Your trusted news source
156 yrs

• River Valley Coop agriculture conference looks ahead Page 14

Wilton-Durant
Advocate News



Wilton soars at state dance competition PAGE 5

December 12, 2024 | Wilton, Iowa | Volume 130, No. 50 | www.wdadvocatenews.com | 20 pages | $1.00

DURANT

Kids & cops knock off Christmas lists

Durant officers team up for first shop with a cop

By Tim Evans
AN Reporter

Durant' first Shop with a Cop program took place Friday, Dec. 6, and Durant school resource officer Josh Bujalski can't wait until next year.

Nine kindergarten through eighth grade students were selected by teachers to participate in the experience where the students were given an allowance to shop for Christmas gifts for their families Friday evening at Wal-Mart in Muscatine. Bujalski said youngsters were selected as "students who follow the Durant Wildcat Way."

Bujalski said the evening went as expected, saying the looks on some of the student's faces were worth every penny donated, noting the kids were, "excited to shop."

All came with lists of items desired by their families, and five officers escorted the youngsters through the aisles of the store to choose one gift per family member.

Wal-Mart offered a 10 percent discount on the items purchased, supplied treats for the ride home and offered the group tax-exempt status as a non-profit.

Upon arriving back in Durant, the youngsters were treated to a pizza party thanks to Casey's General Store and were greeted by Durant Chief of Police Orville Randolph

The chief credited Bujalski for getting the program off the ground, noting he'd been wanting to get a Shop with a Cop program for Durant for many years.

The organizer credited four fellow officers for volunteering to shop with the

SHOP, *continued on page 7*



Checking it twice, Durant School Resource Officer Josh Bujalski works with sixth grade student Addison Davidson in buying items for her family at Durant's Shop with a Cop, Friday.
AN photo by Tim Evans

WILTON

Fifth Street crosswalk costs estimated at $22K

By Anne Lippincott
AN Reporter

As a follow-up from the last meeting, City Administrator Jeffrey Horne presented information regarding the possibility of a crosswalk on 5th Street at the intersection of either Maurer or Chestnut. He recommended using a pedestrian-activated rectangular rapid-flashing beacon which would be placed at both ends of the crosswalk. The cost would be about $22,250. Research indicates that this can reduce pedestrian crashes by 47%. After discussion about the pros and cons, the council agreed to continue to consider this at future meetings.

Alcohol at Westview Park

The council approved the second reading of an amended ordinance to allow alcohol within 40 feet of the ball diamond at Westview Park. This will allow the Park Board to move adult softball to Westview Park. An ordinance requires approval for three readings before it is implemented.

Community Center Board eliminated

The council approved the second reading of the ordinance to eliminate the Community Center Board and move governance of the Community Center to the direct supervision of the City Administrator and City Council. Approval of the third reading is required for this ordinance to take effect.

Dec. 16 meeting on utility ordinance

On July 23, 1963, voters approved the establishing of a board of trustees

WILTON, *continued on page 13*

Supervisors allocate $400K pandemic aid for sports complex

By Tamara Browning
AN Reporter

The Muscatine County Board of Supervisors on Dec. 9 approved a second amendment to the City of Muscatine's indoor sports complex American Rescue Plan Act Grant Agreement with Muscatine County that will allow the project more time to use ARPA funds.

The amendment will extend the deadline from Dec. 31, 2024, to Sept. 30, 2025, to allow for the use of $400,000 in the ARPA grant from Muscatine County for construction of an indoor sports complex in Muscatine.

The new complex, to be known as the Musco Sports Center, will be located at the Muscatine Soccer West site across from the Muscatine Soccer Complex. The total project cost was estimated at $7,232,000, according to a City of Muscatine Agenda Item Summary of Aug. 15.

Merit Construction Company of Cedar Rapids is the contractor for the project. Construction is underway.

"It is behind. Supply chain has crushed us a little bit here. Labor has crushed us a little bit here. Some design elements have changed a little bit," said Richard Klimes, director of Parks and Recreation for the City of Muscatine.

Klimes requested the deadline extension and for the board to make the donation for the ARPA money "not the final money in because of the costs that have exceeded and the deadlines have exceeded our expectations."

"Whereas, the completion date for the project has extended into fiscal year 2025-2026 and because the timelines for distribution of the ARPA Funds will expire before the funding is fully obtained, the Grantee has submitted a request to extend the deadline to September 30, 2025 to allow for the use of the same committed funds for a portion of the project outlined in the Original Application and then again in the specified sum not to exceed $400,000," the second amendment said. "Whereas, the County is willing to extend the deadline from December 31, 2024 to September 30, 2025 and remove the funder of last resort requirement, but in all other respects is to remain the same."

An ARPA Grant Agreement was executed by the county and the City of Muscatine on Jan. 9, 2023.

On May 20, 2024, the board of supervisors authorized the chair to sign an amendment to the ARPA Grant Agreement to extend the expenditure deadline from June 30, 2024, to Dec. 31, 2024, according to board minutes.

The project will include an indoor, temperature-controlled, multi-use facility with a synthetic turf field and an inflatable, year-round dome structure. Restrooms and a concession area will be on site. The facility can "host regulation football, soccer, softball, baseball, pickleball, volleyball and general group gatherings and events," according to the "Agenda Item Summary."

"We did hold our public meetings, and we've had many, many, many people show up, and if we've learned anything, we learned that everybody wants to use it for everything, all the time," Klimes said.

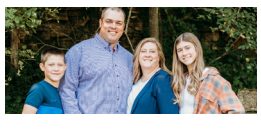
$15K services agreement

Supervisors approved signing a Professional Services Agreement with Schneider Geospatial in the amount of $15,744.

Safety action plan

Supervisors approved signing of the Muscatine County Pledge for Safety Action Plan. The pledge formalizes Muscatine County's support of the strategies in Iowa's Five-Year Strategic Highway Safety Plan 2024-2028 and the goal of zero fatalities on Iowa's public roadways.

SUBSCRIBE & SAVE!
Call 563-732-2029 or visit wdadvocatenews.com



Eastern Iowa Auction's Yoder family gives $20K for fairgrounds. PAGE 2

INSERTS
Marshall's Furniture

Eastern Iowa Auction donates $20,000 to fairgrounds

Yoder family continues history of helping out around the fairgrounds

Eastern Iowa Auction Company, owned and operated by Donovan and Sara Yoder, of Atalissa, have donated $20,000 to the Event Center at the Muscatine County Fair.

The Yoders live on a farm north of Atalissa, and have two children, Emma and Blake. In addition to the auction company, they farm and raise row crops and hogs.

Donovan Yoder is a professionally trained auctioneer who started auctioning at a young age, and his business has grown over the years. Eastern Iowa Auction Company started in 2016, and holds a spring and fall sale in March and August each year. The company also hosts hay sales once a month November through March, just north of Atalissa.

Donovan also donates his auctioneering services to charities and fundraisers all throughout Muscatine County and surrounding communities.

"We are so lucky to have Donovan and his family involved with the fair. They are critical in helping the fair be a success. They are a great family who are always willing to help out. We are also so fortunate that he donates his auctioneering services for all the fundraisers here at the fair and for events out in the community," said Kelsey Meyers, Muscatine County Fair Manager.

Donovan joined the fair board in 2014, and since then he, Sara and the kids have volunteered many hours at the fair. Donovan brings in equipment each year to help make sure the track is ready for the grandstand events each night, and each day Blake is right there working beside him. Emma has worked countless hours in the fair office helping make sure things are flowing smoothly, and Sara helps with many of the behind-the-scenes tasks. Donovan and Sara both have served on several committee's at the fair.

The new event center will have space for 4-H clubs and FFA Chapter's to host meetings and fundraisers throughout the year. It will also be where the 4-H and FFA static projects will be housed during the fair.

"I think it's important to give back," said Donovan. "The people throughout the county have been good to me. They support my business and it's a way for me to say thank you. The new event center will benefit my kids, but also the kids of my friends and customers."

The Yoders are one of the many families stepping forward to give to the project, and fundraising has topped $1,069,000, with a goal to reach $2,000,000.

"The project is progressing on schedule to break ground in March, and the fundraising success has given us a huge boost. I want to thank Donovan and Sara for their gift and for all they do for everyone in West Liberty and the surrounding communities, and the fair," said Meyers..

To make a donation or to sponsor an area of the project, contact Meyers at the Muscatine County Fair Office (319-627-2414) or at muscatinecountyfair@gmail.com.



From left: Blake Yoder, Donovan Yoder, Sara Yoder, and Emma Yoder

Rock Valley Physical Therapy moves Durant staff to Wilton

Clients may also visit Walcott office

Rock Valley Physical Therapy closes its Durant clinic at year's end, and staff will continue treating clients at the Wilton clinic, 400 Oversen Dr.

The Durant clinic's closing is effective Dec. 31, 2024, with combined clinic efforts beginning at Rock Valley's Wilton location, Jan. 2, 2025.

"With the departure of our Wilton clinic manager, Rock Valley Physical Therapy is transitioning the staff from the Durant location to Wilton in order to best serve both communities,'' said Mike Wright, regional manager, noting Rock Valley has had a presence in the Wilton and Durant communities for two decades.

"The consolidation of resources will allow Rock Valley Physical Therapy to continue to provide excellent care with Physical and Occupational Therapy to both communities.''

The shift will also allow Rock Valley staff to continue to foster established relationships and cultivate new ones in communities to which they call their own.

"All of the staff that will be at the Wilton clinic have ties with the Wilton and Durant communities," said Kelly Waack, Durant clinic manager, who will assume the leadership role at Wilton. "We have a great facility in Wilton. We share a building with the physician group in town, and we are also across the street from the high school, making it convenient for school faculty and athletes. Durant patients will have the option to drive eight minutes to the West to see us in Wilton, or eight minutes to the East to see Alison Warnecke, clinic manager in Walcott."

"Our goal is to ensure we have proper staff and familiar faces to continue to provide tremendous care to members of both the Wilton and Durant communities," Waack said. "We plan to continue building relationships with local physicians, dentists, chiropractors and coaches, so they know they can send their people to us, and we will get them back to living their best lives.''

For more information, contact the Durant office at 563-785-6022 until Dec. 31, then 563-732-4317 in 2025.

Rock Valley Physical Therapy was founded in 1984, and features 60-plus clinics across Illinois, Iowa, and Nebraska. Rock Valley is one of the largest therapist-owned and therapist-led private physical therapy practices in the country, employing approximately 550. Learn more at rockvalleypt.com.

Wilton Historical Society Window Walk winners

- Candy Guess - **Eli Norby**
- Overall Tree - **Wilton Football**

Large Trees

- 1st - Santa's Coming - **Lincoln Weber**
- 2nd - Grinch Tree - **Wilton Candy Kitchen**

Small Trees

- 1st - American Legion - **Mary Bollinger**
- 2nd - Candy Kitchen Red - **Wilton Candy Kitchen**
- 3rd - Michael's Tree - **Mary Bollinger**

Wreaths

- 1st - Naughty Or Nice - **Heather Hartley**
- 2nd - Candy Kitchen Grinch - **Wilton Candy Kitchen**
- 3rd - Honoring Our Vets - **Mary Bollinger**

- Doors prizes winners were **Terri Becker**, **Zoe Barrett** and **Robert Van Dusen**



Two-year-old Joshua Doughty of Wilton visits Santa Claus Sunday as part of the Holiday in Whoville event. More Wilton Christmas Walk photos on page 4.

Wilton - Durant Advocate News

P.O. Box 40, Wilton, Iowa 52778
Phone (563) 732-2029
Fax (563) 732-3144

News e-mail: adnews@netwtc.net
Office e-mail: adnews@netwtc.net
Advertising e-mail: anads@netwtc.net

Official Newspaper
for Cities of
Durant, Wilton and Stockton
School Districts of
Wilton and Durant
and County of
Muscatine

The mission of the *Wilton-Durant* Advocate News is to provide information to its readers in an accurate, dependable and professional manner which reflects the uniqueness and similarities of the communities it serves.

Published by Eastern Iowa Publications, LLC.
Eldridge, Iowa (563) 285-8111
Joshua Byers: Publisher
Erin M. Gentz: Interim Editor
Heather Thompson: Office Manager
Theresa Blackledge: Advertising Sales

Consulting & Technical support by North Scott Press:
Scott Campbell, Mark Ridolfi and Erin Gentz

Published every Thursday. Editorial and business offices at 410 Cedar Street Wilton, Iowa, telephone 563-732-2029.

Periodical postage paid at the Post Office in Wilton, Iowa. Exceptional dispatch at the Post Office in Durant and Stockton, Iowa (Wilton-Durant Advocate News USPS 685-760). Postmaster: Send address changes to Wilton-Durant Advocate News, P. O. Box 40, Wilton, IA 52778.

Subscription rates: $40 per year in Muscatine, Cedar and Scott Counties, $44 in Iowa and Illinois, $46 elsewhere in the continental USA and for members of the armed forces. All subscriptions expire with last issue of the month printed on the mailing label. Deadline for material/change of addresses is 3 p.m. Monday.

The Advocate News is a proud member of:

National Newspaper Association & Foundation
Iowa Newspaper Association
ISWNE The International Society of Weekly Newspaper Editors

POLICE REPORTS

Wilton police

Dec. 1

• Traffic stop Hwy 38 and W 3rd Street. Driver was given a verbal warning.
• Vehicle unlock in the area of Wild Indigo and Wild Rose.
• Traffic stop occurred at W 5th Street and Cedar Street for an equipment violation. Driver was given a verbal warning.
• Agency assist occurred with a domestic assault in Durant.

Dec. 2

• Animal complaint occurred in the 800 block of W Wate Street.
• Agency assist for Scott County occurred in the 200 block of E 5th Street.
• A disturbance occurred in the 400 block of Cedar Street.
• Traffic stop occurred at Hwy 38 and 104th Street for speeding. Driver was given a citation for the violation.

Dec. 3

• Report of Criminal Mischief occurred in the 100 Block of Vine Street.
• Called to the 200 block of W 3rd Street for a public assist with a broken down vehicle.
• Found property turned into Police Department.
• Case follow up occurred in the 100 block of Locust Street.
• Traffic stop in the 600 block of W 5th Street. Claudio Toto Minquis of Wilton was arrested on outstanding warrants in Washington County and Mario Toto Toto of Grinell was arrested for OWI, no valid drivers license, open container, and failure to dim.

Dec. 4

• Foot patrol at the school.
• Possible threatened suicide in the 100 block of Cypress Street.
• Extra patrol during dismissal
• Warning for failing to secure child in vehicle 1000 Block of Cypress Street.
• Dispatched to an assist agency in Durant.
• Traffic stop occurred in the 800 Block of W 5th Street for an equipment violation. Driver was given a verbal warning for the violation.

Dec. 5

• Traffic stop occurred at Hwy 38 and W Division Street for Speeding. Driver was given a verbal warning for the violation.
• Citizen dropped of a Blue Heeler and a Black Lab at the PD he found along Hwy 6 just West of Hwy 38. Put them in the city pound and posted it on Facebook.
• Met with citizen referring a motor vehicle crash that occurred 12/2. Citizen advised it now appears the other driver did not have insurance.
• Salvage theft exam completed at the PD.
• Subject issued a citation for failure to provide proof of financial liability. Accident related to reference earlier call.
• Dispatched to 400 block of Cedar Street for a reported gas smell. Wilton Fire Department responded. Order was determined to be from painting downstairs.
• Suspicious subject located in the 600 block of 5th Street.
• Open door located in the 400 block of Jackson Street.

Dec. 6

• Vehicle inspection requested at the PD. Not complete, as they did not have any receipts for parts.
• Complaint from city hall of vehicle for sale parking in right of way.
• Salvage theft exam completed at the PD.
• Dispatched to a residence in the 400 Block of 6th Street to assist Wilton Ambulance on a medical call.
• Dispatched to ATL possibly intoxicated driver 130th Street and Hwy 38. Vehicle was gone on arrival.

Dec. 7

• Vehicle unlock occurred in the 300 block of E 1st Street.
• Juvenile call at Maple Street and W 3rd Street.
• Salvage theft exam completed at the PD.
• Vehicle inspection in the 100 Block of E 4th Street.
• Dispatched to a residence on 700 Block Parkview to assist Wilton Ambulance on a medical call.
• Dispatched to report of a possible intoxicated driver Hwy 38 and Hwy 6. Stopped vehicle and driver was found to be sober.

Durant police

Dec. 1

• Assistance in the 100 block of 7th Avenue handled by the officer.
• Warrant Service Durant Assist another agency with a Search Warrant.
• Domestic assault in the 1100 Block 7th Street Nolan Proehl, Durant, was arrested for domestic assault and transported to the Cedar County Jail.
•

Dec. 2

• Property exchange 1100 Block 7th Street handled by Officer.
• Animal complaint Durant Police Dept. handled by Officer.
• Finger printing Durant Police Dept. Fingerprint for private employment.
• Finger printing Durant Police Dept. Fingerprint for private employment.
•

Dec. 3

• Assist Durant Fire Department 900 Block 5th Street Report of Carbon Dioxide detector activation. Turned over to Fire Dept.
• Extra patrol Durant School Handled by Officer.
• Welfare Check in the 600 Block 7th Street handled by Officer.
• Nuisance/abatement call in the 900 Block 8th Avenue warning for trailer parked on street.
• Follow up 1100 Block of 7th Street handled by Officer.

Dec. 4

• Suspicious person/activity in the 700 Block 3rd street handled by Officer.
• Extra patrol Durant School handled by Officer.
• Debris on Roadway Hwy 6 Due to high winds, a Road Construction sign blew onto the roadway and a caused a vehicle collision with the Officer. The Officer was attempting to remove the sign, and a passing motorist veered into the oncoming lane and struck Officer Jack Bierman who was near his marked patrol vehicle. His emergency
• Lights were activated. The Durant Ambulance Service transported Officer Bierman of the Durant Police Dept. to the hospital. The collision with the Officer was turned over to the Iowa State Patrol for
• completion of an accident report. Also assisting were the Muscatine County Sheriff's Office, and the Durant Ambulance Service.
• Transport of Citizen Durant handled by Officer.

Dec. 5

• Speak with officer 1200 Block 7th Street handled by Officer.
• Extra patrol Durant School handled by Officer.
• Vehicle in ditch Hwy 6, Stockton Assist Muscatine County with a vehicle that backed into the ditch, no damage.
• Extra patrol Durant School handled by Officer.

Dec. 6

• Extra patrol Durant School handled by Officer.
• Durant Shop with a COP Durant Police Dept. handled by School Resource Officer and Officers of the Durant Police Department.

Dec. 7

• Medical call 6th Avenue Assist Durant Ambulance with a medical call.
• Traffic stop 14th Avenue/5th Street a warning was given for a traffic violation.

Wilton utility earns $153K last year

Roof, Gerdes, Erlbacher PLC, Certified Public Accountants, has completed an audit for Wilton Municipal Light & Power.

Total assets for June 30, 2023, were $7,105,934 and total municipal equity reported was $6,355,739.

Operating revenue amounted to $2,849,778, a 3% increase from the prior year. Operating expenses for the year ended June 30, 2023, totaled $2,644,322, a 14% increase from the prior year.

Net income for the fiscal year was $153,213.

A copy of the audit report is available for review in the office of the Auditor of State and in the Wilton Municipal Light & Power Electric office located at 220 W. 3rd St.

Cedar Co. Freedom Rock Pavers For SALE!
What a great Christmas gift to honor a Veteran, family, or business.
Phone: 563-343-7613 to request an engraved paver form.



WTC COMMUNICATIONS
ProtectIQ is a network-level security application that proactively keeps malicious websites, viruses, and intrusions away 24x7.
810 W 5th St., Wilton • 563-732-3000 • wtccommunications.com

WANTED: *People who love their community!*

Can you write or take photos? Have you ever thought about seeing your work in print?

The West Liberty Index and Wilton–Durant Advocate News are seeking freelance writers and photographers to help cover events in the area. We're looking for individuals interested in going to meetings and community events, or talking with area residents about what's going on in the community.

• Applicants should have a somewhat flexible schedule, including availability some nights and weekends.
• A positive, confident attitude, and a willingness to learn will help you succeed in this position.
• No experience necessary. Training and support opportunities are available.

If you enjoy talking with people and are interested in earning some extra money a few hours per week, we'd love to hear from you.



Interested applicants should email a resume and samples of your work (if available) to egentz@northscottpress.com



Not quite sure this is going to be a good handoff, 2.5-year-old Arya Kroeger hangs tight to her dad in opposition to sitting on Santa's lap. It was her first visit with Santa.

AN photos by Tim Evans

WILTON

Christmas walkers spread holiday cheer



Hermoine Ramirez sings with the fellow members of the Wilton High School chorus group.



Riding in the train's caboose are two happy seven-year-old girls, Emma Beatty and Olivia Dodds.



Wilton Dental offered an opportunity for kids to decorate their windows. Here, 12-year-old Elliott Stenlund puts the finishing touches on a snowman.



The Force appears to be with Santa and Mrs. Claus on Wilton's Christmas walk.



Members of Wilton Troop 151 took time to pose for a picture at their fundraising soup supper held as part of the "Holiday in Whoville" event at the Wilton Community Center. From left, in front, are Maddox Salyars, Lane Wilson and Ethan Burns. In the back is Ayden Berns, Jayden Peters and troop leader Brian Peters.



L-R Front row: Gracey Froman, Brooklyn Frantz L-R Back row: Olivia Mikell, Audrey Cummings, Kaydence Boorn

Wilton flies high at state dance



Rachel and Olivia Mikell

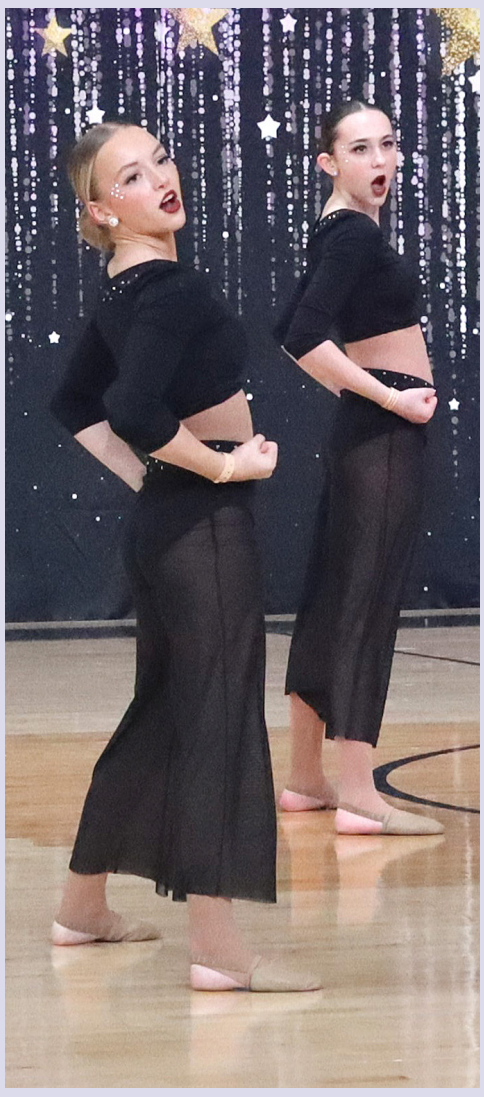


Gracey Froman, Olivia Mikell (upside down),Lilly Bezdek

The Wilton High School Steperettes competed at the 2025 Iowa State Dance and Drill Team Association's State Championships in Des Moines last Friday.

They received Division I ratings in Class X Pom and Class VI Jazz. Meanwhile, Brooklyn Frantz, a Durant student who dances with the Steperettes, placed third in the Class VII Solo Competition.

The team includes: Kaydence Boorn, Gracey Froman, Audrey Cummings, Ryleigh DuRocher, Lydia Shuger, Brooklyn Frantz, Kiley Crawford, Olivia Mikell, Rachel Mikell, Elliette Oveson, Dawsyn Froman, Lilly Bezdek. They are coached by Jordan Showers.



Audrey Cummings, Lydia Shuger



Wilton's pom routine rocked Hy-Vee Hall in Des Moines



Gracey Froman, Audrey Cummings (in the air), Brooklyn Frantz

Durant kids welcome Santa at breakfast



The first child on Santa's lap, Amiyah Munoz, 2, had requests for the visitor from the North Pole.

AN photos by Tim Evans



Dressed as elves, Santa's little helpers Bailey Scott and Leah Korthaus were passing out candy canes for youngsters visiting the jolly man.



Taking a bite of his pancake, Odin Ware, 7, enjoyed the time with his grandfather at the Breakfast with Santa event put on by the Durant School District's Kindness Committee



Soaking a peanut butter spread pinecone in birdseed at the Tri-County Eagles 4-H Club craft event was Eli Swihart.



Creating a star from beads, Tatum Castor, gets creative at a craft area put together by the Tri-County Eagles 4-H Club at the Durant Breakfast with Santa Saturday morning.

Thank you to everyone who stopped during the
Annual Wilton Window Walk
it was a pleasure to meet you all.

You can still buy a two year gift subscription and receive $20 off, it is extended through Wednesday, December 18.

Wilton-Durant Advocate News

FOR SALE
Wilton 2025 Calender



$24.00 *(Tax Included)*
Proceeds to benefit the Wilton Archives, Ltd. A tax-exempt non-profit 501 (c)(3) corporation. All purchases are tax deductible.

Shipping is available for an additional $5.00

Available for purchase at the Candy Kitchen and LorLen Candles, Gifts and Antiques.



Sophomore Colton Buesing coats a pine cone in peanut butter to be coated with bird seed as part of the Tri-County Eagles 4-H Club craft event.

GIVE A GIFT, GET A GIFT

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE ADVOCATE NEWS

Come see us to purchase a 2-YEAR **GIFT** SUBSCRIPTION on SALE for $20 off regular price & get 3-Months FREE for yourself & one of these cute dogs to give to the recipient of your gift subscription!!

2-Year Gift Subscription $20 off!!
Limited time offer.

I'm FREE with your 2-year gift subscription purchase!!



Buy a 2-year gift subscription and get 3-months free for yourself!!!!
Limited time only.

While supplies last, limited quantity of dogs available.
Purchase must be made in person at the Advocate News office by December 18, 2024.



Kindergartener Merlee Selfridge and Officer Matt Fisher fill their cart.



JJ Wright, a third grade student, finds a gift with Sgt. Brian Utter.



Durant officer Carlos Pimentel helps fourth grade student Ciaran Cameron pick out a present at Durant's first Shop with a Cop event Friday. AN photos by Tim Evans

SHOP: Police get head start on 2025

Continued from page 1

youngsters including Sergeant Brian Utter, Officer Matt Fisher, Officer Carlos Pimentel and Officer Brad Utter.

Bujalski said despite his late start, the program was successful in collecting enough money from local businesses, organizations, churches and individuals to be held for the first time.

He put out the request for funding in mid-July with letters to the community and said responses were coming back as late as early December.

Bujalski said there's a little money left over to start next year's program, which he hopes to grow to at least two children per classroom, noting the program needs fundraisers and more donations like the check he received from the Tri-County Community Club and president Teresa Keller.

Anyone interested in donating may contact City Hall or send a check to the Durant Police Department, P.O. Box 1063, Durant, Iowa 52747.

Bujalski said he was pleased with his first effort for Durant students and planned to work out the kinks. He said the program is simply about building community relationships with the police department.

Like a child who just had a great Christmas, he said, "I can't wait until next year."



All first timers, this group of Durant School district students and Durant Police personnel came together to create the first Durant Shop with a" program on Friday, Dec. 6.



Stevie Puck finds a light-up football in the Walmart toys aisle.

A LorLen Candles, Gifts & Antiques And
Nancy Wangberg Estate Sale Event
Thurs, Fri, & Sat - December 12, 13 & 14, 2024
1220 W. 5th St., Wilton, Iowa

20% Discount Storewide
50% Off Christmas and Seasonal

HOURS: Thursday & Friday 9 am-5 pm
Saturday 8 am - 2 pm

100% Soy Candles
A Green Product

Wilton - Durant
Advocate News

Pass the savings to a friend with a subscription to The Advocate News and
SAVE OFF THE NEWSTAND PRICE!



To start a subscription for yourself or a friend, please provide the name and address with the coupon below and send payment of $40.00 per year for addresses in Scott, Clinton, Cedar & Muscatine counties. ($40.00 per year is only 76¢ per issue, a savings of 33¢ per week from the newsstand price.)

Annual rate outside these counties but elsewhere in Iowa and Illinois is $44.00 and elsewhere in continental USA is $46.00. Foreign rates upon application.

SAVE NOW WITH THIS COUPON!

NAME_____

ADDRESS_____

CITY & STATE_____ ZIP_____

PHONE_____

Enclose check or cash for a new one-year subscription to The Wilton-Durant Advocate News. Send by mail to P.O. Box 40 or bring in person to The Wilton-Durant Advocate News 410 Cedar St., Wilton, Iowa 52778. 563-732-2029

OBITUARIES

Lee Muller

Lee Warren Muller, 95, of Walcott, passed away Thursday, Dec. 5, 2024, at Better Living of Walcott. A visitation was held from 3-5 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 8, at Calvary Church of Walcott. A funeral service was held at 10:30 a.m., Monday, Dec. 9, at the church. Memorials may be made to the Walcott American Legion or Calvary Church of Walcott. Online condolences may be left at www.bentleyfuneralhome.com.



Lee was born on Sept. 16, 1929, the son of Herbert and Dora (Heuer) Muller. He graduated from Davenport High School with the Class of 1948. Lee proudly served his country in the United States Army during the Korean War. Lee was married to Nancy Erickson on Oct. 22, 1955. Nancy passed away in 1986. He later married Mary Ann Storjohann on July 4, 1987, in Walcott.

For 40 years, Lee dedicated himself to River Valley Elevator (formerly Farmers Elevator) in Walcott, retiring in 1994. Lee was involved in his community, serving as a proud member of the Walcott American Legion Post #548, Calvary Church of Walcott, and the American Schleswig-Holstein Heritage Society (ASHHS).

In his spare time, Lee enjoyed traveling and working in his yard. Most of all, he treasured the moments spent with his family, who were the cornerstone of his life. His kindness and commitment to serving others will be lovingly remembered.

Lee will be lovingly remembered by his wife, Mary Ann; two daughters, Sharon (Verne) VanDeWalle of Durant and Suzanne (Paul Hart) Winkler of Davenport; three grandchildren, Mark (Karen) VanDeWalle, Madeline (Chase) Clemens and Anna Winkler; and three great-grandchildren, Nancy VanDeWalle, Elena and Calvin Clemens.

Lee was preceded in death by his first wife, Nancy; and two brothers, Wesley and Stanley Muller.

Custom obituary

Dennis Lett

Dennis C. Lett, age 72, of Wilton, passed away Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2024, at University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics. Dennis wished to be cremated and buried alongside his parents in Oakdale Cemetery, Wilton. A graveside service will be held at a later date. Online condolences may be left at www.bentleyfuneralhome.com.



Dennis was born on Feb. 4, 1952, the son of Wilbert and Violet (Sidler) Lett. He graduated from Wilton High School with the Class of 1972.

Dennis loved sitting on his front porch, watching the traffic go by and enjoying the peace and quiet of his home. In his spare time, Dennis enjoyed calling Bingo, where he shared laughter and good times with friends. Dennis also enjoyed watching sports and staying informed by following the news. In the past year, Dennis made his home at Cedar Manor in Tipton, where he formed meaningful relationships and enjoyed the care and companionship of the staff and fellow residents.

Dennis is survived by a sister, Gloria Greene of Muscatine, and a brother, Roger (Jeanie) Lett of Wilton. He will be dearly missed by his adopted family/caregivers, Steve and Becky Berry, who held a special place in his heart.

Custom obituary

AN Obituaries: Families are invited and encouraged to ask the funeral home to submit a full, descriptive custom obituary for publication in the Wilton-Durant Advocate News at a cost as low as $95. In lieu of a custom obituary, a Death Notice can be published at no cost.

You can also submit an obituary
online: wdadvocatenews.com
email: adnews@netwtc.net
If you have questions, please contact us at 563-732-2029.

Wilton Legion celebrates fish fry, plans bigger event

Commander Jean Ahlrichs called the American Legion Wilton Post 584 meeting to order at 6 p.m., Dec. 3. There were seven members present. We recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Eric Sanders posted the POW/MIA flag. Kevin Wright offered a Prayer. Tom Taylor gave the finance report. A motion passed to accept the finance report. The November meeting notes were read and approved. Jean reported that she sent 'Thank You' cards to the Wilton Cafe and the Wilton Baptist Church for their recent donations to the Legion.

The trial run fish fry went well last month; we are still working on details for a bigger event in partnership with the Wilton Masonic Lodge.

Bill Voss hung the wreath on the Soldiers' monument at Oakdale Cemetery.

The new Space Force flag will be posted in the Legion Hall with the other branch of service flags.

We are working on putting holiday care packages together for veterans at the nursing home.

A motion carried to purchase Hy-Vee gift cards for homeless veterans in the Muscatine area; Eric will coordinate this effort.

Roger Bender reported on various efforts the Wilton Public Library is working on including collecting plastic to be turned into area park benches.

A membership report was given, noting that we still have about 15 members who haven't renewed yet for 2025.

We are still looking for boys who may be interested in attending the Boys State event this summer.

Reminder that the Veterans' Crisis Line phone number is 988, then press 1. The Legion meets the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm at the Legion Hall, 201 E. Railroad St, across from the Depot. If you have any questions, please call 563.732.3941.

Worship Directory

Sponsored By: Bentley Funeral Homes, Ervin's Incorporated, WTC Communications, Wilton-Durant Advocate News

WILTON

First Presbyterian Church
213 W. 5th St., Wilton • fpcofwilton.org
Pastor Jennifer Jennings (563) 732-2258
email:fpcpastor@netwtc.net or fpcsec@netwtc.net
Sunday School 9 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m.
Sunday Book Study 5 p.m.
EVERY TUESDAY: J.A.M. (K-8th) 5-6:45 p.m.
Confirmation 2nd & 4th Thursday 5-6:45 p.m.
Session meeting 3rd Wed.of the month 5 p.m.
Fellowship(TACO)meal last Wed.at 5:30 p.m.

Grace United Church of Christ
Pastor Patrick Slessor
www.graceuccwilton.org
10:30 a.m. Church Services

St. Mary's Catholic
701 E. 3rd, Wilton • (563) 732-2271
Deacon Dan Freeman
Parish Life Coordinator
email: freemand@diodav.org
https://www.stmarywilton.org
8:30 a.m. Sunday Mass
9:30 a.m. Sunday School

United Methodist
1401 Maurer St • (563) 732-2084 Rev. Jill Mack
Website: www.UMCofWilton.org
email: UMCWiltn@netwtc.net
Worship at 10:15 a.m. Sunday School 9 a.m.
1st and 3rdWednesday Family Fun Night
Live Streamed on Facebook, and Vimeo

Wilton Baptist Church
203 East Railroad St., Wilton
Pastor Bob Danielson • (563) 732-2458
10 a.m. Worship

Peace United Methodist
1321 Hwy 38 Wilton. Pastor Cindy Axtell
8:45 a.m. Sunday Worship.

Sugar Creek Presbyterian
(563) 732-3199
1900 Rose Ave., Wilton
9:00 a.m. Sunday Worship

Zion Lutheran, Missouri Synod
1000 Maurer St., Wilton
Rev. Daniel Ognoskie • (563) 732-3651
9:00 a.m. Divine Service
Church services are available on Youtube
10:15 a.m. Bible Study/Sunday School
Mid-Week Advent Service Wed.'s at 7pm

LIFEchurch
Rafael Crespo, Campus Pastor
315 W. Summit St., Wilton
Sunday Worship 10am
www.lifechurchnow.org/wilton
Kids programming 3mo. -6th grad Sunday 10 a.m.
Sun. Online Streaming: www.lifechurchnow.org/stream
8:30am, 10am, 11:30am

DURANT

St. David's Anglican Church
801 5th St., Durant; Greg Graybill, Pastor
www.st-davids.org
9:30 Sunday Worship, followed by refreshments
3rd Sunday outreach service at Courtyard Estates in Walcott at 11:30 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study led by Pastor Greg Graybill
gregory.graybill@gmail.com.(509) 301-1760

St. Paul's Episcopal
206 6th Ave.,Rev. Dr. Alice Haugen, Pastor
website: stpaulsdurant.org
9:00 a.m. Sunday Worship w/Eucharist
Healing service, 3rd Sunday

Gloria Dei Lutheran, ELCA
606 4th Ave., Durant • (563) 785-4936
Sunday Worship-9:00 a.m.
Sunday School 2nd & 4th Sunday
of the month (during services)

AREA

Peace Church of Christ United, UCC
peacechurch7.godaddysites.com 414 Maple St., Bennett •(563) 893-2565
Secretary Hours: Mon., Tues.,& Thurs 9-12:30
9 a.m. Worship every Sunday
All are wecome Watch our Facebook page

Sweetland Church, Muscatine
1709 Sweetland Rd (1 blk S. of Rt. 61)
Pastors Mary & Don Timmerman
(563) 320-0501, 9 a.m. Sunday Service
Children's Sunday School after Service
9 a.m. Mondays, adult study group
Wednesdays, adult study group-meal at
6 p.m. study & discussion at 6:30

Trinity United Church of Christ, Rural Moscow • Pastor Jon M. Merritt
8 a.m. Sunday School 1st & 3rd Sundays
9:00 a.m. Worship every Sunday

Christian Life Church, Muscatine
2921 Hwy. 22 E., Muscatine
(563) 607-4788
10:00 A.M. Sunday School for all ages
11:00 A.M. Worship Service
(Pre-service prayer at 10:45 a.m.)

Zion Lutheran, ELCA, Atalissa
(563) 649-3343
10:30 a.m. Worship

Calvary Church of Walcott
100 E James St., Walcott
Pastor Mike Jones • 563-284-6213
9:00 a.m. Sunday School
10 a.m. Praise and Worship Service with
Coffee Fellowship to follow

Cedar Valley Church, West Liberty Area
1791 155th St. (South of West Liberty on F70)
Pastor Mary • (563) 320-0501
5:30 p.m. Sundays - Free Dinner, Worship & Discussion at Living Faith Service
8:30-9:30 a.m. every other Saturday
Adult Confirmation Class

Church of Christ, Atalissa
Pastor Randall Payne • (563) 649-2220
9:00-9:45 a.m. Sunday School
10:00-11:00 a.m. Morning Worship Service

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Bennett
260 E. 4th St. • (563) 890-6619
Rev. Dr. Andrew Watkins
9:00 a.m. Worship Service, followed by Sunday School
Services also take place in Stanwood
313 Ash St. Hwy 30 Standwood
Check Facebook to see where services will be

Fruitland Baptist Church
5712 67th Ave. W. Muscatine, IA 52761
563-263-1855
Pastor John H. Brown
http://fruitland.church/
Sunday School: 9:30 AM
Sunday Morning Worship: 10:40 AM
Sunday Eve.: 6PM
Wed. Prayer & Bible Study: 7PM

Moscow Bible Fellowship
Fellowship meeting times: Bible Study, Praise & Children's Ministry
Sunday's 8:00am - 8:45am
Pastor Brown and his wife Kim
1146 Moscow Rd. Moscow, Iowa
563-571-2063 pastorjbrown59@gmail.com

Wilton-Durant AN SPORTS

DURANT WRESTLING

First tournament yields first medals

Four Wildcat boys earn top three finishes in season's first invite

By Ross Shinberg
Regional Sports Editor

As the Wildcat boys stepped onto the tournament mats for the first time in the 2024-25 wrestling season, it did not take long to find a few place winners.

Last year's state qualifier junior Trey Ramer found his way to a silver medal last Saturday in the 132-pound bracket in Wapello alongside fellow junior Kamdyn Kraklio who did the same in the 190-pound competition.

Additionally, senior Kadyn Kraklio earned third place at 165 with freshman Owen Collier taking third at 175.

They all helped Durant placed fourth overall out of 13 schools at the 60th Willard Howell Invitational boys' wrestling competition. With 111 team points for the Wildcats, only Eddyville-Blakesburg-Fremont (211), Wilton (194) and Mount Pleasant (155) were better.

Looking to build on his strong sophomore season, Ramer cruised through the first two rounds of competition. He pinned his quarterfinal opponent and scored a 16-0 technical fall in the semifinals against Riverside's Brock Thomann.

While he was stopped by Wilton's Owen Adlfinger in the championship match, this tournament marked a 7-1 start to the season for Ramer.

Kamdyn Kraklio also wrestled three times, following a similar path as Ramer. Kraklio scored pins over his first two opponents to boost himself into the championship bout.

There, he was stopped by Louden Huisenga of WACO via pin at 3:23, but not after he piled up six wins in his first week of competition.

On the flip side were Kadyn Kraklio and Collier. After early setbacks, both Wildcats bounced back brilliantly.

For Kadyn Kraklio, he fell in his championship semifinal via pin to Blake Johnson of E-B-F. From there, he scored two pins at nearly the same time mark — at 1:27 over Beckhim Hutchison (Davenport West) in the consolation semifinals and at 1:17 over Jackson Newman (Mount Pleasant) in the third-place match.

Collier's route to the bronze medal was even more arduous. He fell in the championship quarterfinal but won four consecutive matches to his spot on the podium.

In the consolation first round, Collier started with a pin. In the consolation second round, he won via 19-1 technical fall.

His consolation semifinal lasted until the third period, but ended in a pin. Finally, Collier ended his day with a 12-1 major decision win against Wilton's Clay Ledger.

Two other Wildcats got to that third-place match but fell via pins. Sophomore Gunner Klahn placed fourth at 138 and is 5-4 to start the year. Senior Wyatt Cole placed fourth at 157 and is 4-4 so far in 2024.

In addition to this tournament, Durant competed in five dual meets across Dec. 3 and Dec. 5. Combined, the Wildcats went 2-3.

Durant defeated Lone Tree 42-21 and Camanche 47-21 while losing to Lisbon 66-13, Anamosa 65-15 and Monticello 42-31.

Richardson and Streeter stay in-form

Durant's girls also took part in a Willard Howell Invitational. However, it will take a few more years to get to the 60th edition.

This third annual girls' event in Wapello was held on Saturday and Durant placed right in the middle of the pack, sliding in at No. 13 in the 22-school tournament.

Sophomore Jocelynn Richardson continued her stellar start to the season, claiming the crown in the 130-pound bracket.

After a first-round bye, she pinned E-B-F's Adison Glosser at 1:35 in the quarterfinals.

Her next two wins came via second-period pins. Richardson defeated Kia Montgomery of Sigourney in the semifinals and Ruby Stagg of Pleasant Valley in the championship.

Richarson is 16-4 overall this season. Her teammate at 125, Ava Streeter, also only has four losses. She placed second and boosted her record to 12-4.

Streeter recorded a pin in 79 seconds in the quarterfinals against Lyla Smothers at English Valleys. In the semifinals, she recorded a pin over Georgia Smith of E-B-F in the second period.

She was stopped by West Liberty's Aileen Aragon in the championship. The Comet freshman has won her last two consecutive tournaments.

Four other Wildcats competed at this tournament but did not place. Junior Alivia Barnard won two matches at 110, but a loss in the consolation semifinals knocked her outside of the top four places.

Sophomore Chloe Devlin (105), freshman Tori Jones (115) and sophomore Kayley Schlapkohl (120) all wrestled but were unable to secure a win.

Like the boys, the girls also competed in dual meets last week.

Durant was successful in both encounters, defeating Lisbon 42-37 and Lone Tree 48-30.

The Wildcats joined Wilton, Tipton and West Branch in a quad meet on Monday (Dec. 9) and will travel to the Zimmerman Invitational at Maquoketa High School on Saturday.

The boys competed in a quad meet on Monday and will travel to the North Cedar Invitational on Saturday.

WILTON WRESTLING

Picking up where they left off

Beavers return strong nucleus, pick up five titles in first invitational

By Ryan Stonebraker
Advocate Sports Writer

The Wilton Beavers boys' wrestling team traveled to Wapello for their annual trip to the Willard Howell Invitational to start the season.

There, the Beavers scored 194 points with 11 wrestlers. Eddyville-Blakesburg-Fremont won the tournament with 211 points with 14 wrestlers. Mount Pleasant was third with 155 points and Durant fourth with 111 points.

Fifth place finishing Erie-Prophetstown was the fifth and final team with over 100 team points with 104.5 points. There were 13 scoring teams in the tournament.

The Beavers had five champions and two runners-up at the tournament. Winning individual weight classes were Gatlin Rogers at 215, Owen Milder at 165, Jensen Boorn at 150, Owen Adlfinger at 132, and Mason Shirk at 126.

Finishing as runners-up were Francisco Honts at 285 and Gabe Brisker at 138.

Rogers won both of his matches to win the 215 class. Rogers pinned his semifinal foe in 1:15 and Stryker Lettington from Eddyville-Blakesburg-Fremont in the finals in 1:19.

Milder won three matches to win the 165-pound class. He won by tech fall in 1:22 at 17-2 in the quarterfinals, by fall in 1:00 in the semifinals, and won an 11-4 decision over Blake Johnson from Eddyville-Blakesburg-Fremont in the finals.

Boorn won three matches at 150 to claim the weight class. Boorn won by tech fall in 1:14 at 18-3 in the quarterfinals and won by fall in 1:09 in the semifinals. In the finals, Boorn collected his second tech fall in a win over Ramzy Davis from Mount Pleasant.

Adlfinger was 3-0 on the day with a tech fall win in 5:08 at 24-8 in the quarterfinals and pinning his semifinal foe in 5:20. In the finals, Adlfinger won an 11-1 major decision over Trey Ramer from Durant.

Shirk won both of his matches at the tournament. He won by tech fall in 2:35 at 18-3 to reach the finals. In the finals, he beat Gage Spurgeon from Eddyville-Blakesburg-Fremont 1-0.

Honts went 2-1 at the meet and pinned his quarterfinal match foe and won a tech fall in the semifinals in 3:46. Honts fell by a 6-5 decision in the first-place match at 285.

Brisker was 2-1 at the tournament. Brisker pinned his quarterfinal foe in 1:08 and semifinal foe in 1:39 to reach the finals. In the finals, he lost a 7-0 decision to Landy Davis from Eddyville-Blakesburg-Fremont.

Romann Derksen placed third at 113 and improved to 5-1. Derksen lost in the semifinals and fought back with a win in the consolations and a fall over Landon Beckler from Mount Plesant in the third place match in 1:21.

Clay Ledger also reached the third place match at 175 after losing in the quarterfinals. Ledger fought back with two wins in the consolation round. He fell in the 3rd place match to Owen Collier from Durant.

Other Wilton place winners were Blaine Dohrmann 6th at 144, while Hunter Jones at 190 was at the meet, but did not place.

Beavers dominate duals

The Wilton wrestling team had a tremendous evening of wrestling last Thursday, Dec. 5. The Beavers dominated a pair of River Valley Conference foes, beating Northeast 71-5 and Maquoketa 69-6.

Against the Cardinals, the Beavers won the first three matches before an open weight at 120.

Wilton then would win the next five matches to take a 46-0 lead. Wilton won matches by fall by Francisco Honts at 285, Dawson Kaska at 106, Romann Derksen at 113, Mason Shirk at 126, Owen Adlfinger at 132, and Gatlin Rogers at 215.

Wilton had three wins by forfeit from the 165 to 190-pound weight classes. The Beavers also captured three tech fall wins. Tech fall wins came from Blaine Dohrmann at 144 in 3:52 at 17-0, Jensen Boorn at 150 in 1:49 at 19-2, and Gatlin Rogers at 215 in 4:17 at 16-0.

Against the Rebels, Wilton won all but the final match in the dual after taking a 71-0 lead.

Wilton won by forfeit at 126, 138, 150, 157, and 190 to collect 30 points.

The Beavers got falls from Dawson Kaska at 113, Romann Derksen at 120, Owen Adlfinger at 132, Blaine Dohrmann at 144, Clay Ledger at 175, and Gatlin Rogers at 215. Owen Milder also won by a tech fall at 165 in 4:00 at 17-0.

Girls continue to shine

After a successful weekend at the third annual Willard Howell girls' wrestling tournament, the Wilton Beaver girls' wrestling team notified area teams that they would be a force again.

The Beavers placed second out of 22 teams at the event finishing only behind tournament champion Eddyville-Blakesburg-Fremont.

The Beavers had the second-most wrestlers at the event with a dozen grapplers hitting the mat. Wilton collected 133.5 team points and had four finalists with a pair of champs and a pair of runners-up.

Audra Coss won the 110-pound weight class and Kaydence Boorn won the 135-pound weight class. Audrey Cummings placed second at 100 and Natalie Hartman was the runner-up at 105.

Coss improved to 11-2 and won the 110-pound weight class. Coss pinned her quarterfinal foe in 38 seconds to reach the semifinals. Coss then won a 4-3 decision over Abigail Durflinger from E-B-F in the semifinals to reach the finals. In the finals, Coss pinned Clara Ball in the finals in 1:11.

Boorn improved to 8-0 and remained unbeaten with a weight class win at 135. Boorn pinned her foes in the quarterfinals in 19 seconds and 37 seconds in the semifinals. In the championship, Boorn won a 17-1 tech fall in 2:10 over Olivia Magruder.

Two Beavers wrestled for third place. Josslyn Holladay placed third at 120 and improved to 7-3. Holladay pinned her quarterfinal foe in 1:34 but lost in the semifinals. Holladay would take third place with a pin over Micayla Ramirez from North Scott in 3:58.

Sydne Bliss improved to 5-4 overall and placed fourth at 190. Bliss was 2-2 in four matches with a pair of pins in the consolation round. Bliss fell to Reese Winslow for Pleasant Valley in the third-place match.

Also placing is a sixth-place finish by Chloe Christianson at 235.

Other Beavers at the meet but not placing were Melany Fitzer at 170, Zena Schubich at 155, Bella Cummings at 130, Dale Paulson at 125, and Zoe Andreas at 115.

Eddyville-Blakesburg-Fremont won the meet with 179 points. Wilton was second with 133.5 points followed by Pleasant Valley in third with 127 and North Scott fourth with 109.

Wilton-Durant AN SPORTS

WILTON BASKETBALL

Beavers fall in first six games to begin season

Only one game decided by single-digits in tough week on the road

By Ryan Stonebraker
Advocate Sports Writer

Wilton's boys' basketball team began their season last week with three games. Two of those were on the road. All three were losses.

The Beavers played a pair of River Valley Conference North schools in Monticello and Maquoketa and their first non-conference game against Mediapolis.

The Beavers started the season at Monticello on Dec. 3 where they fell 85-50 to start the season 0-1.

The Panthers are always tough to play, especially in Monticello. In eleven previous meetings with the Panthers, Wilton has not won a game.

Wilton shot a good clip at 52 percent for the game including making five three-pointers. Oaklan Jirak led Wilton scorers with 14 points. Kale Caffery had 8 points and Gunner Edwards and Brylin Kelley each had 7 points.

The Beavers have 27 rebounds in the game led by Kelley with four. Briggs Oien had 4 assists and Edwards led in steals with two.

Wilton hosted the newest RVC member for their second game on Dec. 6 at home. There, Maquoketa took an 80-54 win.

In a high-scoring first quarter, the Cardinals would take a 23-20 lead after the first quarter. Maquoketa was on fire in the second quarter, scoring 29 points to take a 52-37 halftime lead.

The Cardinals put the game away in the third quarter using a 19-3 run to take a 71-40 led to the final quarter.

Despite the score the Beavers outrebounded Maquoketa 48 to 37. Kale Caffery had 12 while Oaklan Jirak had eight and Briggs Oin six.

Jirak scored 21 points to lead Wilton in scoring and Quincy Sawvell chipped in 18 points.

The Beavers played a rare Monday night game on Dec. 9. There, the Beavers traveled to Mediapolis out of the Southeast Iowa Super Conference.

The result was a close loss 63-52. The Beavers record slipped to 0-3 with the loss.

Wilton and Mediapolis were tied at 15 after the first quarter. The Bulldogs were five points better in the second quarter to take a 35-30 halftime lead. A closer third quarter saw the Bulldogs take a six-point, 45-39 lead to the final quarter.

Mediapolis would keep the Beavers at bay, outscoring them by five in the final quarter to set the final margin at 11 points.

Wilton had a pair of double-digit scorers in the game. Quincy Sawvell led with 17 points while Oaklan Jirak had 12 points and 7 rebounds. The Beavers made five three-pointers and shot 37-percent from the floor in the game.

Kale Caffery scored eight points and had seven rebounds. Briggs Oien led in rebounds with nine and assists with six in the game.

Girls suffer similar fate

Wilton's girls' basketball team got three games in last week. All were losses as the Beavers offense was slow to begin the season.

The Beavers fell at Monticello 63-19, at home to Maquoketa 63-22, and at Mediapolis 75-35.

The first game of the year for Wilton saw the Beavers travel to Monticello on December 3. There, the Panthers used a big first half to take a commanding lead in a 63-19 win.

The Panthers led 22-9 after the first quarter and 45-10 at halftime.

The Beavers hosted state-ranked Maquoketa on Dec. 6. The Cardinals came into the game with more games under their belt and it showed in a 63-22 win.

Maquoketa started the game on a 26-8 run in the first quarter and followed that with a 25-6 second-quarter run to take a 51-14 halftime lead.

On Dec. 9, the Beavers played their first non-conference foe in Mediapolis. In the game, the Bulldogs would take a 17-2 lead after the first quarter and not look back. Wilton trailed 35-14 at halftime.

The Beavers scored more points in the second half then the first as they put up back-to-back double-digit point quarters with 10 in the third and 11 in the fourth quarters.

Mediapolis improved to 3-0 while Wilton fell to 0-3.

No Wilton stats for any game were available as of Tuesday afternoon.

DURANT BASKETBALL

First win eludes Wildcat ballers

Durant basketball teams look to rebound after tough opening week

By Ross Shinberg
Regional Sports Editor

Durant's boys' and girls' basketball programs are on the hunt for its first wins of the season after a tough stretch of opening week games.

The Wildcat girls got the closest in their season opener last Tuesday (Dec. 3), falling on the road to Camanche 60-53. Durant held a 20-18 lead in the early stages of the contest, but the Storm raced back to take its advantage back.

Camanche ended the game on a 15-8 run, sending its fans home happy.

This game was decided at the foul line with a remarkable 46 foul shots taken by Camanche and 30 taken by Durant. The Storm made 21 free throws compared to Durant's 14. That seven-point margin ended up the difference as both teams shot nearly identical field goal percentage numbers (Camanche 26.1 percent; Durant 28.8 percent).

Sophomore Allison Toft recorded a double-double with 13 points and 11 rebounds. Senior Adison Daufeldt scored 11 points by making seven of eight free throws while senior Katelynn Toft recorded 13 rebounds.

Durant's home opener, last Friday, was another tough game to take. The Wildcats started the game giving up 21 straight points to Anamosa in the first quarter. The Blue Raiders had scored 33 points in their entire season-opener a few days earlier to West Liberty.

The Wildcats battled back, but could never reduce that margin and lost the game 59-38.

Again coming off the bench, Allison Toft led the way with 12 points. Both Toft sisters and Daufeldt tied for the team lead with six rebounds. Sophomore Mazie Timmerman tallied a team-high three assists.

Durant took on Beckman Catholic on Tuesday and North Cedar on Thursday, both at home, in search of win number one.

The boys' team is still looking for its first win since Jan. 26, 2023. The 2024-25 season started with a pair of defeats against Camanche (71-42) and Anamosa (73-46).

In the season opening game against the Storm, Durant senior Conner Schwarz scored a game-high 20 points on seven of 16 shooting from the floor. He added four rebounds, one assist and one block.

Senior Kayden Kerr led the way with five rebounds for the Wildcats while senior Race Starr racked up three assists.

Defensively, senior Brady Daufeldt had two steals and senior Dylan Arrenholz had two blocks.

Against Anamosa, the Blue Raiders took control of the game early, exiting the first quarter with a 21-15 lead. By halftime, the margin grew to 39-22.

In the third quarter, Anamosa outscored Durant 21-9. The Wildcats won the fourth quarter, 15-13, but it did little to change the overall scoreboard.

Starr scored 11 points to pace the Wildcats. Schwarz scored nine points to back him up.

Freshman Owen DeLong came off the bench and grabbed a team-best eight rebounds. Additionally, Kerr and junior Reid Hollenback each recorded two assists.

The boys joined the girls in a pair of home varsity doubleheaders this week against Beckman Catholic and North Cedar to try and break its losing spell.



Wildcat junior Paige Happ looks for an open teammate to escape the Anamosa trap coverage.
Advocate Photos by Ross Shinberg



Durant senior Kayden Kerr goes up to the basket strong through the contact of Blue Raider defender Tristan Faille.

Wilton-Durant
AN SPORTS



Wilton junior Jaxson Drayfahl flies in for the block attempt in the first quarter of last Friday's game against Maquoketa.



Beaver sophomore Annie Holladay defends Cardinal freshman Arabella Wagner at the top of the key.

Advocate Photos by Ross Shinberg

WILDCATS ACTIVITIES — DEC. 12 TO DEC. 18

Thursday, December 12

JV-GBB: Central DeWitt at Durant, 4 p.m.
JH-GBB: Durant at Mid-Prairie, 4 p.m.
JV-BBB: North Cedar at Durant, 5:15 p.m.
V-BWR: RVC Quad at Bellevue High School, 5:30 p.m.
F/S-BBB: Durant at Northeast, 6:30 p.m.
V-GBB: North Cedar at Durant, 6:30 p.m.
V-BBB: North Cedar at Durant, 7:45 p.m.

Friday, December 13

JH-GBB: West Liberty at Durant, 4 p.m.
V-GWR: Tournament at Maquoketa High School, 4 p.m.

Saturday, December 14

F/S-BBB: Iowa City Regina at Durant, 10 a.m.
V-BWR: Invitational at North Cedar High School, 10 a.m.
F/S-BBB: Riverdale at Durant, 12:30 p.m.
V-GBOWL: Tournament at Cedar Creek Lanes, 1 p.m.

Monday, December 16

V-BBOWL: Meet vs. Maquoketa at Timber Lanes, 2 p.m.
V-GBOWL: Meet vs. Maquoketa at Timber Lanes, 2 p.m.
JH-BWR: Meet at Iowa City Regina High School, 4 p.m.
JH-GBB: Durant at Wilton, 4 p.m.
V-GWR: RVC Quad at Mid-Prairie High School, 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, December 17

JV-GBB: Durant at Calamus-Wheatland, 4 p.m.
F/S-BBB: Durant at Tipton, 4 p.m.
JV-BBB: Durant at Tipton, 5:15 p.m.
V-BBB: Durant at Tipton, 6:30 p.m.
V-GBB: Durant at Tipton, 8 p.m.

Wednesday, December 18

CHOIR: 7-12 Concert at Durant High School, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

BEAVERS ACTIVITIES — DEC. 12 TO DEC. 18

Thursday, December 12

V-BWR: RVC Quad at Cascade High School, 5:30 p.m.
BAND: 5th/6th Concert at Wilton High School, 6 p.m.

Friday, December 13

JV-BBB: Iowa City Regina at Wilton, 4:30 p.m.
F/S-BBB: Iowa City Regina at Wilton, 6 p.m.
V-GBB: Iowa City Regina at Wilton, 6 p.m.
V-BBB: Iowa City Regina at Wilton, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, December 14

V-BWR: Invitational at Riverdale High School, 9 a.m.
V-GWR: Tournament at Marion High School, 9:30 a.m.
V-BWR: Invitational at Springville High School, 10 a.m.
V-BWR: Bobcat Duals at Western Dubuque High School, 10 a.m.
V-GBOWL: Tournament at Cedar Creek Lanes, 1 p.m.

Sunday, December 15

V-FB: Football Banquet at Wilton High School, 5 p.m.

Monday, December 16

V-BBOWL: Meet vs. Maquoketa at Timber Lanes, 2 p.m.
V-GBOWL: Meet vs. Maquoketa at Timber Lanes, 2 p.m.
JH-GBB: Durant at Wilton, 4 p.m.
V-GWR: RVC Quad at Mid-Prairie High School, 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, December 17

BLOOD: NHS Blood Drive at Wilton High School, 6:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
JH-BWR: Meet at Maquoketa High School, 4 p.m.
F/S-BBB: Wilton at Mid-Prairie, 4 p.m.
JV-BBB: Wilton at Mid-Prairie, 5:15 p.m.
V-GBB: Wilton at Mid-Prairie, 6:45 p.m.
V-BBB: Wilton at Mid-Prairie, 8:15 p.m.

RVC SOUTH - GIRLS BASKETBALL

	Conf.		All	
	W	L	W	L
Mid-Prairie	1	0	3	0
Iowa City Regina	1	0	4	0
West Liberty	1	0	1	2
Tipton	0	0	2	2
West Branch	0	3	1	3
Durant	**0**	**1**	**0**	**2**
Wilton	**0**	**2**	**0**	**3**

RVC SOUTH - BOYS BASKETBALL

	Conf.		All	
	W	L	W	L
Mid-Prairie	1	0	2	0
Iowa City Regina	1	0	2	1
West Liberty	1	0	1	1
West Branch	1	2	1	2
Durant	**0**	**1**	**0**	**2**
Tipton	0	0	0	3
Wilton	**0**	**2**	**0**	**3**



2024-25 WINTER SPORTS - WILTON



Wilton Girls Basketball: 1st Row: Kinsey Drake, Jessica Mach, Chloe Thornton, Abren Bazal, Leah Caffer. 2nd Row:Ali Walker, Avery Fitzer, Natalie Bailey, Ashley Swift, Annie Holladay



Wilton Boys Wrestling: Front Row: Wesley Scott, Clay Ledger, Austin Etzel, Owen Adlfinger, Gabe Brisker, Owen Milder, Liam Adlfinger, Jordan Dusenberry, Mason Shirk. 2nd Row: Dean Harris, Declan Conklin, Romann Derksen, Josiah Martinez, Jackson Benton, Dawson Kaska, Jensen Boorn, Hayden Hill, Francisco Honts, Gatlin Rogers. 3rd Row: Riley Denkman, Troy McQuillen, Hunter Jones, Koy Smith,Caleb Burford, Thatcher Murguia, Landon Coss, Andrei Robles, Garrett Weaver. Not Pictured: Calvin Dohrmann, Blaine Dohrmann, Corban Burford



Wilton Girls Wrestling: 1st Row: Josslyn Holladay, Jessica Clark, Kaydence Boorn, Natalie Hartman, Kaelyn Holladay, Eva Thornburg, Alyssa Grau, Dale Paulson. 2nd Row: Averi Etzel, Kaylyn Lopez, Audra Coss, Sydnee Bliss, Ze Schubick, Melany Fitzer, Clara Schneider. Not Pictured: Audrey Cummings, Bella Cummings, Zoe Andreas, Chloe Christianson, Yashielis Crespo-Lopez



Wilton Boys Basketball: 1st Row: Quincy Sawvell, Keller Huthmacher, Oaklan Jirak, Gunner Edwards, Briggs Oien, Oliver Grunder, Bryer Putman. 2nd Row: Aden Dillon, Brylin Kelly, Tommy Drake-Metzger, Kalen Maine, Kale Caffery, Jaxson Drayfahl. 3rd Row: Christian Ochiltree, Aaron Lascelles-Fox, Brandon Thomas, Collin Keith, Nate Hook, Josh Fratzke. 4th Row: Michael Elam, Gabe Allison, Krue Maine

Boys Wrestling

Dec. 5	Northeast Middle/High School East Gym	5:30 PM
Dec. 7	Wapello High School Main Gym	10:00 AM
Dec. 10	Alburnett High School Gym	6:00 PM
Dec. 12	Cascade High School Main Gym	5:30 PM
Dec. 14	Riverdale High School	9:00 AM
Dec. 14	Springville High School	10:00 AM
Dec. 14	Western Dubuque High School Main Gym	10:00 AM
Dec. 21	Central DeWitt High School HS	9:00 AM
Jan. 4	Solon High School Main Gymnasium	9:30 AM
Jan. 9	Wilton High School Gym	5:30 PM
Jan. 11	Highland High School	10:00 AM
Jan. 16	Tipton Middle School	5:30 PM
Jan. 18	Marion High School	9:30 AM
Jan. 23	Mid-Prairie High School HS Gym	5:30 PM
Jan. 25	Louisa-Muscatine High School	9:00 AM
Jan. 25	I-35 High School	9:30 AM
Feb. 1	West Liberty High School Gym	10:00 AM

Girls Wrestling

Nov. 19	Iowa City High Little Hawk Arena	4:30 PM
Nov. 23	Wilton High School Gym	9:30 AM
Nov. 25	West Liberty High School Gym	4:00 PM
Nov. 30	Belle Plaine High School Gym	10:00 AM
Dec. 7	Wapello High School Practice Gym	10:00 AM
Dec. 9	Durant High School HS Gym	5:30 PM
Dec. 14	Marion High School	9:30 AM
Dec. 16	Mid-Prairie High School HS Gym	5:30 PM
Dec. 20	Central DeWitt High School	2:00 PM
Jan. 6	Wilton High School Gym	5:30 PM
Jan. 10	Highland High School Gym	4:00 PM
Jan. 13	West Branch High School	5:30 PM
Jan. 16	Cascade High School	4:30 PM
Jan. 18	Pella High School Main Gym	9:30 PM
Jan. 18	Pella High School	9:30 AM
Jan. 24	West Liberty High School Gym	4:00 PM
Jan. 25	Louisa-Muscatine High School	9:00 AM

Girls Basketball

Dec. 3	@ Monticello	6:00 PM
Dec. 6	vs. Maquoketa	6:00 PM
Dec. 9	@ Mediapolis	6:00 PM
Dec. 10	@ Northeast	6:00 PM
Dec. 13	vs. Regina Catholic	6:00 PM
Dec. 17	@ Mid-Prairie	6:45 PM
Jan. 3	@ Tipton	6:30 PM
Jan. 7	@ Durant	6:30 PM
Jan. 9	@ Anamosa	6:00 PM
Jan. 11	@ Wharton Field House	10:00 AM
Jan. 14	vs. West Branch	6:00 PM
Jan. 17	@ West Liberty	6:00 PM
Jan. 20	vs. Sigourney	5:30 PM
Jan. 21	@ Regina Catholic	6:30 PM
Jan. 23	vs. Prince of Peace	6:00 PM
Jan. 24	vs. Tipton	6:00 PM
Jan. 31	vs. Mid-Prairie	6:00 PM
Feb. 4	vs. West Liberty	6:00 PM
Feb. 7	@ West Branch	6:00 PM
Feb. 10	vs. Alburnett	6:00 PM
Feb. 11	vs. Durant	6:00 PM

Boys Basketball

Nov. 25	@ Hillcrest Academy	6:00 PM
Dec. 3	@ Monticello	7:30 PM
Dec. 6	vs. Maquoketa	7:30 PM
Dec. 9	@ Mediapolis	7:30 PM
Dec. 10	@ Northeast	7:30 PM
Dec. 13	vs. Regina Catholic	7:30 PM
Dec. 17	@ Mid-Prairie	8:15 PM
Jan. 3	@ Tipton	8:00 PM
Jan. 7	@ Durant	7:45 PM
Jan. 9	@ Anamosa	7:30 PM
Jan. 14	vs. West Branch	7:30 PM
Jan. 17	@ West Liberty	7:30 PM
Jan. 21	@ Regina Catholic	8:00 PM
Jan. 23	vs. Prince of Peace	7:30 PM
Jan. 24	vs. Tipton	7:30 PM
Jan. 28	vs. Mount Pleasant	7:30 PM
Jan. 31	vs. Mid-Prairie	7:30 PM
Feb. 4	vs. West Liberty	7:30 PM
Feb. 7	@ West Branch	7:30 PM
Feb. 10	vs. Alburnett	7:30 PM
Feb. 11	vs. Durant	7:30 PM
Feb. 13	@ Camanche	7:30 PM

Schedules via gobound.com & are subject to change

The Wilton Schedules are Sponsored by the following Beaver Boosters

CDS Global
Central City Electric
Community Bank & Trust (Member FDIC)
D.S. Webb & Company
Durant Collision Repair
Hoekstra Masonry
J-M Eagle
Liberty Insurance Agency, Inc.
Oak Tree Homes
Liberty Trust & Savings Bank (Member FDIC)
RIA Federal Credit Union
Sinclair Tractor - John Deere
Today's Dentistry
White Pigeon Mutual Insurance Association
Wilton Bank Office of DeWitt Bank & Trust (Member FDIC)
Wilton Dental
Hoekstra Masonry
Wilton-Durant Advocate News
WTC Communications

"Twas The Opening Night Before Christmas," 2024 Christmas Play

Wilton Christmas show warms 240 hearts during last weekends performances



From left: Mary played by Brenda Ochiltree, and Three Wise Men played by Ben Brown, Bill Voss, and Patrick Slessor. Back row, angels played by Macy Thompson, Grace Jennings, and Violet Foht.

It's Christmas Eve at the church and the pageant must go on in one hour. Even as parishioners are lining up at the door, the players aren't prepared, the producer's big plans are over budget, the directors are engaged in a power struggle, the chorus keeps clucking away, and all the while the pastor's hopes to raise funds to help the homeless hang on a wing and a prayer. At a time when holiday spirits are meant to shine like the star of Bethlehem, the pageant cast and crew are showing as much kindness and composure as the angry, offstage donkey being provoked by an incompetent — and overpaid — wannabe animal handler. Will the show fly in time? Or will it be left grounded like the wingless angels who want only to reach for the stars? Just when it seems like peace on Earth and goodwill is way, far away in another manger, the wise words of the worried pastor — and maybe just a hint of divine intervention — help set things straight in this absurd one-act chock-full of stage humor and lessons about what happens when we forget the true reason for the season.

Directed by **Becky Allgood** and produced by the **Wilton Chamber & Development Alliance** and **Wilton Alumni Association**, this wonderful, crazy and fun Christmas show is and has been a holiday favorite that many folks look forward to each year. The performances were Saturday, December 7 and Sunday December 8 at the Masonic Temple and a total of 240 people attended. This free show is special because we ask the people who come for a donation to the Ministerial Association Fund which helps families in need in the Wilton, Durant and Moscow area. This year the performances raised $1,588 for this fund.

Cast and Crew members are: **Kristi Hager, Carrie Wacker, Jacie Voss, Pastor Jennifer Jennings, Mary Carpenter, Lori Brown, Mike Taylor, Angela Foht, Bill Voss, Ben Brown, Jayne Hullinger, David Duffe, Mike Hein, Luke Thompson, Jason Calvert, Brenda Ochiltree, Pastor Patrick Slessor, Grace Jennings Violet Calvert, Macy Thompson, Wanda Treimer, Anne Lippincott, Kay Hein, Lora Knouse. Emilee Hullinger** and **Ted Marolf.**



WILTON: Council considers tractor replacement bids

Continued from page 1

for the municipal electric utility. However, research indicates that this has never been outlined in the city code. An amended ordinance is needed. There will be a meeting on Monday, Dec. 16, with officials from the city and Municipal Electric. Horne stated, "We need to talk and discuss how we can help each other out." The draft of the ordinance can be found on the city website.

Discussion of UTV/Tractor trade-in

A new tractor is needed to be used for clearing snow in City Park and other areas, including the future multi-use path on 5th Street. Two quotes were presented for trading in an old UTV and a tractor. Horne will bring more numbers and details to the next meeting.

Cheggy launch event

A launch event for Hy-Line North America was scheduled for Tuesday, Dec. 10. It will be attended by people from around the country and the world, including national and state media, as well as local leaders Keith Stanley (Wilton Mayor), Becky Allgood (Wilton Chamber & Development Alliance), and Jeff Horne (Wilton City Administrator). Hy-Line North America is the first chicken hatchery in the United States to use the innovative technology, named Cheggy, to determine whether a chick is male or female before it hatches.

Thanks to public works

Horne thanked Public Works for filling in dirt and grading where the curb was adjusted on 6th Street at Schoolhouse Meadows. He reported, "We have been able to save thousands by doing this sort of finishing work on projects."

City administrator report

Horne continues the budgeting process for 2026. The installation of a new meter at Gerdau is scheduled. Bidding on the project will take place in February. Eleven radios of good quality were purchased for city staff for $3600, providing an extra layer for communication and emergency situations. Work on the City Hall basement, which was flooded, will begin Dec. 12.

City Christmas activities

Excellent weather, a train ride, Christmas tree lighting, wreath displays inside the train depot, and the library Story Walk contributed to a successful Christmas Window Walk. The Community Play was attended by 239 people, raising $1,588 for the Wilton-Durant Ministerial Association to help local families in need.

Mayor and council reports

Mayor Keith Stanley expressed appreciation for the city's Christmas activities. "It was wonderful, and there were tons of people. Santa said his line went on for two hours." Stanley also said that he had received complaints about lots of leaves being scattered about on recent windy days. He suggested that "we may have put the leaf vacuum away too early." Council member, Wayne Budding, suggested that the leaf vacuum could also be brought out in the spring, as some trees drop their leaves then.

Bills

The council approved bills totaling $156,654.81, including:

$26,285.75 to the Hoekstra Masonry for the NW Sidewalk Project

$17,500 to Wilton Chamber & Development Alliance (allocation)

$10,809.72 to the Iowa DOT for gloves and salt

The complete list can be found on the city website.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the Wilton City Council will take place in the Council Chambers, 6 p.m., Monday, Jan. 13, 2025. City Council meetings are open to the public.





Ag experts probe Trump impact at River Valley Coop conference

Panel tells 600 coop members they hope tariff threats are negotiation tactics, not policy

By Mark Ridolfi
NSP Managing Editor



Iowa agriculture journalist Mike Pearson interviews Joe Kerns, Chris Short and Matt Campbell. Index photo by Mark Ridolfi

President Trump's tariff threats may be viewed as theater intended to shake up an international agriculture economy already stressed by global conflict. But big change is coming to American agriculture, and ag-energy profits of the past are not guaranteed.

A panel of experts assembled by River Valley Cooperative offered detailed analysis for more than 600 farm family members filling the Rhythm City Casino ballroom Dec. 5. Tim Burress, CEO of the Scott County-based coop welcomed members.

River Valley's nine-member board includes Neal Keppy, of Eldridge, and Brent Daufeldt, of West Liberty.

About 20 service and product vendors handed out gifts, and door prize raffles included tool chests and pressure washers.

The heart of the event was a two-hour discussion with analysts who offered a bit of gloom, a threat of doom, and some positively bright spots, especially for cattle producers, and those with grain to sell in the next three months.

"They're buying corn ahead of tariffs," said RFD-TV ag journalist Mike Pearson. "The coming months will see our trade partners front-running the tariffs."

After that, the panelists said the world will learn if Trump makes good on threats to disrupt ag trade with the top U.S. partners, Canada and Mexico.

The experts can't imagine he will. But all expect some kind of an uproar.

"I call it the whimsy of the orange man. But it's coming," said Joe Kerns, leader of Partners for Production Agriculture group. He called the 2024 election a victory of Twitter over the *New York Times*.

Kerns also is livestock division president for Ever.Ag, a farm advising, financial service and software provider. He offered the most detailed political analysis, and anticipates Democrats will regroup after Trump's final term.

Fertilizer trading expert Chris Short sees nutrient prices dropping in two years, regardless of tariffs, because of global production expansion.

StoneX commodity risk manager Matt Campbell said Canada and Mexico are integral trade partners, and doubted post-election rhetoric would become policy. If so, he warned that farmers will face the brunt of tariff collateral damage.

'On the verge of real changes ahead'

Pearson opened the two-hour program with a forecast of upheaval he attributes as much to global conflict as the Trump trade threats.

"Now until March you'll see lots of headlines that will impact agriculture as trade breaks down around the world, which I see no matter who was in Washington D.C.," he said.

"We're on the verge of seeing real changes ahead. It's here. The down time is upon us. How are we going to manage?"

Pearson said the biggest U.S. exports are aircraft, weapons, Wall Street financing products and farm commodities.

He doubted those other industries would face the brunt that agriculture has seen.

"Ninety percent of the time it is ag products, and specifically corn and soybeans. We're the segment that's going to be hit the hardest."

A worst-case scenario is retaliatory commodity tariffs by Mexican and Canadian trading partners.

"We'll need something to soak up these bushels that won't be sent overseas. The only thing I see is bio fuels. And we have the return of the worst president for ethanol since the founding of the RFS," or renewable fuel standard, Pearson said.

That standard created Iowa's energy corn wealth, Pearson said. He fears it is at risk in this Congress. "Most Republicans are not in agriculture. They don't understand the impact of our industry," Pearson said.

End of U.S. soybean dominance

He said decisions in the last Trump

RIVER VALLEY, *continued on page 15*

HOLIDAY DEADLINES

Early deadlines are here! Look below to see when you need to have info and ads you want in the paper for upcoming dates.

Christmas week 12/26/24

Bizzzy Bee/Classifieds — Thurs. Dec. 19, 10:00 AM
Advocate News/display — Fri. Dec. 20, 3:00 PM

New Years week 1/2/25

Bizzzy Bee/Classifieds — Thurs. Dec. 26, 10:00 AM
Advocate News/display — Fri. Dec. 27, 3:00 PM

Wilton-Durant Advocate News
410 Cedar St. Wilton (563) 732-2029

YOU **DON'T KNOW** WHAT YOU **DON'T KNOW**...



IOWA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

WITHOUT PUBLIC NOTICE, YOU ARE **LEFT GUESSING**.

A HIDDEN NOTICE IS NO NOTICE AT ALL.

Public notices in our newspaper help you stay informed about government, corporate and private activities that touch your world. An informed citizenry is the core of our democracy.

WHERE CAN I FIND THEM?

Since knowing is so important, we joined the other newspapers in Iowa and also publish our public notices online at www.iowanotices.org.

iowanotices.org
All Iowa public notices in one place... free, searchable and online

RIVER VALLEY: Soybean dominance lost after last U.S. tariff war

Continued from page 14

presidency ended America's domination of the soybean market.

"I'll say it. American soybean exports have peaked in my lifetime," said Pearson.

Trump's 2018 tariffs prompted global investment in South American production.

"In 2018, we kick-started the Brazil crop."

Pearson said $50 billion in Congressional assistance filled farm bank accounts, while overseas trading partners found new soybean supplies.

"When we did a trade war in 2018, Congress gave us $50 billion in payments. We were selling our future soybean production for $50 billion. That's what it was worth to us," Pearson said.

"I think we made a choice in November to hand that permanently to Brazil. But I think we were going to lose our preeminence in agriculture anyway."

He said U.S. soybean production in 2023 was 4.6 billion bushels. Brazil anticipates 6.1 billion bushels this season, Pearson said.

He also suspects little support for renewable fuels in Congress.

"I'm fairly confident saying today that the phrase, 'climate-smart agriculture,' is gone. Secretary Vilsack said it all the time. Come Jan. 20, we'll be done hearing that phrase."

He and other speakers forecast an obituary for soybean based bio diesel, and sustainable aviation fuel. The U.S. Treasury Department under Biden has not yet renewed tax credits for those biofuels, and Trump has touted fossil, not renewable fuel development.

Energy era is over

Government policy drove higher commodity prices that fueled land values and created great wealth, Pearson said. Now, he forecasts an end to big energy subsidies fortifying Iowa agriculture.

"This era is over," he said, displaced by Trump's protectionism. "The era of protectionism is never good for agriculture. A lot of millionaires in this room tonight wouldn't have been millionaires in the 1970s.

That's also why he believes, "we'll see the inflation train come back." Rising electric rates will drive that train, he said.

Pearson said energy prices typically start inflation spirals.

He said the U.S. already is flush with oil production. "We produce 40 percent more oil than Saudi Arabia. Oil will not drive the next inflation spiral."

Data centers drawn to Iowa with taxpayer incentives draw huge amounts of electricity that will push prices up, he said. Artificial intelligence initiatives are driving more data centers.

"Chat GP consumes a staggering amount of electricity. Now, 6.7 percent of American capacity," goes to AI. "It will go to 12 percent," Pearson said. "As AI use spreads, I think electricity could be the energy spiral that kicks inflation into high gear."

Immigration

Trump's insistence on mass deportations, "could be the fly in the ointment for meat production," Pearson said.

Kerns said the rhetoric may be enough. "Day 1, all you have to do is start to threaten it, and they'll leave by themselves," he said.

Kerns said he favors, "a path toward citizenship for more H2A," or seasonal farm workers. "The alternative is to bump up wages until we get the jobs filled."

That seems unlikely. Tyson just closed its Perry, Iowa plant, which Kerns said was paying $27 an hour. "They couldn't get the warm bodies," he said.

"Immigration policy will exacerbate the situation that has been ongoing. If you own a plant, you're going to have to write a big check. We're going to be in undeniable wage inflation," Kerns said.

Farm bill

Congress' failure to produce a farm bill this year, "is the biggest favor we could have. Punting the ball down the road is a win," Kerns said.

"We won by losing," Pearson said.

'Volatility is going to be bananas'

Ever.Ag livestock division president Joe Kerns offered more political analysis. He expects President Trump to move quickly to remove regulations. "Any agency with an acronym, like EPA, will become powerless," Kerns said. "The volatility is going to be bananas."

"Pay attention to rhetoric. Now he's including Mexico and Canada. Immigration? That's the easy one. It's a compelling story. But Canada? Why are we picking on them?"

He noted that Trump jokingly disparaged Canada as becoming the 51st state. "It's all a negotiating tactic. Everything has been thoroughly vetted, but they don't believe a quarter of what they put up."

Kerns expects volatility because he believes Trump interprets the election results as a mandate.

Kerns disagreed.

"The only reason Trump is in is because the Democrats ran an incredibly weak candidate… and six million voters stayed home. The way the Democratic party went about the nomination has not found favor with voting people.

"Who held their nose and voted for Trump?" he asked the audience. About two dozen hands went up in the room of more than 600. "I did the same thing," Kerns said.

"I live in a house with eight women. Makes it hard to support Trump," Kern said with a laugh.

Later in a Q&A period, he predicted a short life to Trump policies.

"The Democrats will regroup, get rid of DEI, and the whole gender policy, and get back in power."

Kerns joined Pearson in touting an end to a farm economy fueled by energy policy and federal subsidies.

RIVER VALLEY, *continued on page 16*



Your source for local news and sports!

Pick us up at any of our great vendors!

DURANT
• Casey's • Jeff's Market
• Hy-Vee Pharmacy

TIPTON
• Wal-Mart
• Tiger Mart

WALCOTT
• Casey's

WILTON
• Casey's • Jeff's Market
• Wilton Express • Candy Kitchen

Wilton-Durant Advocate News

Subscribe and SAVE $17! Call 563-732-2029

Support LOCAL

Put LOCAL SERVICES at the top of your list!

To Advertise: anads@netwtc.net

We love local

CLEANING
Sparkle & Shine
Residential & Business
Call for your FREE estimate today!
Insured & Bonded
Andrea (563) 370-1844
or Shelly (563) 449-6671

CONSTRUCTION
Stecher Carpentry
• Small Home & Farm Repair
• Attic Insulation
• Steel Siding & Small Roofs
• Handyman Services
563-299-4914
563-299-4876

EXCAVATING
Gorsuch Excavating, LLC
Wilton, IA
Tom 563-260-3341
Cory 563-260-7403

ALTERATIONS
Connie Finck, Durant
563-340-5196

HEATING & COOLING
PRICE'S HEATING AIR CONDITIONING PLUMBING
512 5th St. Durant, IA
563-785-4906
www.pricehtg.com

STORAGE
LTD NEW Mini-Storage
563-732-2150

ELECTRIC
CENTRAL CITY ELECTRIC
605 W 2nd Ave, Durant
For ALL your electrical needs.
CALL 563-785-4803 or email us at info@centralcityelectric.com

COLLISON REPAIR
Durant Collision
563-785-6353
•New Ford Aluminum Equipment
•Complete Collision Repair
•Custom Paint Mixing
•Insurance Claims Handled
(563) 785-6353
1303 5th St., Durant
Evenings and Weekends
call 563-320-4308

DENTAL
Cedar Ridge Dental
Dr. Craig Puffer, DDS
Dr. Melissa Blank, DDS
Chelsea Sheppard, RDH
Rachel Puffer, RDH
Becky Boorn, RDH
(563) 886-1800
100 Commerce Blvd., Tipton

DENTISTRY
Wilton Dental
Laura Sass Meincke DDS
Darin Hartvigsen DDS
104 W 4th St., Wilton
563-732-2612

HEATING
Heat your entire home for FREE!
Certified OUTDOOR WOOD FURNACE
Central Boiler Classic Edge
Wilton, IA
Suthers
Heating & Electric
563-260-4841 - Jeff
suthersheat.com

ROOFING
FOR ALL YOUR ROOFING NEEDS
A.R.B. ROOFING COMPANY
563-210-6896
• New Roofs • Tear-Offs
• Roofing Repairs
Adam Budelier
(563) 260-4053 Office

MASONRY
HOEKSTRA MASONRY
Brick | Block | Stone | Concrete
Residential & Commercial
FREE Estimates
(563) 299-9921

HEATING & COOLING
Licensed Bonded Insured
DRS Diversified Repair Services
Plumbing | Heating | Cooling
Call Steve Berry
563-272-9115
Over 30 years of Experience

SEAMLESS GUTTERS
A.R.B.
SEAMLESS GUTTERS & DOWNSPOUTS
563-210-6896
Call Adam today for your FREE ESTIMATE!

Reach 7,000 readers in Wilton and Durant with an ad in the Local!

LEGAL NOTICES

Public Notice

IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT
OF MUSCATINE COUNTY
EQUITY NO: EQCV027594
ORIGINAL NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

Mortgage Assets Management, LLC
Plaintiff,
vs.
Unknown Heirs, Devisees, Creditors, or other Claimants with an interest in the property of Benjamin L. Brockert, Deceased; Lindsey Brockert; Cynthia Corrales; Robert Howard; Todd Knight; Known and Unknown Heirs, Devisees, Creditors, or other Claimants with an interest in the property of Craig Wetzel, Deceased; Angie Shipp; Julie Wetzel; Ray Wetzel; United States of America, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development; State of Iowa, Department of Revenue; Unknown spouse, if any, of Benjamin L. Brockert; Unknown spouse, if any of Ray Wetzel; Unknown spouse, if any, of Angie Shipp; Unknown spouse, if any, of Craig Wetzel; Unknown spouse, if any, of Cynthia Corrales; Unknown spouse, if any, of Julie Wetzel; Unknown spouse, if any, of Lindsey Brockert; Unknown spouse, if any, of Robert Howard; Unknown spouse, if any, of Todd Knight; Parties in Possession, et al.
Defendants.

You are notified that a petition has been filed in the office of this court naming you as a defendant in this action. The petition was filed on October 21, 2024, and prays for foreclosure of Plaintiff's Reverse Mortgage on the property described below and judgment for all amounts secured by the Reverse Mortgage, including (a) the repayment of the debt evidenced by the Note, with interest, and all renewals, extensions and modifications of the Note; and (b) the payment of all other sums, with interest, advanced to protect the lien of the Reverse Mortgage. These other advanced sums may include, but are not limited to, private mortgage insurance, real estate taxes, servicing fees, property preservation charges and the costs of the action, including title costs and reasonable attorney's fees. Plaintiff requests that these amounts be declared a lien upon the following described premises, located in Muscatine county, Iowa:

OUT LOT THREE (3) OF A. SMALLEYS 3RD ADDITION TO SOUTH MUSCATINE, AN ADDITION TO THE CITY OF MUSCATINE, IOWA ACCORDING TO THE RECORDED PLAT THEREOF, commonly known as 1903 Hershey Ave, Muscatine, IA 52761 (the "Property")

The petition further prays that the Reverse Mortgage on the above described real estate be foreclosed, that a special execution issue for the sale of as much of the mortgaged premises as is necessary to satisfy the judgment and for other relief as the Court deems just and equitable. For further details, please review the petition on file in the clerk's office. The Plaintiffs attorney is Richard Reinblatt, of SouthLaw, P.C.; whose address is 10855 W Dodge Road, Suite 250, Omaha, NE 68154.

NOTICE

The plaintiff has elected foreclosure without redemption. This means that the sale of the mortgaged property will occur promptly after entry of judgment unless you file a written demand with the court to delay the sale. If you file a written demand, the sale will be delayed until twelve months (or six months if the petition includes a waiver of deficiency judgment) from the entry of judgment if the mortgaged property is your residence and is a one-family or two-family dwelling or until two months from entry of judgment if the mortgaged property is not your residence or is your residence but not a one-family or two-family dwelling. You will have no right of redemption after the sale. The purchaser at the sale will be entitled to immediate possession of the mortgaged property. You may purchase at the sale.

You must serve a motion or answer on or before 15th day of January, 2025, and within a reasonable time thereafter, you must file your motion or answer with the Clerk of Court for Muscatine County, at the county courthouse in Muscatine, Iowa. If you fail to respond, judgment by default may be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the petition.

If you require the assistance of auxiliary aids or services to participate in a court action because of a disability, immediately call your District ADA Coordinator at 563-326-8783. If you are hearing impaired, call Relay Iowa TTY at 1-800-735-2942.

This case has been filed in a county that utilizes electronic filing. You may find more information and general rules governing electronic filing in Iowa Court Rules Chapter 16. You may find information concerning protection of personal information in court filings in Iowa Court Rules Chapter 16, Division VI.

By:
CLERK OF THE ABOVE COURT
Muscatine County Courthouse
401 East 3rd Street,
Muscatine, IA 52761

IMPORTANT:
YOU ARE ADVISED TO SEEK LEGAL ADVICE AT ONCE TO PROTECT YOUR INTERESTS.

Durant Municipal Electric Plant

Regular Meeting & Public Hearing
December 5, 2024

The Board of Trustees of the Durant Municipal Electric Plant met in regular session in conjunction with a Public Hearing at the Durant Municipal Electric Plant Building. Chairperson, Ken Elshoff called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Trustees Present: Elshoff, Head, & Callison

Trustees Absent: None

DMEP employees: Joel Meincke Superintendent & Allison Lambrecht Office Manager

Also Present: Tom Daufeldt

At 5:30 p.m. Chairperson Elshoff opened the public hearing. This being the time and place specified for taking action on the proposed budget for the calendar year 2025. The budget estimate was considered, and residents heard for and against were as follows: NONE

On a motion by Trustee Elshoff, seconded by Trustee Head, the public hearing was closed at 5:45 p.m. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve resolution Adopting Budget for Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2025: On motion by Trustee Head, seconded by Trustee Callison, a resolution adopting the budget for Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2025, was approved. Passed and approved on 12/05/2024 by the following roll call vote: Ayes: Head, Elshoff, Callison. Nays: None

Absent: None

At 5:45 p.m. Chairperson Elshoff opened the regular meeting.

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Superintendent's Report: Joel updated the board members on the daily operations of the month with several items being discussed.

Approve Minutes of November 14, 2024, Regular Meeting: A motion was made by Trustee Elshoff, seconded by Trustee Head, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on November 14, 2024, as written. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Discuss/Approve Office Computers Quote: After discussion Trustee Head made a motion, seconded by Trustee Elshoff, to approve a quote from Mainstay Systems LLC for new office computers to stay compatible with software programing.

Discuss/Approve Write-Off accounts: No accounts were presented to be written off this year due to upcoming software changes and the possibility of account information getting lost.

Appointments: Legal Firm, CPA Firm, Official Depository, and Depository IPAIT for Purchase Power $100,00.00, Chairperson of the Board, Chairman Protem of the Board, Secretary of the Board, and Secretary for the Board:

On a motion by Trustee Callison , seconded by Trustee Elshoff, the following appointments were made for 2025: to retain Robert C. Meyer as our general legal firm, to retain Bohnsack & Frommelt LLP as our CPA, to retain Liberty Trust & Savings Bank as our official depository, to retain IPAIT as our official depository for purchase power at $100,000.00, to appoint Ken Elshoff as the Chairperson of the Board, to appoint Bret Callison as the Chairperson Pro-tem, to appoint T.J. Head as the secretary of the Board, to appoint Allison Lambrecht as the secretary for the board. Motion carried 3-0.

Review Energy Cost Adjustment: After review of the documents prepared, a motion was made by Trustee Callison, seconded by Trustee Head, to continue with actions of previous months regarding energy cost adjustment on the January 1 bills. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approval of Disbursements: On a motion by Trustee Elshoff, seconded by Trustee Callison, warrants numbered 19227 through and to include number 19251 and electronic payments dated from November 15, 2024, through December 5, 2024 were approved. Motion carried by a 3-0 vote.

There being no further business to come before the board, a motion was made by Trustee Elshoff, seconded by Trustee Callison, to adjourn at 6:10 p.m. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Ken Elshoff , Chairperson of the Board
ATTEST:
Allison Lambrecht, Office Manager

CLAIMS REPORT
December 5, 2024

ADVANTAGE ADMINISTRATORS INC, DMEP PORTION HRA	530.93
ARNOLD MOTOR SUPPLY, ANTIFREEZE DIRT VAC.	47.44
CARDMEMBER SERVICE, TAILLIGHTS/OFFICE/TOOLS	7,001.39
CEDAR COUNTY TRANSFER STATION, DUMP TAILER LOAD TRANSFR STN	136.00
CBI BANK & TRUST, HSA	176.92
CITY OF DURANT, CITY WATER	203.40
CULLIGAN WATER CONDITIONING, BOTTLED WATER	59.83
DURANT POSTMASTER, 20 ROLLS POSTCARD STAMPS	1,120.00
EFTPS, FED/FICA TAX	7,797.46
GWORKS, 2025 GWORKS SOFTWARE	15,000.00
IMAGES IN INK, DOOR TAGS/MTR BOOKS/MTR SHEETS	588.50
INTERSTATE POWER SYSTEMS, ANTIFREEZE GENERATORS	290.44
IOWA ONE CALL, OCTOBER ONE CALLS	33.30
IOWA UTILITIES COMMISSION, IUC INSPECTION	1,896.59
IPAIT, OCTOBER PURCHASE POWER	57,096.92
IPERS, IPERS	4,622.63
LIBERTY TRUST & SAVINGS, NOVEMBER ACH FEE	39.20
MARTIN EQUIPMENT, EQUIPMENT TRAILER	12,879.61
PRICE OIL COMPANY, TRUCK FUEL/GENERATOR FUEL	3,171.69
STUART C IRBY CO, HOT STICK TESTING	1,560.25
TREASURER CEDAR CO, SALES TAX TRAILER	643.98
TREASURER STATE OF IA01, STATE TAX	1,315.82
WELLMARK INC, DEC EMP HEALTH INS	3,650.35
WILTON/DURANT ADVOCATE, NOVEMBER MTG MINS/ PUBLIC HRG	192.02
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE TOTAL	120,054.67
PAYROLL TOTAL	20,538.87
REPORTS TOTAL	$140,593.54

Muscatine County Board of Supervisors

Monday, December 2, 2024

The Muscatine County Board of Supervisors met in special session at 9:00 A.M. with Kirchner, Mather and Sorensen present. Chick and Sauer were absent. Chairperson Sorensen presiding.

On a motion by Mather, second by Kirchner, the agenda was approved as presented. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Mather, second by Kirchner, the Board approved the following utility permit: Unite Private Networks, LLC, Cedar Rapids, Iowa – installation of 2 – 1 ¼" conduit with 96 count fiber, from Highway 61 heading south on Solomon Avenue to tower UPN-9175, Section 19 - T77N-01W. Ayes: All.

On a motion by Mather, second by Kirchner, the Board approved Change Order #1 with TnT Tuckpointing and Building Restoration for additional painting and sealing work for the Muscatine County Courthouse Roofing Project in the amount of $5,164.82. Ayes: All.

Planning and Zoning Administrator Eric Furnas updated the Board on the Muscatine County Courthouse Roofing project in regards to the repairs/replacement of the wooden planking and deck.

The Board held discussion and review of a Professional Services Agreement with Schneider Geospatial to eliminate the Sidwell bill and replace it with a part of the Schneider Parcel Maintenance with County Auditor Tibe Vander Linden and County Assessor Randy Spies. Spies stated the agreement is a continuation of the presentation held in May 2024 with the Board. Spies stated the delay to move forward has been due to waiting on MAGIC to install a new server and Parcel Pro program. Spies explained the opportunity to sign an agreement for the Schneider Parcel Maintenance is to keep the Assessor and Auditor departments caught up with real estate splits/combinations and surveys. The agreement for the parcel maintenance is for up to 100 real estate parcel splits/combinations annually, which will be roughly a $4,000 increase from the current agreement. The annual cost will be split between the Assessor and Auditor budgets. Sorensen stated his concern with who should bear the cost for this service, should it be the property owner instead of the tax payer. Spies stated it may be possible to track the labor per survey cost and charge a fee. Spies stated a work station is already set up in the Assessor's office for Schneider. Furnas stated currently a fee of $250 is charged for a subdivision application, whether it is a one lot parcel or multiple lot subdivision. Furnas stated a multiple lot subdivision requires much more line work and perhaps an additional fee should be considered. The Board consensus was to review the possible additional fees for subdivisions and place the authorization of signature for the Schneider Geospatial agreement on the next Board meeting agenda.

On a motion by Kirchner, second by Mather, the Board approved the minutes of the November 25, 2024 regular meeting and the November 27, 2024 special meeting. Ayes: All.

Correspondence:

Kirchner received a call from a resident on 190th Street, South of Nichols with a drainage ditch concern. County Engineer Bryan Horesowsky contacted the resident.

Committee & Meeting Reports:

Sorensen attended an Eastern Iowa Mental Health Region meeting on November 25, 2024.

County Attorney Jim Barry held discussion with the Board regarding a requested modification to the City of Muscatine's Indoor Sports Complex ARPA agreement. Barry stated the current ARPA written agreement states the funds to be expended by the end of the year, however the contracts are in place and the other requested modification is for the project funding to not be a last resort funding. Budget Administrator Kala Naber stated the City has asked for the expenditure date be moved to September 30, 2025 as the original date was December 31, 2024. The City of Muscatine will be making a presentation of the requested modifications at the next Board meeting. Sorensen recommended the amendment to the contract be prepared for the next meeting.

Mather asked County Engineer Bryan Horesowsky when the completion date for the Moscow Road is expected. Horesowsky stated the majority of the concrete work is done with clean up and striping to be completed possibly by mid-December.

Furnas reminded the public the Public Hearing for the presentation of Comprehensive Plan amendments is scheduled for December 12, 2024, 6:00 p.m. at the Discovery Center.

Vander Linden thanked the Auditor staff, Recount Board members and the public for a successful recount of U.S. Representative District 1. The recount of ballots was held by voting equipment on November 20, 2024.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:38 A.M.

ATTEST:
Tibe Vander Linden
County Auditor

Jeff Sorensen, Chairperson
Board of Supervisors

Wilton food pantry hours

The Durant-Wilton Food Pantry, located at 408 Cedar St. in Wilton will be open Tuesday, Dec. 17, 9-11 a.m. and 6-7 p.m.

The Clothes Closet, located at 600 E. 5th St. in Wilton will be open Saturday, Dec. 21, 9 a.m. - noon.





ROCK VALLEY: Analysts question future of ag energy subsidies

Continued from page 15

"We knew we were wealthy. A large portion is attributable to the biofuels movement after 9/11," he said. "We are wealthy guys and the key component is biofuels policy has made us rich."

"Bio diesel had its heyday," he said, posting a slide that condemned some popular Iowa alternative fuel strategies.

"The ethanol ship has already sailed. As a fuel, neutral (at best) relative to petroleum when comparing BTUs.

Sustainable aviation fuel, "is a terrible idea from a physics standpoint. Forty percent of energy is required to break the oxygen from the molecule. Bio-diesel is dead, was a bad idea from the start. Renewable diesel is a societal plague that our grandchildren will never forgive us for implementing."

He also agreed that American soybean dominance will end.

He blamed contracts with Chinese and other foreign-owned packers.

"Animal agriculture has become a serf to the packing community as we largely have squandered the ownership of our future," Kerns said.

"We, the animal production industry in the United States, have not developed an economically sustainable model in a standalone fashion. We have leaned against the appreciation of land assets in the agronomic realm while our animal assets have largely returned nothing.

"Our wealth has come from bio fuels policy and appreciation of land."

He too said the last Trump tariffs pushed old U.S. soybean customers to South America.

"The clock is ticking on beans. Two more months before we know," he said. "After the Brazil harvest, it's game over," for beans.

'Carbon sequestration is going nowhere'

Kerns also condemned the carbon waste pipeline plans across Iowa and the Midwest.

"Who invested in carbon sequestration?" he asked. "I did. I think I just wasted all my money. I wish I had my money back on that one… Carbon sequestration is going nowhere."

He ended with a slide summarizing conclusions.

"The world is about to change. Dramatically. The tenets were already present. The Trump presidency turns up the volume…

"The easy money in agronomic agriculture is gone… The Donald will complicate all of this, probably more detrimental than not.



Mike Pearson's assessment of Trump cabinet picks

EPA chief nominee Lee Zeldin: "It should be a lighter regulation touch. Pesticide and herbicide strategies will change with this guy," Pearson said. The former Long Island, New York Republican congressman has favored more oil production, and making the United States the artificial intelligence capital of the world.

"But I'm nervous about biofuels if we can't get in front of him. But I think we'll have a chance with Mr. Zeldin.

U.S. Trade Representative nominee Jamieson Greer

Pearson warned: "He's a big believer in the use of tariffs to make American industry strong."

Treasury secretary nominee Scott Bessent

Pearson noted Bessent, "left the Soros team in 2017. "That's a big swapperroo, Soros to Trump."

Robert F. Kennedy Jr., nominee for Health and Human Services Secretary.

Pearson expects Kennedy will not win senate confirmation. "He's made a ton of enemies in the Senate," Pearson said.

But he expects Kennedy will have the President's ear on nutrition, and has condemned ADM's staple, high fructose corn syrup

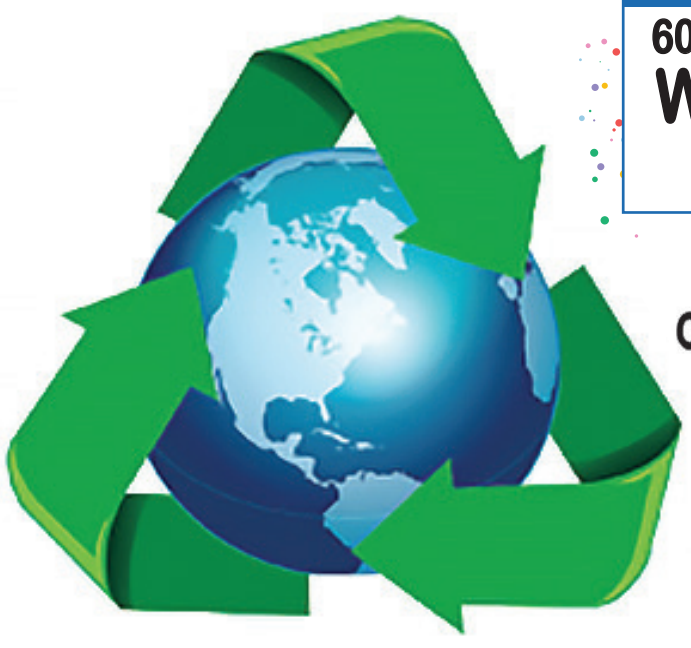
You watch the RFJ YouTube video. He says, 'This food is poison.'" But that same day, Kennedy is picture sharing a McDonalds lunch with Trump.

"How many poisons do you think are in a Big Mac?" Pearson asked the audience.

Pearson expects more RJK Jr. rhetoric. "But Trump will feed him some Mickey Ds and he'll slow down."

Bend of the River BIZZY BEE CLASSIFIED ADS
Contact your local paper to advertise on these pages.
A Supplement to The North Scott Press, Wilton-Durant Advocate News & West Liberty Index • Serving over 22,000 readers every week!

CLAYTON COUNTY RECYCLING
BUYING
All Types Of Scrap Metal, Sell Now!
11 LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU



NOW SERVING WILTON IA
601 Ayres Progress Drive,
Wilton, IA 52778
563-732-2304

11645 Echo Ave
Monona, IA 52159
563-539-4757

1802 S Park St
Madison, WI 53713
608-225-0960

400 41st Ave Dr SW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404
319-365-4248

1560 400th St
Kensett, IA 50448
641-845-2990

643 Commerce St
Holmen, WI 54636
608-526-9358

2792 130th St
Belmond, IA 50448
641-444-4633

2124 Hwy 38
Manchester, IA 52057
563-927-1425

7296 Division Rd
Tomah, WI 54660
608-372-3295

419 West Union ST
Belmont, WI 53510
608-762-5308

W9794 Hwy 33
Nonewoc, WI 53968
608-464-5552

www.ccrrecycling.com

Bend of the River BIZZZY BEE CLASSIFIED ADS

Contact your local paper to advertise on these pages.

A Supplement to The North Scott Press, Wilton-Durant Advocate News & West Liberty Index • Serving over 22,000 readers every week!



Vaccines are your best shot at prevention

1. **Vaccines protect.**
   Vaccines protect not only yourself but also your friends, families and communities.
2. **Vaccines are safe.**
   The United States has the safest, most effective vaccine supply.
3. **Vaccines are not just for kids.**
   Over time, protection from childhood vaccines can wear off leaving adults at risk for diseases.

IOWA | Health and Human Services

Talk to your **healthcare provider** about vaccines today.

EASTERN AUCTION CO EST. 2016 IOWA

Whether you need hay to feed your animals this winter or have extra on hand you would like to sell, Eastern Iowa Auctions has you covered!

Auction dates:

Saturday, December 21st
Saturday, February 15th
Saturday, January 18th
Saturday, March 15th



Sale starts at noon
2088 Atalissa Rd., Atalissa, IA 52720
Contact:
Donovan Yoder (319)530-4633
or Chad Claussen (563-349-5089



REALTOR® MLS

Ruhl FARM&LAND

A Division of Ruhl&Ruhl REALTORS

DENNIS STOLK, ALC
(563) 441-5172 Direct
(563) 210-2385 Cell

Davenport, Iowa
Member
RLI Lands of America
Listing Service

• Accredited Land Consultant
• Over 40 years of real estate experience, specializing in farmland, investment land, commercial and country properties.

"If you are thinking of buying or selling land, an acreage or a rural home, call Dennis for a confidential consultation."

• To view my current listings, go to dennisstolk.ruhlhomes.com

Thank you to these advertisers who make your local newspaper possible! Tell them you saw their ads in your local paper!

Bend of the River BIZZZY BEE

Wheel Deal

40-word ad $35 –
Run your vehicle ad in 3 Papers until it SELLS!

For private party car/truck sales only. Ad runs in North Scott Press, Wilton-Durant Advocate News, West Liberty Index until car sells. Ad must include price. Price may be reduced but not increased. Some restrictions apply. Call (563) 285-8111 or place at northscottpress.com/classifieds.

AUCTION

SUNDAY | December 15| 10:00

Collectors Hall – 135 West Center St. – Cambridge, IL

Visit our website for a much larger listing
LIVE IN PERSON Auction | GREAT photos on website
Bid online at stenzelauction.hibid.com

Pete Nelson, Rock Island – Plus other great collectors will sell the following at the above place and time. Plan to attend and bring your friends.

Lionel Trains & Accessories (lg. selection of 1950s); Collection of vintage Christmas decorations; Nice collection of collectible glassware of all kinds; Paperweights; Primitives of all kinds; Lg. variety of advertisng tire ashtrays; Variety of World's Fair collectibles; Adv. thermometers; Adv. beer trays & clocks; Lg. variety of adv. signs; Vintage etched beer glasses; Adv. pinback buttons; Variety of stoneware & pottery pcs. and other brewiana collectibles; Marbles; Antique oak furniture plus other nice furniture. This is a large auction with something for everyone. Plan to attend and bring a friend.

STENZEL AUCTION SERVICE, INC.

STENZEL AUCTION SERVICE INC. & Collectors Hall

AUCTIONEERS: JASON STENZEL
JANA (STENZEL) GUINN
135 W Center St., Cambridge, IL 61238
309.937.1444

www.StenzelAuction.com

PC **FARMS FOR SALE** Peoples Company

WHITESIDE COUNTY, IL

NEW LISTING - 122 a. M/L, 124.3 PI, located west of Morrision, IL.

NEW LISTING - 507.34 a., level, 472.11 tillable, 124.1 PI, many recent improvements. On Hwy. 30 west of Morrison, IL

CLINTON COUNTY, IA

NEW LISTING - 116.5 a. M/L, 103.99 tillable,12.29 CRP acres, 87.3 CSR2. Just north of Welton Ia. $17,500/Ac

PENDING - 27.37 a. M/L, level development ground in DeWitt, Ia. City Limits. $25,000/Ac.

PENDING - 27.38 a. M/L, level development ground in DeWitt, Ia. City Limits. $25,000/Ac.

PENDING - 85.77 Acres, within Camanche City limits. Hwy. 30 frontage, potential development land. Asking $8,000/A.

JACKSON COUNTY, IA

***Commercial Property*:** South of Maquoketa. On a hard road w/high visibility. Currently a John Deere dealership. $675,000

NEW LISTING - 38 a. M/L, 27 est. tillable acres. 61.1 CSR2. The farm has a 2,740 sq. ft. house built in 1988 w/several outbuildings. House & buildings can be bought separately. Just west of Baldwin. Call for price.



ALAN MCNEIL - 563.321.1125
IA LIC S64136000

DOUG YEGGE - 563.320.9900
IA LIC B14481000

700 6th Avenue, DeWitt, Iowa 563.659.8185
PEOPLESCOMPANY.COM

Bend of the River BIZZZY BEE

Over 22,000 Readers each week through The North Scott Press, Wilton-Durant Advocate News and West Liberty Index!

Classified Advertising Rates

SERVICES
First Insertion
40-word ad $15
Extra words 25¢/word
Three-time Special
(No Refunds)
40-word ad $30 Extra words.
25¢/word/week
Extra Insertions*
40-word ad $12
Extra words 20¢/word

Garage Sales
40-word ad $20
Extra words 25¢/word
After Garage Sale Ad
40-words $8
Extra words 20¢/word
Advertise items not sold. Ad must run the first week after your garage sale. This price is available only if you advertised your garage sale with us!
Wheel Deal (No Refunds)

40-word ad $35
For private party car/truck sales only. Ad runs in North Scott Press, Wilton-Durant Advocate News, West Liberty Index until car sells. Ad must include price. Price may be reduced but not increased. Some restrictions apply. Call or stop at our office for details.

Terms: Payment in advance

Deadline for the Bizzy Bee ads is Friday at 10:00 a.m.
STOP IN, Call, Email or Place Online at:

The North Scott Press
(563) 285-8111
adsales@northscottpress.com
www.northscottpress.com

Wilton-Durant Advocate News
(563) 732-2029
anads@netwtc.net
www.wdadvocatenews.com

West Liberty Index
(319) 627-2814
anads@netwtc.net
www.westlibertyindex.com

Bend of the River BIZZZY BEE

CLASSIFIED ADS

Contact your local paper to advertise on these pages.

A Supplement to The North Scott Press, Wilton-Durant Advocate News & West Liberty Index • Serving over 22,000 readers every week!

NORTH SCOTT AREA ADS

Automotive

2010 CHRYSLER TOWN AND COUNTRY Van, original owner, very good condition, heated seats, 3rd row seating, 125,000 miles. $5,000. Call 563-920-7935. 46-WD

1999 FORD F250 LARIAT Super Duty truck with 101,000 miles. 4 wheel drive, has bed cap cover, new battery installed, well maintained. Has some rust starting on lower corner of driver's side cab and of course very minor rust around the wheel well edge. No trades, cash only. $7,000. Have title in hand. Contact Brent Bloomingdale, 563-370-7483. 34-WD

Business Services

TOP NOTCH PLUMBING SERVICE 563-320-0114. eow-tfn

Cemetery Plots

FOR SALE: Cemetery plots, Davenport Memorial Park Garden of Peace. 2 plots side by side, open and closing of plots for $2,500. You will pay the transfer fee. Current cemetery costs over $8,000. 319-648-4033. 49-3xf

Facility Rentals

DAVENPORT IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE will rent its hall for parties, receptions, weddings, graduations, bowling banquets, etc. 8402 N. Harrison St., Davenport (Mt. Joy), Iowa. Contact Paula at 563-940-2676 or the club at 563-391-5200. TFN.

Farm Equipment

1939 JOHN DEERE MODEL A Built and shipped to Preston, IA, February 1, 1939. Excellent condition. Base coat, clear coat paint. Runs well. Located in Davenport. Please call for more information. 563-505-5560. 48-3x

Miscellaneous Items

MEN'S HEAVY BLACK LEATHER JACKETS Sizes 1XL & 2XL. Vented zippered areas, zipper and snap closures, quilt linings, extra long sleeves. Decorative braided design. Excellent condition. Call 563-210-3059. 48-3xf

Notices

NOTICE: Placing your classified ads in The Bizzzzy Bee is fast and easy with our website, www.northscottpress.com. Click "classifieds"; then "place an ad." Type your ad copy and submit with credit card payment in one easy step.

ATTENTION READERS! The North Scott Press is concerned that none of its subscribers and readers be victimized by any advertising placed on these pages. Yet there is no way we can check the validity of offers or promises made by these advertisers, many of whom are located in distant places. We could ourselves be liable of discrimination if we refuse to accept this advertising. Please exercise common sense in responding to certain ads. If you make a phone call and are asked to send money for more information or a product, recognize that you may be disappointed in what you receive compared to what you have paid. (Usually you can get your money back if you act promptly). Remember the adage, "If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is."

Real Estate

HOUSE FOR SALE: Split foyer home needing TLC. 4 bedroom, 1 full bath. Newer furnace, central air and roof. New water heater. Will need new flooring throughout. Asking $160,000. 6804 Wilkes Ave., Davenport. Call 563-676-7691. 49-3xf

Sport and Utility Vehicles

HONDA ATC: 1983 Honda 185S 3-wheeler. New carburator, runs excellent. Please call for more information. Located in Davenport. $1,900 OBO. 563-505-5560. 48-3x

WILTON/DURANT AREA ADS

Apartments for Rent

FOR RENT: 2 BR apt. Stove, refrig., D.W., coin-op laundry in hall. $600/month, $600 deposit plus utilities. 563-506-5775 35-AN-TFN

STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADS

Miscellaneous

ELIMINATE GUTTER CLEANING FOREVER! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off entire purchase. Plus 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-855-913-1560.

PREPARE FOR POWER OUTAGES today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 7-year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-855-954-5087 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

SAFE STEP North America's #1 Walk-In-Tub. Comprehensive lifetime wararnty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and $1,600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-844-376-4154

WEST LIBERTY AREA ADS

Employment

WEST LIBERTY INDEX: Like to shoot pictures? Have good equipment? We will pay to to cover events for the West Liberty Index as a freelance photographer. Get your pictures in print. We're looking for someone who would go to an event and take good, creative people pictures. Send samples of your work to adnews@netwtc.net.

WEST LIBERTY INDEX: Can you write? Want to earn some extra money? Have you ever considered covering a meeting or writing a feature? The West Liberty Index needs you. Send any samples of your personal information to adnews@netwtc.net.

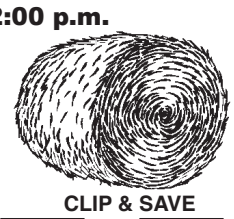
CLIP & SAVE

Hay & Straw Sale

Dec.14, Jan.11, Feb.8 & Mar. 8

Sale Begins Promptly at 12:00 p.m.

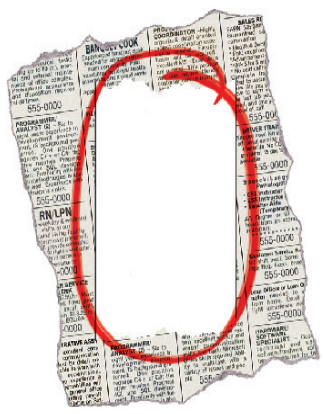
For info - Danny Winkelman, (563) 508-1715. Membership in the Hay Assoc. is required to sell your hay or straw.



CLIP & SAVE

The former Barnes Welding & Fabricating building, Blue Grass, IA • East edge of Blue Grass on Mayne St., across from the post office

Hay and straw for sale must arrive by **11:00 a.m.** Hay will be sold by the bale.



WE'RE HOLDING A SPOT FOR YOU!

Place your ad in front of 22,000 readers in the Bend of the River Bizzzy Bee for as little as $15! Call your local paper or place your ad online at www.northscottpress.com/classifieds.

Mamas Parlor

— Cafe and Catering —

Booking Now For The Holidays 24 Hour Notice Needed

Ham $7.99 lb • Turkey $9.99 lb
Meatloaf $8.99 lb
Prime Rib $17.99 lb
Lasagna $31.99*
Chicken Fettuccine Alfredo $31.99*
*9x13 pan • HOT AND READY

TRAYS Small $35 • Large $50
Fruit • Vegetable • Meat
Cheese • Meat & Cheese
Shrimp • Mini Sandwich
Meatballs • Lil' Smokies

Merry Christmas!

FRIDAY & SATURDAY Prime Rib

CORNED BEEF & CABBAGE | JAN. 4

10 Grove Road • Park View • 563.285.6262 • In the Strip Mall Behind Casey's

The Wheatland Manor Golden Rule:

Treat each resident with respect, dignity, and understanding with which we expect to be treated; give to each resident the love and kindness which we hope to receive.

Wheatland Manor — Skilled Nursing Facility
Lincolnway Villa — Assisted Living

We're seeking compassionate, caring individuals to join our amazing team!

Five-Star Rating by Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services



Now Hiring for:

- Universal Worker
- CNA, LPN, & RN Nurses
- Housekeeping/Laundry
- Cooks & Dietary Aides

- Flexible Schedule
- Full-Time and Part-Time Positions Available
- Insurance Available
- Company-Matching Retirement Plan



Wheatland Manor
316 E. Lincolnway St.
Wheatland, IA 52777
(563) 374-1295

Lincolnway Villa
320 E. Lincolnway St.
Wheatland, IA 52777
(563) 374-1711

www.wheatmanor.com

Wheatland Manor — Skilled Nursing Facility

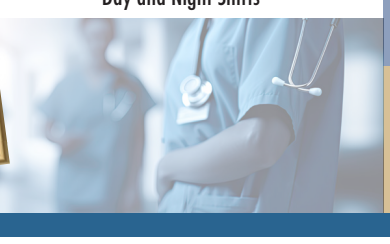
Five-Star Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services Rating

Currently Hiring:

Nurses (RN/LPN)

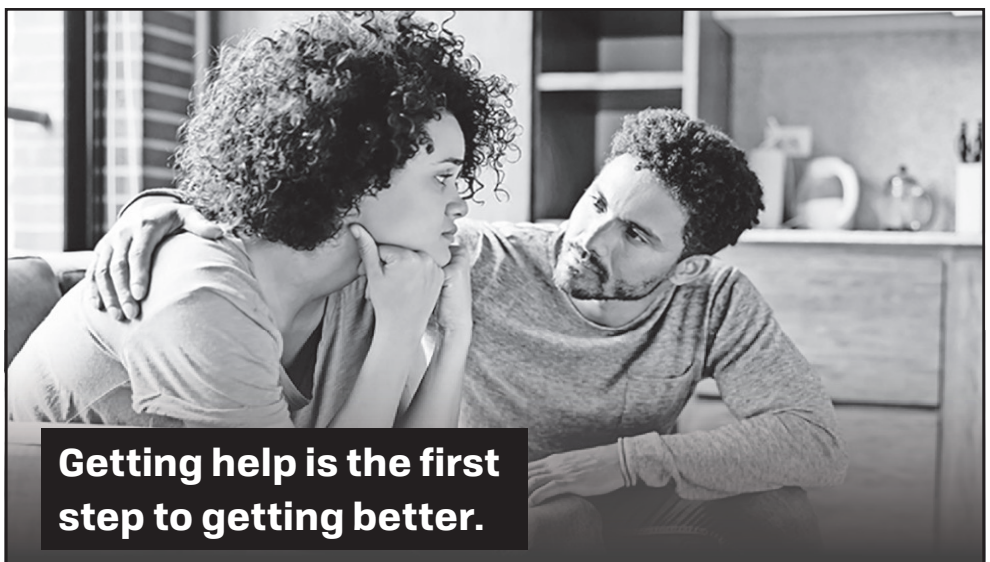
- Full-Time and Part-Time Positions Available
- Day and Night Shifts





- Sign-On Bonus
- Full-Time Benefits
- Retirement Package
- Competitive Wages
- Company-Matching Retirement Plan
- Flexible Schedule

Wheatland Manor
316 E Lincolnway St.
Wheatland, IA 52777
(563) 374-1295
www.wheatmanor.com



Getting help is the first step to getting better.

If someone you love has a problem with gambling, they likely feel powerless to control it. 1-800-BETS OFF can help.

It's a free, confidential, 24/7 resource that can help you and your loved one find an experienced treatment professional.

Call 1-800-BETS OFF today to get help for them — and you.

1-800-BETS OFF
Iowa HHS

Wilton-Durant
Advocate News

TIME TO RENEW your subscription?

Here are 4 easy ways

1 **Mail:** PO Box 40, Wilton, IA 52778

2 **Visit:** 410 Cedar Street, Wilton

3 **Call:** 563-732-2029

4 **Online:** wdadvocatenews.com

Miss a week...you miss a lot!

Cash | Check | Credit Card

Contact us today!

mastercard. VISA® DISCOVER NETWORK