



Strawberry Point Public Library  
By: Patty Lincoln, Library Director

**New in Large Print:**  
*With All Her Heart* by Kelly Irvin: Elijah Miller is a quiet and painfully shy man with a talent for carving the handmade toys and furniture that tourists in the Amish shops love. The large, boisterous Miller family is anything but shy. With a thriving auction business, they want him to do what he hates most: taking the stage and calling the auctions. He loves his family and wants to support them, but will they allow room for Elijah to follow his own dream? Bonnie Yoder began the Homespun Handicrafts with her friends, Sophia and Carol. Each has a physical disability to overcome but together they prove that wheelchairs and rollers will not stop them from building a business and a craft community. Bonnie, with her chestnut curls and pretty face, yearns for a husband and family of her own but fears her spinal condition will keep any Amish man from choosing a life with her. Can a man like Elijah see past her walker to the woman behind it? With the support of his beloved dog, Slowpoke, Elijah finds the courage to bring in samples of his handcrafted toys for Bonnie to consider for display in the shop. Through her advice, Elijah begins to see a possible new life doing what he loves best. Bonnie, in reconnecting with this old school friend, fears that the hope for a relationship that she feels may be another disappointment.

*The Surfs Up Collection* by Beth Wiseman: 4 in one Romance Novellas -

A TIDE WORTH TURNING: Addison and Logan aren't in the market for love. She's recovering from a breakup, and he is hiding out on Galveston Island, trying to save enough money to get back to his country of origin before his world crashes down around him. But when Addison awakens feelings in him that he thought died long ago, Logan begins to question whether or not fleeing from the past is worth leaving Addison forever. Can love triumph where currents are rough?

MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE: Kyle loses the love of his life when girlfriend, Morgan, is whisked away by the CIA in the middle of the night. Almost six years later,

warden named Susan Kany. As Nate and fellow falconer Geronimo Jones circle closer to their prey, Joe and Susan follow the nearly cold trail to Warm Springs. Little do Nate and Joe know that their separate journeys are about to converge . . . at Battle Mountain.

*Beach Vibes* by Susan Mallery: While Beth is proud of her Malibu beach shop, Surf Sandwiches, she's even prouder of her charismatic brother Rick, who rose from foster care through surgical residency. She makes subs, he saves lives. Life takes a turn for the happy after she finds out Rick is dating her new best friend, Jana. Then Jana's handsome brother adds even more sparkle to Beth's days... and nights. But when she catches Rick with another woman—like, with-with—her visions of an idyllic family future disappear in one awful instant. Either she betrays her brother, or she keeps his secret and risks losing the man she loves and her best friend.

*The Queen of Crime* by Maire Benedict: London, 1930. The five greatest women crime writers have banded together to form a secret society with a single goal: to show they are no longer willing to be treated as second class citizens by their male counterparts in the legendary Detection Club. Led by the formidable Dorothy L. Sayers, the group includes Agatha Christie, Ngaio Marsh, Margery Allingham and Baroness Emma Orczy. They call themselves the Queens of Crime. Their plan? Solve an actual murder, that of a young woman found strangled in a park in France who may have connections leading to the highest levels of the British establishment.

New In DVD: Valiant One: A heart pounding military thriller based on a true story. On a routine mission that spirals into a fight for survival when a US Army helicopter crashes deep within North Korea territory. With their communications equipment destroyed, Captain Edward Brockman and Specialist Selby must lead the team through hostile terrain, cut off from the US military support as they attempt a daring escape across the treacherous Demilitarized Zone.

**April Programs**  
Wednesday, April 30th at 10:15 N.E. Iowa Food and Fitness with Meg Gelnor will provide a program for the children about cherry tomatoes. This will be a fun program for all.

May 5-11 is Children's book week. Bring your child in and check out some books this week and read them. We will have a special prize for those that sign up and read. You may pick up your child's prize the next week 12-17.

Tuesday May 6 we will do our first sewing project for "Sew Powerful" and will be making purses. If you have a sewing machine you can bring let the library know. We will have machines and everything you need. Remember there are many steps in making the purses. Don't Sew you say? come anyway there is plenty to do!

Wednesday May 7th will be a Mother's Day Craft. Card making and other activities starting at 3:00.

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month



RMC's Parents as Teachers Educators; (pictured left to right) Alexis Mescher, Kristi Hoefer, Keri Tauke

April is Child Abuse Prevention month. This month is a way for communities to come together to raise awareness about child abuse prevention, support families, and ensure the well-being of all children.

Child abuse prevention is a shared responsibility, but parents play a vital role in providing a safe and nurturing environment for their children.

Parent-child bonding is not only fun and enjoyable; it plays an important role in shaping the emotional, social, and cognitive development of the child and your parenting journey. The bond between a parent and child is crucial for the child's well-being and healthy future relationships.

Regional Medical Center (RMC) Parents as Teachers (PAT) works to prevent child abuse by providing the information, support, and encouragement parents need to help their children develop during the crucial early years of life. These connections help Delaware County's children grow into healthy adults.

RMC Parents as Teachers provides face-to-face family home visits. Our trained parent educators use evidence-based curricula to increase parent and/or caregiver knowledge in child development including intellectual, social-emotional, language and motor skills. This is achieved through providing written information, quality parent-child activities, modeling behavior, child developmental screenings and community resource connections.

By raising awareness and offering support, we can work together to prevent child abuse and ensure a brighter future for every child. For more information visit [regmedctr.org/pat](http://regmedctr.org/pat) or contact RMC Parents as Teachers at 563-927-7685.

**JOIN OUR TEAM!**

**Starmont CSD**

**2024-2025 Vacancies**

- **Secondary Principal** ('25-26')
- **Athletic Director** ('25-26')
- **HS ELA** ('25-26')
- **Kindergarten Teacher** ('25-26')
- **Special Education Teacher** ('25-26')
- **Wrestling Cheer Sponsor** ('25-26')
- **HS Assistant Football Coach**
- **HS Assistant Girls Basketball Coach**
- **MS Boys Baseball**
- **National Honor Society Sponsor** ('25-26')
- **Summer Technology Assistant**
- **Bus Driver(s)** (will train)
- **Sports/Activity Bus Drivers**
- **Substitute Special Ed Drivers**
- **Subs for all positions**

Interested applicants should send a letter of application to the Building Principal/Superintendent.

Applications can be found here:  
[www.starmont.k12.ia.us/district/employment](http://www.starmont.k12.ia.us/district/employment)

**SCAN HERE** → to download an application!

Starmont Community School District  
3202 40th Street, Arlington, Iowa 50606

ASAP/EOE

**Got a Great Local News Story?**

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**Press Journal**

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Clayton County IT Director Arrested on Child Pornography Charges

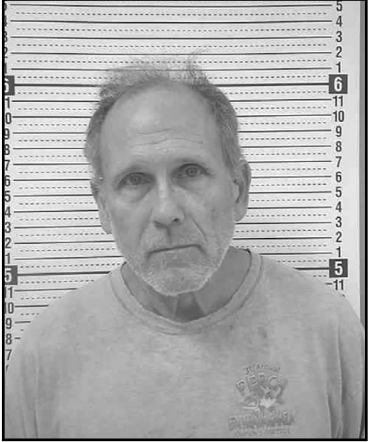
A months-long investigation led to the arrest of a Clermont man after authorities discovered a large collection of child pornography in his possession.

On April 23, 2025, the Fayette County Sheriff's Office executed a search warrant at 76 State Street in Clermont. During the search, investigators seized numerous computers and electronic devices from the residence. The investigation identified 63-year-old Robert William Kurdelmeyer as the individual responsible for the illegal material.

Kurdelmeyer, the director of information technology for Clayton County, was arrested after authorities reportedly found thousands of images and videos of child pornography on a laptop linked to him. He faces five felony counts of Purchase/Possess Depiction of a Minor in a Sex Act – First Offense, a Class D felony under Iowa law.

Following his arrest, Kurdelmeyer appeared in court on Wednesday and was transported to the Fayette County Jail, where he remains held on \$20,000 bond.

In response to the arrest, the Clayton County Board of Super-



Robert William Kurdelmeyer  
PHOTO: FAYETTE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

visors held a meeting Thursday afternoon and voted to terminate Kurdelmeyer's employment effective immediately.

Authorities say the case remains an active investigation, and additional charges are anticipated as forensic examinations of the seized devices continue.

The Fayette County Sheriff's Office reminds the public that all individuals are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

**Strawberry Ambulance Seeking Board Members**

Strawberry Point Ambulance has 2 immediate openings for board member positions! Candidates must live within the SPAS service area - Strawberry, Lamont, Starmont area and/or Volga.

If interested, please send us a message or call Service Director, Tony Mancha-Cripe at 563-933-4482.

*Board meets once every other month on 2nd Tuesday at 7:00pm.*

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**Clayton County Board of Supervisors**

**April 15, 2025**

Meeting at 9:30 AM of the Clayton County Board of Supervisors at 600 Gunder Road NE, Elkader, Iowa.

Present: Steve Doeppke, Ray Peterson, and Doug Reimer

Guests: Garrett Baumgartner, Jenna Van Meeteren, Tiffany Johansen, Destiny Kapler, Patti Ruff and Peggy Lane

Information Technology Help Desk Technician Garrett Baumgartner provided a departmental update.

Doeppke moved, Peterson seconded to approve the meeting minutes for April 8, 2025. Ayes: Doeppke, Peterson, Reimer. Motion carried.

Peterson moved, Doeppke seconded to approve the claims as presented totaling \$121,698.08. Ayes: Doeppke, Peterson, Reimer. Motion carried.

Peterson moved, Doeppke seconded authorizing Clayton County Conservation Director Jenna Van Meeteren to apply for a Historic Resource Development Program grant for Motor Mill to address an erosion problem around foundation pylons. Ayes: Doeppke, Peterson, Reimer. Motion carried.

Doeppke moved, Peterson seconded to schedule an Emergency Management tabletop exercise for June 17, 2025, at a time to be determined. Ayes: Doeppke, Peterson, Reimer. Motion carried.

Peterson moved, Doeppke seconded a wage certification of \$16.79 per hour for Laura Elsinger as part-time cook at the law enforcement center effective April 7, 2025. Ayes: Doeppke, Peterson, Reimer. Motion carried.

Peterson moved, Doeppke seconded to approve a Class C Retail Alcohol License with Outdoor Service for Heron Hill Events, LLC, DBA The Barn on Heron Hill. Ayes: Doeppke, Peterson, Reimer. Motion carried.

Peterson moved, Doeppke seconded to approve a Class C Retail Alcohol License for Iowa Stores Inc, DBA FastTrak Convenience Store. After discussion the motion was rescinded. Reimer moved, Doeppke seconded to table the approval pending proof of insurance. Ayes: Doeppke, Peterson, Reimer. Motion carried.

Doeppke moved, Peterson seconded to approve and place on file the report of fees for January through March 2025 for the following: Auditor, \$4,431.80; Recorder, \$31,254.45; Sheriff, \$14,083.00. Ayes: Doeppke, Peterson, Reimer. Motion carried.

Reimer moved, Doeppke seconded to set the wage for the Part-time Environmental Health and Zoning Administrative Assistant to \$15.00 - \$17.00 per hour for 20 hours a week. Ayes: Doeppke, Reimer. Nays: Peterson. Motion carried.

The Board worked on the FY2026 County Budget.

/s/ Doug Reimer, Board of Supervisors Chair  
Attest: Peggy Lane, Clayton County Deputy Auditor

Published in the Press Journal the week of April 30, 2025.

MEETING NOTICE

The Clayton Soil and Water Conservation District will be holding their regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, May 13, 2025 at 3:00 p.m. at the USDA Service Center conference room located at 500 Gunder Road NE, Elkader, IA. The tentative agenda is as follows: approval of minutes; treasurer's report and approval of bills; Targeted Demonstrations WQI Project Report; FARMS cost share cancellations, applications, amendments and completed projects; and various updates. The public is invited to attend. If you need any accommodations, please notify Gina Parker one week prior to the meeting by calling 563245-1048 ext. 3.

**Iowa Concern** is a program of the Iowa State University Extension and Outreach. The program began in 1985 as a toll-free number serving the agricultural community. Today, Iowa Concern serves both urban and rural Iowans. Iowa Concern services are available 24 hours a day, 7 days per week at no charge. Iowa Concern has access to an attorney for legal education, stress counselors, and information and referral services for a wide variety of topics.

Access Iowa Concern Resources

- Hotline - toll-free at 1-800-447-1985; language interpretation services available
- Live chat service that immediately connects you with a stress counselor where you can "talk" (type) one-on-one in a secure environment
- Email an expert with your legal, finance, stress, or crisis/disaster questions.

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The Gearhart Gazette

BY: JASON GEARHART - HOUSE DISTRICT 64

It's week 15! As the session starts to come to an end, the budget talks begin! There are 8 different budgets that have to be passed before the session can end. They are administration and regulation, agriculture and natural resources, economic development, education, federal and other funds, health and human services, justice system, and transportation, infrastructure, and capitals

Go to <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/chambers/action/house-Archive> to see the bills we voted on this week.

Here are a few other things that took place this week:

**Appropriations Committee Allocates Sport Wagering Tax Proceeds**

The Iowa House Appropriations Committee is advancing House Study Bill 330 to allocate funds from the state's growing Sports Wagering Receipts Fund, which had a balance of \$40.6 million as of April 2025. The bill proposes permanent funding for gambling treatment programs and introduces new appropriations, including \$1.5 million annually for the Length of Service Award Program and \$750,000 for regional sports authority grants.

Starting in Fiscal Year 2026, remaining funds would be divided between the Department of Public Safety's equipment fund and a new grant program for local emergency agencies. These local grants would target communities in the 88 counties with the lowest population and those in the other 11 counties with populations below 2,500 and less than 30% growth since the last census.

Additionally, the bill includes one-time \$10 million supplemental appropriations each to the Community Attractions and Tourism program, Destination Iowa, and the Levee Improvement Fund. The Senate is considering similar measures in Senate File 625, which also aims to utilize sports wagering receipts to support law enforcement.

**House Approves Measure to Legalize/Facilitate Farm to Table Meat Sales**

On Monday, April 21, 2025, the House passed House File 1006 by a 90-aye to 1-nay vote. HF 1006 creates a new type of food processing entity that is licensed and inspected by the Department of Inspection, Appeals and Licensing (DIAL) agents that can store officially processed packaged meat or poultry raised by the licensee and offered for sale at a premise or farm on a wholesale or retail basis.

The bill legalizes the on-farm storage of processed inspected packages and allows the sale on wholesale or retail basis for such packages by the producers. The annual license/inspection fee level to be assessed upon the businesses/farms with on-farm storage of processed inspected packages who provide wither wholesale or retail sales for such meat packages by the producers is \$75. The measure further strikes and replicates

existing provisions applying to 'small food processing premises' that specify annual license/inspection fees of:

- \$150 if gross sales of processed and marketed meat is less than \$200,000;
- \$300 if gross sales for is at least \$200,000 but less than \$2-million; and
- \$500 for operations with gross annual sales exceeding \$2-million.

This legislation has been referred to the Senate Ways & Means Committee for its consideration. This bill would build on prior legislation that provided for tiered license/inspection fees for small food processors custom inspected poultry slaughter at state inspected lockers that have been enacted in recent sessions.

**Grain Indemnity Fund Assessment to Cease on September 1st**

On Thursday, April 17, 2025, the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) issued a press release that announced that the Grain Indemnity Fund Board voted to cease the assessment on grain sold to Iowa-licensed grain dealers as well as the participation fees for Iowa licensed grain dealers and warehouse operators as part of the Iowa Grain Depositors and Sellers Indemnity Fund (Grain Indemnity Fund) effective September 1, 2025. The assessment was reinstated on September 1, 2023, after the Fund fell below the statutory threshold of \$3 million due to grain facility failures in 2021 and 2022. Under existing law, the assessment must remain in effect for at least a full year and must also remain active until the Board votes to suspend the collection of fees or the Fund reaches a balance of \$8 million.

That second-year of collections started on September 1, 2024, and will continue through August 31, 2025. The balance of the Grain Indemnity Fund, as of April 16, is \$10,173,347.80. This total exceeds the \$8 million dollar threshold and does not include the final two quarters of collections, which will cover cash sales of grain made in March, April, and May, and June, July, and August. Created by the Iowa Legislature in 1986 during the Farm Crisis to provide financial protection to farmers, the Grain Indemnity Fund covers farmers with grain on deposit in Iowa-licensed warehouses and grain sold on a cash basis to state-licensed grain dealers. In the case of a failure of a state-licensed grain warehouse or grain dealer, the Fund will pay farmers 90 percent of a loss on grain up to a maximum of \$300,000 per claimant.

*To read the full version of the Gearheart Gazette, subscribe to his newsletter. Get the latest updates by following Jason Gearhart for Iowa on Facebook!*

*Feel free to reach out via email at [jason.gearhart@legis.iowa.gov](mailto:jason.gearhart@legis.iowa.gov) or give him a call at 563-608-7026.*