

Obituaries

Harley L. Gesiriech



Harley Lee Gesiriech passed away peacefully in his home on January 28, 2023. He was born on September 23, 1938, on his family's ranch in Newport, Nebraska, the youngest of 12 children born to John and Goldie Gesiriech. He attended rural school through eighth grade and graduated from Rock County High School in Bassett. Harley continued his education at Wayne State Teachers College, earning degrees in biology and industrial arts. While at Wayne, Harley excelled in sports, particularly track, holding a distance medley record for fifty years.

retired from teaching in 1997, but Harley and Jan continued to renovate homes in Estherville and eventually Elkhorn, Nebraska where they finally settled in 2018.

Other health challenges arose for Harley in his later years but he always had time for his family and friends. He is remembered and deeply missed by everyone who was fortunate to have a conversation, share a cup of coffee, or watch a Cornhuskers football game with him.

Continuing his dedication to giving back, Harley chose to donate his body to the University of Nebraska Medical Center where he hoped to help others learn from his disease.

Harley was preceded in death by beloved wife of over 61 years, Janice McArdle Gesiriech, his parents, John and Goldie Gesiriech, sisters Lola, Goldie, Faye, Marilyn and Philomena, brothers John Lavern, Wayne and Gerald.

Left to cherish his memory are his children, Joan (Peter) Chemidlin, John, and Joseph; daughter in law Diana; grandchildren Tighe, Morgan, Joshua, Jonah and Benjamin; sisters Jacquelyn (Niel) Owens and Carol (Milton) Edmunds; brother Charles Rollin; and sisters in law Patricia (Fred) Meisinger and Connie McArdle and numerous nieces and nephews.

A memorial service for Harley will be held at a later date. Memorial tributes may be made to the John and Goldie Gesiriech Family Scholarship at Rock County High School, c/o Jan Foster, PO Box 581 Bassett, NE 68714 or the Open Door Mission, Omaha, NE.

Tina Marie Reichart



Tina Marie Reichart, 55, of Smithville, MO, formerly of Estherville, IA, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by family on February 11, 2023.

She was born on August 16, 1967, to Jerry William and Rose Ann (Wheaton) Wallace in Mattoon, IL. Tina graduated from Estherville High School in Estherville, Iowa. She received her bachelor's degree from Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, Iowa.

On October 17, 2006, she was united in marriage to her best friend and soulmate, Brian Reichart. They lived in Estherville, IA until moving to Smithville, MO in 2014.

Tina and Brian owned and operated Goodtimes Bar and Grill and Simply Unique Gift Store in Estherville, IA until moving to Smithville, MO. She was currently employed with Social Security Administration in Kansas City, MO.

She was a member of Vineyard Church in Kansas City where she volunteered as an AWANA Cubbies Director. Tina was a past member at Grandview Baptist Church in Estherville, IA where she was the AWANA Commander. She was a living example of her faith by "Clinging tightly to the Lord our God" (Joshua 23:8) and loved sharing His word with the AWANA's ministry and her family.

Tina enjoyed crocheting, gardening, family vacations and DIY projects. Most of all, Tina loved spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren and her pup Penelope Sue.

She was preceded in death by her parents Jerry Wallace and Rose Maynard and her grandparents including her grandmother Mildred French and a brother-in-law John Halstead.

Tina is survived by her husband Brian Reichart; her children Bryon (Amber) Swalve and Stephanie (Joe) Johnson; grandchildren Jackson, Brigston, and Delaney; her siblings Jerry (Stella) Wallace, Tammy (Ted) Gould, Janet Jergens, Donna (Kent Larson) Halstead and Bobbie Maine; father and mother-in-law BJ and Judy Snyder; sisters-in-law Debbie (Jerry Sylvester) Snyder and Linda (Doug) Davis; numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives and many friends.

Visitation will be held from 1:00-3:00 p.m. with Memorial Services at 3:00 p.m. Saturday, February 18th at Hixson-Klein Funeral Home, 104 W Church Street, Smithville, MO.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Tina's Memory c/o Brian Reichart or to Vineyard Church for the AWANA's program.

Lois Joanne Clague



Lois Joanne Clague, daughter of Clyde and Winne (Bean) Vaux, was born July 2, 1931 in Perry, Iowa. She passed away at Good Samaritan in Estherville on February 9, 2023, at the age of 91 years.

Lois attended and graduated from high school in Bagley High, Iowa. She participated in basketball during her high school years. On Thanksgiving Day in 1949, Lois was united in marriage to Paul R Clague. They had three children, Carolyn, Michael and LuAnn. In 1955, they moved to Estherville, Iowa.

Lois was a member of the United Methodist Church. Before retiring, she was employed at the Gift Garden, Chris's Fashion, J. C Penney and the Outlet Store. Lois loved golfing, watching college and professional basketball games, especially the Iowa Hawkeyes and Gonzaga Bull Dogs. The last couple years, Lois became a fan of the Minnesota Twins. Lois enjoyed attending Rusty Hinges at the Regional Wellness Center. She also enjoyed making homemade noodles, pink squirrels, cookies and other treats for her family.

Left to cherish Lois's memories are her children, Carolyn (Dan) Hood, Michael (Deborah) Clague and LuAnn (Robert) Casurella. Grandchildren, Ross Hood, Lindsay (Justin) Robidoux, Matt (Stephanie) Semple, Sarah (Jared) Crumly, Brian (Fiance Jessica Chorley) Casurella and Rachel Casurella. Great Grandchildren, Raiden and Ronan Robidoux, Caitlyn and Micah Semple, Charlotte and James Crumly.

Services for Lois will be held at a later date.

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Tuesday - 2 pc Broasted Chicken w/ Roll, Salad & Choice of Potato
Dark: \$8.25 White: \$8.75 or off the menu

Wednesday - Taco Salad \$8.75
Chili Dog w/ Fries \$6.00 or off the menu

Thursday - Chicken Fried Steak \$9.00 or off the menu

Friday - Hot Beef Commercial \$9.00
Pork Tenderloin \$7.00
\$1.00 Soda with Noon Meal

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

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Evening Specials

Tuesday, February 14:
Bingo (Earlybird 6:30, Main Event 7:00)
Canteen open for dinner

Wednesday, February 15:
Auxiliary Ladies Serving
2 pc Chicken\$8.75 or \$8.25
Meatloaf\$8.25
Served with Fresh Baked Bread, Vegetable & Dessert

Thursday, February 16:
6 oz Top Sirloin or 6 Fan Tail Shrimp . . . \$10.95
Served with Potato, Salad and Roll

Friday, February 17:
Fish Dinner (Swai - not the cheap stuff) . . \$10.95
Served with Potato, Salad and Roll

Saturday, February 18: Off the menu

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Iowa Lakes records continued growth for second semester

Measured enrollment growth shows steady movement toward pre-pandemic levels

BY AMY H. PETERSON
STAFF WRITER

Iowa Lakes Community College has measured its enrollment growth for the 2022-2023 academic year. The number is moving closer to pre-pandemic figures.

"We are very excited about Iowa Lakes Community College's future," Iowa Lakes President Scott Stokes said. "Our enrollment numbers confirm that we are moving in the right direction. We expect our enrollment numbers to grow as we develop new and innovative educational offerings. At Iowa Lakes, we are committed

not only to our students but to their futures and the development of our workforce."

As the Estherville News reported last fall, the 2022 Annual Condition of Iowa's Community Colleges Report listed Iowa Lakes as the number one community college for enrollment growth over the previous year, compared to all the other Iowa community colleges. In the Fall, the college had a 4% increase in headcount and nearly 9% increase in total credit hours. For the Spring term, Iowa Lakes recorded over 5% growth in headcount and just under 3%

The college also released data about other measures, including graduation, success, and persistence rates well above average for the state.

Kalous said students choose Iowa Lakes for its personal investment in them. "Students like the personalized and hands-on learning environment offered at Iowa Lakes - that they have a name and are not just a number," Kalous said.

For prospective students, Kalous offered this advice: "Students need to visit [Iowa Lakes] and get a feel for what life is like as a Laker. Iowa Lakes has several group visit days scheduled in addition to the option of individual visits."

Scheevel trial continued to November 2023

Ben Scheevel, who is accused of 84 counts related to stalking local residents and misuse of the federal NCIC database, waived his right to a speedy trial earlier this month. After a joint motion from the State of Iowa and defense at-

torney Adam Zenor, the trial is now scheduled to begin in November after a pretrial conference moved to Sept. 7, 2023.

After Brenna Bird was elected as Iowa Attorney General in November 2022, she requested the resignations of about

20 staff members, including a number of prosecutors, in order to hire new staff for her office. One of these new attorneys is Israel J. Kodiaga, who is now prosecuting the case on behalf of the state of Iowa. Kodiaga is also prosecuting the

case of Tyler Van Roekel, who is accused of assisting Ben Scheevel in looking up confidential information on various local residents. Van Roekel's pretrial conference was continued to March 20. A new trial date has not yet been set.

Bancroft man faces charges after stop in Armstrong

A Bancroft man was arrested recently in Armstrong as the result of the investigation of a traffic violation.

According to Emmet County Sheriff Mike Martens, a sheriff's deputy observed a west-bound vehicle in the 5600 block of Highway 9 east of Armstrong driving with expired registration on February 5th at 8:30pm.

The sheriff's deputy made

contact with the vehicle and driver at Casey's General Store in Armstrong a short time later and determined that in addition to the expired registration, the driver had a suspended driver's license.

The driver, Eric Burt age (32) was placed under arrest and transported to the Emmet County Jail where he was booked for driving with a suspended license, failure to

provide proof of financial responsibility, operation without registration and interference with official acts.

As the investigation continued, a search warrant was executed on the vehicle that Burt was driving and controlled substances and paraphernalia were discovered.

As a result, additional charges were filed against Burt for possession of a controlled sub-

stance with the intent to deliver, possession of a controlled substance marijuana (2nd offense), possession of a controlled substance methamphetamine (1st offense), failure to affix a drug tax stamp and possession of drug paraphernalia.

A charge is merely an allegation and all persons are presumed innocent unless or until they are found guilty in a court of law.

Estherville man faces charges after stop near Superior

A traffic stop in Emmet County led to the arrest of a Estherville man on multiple charges January 28th 2023.

According to Emmet County Sheriff Mike Martens, at 8:30 p.m., the sheriff's office received a complaint of an east-bound vehicle on highway 9 in the area of the City of Superior that was driving erratically and entering into the lane of on-

coming traffic.

A short time later a sheriff's deputy located the vehicle southbound on 375th Avenue and observed the vehicle was driving on a flat tire. Subsequently, the deputy initiated a traffic stop and made contact with the driver and minor child in the vehicle.

Upon investigation into the matter the driver, Thomas Contreras age (42) was placed under arrest and booked into

the Emmet County Jail where he was charged with operating while intoxicated, child endangerment, failure to provide proof of financial liability, no valid driver's license and reckless driving. The minor child, age (7), was then turned over to the Iowa Department of Human Services for placement.

Later, a search warrant was then executed upon the vehicle

where a controlled substance and drug paraphernalia were located. As a result of those findings, Contreras was also charged with possession of a controlled substance (marijuana) and possession of drug paraphernalia.

All persons are presumed innocent unless or until they are found guilty in a court of law.

Estherville Student Sentate hosting children's book donation drive

Iowa Lakes Community College Student Senate on the Estherville Campus is requesting donations of children's books for a donation drive through February 28.

The book drive will benefit kindergarten to fifth grade students by helping refill the book vending machine at Estherville Lincoln Central's DeMoney Elementary school.

"We decided to do this project to give back to the local school system. We hope this project encourages students to read more," Jaydan Nitchals, the Vice President of Iowa Lakes' Student Senate in Estherville.

Please drop off new or gently used age-appropriate books to the front office of the Estherville Campus of Iowa Lakes Community College at 300 S 18th Street.

For any questions, please contact Katie King, Student Senate Coordinator, at kmking@iowalakes.edu or 712-362-8367

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