



**No Kings Day recognized in Bloomfield**  
Bloomfield may be a small community, but nevertheless there were several Davis County residents and northern Missouri residents who gathered on the lawn of this home on Walnut Street to air their concerns on the second No Kings Day. Millions of Americans participated in No Kings’ protests Saturday in response to recent government actions seen as restricting freedoms and First Amendment rights.



**Brothers Market presents round-up donations to UWF**  
The Drakesville United Women of Faith received a donation of \$1328.50 from Brothers Market Wednesday, Oct. 15, following two-weeks of round-up donations at the store. The check was presented to UWF members Cathy Warner and Donna Eaves by Mike Finneran, Mike Clark and Deb LaRue of Brothers Market. Clark said the donation was the largest collected by the store during a two-week period this year. The funds will be used to provide hygiene products for boys and girls at Davis County Middle School and Davis County High School.

# Baker tells the story of Pulaski

**By Karen Spurgeon**  
Dave Baker of Ankeny is a researcher, a historian, and a genealogist and has a passion for studying and sharing the history of small towns in Iowa as he presents “Iowa — the 29<sup>th</sup> State.”  
Baker captivated his audience of nearly 40 people at the Pulaski Mennonite Church Oct. 9 as he presented the history of Pulaski.  
“My job is to make people enjoy Iowa history,” he said.  
Baker said in the 1850s settlements began forming further west from the Mississippi, and towns began springing up where there was a resource.  
“There were utilitarian outposts with post offices that received mail every three to five days. Pulaski was born into this, and a post office was established in 1852. The post office moved to the house of the postmaster and became a meeting place in the community,” he said.  
The town was named after Count Casimir Pulaski who lived from 1745-1779, Baker said Pulaski was a Polish teen rebel who fought against Russia, was an excellent swordsman, and became excited about fighting duels.  
“He met Benjamin Franklin and came to the U.S.,” Baker said. “At one point in the Revolutionary War, he saved George Washington’s life.”  
Baker explained that small towns of the time were frequently named after “second-tier folk heroes.”  
Baker said the Plank family was prominent in the early history of Pulaski. They built a lumber mill that used a steam sawmill in town and provided wood for people moving into Pulaski.  
The Plank family was the first industrial employer in Pulaski and also produced flax oil (an early sealant).  
“In 1884-1885, Pulaski had quite a business directory,” Baker said. “There was a hotel, general store, livery stable, drugstore, lumberyard, creamery, sawmill, flour-

mill and a railroad.”  
The railroad was important to the community until the last train — a commuter train called the Doodlebug — finally ceased to run.  
But the railroad history of the town was not to be forgotten. Gerald Augspurger got people together to move the depot to the Pulaski Park, where it now stands.  
Baker said in the late 1800s and the early 1900s, farmers began having more free time and came into town to participate in fraternal organizations.  
During that time, the town had a brick factory that provided material for local buildings and was a source of jobs.  
In 1908, the Pulaski School was built and was also used as a church meeting place as well as for funerals.  
All grades attended the Pulaski School. In 1899, the first high school class graduated from the school.  
An addition was built onto the school in 1937. In 1960, school reorganization occurred and high schoolers were sent to Bloomfield. Elementary classes continued to use the building until 1980.  
Baker said the Corn Show was begun in 1910 as farmers wanted a way to show off their crops. Prizes were given for the best ears of corn.  
But Baker said the women of the community also wanted a way to show off their wares and the Corn Show was expanded to include foods and crafts.  
The Corn Show continued to expand until World War II, when it became dormant for a few years.  
Recalling the history of the churches in the area, Baker said the Mennonites began meeting in West Point in Lee County, but land prices were cheaper in this area and they began moving near Pulaski.  
Other Pulaski churches included a Methodist, Christian, and Apostolic Church.  
As he concluded his presentation, Baker again

noted the importance of studying history.  
“History is a way to unite us. We need to understand how our stories impact us,” he said.



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**The Bloomfield Democrat**  
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## Notice of Regular School Election Davis County Community School District

Notice is hereby given to the qualified electors of the Davis County Community School District who reside in Van Buren County, State of Iowa, that the Regular School Election of said school district will be held on **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2025**.

The school election will be to elect one director (4-year term) to represent the following director district: #7. The candidates include: for Director District #7 – Wendy Barker.

Pre-registered voters are required to provide an approved form of identification at the polling place before receiving and casting a regular ballot. Voters who are not pre-registered – such as voters registering to vote on election day – and voters changing precincts must also provide proof of residence. A voter who is unable to provide an approved form of identification (or prove residence, if required) may:

- 1) Have the voter’s identity/residence attested to by another registered voter in the precinct who has provided an approved form of identification,
- 2) Prove identity and residence using Election Day Registration documents, or
- 3) Cast a provisional ballot and provide proof of identity/residence at the county auditor’s office by 12:00 noon on Monday, November 10, 2025.

For additional information about providing proof of identity and/or residence visit: <https://sos.iowa.gov/voterid> or phone (319) 293-3129.

Any voter who is physically unable to enter a polling place has the right to vote in the voter’s vehicle. For further information, please contact the Van Buren County auditor’s office at (319) 293-3129 or via email at [lplecker@vanburencounty.iowa.gov](mailto:lplecker@vanburencounty.iowa.gov). For TTY access, dial 711+319-293-3129.

Polling places will open at 7:00 AM and will close at 8:00 PM on Election Day at the following locations:

Precinct	Polling Location	For Person Living in:
Southwest	Lebanon United Methodist Church 21918 Route V64 Keosauqua, IA 52542	Chequest or Village Township in Van Buren County


Absentee and special voter ballots will be counted at the Van Buren County Auditor’s office in Keosauqua.  
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## BREAKTHROUGH NEWS

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**The Bloomfield Democrat**  
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OFFICIAL GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT		
VAN BUREN	STATE OF IOWA	NOVEMBER 4, 2025
<div><b>Van Buren, State of Iowa</b>  <b>Official Ballot General Election November 4, 2025</b>  </div>		
<div><b>INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTER</b>  <b>1. Voting Mark.</b> To vote, fill in the oval next to your choice. ○ Candidate Name ● Candidate Name <b>2. Write-in Votes.</b> To vote for a person whose name is not on the ballot, write the name on the write-in line below the list of candidates and fill in the oval next to it. <b>3. Use only a black pen to mark your ballot, unless a marking device is provided by an election official.</b> <b>4. Do not cross out.</b> If you change your mind, exchange your ballot for a new one.</div>		
<div><b>FOR DAVIS COUNTY SCHOOL DIRECTOR DISTRICT 7</b> (Vote for no more than ONE)  <input type="radio"/> Wendy Barker  <input type="radio"/> _____ (Write-in vote, if any)</div>		
Southwest Mustangs	____ Precinct Official's Initials	Typ:01 Seq:0014 Spl:01

SAMPLE BALLOT