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BRIEFLY

Legion Fish Fry set March 31

Bellevue American Legion Post #273 will host its annual Spring Lent Fish Fry from 4 to 7 p.m. on Friday, March 31.

Cost for the tasty deep-fried fish with all the fixings is \$14 for adults and \$7 for those age 12 and under.

Carryouts will be available and delivery orders can be placed by calling the Legion Hall at 563-872-5864.

Parish mission set in Bellevue

A special 3-night parish mission, "The Holy Spirit, God's Healing Fire" will take place Sunday through Tuesday, March 26-28 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Bellevue with services each evening from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Fr. Scott Bullock, Fr. Ben Valentine and Fr. Michael McAndrew will lead the services March 26; Fr. Martin Coolidge and Fr. Robert Gross will lead the service on March 27; and Fr. Andy Upah and Fr. Andrew Marr will lead the service on March 28.

Annual Easter Egg Hunt April 8

The Bellevue Community Club will host its annual Easter Egg Hunt for kids age 10 and under at Cole Park on Saturday, April 8 at 1 p.m. Children and families can hunt for eggs filled with candy and cash, as well as signing up to win a free bicycle.

Longtime Bellevue Community Club member Steve 'Ink' Engeleman (a.k.a. the Voice of the Easter Egg Hunt), will be the Master of Ceremonies for the event.

Drivers needed for Bellevue RTA

The City of Bellevue is seeking volunteer RTA (Regional Transit Authority) drivers, both substitutes and weekday drivers to transport those in the local community who need rides to the doctor, pharmacy, grocery store or banks within Bellevue.

Drivers need a chauffeurs license, which would be reimbursed by the City. For more information, call Bellevue City Hall at (563) 872-4456.

VETERANS AFFAIRS

A representative from Jackson County Veterans Affairs will be at Bellevue American Legion Post 273 headquarters the first Wednesday of every month from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m.

Olympic Bound



BELLEVUE'S DENNIS SPANN is pictured above in one of his qualifying swimming meets at Muscatine. The 2015 Bellevue graduate will compete at the Iowa Olympics in May.

Bellevue native advances to Iowa Special Olympics

By **DAVID NAMANNY**
Bellevue Herald-Leader

Bellevue native Dennis Spann has accomplished a great deal in recent months. A 2015 graduate of Bellevue High School, Spann now lives in Clinton, but returns to Bellevue regularly.

This year marked his first time competing in the Special Olympics and his first time swimming competitively. The result was two first place medals in the regional swimming competition.

His first round was in Muscatine on Saturday, Feb. 26, when he swam in a 50-yard freestyle and took first place; and a 100 yard relay in which his team 'Rolling Thunder' took first place as well.

As a result, Spann now moves on to state competition at the Iowa Special Olympics held in Ames on May 20, for both events.

In preparation for his Olympic swimming competition, Spann is practicing each Wednesday and Saturday at the YMCA in Clinton, in addition to his job making pallets.

The son of Jody and Theresa Spann, Dennis said he enjoys swimming and all the excitement that goes along with the sport.

"The people held up a big sign that all my friends signed to cheer me on," said Spann. "I won by a whole pool length at regionals and hope I can do the same at state."

Back in his days at Bellevue High School, Spann was honored as Prom King and said he enjoyed the dance at Horizon Hall. He said his favorite class in Bellevue was

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Assessments to increase

Expected to be the steepest increase in property values in recent years

Jackson County property owners will receive their 2023 assessment notices by April 1. Many properties will see a significant increase in assessed values this year, according to Jackson County Assessor Larry "Buck" Koos.

This increase is statewide and is a result of higher sale prices over the past two years and is the steepest increase in values in recent years, Koos said in a press release.

The new values will be the basis for property taxes payable fall of 2024 and spring of 2025. This valuation is used with the state assessment limitation (rollback) and tax levies set by the local governments

and school boards to determine property taxes.

Property owners' future tax bill will not change at the same rate as their assessment due to an adjustment in the state assessment rollback.

The median assessment level on the 2022 residential sales was about 77%. The median on commercial sales was about 80%.

Agricultural land and buildings are valued using a productivity method and are not valued at market value.

The law requires assessors to maintain a 5% margin (from 95% to 105% median assessment level). The current assessments

are based on an estimate of what a property would sell for on the open market as of Jan. 1, 2023.

To review property and assessment information, please visit the assessor's website at beacon.schneidercorp.com after April 1. Information on how to appeal the value will be found on the flier enclosed with the tax assessment notice coming in the mail or at <https://tax.iowa.gov/iowa-property-tax-overview>.

If property owners have questions or concerns about their assessment, they're encouraged to contact their local assessor's office at (563) 652-4935 or assessor@jacksoncounty.iowa.gov.