

AMISH COOK

Gloria’s mother-in-law travels to Mexico for surgery

By Gloria Yoder, the Amish Cook

I looked around the circle of little faces in the living room as we read our evening Bible story. There was nothing in me that wanted to leave them for four days, but then when I thought of my mother-in-law in Mexico who planned to do surgery for her cancer and needed someone to be with her, it changed the picture; yes, I also wanted to go. Four-year-old Joshua was impressed with the idea that he was chosen to go along to see Grandpa and Grandma and get an airplane ride with the package deal. His little mind was spinning. Going up meant being closer to heaven, right? "Then we could jump out of the airplane door and be in heaven!" I know he wants to see his daddy, but it might not be that simple!

(Editor's Note: It is not uncommon for the Amish - who usually don't carry health insurance - to visit Mexico for medical treatment)

We are on our first flight, relaxing in the semidarkness. For a while, I push up my window shade to take

another look at the world below. I was amazed at what I saw- mountains! I looked in wonder at the snow-capped mountains off in the distance. As they faded, I marveled how I opened the window just in time to get a good look at them. Then that soft voice spoke to my heart, "Am I not always in time for you?" I smiled, "Yes, Lord, surely you are. You are always on time, no matter the tumult and the feelings."

I thought of my children, whom I was already missing, but I knew assuredly that the One who was there for me was also there for them.

Notes from two days later: Yesterday was filled with much intensity. It was the day of Mom's surgery, which was predicted to last four hours. I was amazed at the tranquil look on Mom's face as I stepped into her room that morning before surgery. She was ready to face it.

After her surgery, Dad, Virginia (my sister-in-law who had gone with me), and I relaxed in the waiting room. The hours stretched endlessly on. Four hours,

five hours; why are we not getting any more updates? Six hours passed, and memories came back anew of Daniel's surgery and that little waiting room where I cried to God for the love of my life. As we waited, amid it all, it was like an unseen hand was there to bring comfort. It felt like God was using the prayers of others to bring comfort to his weak ones. Six and a half hours after she had gone into surgery, we were told that all was well and she was in recovery. Relief flooded through us.

Day four: We're heading home! Is there any place like home sweet home? All went well, though our flights were rerouted upon our arrival in San Diego, CA. Again, I relished the quiet moments with my Maker. Meeting new people and making friends have been the most interesting things. I often walked away with more than I had when we met. Isn't that amazing? We can glean from others around us, which we had never known before.

After boarding our layover in Chicago, I watched the westward

sky. For years, I've wanted to watch a sunrise or sunset from the eagle's point of view- with no obstacles between it and myself. As the pilot announced a delayed take-off, I watched the bright colors fade and vanish. It had seemed so close; I was disappointed; nonetheless, a peace stole over me; it was okay. A while later, we taxied out and were off. We were heading down to Indianapolis from Chicago. From my seat, facing west, I watched in wonder.

We had left all else that man ever made and were going for the heavens. As we did so, the sunset I had been eyeing came back in full view, brighter than before, there was nothing between it and me. I was glued to that window for the one-hour flight as I absorbed a sunset that would not go away. Did God know what I was beginning to feel on this last leg of our trip before going back home as a single parent? Did he know how little I felt as I thought of the responsibility of guiding these six young children for his kingdom? I was comfort-



Gloria shares her recipe for homemade guacamole. (Photo submitted)

ed, though I still did not know how I would do it.

Despite the battle of facing life, I couldn't help but be super excited to be with my dear children again. Oh, the sweet joy of going up the porch steps and into the house and having outstretched little arms greet me and wrap tight around my neck. Surely, we'll do this together, one step at a time; it will be a task and a blessing.

I brought home several Mexican tortillas for the children to try. I enjoyed them myself, though my favorite Mexican dish I've tried so far was guacamole. If I'm making it for my children, I'll add a dash

of stevia or some sort of sweetener to cut off the tart edge.

HOMEMADE GUACAMOLE

- 3 avocados
- 1/2 tsp. seasoned salt
- 1/8 tsp. pepper
- 1 Tbsp. real lemon
- 1/2 c. chopped tomatoes (optional)
- 1 Tbsp. chopped purple onions
- 1 cup of corn (optional)
- 1 cup of black beans (optional)
- Directions**
- 1. Mash avocados
- 2. Mix seasonings and real lemon; sprinkle over avocados and mix well.
- 3. Fold in tomatoes and onions.
- 4. Serve with tortilla chips.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

3/25, 2:34 PM

Local Government Property Valuation System

CITY NAME: NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING - CITY OF OLLIE - PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX LEVY

OLLIE

Fiscal Year July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026

CITY #: 54-510

The City Council will conduct a public hearing on the proposed Fiscal Year City property tax levy as follows:
Meeting Date: 4/7/2025 Meeting Time: 06:30 PM Meeting Location: Ollie Community Building
At the public hearing any resident or taxpayer may present objections to, or arguments in favor of the proposed tax levy. After the hearing of the proposed tax levy, the City Council will publish notice and hold a hearing on the proposed city budget.

City Website (if available)

City Telephone Number (641) 891-1002

| Iowa Department of Management | Current Year | Certified | Budget Year | Effective | Budget Year | Proposed |
|---|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|
| | Property Tax | 2024 - 2025 | Property Tax | 2025 - 2026 | Property Tax | 2025 - 2026 |
| Taxable Valuations for Non-Debt Service | | 2,606,771 | | 2,625,412 | | 2,625,412 |
| Consolidated General Fund | | 21,115 | | 21,115 | | 21,266 |
| Operation & Maintenance of Public Transit | | 0 | | 0 | | 0 |
| Aviation Authority | | 0 | | 0 | | 0 |
| Liability, Property & Self Insurance | | 1,943 | | 1,943 | | 2,430 |
| Support of Local Emergency Mgmt. Comm. | | 0 | | 0 | | 0 |
| Unified Law Enforcement | | 0 | | 0 | | 0 |
| Police & Fire Retirement | | 0 | | 0 | | 0 |
| FICA & IPERS (If at General Fund Limit) | | 0 | | 0 | | 0 |
| Other Employee Benefits | | 0 | | 0 | | 0 |
| Capital Projects (Capital Improv. Reserve) | | 0 | | 0 | | 0 |
| Taxable Value for Debt Service | | 2,606,771 | | 2,625,412 | | 2,625,412 |
| Debt Service | | 0 | | 0 | | 0 |
| CITY REGULAR TOTAL PROPERTY TAX | | 23,058 | | 23,058 | | 23,696 |
| CITY REGULAR TAX RATE | | 8.84532 | | 8.78262 | | 9.02572 |
| Taxable Value for City Ag Land | | 700,969 | | 723,501 | | 723,501 |
| Ag Land | | 2,106 | | 2,106 | | 2,174 |
| CITY AG LAND TAX RATE | | 3.00375 | | 2.91085 | | 3.00375 |
| Tax Rate Comparison-Current VS. Proposed | | | | | | |
| Residential property with an Actual/Assessed Valuation of \$100,000/\$110,000 | Current Year | Certified | Budget Year | Proposed | Percent Change | |
| | | 2024/2025 | | 2025/2026 | | |
| City Regular Residential | | 410 | | 471 | 14.88 | |
| Commercial property with an Actual/Assessed Valuation of \$300,000/\$330,000 | Current Year | Certified | Budget Year | Proposed | Percent Change | |
| | | 2024/2025 | | 2025/2026 | | |
| City Regular Commercial | | 1,809 | | 2,104 | 16.31 | |

Note: Actual/Assessed Valuation is multiplied by a Rollback Percentage to get to the Taxable Valuation to calculate Property Taxes. Residential and commercial properties have the same rollback percentage through \$150,000 of actual/assessed valuation.

Reasons for tax increase if proposed exceeds the current:

City liability and property insurance premium increase. Cost of electricity increase. City sewer delinquencies. Nuisance abatements.

USPS utility billing postage \$400.00
Windstream monthly bill-phone/email \$131.95
Total Expenses \$24,684.78
Funds-Expenses
General \$12,140.74
Road Use Tax \$2,091.32
Water \$5,391.80
Sewer \$2,183.23
Landfill/Garbage \$2,877.69
Total \$24,684.785
Funds-Revenue
General \$1,304.41
Road Use Taxes \$5,468.62
Employee Benefits \$97.19
Emergency Fund \$-
Local Option Sales Tax \$3,637.65
Water \$10,611.46
Sewer \$5,017.11
Landfill/Garbage \$2,667.48
Total \$28,803.92

LEGAL NOTICES

JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' PROCEEDINGS
March 10, 2025
At 8:30 A.M., Chair Dimmitt called the regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors to order. The meeting was held in the First Floor meeting room of the Jefferson County Courthouse. Board members present were: Lee Dimmitt, Chairman; Susie Drish, Vice-Chairman; Joe Ledger, Supervisor. The board met with Denise Ballard with IGHP to review insurance renewal. It was moved by Drish, seconded by Ledger that the minutes for the March 3, 2025 meeting be approved. All "Ayes". Motion carried. Supervisors met with the County Engineer. The board met with the Ambulance Director.

RESOLUTION
It is so moved by Joe Ledger, seconded by Lee Dimmitt that the Board of Supervisors of Jefferson County approve the transfer of Rob Kendall, a certified Paramedic/CCP, to a full-time position, with an anticipated start date of 10 March 2025, at the hourly rate of \$30/hr. Motion carried.

Ayes:
Susie Drish
Joe Ledger
Lee Dimmitt
The board discussed and considered the Jefferson County Ambulance Director attending an accreditation workshop. Ledger motioned to approve, Drish seconded. All "Ayes". Motion carried. Supervisors discussed and considered increasing the allowed amount on credit card to \$2500 for Jefferson County Ambulance Service. Drish motioned to approve. Ledger seconded. All "Ayes". Motion carried. Supervisors discussed and considered disposal system contractor's license for CWR Concrete LLC. This item was tabled as no surety bond was included. The Board met with Bart Richmond to discuss and consider legal fees and costs to taxpayers. Ledger motioned to contact ICAP and see if they have an avenue of coverage for fees and to table this item until next meeting. Drish seconded. All "Ayes". Motion carried. Committee Reports: Ledger attended a medical response exercise meeting, met with Farm Bureau Women, and attended Tractor Thursday. Drish had no meetings. Dimmitt attended the medical response exercise. Public Comments: Chris Esile reported on the medical response exercise and will give everyone a copy of the after-action report. It was moved by Ledger, seconded by Drish to allow the claims against the county in the amount of \$100,000.68 and to direct the county auditor to issue checks against the various funds of the county in payment of the claims allowed. All "Ayes". Motion carried. Supervisors had no budget business to discuss. It was moved by Drish, seconded by Ledger to adjourn. All "Ayes". Motion carried. ATTEST: Lee Dimmitt, Chairman Board of Supervisors

LEGAL NOTICES
JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' PROCEEDINGS
March 11, 2025
At 8:30 A.M., Vice chair Susie Drish called the meeting of the Board of Supervisors to order. Board members present were: Susie Drish and Joe Ledger. Not present was Lee Dimmitt. Supervisors held an opioid work session. There being no further business, the opioid work session was adjourned. ATTEST: Christy L. Conner County Auditor Lee Dimmitt, Chairman Board of Supervisors

MARCH 10, 2025
THE HEDRICK CITY COUNCIL MET IN SPECIAL SESSION ON **MONDAY MARCH 10, 2025, AT 6:00PM**, AT THE HEDRICK COMMUNITY CENTER, WITH MAYOR ROBERT CRAWFORD PRESIDING.
COUNCIL PRESENT: CHRISTINE NORRIS, MICHAEL MEFFORD, JUSTIN GRIFFITHS, TRAVIS BUNNELL, JEREMY GREINER. ALSO PRESENT: AUSTIN CROWE, ASHLEY OLINGER. CRAWFORD CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:00PM. GREINER MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. 2ND BY MEFFORD. ROLL CALL-ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED. DAKOTA QUINN SPOKE TO COUNCIL ABOUT THE ORDINANCE ENFORCEMENT POSITION. COUNCIL DISCUSSED MOWING FOR 2025 AND COLT MEFFORD CAN ATTEND THE APRIL 8, 2025 MEETING TO DISCUSS FURTHER. GRIFFITHS MADE A MOTION TO TABLE RESOLUTION 9-2025 UNTIL THE APRIL 8, 2025 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING. 2ND BY GREINER. ROLL CALL-AYE: GREINER, GRIFFITHS, NORRIS, BUNNELL. ABSTAIN: MEFFORD. AUSTIN DISCUSSED ROCKING ALLEYS. COUNCIL WOULD LIKE HIM TO SEE IF HE CAN DISC SOME OF THE POT HOLES BEFORE THEY DECIDE ON ROCKING ANYTHING. COUNCIL DISCUSSED SIDEWALK CONCRETE AND WOULD 2ND BY MEFFORD. ROLL CALL-ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED. AT THE APRIL 8, 2025 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING. COUNCIL DISCUSSED THE ROADS PLAN. GREINER MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2025 ROADS PROJECT PLANS. 2ND BY BUNNELL. ROLL CALL-ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED. CITY CLERK DISCUSSED PURCHASING A TABLET FOR THE ORDINANCE ENFORCEMENT EMPLOYEE. GREINER MADE A MOTION TO PURCHASE THE ORDINANCE ENFORCEMENT EMPLOYEE AND IPAD WITH A KEYBOARD. 2ND BY BUNNELL. ROLL CALL-ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED. AUSTIN DISCUSSED WIRELESS METERS, TRADING IN THE WHITE TRUCK. MEFFORD MADE A MOTION FOR AUSTIN TO TRADE IN THE WHITE TRUCK AND PAY FOR THE NEW TRUCK WITH OUT A LOAN OUT OF THE ROADS AND/OR LOST FUNDS. 2ND BY NORRIS. ROLL CALL-ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED. CLERK SHARED A LETTER FROM KCCEF. NORRIS MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 7:32PM. 2ND BY GRIFFITHS. ROLL CALL-ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED. SIGNED: ROBERT CRAWFORD, MAYOR ATTEST: ASHLEY OLINGER, CITY CLERK

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JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' PROCEEDINGS
March 11, 2025
Board members present were: Lee Dimmitt, Chairman; Susie Drish, Vice-Chairman; Joe Ledger, Supervisor. The board met with Mike Filson from the fair board and Barb Kistler from Greater Jefferson County Foundation. Supervisors discussed and considered sending a letter of final 90-day notice of tax sale deed to Larry and Faye Boyd. Dimmitt motioned to send a 90-day notice certified to address listed on Assessor's page for the Larry and Faye Boyd property. Ledger seconded. All "Ayes". Motion carried. ATTEST: Christy L. Conner County Auditor Lee Dimmitt, Chairman Board of Supervisors

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LEGAL NOTICES

City of Richland Minutes of Regular City Council Meeting March 10, 2025
The Richland City Council met on Monday, March 10, 2025, in regular session. Mayor John Capps called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Council members Michael Hadley, David Balster, and Steve Pfeifer were present. Council member Brei Beam was absent. Council member Joe Adrian was absent at the time of roll call. Also present: City Clerk Sarah Claeys and Public Works Supervisor Garrett Webb. Hadley moved and Pfeifer 2nd to approve the consent agenda including the minutes from the February 10th public hearing and regular meeting, February 14th special meeting and claims: 3 ayes, motion carried. DEPARTMENT REPORTS Public Works Supervisor Garrett Webb stated the new flow meter has been installed at the lagoon and he has had no further issues. He installed the new brand of water meter at one location and will monitor it before installing more. Webb also received the annual quote for road repairs, and this will be presented at the April meeting. City Clerk Sarah Claeys said the DNR derelict building grant has been submitted for the two buildings on North Richland Street. The library and ballfield will be receiving grants from the Keokuk County Endowment Fund. The budget will have to be amended for these grant expenditures to be

completed this fiscal year. She has received a few accounting software quotes, and these will be presented at a future meeting. PUBLIC FORUM FOR CITIZEN COMMENTS-No action to be taken: There were no citizen comments. Hadley moved and Balster 2nd to approve the first reading of Ordinance 6-6-7, Vacation and Disposal of Streets: roll call vote, 3 ayes. The council members reviewed other towns policies and pricing for vacating alleys and streets. The members discussed possible adjustments to make. No action taken. The city council discussed changing council terms to four years and staggering terms. Balster moved and Hadley 2nd to petition for signatures to change terms to four years to be voted on in the November election: 3 ayes, motion carried. Hadley moved and Pfeifer 2nd to purchase a memorial plaque for the ballfields in memory of Barb Allsup: 3 ayes, motion carried. The council members reviewed and discussed ordinance wording options for the new codebook. No action taken. Mayor Capps adjourned the meeting at 7:32pm. Mayor John Capps ATTEST: City Clerk Sarah Claeys **Claims List for March 10, 2025 Vendor Expense Amount Library expenses** Alliant electricity \$512.56 Baker & Taylor library collection \$244.47 Natel telephone \$72.70 US Bank library collection \$48.83

Walmart library collection/programs \$39.44 **Fire Dept expenses** Alliant Energy electricity \$134.82 Farmers Cooperative propane/tank rental \$436.24 US Bank - SC PRI training/hotel rooms \$158.44 **Payroll expenses** Employee net pay wages \$8,488.14 Dept of Revenue Fed WH/FICA \$2,106.79 Treasurer, State of IA State W/H \$146.64 IPERS Retirement \$1,665.95 **City expenses** Alliant Energy electricity \$2,753.94 City of Ottumwa recycle fees \$59.00 Clarion Plainsman minutes/claims \$146.64 Deposit Refunds Connolly, Vannoy, Adam \$120.19 Elliott Oil Company fuel \$270.23 Farmers Cooperative salt/propane \$2,074.00 Garrett Webb health ins. reimbursement \$433.58 Heslinga Law Firm legal fees \$460.00 IA Dept of Revenue WET taxes/sales tax \$542.54 KCTC internet \$91.71 Mike's Parts & Service parts/supplies for repairs \$320.57 Semco landfill fees \$445.95 State Auditor periodic exam fee \$1,200.00 State Hygienic Lab water testing fees \$14.50 US Bank - SC Adobe Pro/Microsoft/IMFOA \$138.66 US Bank - GW stop sign sup./patching/fuel \$145.47

Lee Dimmitt, Chairman Board of Supervisors

MACHINERY AUCTION
Online-Only CONSIGNMENT

AUCTION ENDS: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26 414 S OAK RICHLAND, IA 52585

Lawn Mowers - Tractors - Combine - Skid Steer Attachments - Vehicles - Semis - Trailers - Fertilizer Carts - Tillage Equipment - Planters - Tenders - Mower Conditioners - Hay Rakes - Hay Racks - Balers - Gravity Wagons - Grain Carts - Augers - Grain - Corn Heads - Dirt Scraper - Livestock Equipment - Manure Spreaders - Forklifts - Juke Box - Santa's Sled - Misc Tools - Hay Rack Items AND MUCH MUCH MORE! HIGHLIGHTS: JD 2030 Utility Tractor w/Loader; JD 4420 Combine; John Deere 4430; Massey Harris 44 Special; IH 706; Brent 644 Gravity Wagon w/4 Wheel Brakes; Vermeer VR1428 Rake; 1990 Volvo Semi; 1993 International Semi, Automatic; 1948 Willys Jeep; IH 1566 w/ Duals; Great Plains 24' Soil Finisher;

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