

Hometown Heroes named home of 2025 Iowa's Best Breaded Pork Tenderloin



CLIVE, IOWA — The Iowa Pork Producers Association (IPPA) has crowned Hometown Heroes of Grinnell as the winner of the 2025 Iowa's Best Breaded Pork Tenderloin Contest. Located at 908 Main Street in downtown Grinnell, Iowa, this sports-grill-style restaurant is a gathering spot for community, good food, and local pride.

Owner and executive chef Paul Durr said the recognition is both humbling and exciting for his team. "We've sold so many tenderloins since the contest started, it's been incredible," Durr said. "Our staff has worked so hard, and the community support has just blown us away. We're so proud to win this award."

Phil Carey, retired chef and culinary instructor and one of the judges in the 2025 contest, praised the winning tenderloin in strong terms: "Hometown Heroes was one of the first ones that we judged, and as we (the judging panel) left, we agreed that this one would be hard to beat. The pork was tender and juicy; it was evenly pounded and well-seasoned... the pork was the star of the show! It was made complete by being served hot on a toasted bun. It's a great sandwich!"

Opened in 2019 and owned by Paul and Kalyn Durr, along with partners Shannon and Todd Reding, Hometown Heroes blends comfort food with hometown spirit. Paul serves as executive chef and director of operations, with Kalyn overseeing marketing. Alex Phillips is the general manager handling day-to-day operations. The restaurant is part of the Prairie Hospitality Group, which also owns Prairie Canary, a farm-to-table establishment in Grinnell.

More than just a place

to eat, Hometown Heroes is designed with the local community in mind. Inside, one wall is dedicated to athletes from nearby high schools and colleges who now represent the region on bigger stages. Other walls pay tribute to first responders, military service members, and those who have served the community in various "hero" roles. The restaurant is casual and energetic with a menu that leans toward bar/family comfort food: wings, burgers, sandwiches, and of course, the now celebrated pork tenderloin.

The Iowa Pork Producers Association is thrilled to officially present the coveted Iowa's Best Tenderloin Award for 2025 at Hometown Heroes today at noon! They will take home a \$500 cash prize, a plaque, and a banner to showcase their achievement.

The 2025 runner-up is The 1854 in Gilbertville, Iowa. They'll receive a \$250 prize along with a plaque from the IPPA. Earlier this month, we also recognized several other outstanding finalists, who will receive top-five plaques in alphabetical order:

- Dexfield Diner & Pub – Redfield
- Sugar's Lounge & Diner – Council Bluffs
- Walker's – Salix

This tenderloin contest celebrates Iowa restaurants that feature hand-breaded or battered pork tenderloin as a staple on their menu. To qualify, establishments must be open year-round. Winners are unveiled every October in honor of National Pork Month, which pays tribute to the hard work and dedication of America's pork producers.

Dairy Sweet in Dunlap was the 2024 winner, making it the first restaurant to win the title twice.

Legal Notices - "Your Right to know"

STRATFORD COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, October 15, 2025 – 5:30 p.m.

"Stratford Community School District is a community of learners where there are high levels of learning for all students and teachers."

Call to Order: President Westrum called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Members answering roll call were Ms. Jensen, Ms. Eide, Ms. Iles, and Mr. Westrum. Ms. Richardson was absent.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Ms. Eide, second by Ms. Iles, to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Forum: There were no public comments.

Reports

Superintendent's Report: Kathy Biere provided an overview of the FY24 Audit. Mr. Berninghaus presented the Superintendent's Report.

Principal's Report: Kaitlyn Kuhnen shared updates on current projects within the building.

ELC Report: ELC Director Katie Kinsella presented the Early Learning Center report.

Consent Items: Motion by Ms. Iles, second by Ms. Jensen, to approve the following consent items:

- a. Minutes – September 17, 2025, Board Meeting
- b. Financial Report – Month ending September 30, 2025
- c. Bills & Claims – As presented
- d. Open Enrollment Requests – None
- e. Contractual Matters – None

Action Items

a. Resolution to Consider Continued Participation in the Instructional Support Program: Director Jensen introduced the following Resolution and moved its adoption. Director Eide seconded the motion to adopt. The roll was called, and the vote was: AYES: Eide, Westrum, Jensen, Iles NAYS: None

The President declared the Resolution adopted as follows:
RESOLUTION TO CONSIDER CONTINUED PARTICIPATION IN THE INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has determined that to continue the current level of services and to fund the ongoing programs of the School District, continuation of participation in the Instructional Support Program for a period of five years is necessary and in the best interests of the District and its residents and students; and WHEREAS, the Board of Directors wishes to consider continued participation in the Instructional Support Program as provided in Sections 257.18 through 257.21, Code of Iowa; and WHEREAS, the authorization for the current Instructional Support Program will expire on June 30, 2027; and WHEREAS, this Resolution sets forth the proposal of the Board of Directors, including the method that will be used to fund the program; and WHEREAS, notice of the time and place of a public hearing must be published:

NOW, THEREFORE, it is resolved:
 1. The Board of Directors wishes to consider continued participation in the Instructional Support Program as provided in Sections 257.18 through 257.21, Code of Iowa, for a period of five years, commencing with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2028.
 2. The additional funding for the Instructional Support Program for a budget year shall be determined annually and shall not exceed ten percent (10%) of the total regular program district cost for the budget year and moneys received under Section 257.14, Code of Iowa, as a budget adjustment for the budget year.
 3. Moneys received by the District for the Instructional Support Program may be used for any general fund purpose.
 4. The Instructional Support Program shall be funded by instructional support state aid and a combination instructional support property tax levied annually upon the taxable property within the School District commencing with the levy of property taxes for collection in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2028, and an instructional support income surtax imposed annually, the percent of income surtax to be determined by the Board for each budget year to be imposed upon the state individual income tax of each individual income taxpayer resident in the School District on December 31, 2027, and each year thereafter.
 5. The Secretary is authorized and directed to give notice of a public hearing to be held in the Board Room, 1000 Shakespeare Avenue, Stratford, Iowa 50249, on November 19, 2025, at 5:30 P.M.
 6. Following the public hearing the Board intends to take action on the question whether to continue participation in the Instructional Support Program.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 15th day of October, 2025.

b. Set Time, Date, and Location of Instructional Support Levy Public Hearing: Motion by Ms. Eide, second by Ms. Iles, to set the Public Hearing for the Instructional Support Levy at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, in the Stratford School Building. Motion carried.

c. Set Time, Date, and Location of Public Hearing on the Proposed Extension and Renewal of a One-Way Whole Grade Sharing Agreement Between Stratford CSD and Webster City CSD: Motion by Ms. Eide, second by Ms. Jensen, to set the Public Hearing for the Proposed Extension and Renewal of the One-Way Whole Grade Sharing Agreement between the Stratford Community School District and the Webster City Community School District at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, in the Stratford School Building. Motion carried.

d. Consideration of FY24 Audit: Motion by Ms. Iles, second by Ms. Eide, to approve the FY24 audit. Motion carried.

e. Consideration of Website Bid: Motion by Ms. Eide, second by Ms. Jensen, to approve the Global Reach website bid. Motion carried.

f. Consideration of 1st Reading of Policies 208, 401.01, 502.07, 507.02, 507.05, 607.02, & 804.05: Motion by Ms. Iles, second by Ms. Eide, to approve the first reading of the following board policies:
 208 – Board Committees
 401.01 – Equal Employment Opportunity
 502.07 – Student Substance Use
 507.02 – Administration of Medication to Students
 507.05 – Emergency Plans and Drills
 607.02 – Student Health Services
 804.05 – Stock Prescription Medication Supply

Motion carried.

g. Gifts to the District: Motion by Ms. Iles, second by Ms. Jensen, to approve the gifts to the district, including school prizes for PBIS awards donated by Tina Hammer. Motion carried.

Adjournment: Motion by Ms. Iles, second by Ms. Eide, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:08 p.m.

Attest:
 Kaitlyn Kuhnen, Board Secretary Brad Westrum, Board President

The following bills were audited and approved for payment October 15, 2025 by the Board of Directors of the Stratford Community School District

VENDOR NAME, DESCRIPTION.....	VENDOR AMOUNT.....	VOYAGER SOPRIS, LEARNING SUPPLIES.....	656.70
95 PERCENT GROUP LLC SUPPLIES	3,456.20	WEBSTER CITY COMM SCHOOL DIST, SHARED SUPT	4,287.30
AHLERS & COONEY, PC LEGAL SERVICE.....	2,463.50	GENERAL FUND	42,914.79
AMERICAN EXPRESS SUPPLIES	1,437.09	KT & T LANDSCAPE LLC, GROUNDSKEEPING	2,100.00
BOMGAARS SUPPLIES	134.24	CAPITAL PROJECTS	2,100.00
CENTRAL IOWA DISTRIBUTING, SUPPLIES	756.00	ACCESS SYSTEMS LEASING COPIER LEASE	1,561.35
CHALLY, DAWN REIMBURSEMENT	92.00	REES TRUCK AND TRAILER, INC, REPAIR	4,914.40
CITY OF STRATFORD UTILITIES	2,159.96	PHYSICAL PLANT & EQUIPMENT.....	6,475.75
DON'S PEST CONTROL PEST CONTROL.....	119.00	ANDERSON ERICKSON DAIRY CO, MILK	1,425.11
EOCENE ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP, INC, ASBESTOS TRAINING	150.00	MARTIN BROTHERS DIST CO, FOOD/SUPPLIES	1,323.06
HEART OF IOWA PUBLISHING, INC., PUBLICATIONS	96.42	VISA, SUPPLIES	86.50
IOWA PRISON INDUSTRIES SUPPLIES	191.56	SCHOOL NUTRITION FUND	2,834.67
IOWA SCHOOLS EMPLOYEE BENEFITS, INSURANCE	2,895.03	AMERICAN EXPRESS SUPPLIES	11.37
MENARDS - FORT DODGE SUPPLIES	571.43	HOT LUNCH PROGRAM ELC MEALS	1,865.20
MIDWEST ALARM SERVICES, SERVICE CALL/MAINTENANCE.....	902.95	VISA, SUPPLIES	79.00
PRARIE LAKES AEA AEA PAYMENT.....	4,880.20	EARLY LEARNING CENTER	1,995.57
QUILL CORPORATION SUPPLIES	221.00	CHECKING ACCOUNT TOTAL.....	56,280.78
STRATFORD COMMUNICATIONS, PHONE BILL.....	168.91	PAYROLL SEPT 2025	168,469.03
STUDIES WEEKLY SUPPLIES	338.80	ATTEST:	
TECH ZONE, CAMERA SYSTEM / INTERCOM.....	14,693.50	/s/ KAITLYN KUHNEN, SECRETARY	
VISA, TRAINING, FEES, SUPPLIES, FUEL	2,243.00	/s/ BRAD WESTRUM, BOARD PRESIDENT	

PUBLIC NOTICE

Hamilton County Board of Supervisors will be conducting a public sale of property located at 1900 Superior Street, Webster City, Iowa. Sealed bids must be submitted to the Hamilton County Auditor's Office by 12:00 Noon on Monday, November 10, 2025. Bids will be opened at 3:00 P.M. on Monday, November 10, 2025. All parties submitting a bid will be invited to an auction on November 12, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. to raise their bid. The Hamilton County Board of Supervisors reserves the right to reject any and all bids. Appointments to inspect the property can be made by calling 515-832-8573 or 515-297-4381.

AGENDA

Hamilton County Conservation Board Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, October 23, 2025
9:30 am

Conservation Headquarters Building
Briggs Woods Park

- I. Call to order
- II. Agenda
- III. September 2025 meeting minutes
- IV. Public Participation (5 minutes per person)
- V. Parks and Staff Reports
 Park Projects update
- VI. Golf Course Report
 Superintendent Grounds report
 Clubhouse report
 Golf Simulator proposal update
- VII. Financial
 Claims and Payroll
 First Quarter Report
- VIII. Walleye stocking at Briggs Woods Park
- IX. Executive Director Report
 Executive Director Report
 Information and Communications
 Strategic Planning and staffing
- X. Next meeting: date, time and place
- XI. Adjourn

Fall Subscription Special
Subscribe now to The Stratford Courier \$25 for one year
Mail Payment to P. O. Box 169 Stratford, Ia 50249
New subscribers only

Car Doctor Presents
\$30.00 OFF
any detail service gift certificates
\$10.00 OFF
Headlight restoration, permanent not cosmetic, gift certificates

Gift certificates can used day of purchase or within one year of purchase!

8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday-Friday
601 Highway 175-Ellsworth, Iowa
515-836-2277