



\$0.75 per copy



Calmar Courier

Community News. Community Service.

Tuesday Oct. 11, 2022 | Volume 44, Issue 42

Official Paper of Calmar, Fort Atkinson, Waucoma, Winneshiek County & South Winneshiek and Turkey Valley Community Schools

P.O. Box 507, Calmar, IA 52132 | www.calmarcourier.com | USPS: 335-690 | news@calmarcourier.com | In medio stat virtus



County Pole Line Work Nears Finish Line

By Michael Hohenbrink
Editor

A major roadway is continuing to see progress as work continues ahead of the snow starting to fly. "Bruennings have finished grading and rocking Pole Line Road," said Engineer Lee Bjerke. Things will have to sit for a while with the process seeing an impact from cool temperatures. "It'll be a while," said Bjerke. End of November is likely. Some residents have been frustrated, but the project started late, said Bjerke. "It's still moving along pretty well," said Bjerke. Just when the snow will start to fly remains up in the air with how severe of a winter the area is facing weighing on the engineer's mind as Secondary Roads gets ready for cold weather.

Getting the fleet ready for plowing is important right now for the department.

Bjerke is also leery about aging vehicles in the fleet. Sinking money into repairs over and over again for some older vehicles is a nickle and dime expense that is not necessarily the best use of funds.

So far, the season has been mild, a relief for not only finishing up construction but also a help in keeping down costs, ranging from road salt to overtime for plow drivers as they hit the roads to wear and tear on the Secondary Roads vehicles.

Nobody expects winter to hold off for ever, though the county would not mind if the snow were to wait for just a little bit longer.

While work is wrapping up for this season, the engineer is already turning an eye toward down the road.

Inflation is an unknown variable with no end in sight for not only fuel costs but also the price of construction materials.

According to Bjerke, one consideration is that he is reluctant to spend down to the last dime, given unpredictability.

As such, work on Meadowlark Road is a possibility to hold off if costs go high.

"Meadowlark is the sufferage," said Bjerke. "If we run out of money, I can live with it."

That drew a mixed response from supervisors.

For Supervisor Gary Rustad, complaints from Decorah-area residents have him wanting to see semi traffic off of that road while for Chairman Dan Langreck, Ossian-area work is more heavy on his mind.

Either way, priorities will need to be set for just which projects get the green light and which projects might end up having to wait just a bit for more favorable times, given the limited funds available and skyrocketing costs.

One key funding source has taken some real hits. "The Farm to Market account is never going to back in the black," said Bjerke.

As such, competing needs are going to need to be weighed by the county.

A few projects might need to wait or see the county borrow for the costs of the work.

"We're fresh out of magic wands," said Supervisor John Beard.

Lady Warriors Top Home Meet

The Lady Warriors' Billy Wagner topped area runners during the annual home meet for South Winneshiek at the South Winn Golf & Country Club. Wagner took sixth for the girls. Wagner is followed by Josie Tieskoetter as the two South Winneshiek girls cracked the top 10. See story and photos Page 8. Photo by Michael Hohenbrink

Harvest Proceeding Despite Obstacles

By Michael Hohenbrink
Editor

Northeast Iowa is avoiding the drought conditions present in several Iowa counties, but challenges are in place for area farmers, nonetheless.

Right now, "extreme" drought is officially in place for 10 northwest Iowa counties while varying levels of drought persist elsewhere, including southeast Iowa.

By contrast, the rains have been good to northeast Iowa, despite an average deficit of over six inches of rain so far this year in Iowa.

While the moisture is welcome for farmers, conditions are still dry enough to present some challenges.

Over the weekend, Fayette and Winneshiek counties saw field fires break out with a blaze near Fort Atkinson initially seeing Calmar paged out for mutual aid before most of the Calmar response was called off as firefighters were able to get the blaze under control.

A tanker from Calmar was utilized to fight the fire.

Meanwhile, a second fire Saturday in a combine saw the Wadena fire department paged out, part of a busy weekend for firefighters that saw Oelwein and Maynard firefighters called out Friday for a trailer that blew up on Neon Road.

While the fire risk is relatively low this season for the area,



A field fire Saturday near Fort Atkinson was put out quickly, but dry conditions are among the headaches faced by farmers.

See HARVEST: Page 2



Pictured are South Winn FFA Members who participated at Tri-State Dairy Cattle & Dairy Products. Photo courtesy SW FFA

SW FFA Competes at Tri-State Expo

The Tri-State Dairy Expo & the Northeast District Cattle Evaluation and Dairy Products event took place Sept. 15. There were a total of 405 students who participated. The South Winneshiek FFA brought 24 members to this contest, including one Reasons team, three Non-Reasons teams and two Products teams.

The Reason team included Katrina Hageman, Mitchell Vagts, Kelsey Timp and Hanna Vagts. This team placed fifth overall with Kelsey Timp placing eighth overall individual.

The individuals who were on the Non-Reason Team 1 were Kendra Elsbernd, AJ Boyle, Paige Jaster and Cyndal Klein, and they placed fourth overall as a team. Paige Jaster

also placed eighth overall.

Non-Reasons Team 2 included Cordell Schmelzer, Ivey Franzen, Alyana Hageman and Kaitlyn Klimish.

The third Non-Reason team included Aubrey Hageman, Allison Hageman, Izzy Kuboushek and Britney Hageman.

Moving on to the Dairy products contest, SW had two teams that participated. Team One consisted of Autumn Schmitt, Jule Sadler, Cloey Zweibohmer and Alivia Kuenen, and this team placed sixth overall.

The second team consisted of Gracie Humpal, Jadie Langreck, Tessa Phillips and Alyssa Holthaus.

Calmar 911 Tower Site Approved

By Michael Hohenbrink
Editor

Upgrading Winneshiek County's radio system got a boost as Calmar City Council has given its imprimatur to an agreement with the Winneshiek County E911 Board.

Approval of a site lease agreement was given for the old city dump by the golf course for a tower, one of the sites being eyed as the county goes ahead with an upgrade.

Jackson Junction, Ossian and Burr Oak sites are planned.

The goal will be to substantially improve county law enforcement and emergency capability, which currently is hindered by the unique geography of Winneshiek County.

Some existing "dead spots" will be eliminated with new towers.

The Winneshiek County Board of Supervisors is currently in the process of giving approval to various parts of the new system with a Burr Oak agreement already approved and Ossian approval expected soon.

Meanwhile, downtown development in Calmar got a boost as council approved a building permit at the former Subway.

AC Development had applied for a permit to convert former walk-in cooler space into an office at the site.

Council also gave approval to an abatement for Jack's Ventures, LLC for space at 111 N. Maryville.

IN THIS ISSUE:

Local News	2	Legals	5
Opinion	3	Classifieds	6
Worship/Obituaries	4	Sports	7-8

In Brief

Trick-or-Treating Announced Across Area Communities

Trick-or-Treating has been set for area communities. Times and dates include:
 Calmar: Monday, Oct. 31, from 4 to 7 p.m.
 Fort Atkinson: Monday, Oct. 31, from 4 to 7 p.m.
 Ossian: Monday, Oct. 31, from 5 to 8 p.m.
 Spillville: Monday, Oct. 31, from 6 to 8 p.m.
 St. Lucas: Sunday, Oct. 30, from 4 to 6 p.m. Downtown group picture at 4 p.m.
 Waucoma: Monday, Oct. 31, from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Guardians Plans Open House

Guardians of Northeast Iowa, Inc. will have its downtown Calmar office opening and Open House celebration Monday, Oct. 17 from 4 to 6 p.m.
 The non profit provides representative payee, conservatorship, trustee, care management, and guardianship services to persons with disabilities and/or mental illness, elderly individuals, veterans, and juveniles aging out of the foster care system.
 The new space is at 111 N. Maryville St. Suite B in Calmar.

Calmar Parade of Lights Set

The Calmar Fire Department will see a soup supper starting at 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 15.
 Following the supper, residents will be able to catch a Parade of Lights that is scheduled to start in Calmar and run through the city at 7 p.m.

HARVEST FROM PAGE 1

farmers are also looking at increased fuel costs as well as rising fertilizer costs that have cut into profits, and rising agricultural land rental prices and sale prices have farmers warily eyeing next season.
 Corn maturity has been running ahead of average, a boon for farmers as the crop was roughly a week ahead of average.
 Harvest of the corn and soybean crops is roughly 10 percent complete.
 Helping along farmers, the weather to start the week should be pleasant with the mercury hitting the low 70s Tuesday with minimal chance of rain in place to complicate harvest plans for hitting the field.
 A 30-percent chance of rain late Tuesday is currently the only hint of rain for the next few days, according to the La Crosse, Wisconsin office of the National Weather Service.
 Highs in the 60s are predicted for the next few days before highs in the 50s take hold later in the week, allowing farmers some respite as they continue the harvest.

Courthouse

All suspects are presumed innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law.

Fayette County OWI

Ryan Allen Nichols Church, of Waukon, motion for continuance
 Jacob Robert Eitel, of Hawkeye, order for probation revocation

Luis Andres Castor Xia, of Postville, hearing for an initial appearance

Elizabeth Marie Kruse, of Sumner, order for arraignment

Traffic
 Holly Anne Reilly, of Decorah, speeding; Sarah Ann Tucker, of Hawkeye, speeding; Heather Rae Schultz, of Decorah, speeding; Olivia Ann Maklenburg, of Lawler, speeding; Brodie Herriage, of Hawkeye, underage tobacco or vapor product; Jadene Wagner, of Ossian, speeding

Criminal
 Regina Michelle Price, of Decorah, order setting trial, Jan. 19, 2023, 9:30 a.m.
 Terry Ray Langerman, of Waucoma, hearing for an initial appearance

Winneshiek County Traffic

Fredrick Jones, of Postville, driving under suspension; Christopher Wray Wuebker, of Decorah, failure to stop in an assured clear distance; Maria Magdalena Pinales, of Postville, no valid driver's license; Ethan Brian Underbakke, of Decorah, speeding; Anthony Gary Schurbon, of Minneapolis, Minnesota, speeding; Paul Lee Kaeser, of Monona, speeding; Madisen Kendel Keck, of Baldwin, Wisconsin, failure to maintain control; Craig Edward Cascarano, of

Edina, Minnesota, speeding; Andrea Leigh Gibbs, of Jesus, speeding; Emma Qiao Lamping, of Augusta, Missouri, speeding; Elvis James Brummett, of Cresco, speeding; Andrei Ungureanu, of Brooklyn Park, Minnesota, registration violation; Alexandra Garcia Acahua, of Postville, failure to reduce speed, no insurance; William David Brown, of Marion, speeding; Shelby Joyce Pisney, of Lime Springs, speeding; James Kingsley Panetti, Jr., of Dunnellon, Florida, excessive length; Phyllis Miller, of Moline, Illinois, speeding; Sharyn Mertens, of Prior Lake, Minnesota, failure to comply with safety regulations; Shantel Kay Lensing, of Calmar, speeding; Gary Smorstad, of Decorah, seat belt; David Brandt, of Decorah, seat belt; Leon Tieskoetter, of Postville, speeding; Ashlin Casella, of Waterloo, speeding; Gary Dahl, of Rochester, Minnesota, speeding; David Risse, of Dysart, speeding; Jeffery Lange, of Postville, failure to obey stop sign and yield right of way; Braydin Rausch, of Waucoma, speeding; Boyd Warner Wasson, of Decorah, speeding; Lucas Jacob Bauer, of Urbandale, speeding; Bryan Wendt, of Madison, Wisconsin, speeding; Gordon Linnevoold, of Mason City, speeding; Mark Burke, of Cresco, speeding; Mary Roney, of Postville, speeding; Cassidy Zawislak, of Lanesboro, Minnesota, speeding; Shelley Hurst, of Decorah, speeding; Brett Myers, of Madison, Wisconsin, speeding; Timothy Moe, of Rochester, Minnesota, speeding

OWI

Luis Andre Lastor Via, of Postville, hearing for an initial appearance

Jeremy Adam Snell, of Decorah, order setting trial, Jan. 19, 2023, 9 a.m.

Tyler James Ruesink, of Spillville, order setting trial, Jan. 11, 2023, 9 a.m.

Iesha Nailing, of Decorah, hearing for an initial appearance, order for arraignment

Brett Schultz, of Decorah, not guilty plea

Brian Lee Kleppe, of Ossian, criminal complaint

Criminal

Parker Monroe, of Decorah, order of disposition, eluding, deferred judgment, two years of probation

Jamie Mincks, of Calmar, order of disposition, theft - third degree, \$855 fine suspended, two years in prison suspended, two years of probation

Tyler Price, of Decorah, order setting trial, Jan. 19, 2023, 9 a.m.

Justin Schomacker, of Fort Atkinson, order of disposition, theft - third degree, \$855 fine, two years in prison, one day time served

Kelly Bachelder, of Decorah, not guilty plea, hearing for an initial appearance

Joseph Taylor, of Spillville, hearing for an initial appearance; criminal complaint

Caleb Peel, of Decorah, hearing for an initial appearance

Teagen Raatz, of Decorah, hearing for an initial appearance; probation revocation; hearing for an initial appearance

Phillip Salgado, of Ossian, hearing for an initial appearance,

order for arraignment
 Tanner Henry, of Decorah, hearing for an initial appearance

August Johnson, of Decorah, hearing for an initial appearance

Alex Snitker, of Decorah, hearing for an initial appearance

Omar Munoz Gonzales, of Decorah, order for arraignment

Bradley Ehrie, of Decorah, order setting trial, Jan. 19, 2023, 9 a.m.

Ian Taylor Tindall, of Decorah, criminal complaint

Brandon McEndree, of Decorah, motion for continuance

Gavin Joseph Puffer, of Decorah, order setting trial, Dec. 21, 9 a.m.

John William Connolly, of Waucoma, guilty plea

Bradley Kober, of Decorah, hearing for an initial appearance

Leanna Higgins, of Decorah, hearing for an initial appearance

Leah Burns, of Ridgeway, hearing for an initial appearance

Luis Andre Lastor Via, of Postville, hearing for an initial appearance

Whitney Slaughter, of Decorah, order of disposition, false report, \$105 fine

Brandon Nordschow, of Decorah, probation revocation

Dakota Troyna, of New Hampton, probation revocation

Iesha Nailing, of Decorah, order of disposition, violation of probation, one year in a residential facility

News Notes

John Deere TECH program earns fourth Platinum

The John Deere TECH program at Northeast Iowa Community College's Calmar campus has earned its fourth highest-ranking Platinum College of Tomorrow score from John Deere.

The John Deere TECH program at NICC is the only one in the state of Iowa. The program prepares students for work as a service technician at John Deere implement dealerships throughout Iowa and the Midwest.

One of the program's most unique features is its close partnership with John Deere, which virtually ensures that qualified students will have a technician position with the company after graduation.
 Each year, John Deere evaluates its partnering insti-

tution technician programs on a variety of criteria. There are four College of Tomorrow levels – Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze. The NICC program is one of eight nationally to earn Platinum designation this year.

"The College of Tomorrow program is an ongoing evaluation by John Deere of our performance as a John Deere TECH school. The criteria used for the evaluation is based upon instructor training, interaction with the dealerships for student internships, dealer Advisory Committee meetings, facilities and image, student numbers and retention and safety. We are continually making improvements to meet goals set by John Deere and the College," said lead John Deere TECH instructor Duane Bouska.

Decorah Pantry Plans Walk

To raise awareness of those who are food insecure and to recognize World Food Day, Decorah Community Food Pantry will sponsor a Walk Sunday, Oct. 23.

"We want people to know that more than 9% of our neighbors in Winneshiek County are food insecure," said Event Coordinator Nancy Ruen.

To participate in this family event, register at the Pantry, 110 Railroad St., at 1 p.m. with either a free will donation or a non-perishable food item or simply signing as a participant. The walkers will travel on sidewalks going north on Washington Street to Water Street, over to Mechanic Street going south, and turning on Vernon Street to zigzag back to the pantry.

All participants will receive information about the work of Decorah Community Food Pantry and have an opportunity for a quick tour before or after the Walk. For COVID safety, masks are required to go inside the Pantry. The Walk will be held rain or shine.

Third-Parties Charging for Military Records

The Iowa County Recorders Association wants to make all veterans aware that recording or requesting military records is always free of charge for a veteran. In recent weeks it has been reported that a third-party company has been charging veterans to record these documents. Please remember to always contact your local County Recorder for assistance recording or requesting military records. The County Recorder's office has on permanent record, military discharges that have been presented for recording by the veterans themselves.

Veterans are eligible to submit legal copies of their DD214 to the County Recorder's office in the county in which they reside. There is no fee to record the DD214. For more information, please contact the Winneshiek County Recorder's Office at 563-382-3486.

Reach the Newsroom at 563-562-3488 and news@calmarcourier.com

SANTA PIZZA TRAIN
 2 Hour Train Ride, Personal Pizza, Soda or Water, Visit to Santa's Private Car for Family Photos, Hot Chocolate and a Cookie
 Adult \$40 (13+) • Child \$30
 Friday Evening 5pm
 Sat & Sun at 11 am, 2 pm or 5 pm
 Nov. 4 through Dec. 18, 2022
 Reservations 715.635.3200
 www.spoonerrainride.com

DECO
 506 SANFORD STREET DECORAH, IA 52101
 Employer of Choice
Apply Now OPEN POSITIONS
 Die Cast Trim Press Operator - 2nd & 3rd \$16.25/hour
 Die Cast Machine Operator - 1st, 2nd, & 3rd \$18.25/hour
 Shipping/Receiving - 1st \$17.50/hour
 Powdercoat Associate (4x10s) - 1st \$15.25/hour
ALL 2ND/3RD JOBS RECEIVE ADDITIONAL \$2.00 SHIFT PREMIUM AND \$1,000 RETENTION BONUS
Industrial Electrical Maintenance Technician
 1st - Commensurate With Experience
Robot Technician - 3rd
Tool & Die Machinist - 1st Commensurate with Experience
Industrial Maintenance Technicain - 1st
Mechanical Engineer - 1st
Sales Manager - 1st
 Shift Hours: 1st (7:00am-3:00pm) M-F, 2nd (3:00pm-11:00pm) M-F, 3rd (11:00pm-9:00am) M-TH (4x10s)
Apply at www.decoprod.com/jobs, in person, or Indeed.com!
 BENEFITS: Medical and Dental with H.S.A Option, Life Insurance, Quarterly Bonus, 401k with company match, Holiday Pay, Boots and Gym Reimbursement. Earn 3 weeks off per year!
 Employee and Family Activities and Events, Promotional Opportunities and more!

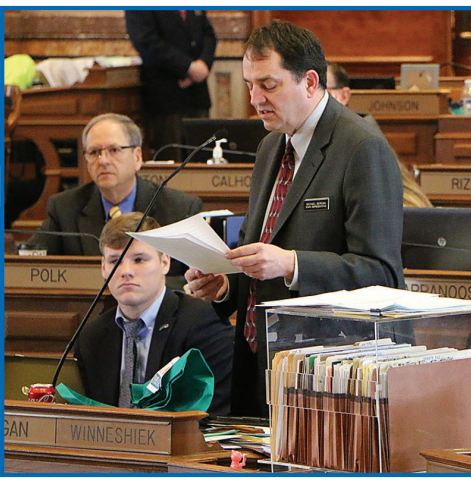
Grow your savings with our CDs
30-Month Bump-Up CD
3.25% APY*
 \$1,000 MIN. BALANCE
Open a CD today.
 veridiancu.org/deposit
Veridian credit union
*APY - Annual Percentage Yield. APY is current as of 9/16/2022. Interest on CDs is compounded quarterly. APY is subject to change after account is opened. Interest rate locked when account is opened except for bump-up CDs, which can be converted to a higher rate once during their term. Penalty may be imposed for early withdrawal, and fees could reduce earnings on accounts. Other rates and terms available. Withdrawal of earnings could reduce APY. Membership subject to qualifications and a minimum \$5 share deposit. Public funds and financial institutions not eligible for these rates. Federally insured by NCUA.



Current and former instructors Duane Bouska and Dean Byerly speak together. The John Deere program at NICC has been recognized nationally.

LUCKY
777
CD SPECIALS
 17 MONTH 2.77% APY*
 27 MONTH 2.97% APY*
 37 MONTH 3.07% APY*
*Annual Percentage Yield (APY) accurate as of September 21, 2022 and subject to change without notice. Minimum opening balance of \$500. Early withdrawal penalties may apply. Fees may reduce earnings. Contact an employee about fees and terms of the account. 17 and 37 Month also offered as IRA CD.
FIDELITY BANK & TRUST We're proud to be **YOUR HOMETOWN BANK!**
 www.bankfidelitybank 1 800.403.8333 **FDIC**

EXPERIENCE WORKING FOR YOU
 Re-Elect Michael
BERGAN
 For Iowa House
 Paid for by Bergan for Iowa House.



Letters to the Editor
Submitting: Send to news@calmarcourier.com, mail to P.O. Box 507 or drop off at 110 N. Maryville in Calmar
Deadline: Thursdays by noon **Length:** No more than 300 words