

HUMBOLDT INDEPENDENT

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TWO SECTIONS



Humboldt County audit completed

By APRIL KELLEY

Tim McCartan with TP Anderson & Company, P.C. walked through the audit report for the last fiscal year ending on June, 2024.

McCartan stated that currently, the net position of the county's funds increased from 33,374,336 to \$35,893,772.

The statement of Fiduciary Net Position Custodial Funds shows that the county took in \$7,197,320 in property taxes with another \$8,750,603 in state tax credits, 911 surcharge fees, drivers license fees, office fees and collections, auto license, use tax and postage, assessments, trusts and miscellaneous fees and grants for a total of \$15,947,923.

Expenditures totaled \$13,428,487 which included \$4,691,021 for roads and transportation, \$2,967,443 for public safety and legal services and \$1,629,401 for administration

A copy of the audit report is available for review in the office of the Auditor of the State and at the Humboldt County Auditor's Office.

Drainage District 11

Travis Pederson attended the Supervisors meeting to discuss an open drainage ditch in Drainage District 11.

Pederson attended the Dec. 9, 2024 Supervisors meeting to discuss a section of DD 11 that had not been cleaned out for a long time.

At that time, he told the supervisors that a two-mile section was clogged with dirt and silt.

He stated at that time he is concerned that the area will hold back water creating a holding pond effect.

At that time, the supervisors tabled the issue until after the

SEE AUDIT, 3A



These students at Gilmore City-Bradgate Elementary School point the way during one of their songs in the school's spring concert held on April 24 in the school gym. Music instructor Angela Naeve led the program. Independent photo by Phil Monson. To buy this photo and more from our gallery, visit our website at www.humboldtnews.com.

Council approves street closure for fundraiser

By APRIL KELLEY

Dakota City Council held a special meeting on Wednesday, April 25 to conduct a public hearing on Resolution 2025-02 adopting the annual budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026.

No one was in attendance who had any questions regarding the resolution or to contest it. The Resolution passed unanimously.

The council then moved on to new business. The second reading of Ordinances #297 and #298 were completed and approved. The ordinances are for the MidAmerican Energy Electric Franchise and the MidAmerican Energy Gas Franchise, respectively.

Street closure

Representatives from Melinda's School of Dance requested the closure of Main Street between 3rd and 5th Streets on Saturday, June 7th from 7 a.m.

through midnight.

The group requested the street closure to hold a fundraiser to raise money for the dancers as the school to attend dance competitions.

The group plans to have a bouncy house, dunk tank, a bag tournament, sidewalk chalk, a free game area, a bake sale, food stands and possibly a band later in the evening.

The event is still in the planning stages and more information will be provided at the May meeting.

The council members voted to close that section of Main Street on June 7 from 7 a.m. to midnight.

In other action:

- Resolution 2025-03 was passed to transfer funds.
- The council voted to repair the side panel of the Chevrolet pickup through Jer-

SEE FUNDRAISER, 5A

HCMH to purchase used ambulance

By APRIL KELLEY

Humboldt County Memorial Hospital (HCMH) CEO Michelle Sleiter informed the HCMH Board that due to the rise in Measles cases across the United States, Humboldt County is now able to give MMR vaccines free of charge.

"Our public health is approved as a vaccine for adult physical location and the current outbreak is allowing free vaccinations with the MMR," Sleiter said.

As of now, Humboldt has not had a case of measles, however, as of the beginning of April, there are over 600 cases in 22 states.

Anyone who has not previously been vaccinated should speak with their physician about receiving the vaccine at this time.

Sleiter stated that if a person has gotten the vaccine as a child, there is no reason to get a booster now. If someone is unsure if they have received the vaccine, they can contact Public Health. Vaccinations are logged into a system through the state and can be looked up.

"If you were one of the gen-

erations that have had vaccinations as a child, you're good. Their concern is the unvaccinated," Sleiter said.

Anyone in a high-risk occupation unsure if they have ever been vaccinated can have their titer level checked for antibodies.

"The message today is really if you have any questions or concerns to contact public health," Sleiter said.

New depression treatment

Sleiter also told the board that HCMH has been approved to administer a new FDA approved drug that treats drug resistant depression, Stravato.

Stravato is a prescription nasal spray that will be administered in the infusion center. Patients being treated with Stravato need to be monitored for at least two hours after they receive the medicine.

"The patient self-administers the spray but then they have to be monitored for at least two hours," Sleiter said.

"It has been very successful. Multiple sites in the state provide the service but the closest to us is Webster City but great

news is that we just received notice that we are an approved site," Sleiter continued.

Contract management software

Sleiter made a proposal to purchase contract management software. She presented the board with three options, however one was very much out of the price range she had wanted to spend at \$93,000.

"I don't love spending money on this but at the end of the day it does make life easier on myself as I deal with contracts on an almost daily basis," Sleiter said.

At present, all contracts are kept in paper files in a filing cabinet making them difficult to handle and update.

Sleiter recommended Intelizen over iContracts even though it has a slightly higher cost at \$42,000 compared to iContracts cost of \$37,968.

"The difference between the two, overall, Intelizen is further ahead in the AI model. Long story short, Intelizen does a little more work upfront getting everything loaded in and it is an AI model," Sleiter

said.

This means that it is possible to search through contracts using a single word or phrase, such as which contracts are due at a certain time or if there is a contract with a certain vendor.

"It is very intuitive to our needs and they will continue to customize it to our needs," Sleiter said.

Sleiter will be able to upload current contracts into the system and then build contracts directly in the software in the future.

The board voted to approve the purchase of Intelizen contract management software.

Sleiter will still need to review all of the contracts before they are uploaded to ensure all of the documents and information are included.

Ambulance Fleet Expansion

HCMH Ambulance director Jordan Erie attended the board meeting to request the purchase of a used ambulance to supplement the current fleet.

According to Erie, the used

SEE HCMH, 3A



Jarin Kroeger sings with his band during the Soundsation show held at Humboldt High school on Saturday, April 26. Kroeger appeared with two different bands for the show. Photo by Kylie Portz. To buy this photo and more from our gallery, visit our website at www.humboldtnews.com.

Humboldt FFA attends and competes at the 97th Iowa FFA Leadership Conference

On April 13-15, Humboldt FFA attended the 97th Iowa FFA Leadership Conference hosted at Iowa State University. During the Conference, FFA members interacted with industry professionals at the career fair, toured the ISU Meat Lab, toured the ISU Equine Farm, toured the ISU Horticulture Greenhouses, attended general sessions, listened to keynote speakers, packaged Meals from the Heartland, and competed in contests.

Elsie Stattelmann and Allisyn Wood served as our chapter's delegates at the Business Session to vote on changes to the Iowa FFA constitution and select the new state officer team. Danica Diedrick played her trombone in the Iowa FFA Band, which performed at the 3rd and 4th General Sessions. Ava Newton and Elsie Stattelmann also received their Iowa FFA Degrees. Ava Newton

signed her letter of intent to become a future agricultural instructor on April 14.

At the conference, members competed in Leadership Development Events (LDEs), which are designed to help members develop critical thinking skills, effective decision-making skills, foster teamwork, and promote communication.

Elliot Carlson, Ava Newton and Elsie Stattelmann competed in the Chapter Activity Exhibit LDE. Chapter Exhibit is an event that displays information on one chapter project or activity. The display had to include how one event of the annual program was organized, conducted and what results were accomplished. The team received a bronze rating.

The Iowa FFA Greenhand Quiz is an exam that tests knowledge of FFA

history, parliamentary procedure, and other FFA-related topics. Only first year FFA members are able to compete in this contest. Joseph Frideres and Ella Hayden competed in this contest and both received a bronze rating.

The Iowa FFA Chapter Quiz is an exam that tests knowledge of FFA history, parliamentary procedure, and other FFA-related topics. This contest is open to second through fourth year FFA members to compete in. Ava Newton competed in this contest and received a silver rating.

At the conference, members also competed in Career Development Events (CDEs), which are designed to help students develop the ability to think critically, communicate clearly, and perform effectively in a competitive job market.

Emma Frerk, Amy Tilton and Jorjie

Tinken competed in the Farm Business Management CDE. At the contest, members demonstrated knowledge of economic principles, record analysis, risk management and problem solving. The team received a bronze rating.

Parker Scott, Keeton Sampson and Drew Spellmeyer competed in the Poultry Evaluation CDE. At this event, members graded live poultry, ready to cook poultry, eggs, and further processed poultry products. The team received a silver rating.

Tyson Crahan, Andrew Nedved, Makayla Stalpes and Adelyn Vinsand competed in the Team Ag Sales CDE. The team completed a sales test, created a sales presentation about a John Deere Snow Blower Skid Steer attachment and performed a customer relations practicum. The team received a silver rating.



Humboldt FFA members pose for a photo outside of Hilton Coliseum at Iowa State University during the FFA Convention. Front Row from left; Ella Hayden, Adelyn Vinsand, Elsie Stattelmann, Emma Frerk, Ava Newton, Jorjie Tinken and Tyson Crahan. Middle Row: Joseph Frideres, Keeton Sampson, Andrew Nedved, Parker Scott. Back Row: Danica Diedrick, Allisyn Wood, Makayla Stalpes, Amy Tilton and Drew Spellmeyer. Submitted photo.

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