

# Records

## Worth Mentioning

Send your event to news@pcmexplorer.com

### PCM Food Pantry

The PCM Food Pantry at the Monroe Presbyterian Church, 113 S. Main St. in Monroe, is open 9 a.m. to noon and 6 to 7 p.m. Mondays and 9 a.m. to noon Thursdays.

### TOPS

TOPS 1025 meets at 5:30 p.m. every Monday at the First Reformed Church in Prairie City for weigh-in, with meeting to follow. Go to the north side parking lot at the church and enter in the north door. Call 515-994-2200 for information.

### Men's Recovery meeting

Lighthouse Recovery Ministries hosts a Men's Recovery meeting at 6:30 p.m. each Monday at Grace Alive Church, 703 W. Second St. in Prairie City. Contact Barb at b.miller@lighthouse-recovery.com with questions.

### PCM Clothing Closet

The PCM Clothing Closet, on the second floor of the Family Life Center at 105 S. Sherman St. in Prairie City, will be open from 3:30 to 7 p.m. every Tuesday and Thursday and 2 to 4 p.m. Sundays.

Message volunteers through the PCM Clothing Closet Facebook page to schedule a time for donations.

### Grace Alive to host Women's Bible Study

Grace Alive Church, 701 W. Second St. in Prairie City is hosting a Women's Bible Study "Growing in Christ" from 1 to 2:30 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. The community is invited and welcome to attend. Contact Sheryl Plate with questions at 641-521-3120.

### American Legion Post meets

The Monroe American Legion will meet at 7 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month at the Legion.

### Community Meal Wednesday

A Community Meal will be served beginning at 5 p.m. the third Wednesday of the month at the Monroe United Methodist Church. All are invited to share our free meal and fellowship.

### Women's Recovery meeting

Lighthouse Recovery Ministries has a Women's Recovery meeting at 6 p.m. each Wednesday at the Grace Alive Powerhouse, 701 W. Second St. in Prairie City. Contact Barb at b.miller@lighthouse-recovery.com with questions.

### Good News Club

Good News Club will meet from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Feb. 20 in the Monroe Elementary School media room.

### ATV/UT and golf cart registrations due

ATV/UTV and golf cart registrations are due March 1 at Monroe City Hall.

A valid driver's license and proof of insurance showing a special rider on your auto policy listing ATV/UTV or Golf Cart as an additional insured must be provided.

### Renew pet licenses in Monroe

Cat and dog licenses for 2023 are now available at Monroe City Hall. The cost is \$10 for altered pets/\$20 unaltered. Prices increase after April 1.

### PCM Explorer email address

The PCM Explorer has phased out its older Monroe Legacy and Prairie City News email addresses. Those accounts are no longer available. Please be sure to use news@pcmexplorer.com.

## Obituaries

### Linda Sue Brown

Jan. 24, 2023



Linda Sue Brown, age 73 of Monroe, Iowa, passed away on January 24, 2023 in Newton, Iowa. A memorial service to honor Linda will be held at Coburn Funeral Home in Monroe, Iowa on Friday, February 10, 2023, at 1:00 PM. A visitation will be held at Coburn Funeral Home in Mon-

roe on Thursday, February 9, 2023, from 5:00 - 7:00 PM. Following the memorial service, a burial will be held at Silent City Cemetery in Monroe, Iowa. Memorials may be directed to the PCM Food Pantry. Condolences may be left for the family at www.coburnfu-

neralhome.com. Linda was the daughter of Robert and Frances (Liggett) Brown. She was born on February 6, 1949 in Iowa. Linda graduated from Monroe High School in 1967. Following graduation she spent many years working at Younkens and Prairie Meadows. Linda always enjoyed visiting her cousins with her mother, and she was also very fond of bowling. Linda is survived by

her son, Greg Van Dalen and his children with Angie; three grandchildren, Sara, Megan, and Jacob; siblings, Ron (Sue) Brown and Beverly (Tim) Rinehart; nieces Lisa Towne, Lori (Danny) DeBruyn, Danielle (Scott) DePrenger, and Angie Foreman; nephews, Zach (Brittany) Rinehart and Chad (Jenny) Rinehart. Preceding Linda in death were her parents; a son, Jeff; and a sister, Janet Brown.

## EMS

Continued from Page 1

too, will provide paramedic-level care. The county also authorized the purchase of EMS vehicles for the part-timers leading the program, including a more than \$354,000 ambulance.

Steve Ashing, one of the two reserve deputy paramedics that launched the program in March 2022, described the opportunity as a perfect storm, lighting in a bottle. Funds were available, two reserve deputies already had paramedic training, the need was there and the county supervisors were willing to try it out.

"Things have aligned just right to make this all work," Ashing said in the early hours of his Thursday shift. "Having two paramedics as reserves, that is very unheard of in a lot of places. We had an opportunity with a sheriff who is very EMS- and fire service-driven and understands it, which is another anomaly."

### EXTRA SUPPORT FOR THE SMALL TOWN AGENCIES

In addition to his duties as sheriff of Jasper County, John Halferty regularly volunteers for the fire department in Mingo, a town populated with a little more than 300 people. Ashing, too, has worked a volunteer crew in his 23-year career as a firefighter; for the past 16 years he has served at the Newton fire station.

When Newton receives an ambulance call, Ashing said there are always two people who can respond, and then two to four more who can assist the primary responders within five minutes. Generally, there is always someone on scene with paramedic-level experience to administer advanced life support services.

However, when a rural EMS agency responds to a call, the likelihood of having a paramedic with a patient is less certain. Ashing said about every community — if not every community — in Jasper County has at least one paramedic. But life and other factors may limit that individual's response time.

Which is where the sheriff's office's part-time reserve deputy paramedics come into play. When either Ashing or fellow paramedic Jacob Halferty arrive to a scene, they have to step in and serve as the primary care provider as they have the highest level of care experience among the volunteer EMTs.

Oftentimes the small town volunteers are still the first teams to respond to calls, but there have been instances where the reserve deputies administered care before other agencies arrived. John Halferty said there are good, dedicated people watching over the small towns, and the program is not taking them away.

"Some agencies, including a couple within this county, do an outstanding job," John Halferty said. "They're able to staff calls every time. But I also believe those services, along with others, if just two or three people decide to not be volunteers or respond anymore, they're going to be hurting."

### DOUBLE DUTY AS A RESERVE DEPUTY PARAMEDIC

Officers and emergency response personnel never want to say the "Q" word, but it was abnormally silent during Ashing's shift last week. Two days prior his fellow reserve deputy paramedic was constantly responding to calls in his 12-hour shift. But if there was a call, Ashing was more than equipped to handle it.

Inside the trunk of his patrol vehicle is what seems like an endless supply of medical equipment and supplies for almost every situation; backpacks filled with gauze and tourniquets, airway management tools, IV bags and all kinds of medicine. This is not what the typical sheriff's deputy has in their vehicle.

Most of the first aid kits in patrol cars are for the individual officers. Some may have traffic control equipment, but none of them carry a cutter-spreader combination tool or a fireman's axe for extractions. Ashing even carries a NarcBox to keep controlled substances locked away.

"A deputy is going to have a lot less," Ashing said, noting a regular deputy that is not a regular EMT will have accident investigation supplies, evidence bags, first aid kit, "go bags" and perhaps more ammunition-based equipment. EMT-certified deputies may also carry an EMS bag with basic life support supplies.

Of course, there is also a large difference in medical skills between most law enforcement officers and the reserve deputy paramedics. Usually, officers know basic first aid and CPR, and they are trained how to use an automated external defibrillator (AED).

For some of Jasper County's reserve deputies to have trunks full of medical equipment and have the skills to use them, Ashing said it is uncommon.

When Ashing and Jacob Halferty are not responding to medical calls, they are still conducting duties as reserve deputies by providing backup to other deputies, patrolling communities, following up warrants, covering administrative duties, enforcing code violations and conducting traffic control.

### THERE ARE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN EMT AND PARAMEDIC

Several of the volunteers in the small towns are EMTs, but that level of certification still limits what they can do. Ashing said an EMT can perform CPR, use AEDs, package wounds, stop

## Payment delays of LIHEAP funds

### Your heat will stay on

State Auditor Rob Sand issued an advisory on the delay of Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) payments to eligible recipients.

LIHEAP is a federally funded program administered by the Iowa Department of Human Rights. It is designed to help households at or below 200 percent of the 2022 federal poverty guidelines meet their heating needs.

"I have received several inquiries from Iowans who qualify for energy assistance through LIHEAP but their accounts have not been credited by their utility vendor, or they have not received their direct payment from LIHEAP," said Sand. "We want to assure those Iowans that their heat will not be turned off in the dead of winter."

Iowa law prohibits eligible LIHEAP customers from being disconnected from their electric or natural gas supply from November 1 through April 1 of each year, regardless of the temperature.

"We are monitoring the situation and believe LIHEAP dollars will be properly distributed and credited by April, so that no one loses heat," Sand said. Households with additional questions about LIHEAP payments should contact the Iowa Department of Human Rights.

Households interested in applying for LIHEAP should contact their local community action outreach office. Priority is given to the elderly and disabled.

EMS • 3

**Smart Savers**  
Save with Veridian

12-month CD

**4.65%** APY\*

\$1,000 MIN. BALANCE

Open a CD today.  
veridiancu.org/CD

\*APY = Annual Percentage Yield. APY is accurate as of 1/30/2023 and is subject to change. Interest on CDs is compounded quarterly. APY is subject to change after account is opened. Interest rate locked when account is opened except for bump-up CDs, which can be converted to higher rate once during their term. Penalty may be imposed for early withdrawal, and fees could reduce earnings on account. Other rates and terms available. Withdrawal of earnings could reduce APY. Membership required to open a CD and is subject to qualifications and a minimum \$5 share deposit. Federally insured by NCUA.

**We can stop HIV, Iowa.**

It all starts with health equity—meaning everyone has a fair & just opportunity to be healthy.

To achieve this, we need to remove obstacles to good health, such as poverty, discrimination, and racism, which support an environment in which HIV thrives.

We must work together so that all Iowans have access to the resources they need to

**Prevent Diagnose and Treat HIV.**

**STOP HIV IOWA**

Learn more at [stophiwiowa.org](http://stophiwiowa.org)

**606060 SALE!**

**60% OFF Installation**  
of a new walk-in bathtub!

**60 MONTHS 0% INTEREST!**  
Senior & Military Discounts!

**\$60 Restaurant.com Gift Card**  
with free in-home estimate!

**CALL TODAY!**  
**877-990-0707**  
[www.MadCityPro.com](http://www.MadCityPro.com)

Minimum purchase required. Does not include material costs. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Financing available with minimum purchase and approved credit. Mad City Windows & Baths, LLC is neither a broker nor a lender. Financing is provided by third party lenders unaffiliated with Mad City Windows & Baths, Inc. under terms and conditions arranged directly between the customer and such lender, all subject to credit requirements and applicable conditions of finance documents. Any finance terms advertised are estimates only. With in-home estimate and product demonstration to homeowner(s). Limit one per household. Electronic gift card (e-gift card) voucher given upon completion of demonstration. Not to be used by homeowner(s). Subscribers do not carry e-gift cards for security reasons. E-gift card valid on home visits only, not applicable to Virtual Sales Appointments. Offer not sponsored or promoted by Restaurant.com and is subject to change without notice prior to reservation. Allow 2-3 weeks after demonstration to receive e-gift card. E-gift card valued at \$60. Ask for details. New orders only for appointments completed by 2/28/2023. Offer expires 2/28/2023.