

The Bancroft Register



Wednesday, July 23, 2025

VOLUME 143
NUMBER 30

Single Copy \$1.00

Column One Events

Bancroft Historical Museum to hold meeting

The Bancroft Historical Museum will be meeting on July 29th at 6:00 p.m. at the museum. Everyone is invited to attend.

Annual “Portraits of Kossuth” Photography Contest

Got a great nature photo? Don’t miss your opportunity to showcase that photo in this year’s “Portraits of Kossuth” Photography Contest sponsored by the Kossuth County Conservation Board. Here are the rules:

- Must be a nature photo (weather, wildlife, landscapes, etc.).
- Photo must have been taken in Kossuth County within the last 12 months.
- Photo must be at least 8” x 10” and be framed and ready to hang (frame can be any size).
- Your name, address, phone #, and photo title must be on back of picture.

Entries can be submitted by dropping them off at the Water’s Edge Nature Center, 3 miles north of Algona before the deadline at 4:30 PM on Friday, July 25th. Photos will be displayed and judged by the public at the upcoming Kossuth County Fair, and can be retrieved after the contest. For more information, call the KCCB at 295-2138.

East Fork Ikes Summer Trap Shooting League Team Standings A League	
Kemco Tires	1800
Dan Petersen Constr.	1798
Algona Machine	1795
Reutzel Excavating	1795
Main Street Specialties	1793
Ingalls Electric	1789

B League	
S&B Farms	1819
Security State Bank	1810
Commercial Services	1809
Ingalls Electric	1790
Clay Busters	1779
Wyffel Hybrids	1694

High Team Scores	
Algona Machine	219
Commercial Services	217
Clay Busters	209
Security State Bank	206
S&B Farms	202

High Individual Scores	
Rick Chase	48
Kyle Moore	48
Kyle Simpson	46
Kyle Seebecker	46
Steve McClintock	45
Tom Easter	45
Kollyn Wiemens	45
Bill Strohmman	45

Make sure to check out our website at www.statelinepubs.com

The Bancroft REGISTER
(USPS 040-960)
KRISTIN GRABINOSKI, PUBLISHER

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF
BANCROFT, IOWA 50517
KOSSUTH COUNTY,
& NORTH KOSSUTH SCHOOL DISTRICT
bancroftregister@yahoo.com
PHONE (515) 885-2531
FAX (515) 885-2771

THE BANCROFT REGISTER (USPS 040-960) is published weekly for \$32.00 per year in Kossuth County, \$38.00 per year out of county, \$41.00 out of state by the Bancroft Register, P.O. Box 175, Bancroft, IA 50517-0175.
Periodicals Postage Paid at Bancroft, IA.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to THE BANCROFT REGISTER
P.O. BOX 175,
BANCROFT, IA 50517-0175



The street between Nyman TV & Furniture and Main Street Pub was blocked off for a short time on Thursday, July 17th for a water main break next to the Pub. At the same time as the water break, Algona Glass Company was busy removing the old windows out of Nyman building and then replacing them with new glass.

Bancroft City Council hires new Municipal Clerk/ Finance Officer during July meeting

By Kim Meyer

The Bancroft City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, July 16th. The council went into closed session to discuss the hiring of a replacement for the position of Municipal Clerk/Finance Officer due to Tim Rowlet’s notification of his resignation. Following the closed session, the council offer the position of Bancroft Municipal Clerk/Finance Officer to Shawn Vaske at \$27 per hour.

A Public Informational Meeting regarding the Grid Resiliency Plan is set for 6:00 p.m. on August 13th, 2025, will be held at the Summit Center.

The final reading to amend Ordinance 6-5-10 Sewer Rate was approved.

The final reading to amend Ordinance 6-5-8 Water Rates was approved.

Discussion was held on the quotes received to repair and resurface the basketball court and to add pickleball lines. The council approved the quote and work will begin on the court.

A locking gate will be installed on the south side of the Bancroft Swimming Pool.

Following the recommendation of the Equipment Committee, the Digger Derrick will be sold.

Action was tabled regarding street project at Center Street for more bids.

Action was tabled regarding Resolution 2025.07.02, A Resolution setting the date for a public hearing and additional action on the proposal to enter into a General Obligation Loan Agreement, pending receipt

of quotes for the pool slide and toy repair.

With RAGBRAI only a few days away on Tuesday, July 22, the council approved that set up could begin Monday, July 21.

The hiring of Chayse Berg as an Ambulance Driver was approved.

The council approved the following:

- Amending Liquor Licenses for Johanson’s Café, S & B Distillery, and Main Street Pub for RAGBRAI
- Approved the Liquor License for Bancroft Liquor Store.

The council tabled two agenda items at the meeting

- regarding filling cracks and coating on streets to obtain quotes from different companies
- regarding Resolution 2025.07.01, A Resolution adopting an Open Records Policy.

North Kossuth School Board holds work session regarding overview of Swea City building

By Kim Meyer

Following their July 14th meeting, the North Kossuth School Board held a work session to listen to the findings by Site Logic who did a comprehensive review of the Swea City building.

The two representatives present gave a power point presentation going over areas that may need to be upgraded/updated. This presentation gave the school board a place to start to help with maintenance of the building and to start talks on cost an projects.

Prior to the worksession, the board held their monthly meeting. Julie Runksmeier, building principal, informed the board that summer school will be held for three weeks. The building will be closed while RAGBRAI is in Swea City.

The carpet in the bottom hallway will be installed following the board approving the purchase from Algona Flooring.

Mrs. Runksmeier stated that the wiring and cameras have been installed for the new PA system.

She reviewed the new cell phone policy for the students. Students will not be allowed cell phones during instructional time due to state legislation. Mrs. Runksmeier noted that this will not be a shock to the students as this had been implemented a few years ago in the building.

Disciplinary action of not following the policy - student will have phone taken away and have to pick up in the office, 2nd offense - parent will need to pick up phone and 3rd offense - parent/child and administration will have a meeting.

North Union Superintendent Travis Schueller noted that both baseball and softball were done for the season.

He commented that tearing out the hallway carpet offered many issues with the floor. But have been taken care and the new carpet squares will be installed.

The school board approved the following:

- Jennie Larsen as board secretary/treasurer
- Approved Brett Nitzche as Board Attorney for the 2025-26 school year.
- Approved the first reading of

board policies 503.9 and 503.9R1 regarding the usage of cell phones and disciplinary actions.

- Approved Schnurr & Company as the Auditor for the 2024-25 school year.
- Appointed the following

depositories and limits:

Fidelity Band and Trust, with a limit of 2 Million Dollars

Bank Plus of Swea City, with a limit of 4 Million Dollars

ISJIT, with a limit of 2 Million Dollars, Motion carried.

- Approved the free and reduced breakfast and lunch programs

- Approved the elementary and middles school handbooks

- Approved students fees with no changes

- Approved the resignation of Loren Looft as a middle school boys and girls basketball coach and of Adam Pointer as a high school assistant baseball coach.

The next school board meeting is tentatively set for August 11 at 5:00 p.m.

Union Slough NWR Taking Bids for Hay Harvest

Union Slough National Wildlife Refuge is soliciting sealed bids (per harvested ton) for hay harvest on three tracts of land to be harvested in August 2025. The tracts are located in Kossuth County as follows: Portland Township: Sections 5 and 10; and Ramsey Township: Section 29.

Bidders must place bids on forms provided by the Refuge and submit them in a sealed envelope labeled “Union Slough Haying.” Bid forms

and maps are available at the refuge headquarters and on the Union Slough NWR website at https://www.fws.gov/refuge/union_slough/. Applicants must be 18 years of age or older. Bid forms must be received at the refuge headquarters by close of business (4 pm) on Thursday, July 31st, 2025 to be eligible. The bid opening will take place at the refuge headquarters on Friday, August 1st, 2025 at 10 am. Bidders are encouraged to attend,

but do not need to be present. The successful bidder(s) will be contacted by phone if they are not present. The refuge headquarters is located 6 miles east of Bancroft, Iowa on County Road A-42. Please call (515) 928-2523 with any questions.

For more information on the Midwest Region of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service visit <http://midwest.fws.gov>.

Virginia man arrested on Traffic Stop/Warrants

On July 18th, 2025, the Kossuth County Sheriff’s Office investigated the possibility of an individual working road construction in the area that had warrants from out of state. Deputies gathered intelligence that this person has been a fugitive and avoiding law enforcement for several years with the use of many alias’s and fake identifications.

Deputies conducted a traffic stop near 190th Ave and Hwy 18 at about 12:10 pm on July 18th, on a vehicle being operated by the suspected

fugitive. While conducting the lawful stop, deputies confirmed the identity of the driver and located illegal substances within the vehicle.

Arrested and taken to the Kossuth County Jail was:

William O’Bryant Thompson, age 34, of Jarratt, Virginia. Thompson has numerous warrants out of Virginia and is currently being held on local charges of:

- Possession of a controlled substance 1st Offense Serious Misd
- Possession of Controlled

substance (Marij.) 3rd or subsequent

Agg. Misd

- Operating Motor Vehicle w/o valid license Scheduled Violation

Thompson is also being held for several warrants out of Virginia and will be extradited to that jurisdiction once his charges in Kossuth County are resolved. All persons are presumed innocent until proven or found guilty in a court of law.

Kossuth County Sheriff



As RAGBRAI riders entered Bancroft, they were greeted with a water station along with being able to sign the painted mural on the Bancroft Fire Station on Tuesday, July 22. More photos will appear in next week’s newspaper.