

Times Republican & New Era

Wayne County's Community-Oriented Newspaper

Vol. 153 No. 41 (USPS 630-700) Corydon, Iowa Friday, October 17, 2025 One Sections 12 pages Price \$1.00

Local volunteer provides immediate relief after devastating house fire

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Lady Falcons battle hard in home tournament and POI Conference Play

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Around the Area

October 17

WCHS Junior Class Wreath Sales

WCHS Football vs. Southeast Warren, Senior Night, 7 p.m.

October 18

WCHS Junior Class Wreath Sales

JH State cross country meet at Ankeny Centennial, 3:30 p.m.

October 19

Junior Class Wreath Sales

October 20

WCHS Junior Class Wreath Sales

School Board Meeting HS Library, 5:30 p.m.

HS Volleyball Regionals (first round, location TBD), 7 p.m.

October 21

WCHS Junior Class Wreath Sales

WCJH Football at Mount Ayr, 4:30 p.m.

October 22

WCHS Junior Class Wreath Sales

WCHS Jostens Announcement/C&G Order Day-hallway by office, 9:30-10 a.m.

WCHS Jostens Class Jewelry & Letter Jacket

Order Day-hallway by office, 9:30-10 a.m.

October 23

WCHS Junior Class Wreath Sales

HS girls/boys cross country at state qualifying Meet, 4 p.m.

Briefs

It's time for Girl Talk! The Wayne County ISU Extension and Outreach are planning a 4-week session for girls in fifth or sixth grade and their mom/caregivers to attend this valuable program. Sessions will be held each week on Monday evening from 6-8 p.m. starting Monday, Nov. 3. At least six pairs need to be registered by Oct. 22 to guarantee the class is full. You can register with this link: <https://forms.office.com/r/NkG-024JVM6>

Wayne County ARC will have a regular meeting on Thursday, Oct. 23, AT 7 p.m. at the Outlaw Pizza back room in Corydon. Items of discussion will be the appointment of a new director, temporarily for November/December, then to begin the term on Jan. 1, 2026. When the election of officers for the 2026 year is done at the January 2026 meeting. Members be thinking of whom you would like to elect as the new member at large. Approval will be needed before you nominate the member.

All Southern Iowa STEM Fest, Saturday, Oct. 25, 10 a.m.- 2 p.m., Wayne County Fairgrounds.

Humeston Betterment continues improvements of the wooden water tower

Humeston's Betterment restoring the Humeston wooden water tower was a goal that has been completed.

Cheryl Paugh, a Humeston Depot volunteer partnered with Belva Snow from Humeston beautification and betterment organization this spring to start working on this project. After discussing possibilities of someone to replace the bad boards and get the tower ready for painting, they talked to James Stutzman. He gave them an estimate on the cost of materials and labor. Then it was time to apply for a grant through the Wayne County Community Foundation, and hope to receive their help with the cost. They received several individual donations, along with money from Lockridge, which covered the cost of the paint.

When Greg Wastsaugh heard what was planned, he immediately volunteered to paint the tower. He had also



Humeston Betterment receive donation from Lockridge Lumber for the restoration of the wooden water tower. (Photo by Jodi Van Loon)

done this several years ago when the tower was redone.

Labor was not included in the grant but the Langtry Foundation graciously stepped up to pay for that. Everyone is thankful for their continuous community support.

Snow and Paugh did receive funding from the WCF and continued coordinating the process. They had to wait for the best weather and the

crews to be available. Everything came together quickly at the end and the project was completed in a week.

There are several other ongoing projects in our area areas such as the Cinder Path project, which is coming along nicely. This is due to volunteerism. So much behind-the-scenes, stressful work is always needed before these goals become reality.

Wayne County Board of Supervisors given an update and clarity on current roadwork

Mackenzie Miner Associate Editor

The Wayne County Board of Supervisors met on Oct. 14. Following the call to order, the board approved the prior meeting notes from Sept. 30, payroll, and the claims set.

A public hearing for a budget amendment was approved for an increase in the county's FY26 budget. The budget amendment was then approved by the board.

Dillon Davenport, county engineer, provided an update on ongoing roadwork in the county. The department is currently operating on non-construction season hours, Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Davenport clarified the term "patching," in hopes of helping the public better understand the process. While "patching" is a general term, in this context it refers to preparing existing concrete for a future overlay. The overlay is planned for the next construction season, potentially in the spring.

Patching is not used to fill potholes but instead prepares crevices and cracks to prevent liquid concrete from causing mechanical locks or deformations in the new overlay. Davenport noted that if the public has further questions or concerns, they are encouraged to call for clarification.

The board approved the deletion of a 2021 Chevy Tahoe from the Wayne County Sheriff's Department, which held a trade-in value of \$14,500. Following this, the board approved the addition of a 2025 Chevy Tahoe patrol vehicle, valued at \$51,464.

The board also approved the construction of a 40-by-60-foot building to provide inside storage for patrol vehicles and a wash bay for county vehicles. The building is valued at \$149,836.92 and has a 30-year useful life.

The former SIDCA board representative passed away recently. Lance Lange, who has been serving in this role at Lake Rathbun, will now represent Wayne County

on the SIDCA Board as well. SIDCA provides services such as secondary road repair and stream repair or intervention.

Todd Wilson, vice chairman of the board, holds a seat on the Eastern Iowa Workforce Development Area Board. A Chief Elected Officials (CEOs) Shared Liability Agreement—a required document under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)—outlines how the CEOs in each county share responsibility for WIOA grant funds. This agreement aims to provide residents and employers with simpler access to federally funded workforce services. Wayne County will hold a 1.1 percent liability, based on population. The agreement was approved.

The Bobwhite State Park Board approved the addition of a basketball court.

Wayne County Development held two ribbon cuttings on Oct. 14 for Annie's Bridal and LandGuys, with two more scheduled for next

BOARD

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Preliminary engineering report for new water tower approved

Mackenzie Miner Associate Editor

The Corydon City Council held a meeting on Oct. 8. It was noted that the issue with Kading Properties and Oak Street, which was tabled on Sept. 24, should have been included on this agenda. However, it was tabled again, as the necessary samples for Oak Street had not yet been received. The item will be added to a future agenda once more information becomes available.

Corydon City Hall is currently transitioning to new internal software, and staff are actively participating in training to learn the new system.

The Corydon City brush dump is located outside city limits, which affects the regulations regarding open burning. However, it is located 0.66 miles from a residence.

Approval was granted for a revolving loan fund to finance a firetruck for the city.

The Corydon golf course requires maintenance, including but not limited to aeration and fertilization. A quote of \$8,900 was received; however, funding this work would significantly reduce the golf course's fiscal year budget, which is needed for the spring opening. It was concluded that the project will be postponed until spring 2026 to reassess the available funds.

A new water tower is in development for the city of Corydon. A preliminary engineering report was required and was approved. East Penn Manufacturing has agreed to allow the water tower to be placed on a portion of its land, with the request that a direct water line be installed to its factory in an effort to resolve ongoing water pressure issues. Following final approval, the area will undergo geotechnical testing — an investigation of the physical properties of soil and rock beneath the site to determine suitability.

The animal ordinance within city limits has been updated to allow up to six rabbits and/or chickens. Roosters and livestock are not permitted. A grandfather clause applies to residents who owned noncompliant animals prior to the ordinance update.

A correction is being made to the city employee handbook regarding paid time off (PTO). For long-term employees, the maximum PTO bank is 240 hours, and accrual will stop once this maximum is reached. For new employees, PTO accrual begins on the first day of employment but cannot be used until the probationary period has ended. Excess PTO will only be paid out if proper notice is given at the end of employment.

The next regular meeting: Wednesday, Oct. 22.

Allerton council hears concerns about runoff, speeding

Mackenzie Miner Associate Editor

The Allerton City Council met on Oct. 9. Once the meeting was called to order, the agenda and minutes from the prior meeting were approved. The floor was then opened for visitor discussion.

A local resident raised concerns about water runoff and residential culverts. The city recently reworked water drainage levels throughout town, which has left some homes in need of regraded ditches and cleaned-out culverts. The council stated that research will

be conducted to determine the best course of action to address the issue in the near future.

Another resident expressed concern over the speed of vehicles traveling through town on County Road S26 (South Central Avenue). A stop sign had previously been installed in an attempt to slow traffic; however, it was generally agreed that it has not significantly reduced speeding. The council plans to contact the Wayne County Sheriff's Department to request increased patrol presence and inquire about obtaining a

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