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**BEST ADVERTISING PROMOTION OR**  
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The cover of the 2023 Activity Guide for Grant County, Wisconsin. The title "2023 Activity Guide Grant County WISCONSIN" is prominently displayed. A yellow banner in the top right corner says "Map Inside FREE". The cover features a collage of images: a car on a dirt road, a white Sprinter van, a blue UTV with people, a person fishing in a river, a herd of cows in a field, and a group of people on a trail at night with headlamps.

2023  
**Activity Guide**  
Grant County  
WISCONSIN

Map  
Inside  
**FREE**

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Grant County Activity Guide  
Grant Iowa Lafayette Shopping News | Platteville, WI



2023-2024

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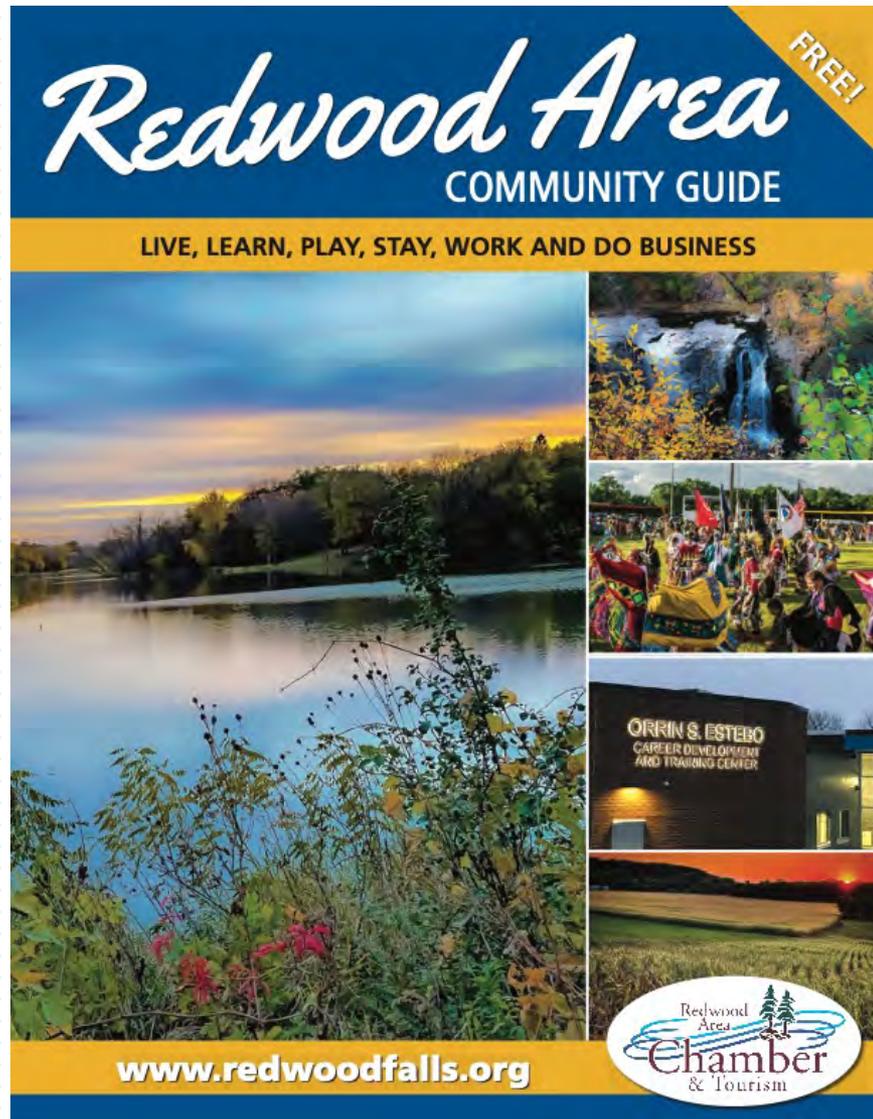
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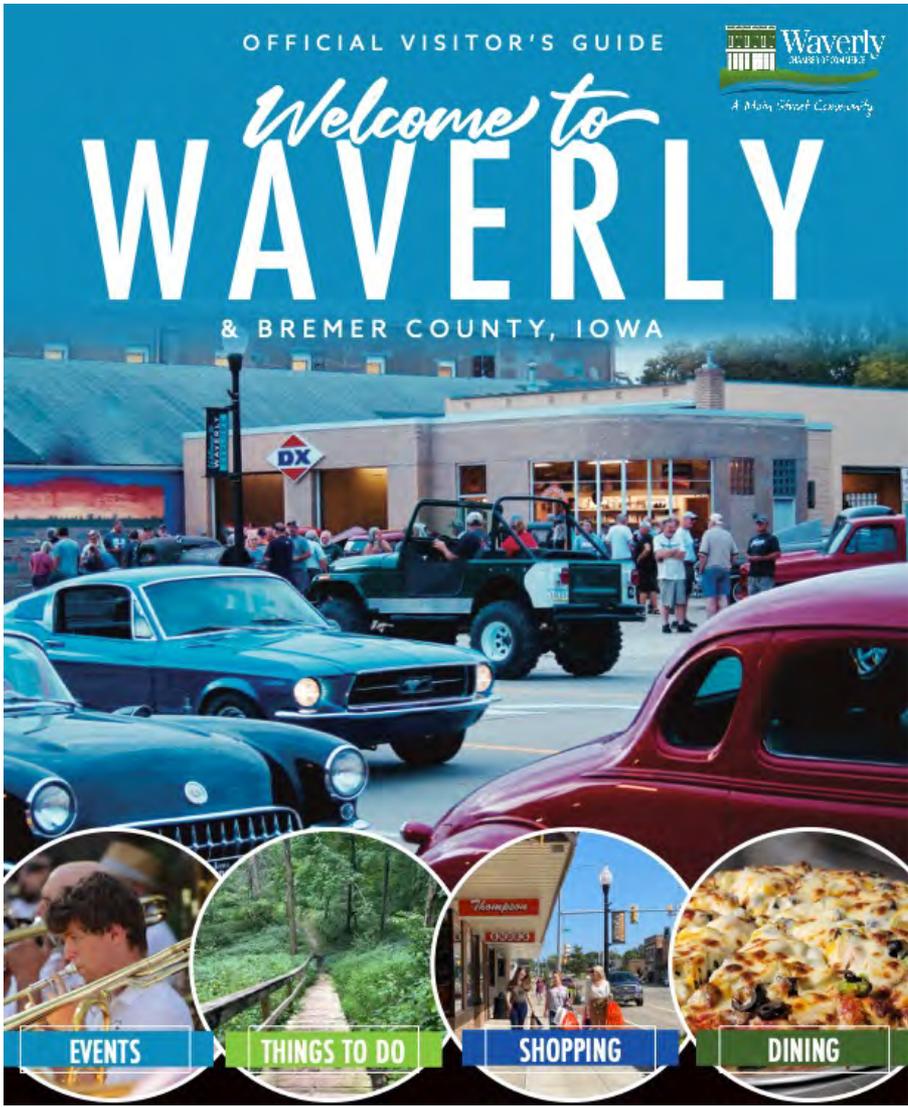
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8 • STAR SHOPPER | Friday, September 8, 2023

Friday, September 8, 2023 | STAR SHOPPER • 9

# NATIONAL TRUCK DRIVER Appreciation

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National Truck Driver Appreciation Week, September 10-16, 2023, is when America takes the time to honor all professional truck drivers for their hard work and commitment in tackling one of our economy's most demanding and important jobs. These 3.5 million professional men and women not only deliver our goods safely, securely and on time. They also keep our highways safe.

Join us in celebrating the men and women across the country who keep this country moving.

These are our businesses proudly pay tribute to the men and women truck drivers making a difference every day.

**ATA**

Source: www.ata.org/trucking-association-opening-up-national-truck-driver-appreciation-week-0

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THE BELOW BUSINESSES HAVE DONATED TO BREAST CANCER AWARENESS RESEARCH



The Ryan and Darling family photo from June 2023. From left to right: Trisha's son Hayden Westhold, 12; Brad's son Bradan Darling, 16; Trisha Ryan, Brad Darling, Brad's son Brady Darling, 13 and Trisha's daughter Iylar Westhold, 15.  
Photo by Tiffany Davidson

By Charlene Corson Selbee  
Trisha Ryan, age 42 and owner of Barney's Bar and Grill in Burr Oak, Iowa, was diagnosed with breast cancer in March this year. She shares her story for the purpose of awareness.

"I had my first mammogram in August 2022. It came back normal, and in March 2023, I noticed an odd-shaped lump in my left breast. It just so happened that I was coming up for a doctor's appointment, and I mentioned it to him. Since it showed up during my cycle, he suggested we give it two weeks. I decided to wait. We can always wish things away, but that didn't work."

When Trisha went back to the doctor, she had another mammogram, which showed the mass. An ultrasound showed that it had spread to her lymph nodes.

The next step was a biopsy in June, which came back positive for cancer.

"My first appointment was in 10 days at the MercyOne Cancer Center in Waterloo. First, I met with a surgeon who was reassuring and said we would take care of business. I have triple negative metastatic carcinoma, a very common form of breast cancer and very aggressive. The fact that it had already moved was very scary."

"An MRI confirmed that

there were two masses in my left breast and a mass in my lymph node. It showed that there was nothing in the right breast."

A PET scan showed that there were three spots in her chest cavity. "That was pretty scary," Trisha noted. In August, a biopsy of two spots came back negative for cancer. It was thought the spots could be a result of the staph infection she got when her port was put in at the beginning of July. Trisha recalled, "I got really sick! Summer seemed to drag."

In the beginning of August, Trisha started an 11-week che-

motherapy drug called The Red Devil, which she just completed. She shared, "My hair fell out after the first treatment. Luckily, my 15-year-old daughter was home, so she helped me cut the clumps out. It was good for her to see what was happening. That it wasn't scary. You just roll with it!"

Trisha learned of her diagnosis in March and didn't tell anyone. Even after her second mammogram and the ultrasound, she kept it to herself. She said, "Finally, I told Brad, my significant other, at the end of May. I didn't want to tell everybody because I didn't

want to worry them. I think I was probably still in shock. I didn't feel everybody needed to be concerned. I took it little by little. Finally, I had to tell Brad because we were trying to plan a summer vacation with the kids. I just told him I didn't think we were going to do much this summer, that I think I have breast cancer. He looked at me as we were driving down the road. He stopped, looked at me, and said, 'Excuse me!' He went to a couple of doctor's appointments with me."

The two kept it quiet until the middle of June after her biopsy when she was sure she

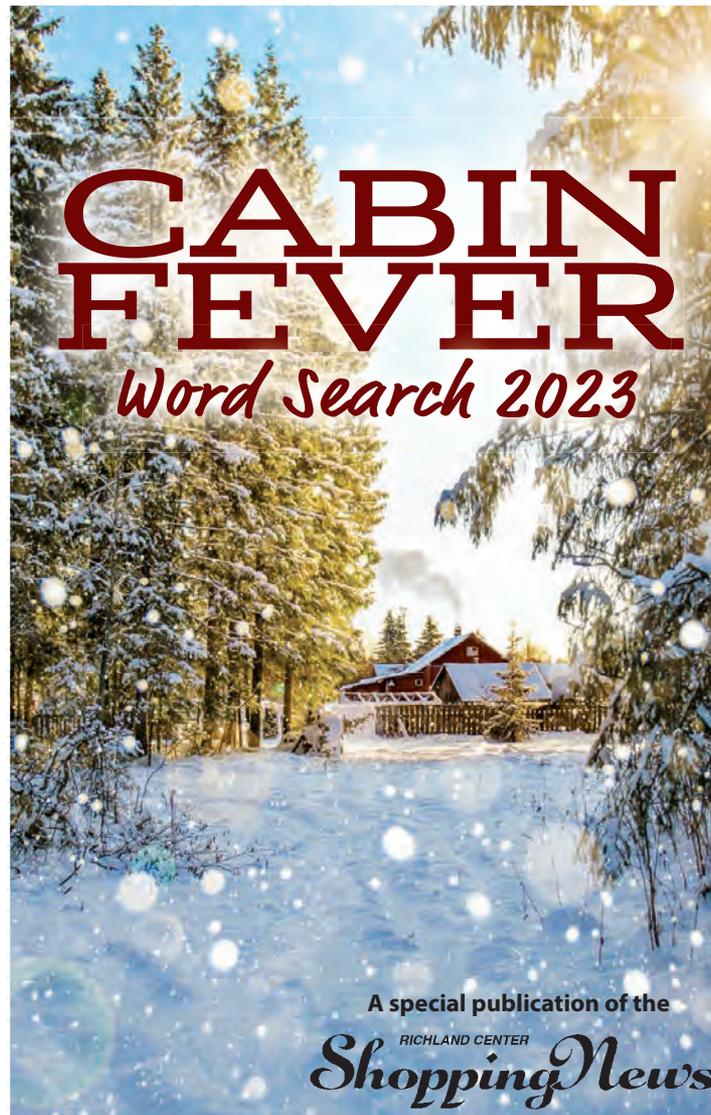
knew what it was. They told their kids and parents and then let the word out slowly, telling everyone on Trisha's own terms.

"I am now finished with one set of chemo. I didn't get very sick, nothing I can't deal with. Nothing that kept me from work very much. I have a great staff," Trisha shared.

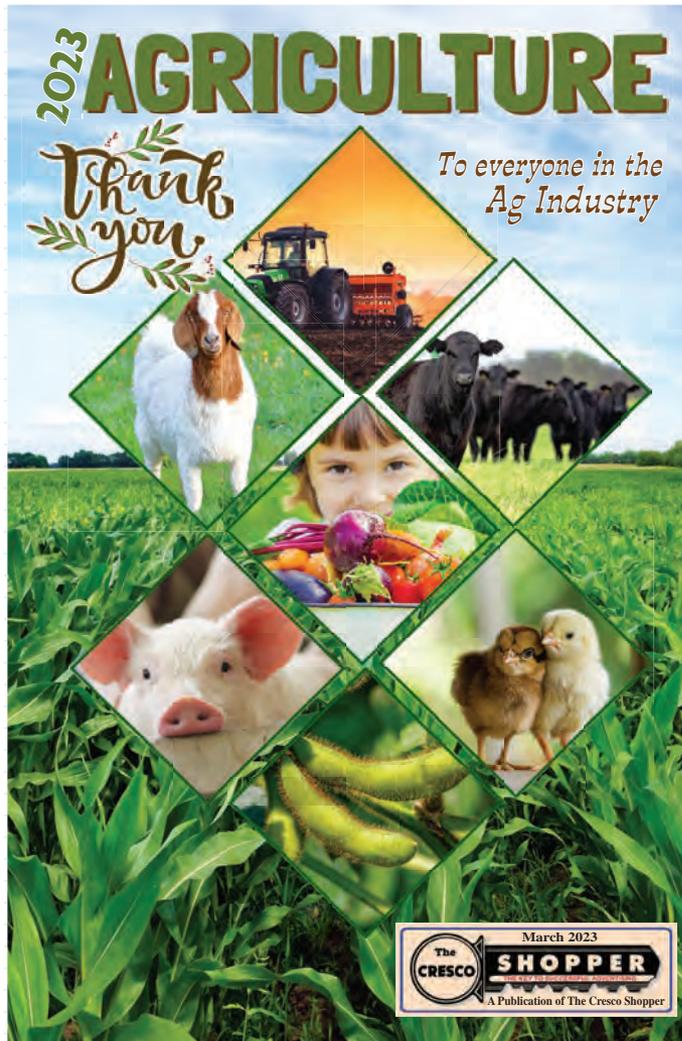
"When people reach out and ask how they can help, I tell them to keep drinking beer and eating burgers. When I have been asked about fundraisers, I push them away. But,

See TRISHA Page 14 >

**Category 13 Division 1**  
**BEST SPECIAL SECTION FRONT PAGE**  
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# Outdoor

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February 2023

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**Category 13 Division 2  
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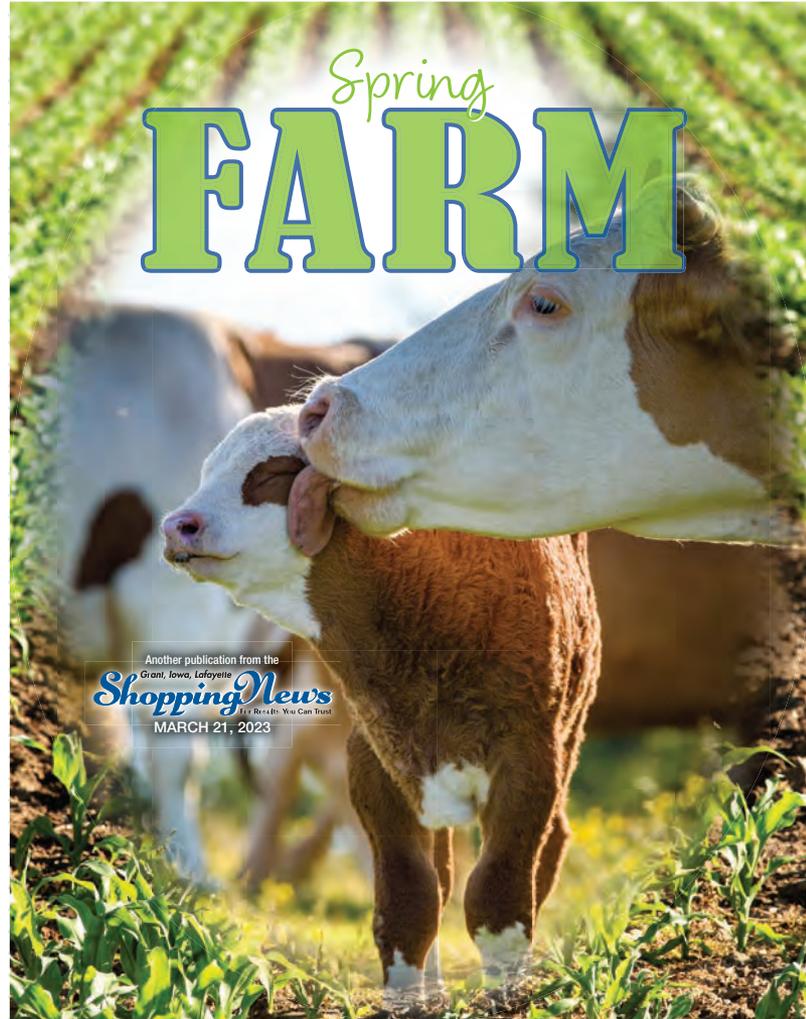
IMPROVEMENT

2023

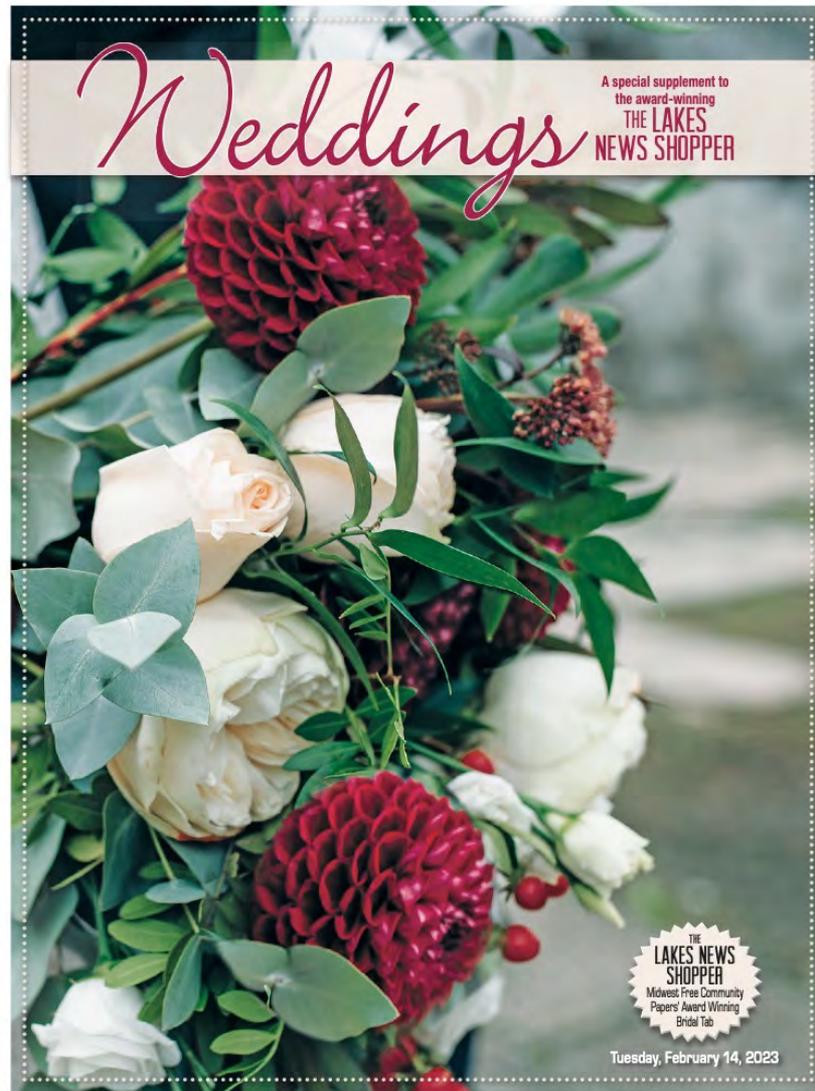
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Time to bring houseplants back inside .....	10	The magic of murals .....	23
Composting and mulching basics .....	12	Fall lawn care .....	26
		Exterior matters .....	28



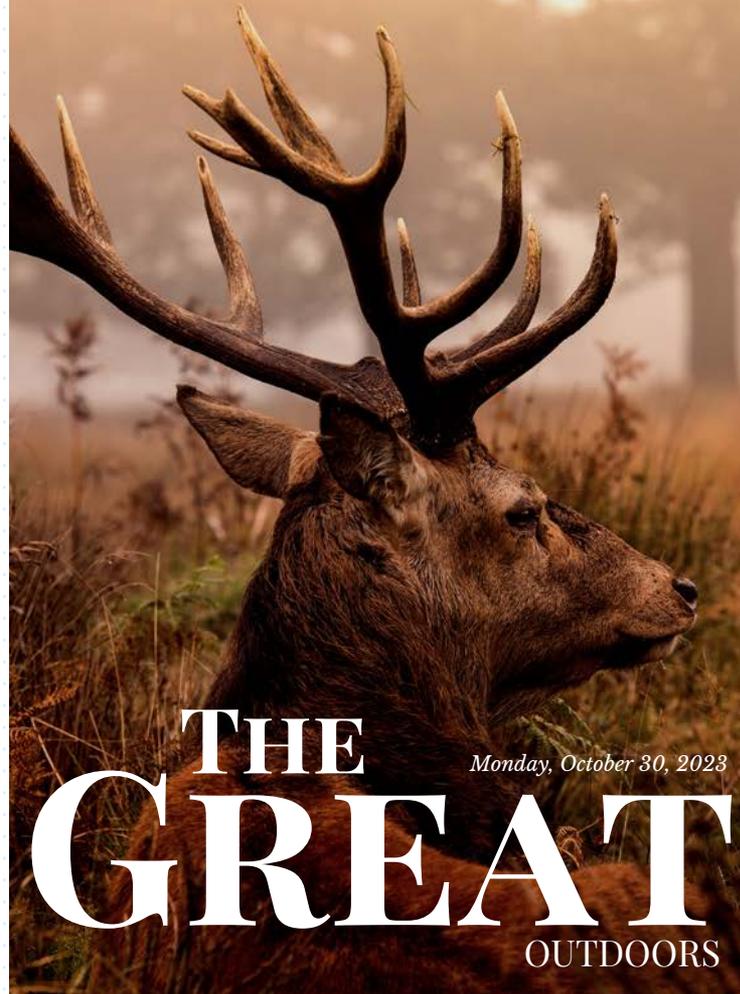
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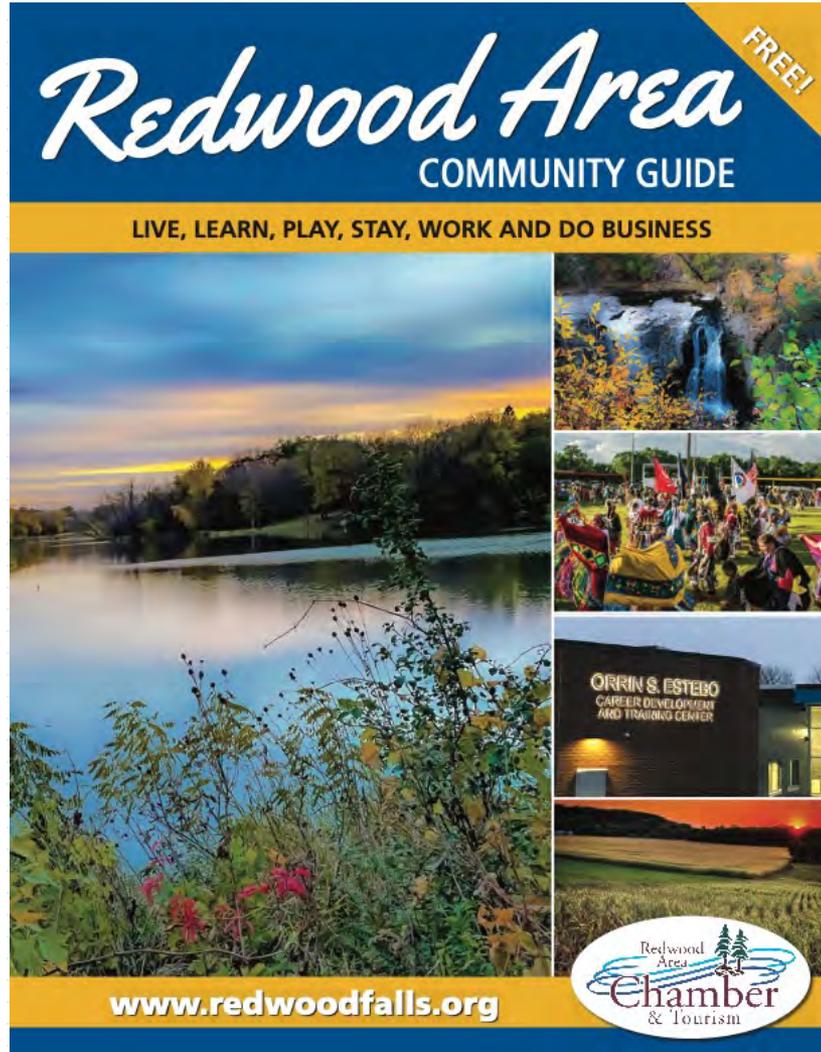
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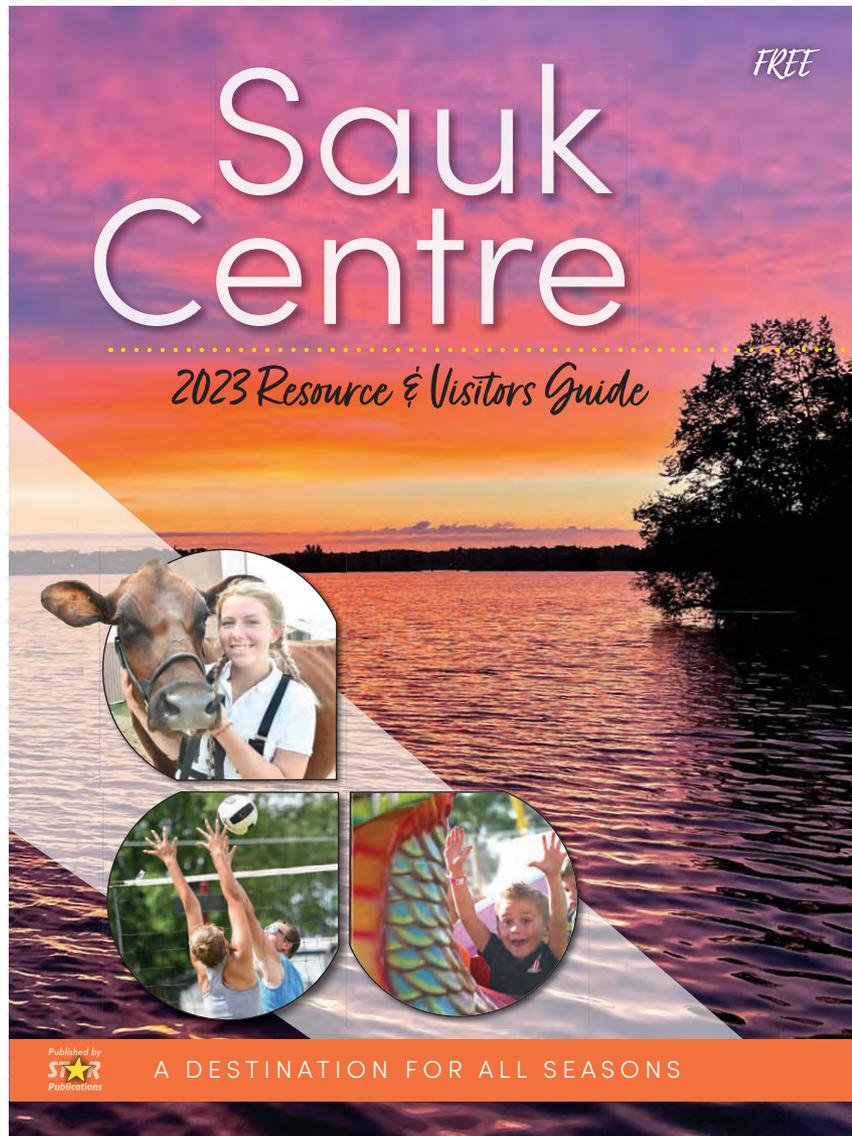
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BEST SPECIAL SECTION  
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# Category 14 Division 1

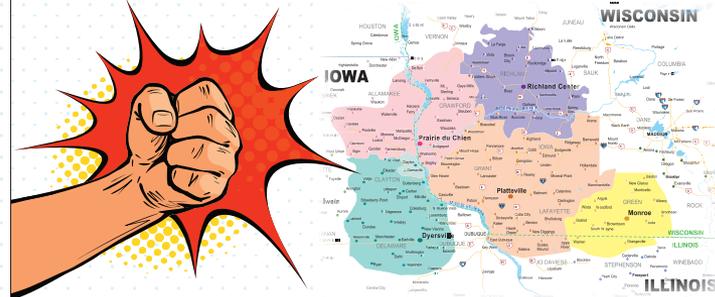
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60	\$96.50



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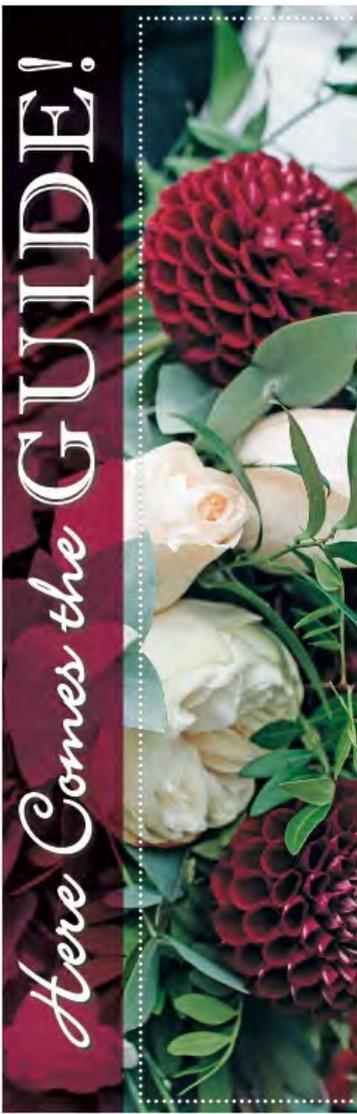


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TV brochures, media kits etc



You are cordially invited to advertise in the award-winning Lakes News Shopper's supplemental Wedding/Bridal section.

This tab will be published in the February 14<sup>th</sup> Lakes News Shopper and distributed to our full coverage area. Our weekly print circulation is approximately 26,000, plus it can be viewed year around on our website.



Additional copies will be available at local bridal and other retail shops.

**Ad Sizes & Costs:**

Ad Size		Black & White	Full Color
1/8 page	5"w x 3 1/4"h	\$73.30	\$124.30
1/4 page	5"w x 6 3/4"h	\$143.60	\$193.60
1/2 page	10 1/4" w x 6 3/4" h or	\$282.20	\$357.20
	5"w x 13 3/4" h	\$282.20	\$357.20
Full page	10 1/4" w x 13 3/4" h	\$559.40	\$709.40

**Ad deadlines for the tab will be Wednesday, February 8<sup>th</sup>**

**The tab will include:**

- Local bridal stories
- Wedding planning tips
- Wedding etiquette
- Ceremony and reception ideas

Contact John, Jantina, Jenna or stop by The Lakes News Shopper office today!

**The Lakes News Shopper**

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**[www.lakesnewsshopper.com](http://www.lakesnewsshopper.com)**



Here Comes the Guide  
The Lakes News Shopper | Milford, IA



**OCTOBER IS HERE  
& THAT MEANS IT'S**  
*Cosmetology  
Month!*

The Lakes News Shopper is devoting a section of our October 10<sup>th</sup> edition to local beauty professionals who *make us look*  
**GOOD**  
*& feel GREAT!*

These ads will be placed together in Section A and offered at a special discounted rate!

Ad deadline for the special promotion is **Friday, October 6.**

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Cosmetology Month  
The Lakes News Shopper | Milford, IA



# FOCUS ON FARMING

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**Deadline: Wednesday, March 1, 2023**

*This special section will feature all ads in full color at special rates!*



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Half Page V	3 x 16.2	\$705
3/8 Page	3 x 11.8"	\$545
Qtr Page H	6 x 3.95	\$370
Qtr Page V	3 x 8.04"	\$370
1/8 Page	3 x 3.96"	\$190

**For more Information Contact Melissa or Ryan at 608-647-2911**

**Publication Date Tuesday, March 7, 2023**

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January 20, 2023

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**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**  
Students appreciate meat processing course;  
Kent Thiesse talks crop insurance; and more!



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Volume 53 | Number 41 | October 13, 2023  
ISSN Print: 2834-6548 | Online: 2834-6556

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2023 Teacher of the Year Jordan Anderson Lanesboro Public Schools

INSIDE TODAY'S JOURNAL

# FILLMORE COUNTY JOURNAL

"Where Local News Comes First"

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POSTAL PATRON

Water receding at Wildcat Park

PAGE 19

Lanesboro residents address bridge closure

PAGE 29

Sights at the Smithsonian

PAGE 30

Fillmore County to replace radio tower microwave equipment

PAGE 31

Weekly Edition

Monday, May 8, 2023

Volume 38 Issue 34

## Brownsville residents address city council about Bluffview Manor



Brownsville City Council, left to right, top row: Barb Hurley, Jake Danielson and Tim Klug. Bottom row: Pam Walthovd and Mayor Jean Meyer.

BY KAITLIN LONGHAUSER  
kaitlin@fillmorecountyjournal.com

A number of concerned Brownsville residents attended the May 3 Brownsville City Council meeting in response to a motion to explore the idea of selling Bluffview Manor due to costs of property maintenance, passed at the regular April council meeting.

One Bluffview Manor resident stated, "We're very concerned about the thought of even selling it." ("It" being Bluffview Manor.) Another Brownsville resident spoke out on behalf of her father who is a current resident of Bluffview Manor, stating she guarantees her father will leave the Manor

if the establishment sells, especially if children move onto the premises. Current tenants expressed concern over who would move to vacant Manor units if sold to another party. As of now, the Manor's residents enjoy the quiet low key environment Bluffview Manor offers.

Council member Klug met with Realtor Kelly Meyer Thursday, April 27 at Bluffview Manor for a walk-through. Realtor Meyer estimated the Manor's value to be \$500,000-\$700,000. However, Meyer also included that the Manor's value and marketability is difficult to judge. Klug moved, second by Walthovd for no action to be taken at this time.

Photo by Kaitlin Longhauser

Brownsville's City Council met May 3 at Brownsville Community Center from 7-9:02 p.m. Council members present included mayor Jean Meyer, Tim Klug, Barb Hurley, Jake Danielson, and Pam Walthovd. Also in attendance were City Clerk Steve Schuldt, Treasurer Jenna Knight, and from City Maintenance, Dean Twite.

The council approved the minutes from Wednesday, April 5 regular monthly council meeting and approved the agenda.

Judy Meczek presented the idea of a community cleanup event to the council. She proposed by Walthovd for no action to be taken at this time.

See BROWNSVILLE Page 5 >

## Preston seeks Tourism/Chamber/EDA director

BY KAREN REISNER  
karen@fillmorecountyjournal.com

Gabby Kinneberg, current Tourism/Chamber/EDA director, has submitted her resignation, effective May 22. At the May 1 Preston City Council meeting, City Administrator Ryan Throckmorton provided four options for her replacement.

The options included advertising for the position as it now, to include all three areas. Other options included contracting out EDA services or hiring two employees. Throckmorton noted a new employee could cost the city an additional \$20,000 to cover insurance costs, as Kinneberg is not on the city's plan.

Throckmorton said the Chamber is in favor of continuing the combined position. Mayor Kurt Reicks said Kinneberg has done a great job. He prefers keeping the 40-hour full-time position as it has been recently, if a candidate for

the combined position can be found. If not, the city may need to move to the second option which will include contracting with CEDA for the EDA portion.

Throckmorton agreed Kinneberg did an amazing job covering all three areas. He said it is a lot for one person to sit on three boards with three separate budgets. She also dedicated a few hours per week to the Utility.

Kinneberg suggested her skill set may differ from the next person's. She said there needs to be expectations, as to what the EDA board should be working on. She acknowledged she may have taken on extra things because she loves Preston. She added she also had an advantage as she already knew everybody going in.

Councilman Steve Hall said it is a lot for one employee to wear three hats. I have no problem with option one, but

See PRESTON Page 5 >

## Fountain approves 50-year lease of city-owned land

BY KIRSTEN ZOELLNER  
kirsten@fillmorecountyjournal.com

At the May 3 meeting, the Fountain Council unanimously approved a 50-year lease of city-owned land to Harmony Telephone Company. The plot of land at 91 Pine Street is roughly 50 feet by 50 feet. A 10-foot by 20-foot "hut building" will be constructed to house the company's fiber optic equipment. City Clerk Mary Tjepkes

contacted the cities of Wykoff, Lanesboro, and Preston before the meeting to discuss their contracts with the company if any, and compensation. Tjepkes noted Preston's agreement includes free services for their municipal buildings. Fountain has just three municipal buildings: the city hall, the community center, and the wastewater treatment plant. With service

See FOUNTAIN Page 2 >

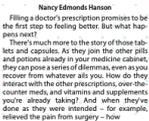
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# A PRESCRIPTION

## Use Medications with Caution

Triad event opens eyes to the dangers of prescription misuse & mishandling



**Nancy Edmonds Hasson**  
Filing a doctor's prescription promises to be the first step to feeling better. But what happens next?  
There's much more to the story of those tablets and capsules. As they join the other pills and potions already in your medicine cabinet, they can pose a series of dilemmas, even as you recover from whatever ailment you're trying to treat. Do they interact with the other prescriptions, over-the-counter meds, and vitamins and supplements you're already taking? And when they're done as they were intended — for example, relieved the pain from surgery — how



**OLIVER FRENZEL**  
should you handle whatever's left? These questions are on the agenda for "9-1-1: What's Your Emergency?" next Wednesday. It's the theme of another free seminar for Cals and City county seniors sponsored by Valley Triad. The sponsor is a collaboration of older residents, with law enforcement and senior service agencies who are putting together events to shine lights on a variety of risks that challenge the safety of the area's older residents.  
The free event is from 1 to 3 p.m. March 29 at the SeniorCenter Center. While admission is open to people of all ages, no pre-registration is necessary.  
While the Triad program dates back to the 1990s, this is only the second local event under the banner of "9-1-1" since its revival post-Covid. The previous session last August focused on prescription misuse.  
A prescription on Page 10



School Resource Officer Brandon Hilde collected 111 pounds of discarded prescription and over-the-counter drugs at the Moorhead Police Department's Free Drug Disposal event last week. The first prescription drug take-back is scheduled for April 22 at Honderbush's.

### Taking Your Medicine BACK

**Nancy Edmonds Hasson**  
Prescription medications sometimes linger far longer than the illness they're intended to cure. But, she says, they're more than a historical relic of past years and pains — they can be a source of risk for beyond the patient for whom they were prescribed.  
What to do with them? That's one of the dilemmas that the Moorhead Police Department can help solve, along with

### MOORHEAD BUSINESS NEWS

## Marin Schultz takes the reins at South Moorhead DQ



Fresher at the Freez: Jess Malvin says her ice cream shop at 419 19th St. S. opens on Saturday, delayed several weeks by frigid temperatures. (Photo: Kim Hovind)

## The Freez Warms Up for the Season

**Nancy Edmonds Hasson**  
Delayed by — of all things — the cold, The Freez will sell its first ice cream cones of the season this weekend.  
"Normally we start for March 1, but my partner Jess had to and I decided to hold off until now. This month has been just too cold," proprietor Jess Malvin reports. "It just won't melt the ice."  
But at 11 a.m. Saturday, the order window will open at the ice cream shop at 419 19th St. S., the spot in the neighborhood that's supported it for more than 30 years and its fans from all over Moorhead, Dilworth and the surrounding area.  
The restaurant business in Moorhead, she grew up working in her parents' establishments, including The Depot in Rapid City, South Dakota. "I've always been in the restaurant business. I was washing dishes for my parents when I was 12 years old," she says. "But I'd never been in fast food until I joined Dairy Queen when I moved here." She came to the Red River Valley in 2016, drawn by her relationship with the man she married last summer.  
Unlike Moorhead's original Dairy Queen shop downtown, the south-side location must follow the international franchise's rather famous menu selections. That doesn't mean, however, that Marin can't put her own spin on the treats her crew offers their clientele. "We make all our own city bars here. Lots of other Dairy



Marin Schultz purchased the Dairy Queen Gold and Chill at 802 30th Ave. S. with her wife. She also owns DQs in Wahpeton and Dickinson, North Dakota. (Photo: Kim Hovind)

Queens have stopped doing their own because it's so labor-intensive, but I insist on it," she says. "If you taste just one of the pre-packaged bars and then try one of our — well, there's just no comparison."  
Drive-through service is a key to keeping her store busy year-round, even during the depths of the Minnesota winter. "Seventy percent of our business comes through the drive-through," she reports. "It has been so good for us. It meant we could safely stay open during the COVID shut-downs, and it's convenient for our customers no matter what the weather is like." She is proud of her crew's commitment to moving each carload through in three minutes or so from placing their orders to driving away with treats in hand. "One of the very nice" she adds.  
She's equally proud of the cooler full of decorated cakes, both traditional DQ type and the newer Blizzard cakes. "You can custom-order in advance or come in and pick one from the freezer. Either way, our cake decorators will personalize it however you wish." She'll even throw in a serving tip. "Do let us sit out for 20 minutes to soften before you cut it so it doesn't break your knife. Trust me — I've learned that the hard way."  
Marin acknowledges that her south-side Dairy Queen is less well-known than the historic downtown DQ established in 1949 by Bob and Phyllis Litherland. "It's nothing less than a Moorhead treasure. I've met Tony and Diane DeLeon, and they're great." She says. "Dairy Queen has room for all of us."

Dairy Queen on Page 2

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INSIDE THIS WEEK			
Commissioners	2	Moorhead Public Schools	4
From the Kitchen	2	Chronicles	4
City County Historian	3	Veteran's Corner	4
Arrest Records	4	Public Notices	6-9
Building Permits	4	Area Births	9
Calendar	5	Classifieds	11

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Legal Notices for the State of Minnesota  
In Public Publication

**Category 16 – Division 1**  
**Best News/Editorial**  
**Original News Story**



Law Enforcement  
Shortage  
Fillmore County  
Journal | Preston,  
MN



Iowa, North Dakota legalize sales of raw milk  
Dairy Star | Sauk Centre, MN



Residents Speak up to Say "No"  
Longfellow Nokomis Messenger | St. Paul, MN

**Category 16 – Division 2**  
**BEST NEWS/EDITORIAL**  
**ORIGINAL FEATURE STORY**



Hemker family  
builds a zoo  
Sauk Rapids  
Herald | Sauk  
Rapids, MN



Giving his neighbor a  
second chance at life  
Sauk Rapids Herald |  
Sauk Rapids, MN



Moorhead Mechanic full of spark  
The Extra | Moorhead, MN

**Category 16 – Division 3**  
**BEST NEWS/EDITORIAL**  
**ORIGINAL SPORTS STORY**



Therapy on the links  
Sauk Rapids Herald | Sauk Rapids, MN



For the love of the  
game  
Sauk Rapids Herald |  
Sauk Rapids, MN



The Iowa Cubs' most  
memorable games  
CityView | Johnston, IA

**Category 16 – Division 4  
BEST NEWS/EDITORIAL –  
ORIGINAL EDITORIAL**



Jumping In by J.D Fratzke  
Southwest Connector | Minneapolis, MN



Please by Jason Sethre  
Fillmore County Journal |  
Preston, MN



Political Mercury by  
Douglas Burns  
CityView | Johnston, IA

# Category 17 – BEST ORIGINAL PHOTOGRAPHY - EDITORIAL PHOTO



Lighting up a Winter Night  
Southwest Connector | Minneapolis, MN



**A NEW NORMAL**  
COVID after 3 years

A look back on the pandemic — and a glimpse of the future

By Sofia Legaspi Dickens

Masks hanging from rearview mirrors. “Unprecedented times.” Clear plastic partitions. “Stop the spread.” Social distancing stickers scattered on floors. Look around and you’ll find echoes of a global health crisis, its onset now three years in the past. Many of us disinfected our groceries, connected with others through screens, taped paper hearts in our windows. Others lost their health, their jobs, friends and family.

While the pandemic’s impact differed for each individual, many experiences were shared during a time when life was ruled by an unknown virus that forever altered the fabric of daily life — affecting healthcare, workplaces, schools, restaurants and every aspect of society.

As the world walked through uncertainty, leaders held to the oft-repeated maxim of accepting the “new normal.” The question remains: What is the new normal? And where do we go from here?

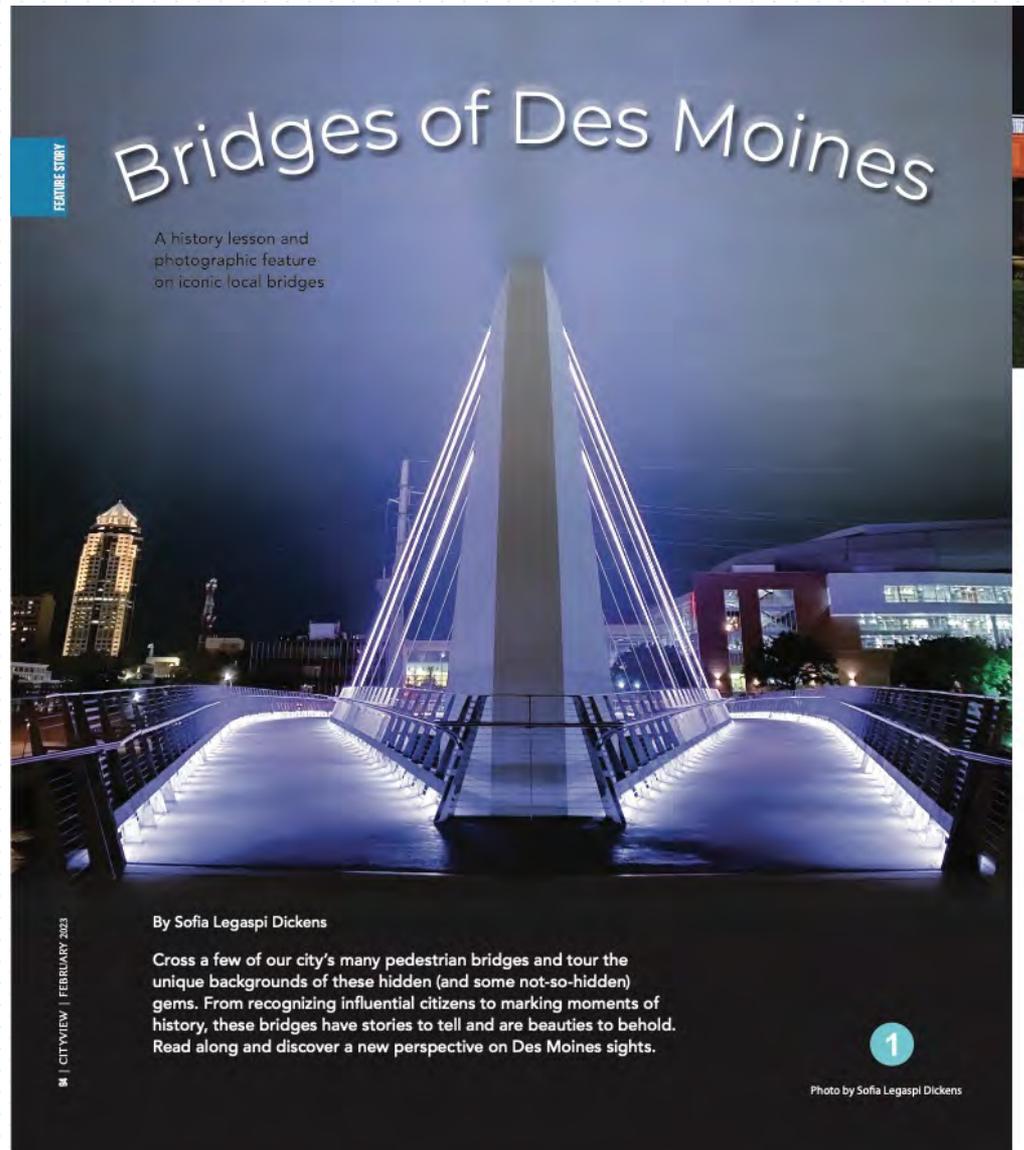
**DID YOU KNOW?**

3M’s global production of N95 masks totaled approximately 2 billion units in 2020 and 2.5 billion in 2021, compared to 630 million in 2019.

Photo by Sofia Legaspi Dickens

78 | CITYVIEW | MARCH 2023

FEATURE STORY



# Category 18 – Division 1

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**TOP STORIES**

**Kids baseball coming back**

**From father to daughter**

**Got a broken vacuum? Take it to A-1 Vacuum**

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**Education**

College grad	32%
Masters Degree	16%
Professional degree	8%
Doctorate	4%
Some college	29%
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**Age Range**

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35-44	19%
25-34	15%
18-24	1%
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### Bluff Brothers Brewing: From Homebrew Hobbyists to Spring Valley's Newest Taproom

Axel Gumbel

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### WHO WILL BE RECOGNIZED AS THE TEACHER OF THE YEAR? 2024

Jordan Anderson

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NEWS

- Canton City Council Discusses Streets Issue**  
January 15, 2024 By Ben Bisbach
- Mabel Council Kicks Off 2024 with Ambitious Agenda and Collaborative Spirit**  
January 15, 2024 By Charlene Carson Setbee
- Minnesota Posts Big Job Gains in November**  
January 15, 2024 By Fillmore County Journal
- Spring Valley City Council Rings In New Year With Annual Business And Updates**  
January 15, 2024 By Paula Barnes
- Chatfield Snowplowing**
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# CITYVIEW

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### Film Review



#### 'The Boy and the Heron'

By David Rowley

Hideo Miyazaki's return with "The Boy and the Heron" after a decade-long hiatus is akin to a resounding synchrony, making a significant resurgence of his dormant voice. This eagerly awaited [...]

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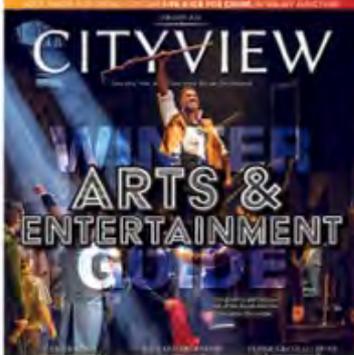
### CITYVIEW's Question of the Week

How often do you take a nap?

- Once a day
- Once a week
- Once a month
- Once a year
- Never

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### Digital Edition



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**Bluff Country's Best Breakfast**



**Category 19 – Division 1**  
**GENERAL EXCELLENCE**  
**FOR PAPERS THAT CARRY NEWS**



Calendar  
Community Events  
Page 5

Schools  
Moorhead Public  
Page 3

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### CAREER ACADEMY COOKS UP CULINARY CAREERS



The MHS Career Academy's culinary program is in its first year. Instructor Amanda Heiland left right and program chair Cheryl Adams say students who complete the whole two-year program will be ready to take their place in hospitality and food service jobs. (Photo: Nancy Hanson)

There was a time, not so long ago, when eating was thought to be a simple customer service. Now, most are trying to what the appetite demand – potential employees.

Everybody is so hungry for workers, says culinary instructor Amanda Heiland. "Hopefully, we're going to take a bite out of that."

Johanna is the food service professional hired to create Moorhead High School's first culinary arts offerings. Quarters in the MHS Career Academy, she has been teaching high school students the ins and out of creating memorable meals since last fall, when 24 students inaugurated her first Culinary 1 class in the academy's gleaming state-of-the-art industrial kitchen.

Since it's been discontinued in long-standing culinary program several years ago, the F-M area has been without a center where aspiring chefs can hone their skills to take their places in the booming food service industry. The Career Academy is determined to change that, preparing teens to step right from graduation into jobs in an industry that's recently hungry for help.

"It's not just about becoming a chef," Cheryl Adams observes. The chair of the Family and Consumer Science department, she is in charge of the pro culinary programs as part of the Career Academy's Farm to Table pathway. (Also included are classes in agriculture and natural resources.) "Students who choose this career can step right into a wide variety of jobs." Among those she

Culinary careers on Page 2 ▶

### MetroCOG FM will grow by 40% in 30 years

Nancy Edmonds-Hanson with making transportation policy for the entire metropolitan area. Its population, household and employment forecasts, completed over the next 30 years, are based on input from area schools, county and city governments, housing agencies, builders and economic development organizations. They take levels and density into account, along with migration in and out of the area, occupied housing stock, employment by industry and labor force participation.

According to Altenburg, almost 52,000 new jobs are expected by 2050, leading to a total of 215,279. The fastest growth is projected to be in education, followed by construction, finance and natural resources. The only career area expected to decline is information fields.

But housing shared high lights of a second study, the Metropolitan Profile 2022. He termed it "a snapshot of the metro area based on data from the previous year."

The metropolitan area, he said, has grown by 229 in 2021, the latest year for which data are available. Fargo's population may reach 153,000 or 24% more than it is today.

MetroCOG is charged



Detox Unit director Amy Amundsen and Public Health administrator Kathy McKay look forward to the new Substrate Abuse Clinic Facility, with construction slated to begin this summer. (Photo: L. Bjork)

### County Detox Unit looks forward to new quarters and doubled capacity

It also disrupts sleep patterns, other common triggers. Staff at the detox unit can administer medications, the withdrawal, that prevent seizures. They also keep an eye on those who are admitted until they can safely return home.

Housed on the second floor of the Family Service Center at 715 11th St. N., the unit is staffed by two registered nurses, five LPNs, three technicians and a licensed alcohol and drug counselor. The medical director, who is an emergency room physician, is available under contract for consultations.

Back in 1973, the ground-breaking City Clarification program amounted to a couple of beds in the jail," Amundsen explains, especially in the hangover period when the train is debilitated.

anxiety purchased the closed St. Anne Hospital facility 30 years ago; the number of available beds has fluctuated between 10 and 16 in the ensuing years.

That will soon change. The county is letting bids next month for a state-of-the-art facility to be built on 15th Avenue North west of the new Resource Recovery Center. When complete, the \$15.7 million crisis center will have room to manage 20 men and women withdrawing from critical degrees of substance over-use.

"This is a place to get help, not punishment," the director explains, "it's not jail. We feel it's one step down from being admitted to a hospital."

Detox Unit on Page 6 ▶

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INSIDE THIS WEEK

From the kitchen.....3	Obituaries.....4	Community Calendar.....5	Ask A Trooper.....6
Savvy Senior.....2	Veteran's Corner.....4	Arrest Records.....6	Classifieds.....7
Moorhead Public Schools	Area Briefs.....4	Building Permits.....6	

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The Extra | Moorhead, MN

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# DAIRY STAR

Volume 24, No. 24

"All dairy, all the time"<sup>SM</sup>

February 11, 2023



## Creating clean energy

Three Iowa dairy farms partner to make renewable natural gas

By Jerry Nelson  
jerry.n@dairystar.com

**MAURICE, Iowa** – A trio of northwestern Iowa dairy operations are teaming up to install a pair of anaerobic digesters that will make methane from their cows' manure.

In a unique twist, the renewable natural gas produced by the dairies will be sold directly to the nearby town of Sioux Center.

The three dairy farms include Maassen Dairy, which



JERRY NELSON/DAIRY STAR

**Aaron Maassen and his family milk 2,000 cows on their farm near Maurice, Iowa. The Maassens are installing a manure digester that will provide renewable natural gas to the nearby town of Sioux Center, Iowa.**

is milking about 2,000 head; Brian Roorda Dairy, which

is home to about 1,500 head; and Hoogland Dairy, an op-

eration that has about 3,000 head.

Construction of the two digesters will begin this spring. It is hoped they will start producing renewable natural gas by mid-2024.

"One digester will be built north of our manure lagoon and will handle the manure from our dairy and the manure from Brian Roorda Dairy, which is located a mile away," said Aaron Maassen, a fifth-generation farmer who, with his family, operates Maassen Dairy.

A pair of 6-inch pipes will be installed between Maassen Dairy and Brian Roorda Dairy. One pipeline will carry manure from Brian Roorda Dairy to the Maassens' digester, while the other will carry the ap-

propriate amount of digestate back to Brian Roorda Dairy.

The second manure digester will be built at Hoogland Dairy. The Hoogland Dairy digester facility will also feature a refinery that will remove impurities from the raw methane. The resulting product will be no different than the natural gas that is obtained from traditional sources.

"The refinery is the most expensive part of producing renewable natural gas from manure, so it makes economic sense to have just one refinery to serve all three farms," Maassen said. "A

Turn to DIGESTERS | Page 6

## Two sisters for two brothers

Bushman families dairy in NE Iowa

By Amy Kyilo  
amy.k@star-pub.com

**WAUKON, Iowa** – When Fritz Bushman and Alyssa (Nessa) Bushman locked their siblings Zack and Rachael in the mudroom together until they decided on a first date, they sealed their fate of two brothers marrying two sisters.

Fritz and Alyssa Bushman and Zack and Rachael Bushman are organic dairy farmers in northeast Iowa. Fritz farms with his parents and another brother on their 160-cow dairy where they milk twice a day near Castalia. They also farm 700 acres

and raise 14,000 laying hens. Zack and Rachael's organic farm is located near Waukon, about half an hour away from the family's home farm. They have 120 cows, 400 acres and milk three times a day.

The two farms collaborate together for fieldwork.

The Bushman brothers met the Nessa sisters through church when the Nessas' dad came to be the pastor where the Bushmans attended. Fritz and Alyssa were the first two to fall in love.

"The farm played a part in their love story. "Our dating life revolved around milking and fieldwork," Fritz said.

Though unconventional, Alyssa said it did the trick. "Our first date was plowing together," she said.

Fritz even let her drive the tractor, and Alyssa became confused in the dark and accidentally took a few times off of a rake that was sitting at the end of the row. They were married less than a year later



AMY KYILO/DAIRY STAR

**The Bushman couples – Rachael (from left), Zack, Fritz and Alyssa Bushman – stand in Zack and Rachael's freestall barn Feb. 1 near Waukon, Iowa. The Bushman brothers married two sisters, and the couples help each other with fieldwork.**

in 2013. Zack took a little more prodding to get a relationship going with Rachael.

Rachael was home from college for Thanksgiving break in 2014. Zack said he had a crush on Rachael since

he was 12, and the timing was right.

Turn to BUSHMANS | Page 8



Dairy Star | Sauk Centre, MN



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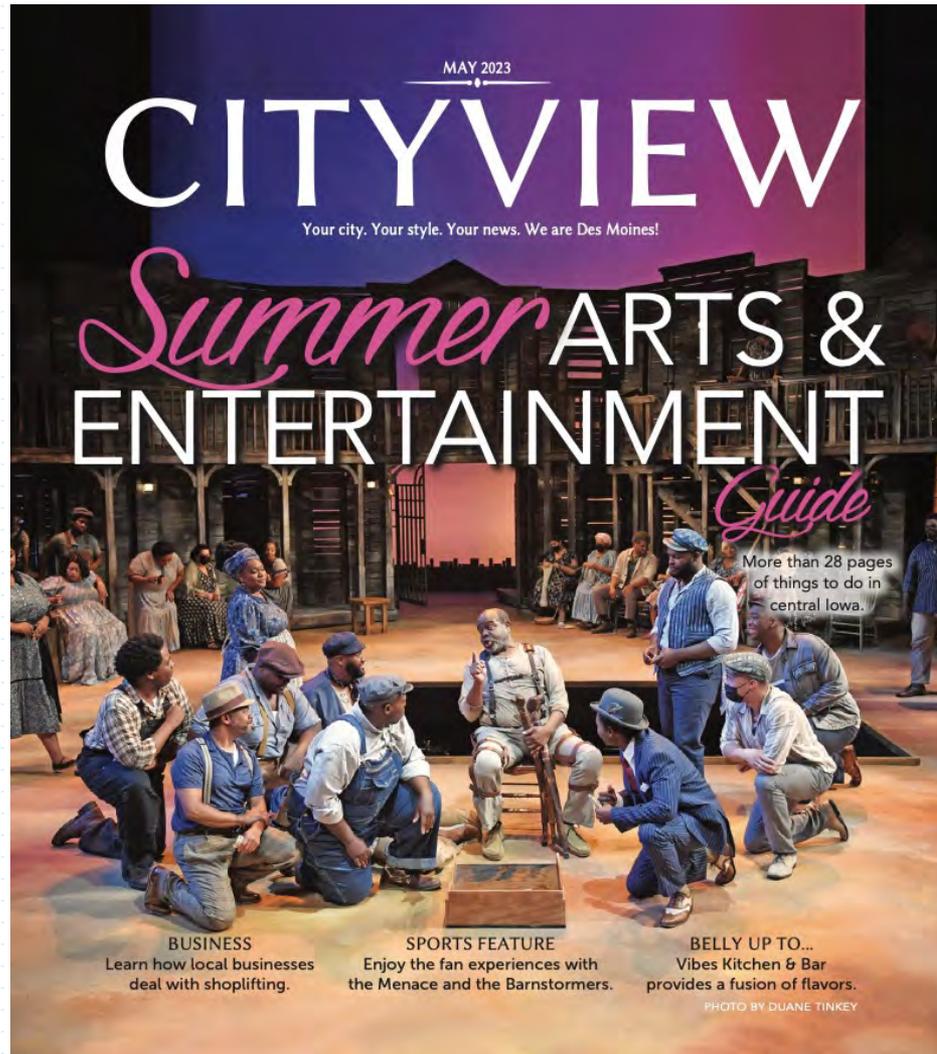
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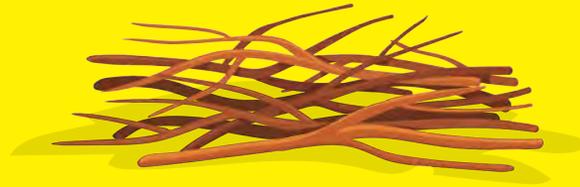
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**712-339-1895** | Jonathan Bueltel ISA Certified Arborist | treewhisperer35@gmail.com

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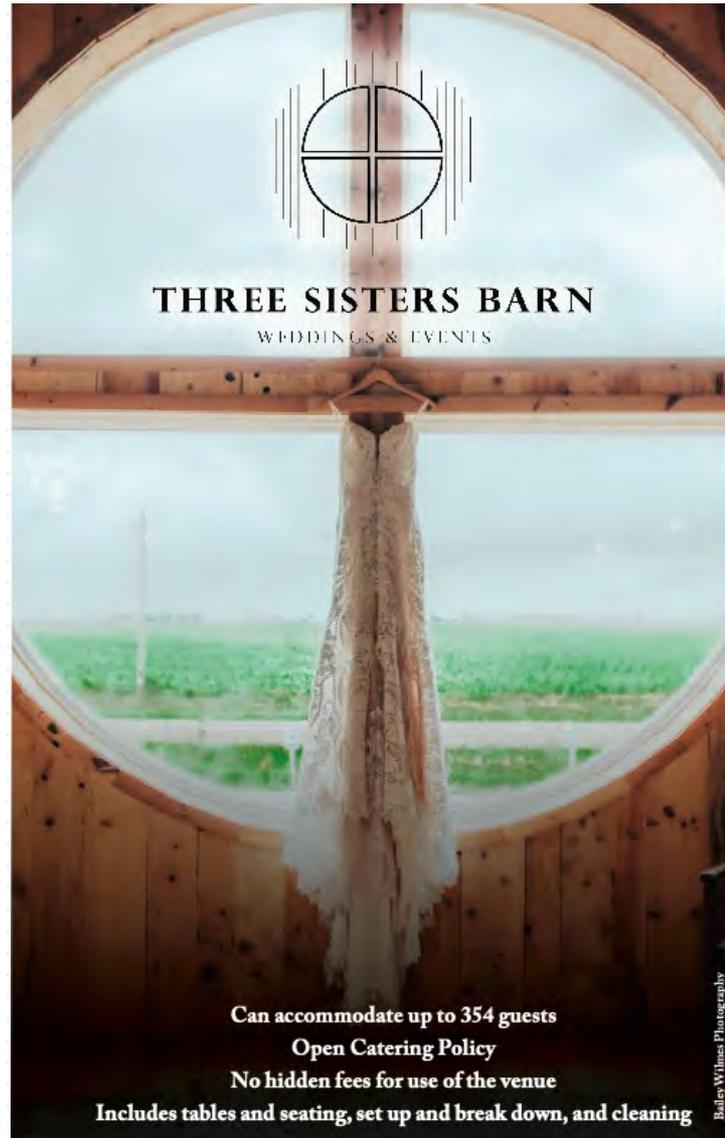
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# Congratulations to ALL!

Remember now is the best time to start preparing for the 2025 awards contest!





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