you. Many boutiques now offer inclusive sizing and custom designs that highlight what you

love most about your silhouette. Fall is a perfect season to experiment with luxurious fabrics like velvet, brocade and satin that drape beautifully and feel amazing.

FINDING THE PERFECT WEDDING OUTFIT
Once you know what you want and what your body needs, there’s still the matter of finding a retailer who can accommodate those looks. Enaura recommends several steps. First, they suggest looking for retailers who specialize in size inclusivity. Find a store that has a range of bridal gown samples. A store specializing in size inclusivity will have staff who knows what looks good on different body types. Secondly, they encourage brides to be open to different styles.

While you may have a favorite style for regular clothes, wedding dresses are different. Experiment with a range of styles and cuts and trust the process and the expertise of bridal stylists. Communicate which of your body features you want to draw attention to. They also stress it is important to communicate weight loss plans with the bridal shop and that it isn’t necessary to lose weight for your wedding day. You can celebrate your beauty no matter what size you are. It is typical for a bride to shop for a dress at least eight months before the wedding. It is easier to take a dress in than it is to let it out, so it is better to go with a slightly larger size than a smaller one. Consider getting a made-to-measure dress rather than buying a pre-made size off the rack.

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Elopements and Micro-Weddings

Couples are increasingly trading large, traditional weddings for smaller, deeply personal celebrations.

Wildly Connected Photography's blog reports that elopements are on the rise and in 2025, the top trends are adventure elopements, eco-friendly elopements, nature elopements, destination

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Second-Time-Around Weddings

Love has no expiration date and fall is the perfect season for celebrating new beginnings.

Whether it's a second marriage or a vow renewal, couples who have weathered life's seasons often bring a deeper sense of joy and meaning to their celebrations. Planning a second-time around wedding offers the freedom to toss out old expectations and design a day that reflects the journey ahead.

PERSONALIZE THE CEREMONY

One of the best parts of planning a second wedding or vow renewal is that there are no rigid rules. Some couples prefer small, intimate gatherings, while others throw lively parties with family and friends. Autumn's natural beauty provides a stunning backdrop for outdoor ceremonies, with golden leaves, cooler temperatures and cozy settings adding to the magic. Consider exchanging vows under a canopy of trees, in a vineyard or even in a family backyard dressed in fall finery. Including children and grandchildren in the ceremony is another popular way to personalize the event. Some couples involve family in unity rituals, like planting a tree together or blending different colored sands to symbolize the merging of lives and histories.



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Second-time brides and grooms often feel freer to choose attire that reflects their personalities and style, rather than traditional expectations. Whether that means a sweeping colored gown, a tailored suit, or a cozy cashmere shawl over fall-themed accessories, the focus is on feeling comfortable and confident. Rich fall tones like burgundy, navy, forest green and gold offer elegant alternatives to traditional bridal white. For vow renewals, some couples choose to echo their original wedding day looks with a fresh, updated

twist or go in a completely new direction that better fits who they are today.

MEANINGFUL CELEBRATIONS OVER BIG PRODUCTIONS

Many second-time-around couples shift the focus away from large guest lists and formalities, instead emphasizing meaningful experiences. A sunset ceremony followed by a harvest dinner, a weekend getaway with loved ones or a relaxed brunch celebration can all offer special ways to honor the occasion. Fall menus are particularly appealing for cozy, heartfelt celebrations. Think comfort foods like roasted vegetables, hearty pastas, apple

cider bars, and mini pumpkin pies. Floral arrangements featuring autumn leaves, sunflowers and rustic touches like wooden accents or lanterns bring warmth without fuss.

THE BEAUTY OF A NEW BEGINNING

Remarriages and vow renewals are a reminder that love is resilient. Every couple's journey is different, and every second-time-around celebration deserves to be as joyful, authentic and beautiful as the season itself. Fall's crisp air and brilliant colors offer the perfect setting for embracing the future, hand in hand, heart to heart.

WEDDING: FROM 2

elopements, eloping alone with a big party afterwards and hand-fasting. Meanwhile, Lena Christine says that vintage elopement weddings are on the rise.

Helzberg Diamonds conducted a survey a few years ago of 1,000 U.S.-based engaged couples. They found that 62% were open to the idea of eloping, with 69% of women interested.

"Modern couples are motivated by elopements because of cost efficiency and intimacy of the environment," said Lauren Gravelyn, Helzberg Diamonds ordained associate.

Cost was also a factor. The average wedding cost, Helzberg Diamonds reported, was \$33,204 in 2022 and 26% of couples thought they were spending too much. They also learned that older couples are more likely to consider eloping as they are responsible for all of their wedding expenses, whereas younger millennials and Gen Z respondents are more likely to have a larger wedding as they have financial support from parents and grandparents.

THE ALLURE OF FALL ELOPEMENTS

Eloping isn't just a spur-of-the-moment decision anymore. Many couples thoughtfully plan fall elopements that still feel adventurous, while reflecting their personalities and values. Popular fall elopement destinations include national parks bursting with autumn color, historic towns with charming backdrops or even cozy family cabins tucked

deep into the woods.

Because fall tends to be less crowded than summer, couples often find more flexibility with locations and vendors. Some choose to hike to a mountaintop to exchange vows surrounded by golden leaves, while others opt for urban elopements filled with crisp air and historic architecture. No matter the setting, the season's natural beauty ensures that even the simplest ceremony feels extraordinary.

MICRO-WEDDINGS: SMALL GUEST LISTS, BIG EXPERIENCES

For couples who want a celebration without the size and stress of a traditional wedding, micro-weddings strike the perfect balance. Typically hosting 10-50 guests, micro-weddings allow couples to splurge on details that truly matter, such as a custom farm-to-table dinner, live acoustic music or elaborate fall-themed decor.

Fall micro-weddings can offer more venue flexibility. Think private gardens, local vineyards or even outdoor art spaces decorated with pumpkins, mums and vintage lanterns. Couples can get creative with activities too, from cider tastings to hayrides or even bonfires complete with s'mores.

Everly Events shares the statistic that micro-weddings have increased by 40% in the past year as couples embrace minimalism.

MAKING IT MEANINGFUL

One of the greatest strengths of fall elopements and micro-weddings is how personalized they can be. Couples often write their own vows, incorporate family heirlooms or create new traditions that blend their cultures and stories. Some invite just their immediate family or closest friends, while others turn it into a weekend getaway packed with cozy meals, hikes and shared memories.



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Fall Wedding Themes

Autumn weddings often call to mind pumpkins, burgundy bouquets and rustic barns, but there is a whole world of unexpected themes that can make a fall wedding unforgettable.

Couples looking to break from tradition can find inspiration in the moodiness and richness of the season without sticking to the expected.

CELESTIAL MAGIC

Fall skies are often crisp and clear, making them perfect for stargazing. Celestial themes featuring stars, moons and constellations create a whimsical atmosphere. Think deep navy or black linens dotted with gold accents, shimmering silver table runners, and lighting that mimics a starry night. Invitations, signage and even cakes can carry star maps or lunar imagery for a cohesive look.

GOTHIC GLAMOUR

For couples who love drama and elegance, a gothic glam wedding embraces the darker side of fall. Deep jewel tones like emerald, plum and sapphire paired with dramatic black and metallic accents set the stage. Victorian-inspired attire, candlelit venues and opulent florals with dark roses and protea flowers can create a luxurious

yet edgy vibe.

VINTAGE HARVEST

Imagine a vintage harvest celebration filled with antique details. Mismatched china, lace tablecloths, velvet ribbons and heirloom family recipes can all come together for a nostalgic, heartfelt day. Muted tones like dusty rose, sage green and antique gold enhance the feeling of stepping back in time.

ART DECO AUTUMN

The bold geometry and glitz of the 1920s pairs surprisingly well with fall's rich palette. An art deco theme layered with burnt orange, gold and deep teal can bring vintage glamour to life. Think geometric backdrops, beaded gowns, jazz music and elegant cocktail lounges for a lively, unforgettable evening.

ENCHANTED FOREST

Instead of focusing on the typical rustic barn or pumpkin patch look, go deep into the woods for a moody, magical vibe. Twinkling fairy lights, mossy tablescapes and a rich, green-and-gold palette can create a dreamy atmosphere. Think lush, overgrown floral arrangements, velvet accents and signature cocktails with foraged ingredients like elderflower or blackberry. An enchanted forest theme feels cozy yet mysterious, perfect for couples who love nature and a little bit of whimsy.

VINTAGE TRAVEL ADVENTURE

Celebrate your love story with a theme inspired by grand adventures and old-world travel. Decorate tables with antique suitcases, globes and vintage postcards. Invite guests to "board" different destination-themed tables like Paris, Venice or Marrakech. Fall's natural colors work beautifully with worn leathers, faded maps and soft candlelight. A vintage travel theme is perfect for couples who love exploring together — and it invites guests to dream right along with you.

LITERARY LOVE

For couples who bonded over books, a literary-themed fall wedding offers endless inspiration. Decorate tables with stacked vintage novels, script your vows with favorite passages, and name tables after beloved authors or characters. Rich autumn hues like deep burgundy, navy and gold set a dramatic stage for storytelling magic. You could even offer cozy reading nooks with plaid throws and warm cider. A literary wedding brings romance and nostalgia together; the perfect beginning to your next great chapter.

Whether inspired by the stars above, the elegance of bygone eras or the beauty of twilight, unexpected fall wedding themes allow couples to truly make the season their own.

Hair and Makeup Advice

Fall weddings have a magic all their own, with vibrant leaves, cozy color palettes and cool, refreshing air.

But that shift in weather can bring new beauty challenges, including dry skin to static-prone hair. With the right strategies, you can stay radiant and camera-ready from "I do" to the last dance.

HYDRATION IS THE FOUNDATION

Crisp autumn air may feel delightful, but it can be tough on your skin. In the weeks leading up to your wedding, switch to a more rich moisturizer or add a hydrating serum to your skincare routine. On the big day, start with a primer that locks in moisture and smooths the skin's texture for flawless makeup application.

Chapped lips are another cool-weather culprit. Keep lips supple by gently exfoliating with a sugar scrub and applying a nourishing balm before lipstick. Consider layering a moisturizing lip color that won't dry out over the evening.

MobileStyles recommends several popular techniques for fall weddings that can elevate your makeup. They include smoky eyes, monochromatic makeup, bold lips, soft contouring and dewy skin.

WEATHER-PROOF HAIR STRATEGIES

Autumn's dry air and gusty breezes call for flexible, resilient hairstyles. Styles like soft waves, low buns and

textured braids tend to hold up better than ultra-sleek looks that may frizz or flatten. Adding a light anti-humidity spray or texturizing product can help hair maintain volume and shape throughout the day.

If you plan to wear your hair down, have a few discreet hairpins or a travel-sized hairspray on hand for quick touch-ups. Brides with natural curls should focus on hydration, using leave-in conditioners or curl creams to keep hair healthy, bouncy and defined.

GLOW ALL NIGHT

The cooler temperatures can sometimes dull your natural glow but you can easily bring it back. A dewy foundation or a few well-placed dabs of cream highlighter can mimic that soft, lit-from-within look.

Dusting a light shimmer on your collarbones and shoulders can also enhance your overall radiance, especially in candlelight or golden fall sunsets.

Setting sprays designed for long wear are especially helpful in fall. They'll keep your look fresh without needing constant touch-ups, even through hours of dancing and celebration.

BONUS TIP: THINK AHEAD

With fall's unpredictable weather, it's wise to prepare a mini beauty kit with essentials like blotting papers, lip balm, tissues and a compact mirror. A cozy wrap or shawl can save the day if temperatures dip, keeping you warm without sacrificing your wedding-day style.



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JERICO

JERICO LUTHERAN

2512 120th St., New
Hampton
saudejerico.com
Pastor Peter Faugstad
Service time: 8:30
a.m. or 10:30 a.m., Sunday
Divine Service.

SAUDE

SAUDE LUTHERAN

2949 Stevens Trail, Lawler
saudejerico.com
Pastor Peter Faugstad
Service time: 8:30 or
10:30 a.m., Sunday Divine
Service.

IONIA

UNITED CHURCH OF
CHRIST

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

ST. BONIFACE CATHOLIC

Father Christopher
Podhajsky
Mass: Saturday, July 26,
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, 6
p.m.

ELMA

IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION CATHOLIC

Rev. Telesphore Dusabe
Mass: Sunday, July 27,
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.



Celebrating a beautiful church

A look back at the history of Our Lady of Lourdes as big weekend nears

Their dreams were big but their faith was bigger. With tenacity and grit, they began the tough journey across the Atlantic. Some lives were lost during the arduous journey but many travelers prevailed. C

In this year of 2025, Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church is celebrating 150 years of the Catholic faith in the Lourdes community. Now it is time to reflect upon the community that we call “home.”

When settlers first arrived on the banks of Crane Creek in Paris township in 1855, they brought with them a sense of hard work, perseverance, and deep faith. The first settlers were Irish followed by the Czech and Germans.

In the beginning the settlers gathered for Mass and other sacraments in the settlers’ home with a missionary priest visiting once a month. In May 1857, the U.S. government granted Thomas Griffin, an early settler, the grounds on which to build a church. The first church was a white frame structure with a seating capacity of 250 and was given the name of St. Mary’s of Crane Creek.

Soon the parishioners decided to build a more modern brick structure with a Gothic style with seating for 500 worshippers. Under the tutelage of Father J. J. Nelson, a new church would be built in Sturgis Point.

On the cornerstone of the new church, it reads ‘Immaculate Conception 1901’ but when the Archbishop John J. Keane dedicated the new church, he asked the parishioners if they would be willing to change the Church’s name to Our Lady of Lourdes. He proposed that he would pro-

Lourdes’ Steeple Days to mark
150 years of church’s founding

The last weekend of July the community of Lourdes will celebrate two big events.

Steeple Days, the annual celebration in the small Howard County town, will take place on Saturday, July 26 and the following day the Our Lady of Lourdes church will celebrate its sesquicentennial, marking 150 years the church has been in existence.

The Saturday events include a pancake breakfast from 8 to 11 a.m., a 10 a.m. tractor pull and an FFA kids pedal pull at 11, the same time as a garden tractor pull takes place. From 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. bingo will be held in the church hall and a parade will be presented at 2 p.m.

Entertainment will include Brian Arnold’s All-Star Band, Madison Kolbet and The Traitors.

cure a statue of the Virgin Mary and have it blessed in Lourdes, France.

The statute still graces the main altar at Lourdes. Soon after, the village name changed from Sturgis Point to Lourdes and it continued to grow.

The setting and location of the Our Lady of Lourdes campus make it a visible icon for travelers and a welcoming spot to stop. The Lourdes Park provides a stop for families as a break from travel. For many the church steeple is a beacon at any time of the day! At night the lighted steeple is a ‘beacon in the night’ for travelers. For chil-

dren, the site of the steeple might mean that they are close to grandpa and grandma’s house as happiness erupts.

Our parish along with St. Bernard of Alta Vista and Immaculate Conception of Elma have joined to form the Combined Religious Education program. Classes meet every Wednesday night during the school year. In December there is a Christmas program along with a fundraiser meal.

In July, our parish is host to Steeple Day, a celebration with tractor pulling, kiddie tractor pull, parade and more. It is a day to renew acquaintances and join in friendly conversation and camaraderie.

Today, we are a parish of 100 families and a part of the Holy Rosary Cluster. Father Telesphore Dusabe is our priest. Many improvements have been made to our campus: Addition of entrance to church (2009-2010), redecorating of the church, elevator in church hall (2024), cemetery directory structure (2025), refurbished stained glass windows; tuck pointing of church and children’s playground in progress.

In the Archdiocese of Dubuque there are several Immaculate Conception Catholic Churches. Our very own cluster has two Immaculate Conception Catholic Churches in Elma and Riceville.

However, there are only two Our Lady of Lourdes in the Archdiocese of Dubuque in Lourdes and Bettendorf. Our parish was so blessed.

We Are Lourdes!

This article was written by longtime Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church member Julie Freidhof.

Church Services

NORTH

WASHINGTON

IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION

Father Christopher
Podhajsky
Mass: Saturday, 6 p.m.

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-

PLEASANT HILL

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

LAWLER

OUR LADY OF MT.
CARMEL CATHOLIC
CHURCH

3030 Highway 24
Father Nick Radloff
Mass: Saturday, 4 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, 10:30
a.m.

ST. LUCAS

ST. LUKE CATHOLIC

215 East Main
Father Nick Radloff
Mass: Will begin when
restoration project is com-
pleted.

PROTIVIN

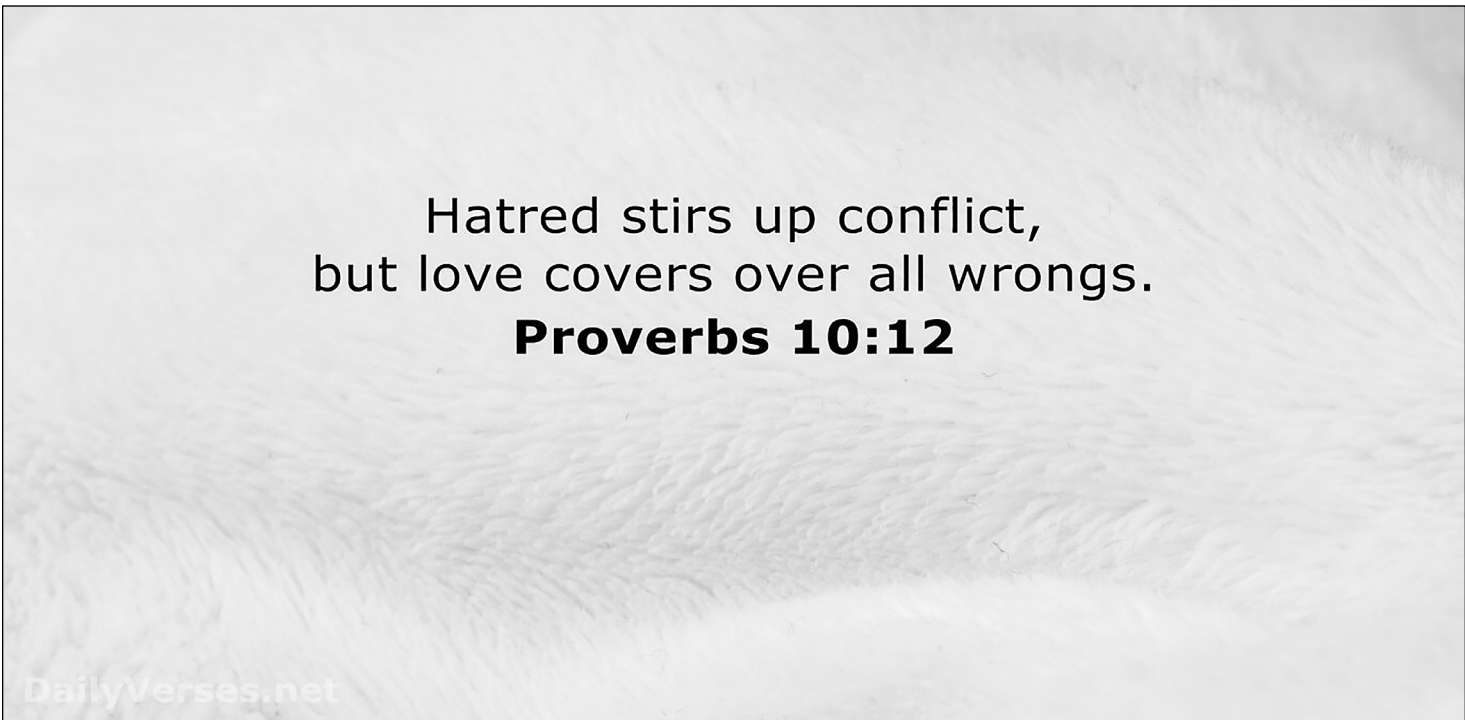
HOLY TRINITY

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

LITTLE TURKEY

ASSUMPTION OF THE
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

3303 160th St.
Father Nick Radloff
Mass: Sunday, July 27,
10:30 a.m.



Hatred stirs up conflict,
but love covers over all wrongs.
Proverbs 10:12

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Geerts appreciates support during long firefighter career

FIREMAN: FROM 1

department that has been such a big part of his life.

“It was to the fact that I would still somehow like to stay involved with the fire department,” he said, “but it’s just that the council meetings are the same night as the fire meetings and the training and I just can’t be in two places at the same time.”

He’s also dealt with medical issues — a detached retina last summer was followed by a torn rotator cuff and bicep muscle in December — and at the age of 70, he realized the time had come.

AS HE SAT in his home’s basement, which is filled with fire memorabilia, Geerts talked about a career that he had hoped to begin in 1973, when he was a newly-minted New Hampton High School graduate.

He approached then-Fire Chief Pete Willadsen and asked to join the fire department.

“For whatever reason — probably because I had just graduated from high school — I didn’t get the invite,” Geerts said, “so I went back the next year, and I think Pete realized I was probably going to show up every year so he might as well put me on.”

Over time, he worked his way through the ranks — serving as a lieutenant, captain and then making his way up the assistant chief ladder.

When Willadsen retired after 24 years as chief, Geerts replaced him.

“Pete was a great guy, and he taught me a lot, taught me how to be disciplined on a fire call,” Geerts said. “He was a really good chief, and I owe a lot to Pete for what he did for me.”

Ditto for those who served under Geerts when he was chief.

“I’ve gotten a chance to work with a lot of great people, people who care about our community and the people here,” he said. “I had some great assistant chiefs back in the day — John Bear, Jack Kipp. You’d ask them to do something, and they got it done yesterday. They were great at taking control of situations when I wasn’t around.”

THAT NOT BEING around was a running joke for a while after Geerts became chief.

Owning and operating Geerts Plumbing and Heating, he wasn’t gone often, but it seemed like something “big” happened on the rare occasions he departed New Hampton.

“It was a joke for a while after I got to be chief that anytime I left town, something major happened,” he said. “I’d go to the City Clerk’s Office and say, ‘I’m going to be out of town,’ and they’d say, ‘Oh God, something’s going to happen.’”

Still, during his career, he answered plenty of calls — well over 1,700 by his count a couple of years ago. There were big fires — the one that destroyed the Fireman’s Theatre, the fire at the County Attorney’s Office and the blaze that claimed Dungey’s Furniture and Flooring home on the east side of New Hampton.

He also will look back fondly on the construction of a new, modern fire station on South Linn Avenue, one that replaced the tight, cramped quarters of the old station on South Locust Avenue.

He also experienced tragedy.

“I was on 17 years before I saw a fatality in a fire,” he said, “and that was tough. I wasn’t a newbie by any means, but you remember the first one.”

He was on a vacation in Colorado when a classmate died in an accident and years later, the death of Peg Recker in 1999 is still hard to talk about.

Yet, the one that affected him the most was the death of a young woman in a car crash north of New Hampton.

“I got home, it was like 5 o’clock and Nita and I shot the breeze and watched TV like we always did,” he said. “I always watched TV for a couple of hours after she went to bed, but that night, I was scared of the dark and I was on her heels when she went upstairs. We had a debriefing, a psychological deal, a couple of days later and I was able to talk it out.”

He paused for a moment.

“You see things that are hard when you do this,” he said, “but you also know you have a lot of support, too. That helped then, it helps now.”

THE BIGGEST SUPPORT group for Geerts over the last 50-plus years, though, is without a doubt his family.

His first wife, Nita , who died 12 years ago after a valiant fight against cancer, and his second wife, Leslie, have supported Geerts through thick and thin. The same goes for his two children, Adam and Lacy.

“You can’t be a firefighter without your family being behind you,” he said. “That’s just the way it has to be, and I was lucky. Nita and now Les, the kids, the grandkids, they’ve

all been so supportive and I’m really thankful for that.”

Over the years, being a firefighter hasn’t been just about putting out fires or helping out at the scene of a car wreck. Geerts gave rides to countless kids during National Fire Prevention Week, he’s been a part of career-education courses and he’s led numerous fire safety workshops.

He couldn’t help but laugh when he was asked about giving all those kids a ride to school — telling the story of driving to the literal edge of the school district west of Alta Vista to pick up a young boy who had won a ride to school in a fire truck.

“Some kids were scared, some kids were excited,” he said, “but that one day, to save money, I took the pickup, the grass fire truck. I pull into the

yard and the kids started crying. I asked him, ‘What’s wrong?’ ‘I thought I was going to get a ride in the fire truck.’ I told him, ‘Don’t worry, when we get back to town, we’ll go get the fire truck.’

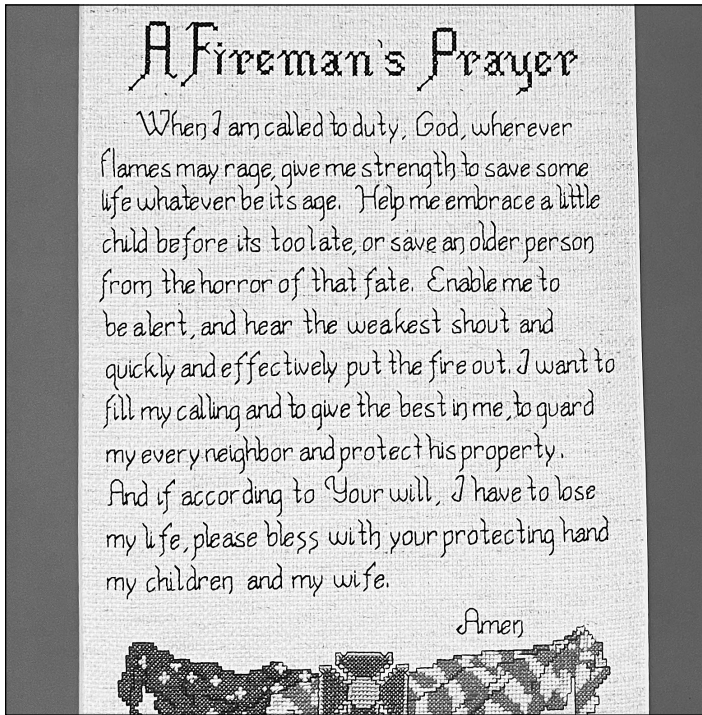
“And that’s what we did, and he was all smiles. Now all those kids are grown up but those are always going to be good memories for me.”

So, too, was the time New Hampton won the district waterball tournament up in Osage and earned a trip to compete at the state convention.

“And we got there and got whooped in 24 seconds,” Geerts said with a laugh, “but seriously, as hard as it is sometimes to be a fireman, there’s lots of fun memories, good ones.”

He paused for a moment and smiled again.

“It’s been a good ride.”



Bob Fenske/Tribune

“The Fireman’s Prayer” hangs in a room Steve Geerts and his family have filled with firefighting memorabilia.

New Hampton Community Schools Notifications

ORIENTATION FOR FAMILIES

ELEMENTARY OPEN HOUSE
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20TH
2:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.

MIDDLE SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20TH
4:00PM - 6:00PM

5TH GRADE ORIENTATION AT 5:00PM

HIGH SCHOOL FRESHMEN OPEN HOUSE
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20TH
6:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.

NOTICE ~ ALL ATHLETES

You must have a Doctor’s certificate of fitness before you are eligible to participate in athletics. Athletes are responsible for obtaining their own physicals.

All athletes must have insurance or waiver of insurance along with emergency procedure cards on file with school before they will be allowed to participate.

IMPORTANT: Students participating in interscholastic athletics, cheerleading and dance; and their parents/guardians; must sign an acknowledgement form stating they have received the information provided on the concussion fact sheet titled, “HEADS UP: Concussion in High School Sports.” Students cannot practice or compete in those activities until this form is signed and returned.

SCHOOL BUS SERVICE

Ten buses will operate in the district to provide transportation for approximately 720 rural students. Bus assignments will be published in a later issue.

High School students living in New Hampton may ride from the elementary school building to the high school building in the morning and from the high school to the elementary building in the afternoon.

SCHOOL BUS VIDEO CAMERAS

The New Hampton Community School District Board of Directors has authorized the use of video cameras on school district buses. The video cameras will be used to monitor student behavior, to maintain order on the school buses, and to promote and maintain a safe environment. Students and parents are hereby notified that the content of the videotapes may be used in a student disciplinary proceeding. The content of the videotapes are confidential student records and will be retained with other student records. Videotapes will only be retained if necessary by the administration. Parents may request to view videotapes of their child if the videotapes are used in a disciplinary proceeding involving their child.

REPORTING A SAFETY CONCERN

- If you see something, say something.
- Call 9-1-1 if there is an immediate danger, if you know about an emergency, or if you see suspicious activity.
- Otherwise you may report any other safety concerns via the district’s reporting number 641-394-2134 Extension 6008. This number allows students, staff, parents, and community members to confidentially submit concerns regarding safety, harassment, intimidation, and bullying to the district administration. All reports may be submitted anonymously.

PARENT NOTIFICATION

Parents’/Guardians’ Rights Notification:

Parents’/Guardians in the New Hampton Community School District have the right to learn about the following qualifications of their child’s teacher: state licensure requirements for the grade level and content areas taught, the current licensing status of your child’s teacher, and baccalaureate/graduate certification/degree. You may also request the qualifications of an instructional paraprofessional who serves your student in a Title I program or if your school operates a schoolwide Title I program.

Parents’/Guardians may request this information from the Office of the Superintendent by calling or sending a letter to Office of the Superintendent, 710 West Main Street, New Hampton, IA 50659.

STUDENT ABUSE BY SCHOOL EMPLOYEES AND ASSIGNED INVESTIGATORS

Chapter 102 of the Iowa Administrative Code prescribes procedures for charging and investigating incidents of abuse of students by school employees. The school district’s designated investigators are: Erik Smith, Superintendent (641) 394-2134, Jamie Steege or Jessica Moore, school nurses (641) 394-2134

HUMAN GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

The school district provides students with instruction in human growth and development. Parents may review the human growth and development curriculum prior to its use and have their child excused from human growth and development instruction. Parents should contact the principal if they wish to review the curriculum or to excuse their child from human growth and development instruction.

Erik Smith
Superintendent 641-394-2134 ext. 6

Matt Manson
High School Principal 641-394-2134 ext. 3

Cory McDonald
Activities Director 641-394-2134 ext. 4

MULTI-CULTURAL GENDER FAIR (MC/GF) GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

Students, parents of students, or employees of the New Hampton Community Schools have the right to file a formal complaint alleging non-compliance with the regulations out-lined in Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, or Section 12.(8) of the Iowa State Education Standards.

Level I (Informal and Optional) - Employees with a grievance of discrimination on the basis of gender, sexual orientation, race, national origin or disability may first discuss it with their principal or immediate supervisor, with the objective of resolving the matter informally. A student or parent with a complaint of discrimination on the basis of gender, sexual orientation, race, national origin or disability should immediately discuss it with the teacher, counselor or building administrator involved.

Level II (Informal and Optional) - If the concern remains unresolved, the grievant is encouraged to approach the MC/GF Compliance Committee for the purpose of resolving the concern through fact gathering and discussion. The role of this group is to reconcile, if possible, the concern of the grievant using an informal procedure. The group will consist of the grievant, the person against whom the grievance has been filed, the principal or designee, a minimum of two MC/GF Advisory Committee members, and the MC/GF Facilitator.

Level III (Formal) - If the grievance is not resolved at level one or level two and the grievants wish to pursue the grievance, they may formalize it by filing a complaint in writing on the Compliance Violation Form, which may be obtained from the Compliance Officer.

The remaining steps in the grievance process will be reviewed with the grievant. The entire grievance procedure is available for inspection in the Compliance Officer’s Office along with other information relating to these topics. Please contact Brad Schmitt, Middle School Principal, 710 W. Main, New Hampton, IA 50659, (641) 394-2134 ext. 2 b_schmitt@new-hampton.k12.ia.us if you have any questions, concerns, or complaints. Mr. Schmitt is the Title VI and Title IX Officer for the New Hampton Community School District.

PARENTAL NOTICE GENERAL EDUCATION INTERVENTIONS

The New Hampton Community School District uses a problem solving model to address student concerns through general education interventions. Problem solving activities are part of the school’s general program and may occur at any time throughout the school year. The problem solving process is a systematic set of procedures designed to look at different factors that might be affecting student success, such as what is taught, how it is taught, and how the student responds to these processes. During the problem solving process, school personnel (including special education staff and Keystone special education personnel) may be involved in gathering information that will be used to develop effective interventions.

As parents, you are key participants during all facets of problem solving. If a child is recommended for special education services, parents must give written consent. Parents may also request that their child be considered for special education services at any time by contacting the child’s principal.

SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 prohibits discrimination against persons with a disability in any program receiving federal financial assistance. In order to fulfill obligations under Section 504, the New Hampton Community School District has the responsibility to avoid discrimination in policies and practices regarding its personnel and students. No discrimination against any person with a disability should knowingly be permitted in any program and practices of the school system.

The New Hampton Community School District has the responsibilities under Section 504, which include the obligations to identify, evaluate, and if the student is determined to be eligible under Section 504, to afford access to appropriate educational services.

If the parents or guardians disagrees with the determination made by the professional staff of the school district, he/she has a right to a hearing with an impartial hearing officer.

If there are any questions, please feel free to contact Jessica Nelson, Section 504 Coordinator for the New Hampton Community School District, at (641) 394-2134 ext. 1.

FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS & PRIVACY ACT NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students who are 18 years of age or older (“eligible students”) certain rights with respect to the student’s education records. These rights are:

(1) The right to inspect and review the student’s education records within 45 days after the day the School receives a request for access.

Parents or eligible students who wish to inspect their child’s or their education records should submit to the school principal (or appropriate school official) a written request that identifies the records they wish to inspect. The school official will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

(2) The right to request the amendment of the student’s education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student’s privacy rights under FERPA.

Parents or eligible students who wish to ask the School to amend their child’s or their education record should write the school principal (or appropriate school official), clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it should be changed. If the school decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the school will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

(3) The right to provide written consent before the school discloses personally identifiable information (PII) from the student’s education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. The criteria for determining who constitutes a school official and what constitutes a legitimate educational interest must be set forth in the school’s or school district’s annual notification for FERPA rights. A school official typically includes a person employed by the school or school district as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel) or a person serving on the school board. A school official also may include a volunteer, contractor, or consultant who, while not employed by the school, performs an institutional service or function for which the school would otherwise use its own employees and who is under the direct control of the school with respect to the use and maintenance of PII from education records, such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist; a parent or student volunteering to serve on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee; or a parent, student, or other volunteer assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official typically has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

Upon request, the school discloses education records without consent to officials of another school or school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll, or is already enrolled if the disclosure is for purposes of the student’s enrollment or transfer.

(4) The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the School to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are: Student Privacy Policy Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20202

ANNUAL NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

The New Hampton Community School District offers career and technical programs in the following service areas: Industrial Technology, Family and Consumer Sciences, Business, Vocational Agriculture.

It is the policy of the New Hampton Community School District not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy please contact the district’s Equity Coordinator, Brad Schmitt, Middle School Principal; 710 West Main, New Hampton, Iowa 50659, 641-394-2134 ext. 2, b_schmitt@new-hampton.k12.ia.us

Brad Schmitt
Middle School Principal 641-394-2134 ext. 2

Emily Steele
Elementary Principal 641-394-2134 ext. 1

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New Hampton Community Schools

Briefs

Immanuel Lutheran Church to host ice cream social July 29

Immanuel Lutheran Church will host an ice cream social on Tuesday, July 29, at the Bethany Hall, 1241 Pembroke Ave., Lawler.

For a free-will donation they will be serving pork sandwiches, potato salad, fruit, baked beans, ice cream, toppings, brownies and apple crisp.

Serving that day will be from 5 to 7:30 p.m.

ISU Extension to host farmland leasing meeting in August

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach in Chickasaw County is hosting a farmland leasing meeting on Aug. 5 at 1 p.m., at the Chickasaw County Extension Office, 115 N. Broadway Avenue in New Hampton. The annual meeting is offered to address questions that landowners, tenants or other interested individuals have about leasing farmland.

Registration is \$25 per individual and includes materials. Pre-registration is encouraged as an additional \$5 fee may be added if registering less than two calendar days before the meeting date. To register contact the ISU Extension and Outreach Chickasaw County office at 641-394-2174 or atupper@iastate.edu.

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Should you trust a ‘finfluencer’?

In the age of social media, it’s easy to find advice on just about anything — including how to manage your money. Content creators known as “finfluencers” — short for financial influencers — use platforms like TikTok, YouTube and Instagram to share their takes on investing, budgeting and building wealth. Many of them are charismatic and relatable, and they often speak from personal experience. But while their content may be engaging, taking financial advice from a finfluencer without digging deeper can come with significant risks.

While some finfluencers may have formal training or credentials, many do not. Instead, their influence stems from their popularity rather than professional experience. But popular advice may not necessarily be good advice. A 2025 study by the Swiss Finance Institute even found that unskilled finfluencers typically have larger followings than skilled ones.

Why be cautious? For young or new investors, social media can make finance feel accessible. In fact, a 2022 FINRA study says that more than 60% of Americans younger than 35 get investing information from these platforms. But social media isn’t regulated the same way traditional financial advising is, so anyone, qualified or not, can offer financial tips.

Unlike traditional financial advisors, finfluencers don’t know your unique goals, financial situation or risk tolerance. And likely, they’re not licensed (you can check here: Check Out Your Investment Professional | Investor.gov). Even well-meaning guidance might lead you down a risky path if it’s not tailored to your needs. And unfortunately, some finfluencers have exploited the trust they build with followers to promote questionable investments or outright frauds.

Warning signs to watch for Here are a few signs that a finfluencer’s advice may be worth avoiding:

- Unrealistic “get-rich” promises: Claims like, “Turn \$500 into \$50,000 in a year,” are highly improbable and may indicate a scam.
- Hurry, hurry: Be wary of



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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

advice that pressures you to act fast or plays on fear of missing out. Important financial decisions shouldn’t come with a countdown clock.

- Flashy displays of wealth: Images of luxury cars, watches or cash can be more about generating views than offering sound advice. If a finfluencer is trying that hard to convince you to take an action, it often means they will profit — perhaps they’ll get paid to promote a product or service, or earn a fee for referring you, or are trying to boost clicks and followers to earn more.

- What you can do
 - Do your own homework. Don’t take finfluencers’ advice at face value. Cross-check it with reliable sources. The finfluencer may even be under investigation by a federal or state securities regulator. Talking to a licensed financial advisor you trust can help you discern good advice from the bad.

- Recognize conflicts of interest. If a finfluencer promotes a product or service, find out if they’re being paid to do so. And remember, online personalities make money by generating high viewership, not because their advice has a track record of success.

- Use common sense. When something sounds too good to be true, it usually is. And of course, never disclose your bank or brokerage account numbers to a finfluencer, and never send money.

Finfluencers can make financial topics more engaging and accessible. But when it comes to your money, a social media video from someone who doesn’t know you is no substitute for informed, personalized guidance. Take the time to verify, research and, when in doubt, seek advice from a professional.

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

Edward Jones, Member SIPC

County has no easy answers on closed bridge

Board of Supervisors hears concerns from residents, landowners and renters about bridge on 150th Street

By Bob Fenske
editor@nhtrib.com

Residents, landowners and farmland renters made their voices heard loud and clear Monday during the Chickasaw County Board of Supervisors meeting when it came to a decision county leaders made on June 30 to close a bridge on 150th Street less than a mile west of County Road V18.

In short, they didn’t like it. But Board Chairman Jake Hackman defended the decision he and his fellow supervisors made, saying the bridge that is located north and west of North Washington has become a public safety issue.

New Hampton resident Lynn Schwickerath and his sisters own a “Century Farm” in the area and asked Hackman to put the issue on Monday’s agenda.

“I appreciate your safety concerns I really do,” Schwickerath said, “[but] all these guys are good farmers in that area and they deserve to keep their property up where it needs to be. “I think you owe it to taxpayers and the property owners of these county roads to maintain [access] to and from their property.”

Two issues, though, are at play, Hackman said.

First, a replacement bridge for 150th St., which is located just south of the Chickasaw County Conservation Board’s Ringneck Haven, is estimated to cost \$1.387 million. Second, the average “daily count” of traffic over the bridge, at least as of 2021, is about 30 vehicles.

Hackman and Assistant County Engineer Liza Herold said that the bridge, which has been limited to three-ton vehicles since April 2023, is in “severe decay.”

The board chairman did say a replacement bridge is in the county’s five-year plan for completion in 2030, but Jordan Grober took little solace in that fact. He pointed out that in 2021, then-Supervisor Rick Holthaus told him the bridge was in the county’s five-year plan.



Bob Fenske/Tribune

The bridge located on 150th Street north and west of North Washington sparked plenty of discussion during Monday’s Board of Supervisors meeting.

“We’re sitting here four years later, and it’s in the five-year plan for 2030,” said Grober, whose family owns and farms land in the area. “My concern is that it’s just going to be kicked down the road.”

He and others in the crowd said they also have concerns about using Franklin Street, which is located just to the west of the bridge, citing the hilliness of the area and the danger the so-called “Bunker Hill” poses for motorists.

Hackman did tell the concerned citizens that the board does have the final say, which means it could push the replacement bridge up in the construction timetable and, by the same token, could replace it with another project.

Even if supervisors move the bridge replacement up, it will be years before the bridge would be completed.

“It has not been engineered, it has not been surveyed. That will take at least, from what the engineer told me last week, two years to survey, to get the DNR permits, to have the DOT approve this construction,” Hackman said. “We can put priority on this, but I think a lot of us understand the traffic count. I get your concern, I really do.

New Hampton Community Schools
First Day of School August 25, 2025



REGISTRATION

Parents of children in the elementary, middle and high school are asked to register their children online for the 2025-26 school year. Online registration will open on:

Monday, July 28, 2025

Go to: new-hampton.k12.ia.us

Click Menu, go to Registration, and follow the links.

If you need assistance, please contact the School Offices or stop in after **August 1st**.

Parents new to district should stop in or call the school office after **August 1st** for assistance.

The purpose of registration is to provide an opportunity for parents to pay school fees, hot lunch/breakfast fees and to find out their class assignments. This service is necessary to eliminate congestion on the first day of school. Education Options Registration will be with registration on the above dates.

FEE SCHEDULE

INSTRUCTION FEE

K-4 \$55.00

5-8 \$80.00

9-12 \$85.00

7-8 GRADE ATHLETIC TOWEL FEE \$20.00

One time payment per year if a student participates in football, volleyball, cross country, basketball, wrestling and/or track.

RevTrack online fees will be waived until August 25, 2025

OPTIONAL FEES

School Yearbook High School \$75.00

Vehicle Registration \$15.00

High School students who drive vehicles to school **must** register each vehicle. All vehicles must have a sticker/tag visible from outside the vehicle in order to legally park in the high school parking lot.

ACTIVITY PASS

Student Activity Passes will be FREE for all regular home Athletic events held at New Hampton CSD. Thanks to the generous partnership from Bank Iowa, NH Athletic Booster Club, First Citizens, Rochford Insurance Agency, O'Donnell Insurance, Fidelity Bank, Security State Bank, Luana State Bank, Joe Maloy Insurance, Nobsisch Insurance, and Curtis Franzen - Farm Bureau Financial. State sponsored tournaments, NEIC Conference Tournaments, the high school and middle school musicals, and the high school variety show are NOT included in this fee.

K-4. Free

5-12. Free

H.S. Activity Admission Fees

Adults \$6.00 per event

Students \$6.00 per football event

Students \$4.00 per other event

M.S. Activity Admission Fees

Adults \$3.00

Students \$2.00

Family \$5.00

Adult
Activity
Pass

The school will provide the opportunity for adults to obtain a ten-punch activity pass for the 2025-26 school year at a cost of \$50.00 per ticket. With the ten-punch ticket at \$50.00, an individual will save \$10.00 over the cost of ten single admissions. Over and above the cost of savings, an activity pass holder will gain quicker admission to events. People who hold an activity pass will not need to stand in line to obtain their single admission ticket. These activity passes will only be honored at New Hampton home events and would not apply to state sponsored tournaments, the high school musical, and UIC Conference tournaments. The ten-punch activity passes can be obtained during the dates noted above for student registration days or from the Superintendent's Office any day during normal business hours.

SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM

BREAKFAST/LUNCH PROGRAMS AT ALL BUILDINGS BEGINNING

Monday, August 25, 2025

Breakfast (preK-4) \$1.95

Lunch Per Meal (preK-4) \$2.85

Lunch Per Meal (5-12) ... \$2.95

Extra Milk Per Carton TBD

Afternoon Milk (K-3) TBD

Lunch fees may be paid during registration. Please fill out a Free/Reduced Lunch Form to see if you qualify. The High School will have a closed noon period ~ students will eat in the cafeteria whether they bring their lunch or use the school lunch program.

WAIVER OF STUDENT FEES

Students whose families meet the income guidelines for free and reduced price lunch, the Family Investment Program (FIP), Supplementary Security Income (SSI), transportation assistance under open enrollment, or who are in foster care are eligible to have their student fees waived or partially waived. The Standard Fee Waiver application form will be available when parents register their children. This wavier does not carry over from year to year and must be completed annually. This waiver of student fees applies only to the above listed fees. Fees for the high school and middle school yearbooks and activity passes are not included in these waiver provisions.

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New Hampton Community Schools



Erik Smith

Superintendent 641-394-2134 ext. 6

Matt Manson

High School Principal 641-394-2134 ext. 3

Cory McDonald

Activities Director 641-394-2134 ext. 4

Brad Schmitt

Middle School Principal 641-394-2134 ext. 2

Emily Steele

Elementary Principal 641-394-2134 ext. 1

National Czech Museum clock tower renovator to speak in St. Lucas

On Wednesday, July 23 from 6:30 to 8 p.m., Dr. Cecelia Rokusek, CEO, National Czech & Slovak Museum and Library (NCSML), will present the famous Czech Astronomical Clock and Tower in Cedar Rapids. The presentation is at the German American Museum in St. Lucas.

Dr. Rokusek was instrumental in the renovation of the clock tower and the installation of the new astronomical clock. She will be accompanied by Dr. Robert Petrik, former board member of the NCSML.

This event is jointly sponsored by the Czech Heritage Partnership of Protivin and the German American Museum of St. Lucas. Ken Zajicek, president of the CHP will introduce the speaker. The presentation is followed by refreshments and pastries, and lively discussions.

Located in the Czech Village by the Cedar River, North America's only Orloj—a Prague-style astronomical clock—stands in front of the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library. Unveiled in 2024 for the National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library 50th anniversary, the clocktower is modeled after the Prague astronomical clock built in 1410. The renovated clock tower includes an astrolabe with both astronomical and timekeeping functions.

All components were manufactured by the SPEL Company in Prague, using stainless steel; the symbols are gilded with 24-karat gold.

The tower houses 12 figurines sculpted by Andrej Harsany of Bratislava, Slovakia, each approximately four feet tall, positioned on two carousels.

Every hour, these figures rotate in sync with music composed by Czech composers Antonin Dvorak and Bedrich Smetana. The figurines represent various immigrant stories, including figures such as a farmer, coal miner, and meat-packer, symbolizing groups who settled in Cedar Rapids from Czechia, Slovakia, Moravia, and other regions. A presentation not to be missed.



Ionia Firemen’s Annual

Fish Fry

Friday, July 18th
at Ionia Fire Station
501 West Main St., Ionia
Drive thru carry outs only
Serving from 4:00-8:00pm

\$15.00 Donation

Seating available at Fire Station on Picnic Tables East Side of Fire Station



Zimmerman’s Greenhouse & Produce

2 miles west of Alta Vista
8am-8pm Mon. - Sat.
641-364-7002

We accept Senior & WIC Farmers Market Vouchers and EBT

Baked Goods on Fridays & Saturdays

Ready:
Sweet Corn
Green Beans
Potatoes
Cabbage
Watermelon
Zucchini
Kohlrabi
Tomatoes
Cucumbers
Sweet Onions
Fresh Eggs,
Honey,
Jams & Jelly
& Much More!

Almanac

	H	L	P
Wednesday	84	65	.05
Thursday	84	65	.58
Friday	75	64	1.25
Saturday	78	54	--
Sunday	79	59	--
Monday	86	62	--
Tuesday	87	68	--

Forecast

Thursday: Partly sunny and cool with a high of 70 and a low of 54.

Friday: Mostly sunny with a high of 75 and a low of 64.

Saturday: Mostly cloudy with a chance of thunderstorms and showers; high 80, low 63.

Sunday: Partly cloudy with chance of pop-up storms; high 78, low 64.

Extended forecast: More typical summer weather with highs in the 80s, lows in the 60s and chances of a stray shower or storm.

Meetings

MONDAY

- Chickasaw County Board of Supervisors, 9 a.m., Courthouse.
- New Hampton School Board, 6:30 p.m., High School Family and Consumer Science Room.
- New Hampton City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall.

History

- In 1936, the Spanish Civil War begins as a revolt by right-wing Spanish military officers in Spanish Morocco spreads to mainland Spain.
- In 1941, New York Yankees center fielder Joe DiMaggio fails to get a hit against the Cleveland Indians, ending his historic 56-game hitting streak.
- In 1945, the final “Big Three” meeting between the World War II allies United States, the Soviet Union and Great Britain begins in Potsdam, Germany.
- In 1955, Disneyland — Walt Disney’s metropolis of nostalgia, fantasy and futurism — opens in Anaheim, California.
- In 2014, halfway through a flight from Amsterdam to Malaysia, a passenger plane was shot down in Eastern Ukraine, near the war-torn border with Russia, killing all 298 on board.

Birthdays

- John Jacob Aster, the first multi-millionaire in the U.S. was born in 1763.
- American actor James Cagney was born in 1899.
- Canadian actor Donald Sutherland was born in 1935.
- American country singer Luke Bryan turns 49.
- Angela Merkel, who served as German chancellor for 16 years, turns 71.
- American TV actor David Hasselhoff turns 73.
- Camilla Parker Bowles, wife of British King Charles III, turns 78.

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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Bob Fenske/Tribune

New Hampton resident Kyle Hennessy reads a prepared statement to the Chickasaw County Board of Supervisors during Monday’s meeting.

Supervisor expresses support to restore some Public Health funding

SUPERVISORS: FROM 1

just that — ranging from Sheriff Ryan Shawver asking the county to include \$80,000 to purchase and outfit a new vehicle to Treasurer Matt Ysbrand requesting additional funds to pay for overtime caused by the elimination of a position in his department and Conservation Board Director Chad Humpal asking that money be considered for a new storage shed.

Public Health Administrator Lisa Welter asked county leaders for two things — to restore funding for Environmental Health so the director’s position would return to working 35 hours a week and \$100,000 for Public Health so that it could give its employees 3 percent raises, hire a full-time aide and hire a part-time nurse.

Welter, along with Board of Health members Jeremy McGrath and Joan Knoll, told supervisors that moving the Environmental Health director from 30 to 35 hours a week would essentially be a “wash” because the county would receive more money from a state grant program to cover those costs.

The Public Health requests would recoup less than a third of the \$353,000 the department was cut during the crafting of the 2025-26 budget this past spring.

“People are struggling to do daily tasks

that you guys take for granted, and they’re being neglected,” Welter said. “We all would do what we can do in our power to keep our grandparents, parents and our children safe. How would you feel if a family member was being neglected and being treated like this? Would you be OK with that?”

She pointed out that in June — the first month in which three Public Health positions were eliminated — her department did 36 less aide visits and 135 less homemaker visits. Welter also went to bat for her employees, saying that almost all other county employees received 3 percent raises on July 1.

McGrath said that he hoped supervisors took Hennessy’s comments to heart.

“We’re still going to have to prioritize homecare,” he said, “but at least if we can help someone like Kyle, we can at least do that.”

Hennessy’s mother, Kim, said that when her son lost the services from Public Health, it reached out to another firm that offered services and has been sorely disappointed in that company’s services.

“Sometimes, they haven’t even shown up,” she said, “and when they do, a lot of times they’re late. ... It’s heartbreaking to me that we’re going through this.”

On Tuesday morning, she said in a phone interview that the company was

supposed to have someone at the Hennessy home that morning, “but they called and said they couldn’t make it. Not once did we ever have to deal with that with Public Health and now, it happens all the time.”

Knoll pointed out that during the budget discussions, Supervisor Travis Suckow said there were at least five firms that would provide services to county residents, “and we only got one that came into the county? ... And you heard the story, is that what we really want for our residents?”

Board Chairman Jake Hackman said that a budget amendment would be considered after the county received bids for the new air-conditioning unit that would replace the failing unit the courthouse currently has. During Monday’s meeting, supervisors agreed to take bids for the unit through Aug. 8 and open them on Aug. 11.

“All you can do is give numbers to Sheila and see what it all equals,” Hackman said to Welter. He added that Shekleton could “compile all the requests that have come in so far and bring it back in the next couple of weeks.”

Only one supervisor, Issac Carter, voiced an opinion on the Public Health request Monday when he said that “I think we’re healthy enough with our fund balance that we can do this.”

Connie M. Fisher, 85

Connie M. Fisher, age 85 of Nashua, died Thursday, July 10, 2025, at Linn Haven Rehab & Healthcare in New Hampton.

A graveside service was held at 11 a.m., Wednesday, July 16, 2025, at Oak Hill Cemetery in Nashua with Deacon Jackie Schilling officiating.

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

Marcia M. Knutson, 66

Marcia M. Knutson, age 66 of New Hampton, died Monday, July 14, 2025, at MercyOne New Hampton Medical Center.

Funeral arrangements are pending at Hugeback-Johnson Funeral Home in New Hampton.

Property Transfers

James L. Boos TR and Florence K. Boos LIV TR to Deborah Wegner TR, James A. Boos TR, Steven Boos TR and Florence K. Boos MARTIAL TR; SE NW 24-96-13 EX PARCEL SW NW 24-96-13 N1/2 EX PARCEL SE 24-96-13 EX L1 SW NE 24-96-13.

CASH LLC to Steelhawk LLC; FREDERICKSBURG ORIGINAL PLAT (FB) Lot: 12 Block: 3 W3’ FREDERICKSBURG ORIGINAL PLAT (FB) Lot: 11 Block: 3.

David L. Tank and Barbara J. Tank to David L. Tank and Barbara J. Tank; UNDIVIDED INTEREST E1/2 NE NW 10-94-13 W1/4 NW NE 10-94-13.

Blaine N. Feltz to Joshua A. Scott and Lanie Morris; S1/4 NEW HAMPTON BIGELOW’S ADDITION Block: 11.

Northeast Security Bank to Thomas Bulman and Tawny Bulman; W1/2 FREDERICKSBURG NEWTHS ADDITION Lot: 9 Block: 4 S40’ W1/2 FREDERICKSBURG NEWTHS ADDITION Lot: 10 Block: 4.

Thomas Bulman and Tawny Bulman to Garrett D. Raum and Abbie A. Raum; W1/2 FREDERICKSBURG NEWTHS ADDITION Lot: 9 Block: 4 S40’ W1/2 FREDERICKSBURG NEWTHS ADDITION Lot: 10 Block: 4.

Marlene Bowers and Marlene J. Bowers to Garrett D. Raum and Abbie A. Raum; EX 75’ FREDERICKSUBRG NEWTHS ADDITION Lot: 6 Block: 4.

Jeffrey S. Macon and Tisha T. Macon to Charles R. Onken and Agatha M. Onken; NEW HAMPTON FAIRVIEW ADDITION Lot: 3 Block: 3.

Timothy G. Nosbisch and Susan M. Nosbisch to Timothy G. Nosbisch REV TR and Susan M. Nosbisch REV TR; NEW HAMPTON PARK ADDITION Lot: 4 Block: 6 W1/2 NEW HAMPTON PARK ADDITION Lot: 5 Block: 6 W1/6NEW HAMPTON PARK ADDITION Lot: 4 Block: 6 S3/4 EX S198’ SE 18-96-13 NW NE 19-96-13 SW NE 19-96-13 W1/2 SE NE 19-96-13.

Thomas R. Tobin TR and David W. Livingston TRUST to Andrew R. Livingston; FARMERS ACRES SUBDIV L18 & 19 OF S1/2 SE 07-94-14 Parcel: 191307450011.

Briana K. Gulbranson, Briana Gulbranson and Briana K. Tenge to Brandon M. Tenge; N1/2 FREDERICKSBURG NO ADDITION Lot: 7 Block: 20 N1/2 FREDERICKSBURG NO ADDITION Lot: 8 Block: 20.

Maxine R. Skoda to Jeffrey S. Macon and Tisha T. Macon; NEW HAMPTON ZIPSE SECOND ADDITION Lot: 9.

Liz Gruenberg to Eric Gruenberg; L1 NE NE 11-94-11.

Thank you to our family for recognizing that 50-plus one years of marriage is a blessing.

Thank you to all who shared our sentiments with kind words, cards, and gifts.

So wonderful to hear from all of you.

Don & Grace Arens



Laurie Tiemessen/Tribune

The fair’s not just for kids!

Sumner-Fredericksburg High School math teacher Wanda Reinke (above) posed for a photo after claiming the grand championship at the Celebrity Sheep and Goat Show that was held last week as part of the 2025 Chickasaw County 4-H and FFA Achievement Show.

The show included a dozen celebrities, four of whom were selected as finalists. They included Reinke Goddard/Bearman Farms’ Mat Goddard, The Mill feed dealer Bob Kukrul and New Hampton Elementary School teacher Erica Koster.

The finalists showed a meat goat before four pails in the show ring. The audience had five minutes to put money in the pails to pick their favorite celebrity — with Reinke taking the top prize and Koster (right) earning reserve champion honors.

The Celebrity Show brought in \$1374.74 and this money will help the Chickasaw County 4-H to help supplement livestock equipment and 4-H programming.

Threads to close at the end of August

BY BOB FENSKE
editor@nhtrib.com

A New Hampton boutique store will be closing later this summer, according to a social media post that was posted on Facebook Tuesday afternoon.

Threads owner Annie Lukes announced that she will be closing the store on Aug. 29, although she added that she would “love for someone to continue this boutique.”

Lukes wrote that the decision was difficult but said one “that is necessary for myself, my family and my future.”

She said that she will be starting what she termed a “new adventure” on Aug. 4, but that the store will remain open on Fridays and Saturdays, save for the weekend of Czech Days in Protivin, through Aug. 29.

Lukes added that she will no longer be able to offer tuxedo rentals and dry-cleaning services after she closes, but that she will reach out to other business owners to “see if these are things they would be interested in offering, as I understand they are both very important successful services we have been able to give our community.”

She wrote that she “would love if someone who has an eye for fashion, a strong business sense and love for people and this community to continue running the store” and ask those who are interested to stop in at the store located at 15. S. Walnut Ave.

Lukes also thanked her customers for their loyalty and business in the past eight to nine years.

“You truly made a dream of mine come true,” she said. “Books always have an ending, but I’m excited to open a new one and start a new chapter.”

News Bits From Our Past Compiled by Terri Josephson

Week of July 13 1950 (75 years ago)
• All boys 11 years of age or older who wish to caddy Sunday in the men's invitation-al tournament at the Country Club, will be shown a free movie motion picture on golf. The film, which was cast in Hollywood, includes all the big name golf professionals in the country.
Bing Crosby and Bob Hope will also be featured in the motion picture.
• Indications are the first draftees from Chickasaw County will be called in September according the state selective services headquarters in Des Moines. The local draft board will work on bringing up to date the classifications of registrants already on file as well as continuing the regular routine of registering men between the ages of 18 and 26 years of age.
It has been announced that the state's quota has been set at

around 400.
1975 (50 years ago)
• On Friday, July 18, New Hampton's business community will hold its 17th annual Ridiculous Day promotion. The parade, the first event of the day, will start at 9 a.m. Following the parade sidewalk stands offering ridiculous bargains will open. A high-light of this years promotion will be drawings for \$250 in Ridiculous Bucks.
A new feature of this year's event will be a Lions Club-sponsored community auction of donated articles. In the evening there will be a Battle of the Bands downtown, with Little German Band and the Circle K's competing. The event will end with the Chick-A-Squares performing at the corner of Main St. and Chestnut Ave. with Don Woodyard as caller.
• The New Hampton Community High's Chickasawettes were ranked

11th in the fifth girls softball poll released last week by the Iowa Girls Athletic Union. New Hampton had been ranked 12th the previous week with a 10-0 mark. As of the weekend, they were 11-1.
Senior High of Dubuque, the defending state champions, continued to lead the poll with a 15-0 mark. Clear Creek was second at 25-0.
2000 (25 years ago)
• Turkey Valley shortstop Chyanne Kleve was cited in the "Preps to Watch" feature of the Waterloo Courier com-piled by Courier sportswriter Sean Hylton. A lead-Off hitter, Kleve's performance has helped lead Turkey Valley's softball team to a No. 19 ranking in last weeks Class 1A poll.
Kleve, an outstanding short-stop on defense, also does very well at the plate, hitting in the upper 400s. Kleve has lettered four years in softball and also competes in basketball and volleyball.

• Early Sunday morning and again on Monday morning, rains together with lightning and winds caused considerable damage in our area. Rainfall was reported three inches on Sunday and another inch on Monday.
The Alta Vista area reported as many as 25 trees down in the park and town. A home near Alta Vista was struck by lightning and in addition to the tree damage, many homes had broken windows. Many resi-dents were without power for three to four hours.
2015 (10 years ago)
• Kaylie Reicks, daughter of Dale and Laura Reicks, spoke on her internship at Senator Charles Grassley's office in Washington D.C. at a recent Rotary meeting. Reicks left for her six week, unpaid inter-nship after finals at Iowa State University last spring. As part of Grassley's office there were four internship possibilities,

legislative, judiciary, press and administration. Reicks was chosen for administration.
As an administration intern, she worked 9-6 every day giving tours of the capital and was able to listen to speakers and hearings.
• For three years in a row the New Hampton Parks and Recreation have offered the Youth Golf Camp for grades 3-8. New Hampton High School girls' golf coach, Eric Olson instructed the course with high school golfers help-ing along the way. The three-day camp works on the basic

mechanics of the game. Coach Olson preached PGA to help the young golfers learn the fun-damentals as P stands for posture, G grip and A for aim.
2020 (5 years ago)
• Although the New Hampton Municipal Pool has been quiet this summer, the city's Parks and Recreation Department has continued to improve the city's parks with a number of new items, includ-ing the addition of pickleball courts, a new sand volleyball net and posts and new land-scaping around Mikkelson Park.

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City of Lawler The Lawler City Council met in regular session on July 7, 2025 at 7:00 PM. Mayor Mark Muetheries presided. Council members present: King, Wilson, Roberson and Croell Council members absent: Scheidel Others present: Jay Uhlenhake, Curt Franzen and John Brincks Motion made by Roberson to approve the agenda with the addition of salaries. Second by King. All Ayes. Motion passed. Motion made by King to approve the previous minutes and approval of current bills. Second by Croell All Ayes. Motion passed. VESTIS RUGS276.86 BODENSTEINER IMPLEMENT, CO181.22 STANTON ELECTRIC, BROKEN LIGHT-ING ARRESTOR110 UPS161.39 EFTPS FED/FICA TAX1,729.12 IPERS IPERS1,311.27 STATE WITHHOLDING STATE TAXES426.44 BLACK HILLS ENERGY GAS UTILITY139.52 MIENERGY ELECTRICITY 18,621.01 CASH330.41 FIVE STAR COOP ROUNDUP POWER-MAX71.43 IOWA LEAGUE MEMBER DUES 7/1/2025-6/30/2026501 TEAM LAB ROAD PATCH & WEED KILLER2,423.00 NEW HAMPTON TRIBUNE JUNE MIN-UTES 2025242.69 WELLMARK BLUE CROSS5,713.95 ROGER DRECKMAN DIAGONAL STREET38,450.00 CHICKASAW COUNTY, AUDITOR HAZ-MAT FY 2025-2026203 DNR 2025 ANNUAL FEE44.14 CHICKASAW COUNTY, SHERIFF FY 2025/20266,902.00 RAPID PRINTERS CHECKS170 ANDERSON48 JAY UHLENHAKE STORM DRAIN EAST GROVE156.85 IOWA ONE CALL EMAIL 1/31/25-5/31/25.....20.7 IAMU ELECTRIC DUES & WATER DUES2,430.00 INSURANCE ASSOCIATES COMM UM-BRELLA 4/1/25-4/1/261,306.00 STATE HYGIENIC LAB42.5 GARY CUEVELIER JUNE 2025 MOWING675 BMC AGGREGATES LC 3/4 ROADSTONE123.58 VISA - J UHLENHAKE201.47	VISA - S BYRNE737.59 HAWKEY INTERCONNECT40.6 TREWIN PUMPING SERVICE125 BUSTA LAWN CARE60 CLEMENS-MR LAWN1,558.00 IOWA DEPT OF REVENUE 2025 MAY SALES TAX3,853.78 WORKWIDE COMPLIANCE450.87 INRCOG 034 LAWLER CDBG WATER/SEWER1,987.68 PAYROLL CHECKS TOTAL PAYROLL CHECKS6,581.10 REVENUE CLAIMS TOTAL 98,407.17120,321.33 GENERAL FUND 58,211.8971,508.75 ROAD USE TAX FUND 1,601.885,339.13 WATER FUND 7,150.4610,025.91 SEWER FUND 6,178.817,345.45 ELECTRIC FUND 25,107.2824,885.77 STORM WATER FUND 156.85216.32 LIBRARY EFTPS FED/FICA TAXES 1,353.01 IPERS IPERS312.04 STATE WITHHOLDING STATE TAX124.44 CATHY HUMPAL26.6 INGRAM BOOKS27.98 OVERDRIVE INC397.44 HAWKEYE INTERCONNECT31 PIONEER WOMAN10 MID-AMERICA BOOK68.85 RAPID PRINTERS10 PAYROLL CHECKS TOTAL PAYROLL CHECKS1,515.35 CLAIMS TOTAL3,876.71 GENERAL FUND3,876.71 Curt Franzen with the Sons of a Legion discussed changing the tennis court into pickle courts. He discussed how they plan on updating this. There would be no cost to city. Motion made by Croell to allow the Sons of a Legion to change the tennis court into pickle ball courts. Second by Wilson. Ayes: King, Croell Roberson and Wilson Nays: None Absent: Scheidel The council discussed the farm lease with John Brincks. Mr. Brincks told the council he would like to continue to rent the Lawler farm lands. The council let Mr. Brincks know they will be increasing the rent and renewing the contract every 2 years and not 4 years. Motion made by Croell to increase rent to \$250 per acre (20 acres) for a term of 2 years. Second by King.
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Ayes: King, Croell, Roberson and Wilson Nays: None Absent: Scheidel Motion passed. The State Revolving Fund inform the council the Terms and Conditions for a principal forgiveness offered to the city in connection to the City's loan through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Program. Motion made by Croell to accept the loan principal forgiveness offered to the city in connection to the City's loan for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program. Second by Roberson. Ayes: King, Croell, Roberson and Wilson Nays: None Absent: Scheidel Motion Passed. Motion made by Wilson to approve building permit at 203 S Depot St. Second by King. Ayes: King, Croell, Roberson and Wilson Nays: None Absent: Scheidel Motion Passed Letters will be sent to property owners along the creek to remind them to clean their half of the creek. Motion made by King not to accept to rail-roads proposal to put city money toward fixing the railroad. The city does not own the property. Second by Roberson. Ayes: King, Croell, Roberson and Wilson Nays: None Absent: Scheidel Motion passed. Motion made by Croell to increase city clerk and city maintenance salary by 4%. Second by Wilson. Ayes: King, Croell, Roberson and Wilson Nays: None Absent: Scheidel Motion passed Next meeting will be August 4, 2025 at 7:00pm Motion made by Croell to adjourn at 7:45pm. Second by Roberson. Ayes: King, Wilson, Roberson and Croell Nays: None Motion passed. Suzette Byrne, City Clerk No. 25036 7/17/25 New Hampton Tribune www.iowapublicnotices.com	Ayes: King, Croell, Roberson and Wilson Nays: None Absent: Scheidel Motion Passed. Motion made by Wilson to approve building permit at 203 S Depot St. Second by King. Ayes: King, Croell, Roberson and Wilson Nays: None Absent: Scheidel Motion Passed Letters will be sent to property owners along the creek to remind them to clean their half of the creek. Motion made by King not to accept to rail-roads proposal to put city money toward fixing the railroad. The city does not own the property. Second by Roberson. Ayes: King, Croell, Roberson and Wilson Nays: None Absent: Scheidel Motion passed. Motion made by Croell to increase city clerk and city maintenance salary by 4%. Second by Wilson. Ayes: King, Croell, Roberson and Wilson Nays: None Absent: Scheidel Motion passed Next meeting will be August 4, 2025 at 7:00pm Motion made by Croell to adjourn at 7:45pm. Second by Roberson. Ayes: King, Wilson, Roberson and Croell Nays: None Motion passed. Suzette Byrne, City Clerk No. 25051 7/17/25 New Hampton Tribune www.iowapublicnotices.com
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COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS The City Council of Iowa met in regular session Monday, July 7, 2025, at 7:00 pm in Iowa City Hall. Mayor Taylor presided with Council Members Crooks, Day, Geerts, Holthaus, Rausch present. Also present was Clerk Donna Geerts. Mayor Taylor called the meeting to order. Motion by Day, seconded by Rausch to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously. Motion by Crooks, seconded by Holthaus to approve the minutes of the June 2, 2025, meeting. All present voted aye. Motion carried. Motion by Rausch, seconded by Geerts to set public hearing for the Council's intent to sell/abandon the 3 rods lying East and adjacent to Lot 21 and lying North of Railroad ROW and 3 rods lying south and adjacent to Lots 17-20 all in NW ¼ of the NW ¼ of Section 24, Township 95 North, Range 14 West for August 4, 2025 at 7:10 pm at Iowa City Hall. All present voted aye. Motion carried. Crooks made a motion, seconded by Holthaus to adopt RESOLUTION 25-6-A RES-OLUTION HIRING BERNARD BRINCKAS AS THE PART TIME SEASONAL MAINTENANCE AND SETTING THE WAGE FOR THE PART TIME SEASONAL MAINTENANCE OF THE CITY OF IOWA FOR THE FY 25/26. The wage is \$17.00 per hour. Roll Call: Ayes: Crooks, Day, Geerts, Holthaus, Rausch. Nays: None. Motion carried. Resolution adopted. Motion by Day, seconded by Geerts to approve the claims. All present voted aye. Motion carried. Alliant Energy\$1504.53 Black Hills Energy\$ 104.39 Library Acct\$2240.70 Payroll\$2628.12 Brian Sigler, mlg reimb\$ 562.50 941 deposit\$1106.14 IPERS\$ 728.14 Jendro Sanitation, recycling\$ 616.68 New Hampton Tribune, publication\$ 107.16 Treas, State of IA, state w/h tax\$ 352.00 Treas, State of IA, water excise tax\$ 757.16 IA Workforce Development, unemploy tax\$ 12.80 Chick Co Aud, FY26 hazmat\$ 113.00 Chick Co Sheriff, FY26 sheriff contract srvs\$3842.00 Cooley Sanitation, park porta pot rental\$ 100.00 John Deere Financial, weed spray, premixed fuel\$ 117.97 Microbac Lab, water tests\$ 165.75 Iowa League of Cities,\$ 398.00 H&M Tinting LLC, tint shop windows\$ 615.00 Rapid Printers, ink, copies, supplies\$ 61.20 Iowa DNR, anl public water supply fee\$ 25.00 Pat Finnegan Const Co, culvert rep-S West St\$ 1199.00 Bruening Rock Prod, rock\$ 376.47 Big Foot Ent, weed trimmer rep\$ 60.64 Bodensteiner Impl Co, filters\$ 222.07 Mick Gage Plb & Htg, replace curb box-104 E Main St\$ 985.45	Five Star Coop, weed spray\$ 72.92 EH Electric, lights-new city shed (rebate)\$ 1530.00 Hawkins, azon\$ 594.33 Store Kenworthy, forms\$ 48.50 INRCOG, grant prep for siren\$1000.00 USABlueBook, water test supplies\$ 286.20 Total Claims\$22,533.82 Motion by Day, seconded by Crooks to approve the monthly financial report. All present voted aye. Motion carried. Total Revenues \$28,884.73 Check not cleared \$555.95* RECEIVED, FUND,DISBURSED bank \$ 8,587.45, General, \$ 198,953.03* \$ 2,175.05, Road Use, \$ 109.25 \$ 1,477.04, Water, \$ 574.56 \$ 1,227.04, Sewer, \$ 23,329.17 \$ 8,874.96 Int \$ 15,086.50 Gen Checking to LOST CD \$ 4,553.88 LOST cd int \$ 6,543.19 General CD Int & CD (\$152,619.66) transfer to Gen Checking (\$ 14,768.24) Library Savings to Gen Checking Transfer Mayor gave wastewater and water report from Sigler's calculations. DNR Noncompliance, 5-day Written Report was reviewed. No public comment. Update from Engineer regarding the sanitary sewer improvements project and work down last year. Waiting for parts and then the sanitary sewer flow meters will be installed. Day made a motion, seconded by Crooks to approve the building permit: 30 X 50 Building-100 W Union St, Wes Burik. Ayes: All Nays: None. Motion carried Discussed siren replacement. Motion by Geerts, seconded by Day to authorize Mayor's signature on Grant Application-Memorandum Understanding (MOU) between City and Iowa Northland Regional Council of Governments (INRCOG). All present voted aye. Motion carried. Reviewed proposals for street patching project from D&M Asphalt and Heartland Asphalt Inc. Crooks made a motion, seconded by Rausch to accept proposal from Heartland Asphalt Inc -\$34,832.00. All present voted aye. Motion carried. Motion by Day, seconded by Rausch to authorize Mayor's signature on Proposal/Contract from Heartland Asphalt Inc for Street Patching Project 2025. All present voted aye. Motion carried. New lights will be installed at new city shed. Discussed the electrical service in the shop. Clerk will check with attorney on the process to sell the house at 100 E Union Street Day will order bleachers for park. Ball diamond lights project is completed. Motion by Day, seconded by Rausch to adjourn meeting at 9:03 pm. All present voted aye. Motion carried. Randy Taylor, Mayor Attest: Donna Geerts, City Clerk No. 25041 7/17/25 New Hampton Tribune www.iowapublicnotices.com
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CITY COUNCIL COUNCIL CHAMBERS MONDAY JULY 7, 2025 7:00 P.M. The City Council of the City of New Hampton met in regular session in the Council Chambers at 112 East Spring Street, New Hampton Iowa at 7:00 p.m. Monday, July 7, 2025. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Geerts. Council members present were Larsen, Porath, Schwickerath, Speltz, Denner, and Humpal. Also in attendance were City Attorney Todd Pritchard, Conrad Rosendahl, Tammy Robinson, Casey Mai, Bob Fenske and Steve Angell. 1. Approve meeting agenda 2. Approve Regular City Council Minutes of June 16, 2025. 3. Approve City Claims of \$376,438.66 4. Cemetery Board Minutes June 16, 2025 5. Airport Commission Minutes June 9, 2025 6. Special Class B Retail Native Wine: Schueth Ace Hardware #WBN000520 7. Class B Retail Alcohol License: Kwik Trip 115 E Main Sept. 4, 2025 8. FMC Solid Waste Agency Minutes March 4, 2025 9. Resignation of Police Officer 10. July 1st – Re-appointment to Lt Plant Board – Grant Anderson (6 year term) 11. Amend New Horizons Farmers Market Street Closure to Add July 10th, 2025 12. Tax Exemption under Urban Revitalization Plan: NH Industrial Devel. Corp 13. Iowa League of Cities membership letter 14. Iowa Public Information Board Advisory Opinion Regarding Training Requirements for newly elected or appointed officials. Moved by Larsen, seconded by Humpal; that the consent agenda be approved as presented. Ayes – Six. Nays – None. Absent-None. Motion carried. Bids were accepted for the sale of city owned property until 4:30 pm July 7, 2025. The property is described as: A portion of land owned by the City Of New Hampton and is located south of Parcel #191112451010, 532 West Garfield Street, includes approximately 0.171 acres of land. No bids were received. Bids were received for the 530 Case Tractor & Rear Blade until 4:30 pm July 2, 2025. Bids Amount Kenneth Andera \$1,755 Ben Freidhof \$1,026 Justin Carpenter \$826 Moved by Porath, seconded by Speltz; that Resolution No. 6743 A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SALE OF THE 530 CASE TRACTOR AND REAR BLADE TO KENNETH ANDERA IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,755, be approved. Ayes - Larsen, Porath, Schwickerath, Speltz, Denner, Humpal. Nays – None. Absent - None. Resolution approved. Public Works Director Casey Mai would like to proceed with removal of the remaining dead/ diseased trees located on private property per City Code Section 151.06. Once the trees are removed the property owners will be invoiced. If the invoice is not paid in 30 days, the cost will be assessed to the property. This expense will be paid out of the general fund tree department. Moved by Humpal, seconded by Larsen; that Resolution No. 6744 A RESOLU-TION APPROVING SOLICITING BIDS FOR THE DEAD/ DISEASED TREE REMOVAL	ON PRIVATE PROPERTY, be approved. Ayes - Larsen, Porath, Schwickerath, Speltz, Denner, Humpal. Nays – None. Absent - None. Resolution approved. Chief Rosendahl wants to eliminate resolution #6634 that currently allows compensation of \$15 per hour for on call pay for the police department staff and replace it with compensation equal to one hour of regular pay for eight hours on call. Moved by Larsen, seconded by Denner; that Resolution No. 6745 A RESOLUTION RESCINDING RESOLUTION NO. 6634 AND APPROVING ON CALL PAY FOR POLICE OFFICERS, be approved. Ayes - Larsen, Porath, Schwickerath, Speltz, Denner, Humpal. Nays – None. Absent - None. Resolution approved. PWD Mai is getting quotes for AMI water meters. He is also working with NHTS on a possible water main extension project. Chief Rosendahl discussed the need to add incentives for hiring police officers that are already certified. Moved by Porath, seconded by Speltz; that the meeting adjourn at 7:49 pm. Ayes –Six. Nays – None, Absent – None. Motion carried. ATTEST: COURTNEY LECHTENBERG, Deputy Clerk STEVE GEERTS, Mayo COUNCIL CHAMBERS CITY HALL MONDAY, JULY 7, 2025 7:00 P.M. CITY - WRITTEN SINCE JUNE 16, 2025 20/20 FXNew Computer, New Laptop & Dock (Clerk)2,316.40 USPS, Postage for Utility Bills228.94 Capital Sanitary Supply, Paper Towels (PD)84.92 Hall, Jace, Mileage to School (330.4 x .7) (PD)231.28 Iowa Dept of Public Safety, IA System April-June 25 (PD)300.00 L-Tron Corporation, Imaging Scanner Kit (PD)414.00 Ray O'Herron Co....Hi-Lite Carrier for Scally (PD)131.41 Vern Laures Auto Center, 23 Tahoe Oil Change, Replace Cabin Filter178.72 20/20 FX, Two New PCs (PD)3,359.20 Chickasaw Co Auditor, Kenwood Ave Paving Project (Pmt 1/5)42,295.91 Fort Atkinson Nursery, Trees- Trees Forever Grant (Clerk)1,942.00 Jendro Sanitation, June Garbage & Recycling 33,442.15 John Deere Financial Supplies (SR ST Fire) Dog Food (PD)919.76 New Hampton Electric....13 W Main Repairs (Econ Loan to Josh Mack)8,188.91 Total Written94,033.60 CITY - TO BE WRITTEN 20/20 FX, Replace Adapter (Clerk)62.50 A & R Land Services, ROW Services for WWTP Project1,055.35 Amaril Uniform, Brite Lime Shirts for Kyle (Street)118.74 Blazek Corporation, Sewer Repair on Water Ave (Sewer)1,958.14 BMC Aggregates LCRoadstone - Billed to Black Hills Energy (Street)185.97 Bodensteiner Implement, Filters, Blades (SR)
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Oil Pump, Worm Gear (ST)954.00 Total to be Written282,350.52 Plus City Written94,033.60 TOTAL TO BE APPROVED\$376,384.12 PAYROLL - WRITTEN SINCE JUNE 16, 2025 AFLAC, Supplemental Insurance732.28 EFTPS, FICA Tax, Federal Tax15,041.36 EFTPS, FICA Tax, Federal Tax15,079.93 Employee Benefit SystemsAdministration Fees264.00 Empower Retirement, Deferred Comp875.00 Empower Retirement, Deferred Comp875.00 Globe Life Liberty National.....Supplemental Insurance16.40 Iowa Dept of Revenue, State W/H Tax3,293.83 Minnesota Child Support, Payroll Deduction398.15 City of New Hampton, Self Funding Fees8,421.00 Treasurer, State of Iowa, IPERS18,501.57 Wellmark, Health Insurance27,367.92 90,866.44 CEMETERY - TO BE WRITTEN Ziegler Inc, Mower Blades54.54 LIBRARY - TO BE WRITTEN BMC Aggregates, Rock for Sidewalk Project- Foundation to Reimb68.44 PARK & REC - TO BE WRITTEN Petty Cash, Quarters for 4th of July Pool Games.....20.00 AIRPORT - WRITTEN SINCE JUNE 16, 2025 John Deere Financial, Nozzle, Washers, Rodenticide, Hammer53.33 CEMETERY - WRITTEN SINCE JUNE 16, 2025 John Deere Financial, Hanging Baskets49.98 PARK & REC - WRITTEN SINCE JUNE 16, 2025 Atlantic, Concession Items993.26 Carrico Aquatic ResourcesPool Repairs, Redo Piping, Consultation.....4,889.46 Clemens- Mr. Lawn, 3rd Application Fertilizer400.00 Cooley Pumping RR Rentals400.00 Cresco Fitness Center Lifeguard Recert, WSI Certification450.00 Holy Family Parish, Gym Rental for Tball.....80.00 Iowa Soccer Association, Spring Soccer Fees2,890.00 Marv & Zips Repair Spark Plug4.00 Mick Gage Plumbing & Heating Turn Gas On, Pool Repairs, Misc Repairs1,564.04 Myers- Cox Co Concession Items2,764.73 Ziegler Inc, Mower Blades & Oil131.67 Fort Atkinson Nursery 6 Trees1,074.0015,641.16	No. 25038 7/17/25 New Hampton Tribune www.iowapublicnotices.com
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Foundation Grant (PD).....954.00 Total to be Written282,350.52 Plus City Written94,033.60 TOTAL TO BE APPROVED\$376,384.12 PAYROLL - WRITTEN SINCE JUNE 16, 2025 AFLAC, Supplemental Insurance732.28 EFTPS, FICA Tax, Federal Tax15,041.36 EFTPS, FICA Tax, Federal Tax15,079.93 Employee Benefit SystemsAdministration Fees264.00 Empower Retirement, Deferred Comp875.00 Empower Retirement, Deferred Comp875.00 Globe Life Liberty National.....Supplemental Insurance16.40 Iowa Dept of Revenue, State W/H Tax3,293.83 Minnesota Child Support, Payroll Deduction398.15 City of New Hampton, Self Funding Fees8,421.00 Treasurer, State of Iowa, IPERS18,501.57 Wellmark, Health Insurance27,367.92 90,866.44 CEMETERY - TO BE WRITTEN Ziegler Inc, Mower Blades54.54 LIBRARY - TO BE WRITTEN BMC Aggregates, Rock for Sidewalk Project- Foundation to Reimb68.44 PARK & REC - TO BE WRITTEN Petty Cash, Quarters for 4th of July Pool Games.....20.00 AIRPORT - WRITTEN SINCE JUNE 16, 2025 John Deere Financial, Nozzle, Washers, Rodenticide, Hammer53.33 CEMETERY - WRITTEN SINCE JUNE 16, 2025 John Deere Financial, Hanging Baskets49.98 PARK & REC - WRITTEN SINCE JUNE 16, 2025 Atlantic, Concession Items993.26 Carrico Aquatic ResourcesPool Repairs, Redo Piping, Consultation.....4,889.46 Clemens- Mr. Lawn, 3rd Application Fertilizer400.00 Cooley Pumping RR Rentals400.00 Cresco Fitness Center Lifeguard Recert, WSI Certification450.00 Holy Family Parish, Gym Rental for Tball.....80.00 Iowa Soccer Association, Spring Soccer Fees2,890.00 Marv & Zips Repair Spark Plug4.00 Mick Gage Plumbing & Heating Turn Gas On, Pool Repairs, Misc Repairs1,564.04 Myers- Cox Co Concession Items2,764.73 Ziegler Inc, Mower Blades & Oil131.67 Fort Atkinson Nursery 6 Trees1,074.0015,641.16	No. 25038 7/17/25 New Hampton Tribune www.iowapublicnotices.com
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MISCELLANEOUS

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MCN

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MCN

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MidSummer friendships more important than the golf at annual tournament

MIDSUMMER: FROM 14

Some familiar standbys to the tradition-rich get-together drove across the country to take part in the coveted classic that is basically one big family reunion for a large contingent of attendees.

“We have Christmas in July. It’s Christmas today,” said Dan Huffman, 74, and a 1969 graduate of New Hampton High School that still resides in his hometown.

The golf matters, but the friendships and smiles will remain long after the scorecards are tallied. The dusted-off clubs for some are put back in the closet, only to be hauled out of storage again next summer to tackle the links on New Hampton’s only golf course, drink a few brews and rejoice about old times with former classmates or long-distance, lifelong buddies.

That’s what Huffman and his golfing aficionados did Saturday after their 18-hole was complete. They shared stories, laughed a lot and remembered why they keep coming back to a tournament that has held strong ties and bonds for over four decades.

Huffman, along with his guest playing partner from Ocala, Florida – Rod Olson – wore Busch Light shirts and there were more than a few of those Anheuser-Busch beers in an ice-cold bucket just down from the bar at their table overlooking the ninth hole on New Hampton’s beautiful golf course.

This was Huffman’s 38th “MidSummer” by his count. The U.S. Navy veteran couldn’t help but smile. Even though he didn’t play his best golf, he was amongst friends, like Dennis Knight (1970 NH grad) and Kevin Kirkus, who hails from South Dakota.

“My mother-in-law is 95 years old and she’s pretty much gonna have the whole crew there and there’s a lot of them,” said Huffman, who moved to New Hampton when he was two years old and is a retired procurement manager at Tri-Mark, where he worked for 36 years.

After Huffman’s group put away their drivers and putters and their bucket was empty, the fun-loving clan headed on over to Mikkelson Park, due west on Highway 24 and a stone’s throw away from the golfing activity where they had reserved a shelter for the rest of the evening.

“It used to be at her house, but she’s now in assisted living,” said Huffman about his party planning mother-in-



Photo courtesy of Kyra Lewis

Bill and Linda Noehl hit the ceremonial first tee shots to kick off the annual Josie’s MidSummer Classic at the New Hampton Golf and Country Club this past Friday.

law.

Huffman explained how he came about calling the “MidSummer” his middle-of-summer “Christmas party.”

“When my father-in-law went to Florida in the winter, he went before Thanksgiving. He said we’re gonna have Christmas in July,” laughed Huffman.

The scores scratched down for each hole on the piece of paper Huffman’s bunch carried around during the two-day tournament were almost irrelevant – key word, almost.

“The three teams – the six of us – we all shot the same score today,” said Huffman. “That’s crazy.”

Invitees/guests of NHGCC members look forward to this cherished event each and every year, circle it on their calendars and keep coming back.

That’s if you’re a guest and invited back as there is a waiting list to join this prestigious conglomeration of young and old.

Olson, who has taken part in 35 “MidSummer’s,” said his wife bought the Busch Light shirts online a few years back. He moved to New Hampton with Kirkus to work for the telephone company in town and stuck around for eight years prior to moving to the Sunshine State.

“That’s how it all started out,” said Olson.

And if you’re wondering how Huffman and Olson became Busch Light drinkers, Kirkus has that story as well.

“They were Miller Lite drinkers and then they got to the point where they’re drinking so much they had to go to Busch Light because it was cheaper,” regaled Kirkus, who said his son-in-law has won the tournament the past two seasons.

That’s Brad Shatek, just in case you’re curious.

The “MidSummer” was all new for 2004 NH grad Shane Eichenberger as he took on the course along with his member playing partner Mitch Kellogg, also a 2004 New Hampton graduate.

“This is the first time I even heard about it when I was invited,” said Eichenberger. “It’s a pretty well-run tournament. For the area it’s kind of a shining star, I guess.”

Eichenberger is now a logistics specialist that lives in Polk City – a northern suburb of Des Moines – and played football and ran track for retired Chickasaw coach Scott Frerichs back in the day.

“It’s my hometown. It will always be my hometown,” said Eichenberger. “It’s obviously changed since I’ve moved away in 2008. There’s still a lot of traditions that are nice to accommodate and abide by.”

Asked what his skill level was like in the challenging sport of golf and Eichenberger didn’t hold back in his assessment.

“Less than amateur,” smiled Eichenberger.

Eichenberger had such a good time this past weekend that he may dust those clubs off next spring and give the “MidSummer” another crack.

“I haven’t golfed in like 10 years, but I’ll do anything for friend,” said Eichenberger. “If I get invited again next year I will be here.”

Eichenberger made sure to stop by and talk to his parents as well when

he was back in Chickasaw County, not to mention rekindling old friendships from year’s past with pals he hasn’t seen in a while.

“I’m not a good golfer, so the fact that I got invited is a treat for me. It gives me a reason to come back to town and see old friends,” said Eichenberger.

Eichenberger said his group teed off at 7 a.m. sharp. Golfers soak up the sun for what amounts to a jam-packed day. Some golfers are often putting the finishing touches on their final round of the day around eight o’clock in the evening. The memories out shine any long putt sunk or any stellar blast off a tee box.

“I think it’s just kind of a fun experience and I’ve never done it before,” said Eichenberger. “If it’s something you’re invited to, I’d highly recommend doing it. It’s kind of pseudo high school reunion, which is kind of cool.”

Shatek – Vice President of Ag/Commercial Loans at Fidelity Bank & Trust in New Hampton – along with his playing partner Craig Kobliska won the tournament for the third year in a row.

This is the sixth year that the accomplished links duo has won the MidSummer.

The other top finishers were runner-ups Ryan Anderson/Aden Zwanziger (122), third-place entrants Rich Kriener/Doug Schweinefus (123) and the fourth-place squad of Kyle Bouska/Mitch Rosonke (125).

There were 144 golfers (72 pairings) in attendance that competed in nine different flights. The age of play was from 18 years old all the way up to 89 years of age.

Friday night the “MidSummer” had its kickoff party with entertainment by Steve Schroeder. The “Champions Dinner” was provided by U2 BBQ and the opening ceremony honorary starters were Bill and Linda Noehl.

The fundraiser provides the NHGCC Golf Committee funds for course and clubhouse improvements throughout the year. This year’s improvements included an emergency replacement of a part in the course’s irrigation system and new televisions with an integrated control system in the clubhouse. This new system allows for events to easily use the new monitors for slideshows and presentations.

Closing ceremonies can be watched on the NHGCC Facebook’s page via a live event that is streamed on that social media page.

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Iowa County Treasurer's Semiannual Reconciliation									
For 04/01/2025 - 06/30/2025									
	Chickasaw County								
	Beginning		Beginning Balance +		Change in	Calculated Ending	Actual Ending		Outstanding
	Treasurer's Balance	Total Revenues	Total Revenues	Total Expenses	Outstanding	Treasurer's Balance	Treasurer's Balance	Difference	Bank Items
0001 - GENERAL BASIC	3,431,701.48	1,054,194.85	4,485,896.33	1,513,534.63	121,642.05	3,094,003.75	3,094,003.75	0.00	154,074.12
0002 - GENERAL SUPPLEMENTAL	1,517,461.48	306,252.30	1,823,713.78	628,627.12	5,537.73	1,200,624.39	1,200,624.39	0.00	5,537.73
0003 - GENERAL BASIC SUB FUND -ARPA	624,319.03	2,790.32	627,109.35	620,000.00	0.00	7,109.35	7,109.35	0.00	0.00
0004 - EMS DEDICATED	841,443.53	181,782.95	1,023,226.48	220,949.14	7,570.61	809,847.95	809,847.95	0.00	9,965.34
0005 - LAND ACQUISITION & DEVELOPMENT	5,000.00	15,900.00	20,900.00	0.00	0.00	20,900.00	20,900.00	0.00	0.00
0006 - COUNTY PROPERTY IMPROVEMENTS	41,738.63	0.00	41,738.63	0.00	0.00	41,738.63	41,738.63	0.00	0.00
0011 - RURAL SERVICES BASIC	1,766,769.60	134,767.47	1,901,537.07	1,136,032.69	297.10	765,801.48	765,801.48	0.00	297.10
0020 - SECONDARY ROAD FUND	2,311,377.06	2,541,795.56	4,853,172.62	2,106,325.34	178,785.70	2,925,632.98	2,925,632.98	0.00	190,066.80
0023 - REAP CONSERVATION ENHANCEMENT	64,602.61	414.87	65,017.48	0.00	0.00	65,017.48	65,017.48	0.00	0.00
0024 - RECORDER'S SURCHARGE	7,945.90	549.66	8,495.56	0.00	0.00	8,495.56	8,495.56	0.00	0.00
0025 - CHICKASAW COUNTY BETTERMENT	171,949.51	24,689.89	196,639.40	0.00	0.00	196,639.40	196,639.40	0.00	0.00
0026 - CHICKASAW CO. ECON. DEV.	38,312.92	0.00	38,312.92	0.00	0.00	38,312.92	38,312.92	0.00	0.00
0028 - DRUG-K-9 UNIT	25,292.49	68.27	25,360.76	541.00	0.00	24,819.76	24,819.76	0.00	0.00
0029 - SHERIFF DARE ACCT.	1,213.31	3.33	1,216.64	0.00	0.00	1,216.64	1,216.64	0.00	0.00
0030 - CHICKASAW CO. PIONEER CEMETERY	2,207.19	361.54	2,568.73	2,517.74	0.00	50.99	50.99	0.00	0.00
0033 - LANDFILL POSTCLOSURE	496,869.20	1,229.91	498,099.11	7,220.22	200.00	491,078.89	491,078.89	0.00	592.50
0034 - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GB	20,000.21	0.00	20,000.21	0.00	0.00	20,000.21	20,000.21	0.00	0.00
0035 - RURAL ROADS INFNRSTRUCTURE FUND	543,542.19	98,759.53	642,301.72	334,512.99	103,660.06	411,448.79	411,448.79	0.00	103,660.06
0036 - OPIOID SETTLEMENT	115,880.22	3,058.93	118,939.15	0.00	0.00	118,939.15	118,939.15	0.00	0.00
0037 - BYPASS BASIN	90,638.31	733.16	91,371.47	0.00	0.00	91,371.47	91,371.47	0.00	0.00
0038 - EMS DONATIONS	17,779.93	5,274.95	23,054.88	0.00	0.00	23,054.88	23,054.88	0.00	0.00
0040 - CHICKASAW COUNTY TOURISM	46,725.86	3,299.58	50,025.44	3,653.51	19.60	46,391.53	46,391.53	0.00	46.20
0045 - CO. ATTY FORFEITURE FUND	2,350.80	0.00	2,350.80	0.00	0.00	2,350.80	2,350.80	0.00	0.00
0046 - SHERIFF FORFEITURE FUND	8,549.72	9.13	8,558.85	8,494.00	0.00	64.85	64.85	0.00	0.00
0050 - TWIN PONDS NATURE CENTER	23,824.11	144.05	23,968.16	0.00	0.00	23,968.16	23,968.16	0.00	0.00
1500 - CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	386,242.84	0.00	386,242.84	0.00	0.00	386,242.84	386,242.84	0.00	0.00
2019 - COUNTY DEBT SERVICE	508,665.30	30,177.46	538,842.76	454,422.33	0.00	84,420.43	84,420.43	0.00	0.00
3500 - SAUDE FARM FUND	6,671.40	40.34	6,711.74	0.00	0.00	6,711.74	6,711.74	0.00	0.00
3510 - SCHROEDER STEWARDSHIP FUND	4,209.31	11.55	4,220.86	0.00	0.00	4,220.86	4,220.86	0.00	0.00
4000 - EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMISS	296,926.21	12,337.28	309,263.49	85,661.19	18,626.43	242,228.73	242,228.73	0.00	18,756.43
4010 - 9-1-1 SURCHARGE FUND	521,545.25	45,120.66	566,665.91	46,382.36	8,604.81	528,888.36	528,888.36	0.00	9,110.01
4100 - ASSESSMENT EXPENSE	720,678.04	34,037.73	754,715.77	159,716.92	3,163.69	598,162.54	598,162.54	0.00	4,473.04
4140 - AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE	99,731.69	16,181.00	115,912.69	113,631.23	0.00	2,281.46	2,281.46	0.00	0.00
4200 - SCHOOL DISTRICTS	3,766,687.89	621,583.47	4,388,271.36	4,300,345.97	0.00	87,925.39	87,925.39	0.00	0.00
4300 - AREA SCHOOLS	332,907.02	54,745.53	387,652.55	379,876.84	0.00	7,775.71	7,775.71	0.00	0.00
4400 - CORPORATIONS	1,327,550.79	228,240.85	1,555,791.64	1,535,019.87	0.00	20,771.77	20,771.77	0.00	0.00
4406 - NEW HAMPTON TAX INCREMENTS	199,931.46	54,133.49	254,064.95	250,337.16	0.00	3,727.79	3,727.79	0.00	0.00
4450 - SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS	507.32	1,231.52	1,738.84	887.84	0.00	851.00	851.00	0.00	0.00
4700 - TOWNSHIPS-CEM, HALL, INS & FIRE	93,754.30	15,084.60	108,838.90	106,532.94	0.00	2,305.96	2,305.96	0.00	0.00
4800 - PROPERTY TAX AGENCY-BANGS & TB	689.20	98.48	787.68	773.79	0.00	13.89	13.89	0.00	0.00
4900 - BENEFITTED FIRE DISTRICTS	23,134.10	3,619.01	26,753.11	25,970.28	0.00	782.83	782.83	0.00	0.00
5010 - MOTOR VEHICLE FEES	298,028.35	776,709.75	1,074,738.10	785,947.40	0.00	288,790.70	288,790.70	0.00	0.00
5020 - MOTOR VEHICLE SALES TAX	159,198.26	751,881.49	911,079.75	666,189.37	0.00	244,890.38	244,890.38	0.00	0.00
5030 - MOTOR VEHICLE POSTAGE	755.00	2,866.00	3,621.00	2,846.00	0.00	775.00	775.00	0.00	0.00
5040 - ORGAN TRANSPLANT	264.00	205.00	469.00	199.00	0.00	270.00	270.00	0.00	0.00
5090 - TAX REDEMPTION-OWNER/LIEN HOLDI	2,983.00	45,273.86	48,256.86	20,620.00	0.00	27,636.86	27,636.86	0.00	0.00
5151 - CURRENT TAX ESCROW ACCOUNT	0.00	12,596.92	12,596.92	0.00	0.00	12,596.92	12,596.92	0.00	0.00
5300 - RECORDER'S ELECTRONIC FEES	154.00	527.00	681.00	478.00	0.00	203.00	203.00	0.00	0.00
8999 - HEALTH-FLEX INS PASS-THRU	185,969.69	345,900.56	531,870.25	353,399.31	0.00	178,470.94	178,470.94	0.00	0.00
Report Totals:	21,154,679.71	7,428,683.80	28,583,363.51	15,871,646.18	448,107.78	13,159,825.11	13,159,825.11	0.00	496,579.33

No. 25049

7/17/25 New Hampton Tribune

7/18/25 Nashua Reporter

www.iowapublicnotices.com

Seniors will be missed, but New Hampton has plenty returning in 2026

NH Softball: FROM 14

came via Isabella Schlatter, who earlier in the inning just made it back to second after “over-sliding” the bag on a stolen base attempt.

And then the game turned into a taut pitching duel, and New Hampton eighth-grader Brynlie Ackerson proved up to the task as she went the distance, giving up just three hits while striking out five and walking just one.

“She has confidence and poise a lot of gals her age just don’t have and she was absolutely on her game,” Anderson said. “She likes to call me ‘Captain Obvious’ because I’ll say things like ‘just throw strikes, Brynlie.’ She gave us exactly what we needed.”

Ackerson, though, got plenty of help, too, as the Chickasaws for the most part played solid defense behind her. The best play of the night, though, came from senior third baseman Cora Schwickerath when she made a diving catch to end a Crestwood rally in the bottom of the fourth inning.

By that time, the game was tied because in the top half of the fourth, Caycee Crawford launched a line-drive rocket over the centerfield fence for her eighth home run of the season.

“She just absolutely crushed that ball,” Anderson said, “and to know we get to have her for two more years, that’s a huge positive, right?”

New Hampton added hits from Jackie Pickar and Ackerson in that frame and had runners on second and third, but Crestwood was able to escape the jam with no further damage.

The Chickasaws also got a leadoff hit-by-pitch of Sydney Laures in the fifth and a one-out single from Chloe Weigel in the sixth but couldn’t push the lead run across.

“We were one hit away it seemed all night,” Anderson said. “We hit the ball, but it seemed like it was always right at someone.”

Ackerson, though, kept the Cadets at bay. In the sixth inning, Ansley Teeling led off the inning with a double down the leftfield line, but Ackerson got a fly out and a strikeout before catching a soft liner to

end the inning.

The eighth-grader then got the first two batters in the seventh, and extra innings looked all but certain until Laney Peter reached on an infield single, one in which Crawford almost made a sensational play from her shortstop position.

Pinch-runner Keira Shea stole second and then scored on the final “inches play” that went against the Chickasaws as Schlatter lifted a bloop over Schwickerath at third. The New Hampton senior made a valiant effort to catch the pop fly but it just trickled off her glove. Crawford, though, had hustled over and almost caught the ball but instead it fell a couple of feet away from her and Shea raced home with the winning run.

“I can’t ask any more than what Cora and Caycee gave us on that ball,” said the New Hampton head coach. “The effort was there — that 110 percent, probably more — was there. It was even inches there, it was an inch, maybe less, and it just didn’t go our way.”

New Hampton ended the season with a 15-14 record while Crestwood advanced to Saturday’s regional semifinal, where it dropped a 7-3 decision to the Bobcats of Western Dubuque.

But the Chickasaws’ first-year head coach exhorted her players to keep their heads high after the heartbreaking end of the season.

“The way we finished the season, with the comeback wins [over North Fayette Valley and Riceville] last week, the way we played against Crestwood, and with all the kids we have coming back, we have a lot to take into next season,” Anderson said. “Obviously we’re going to miss our two seniors [Pickar and Schwickerath], but yeah, we had eight starters against Crestwood and quite a few other girls who saw a lot of varsity time this year coming back. So sure, I know the future’s bright for softball.”

CRESTWOOD 2, NEW HAMPTON 1					
NH	000	100	0	-	1
Crest	100	000	1	-	2
Brynlie Ackerson 6 2/3 IP, 3 H, 2 R, 1 ER, 1 BB, 5 K.					
2B – Cora Schwickerath. HR – Caycee Crawford. Runs – Crawford 1. Hits – Crawford 2, Chloe Weigel 1, Jackie Pickar 1, Schwickerath 1, Ackerson 1. RBIs – Crawford 1.					



Turkey Valley catcher Hunter Kruse (above), along with pitcher Alex Hanson, go after a foul popup while teammate Ethan Orvis (below) takes a swing during last Tuesday’s district game against Kee High.

Trojans come up short in loss to Kee

Kee High has knocked Turkey Valley out of district round fives times in last seven seasons

By KELLY TERPSTRA
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By geographic proximity alone, the Turkey Valley Trojan baseball team is going to face conference rival Kee High on a relatively consistent basis in the postseason.

That’s just a fact. They did yet again last week Tuesday in the district semifinals at Shooky Fink Field in New Albin. The ninth-ranked Hawks – winners of the Upper Iowa Conference – used a dominant pitching performance to shut out TV by a score of 6-0.

It was the fourth time this season Kee (31-10) defeated Dan Stepan’s Trojans after winning by regular season results of 14-3, 13-1 and 8-2 on June 30. The perennial-power Hawks played No. 10 Mason City Newman (25-8) in a substate game in Decorah on Tuesday for the right to play in their 21st trip to the state tournament.

“It’s never the way you want to end. The kids fought to the last out,” said Stepan, who wrapped up his 23rd year as Trojan head coach.

Turkey Valley has been knocked out of the postseason five out of the last seven seasons by Kee and Stepan stated since 2012 there’s only been two other times TV has not been



slotted in Kee High’s district.

“We end up always playing ‘em,” said Stepan. “Since we’ve been in 1A since 2012, I think twice we went a different direction. We went down to Janesville one year and went to Jesup one year. Other than that we’re stuck up in this direction.”

Kee High – at least on the mound – was in fine form in its first postseason game of the summer as it threw its top two pitchers against the Trojans in seniors Jordan Cota and Dalton Mudderman. Cota fanned 10 and Mudderman struck out the side in the sixth and seventh. Cota also struck out the side twice in the second and fourth frames.

That added up to 16 total strikeouts of the 21 outs produced by the Hawks in seven innings of play. That’s obviously a lot and was tough to overcome for the underdog Trojans (10-19).

“There was a lot looking, too, which we were disappointed in,” said Stepan about the horde of times his batters fanned. “The whole last few weeks we’re discussing we gotta swing the bat. We’re taking enough walks, but we gotta foul things off if it’s close. We still just every once in a while look like deer in the headlights at the plate.”

TV sophomore Jayden Rausch – who still leads Class 1A in walks with 34 – led off

Photos courtesy of Leah Kruse

the game with a single. He was left stranded at first after Cota induced a strikeout and two popups on the infield to eliminate the threat. Rausch walked in the third with two outs, but did not advance past that base. TV junior Alex Hanson started the fifth with a single, but two K’s and a popup to second saw that rally stall.

Kee’s Trey Cota slapped a two-RBI double in the third.

Turkey Valley sophomore Cale Langreck worked five innings and gave up five earned runs. Langreck struck out two and did not issue a free pass.

“Cale gave us a puncher’s chance to win the ball game. We forced them to put some hits together,” said Stepan. “We played really good defense, we just didn’t score enough.”

Turkey Valley did not commit an error in the district contest, while Kee had one error.

TV defeated Maquoketa Valley, 4-2, to advance to the district semifinal. It’s the second year in a row the Trojans have won their opening round district game after beating Riceville a year ago, 8-3.

KEE HIGH 6, TURKEY VALLEY 0						
TV	000	000	0	-	0	
KEE	013	011	x	-	6	
Pitching - Cale Langreck 5 IP, 8 H, 5 R, 5 ER, 3 BB, 0 K, Alex Hanson 1 IP, 1 H, 1 R, 1 ER, 0 BB, 2 K.						
Hits - Jayden Rausch, Hanson.						

Thanks for giving us a fun-filled summer, Trojans!

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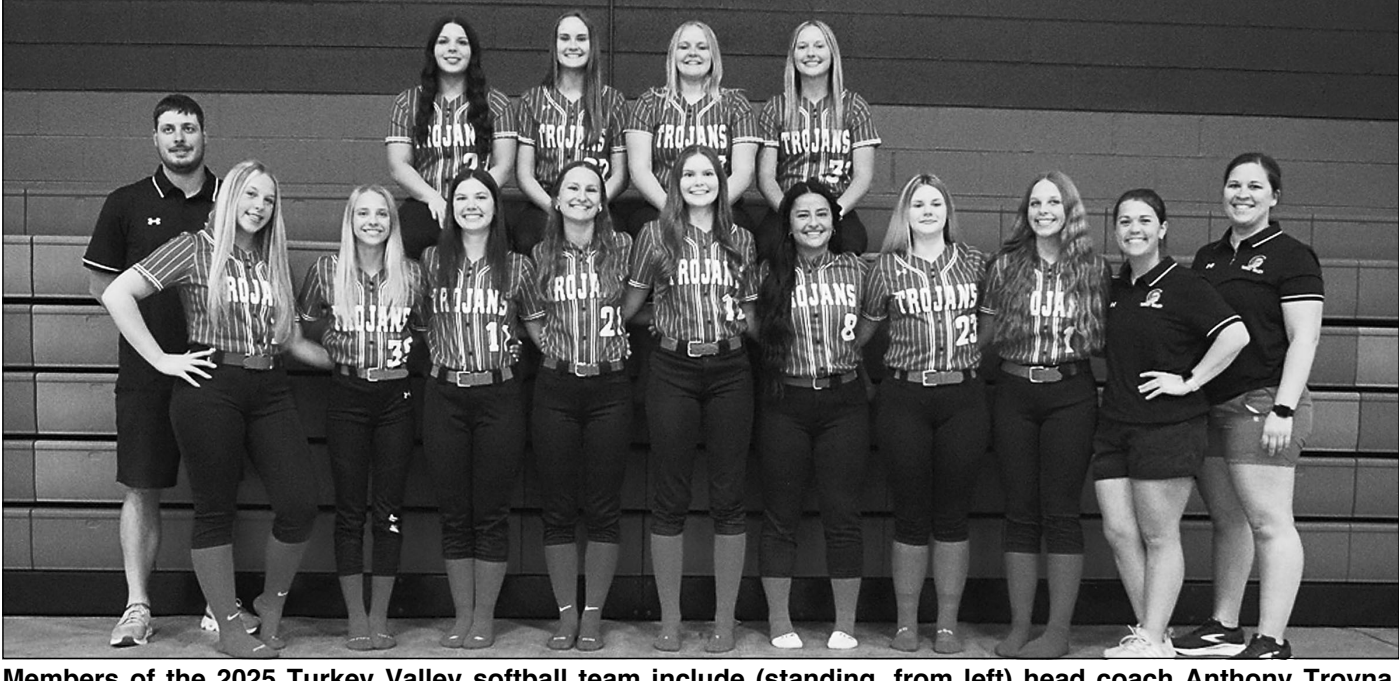
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Members of the 2025 Turkey Valley baseball team include (standing, from left) assistant coach Adam Hanson, Hugo Busta, Mitchell Kriener, Nicholas Bernhard, Isaiah Wheeler, Jayden Rausch, assistant coach Noah Hanson, (back row) assistant coach Steve Busta, Ethan Orvis, Wyatt Maklenburg, Logan Busta, Alex Hanson, J.D. Kruse, Jordan Kriener, Ethan Orvis, Cale Langreck, head coach Dan Stepan, (absent) Levi Kruse, Braxton Steinlage and Caleb Kriener.



Members of the 2025 Turkey Valley softball team include (standing, from left) head coach Anthony Troyna, Addison Lutgen, Kendall Kuennen, Jenna Thronson, Karstyn Lukes, Annika Bodensteiner, Raelen Manderfield, Madi McDanel, Makinley Lutgen, assistant coaches Kristen Hackman and Haley Kriener, (back row) Alexis Eisbernd, Delaney Busta, Autumn Maklenburg, Morgan Vsetecka, (absent) Brynlee Hayek, Courtney Ball, Lauryn Dagit, Layni Schuchhardt and Ellaney Bodensteiner.

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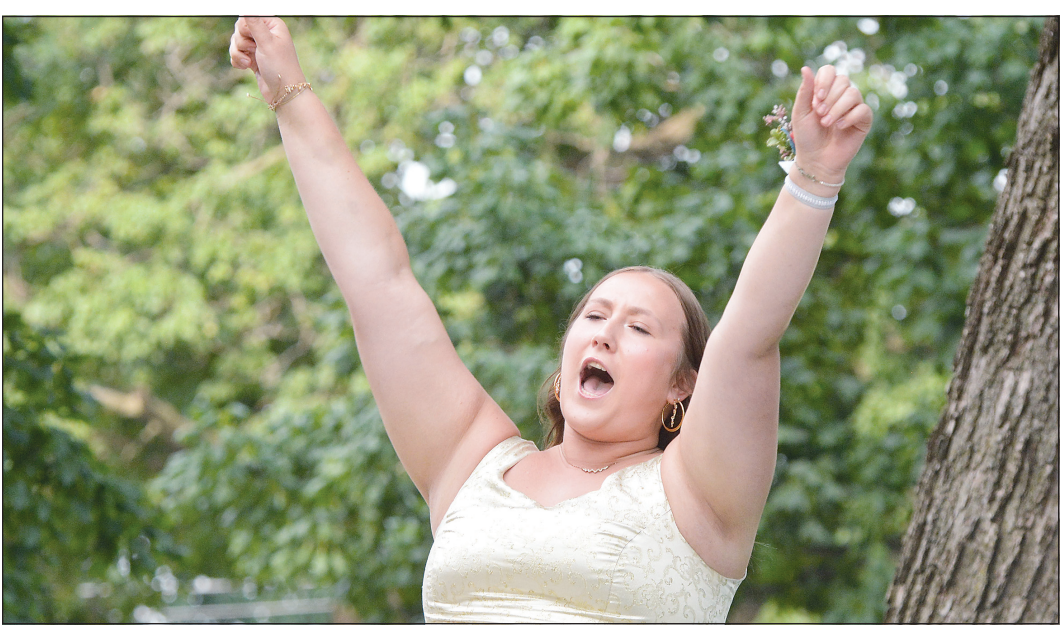
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Rain showers last Thursday morning made for “cramped quarters” for the Horse Show (above) that had to be moved inside the show barn while Logan Feldman (right) takes to the ring during Saturday morning’s Swine Show.



Snapshots from the Achievement Show!



Bruce Bearman (left) is asked to stay on the stage by Youth Coordinator Makaela Kime so he can be honored as Chickasaw County’s 4-H Hall of Fame honoree while fair queen candidate Jennifer Eichenberger (above) proves to be a “good sport” as she gives a “4-H cheer” to the crowd during the coronation ceremony that was held at the Big 4 Fairgrounds on Saturday evening.

Chickasaw County 4-H and FFA Achievement Show photos by the Tribune’s Bob Fenske



Little Miss candidates Evelyn Hanson and Marjorie Holthaus (left) take the stage, the Chickasaw County Pork Producers (above) serve up a delicious meal and Aleah Eichenberger (right) is all business during the Beef Show.



Cullen Mueterthies (left) smiles at a friend in the crowd after being crowned Little Mister Chickasaw County Fair, the ring is packed with cattle (above) during the Beef Show and Madelyn Hennings (right) is all smiles after learning that she is the fair queen runner-up.



Youth coordinator hopes for ‘growth’ in ’26

SHOW: FROM 1

And maybe even thrived as the annual show wrapped up its six-day run with the annual pancake breakfast put on by Homeland Energy Solutions that preceded the livestock auction on Monday morning.

In between the non-livestock Static Show last Tuesday and Monday’s auction, the Big 4 Fairgrounds were a proverbial beehive of activity and not just because the 4-Hers and FFA members were dodging raindrops, either.

“Everyone adapted really well,” Kime said, “and the kids did great. I’m just so proud of them and the work they put into their projects and animals. It’s amazing to see how they have grown in a year. It’s been a great fair week, and it’s not just the kids, it’s the superintendents, the parents, the people who come out and support. It makes you feel so good to see how supported our kids are.”

The Achievement Show also got a large turnout for its annual BBQ Saturday, when the Chickasaw County Pork Producers served up a great meal before awards were handed out and the fair royalty was crowned on a per-

fect summer evening.

Recent New Hampton High School graduate Carrie Schwickeraht was named fair queen, soon-to-be Nashua-Plainfield High School senior Madelyn Hennings was named fair queen runner-up, Marjorie Holthaus was crowned Little Miss Chickasaw County Fair while Evelyn Hanson was the Little Miss runner-up and Cullen Mueterthies was crowned as the Little Mister.

What made Saturday nice was the fact that there was barely a cloud in the sky. The same could not be said for the previous two days. On Thursday, the Horse Show had to be moved indoors because of rain and then Friday was, well, a mess.

“It really came down, I mean buckets,” Kime said, “but again, the kids handled it so well.”

Kime said that while horse numbers were down, the beef show entries remained about the same and the number of pigs at the fair was up. She also took heart in the fact that 65 Clover Kids took part in the Static Show that kicked things off.

“We had to actually pull in some extra judges,” she said. “Some of it was just to kind of help with congestion

in the building, but it’s great to see that our Clover Kid numbers are up tremendously. Because that bodes well for the future.”

For Kime, the second Achievement Show go-around had her excited for 2026.

A year ago, she accepted the youth coordinator position just weeks before the Achievement Show was held.

“I’ve been able to get to know the kids. I see them out and about, and now, it’s the little things — like I can put names to faces and that’s really cool to see the difference in them from last year to this year,” she said. “The same goes for our club leaders, our volunteers, the Big 4 Fair Board because all of them are important to making this a success.”

And the youth coordinator has big goals for 2026.

“We want to make sure that we keep them engaged,” she said. “Our clubs have grown, not as well as we’d like, but they’re definitely getting there. We want to keep those numbers growing because 4-H is such a worthwhile organization that teaches its members things they’re going to use for the rest of their lives.”



Bob Fenske/Tribune

The final event of the Chickasaw County 4-H and FFA Achievement Show, the livestock auction, is preceded by the annual breakfast that was put on by Homeland Energy Solutions Monday morning.



Bob Fenske/Tribune

New Hampton players (above) mob Caycee Crawford after the Chickasaw belted a fourth-inning home run while first baseman Sydney Laures (below) stretches to record an out during last week's Class 3A regional softball game against Crestwood.

'Inches' go against the Chickasaws

New Hampton gives favored Crestwood all it can handle before falling 2-1 in 3A regional opener

BY BOB FENSKE
editor@nhtrib.com

It's true, heck, it's an absolutely certainty — softball at times is a game of inches.

No one needs to tell the New Hampton softball team that after the Chickasaws saw their season come to an end with a heart-breaking 2-1 loss to Crestwood in the first round of the Class 3A regional tournament Thursday.

But as agonizing as the loss was — and trust us, this was beyond painful — New Hampton coach Krissy Anderson did her best to put a “glass-is-half-full” perspective on a game that was in so many ways an instant classic.

“Losing always hurts, losing always sucks,” she said, “but a 100 percent, I’m proud of our girls. They came out and gave a 110 percent, and as much as it hurts, we played our best game of the year. ... They have absolutely nothing to hang their heads about.”

Anderson wasn’t wrong. Crestwood had beaten the Chickasaws three times this year — including a doubleheader sweep two days before the post-season matchup — by a combined 26-6, but the regional postseason blowout never materialized.

The Cadets did take a 1-0 lead in the bottom of the first inning, and that run

SEE NH SOFTBALL, 12



New Hampton's Rylie Vsetecka (left) “picks up” coach Krissy Anderson as she rounds second base and advances to third while the Chickasaws’ battery — Brynlie Ackerson and Maici Weber converge on foul pop up — in last week’s playoff game in Cresco.



Kelly Terpstra/Tribune

Josie's MidSummer participants (from left) Eric Robinson, Dustin Lewis, Conner Cleveland and Anthony Hable have fun “yucking it up” on a tee box Saturday afternoon.

MidSummer is about much more than golf

Shatek, Kobliska claim the title at tourney that brings friends from near, far together

BY KELLY TERPSTRA
sports@nhtrib.com

Southern California cool — minus the ocean.

There was considerable wind on Saturday afternoon that enveloped the New Hampton Golf & Country Club.

The small gusts were not unpleasant, but did manage to whip around the U.S. flag that stands tall right next to the clubhouse where onlookers and participants enjoyed that weekend's golf tournament.

The mercury never reached 80 degrees, which made the summer weather almost feel

It was a good time had by all during the 43rd installment of Josie's MidSummer Classic — the NHGCC's main fundraiser during the heart of July that was first started by the late Duane Josephson in 1982.

There were newbies that played in the men's two-person, best-shot 36-hole tourney for the first time ever and of course there were veterans — a decent chunk of them former New Hamptonians.

SEE MIDSUMMER, 11



John Robinson playfully accosts Ryan Rausch during a break at the MidSummer Saturday afternoon.

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| 1:00-7:00pm | Bouncy Houses & Carnival Games |
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| 3:00-6:00pm | Union Fair Band |
| 5:00-7:00pm | Free Will Donation Pork Chop Meal (while supplies last) |
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