



The News

KALONA, WELLMAN, RIVERSIDE & LONE TREE

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KEILAH GRABER

The team at Graber Heating & Air: (L-R) Chris Yutzy, Dylan Martin, Mason West, Shawn Graber, Barry Graber, Shane Graber, Brendan Martin, Lucus Yutzy, and Polly Depew. Not pictured: Lynn Graber and Fern Graber.

The Storytellers

A family trait is at the heart of Graber Heating & Air's 85 years in business

BY CHERYL ALLEN
The News

KALONA

Furnace ductwork is a lot like a giant hamster Habitrail; it consists of lots of tunnels that wind around, down, and through. In fact, if you had a five-year-old mind, you might pop the grill off one of those vent openings in the floor and

let your pet hamster enjoy this ready-made toy.

Unfortunately, your five-year-old mind isn't aware that instead of tumbling out into a safe plastic cage at the end of the run, the hamster is going to find himself falling into a fiery inferno. When your parents find out what you've done, they might call the 911 equivalent for furnaces: Graber Heating &

Air.

"I get the call," Barry Graber says, "and I listen, listen, listen. It was at the bottom of an old octopus furnace. I cut a hole, he was in there, and he was fine."

Saving hamster lives is all in a day's work for the third-generation owner of Graber Heating & Air, who today runs the business alongside the

fourth generation, sons Shawn and Shane. Barry's dad Lynn, the second generation, still works part-time for the company. As you might imagine, the work they share makes for entertaining conversation at family dinners.

"We love to tell stories," Shawn Graber confirms. "It's almost like our career fuels all of these wonderful and wild ex-

periences."

That storytelling ability may be the heart of what endears the business to its customers.

"If you know the Grabers at all, we are a family of talkers," Shane Graber explains. "I know we get it from my grand-

SEE GRABER | PAGE 2A

'CORNFIELDS TO GOLD MEDALS'

Don Showalter's book traces a coach's historic path from Mid-Prairie to basketball's international stage

BY PAUL D. BOWKER
The News

The passions of an Eastern Iowa farmboy still resonate strongly within Don Showalter.

Clearly, it's basketball, family and steak with this Mid-Prairie alum and legendary basketball coach who is now recognized internationally for his work with basketball teams, programs and camps.

One day, Showalter is in Waverly, Iowa, to run the annual Snow Valley Basketball Camp at Wartburg College.

The next day, just last week, he is in Memphis, Tennessee, having a steak (what else?) while in town to watch the USA Basketball US Open champion-



PAUL BOWKER/THE NEWS

Don Showalter, a former Mid-Prairie basketball coach and native of rural Johnson County who is now Director of Coach Development with USA Basketball, speaks to campers at the Snow Valley Basketball Camp in Waverly.

ships.

A couple of days later, he's in Lithuania.

Showalter, who is Director of Coach Development for USA Basketball, has won 10 gold medals with USA Basketball's youth national teams over the years. He won more than 440 games as Mid-Prairie's basketball coach. He has dined

and shaped USA basketball with famed Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski, among many others. He has coached and mentored players ranging from Duke's Quinn Cook and North Carolina's James McAdoo to Mid-Prairie's Tanner Miller

SEE SHOWALTER | PAGE 6A

THE JOY OF FOAM



CHERYL ALLEN/THE NEWS

The Wellman-Scofield Public Library celebrated the finale of their summer reading program with a foam cannon in North Park. With temperatures reaching the high 90's on July 27, kids stayed cool with popsicles; just looking at the snow-like foam may have put them in a chilled frame of mind. See page 2A for more.

AROUND TOWN

Kalona Street Closures

Work that was to begin on 6th Street the week of July 31 has been bumped a week and will begin on August 9. The Mid-Prairie School District will have contractor crews onsite to tie into the 6th Street water main for fire suppression for East Elementary School. While crews are onsite and while concrete cures, the city will be closing down for through traffic south from the intersection of 6th and H Avenue. For north traffic, we will be closing from the intersection of 6th and G Avenue. Any questions please call Kalona City Hall at 656-2310.

Tax-Free Weekend

Iowa's tax-free weekend is Friday, August 5 and Saturday, August 6. No state sales tax or local option sales tax will be collected on articles of clothing and footwear having a selling price of less than \$100.

Kalona Optimist Club

The Kalona Optimist Club will meet on Thursday, August 3 at 6 p.m. in the LOFT/Kalona YMCA. The program, arranged by Charlie Williams, will be by Eric Weber, Sergeant/Investigator, Drug Enforcement with Washington County. \$10 catered meal; reservations appreciated. Guests

and prospective members welcome.

Washington County 911 Residence Signs

Is your Washington County 911 rural residence sign faded, peeling, or hard to read? Is it missing or damaged and needs replaced? Public Safety responders rely on those signs to find your residence quickly in an emergency. Due to the age of many of the signs we understand that there are a lot of them needing attention. If your sign needs replaced, or you are aware of one that needs replaced or repaired, please contact the Communications Center at 319-653-2107

and let us know. There is no cost to you for this service, it is covered by the 911 surcharge fund.

State Fair Volunteers Needed

The Kalona Area Chamber of Commerce seeks volunteers to staff the city's booth at the Iowa State Fair in Des Moines August 10-20. Morning and afternoon shifts available; free entry to fair. Contact the chamber at 319-656-2660 or director@kalonachamber.com.

PAWS Fundraiser at Kalona Brewing

Support PAWS & More at Kalona Brewing Company on August 3 at 5:30 p.m., when KBC will

launch Noodle's Pale Ale, a portion of which will go to the animal shelter. PAWS merchandise will also be available for purchase.

Mayor's Classic Car Cruise

The 4th annual Mayor's Classic Car Cruise has been rescheduled for Saturday, August 5 in Kalona. Cars start at Sinclair Tractor at 5 p.m. and end at Kalona City Park. All classic cars are welcome; no fees to participate; view the cars

SEE BRIEFS | PAGE 6A

THE APPLIANCE BARN INC. & SLEEP CENTER



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GRABER/
Continued from Page 1A

father [Lynn], the art of storytelling. In our work, we really find a joy in explaining what we're doing and explaining how [a homeowner's] system works or the differences in the systems you can purchase. We really enjoy and get pleasure in educating and sharing the information that we have with the client or customer."

"Some of these systems are a mystery to the homeowner. They either work or they don't," Shawn says. "If we come along and we can explain a few things, I've heard so much appreciation for [that]."

In a society in which most of us sustain careers as specialists in our chosen field, we depend on others to help us out in most other areas of our lives. We're generally comfortable not knowing everything, but we do want to understand enough to be able to make wise decisions. Making the mechanisms behind complex equipment understandable to a non-specialist takes time and patience, an effort that not every business is willing to expend.

But the Grabers are different.

"I started as a teenager working with my dad, and I saw how interested the customer was in watching this new

furnace being put in," Shane explains. "I thought, you know what, we do this every day, but to them it's once in 20 years. It's a big deal."

"That was where I learned, if they want to watch or if they want to ask questions, embrace it," he says. "It's 10 more minutes for me, but it's once in a lifetime for them."

That empathy and respect for the customer may have trickled down from first generation and founder Dan Graber, who, together with son Lynn, insisted on treating customers like family. They do this in many ways, including showing customers options for equipment that would work best for them and letting them make their own choice; providing fair cost estimates and sticking to them; and by hiring employees that share and express these same values.

"Oftentimes, when we walk into a house, [we think], if this was my own home, and I was going to live here and enjoy the comfort of this home, how would I do it?" Shawn says.

Not every job is easy. Some homes have design flaws that are so fundamental to the structure that they cannot be completely rectified. No one wants to be told their dream home is doomed.

"Your home is more than just a building," Shawn understands. "It's part of your family, it's part of your identity.

You have dreams that involve your house."

No matter the situation, the Grabers always aim to make sure their customers feel taken care of, and by all indications, they do. Fast, courteous, professional, knowledgeable, friendly, kind, helpful, skilled, excellent, top quality, timely, honest, sincere, and impressive are the words customers of Graber Heating & Air have used to describe them online.

Not every family business has willing heirs, and the Grabers have been fortunate in this regard. When asked about how to cultivate a successor, Barry explains that of the four children in his family, he was the only one to commit to the business.

"My dad encouraged us all to try something different," he says. "He said, 'You'll never know if working for Dad as your boss was the right way to go unless you've tried something else.' I appreciated that flexibility. I tried to give that to my sons."

Barry also had four sons, two of which find working for Graber Heating & Air "very rewarding."

"As a boy, I loved going to work, because first of all, we were going on an adventure to save a homeowner from either a hot or a freezing cold house. We got to see firsthand the joy in their face when we were able to save the day. I was also able to learn just by holding the flashlight or whatever I was doing, and it definitely piqued my interest," Shane says.

Shawn agrees; he says in talking with other tradesmen, they often say they couldn't imagine working for their dads.

"It takes a very special work relationship to make that happen," he says. "[Barry has] been very generous and kind to us. He's taken good care of us, and he's made work fun to go to. He's made work interesting, and that makes all the difference."

Looking forward, both Shawn and Shane hope to in-



CHERYL ALLEN/THE NEWS

Inside the shop, vintage metal logos Barry Graber has been collecting from retired furnaces over the last 30+ years. There were over 100 American furnace brands in the 50s and 60s he says, but today only about 5 remain. Son Shane laments that he won't be able to add much to the collection, as today's logos are merely stickers.

spire a love for their work in their own children.

"If they'd love to work with us, we would be so pleased," Shawn says.

Having arrived at their 85th year in business, the team at Graber Heating & Air has much to celebrate, and they hope you'll join them. On Saturday, August 5, they will hold an open house at 1302 Angle Rd. SW, Kalona, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., where they will serve hot dogs and burgers and have a bouncy castle and yard games.

They'll also have a sale on filters, as well as an informative presentation on how to choose effective filters that aren't so restrictive that they prevent your equipment from working.

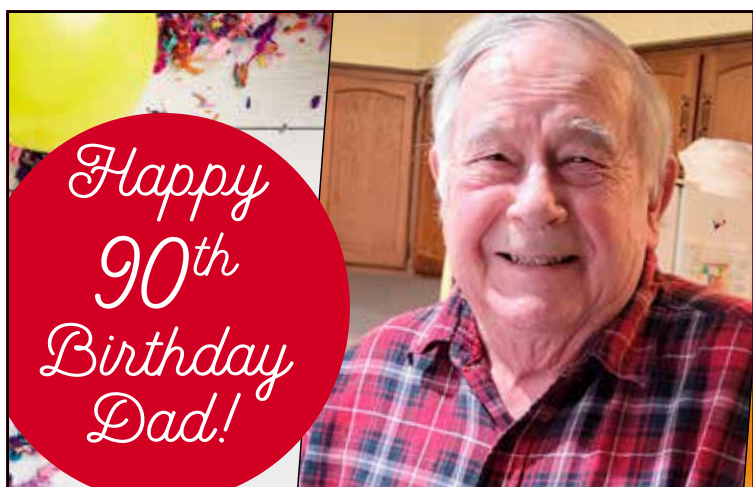
"Our goal is just to have an excuse to invite the community out here, and to say thank you to all the people who have allowed us to be here for 85 years. It's a big deal to us," Shane says. "We love the Kalona community and the overall feeling of family that this town represents."

THE JOY OF FOAM



GIOVANNI CORONEL/THE NEWS

Wrapping up the 2023 Summer Reading program, local children enjoyed a fun time with foam just outside the Kalona Library on July 28.



MAYOR'S CLASSIC CAR CRUISE **AUG. 5 5PM**

Kalona IOWA

If you have a car you'd like to drive in the cruise, please meet at Sinclair Tractor in Kalona around 4:30 p.m. to be ready to start at 5 p.m.!

The cruise will end at Kalona City Park.

Live music by The Do's and Don'ts (50's & 60's Music) & food vendors will begin at 6 p.m.!

Bring Lawn Chairs!

*Cars that are in the cruise can park in the outfield of Field A.

GRABER HEATING & AIR

Celebrate our 85th Anniversary with us!

Saturday, Aug. 5 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Filters will be 10% off during the open house!

Come join us in celebrating 85 years of family serving yours. We are so thankful for everyone in our Graber Heating Family and would consider it an honor for you to join us in celebrating!

There will be food, a bouncy castle, lawn games, & more!

1302 Angle RD, Kalona

SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

Give a little, or give a lot... it makes all the difference.

Help Federation Bank assist underprivileged students by donating a new or slightly used school item. Supplies will be given to guidance counselors in the local school district to be distributed to students.

All Federation Bank locations will be accepting donations throughout the months of July and August.

When you donate you will be entered into a drawing for a free Visa Gift card for you and your favorite Teacher of your choice.

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All Country Music Shows Free with Gate Admission

Thursday, Aug 31 Crystal Chyle
Friday, Sept 1 Josh Richards
Saturday, Sept 2 Jeff Richards
Sunday, Sept 3 Dylan Scott

MIDWEST HAUNTED RAILS Great Train of No Return and The Ghostly Trolley

October 13-14, 20-21, 27-28

Fridays 6 to 10 PM Saturdays 6 to 10:30 PM

Cost: \$10 per person (ages 12 and up) \$5 for children 11 and under

Mount Pleasant Festival of Lights Drive Thru Holiday Light Park

Nov. 22-30, Dec. 1-31 5:30 - 9 PM

Over 1.5 Miles of Light Displays!!

Admission: Family Yellin \$10 Limo \$25 Mini Coach \$30 Motor Coach \$60

OLDTHRESHERS.COM

Forecasts for North Washington County

Forecasts and graphics provided by **AccuWeather, Inc.** ©2023

Thursday August 3	Friday August 4	Saturday August 5	Sunday August 6	Monday August 7	Tuesday August 8	Wednesday August 9
88° 66° RealFeel® 96°	87° 62° RealFeel® 95°	84° 62° RealFeel® 88°	81° 62° RealFeel® 88°	80° 60° RealFeel® 81°	85° 58° RealFeel® 88°	83° 60° RealFeel® 81°
Warmer and humid with cloudy spells	Humid with sunshine and some clouds	Partly sunny, a shower and t-storm	Sun and clouds, a t-storm; humid	Mostly cloudy with a thunderstorm	Sunny	Clouds and limited sun



SUN/MOON

	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset
Thursday	6:03 a.m.	8:22 p.m.	10:01 p.m.	8:10 a.m.
Friday	6:04 a.m.	8:21 p.m.	10:25 p.m.	9:30 a.m.
Saturday	6:05 a.m.	8:20 p.m.	10:49 p.m.	10:46 a.m.
Sunday	6:06 a.m.	8:19 p.m.	11:13 p.m.	11:59 a.m.
Monday	6:07 a.m.	8:17 p.m.	11:38 p.m.	1:11 p.m.
Tuesday	6:08 a.m.	8:16 p.m.	none	2:22 p.m.
Wednesday	6:09 a.m.	8:15 p.m.	12:07 a.m.	3:31 p.m.

	Phase	Day
	Full	Aug 1
	Last	Aug 8
	New	Aug 16
	First	Aug 24

DAILY ACTIVITY CONDITIONS

Thu.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.
6	7	5	5	6	9	4
6	7	4	2	0	0	0
1	0	5	8	6	8	8
10	10	10	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.

Rating: 0-2: Low, 3-5: Moderate, 6-7: High, 8-10: Very high, 11+: Extreme

DAILY HEALTH CONDITIONS

Thu.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.
4	2	3	4	2	1	2
5	4	4	6	5	2	1
2	1	1	0	1	0	0
1	4	1	0	1	0	0

Rating: 0-2: Beneficial; 3-4: Neutral; 5-6: at Risk; 7-8: at High Risk; 9-10: at Extreme Risk.

Wind ordinance blows back into county

BY MARY ZIELINSKI
The News

WASHINGTON

Following an approximate two-hour work session Tuesday July 25, the Washington County Supervisors made a review of the original county-wide wind ordinance draft, a key agenda item for its August 1 regular meeting. Indications at the session's conclusion were that work would continue regarding developing a wind ordinance.

The draft dates to January 2021, but was never enacted after the initial company that planned to develop a wind farm in the eastern part of county withdrew its plans.

During last week's work session, the board was addressed by Eric Briones, president of Sustainable Power Partners

(SPP) LLC., energy consultants for Duke Energy, Charlotte, NC, who stressed the move is "just in the infant stage."

Briones, who has experience with setting up the wind energy operation that went online in January of this year in Iowa's Kossuth County, explained wind energy development could take up to three to six years to go from planning stage to online operational. He told the board that at this point, there has been no approach to local landowners, that nothing will happen in Washington County "overnight," adding that in Kossuth County there were numerous open houses, feedback and studies requests by the county before approval of the plan.

The initial wind regulation (a first-ever for Washington County) proposed in 2021 had

two segments: one to determine property assessments for land with wind turbines, and a second regulating turbines' operations. At that time the supervisors indicated it a 2-2 impasse, favorable and opposed. The actual vote was delayed to allow for swearing in Marcus Fedler, winner of a special election, in March. However, just before the subsequent meeting to vote on the ordinance, Invenery, who had ignited the process, notified the board it was canceling its plans to develop a wind farm in the eastern part of the country. No reason was given.

In the more than two years since the proposed ordinance was tabled indefinitely, supervisors and county voters still seem to have divided opinions, with supervisor Bob Yoder telling The News Friday he had

concerns about what would happen to the turbines after decommissioning (lifespan for the units is estimated at 20 years) and supervisor Stan Stoops telling The News Monday "it is all on the back of the taxpayers."

Stoops' comment echoes Jack Seward Jr.'s observation at the work session about the effect of subsidies and tax breaks for the companies and impact on the taxpayers, with Seward concluding he was not convinced that wind power energy "is a net positive for everybody."

Supervisor Fedler, in the work session, said installation of the wind turbines should be up to the property owners, not the supervisors. He also had several suggestions for handling possible disputes, stressing that the appropriate policy about the turbines should balance property owners' rights and neighbors' concerns. Both of those issues need to be addressed prior to any construction. It was likened to the construction process for hog confinements, especially regarding public information and a public hearing.

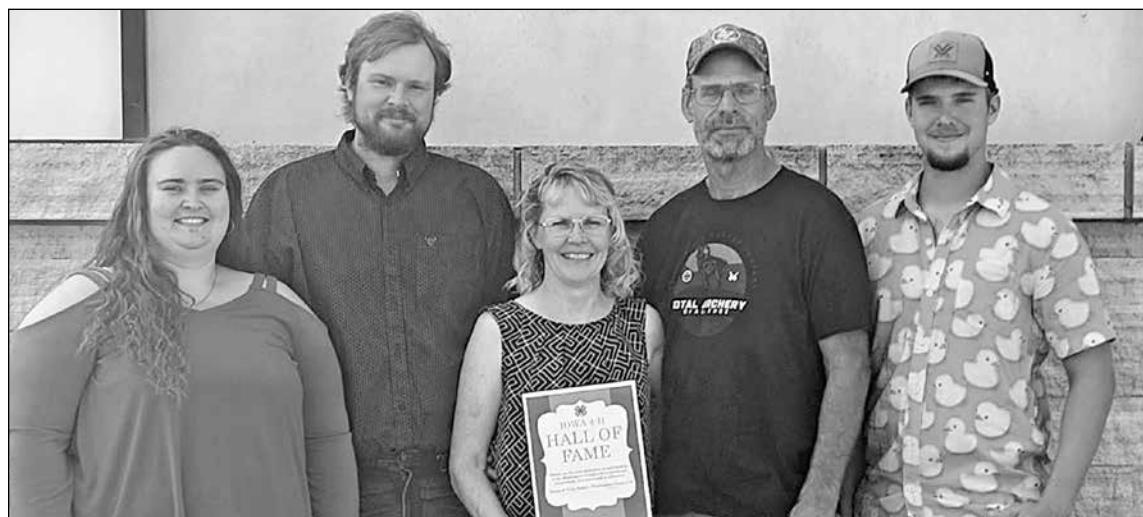
Chairman Richard Young stressed the need to have clear setback requirements, and all agreed that protection of county (mainly gravel) roads is

needed to deal with the impact of oversize loads that come with construction and installation of the turbines.

Last year, the legislature approved a change to state code that permits counties to enact tax assessments dealing with "wind energy conversion." The change means the tax derives from the actual cost of building and to bring turbine windmills online. However, Iowa law also allows local elected officials to set their own rules about reporting requirements. The nine-page 2021 ordinance required a wind company to report annually to local boards about all aspects of its operations, including assets and expenses. Briones indicated that SPP, and by extension Duke Energy, was used in complying with local rules. There also was a positive report from Duke Energy about the Kossuth County operation. However, Seward noted it was different in Iowa County, where the board's decision resulted in some board members not being re-elected.

If the Washington board agrees to proceed, a revised ordinance is possible, with public information meetings and an official Public Hearing scheduled that could bring official action on the ordinance into October or later.

FISHERS SELECTED TO REPRESENT WASHINGTON COUNTY IN HALL OF FAME



SUBMITTED

Duane and Vicky Fisher of West Chester were recognized July 20 at the Washington County Fair as Washington County's 2023 4-H Hall of Fame recipient. They will be inducted into the 2023 Iowa 4-H Hall of Fame during a ceremony at the 4-H Exhibits Building at the Iowa State Fair on Sunday, August 20. Each Iowa county is invited to nominate a recipient annually who is recognized again, formally, by the Iowa 4-H Foundation.

The Fishers will be recognized at 3:30 p.m. in the 4-H Building on the Iowa State Fair grounds. A reception will follow the presentations.

Duane and Vicky Fisher have been a dynamic duo for Washington County 4-H paving a path where there was none. They were the start to the 4-H goat department in 2006 and annual 4-H pancake breakfast in 2009. They have been significant contributors of their personal time, talents, knowledge and sweat to establish these great improvements to the program.

It was humble beginnings in 2006 when Vicky was starting her own goat herd and was asked to be the first goat superintendent. The department previously was combined with

dairy cattle but was growing and needed their own time slot, space, and volunteer team. Her husband, Duane, said his inspiration to volunteer was supporting his wife on something she wanted to do. They were both 4-H alum and wanted to raise their children Zeb, Zane, and Zoe in a 4-H family.

Vicky has a personality and care for others 4-H families have come to know and love. The goat barn is a place where they work together, get the jobs done and get along. Duane and Vicky have been a model of all of that.

But that goat department and even the barn didn't always exist. Goats have been bunked up with about every species in every barn. They have been a department that flexed over and again. Despite it all, the department continued to grow under Fisher's leadership. The department grew from 16 to 118 head and Fisher's literally built THE barn through an intense couple years of fundraising and grant writing. They put in countless hours and hard work selling raffle tickets and making plans.

It was their ability to see a need, their vision, their belief, their work ethic and inspiration that have made much 4-H success come to

life. The annual 4-H pancake breakfast began under Vicky's leadership for 14 years. In the early years they served 300 and now over 800 visitors come annually in April to enjoy breakfast and support Washington County 4-H.

Duane says he was just "along for the ride in all of that", but Vicky quickly recognizes him to be her hands and feet. What she needed done, he did it. Found it. Fixed it. Built it.

Duane and Vicky are proud to have been a part of such significant 4-H activities but are humble to give credit to fair board and the goat department show help for always being such good people to work with. They are honored to hear judge's comment on the facilities and quality of the Washington County Fair goat show and livestock.

Counties select inductees for their exceptional work in contributing to the lives of 4-H members and the overall 4-H program, explained Amy Green, Washington County 4-H/Youth Coordinator. "Washington County 4-H is thankful for Duane and Vicky Fisher's dedicated leadership. Their work ethic and caring personalities are 4-H role models for us all."

4-H HALL OF FAME



JOEL YEDLIK AND MARY ELLEN

Deanne Eden & Delores Eden of rural Lone Tree are the 2023 Johnson County recipients of the Iowa 4-H Hall of Fame for Johnson County. They will be inducted and recognized at the Iowa State Fair on Sunday, August 20th in the 4-H Building. One couldn't ask for better recipients of this award and club leader with everything they do and have done and the lives they have impacted and the more that will come.



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KALONA CREAMERY ANNOUNCES NEW PARTNERSHIP

The Kalona Creamery is thrilled to announce a new partnership with Edgewood Meat Locker to offer their premium artisanal sausages, bacon, and meat sticks in the creamery's farm store. Area residents can now pick up Edgewood's raved-about smoked meats along with Kalona's famous dairy products.

"Folks come from all around for Edgewood's brats, bacon, and snacks because they're simply the best tasting anywhere. Now our Kalona customers can grab them fresh along with our milk, cheese curds, fudge, and ice cream," said Beckie Ward, Manager of Kalona Creamery.

Previously, many people drove almost 2 hours to visit Edgewood Meat Locker directly. "We're excited Kalona area residents can pick up our meats in town just minutes from home. It's very convenient," stated Sam Ingersoll, Marketing Director for Kalona Creamery. "Selling Edgewood products will also bring people to Kalona from towns and cities in our region."

All of Edgewood's meats are sourced from local family farms around Iowa. "When you buy our meats at Kalona Creamery, you support small sustainable agriculture across the state," Ward added. "We'd love to help build a Kalona area meat locker, but until then, we'll continue to bring the best of Iowa to our local community and tourism visitors."

Customer testimonials demonstrate the

appeal of Edgewood's products:

"These are the best brats and the bacon is fantastic. You can really taste the difference quality local meat makes," said Kevin Baughman from Keota, Iowa.

"The snack sticks are a go-to choice in our household. My kids love them in their lunches.

Much better than grocery store brands," stated Cheryl B from Iowa City.

The new offerings are available now at Kalona Creamery, located at 2206 540th St SW, Kalona, IA 52247 along Route 1 from Iowa City to Kalona. Learn more at www.KalonaCreamery.com.

Join us for
Sunday Brunch!
11am - 2pm

Featuring breakfast pizzas, hash, eggs benedict, plus weekly rotating features.

Kalona Brewing Co.
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Funds donated to EMS services

Thanks to the contributions of advertisers in the annual recognition of area First Responders/EMS personnel in The News in May, we mailed checks totaling \$1,690 to area EMS services this past week.

The amount sent to area services is in direct proportion to the number of advertisers who supported their respective departments in this cost-sharing project.

The News started this revenue-sharing program, where 30% of the advertising revenue in the EMS Recognition section is given to the EMS services, during the early years of the COVID-19 pandemic as a way of helping their departments because they weren't able to have their annual fundraisers. We have continued this project as it is a good way to give the EMS services funds to help with the purchase of supplies and special equipment. For example, the Kalona First Responders plan to use the \$802.50 they received for the purchase of supplies and equipment for the new quick-response vehicle.

The checks sent to other departments included: Wellman, \$330; Riverside, \$360; and Lone Tree, \$198.

Even though the pandemic is over, The News plans to continue this revenue-sharing project. We also sell revenue-sharing ads to support the Kalona, Wellman, Riverside, and Lone Tree fire departments in October.

Thanks to our community-minded businesses for their support in these revenue-sharing projects for both the firefighters and EMS services. And thanks to those services and their dedicated volunteers in helping protect and provide needed medical services to their communities.

Are seat belts needed for golf carts?

Have you noticed the increase in golf cart traffic in Kalona?

And have you also noticed that many families using the



Ron Slechta
Blindside

carts with small children on their parents' laps or sitting on the seats?

We are sure that the parents love their children and feel it is safe; after all, they are on a golf cart. But how safe is it?

We can see why there aren't seat belts on golf carts on golf courses, as they don't go that fast. But when people get on golf carts on city streets, they often run the carts at top speed.

Is it going to take a major accident to require more caution and seat belts on golf carts?

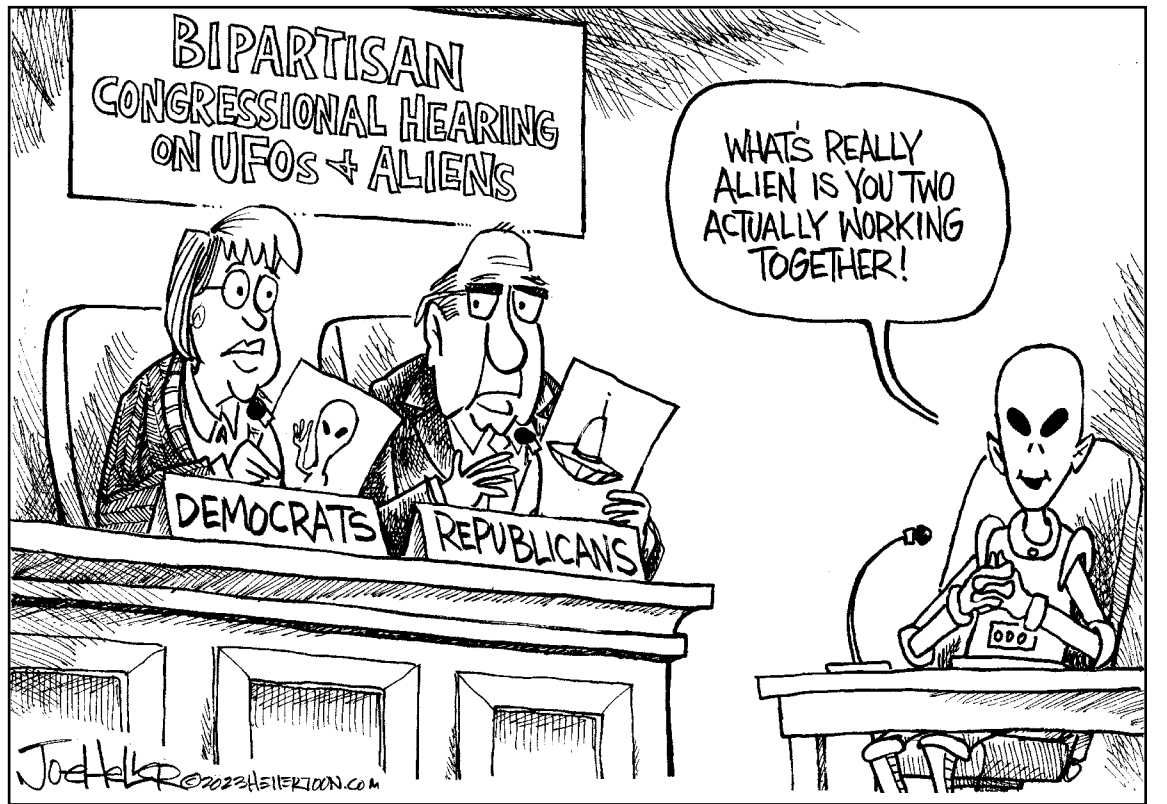
Bicyclists wear helmets. Maybe children riding in golf carts should too.

Growing ugly weed piles at school site

Each morning that I walk to work by the construction site at Mid-Prairie Middle and East Elementary schools, I think the piles of weeds between the two buildings get bigger and uglier. The construction crews have two large piles of dirt for later use that have a nasty crop of weeds. If there were piles of weeds on a residential lot, the city would be on the property owner to get it mowed or the city would declare it a nuisance. The city could clean it up at the property owners' expense.

When the weeds go to seed, they will scatter all over the lawns in the residential area surrounding the schools. I live a half-block away and work hard to keep a good lawn. I really don't want those weeds in my or any of my neighbors' yards. We all keep our lawns mowed and looking good.

I don't know if it is the contractor or the school district that is responsible, but something must be done to control and destroy this unsightly pile of weeds.



SBA's Fast Fraud, Made to Order

The Small Business Administration (SBA) is running a drive-thru for fraudsters, serving up tax dollars from COVID-19 assistance programs to career crooks, violent criminals, and even felons still behind bars to grab-and-go. The agency cut billions of dollars of checks to almost anyone who asked, in any amount requested, without even doing simple background checks or verifying the accuracy of applications. As a result, the programs provided the cash for violent street gangs to obtain firearms and conduct other illicit, illegal activity, according to federal investigators.

SBA's Paycheck Protection Program (PPP)—intended to help small businesses keep their workforce employed during the pandemic—helped finance the criminal enterprise of the violent Crip street gang, which committed over a dozen shootings and three murders in recent years.

Members and associates of the Step or Die street gang, known for committing robberies and murders, collected \$600,000.

More than \$3 million from SBA was given to a convicted fraudster claiming to own three bogus businesses paid for guns, bling, private jets, and luxury vehicles.

A felon used the \$400,000 he received to pay for a car, boat, vacation, and tickets to sporting events.

A man claiming to operate a food truck while he was behind bars managed to collect nearly \$50,000.

A drug trafficker on probation collected more than \$50,000 from two separate SBA programs.



Joni Ernst
U.S. Senator

And a gang member with a long, violent criminal history was given more than \$40,000 for which he did not qualify.

Fast fraud, made to order!

In total, SBA may have paid out more than \$200 billion in suspected fraudulent pandemic recovery grants and loans to 4.5 million scammers since 2020, according to the SBA Office of Inspector General (OIG).

Some swindlers uploaded pictures of Barbie dolls as photo identification on the SBA loan applications ... and still got money!

Even applications with missing and illogical information were approved. For example, emergency Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL) grants were given to 15 sole proprietors—who typically employ only themselves—claiming to have a staff of a million people!

Because SBA ran the programs on a "first come, first serve" basis, the money ran out quickly and many qualifying businesses were turned away.

The Restaurant Revitalization Fund, for example, dished out dollars to thousands of fraudsters, including \$8 million to one alleged fraudster, while leaving nearly 2,000 struggling restaurants in Iowa empty-handed.

A senior SBA official asked if she knew where the dollars that disappeared from the pro-

gram may have gone simply replied, "I do not."

The SBA is downplaying the severity of this scandal, insisting it gave only \$36 billion to fraudsters. (Which is not something they should be proud of!). In fact, the agency has decided not to collect the money still owed on pandemic loans under \$100,000.

The Biden administration has also tied the hands of the Special Inspector General for Pandemic Recovery from going after those who wrongfully took this money, claiming that that office does not have authority over SBA programs.

While hiring an army of IRS agents to audit innocent Americans, the president is looking in the other direction when it comes to recollecting the billions of dollars fraudsters were allowed to rip off of hardworking taxpayers.

Because the agency ran a carry-out with taxpayer dollars on the menu for fraudsters, I gave my Award to the SBA.

I also put forward the Strengthening Taxpayers Recoveries Act, requiring the SBA to collect all of the COVID cash owed to taxpayers and extending and expanding the jurisdiction of the Special Inspector General to find more fraud.

Folks, this job isn't finished until every criminal is caught and brought to justice, the stolen money is refunded to taxpayers, and the SBA gets its act together so this never happens ever again. Instead of asking, "Would you like fries with that," Biden's SBA should be focused on recovering ALL our wasted tax dollars. I will keep fighting to bring accountability to Washington and make SBA squeal!

Goodbye Horses: My Farewell to Kalona

About nine years ago, my mom called to tell me about a classified ad she noticed in the paper – the G***** I think it was. Thanks to her, I ended up at The News.

After years of creating ads and becoming a part of The News team, I bid farewell to this wonderful community of Kalona. It is with a heavy heart that I announce my departure from the newspaper.

I want to express my deepest gratitude to the readers, the advertisers, and subscribers of the paper, both loyal and new. I also want to thank the newspaper team. I have grown to love and respect The News and my weird little work family here. I appreciate every one of you and I will miss you.

As I look back on my journey at The News, I am grateful



Anna Kahn
Graphic Designer
The News

for the opportunities I've had to work on projects that have contributed to the growth and vibrancy of this publication. I hope it is not a cliché to say that it has been an honor to be a part of this community and this paper.

I will miss driving by the sheep, horses and ponies everyday. The little stretch of highway 1 between Kalona and home will always have a very special place in my heart.

Thank you so much to everyone for being a part of my journey.



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We reserve the right to edit.

News items - Please include all pertinent data - names, city of residence, dates, etc., and a description of the event. Photos may be picked up at The News office unless you include a stamped, self-addressed envelope for their return.

Letters to the editor - Your name and city or community will be published with your letter to the editor. For verification purposes, please include your address and phone number. Letters to the editor will be accepted via email subject to verification.

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25 YEARS AGO AUGUST 6, 1998

Kalona

Recent complaints from residents about roaming dogs has prompted city officials to remind all Kalona pet owners that the city code forbids animals running at large.

The city code also prohibits an animal owner letting his animal roam onto another person's property and cause damage there. The law applies to any unleashed animal, even if it is accompanied by the owner.

Any unleashed animal can run onto someone else's property and cause damage or attack a tethered pet there.

The same law also makes it unlawful for any dog owner to permit his pet to bark for long periods.

If a dog is found roaming loose, city employees will pick up the animal and confine it to the city kennel. It will cost the dog owner \$25 to get the animal back.

If a dog (or other animals) proves to be a continual nuisance, especially with prolonged barking, the Washington County Sheriff's Department will serve the owner with a warning. If the problem persists, an order will be issued for removal of the animal.

Missing channels, blurred reception, hour-long or more answer machine replies to service calls, and contract violations from Triax Cablevision led the Kalona City Council Monday to advise customers to withhold all or partial payment from the cable television supplier.

"I was on the phone for an hour and a half, listening to the 'your call is important to us' before I got anyone," City Administrator Doug Morgan told the council. He had tried to reach the cablevision service to address numerous complaints received from Kalona subscribers.

Most subscribers had at least one complaint in common: incredibly long waits to try to get through on the service line, and then no followup to any call for repairs.

Morgan said he told the company that "we can get another cable company in here, you do not have an exclusive franchise" and that waiting more than an hour on hold is not acceptable.

Subscribers have numerous other complaints ranging from not being able to obtain additional hookups to poor reception and not receiving as many as half of the channels they are paying to have, and increased rental fees.

Councilman Jerry Kauffman wondered if all subscribers refused to pay period, if the cable company might finally pay attention.

The council agreed the matter should be pursued, especially the rental fee issue.

Have you been to the Coral Ridge Mall? From the map, it looks very large. I think I would lose myself there. Maybe someday I'll get the nerve and case the joint, but I'll wait until some of the crowds dwindle down.

One of our senior citizens who still puts in a days work, is Katie E. Yoder, at the Greene Center Bookstore. If she doesn't have it, she'll get it for you.

Work on a new parking lot for the Kalona United Methodist Church was completed last week with the installation of a new sidewalk along the north side of C Ave. Slabach Construction Company and Kos Excavating donated the use of equipment to help volunteer workers with the project.

Mary Piper, the new children's librarian at the Kalona Public Library, led youngsters in acting out folk stories during the party that concluded the library's Summer Reading Program.

The summer library reading program for the three to eight year olds ended July 29, with a party held north of the Kalona Community Center. Hills Bank Kalona provided lunch for 83 children and 29 adults. There were games, songs and each child who participated in the program was given a new book and book marker.

Heavy winds Monday, August 3, knocked down the scoreboard and caused other damage at the track at Mid-Prairie High School. The board cleared the track initially, hit the ground, skipped over the high jump, hit the grass, then went over the 2nd high jump before hitting the fence. Tuesday, it lay in the field like crumpled tinfoil. Insurance will cover the loss and a new scoreboard has

been ordered, expected to be operational well before the first home game. Wind also damaged the new baseball field fence that had been installed after the June 29 storm wiped out the old one. That, too, will be replaced.

Yoder Tax & Accounting Service, owned by Don G. Yoder, will have a new office facility by early fall. Construction, by John Miller (Miller Builders) started early this summer and, despite extreme weather at times, incurred no serious delays. Yoder said the business needed more space and plans to sell the original building.

Mid-Prairie's Athletic Booster Club helped give the Golden Hawk girls softball team quite a sendoff last Thursday with a pizza party at the softball field. Former Booster Club president Warren Ropp wished the team good luck and handed out some car signs for the players, coaches and parents. The Golden Hawk sendoff also included a pep rally Sunday and a team meal sponsored by Hills Bank Kalona last Wednesday.

Fourth-ranked Perry took advantage of a four-run fourth inning rally and a two-hit pitching gem from starting pitcher Kathy Shimon to defeat Mid-Prairie 5-0 in the opening round of Class 2A state softball action Monday night.

Despite the loss, Golden Hawk head coach Amy Rath was still pleased with her team's effort.

Lone Tree

Work has begun on the renovation of the CCC constructed Pavilion in the North Park. The pavilion was damaged during the 'hurricane' on June 29. The brand new roof was damaged and the pavilion developed a definite 'lean' to the south, but the historic old structure didn't collapse entirely and can be refurbished.

A group of about a dozen residents of the Lone Tree Health Care Center, along with some employees and volunteers, enjoyed a Picnic In The Park last Wednesday at ABC Park in Lone Tree. The group enjoyed beautiful weather, good food and good company. Transportation to and from the park was provided by Johnson County S.E.A.T.S. and private vehicles. It certainly was a much nicer day on July 29 than it was on June 29.

Lone Tree's ace running back, Andy Ratzlaff, played and Raiders head coach, Dan Dickel, coached in the 26th Annual Shrine All-Star Football Game at Drake Stadium on Saturday. Their South Team broke a seven game winning streak by the North, taking a 25-7 win on a sunny, pleasant day.

Ratzlaff played in the defensive backfield for the South during the first and third quarters of the game. Dickel was on the

sideline sending in the defensive signals. The teams were set up so that a unit would play a quarter and then another unit would come in to play. With basically two different offensive and defensive units that meant each player got in for two quarters.

To celebrate a summer of "dino-mite" reading fun, the Friends of the Library and the Farmers and Merchants Savings Bank of Lone Tree are excited to announce the arrival of dinosaurs to the Lone Tree Library. This very special collection of wooden dinosaurs are some of over one hundred created by Solon native Jack Neuzil, and were featured in the November 1997 NEIGHBOR section of the Cedar Rapids Gazette. These dinosaurs will be on display from August 4-18 at the Lone Tree Library.

"Why is it this way?" Who put the crack in the Liberty Bell?

The Liberty Bell was ordered in 1751 and cast in the Whitcappel Bell foundry in England, modeled after the Great Tom bell that hangs in Westminster Abbey. It was sent to Philadelphia and cracked the first time it was rung. The bell was recast locally, and was installed in the State House (now Independence Hall) before the Revolution. The bell was rung in honor of significant events that occurred in the new nation, including the reading of the Declaration of Independence.

On July 8, 1835, the bell was tolled as a tribute to the deceased Justice John Marshall, and it was then that one of our great national symbols cracked again.

Though the crack has been bolted on top to keep it from spreading, the bell is no longer rung.

Is your name on the list to work at Kinnick Stadium for the Booster Club for the 1998 Football Season? If your child participates in any Junior High through 12th grade athletics, we need your help at Kinnick Stadium.

Darwin Foster, Kathy Hotz, Jill Sterner and Jon Ronan have volunteered to be in charge of Kinnick Stadium for the Booster Club for the 1998 Football Season! We need everyone's help to keep this fund raiser going! You can sign up at school registration for the games available.

Wellman

The Mid-Prairie Hawks (30-18) made school history July 27, 1998, when they beat Davenport Assumption, 6-3, to clinch their bid for the state softball tournament. This will be the first time in school history the softball team has reached the state tournament.

The Mid-Prairie team has jelled this year, although they

were unranked, they have proven that rankings don't mean much. Teamwork and strong defense and offense have lifted the Hawks to their state tournament bid.

Members of the team are: Heather Hervey, Shelli Tobin, Sarah Berg, Emily Johnson, Jaime Krantz, Pam Harland, Annie Showalter, Kelly Bontrager, Jennie Miller, BJ Duwa, Elsa Young, Jennifer Knerr, Andria Klostermann, Hannah Berg, Amber Ihrig, Erin Ruffin, Rosie Miller, Angie Mullet, Stephanie Beeler, coached by Amy Rath, Tammy Utley, and Jenny Hobbs.

Paul C. Thomas has been promoted in the U.S. Air Force to the rank of major.

Thomas is a family practice physician assigned to the 509th Medical Operations Squadron at Whiteman Air force Base, Whiteman, Mo.

The major graduated in 1984 from Mid-Prairie High School, and received a bachelor's degree in 1988 from Simpson College, Indianola. He earned a master's degree in 1992 from the University of Osteopathic Medicine and Health Sciences, Des Moines.

Everette Haines has appealed to District Court the decision of the Wellman City Council to euthanize his pit bull.

The dog, named Snowflake, attacked city employee Donna Wade on June 22, 1998 as she was reading the water and gas meters at the Haines' residence. Wade sustained numerous puncture wounds to her arms and legs.

The council had unanimously voted on June 30, 1998 to dispose of the dog. Haines appeal hearing was held July 13, 1998. The council upheld it's original decision to dispose of the dog following this appeal.

The dog was picked up by the authorities on Wednesday, July 22, 1998 and is being held at an area veterinary clinic.

The District Court appeal will be held at the Washington County Court House on August 7, 1998.

Hooverball, an unusual activity enjoyed by President Hoover while in office, is a combination of tennis, volleyball, and medicine ball. Developed by a White House physician, the game was played almost daily on the White House lawn to keep the president physically fit. Participants included Supreme Court justices, Cabinet members and other high government officials.

The sport is played on a court 66 ft. By 30 ft and is scored exactly like tennis, but has its own unique rules: there are no racquets; participants use a 4 or 6 pound medicine ball; the game is played over an eight foot volleyball net; the ball must

be caught on a fly and instantly thrown back over the net by the person who caught the ball; teams play with three players and can have two substitutes.

Celebrate Herbert Hoover's birthday with free events all weekend including Hooverball.

John Duwa, of rural Keota, suffered a severe neck injury following a two vehicle accident on Highway 1, July 24. He underwent ten hours of surgery at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics and will be hospitalized for two to three weeks. Duwa, owner of J.D. Drywall, will have up to one year of rehabilitation.

The Kalona Christian Fellowship has set up a fund at the Hills Bank in Kalona to assist the family with household expenses during Duwa's hospitalization and rehabilitation.

Duwa and his wife, Kathy have three children, Jessica, Justina, and Jeremiah. John is the son of Dale and Mary Ann Duwa of Richmond.

Many local residents have taken notice of the two giraffes grazing in the Loren Huber cornfield south of Wellman on Ginkgo Avenue. The hungry animals are guarded by a Mayan Warrior, all created and painted by Wellman wildlife artist and Mid-Prairie elementary art teacher, Lefty Wilson.

Loren and Linda Huber bought the plywood for the unusual project and Wilson created the menagerie.

Wilson came up with the roadside art idea years ago and has been placing unusual artwork around the area for several years.

He has a notebook full of roadside artwork designs, which Wilson hopes "...will make people think, question, and wonder."

The Pleasant Hill Methodist Church, a landmark in Jotown, was built in 1898 and will be celebrating its centennial this year.

A group that is interested in preserving the church would like your help in restoring the building. The group hopes to paint the interior as well as the exterior of the church.

They are in the scraping stage right now and need help. Anyone is welcome to come at anytime, but you must bring your own scraper. After the scraping is completed, help will also be needed with priming the exterior.

For information contact Wally or Millie Breneman.

Andrew Shalla, of Kalona, had a hole in one on the Wellman golf course Sunday.

He hit a pitching wedge off the tee box on number three and watched his ball disappear into the cup.

Shalla said he has only been golfing for a few months, but he has really improved.

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Real Estate Showcase

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THE NEWS

First home purchase at age 18

Realtor Katie Sisson shares how to prepare kids for early success

BY CHERYL ALLEN
The News

WELLMAN

At the end of July, Jacey Sisson closed on her first home, a condo in Iowa City. She is 18 years old.

While 79% of Baby Boomers and 71% of Gen X own their homes, Millennials have been slower to get there. Prior to 2022, more Millennials were renters than homeowners, but today 52% of Millennials own their homes. Their average age at first home purchase? 34 years old.

Gen Z, those 9 to 24 years old, is still a renter-majority generation; just 26% own their homes.

How did Jacey defy the odds?

Having realtor parents certainly helped, but all parents can set their kids on the fast track for early homeownership, which can pave the way for greater financial security and freedom in the future.

Katie Sisson, mom to Jacey and realtor with Ruhl & Ruhl, says that “the biggest thing is helping [your kids] learn to manage money from the time

they get their first bank account, helping them learn to save. If [they] have a paycheck, set aside 50% of it while [they] don’t have bills.”

When kids get their first job, their first inclination is to “blow the money” on fun things like clothes and entertainment. Sisson advised her daughter to set up her bank account so that half of her paycheck was automatically deposited into her savings account, and the other half into her checking, which she could spend as she pleased. After a few years of working, fitting in as many hours as she could around school, Jacey had saved almost \$10,000, enough for a down payment.

Sisson says that when kids learn good money-management skills early on, it becomes a habit, and “the habit you start as a kid at that age is going to last forever.”

How does a young person know if they should commit to a home purchase when they are just starting life as an adult? In her daughter’s case, Sisson says, “We kind of weighed all the options. She’s going to law school here in Iowa City, so we



METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

weighed if she paid six years of either being in a dorm or renting from somebody, she could have almost paid the whole thing in full.”

“By the time she graduates law school, she’ll be able to turn around and sell [the condo] and have a huge down payment on whatever she’d like,” Sisson says.

Getting a mortgage at that

age isn’t without its challenges. Young people like Jacey haven’t had a chance yet to build credit, so they may have need to get a low-limit credit card and start building it. They may also need their parents to co-sign the mortgage with them.

But Sisson says overcoming those obstacles now will be rewarded later.

“When people go to buy houses, the biggest hang-up people have is not so much credit scores, but what they have on their debt load,” she explains. When young people graduate college, “they have all this college debt that, as soon as college is over, they have to start making payments on, so that counts to their debt to income [ratio]. That affects them being able to purchase.”

In Jacey’s case, she’ll already have the money for a substantial down payment on another home.

“Even if she does have student loans when she comes out, she will be way ahead of a lot of people,” Sisson says. “We’re trying to set her up for the best that she can be.”

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Real Estate Showcase

THE NEWS

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METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

By knowing what needs to be done in advance, contractors and tradesmen can be contacted immediately.

Pre-inspections a win for buyers and sellers, Sisson Team finds

BY CHERYL ALLEN
The News

WELLMAN

Bad news in a home inspection can be a deal-breaker.

“That’s when a lot of deals fall apart,” Katie Sisson, a realtor with Ruhl & Ruhl, says.

Home inspections often happen late in the game, after a buyer’s offer has been made and accepted on a property. Some buyers have even waved inspections of late, using the move as a way to make their offer more enticing in a competitive real estate market. This has resulted in some unwelcome surprises and subsequent remorse.

Sisson Team, which includes Katie and husband Ryan, has found a way to eliminate this trouble spot: they now do pre-inspections on the homes they list for sale, at no expense to the seller.

The Sissons hire an inspector to go through the home, and

then they go through the report with the seller and decide on a plan of action to address anything that has come up. Sometimes the inspector finds lots of small things that need fixing, and others there are more significant issues, such as a roof that needs replacing.

In all cases, the Sissons help sellers get the work done, sometimes before even listing the house. By knowing what needs to be done in advance, contractors and tradesmen can

be contacted immediately, and the work can be completed before closing. This way “we’re not rushing around,” Katie says.

Sometimes there are simple fixes sellers can take care of themselves rather than hiring a professional. “It just saves them money in the long run,” Katie says.

Being able to disclose known issues gives prospective buyers confidence, she adds. “It doesn’t leave any unknown,

so people can offer and be comfortable making an offer. Especially a first-time homebuyer, they can be comfortable making that offer instead of being, ‘Gosh, I don’t know, I’m just not really sure about this.’”

Buyers can view the inspec-

tor’s report, and they’re welcome to hire their own inspector as well, Katie adds.

The Wellman-based Sisson Team is eager to help you buy or sell your home; contact Katie at 641-990-7932.

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Johnson County considers \$1 million proposal for new youth shelter

BY PAUL D. BOWKER
The News

IOWA CITY

Less than one month after the Four Oaks Youth Shelter closed, Johnson County Supervisors moved closer at their July 26 work session to answering a request for funds that would cover the construction of a new facility for youth. Sarah Nelson, Chief Executive Officer of CommUnity Crisis Services, and Talia Meidlinger, Executive Director of United Action for Youth, appeared in front of the board for the second time in 10 weeks to ask for \$1 million in funds. The new facility would shelter youth who are in crisis and need immediate help.

Four Oaks closed July 1. "Without this ability to place kids who are a risk to self-harm, to others or major family conflict, we're only going to continue to see high-risk cases," Meidlinger said.

Nelson said building contractors were set to begin work by the middle of September with a potential opening of the new building in winter 2024. The financial request is \$1.05

million. Another \$250,000 is expected to come from the Mental Health/Disability Services of the East Central Region.

Supervisor Rod Sullivan said additional funds may still come from the regional administration.

"I think it's important we find the money regardless," Supervisor Jon Green of Lone Tree said. "This is a priority for me."

"I think that we need to work the region as much as possible for what we can get ...," said Supervisor Chair Lisa Green-Douglass. "It is in fact a regional-type thing."

Nelson said funds would be needed by the end of August to get the work started.

The proposed facility, located on Highway 6 in Iowa City, is big enough to offer shelter for 12 youth, along with programming space, a pond, and open space for walking and other activities.

County building remodels

At its July 27 formal session, the Board approved a contract with McComas-Lacina Construction of Iowa City for \$7.352 million for an extensive

remodeling project at the county's administration and Health & Human Services buildings at the Iowa City campus.

Five bids ranged up to \$8.1 million and McComas-Lacina had the lowest bid.

OPN Architects of Iowa City is heading up the design on a project that will include a remodel of the administration building on South Dubuque Street and a remodel of the third floor of the HHS building. Among the changes will be a new board room.

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds will be used to finance a portion of the project over two fiscal years.

Board Action

The Board approved a services agreement of \$105,000 with Iowa Valley Resource Conservation & Development for management services at the Johnson County Historic Poor Farm.

The Board approved several pay-range plans for non-bargaining employees.

Next board meeting: The board will hold its next formal meeting at 9 a.m. August 3.

Streetscape exhibit grand opening

BY CHERYL ALLEN
The News

KALONA

The moment we've been anticipating since 2016 is finally here: the streetscape exhibit at the Wahl Museum, a part of the Kalona Historical Village, will officially be revealed next week.

The invitation-only ribbon cutting will take place Sunday, August 6. On Monday, August 7, from 4-7 p.m., the exhibit will open to members only, and on Tuesday, August 8, the exhibit will open to the public with admission or membership during normal business hours, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The streetscape exhibit depicts early 20th century Kalona nearly life-size. Meyers, Miller, and Manatt streets have been recreated with historically accurate storefronts filled with artifacts; some are enter-



CHERYL ALLEN/THE NEWS

Pearl is just a hint of what you will see at the new Wahl Museum.

able, such as the hardware and general stores. Drugstore, barber, creamery, undertaker – the range of businesses that that contributed to Kalona's success are all brought to tactile life. More than something to see, it's something to experience.

The Kalona Historical Village is located at 715 D Avenue, Kalona. (319) 656-3232.



County Employees recognized for years of service at the Washington County Board of Supervisors meeting August 1, 2023 (L-R): Alicia Pacha, 20 years; Bobbie Wulf, 25 years; and Cara Sorrells, 35 years.

Public hearing set for wind ordinance

BY MARY ZIELINSKI
The News

WASHINGTON

Following last week's detailed work session, the Washington County Supervisors, August 1, set a public hearing regarding a provision for a possible countywide wind ordinance for 9:15 a.m. Tuesday, August 22, at the start of their regular session. Specifically, the motion is to consider the tax assessment for property with wind turbines. The board agreed it is the first step in consideration of the wind energy ordinance, for which a draft was made in 2021.

A second section deals with construction and operation of the actual turbine windmills. Another hearing regarding that second section may be set at the August 22 meeting. Initially, the board okayed the first hearing for August 15, but after it was noted that more time was needed to publish the hearing notice, they changed the date.

Supervisor Marcus Fedler had suggested both at the work session and at Tuesday's board meeting that the first public hearing deal with the special assessment. Last year, a change in Iowa law now permits counties to enact rules

specific for wind energy conversion property. However, a county could choose not to have a separate wind energy assessment, leaving the process to several earlier state code sections regulating property taxes for energy generating sites.

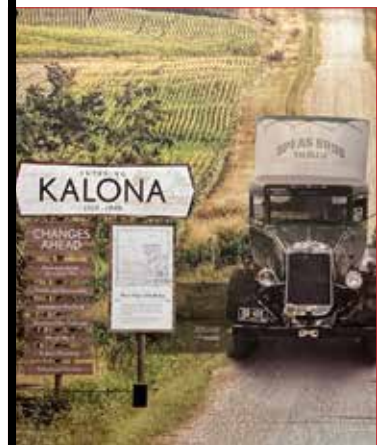
In other business, the board: Recognized three employees for years of service to the county: specifically, Cara Sorrells, communications, 35 years; Bobbi Wulf, Mental Health/Disability Services, 25 years; and Alicia Pacha, treasurer's office, 20 years. In total, the three have given the county 80 years of service.

Denied a secondary roads use request from the Golden Hawk Shooting Club for a "fun" raising ride on Riverside Road, G36, Underwood Avenue and 150th Street (Vine Ave), due to lack of liability insurance. Auditor Dan Widmer made the recommendation after telling the board he had spoken with the group, noting the state law requirement that they had tried to meet but were unable to get the coverage and "they understood the problem."

Approved full-time seasonal employment for Lydia Davis as a Conservation Department naturalist intern, starting August 1 at \$13 hourly.

Become a member of the Kalona Historical Society today & be among the first to see the new Streetscape Exhibit!

You can become among the first to see the state of the art display by becoming a member of the Kalona Historical Society. Your annual membership entitles you to free admission to all the Kalona Historical Society exhibits and buildings at the Historical Village, except during the annual Kalona Fall Festival, for one year.



If you become a member now, there will be a special viewing for you on Monday, August 7, 4 to 7 p.m.



Open to the public August 8 for a \$15 admission.

\$40 / year - Individual
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\$60 / year - Grandparents

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PET OF THE WEEK

GEMMA

Gemma is an approximately 8 month old female German Shepherd/Australian Shepherd mix. She is playful, energetic, engaging, and active. She has been an inside dog with other bigger dogs, children both young and older. She loves to snuggle up to you on the couch. She does not do well with cats or other smaller animals due to her prey instincts. Gemma is loving and smart. She will definitely bring love and loyalty to the home that chooses her. To find out more, visit our website at



pawsandmorewashington.org/adopt. Or visit us in Washington from 12-4! PAWS & More (319) 653-6713.

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The News SPORTS

THURSDAY, AUGUST 3, 2023



GIOVANNI CORONEL/THE NEWS

Left; Coach Danny Hershberger lines up at third base with senior Luke Schrock as he prepares to score a run. Right; Player of the year Luke Schrock pitches a strike.

SEISC COACH AND PLAYER OF THE YEAR

After an impressive season, Hillcrest baseball claims player, coach of the year honors

BY GIOVANNI CORONEL

The News

KALONA

Not since 2009 has a Raven baseball team flown this high.

This year Hillcrest (21-5) put together a remarkable summer season on the baseball diamond and their stellar play did not go unnoticed.

In addition to the numerous post-season accolades awarded to Hillcrest, senior Luke Schrock was named Southeast Iowa Super Conference North Division Player of the Year and coach Danny Hershberger was appointed SEISC North Coach of the Year.

After ushering in a Hillcrest season where they collected 20 plus victories, won the SEISC North title with a perfect 12-0 conference record, and claimed the Class 1A District 10 championship it becomes easy to see why Hershberger earned COY honors.

This second time he has received this award, also earning COY recognition in 2019.

"I want to thank Phil Schintler, our assistant coach," Hershberger said about who he is thankful for after receiving COY recognition. "Phil puts in a lot of time, especially during the off-season, making sure our players arms are strong and ready to go when the season starts."

Hershberger, who has years of coaching experience under his belt and is a former player who was a part of the Hillcrest 2007 State Championship team, puts great value in creating an environment where players want to put their best foot forward.

"As a coach I try to not get too high or too low," Hershberger said about his coaching style. "As a former player I try to be a coach that players want to play for and create an environment players want to be a part of and look forward to coming to the field and playing the great game of baseball each day."

Not slowing down once the regular season wrapped up, the Ravens rattled off three postseason wins to advance to the substate finals, a playoff game where the winner advanced to the state tournament.

The substate round is where Hillcrest's impressive season came to an end, falling to Burlington Notre Dame, 4-3.

As a team the Ravens, when they stepped up to the plate to bat, connected on 221 hits and scored 248 runs.

Having a knack for hitting the ball out of the park, Hillcrest's 17 home runs are the second most in Class 1A. Winning 13 games by virtue of mercy rule,

CORALVILLE CELEBRATES 150th BIRTHDAY WITH RAGBRAI



TJ RHODES/THE NEWS

A banner celebrating Coralville's 150th birthday welcomed in RAGBRAI bikers on July 28 in the sweltering heat.

SEE HILLCREST | PAGE 4B

Lions roar into football .. a bit early



Paul Bowker
Columnist

The pounding heat of July hadn't yet retreated, and Lone Tree's football Lions were already on their practice field early Monday evening.

That's what a Week 0 game in another midwestern state does for you.

Opening their preseason camp a week earlier than anybody else around here, the Lions ran plays to focus both on offense and defense. They pounded out sprints, four laps at a time.

Senior quarterback Ethan Bockelman jumped up for a snap from center and then sprinted ahead between defenders and coaches.

And just like that, football season had arrived.

Instead of opening their season August 25, as most Iowa teams will do, the Lions will head east nearly 180 miles on August 18 to play Parkview Christian Academy in the outer Chicago suburbs, in Yorkville. Parkview Christian has a total student population of less than 300 and is in the second year of a varsity football program, but in eight-man, not 11-man.

This so-called Week 0 game will give Lone Tree a bye week in the third week of the season.

But all those details mattered little Monday as the Lions

began practice under the close examination of head coach Joe Donovan and a handful of assistant coaches dispensing instructions to the 20 or so players.

In addition to Bockelman, the Lions starting quarterback last year, the team features a group of underclassmen and returnees including seniors Jader Sanchez and Dominic Graap, juniors Brody Magruder and Jack Patterson, and sophomore Emmett Burke.

For other teams, that opening practice will come next Monday with some playing a preseason scrimmage on the night that the Lions head toward Chicago for their first game.

New AD in Town

When Mid-Prairie opens its football season August 25 against Wellman, there'll be a change along the Golden Hawks sideline, and in the press box and in the stands and at the admissions gate and every other place an athletics director is supposed to be.

Pete Cavanagh, the winningest football coach in school history, is now Mid-Prairie's athletics and activities director. He takes over for Tyler Hotz, who is now the superintendent of schools in Lone Tree and will be busy himself on August 25 as the Lions host Iowa Valley that night in their home opener.

Cavanagh began his duties as AD in July when the Golden

SEE BOWKER | PAGE 5B

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SEISC-North All-Conference softball selections

SEISC-NORTH FIRST TEAM



Abbi Stransky
28 RBIs | .301 | 15 BB | 17 Steals



Delaney Shaw
.431 | 17 RBIs | 11 BB | .535 OBP



Jessica Kraus
14-5 | 2.21 ERA | 1.12 WHIP | 122 SO



MyLei Smith
.342 | 25 Hits | 11 BB | 12 RBIs

SEISC-NORTH first team

Ada Boysen (P)	Wapello
Jessica Kraus (P)	Highland
Morgan Stecher (C)	Louisa-Muscatine
Kayleigh Rundlett (C)	Lone Tree
Lily Coil (IF)	Columbus
Addison Stetcher (IF)	Louisa-Muscatine
Sarah Burton (IF)	Highland
Payton Brun (IF)	Highland
Livia Fuller (IF)	Wapello
Jersey Lessenger (OF)	Louisa-Muscatine
McKenzie Kissell (OF)	Louisa-Muscatine
MyLei Smith (OF)	Highland
Mya Wagner (OF)	Wapello
Delaney Shaw (U)	Hillcrest
Hannah Kissel (U)	Louisa-Muscatine
Abbi Stransky (U)	Highland

Player of the year: Tatum Wolford, Wapello
Coach of the year: Chad Lolling, Wapello



Payton Brun
.389 | 26 RBIs | 155 PO | .994 FPCT



Sarah Burton
.358 | 21 RBIs | 4 HRs | 34/34 Steals



Kayleigh Rundlett
10 TOS | 105 PO | 11 RBIs | .417 OBP

SEISC-NORTH SECOND TEAM



Vivian Zaruba
.403 | .511 OBP | 30/30 Steals | 37 R



Malia Yoder
116 SO | 2.23 WHIP | .364 | 16 Steals



Lilly Barre
.402 | 28 Steals | 19 BB | 15 RBIs



Alex Dautremont
6-8 | 2.14 WHIP | .316 OBP | 19 RBIs



Madison Beeson
15 Hits | 10 BB | 175 PO | .984 FPCT



Hogan Eden
.318 | .395 OBP | 10 RBIs | 12 R



Katelyn Waters
14 Hits | .262 | .367 OBP | 8 Steals

SEISC-NORTH second team

Kennedy Woepking (P)	Columbus
Alex Dautremont (P)	Lone Tree
Madison Beeson (C)	Highland
Anna Anderson (C)	Winfield
Lilly Barre (IF)	Highland
Quinn Veach (IF)	Wapello
Keely Williams (IF)	Louisa-Muscatine
Hogan Eden (IF)	Lone Tree
Victoria Howell (IF)	Columbus
Vivian Zaruba (OF)	Lone Tree
Katelyn Waters (OF)	Highland
Emily Hemphill (OF)	Wapello
Aracely Garza (OF)	Columbus
Malia Yoder (U)	Hillcrest
Quinn Baker (U)	Pekin
Kamryn Taylor (U)	Louisa-Muscatine

Honorable Mentions

Grace Prybil	Highland
Abby Pierson	Highland
Morgyn Nafziger	Hillcrest
Erin Bontrager	Hillcrest
Lila Bell	Lone Tree
Rylee Shield	Lone Tree

Season recap: Mid-Prairie baseball

BY TJ RHODES
The News

WELLMAN

15-1. This is how the Mid-Prairie Golden Hawks finished their season. One win shy of making the state quarterfinals at the tail end of a 15-game winning streak. Coming off a season where the Hawks made it to the state semifinals, they surely hoped for more.

The Hawks fell to Van Buren County in the 2A region 5 championship on July 11.

Within the 15-game win streak included circus matchups like the 12-11 toppling of Durant. Tight matches like the 2-1 victory over Cascade, and dominant efforts like the 10-0 runaway win over Wilton in the quarterfinals.

The Hawks sat comfortably at second place in the state of Iowa at 2A competition, according to the High School Baseball Coaches Association. For a time, the Hawks flirted with first place, eventually falling behind Van Meter for the remainder of the season despite the impressive 15-game win streak.

They'll say goodbye to five seniors, each of which pulling their own weight. Cain Brown is an exceptional first baseman and leader. His chants of encouragement could be heard from the dugout at every turn of the baseball diamond.

Collin Miller was the team's ace, starting ten games on the mound and getting another appearance. He posted a 7-0 record and hoisted a 1.68 earned run average (ERA).

Alex Bean served as a utility man. He covered first base to start the season, eventually taking his speed to the outfield. Bean had the second most appearances on the mound with nine, eight of which were starts.

Camron Pickard served as speed in the infield and a constant threat on the bases with 14 steals, third on the team behind Brown (26) and standout junior Karson Grout (20).

Jackson Zahradnek was

the last senior. Despite starting just one game, Zahradnek played an important role in the dugout and when his name was called, he answered. Especially against West Branch when Zahradnek pinch hit and cracked one to the outfield wall for a double that would've scored a run if not for poor baserunning without a slide into home plate.

The team is still in good hands despite the exiting senior talent. Grout is a verbal commit to the University of Iowa and despite not taking the mound due to complications, he shut down hard hit ground balls to shortstop. On one occasion against West Liberty, Grout made a diving stop, throwing on his knees to Brown at first base for the out despite the runner's speed.

Grout's bat stayed hot, leading the team with a .457 batting average. The team as a whole hit five home runs. Grout owns four of them. His 37 RBIs are also a team-leading stat.

Other helpful mitts include rising junior Brady Weber who is the definition of a utility player. Weber could take the mound, owning a 5-0 record, the batter's box, a .341 average (third place on the team) and countless defensive positions, also designated hitting.

Rising senior Brock Harland made a rare distinction when he made the all-conference first team as a catcher and the all-district second team as a pitcher. His ability to command both sides of the plate will come in handy in the summer to follow.

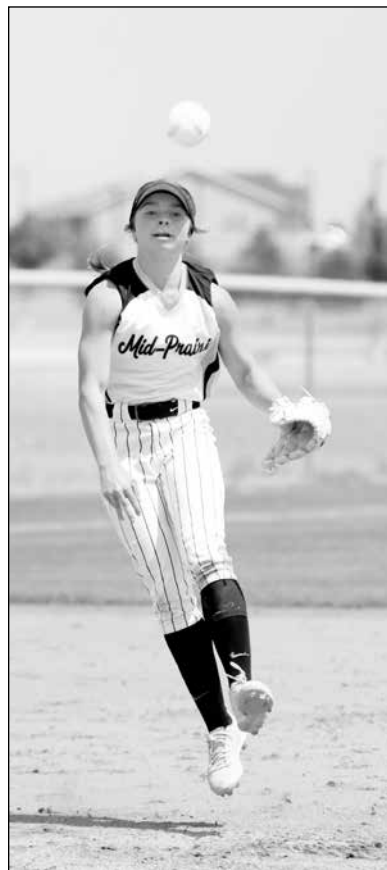
Rising senior Dylan Henry also played a role as a utility player, covering third base and the pitching mound.

All of which coached by Kyle Mullet who won the River Valley Conference South coach of the year.

All of the returning talent gives hope that Mid-Prairie can once again dominate the area teams before making another run at state. Only time will tell.



TJ RHODES/THE NEWS



TJ RHODES/THE NEWS



Season recap: Mid-Prairie softball

BY TJ RHODES
The News

KALONA

16-21 does not tell the whole story.

The Mid-Prairie Golden Hawks softball season ended with a 3-1 loss to Center Point-Urbana in the quarterfinals of the playoffs. This season followed a 16-13 summer in 2022.

The Hawks used this season for immense improvement, despite the record. They played in five tournaments against the best competition they could find, and the work almost resulted in an upset win against CP-U.

Leading off the batting order was none other than rising junior Dakota Mitchell. She led the team in batting average (.439), on-base percentage (.519), walks (17), hits (50), triples (4), runs (32) and stolen bases (4).

Coach Amy Hartsock-Williams commended Mitchell's work, saying Mitchell works on her softball skills all year despite being a top volleyball player.

Mitchell is not the only young talent destined to return. In fact, most of the team were still underclassmen, learning and growing together. Next season, Hannah Sellers will be the lone senior.

The team will miss Madeline Schrader and Molly Yoder who brought speed to right and center field. They also brought leadership to the young team.

Rising junior Sydney Knebel will likely step into a greater role next summer, already a top contributor to the team as an ace. She pitched in 26 games, starting 25. Her earned run average (ERA) was a respectable 3.39 and her hits per innings pitched (WHIP) of 1.32 was also good.

Knebel struck out 121 batters and batted well at the plate herself. Knebel knocked in the most runs at 32. Her batting average (.395) and on-base percentage (.439) were both second highest on the team. Knebel's season highlight was a seven-inning shutout of a ranked West Liberty team on the road, June 22. The Hawks would win

5-0.

Rising sophomore Kadence Grout can take some of the pressure off of Knebel's back next summer as her pitching abilities grow. Grout pitched in 12 games, arguably her most impressive was in the final outing of the year. Grout entered the game for a hurt Knebel and played lights out. If not for some mental errors by the defense, it's likely that Grout pitches a shutout.

Close friend of Knebel's and the team's backbone is Sophie Miller, the catcher. Miller was third in both batting average (.393) and on-base percentage (.435). Her 24 RBIs ranked fourth, only behind rising junior Brenna Jehle, Knebel and Mitchell. At catcher, Miller caught ten runners attempting to steal. Not many dared test her arm.

Jehle's lone homer of the season was a big one. She hit a walk-off grand slam against West Branch at home on May 31. Jehle had the third most RBIs at 25. She was fifth in batting percentage at .333 and fifth in on-base percentage at .419.

The Hawks also garnered more young talent. Rising freshman Olivia Swartzendruber covered second base and came up clutch with a 2-RBI single to win against Wilton on June 8.

Rising freshman Morgyn Bender also carved her spot in the roster, commanding left field. Hartsock-Williams believed Bender possessed tremendous defensive abilities, and that was showcased in the final outing when Bender made a diving effort in left field to steal a hit, getting the ball to second for the double play.

Rising junior Brylee Gearhart didn't get much time on the diamond, but when the occasion rose, she knocked a single against CP-U to spark a potential rally.

The Hawks have a young talented roster and a coach determined to get the toughest matchups to brew the best out of the team. The Hawks will likely be looking for more when next summer approaches.



GIOVANNI CORONEL/THE NEWS

HILLCREST/ Continued from Page 1B

Hillcrest made home plate a spot they visited quite frequently.

"I think the strength of our team was our ability to deal with adversity and make positive plays and innings after having plays or innings not go our way," Hershberger said about the strengths of the team.

The Ravens had seven different players see playing time as a pitcher. As a collective unit they gave up 116 hits, 70 runs allowed with 40 of them being earned runs allowed and struck out 146 batters.

Possessing a top-notch defense Hillcrest held a team to zero runs scored six times over the course of the season.

Making the most of his final year playing high school baseball for Hillcrest, Luke Schrock put together a senior season to remember.

"Luke had an incredible senior season this year," Hershberger said. "He has worked hard over his career and has improved each year. It was a joy to watch his hard work pay off for him with the season he had this year."

Not only being named SEISC North POY but also selected first-team all-District as a shortstop, Luke was a commanding force for the Ravens not only as a batter, but as a pitcher as well.

Luke, who pitched in 30 innings, ended his year with an unblemished 5-0 pitching record. He was Mr. Reliable on the mound for Hillcrest this season. His 38 strikeouts are tied for the most on the team, he only gave up 16 hits, and his 1.15 ERA is fifth best in the SEISC North.

"He stepped up big for us on the mound and pitched lights out against some tough hitting teams," Hershberger said about Luke.

When Luke stepped up to the plate, he consistently found a way to make contact with the ball. The moment was never too big for Luke; he could be counted on to kick start the Ravens' offense if they ever got off to a slow start.

No one on the Ravens roster recorded more hits or scored more runs than Luke. Some of his stats were so great they even went beyond his own team.

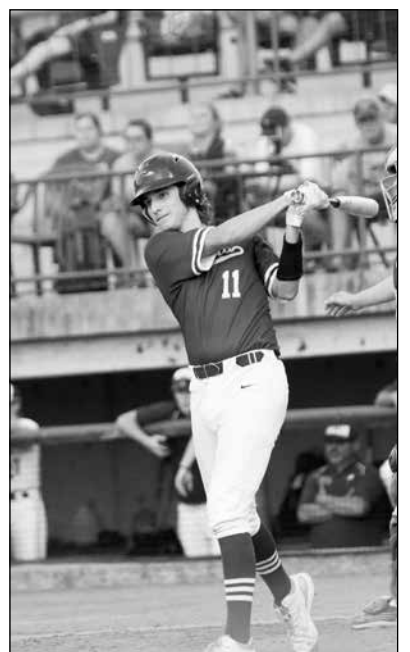
In the SEISC North he held the best batting average (.468), had the most hits (37), produced the third most RBIs (28), and scored the most runs (40). A dynamo on both offense and defense the honors he received were more than deserving.

"Luke had some big hits for us this year in moments we needed something good to happen," Hershberger said. "Luke was able to provide a big home run or extra base hit to get our offense started."

Hillcrest would be overjoyed if Luke continued to play sports while donning a Raven's uniform, but his graduation marks the end of his athletic high school career. A multi-sport athlete he participated in baseball, golf, and soccer.

There will be a void to fill with his departure but the impact he made with his play and leadership will last for years to come.

"Luke has been a tremendous role model for our younger guys to follow," Hershberger said. "The leadership and positive energy he brings to the field everyday will be missed."



Hillcrest collects numerous postseason honors

BY GIOVANNI CORONEL
The News

KALONA

The bar Hillcrest set last year for baseball was one where they finished only one game above .500 with a 12-11 record. Surpassing that bar and shattering expectations, the 2023 Hillcrest baseball team caught fire and put together an impressive 21-5 season.

This 20-win season, the first time they have reached the 20-win threshold since 2009, was made possible by Hillcrest's ability to come together as a team to play at a high level.

The Ravens roster was recognized for their talent, with Hillcrest baseball earning nine all-conference honors and five all-district selections.

Not just limited to being a phenomenal basketball player, senior Grant Bender showed he is a force to be reckoned with on the baseball diamond.

A unanimous selection, Grant was selected first-team Southeast Iowa Super Conference North Division as an outfielder. He was also selected second-team all-district as an outfielder.

With Grant being sixth up in the batting order this gave him ample opportunities to bring in his teammates to score and he did just that.

Grant led the team in RBIs with 39, which was also the 10th most in Class 1A. The quickest most efficient way to record RBIs is hitting home runs and Grant had no issue going that route.

A highlight of this season for Grant was when he hit two three-run homers on senior night. He ended up with five home runs on the season, the second most on the team.

His .354 batting average was third best on the team and was ranked 10th in the SEISC North. Rounding out his prom-

inent offensive stats he ended his season with 28 hits, second most on the team and fourth most in the SEISC North.

In the outfield Grant, as a center fielder, led the team with a 98% fielding percentage. Only committing one error he was prone to making diving acrobatic catches. He was responsible for 51 putouts, third most on the team.

Also, a unanimous selection, senior Jace Rempel was appointed first-team all-conference as an infielder. He was also selected first-team all-district at third base.

An all-around player, Rempel put together a solid senior season. While up to bat he connected on 23 hits, hit two homeruns, and ended his year with 26 RBIs. His 29 runs scored were the fourth most in the conference and he posted a .315 batting average.

While he didn't see a lot of time on the mound Rempel still ended his season with 10 strikeouts, pitching in 11 innings. He gave up only three hits and held opponents to a .125 batting average.

A testament to how much trust the team has for Rempel came in Hillcrest's third round playoff game. After the starting pitcher reached the pitch count limit it was Rempel who was chosen to close out the game and he did, getting the two outs the Ravens needed to end the game and advance to the next round.

Speaking of pitching, no one started more games on the mound for Hillcrest than sophomore Seth Ours. Ours was a unanimous first-team selection all-conference as a pitcher. He was also chosen first-team all-district as a utility player.

Putting together an effective year throwing the ball, Ours' ERA of 0.67 led the conference and was the seventh lowest in all of Class 1A. His

pitching record stood at 6-1, he gave up 27 hits, and he struck out 38 batters.

Not just limited to being a superb pitcher he was also a key part of Hillcrest's offense. Second in the batting order Ours was tied for the second most hits on the team with 28. He recorded 21 RBIs, scored the third most runs on the team with 37, and his .354 batting average was ranked 10th in the conference.

Following the trend of Ravens receiving the nod for a unanimous selection, sophomore Liam Schrock earned a first-team all-conference selection as a catcher. He was also selected second-team all-district as a utility player.

Possessing the distinct privilege of being Hillcrest's leadoff batter, Liam was tasked with setting a positive tone on offense and he often delivered. He ended his stellar sophomore campaign with 28 hits, scored 38 runs, and 20 RBIs. His on base percentage of .588 was the best in the conference.

A breakout game on offense for Liam came in the first round of the playoffs Turning a postseason game into his own personal home run derby, Liam hit three home runs, with one of them being a grand slam. He ended the year with six homers, third most in the state.

When not on offense Liam was Hillcrest's ever so reliable catcher. He was able to throw out 15 runners, third most in Class 1A, and was responsible for 149 putouts, while only making four errors.

In his second year of playing baseball for Hillcrest, freshman Rowan Miller was a standout player for the Ravens his first-team all-conference selection as an infielder further solidifies this statement.

Last year, as an eighth grader, Miller produced 14 hits and

seven RBI's. This year Miller connected on 23 hits and had 30 RBIs, second most in the conference. He made a great jump in offensive production and showed the Ravens he can be a key part of the offense going forward.

A versatile player Miller also saw some playing time as a pitcher this year. He ended his year with a pitching record of 3-1 with 23 strikeouts and allowed six hits. His highlight performance on the mound is when he threw a no-hitter vs Lone Tree on June 9.

Selected second team all-conference as an infielder was senior Josiah Beachy. Beachy produced 24 hits, was fifth in the conference in RBIs with 21, and scored 17 runs. As a baserunner he went 10 for 11 when stealing a base. As Hillcrest's first baseman he was responsible for 109 putouts while only making five errors.

Hillcrest received two honorable mentions for all-conference, sophomores Mason Bender and Phoenix Anderson.

Mason went 14 for 68 at the plate while ending his year with a .206 batting average. He scored 15 runs and had eight RBIs. When baserunning he went eight for nine on stolen bases.

Anderson saw a good amount of playing time as a pitcher this season. Starting in five games and pitching in 28 innings he had a pitching record of 3-1 and struck out 17 batters while giving up 31 hits. On offense he scored 15 runs and connected on 14 hits.

Filled with talent at every position this 2023 squad put together a historic season for Hillcrest baseball and even though they will lose four seniors in the offseason they can still be encouraged that the success they garnered this year will continue for years to come.

BOWKER/ Continued from Page 1B

Hawks were still in baseball and softball season.

“Our school has been successful in many different activities in my time here as teacher and coach,” Cavanagh said. “Our diversity of success is a strength.”

Cavanagh will direct activities at both the high school in Wellman and the middle school in Kalona, so there’s a guy you’ll see pretty regularly on Highway 22.

“I will definitely miss teaching my classes,” said Cavanagh, who was a social studies teacher at the high school. “I’m a teacher at heart. Looking forward to this leadership opportunity and chance to impact our school culture and success.”

Meanwhile, down on the football field, one of Cavanagh’s football assistants will take over as head coach. Daren Lambert, formerly the defensive coordinator, will take on the head coaching role and will also be offensive coordinator, as Cavanagh was. Lambert will continue as the school’s head coach in men’s basketball.

Laughlin: Back to back state champ

Dani Laughlin, a 2023 graduated senior at Iowa City Regina Catholic and a Riverside resident, finished off her high school softball career with another state championship in July.

Laughlin, an incoming freshman and softball scholarship recruit at NCAA DI Texas State, had a hit and scored a run in the Regals’ 6-2 win over Van Meter in the 2A softball state championship game played July 21 in Fort Dodge.

The Regals, a 2A power playing in the River Valley Conference, won 30 games this summer.

Laughlin’s batting average of .604 ranked number one in 2A and fourth in Iowa, all classes. She is expected to play in the outfield for Texas State, which won 35 games this past spring and advanced to the NCAA Regionals at Austin, Texas. The Bobcats’ season typically begins in February.

Laughlin also helped the Regals win a 2A state title in 2022.

News columnist Paul Bowker can be reached at bowker-paul1@gmail.com. Follow him on Twitter: @bowkerpaul

RAGBRAI cultivates the heart of Coralville



TJ RHODES/THE NEWS

A group rides down ninth street in Coralville as people watch from the sidewalks, handing out drinks and some spraying hoses to keep the riders cool during the hottest day of the year.

Wellman mens league golf standings

Freeman Foods	51.5 Pts
Stutsman’s	48 Pts
Cilino’s	45.5 Pts
Bulltown	45 Pts
City Sewer	43.5 Pts
Bob’s Drywall	42.5 Pts
Patriots	42 Pts
JP Shooting	36 Pts
Wellman Auto	35.5 Pts
Capper Auto	34.5 Pts



Left; The bikers continued down Ninth Street under shaded trees with valleys of tents turning Coralville into one giant campground for the evening. Right; A rider passes under the Coralville 150th anniversary banner cheered on by many out enjoying RAGBRAI.



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July 3 - 7, 2023
James R Thompson, Linda D Thompson, grantor; Justin J Yoder, grantee; warranty deed; Kalona Pattersons Add Lot 6; \$140,000

Ashley Mullen Executor, Ronald W Mullen Estate, grantor; Lucas Mullen, Ashley Mullen, grantee; court officer deed; Aud Parc B, Cont 3.709 Acres in NE NE 20-77-8

Gordon M Shelangoski, Mary L Shelangoski, grantor; Gordon M Shelangoski Trustee, Gordon Shelangoski Revocable Trust, Mary L Shelangoski Trustee, Mary Shelangoski Revocable Trust, grantee; warranty deed; S2 SE 34-74-8; S2 NE 34-74-8; NW NE 34-74-8; W 3/4 of NE NE 34-74-8 Commencing at SE Corn 34-74-8 thence W 750 FT

Gordon M Shelangoski, Mary L Shelangoski, grantor; Gordon M Shelangoski Trustee, Gordon Shelangoski Revocable Trust, Mary L Shelangoski Trustee, Mary Shelangoski Revocable Trust, grantee; warranty deed; Part SW SW 35-74-8; NW SW 35-74-8; Part NE NW 35-74-8; N2 SE NW 35-74-8; Part SW NE 35-74-8

Maple Grove Farm of Wellman Inc, grantor; David Talmage Rand Jr, Susan Lea Rand, grantee; warranty deed; Rural Subdivisions Hamilton Hills Estates Lot 7; \$50,000

Carol D Detweiler, grantor; Timothy R Detweiler, grantee; deed of surviving spouse; Part Washington Southwest Washington Lot OL 8

Larry Zook Executor, Jewel Zook Executor, Lydia M Hochstedler Estate, grantor; Edna Viola Hochstedler, grantee; court officer deed; N 130 FT of S 182.54 FT of Kalona Snider & Allen SD Lot 4

Anna M Yotty, Anna Marie Yotty, grantor; Jerry L Zahradnek, grantee; warranty deed; Undivided 1/2 Interest of Aud Parc E in Kalona Pattersons Add Lot 2

John Almon Mast, Elmina Faye Mast, grantor; Daniel S Borkholder, Ida Anna Borkholder, grantee; warranty deed; ABD RR Row Running Across NE NE 14-77-8 & Across SE SE 11-77-8; Lot 1 in Aud SD SE SE 11-77-8; Part E2 NE 14-77-8; \$380,000

Craig Schlaubaugh, Cynthia Schlaubaugh, grantor; Kevin Yoder, grantee; quit claim deed; Part Wellman OP Lot 2 Block 11

Roger Letts, Lisa Neff Letts, Lisa Letts Neff, grantor; Lance J Bohlen,

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grantee; warranty deed; Lots B & C in Aud SD of S2 Washington Littlers SD Lot 2 Block 4; \$55,000

Jean Hospodarsky, Jean E Hospodarsky, George B Hospodarsky Attorney in Fact, grantor; Arnulfo De La Paz Yanez, grantee; warranty deed; Comm at SE Corn NE 08-77-8 Thence in 1195.53 FT, Thence NW 2428.69 FT Comm at SE Corn NE 08-77-6 Thence N 1195.53 FT, thence NW 2673.69 FT; \$375,000

Kenneth Cole, grantor; Tequila Grill LLC, grantee; warranty deed; Part Aud Parc D, in Lot 1 SD of Kalona 77-7-18 NW NW; \$145,000

Deanna L Estes, grantor; Dylan Harris, grantee; quit claim deed; N 50 FT of W 68 FT Crawfordsville OP Lot 6 Block 3; \$20,000

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