

# Public Notice

## PUBLIC NOTICE Attention All Property Owners of Ringgold County

Pursuant to Chapter 317 of the Code of Iowa, all noxious weeds should be destroyed on all property by Saturday, June 1, 2024. Destruction may be accomplished by spraying, cutting, or any other means which prevents seed production. Failure to comply shall result in the destruction of the noxious weeds by county forces at the owner's expense. All costs, including all expenses for supervision and administration, will be taxed against the real estate on which the noxious weeds are destroyed.

MARTY SCHNOOR  
Ringgold County  
Weed Commissioner  
PH. 641-464-3232

**Primary Noxious Weeds**  
Quack Grass  
Perennial Sow Thistle  
Canada Thistle  
Bull Thistle  
Field Bindweed  
(European Morning Glory)  
Horse Nettle  
Leafy Spurge  
Perennial Pepper-grass  
Russian Knapweed  
Buckthorn

All other species of thistles belonging in the genera of Cirsium and Carduus Palmer Amaranth.

**Secondary Noxious Weeds**  
Butterprint Annual  
Cocklebur Annual  
Wild Mustard Annual  
Wild Carrot Biennial  
Buckhorn Perennial  
Sheep Sorrel Perennial  
Sour Dock  
Smooth Dock Perennial  
Poison Hemlock  
Multiflora Rose  
Wild Sunflower Annual  
Puncture Vine Annual  
Teasel Biennial  
Shattercane Annual

# Be aware of storm-chaser scams

Following the severe weather this past weekend, Iowa Attorney General Brenna Bird is warning Iowans of scammers and shady contractors who exploit natural disaster victims.

These fraudsters prey on vulnerable Iowans seeking repairs after a natural disaster, draining their bank accounts while failing to deliver.

Iowans should be on guard for clean-up, home repair, and construction contractors asking for advance payment.

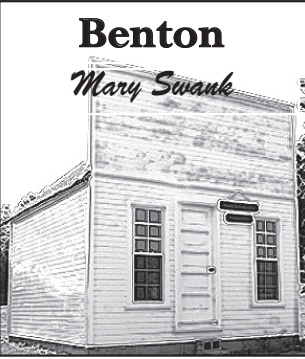
"The storms that tore through Iowa over the weekend destroyed homes and livelihoods," said Attorney General Bird. "My heart goes out to every Iowan who was hit. This is when we need to lean on each other more than ever, neighbor-to-neighbor, and keep an eye out for those who seek to take advantage of Iowans' hardships. Iowans are resilient, but they should not need to fight off scammers while rebuilding their lives. Before hiring a contractor, take your time, do your research, and protect yourself from falling victim to a storm-chaser scam. My office is always a resource to those who suspect they are being targeted by scammers."

## Top 8 Tips to Avoid Storm-Chaser Scams:

1. Beware of Aggressive Sales Tactics: Do not feel pressured to immediately make repair choices. Get multiple estimates before agreeing to repairs.
2. Check Contractor Reputation: Before signing a contract or paying any money, check a contractor's reputation through government resources and with trusted family, friends, and neighbors. Resources include:  
Iowa Workforce Development Contractor Registration: [https://laborportal.iwd.iowa.gov/iwd\\_portal/publicSearch/public](https://laborportal.iwd.iowa.gov/iwd_portal/publicSearch/public).  
Better Business Bureau complaint database: [www.bbb.org](http://www.bbb.org).
3. To see if a contractor has been part of a lawsuit involving a scam or shady situation, visit Iowa Courts Online: <https://www.iowacourts.state.ia.us/ESAWebApp/DefaultFrame>.
4. Contact the Iowa Attorney General's at [consumer@ag.iowa.gov](mailto:consumer@ag.iowa.gov) or (515) 281-5926 to check complaint history.
5. Verify Contractor Identification: Request a contractor's driver's license and take pictures of their vehicles' license plates.
6. Get a Written Contract: Avoid large up-front payments and never sign a contract that allows the contractor to exclusively decide on final price, scope of work, or materials.
7. Work Directly with your Insurance Company: Do not let the contractor negotiate repairs with your insurer or let them act as your adjuster. While contractors can advise you, your insurance company is your primary contact.
8. Avoid Risky Payment Methods: Never pay by bank wire transfer, gift card, cryptocurrency, or cash.
9. Beware of FEMA Scams: Know that FEMA does not charge application fees. If someone wants money to help you qualify for FEMA funds, it is a scam.
10. Know your Cancellation Rights: In most situations, you have three business days to cancel a home repair contract after signing it.

Price gouging occurs when an Iowan is charged excessive prices for essential goods or services following disaster. Whether a price is excessive is generally based on pre-disaster prices. The law recognizes a reasonable pricing structure for the recovery period that may allow some increase in prices.

If you are suspicious of a storm-chaser scam or price gouging, contact the Iowa Attorney General's Office at 888-777-4590 or file a complaint online at <https://www.iowaattorneygeneral.gov/for-consumers/file-a-consumer-complaint>.



Modern Mothers Club met Wednesday at Rumors. Those present were Kati Blunck, Kay Hove, Mary Kathryn Gepner and Shirley Klejch.

Wednesday, Junior Swank and Mike Swank attended the funeral for Larry "Zoomer" Westphal held at the Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Fontanelle.

Cathy Kilgore was a Friday visitor of Ann Baker.

Saturday, Mike Gepner and Mary Kathryn Gepner went to Creston for granddaughter Lexi Camacho's dance recital. Michael, Johnnie and Letti Camacho also attended.

Saturday visitors of Ann Baker were Beverly Straight and Cecilia Schultz.

LeaAnn and Nicholas Swank participated in the dance recital over the weekend. Matt Swank danced with LeaAnn Swank in one of one of the scenes.

Visitors during the week of Junior and Mary Swank were Mike Swank and Richard Swank.

Sunday, Mary Kathryn Gepner went to the Stanberry, MO area to visit her friend June Blair.

## Coffee With The Girls

Linda Bell  
News from Clearfield



Monday morning after Bible study we got busy getting all the garage sale donations out and displayed. Each time we have a garage sale, we always agree that there is more stuff than ever before. This time there is so much new stuff.

The biggest news this week was the strong storms all over the state of Iowa on Friday. A veteran storm chaser reported that the one over west of here was the biggest, more powerful than any he had ever seen. He was so scared he drove away from it. The dog and I went to the basement when the siren went off.

We were blessed here

Continued on page 5

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## Come Celebrate 50845

**WEDNESDAY MAY 8TH 2024 4-8 PM**

**ON BROADWAY ST IN DIAGONAL**

**4 - BAKE OFF**

**5-8 - LIVE MUSIC DUSTIN BAIRD**

**5:45 - CORNHOLE TOURNEY**

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**641-322-3046**

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**CLARINDA**  
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**712-542-5603**

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**CRESTON**  
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