Christmas in the Ayr - Parade of Trees draws crowd

People peruse the Parade of Trees at Ringgold County Courthouse. *Photo by Jeff Snyder*

Woman struck by car

On December 2, 2025, at 2:20 p.m. Brian Lee Rairden, age 39 of Mount Ayr and Shirley Joyce Vice, age 88, of Mount Ayr.

Rairden was traveling in the parking lot of Dollar General looking for a spot to park. Shirley Vice was exiting the store to return to her vehicle. Rairden's view of Vice was blocked by parked vehicle in the parking lot. When Rairden was finally able to see Vice, Vice was struck by Rairden. Vice was transported by ground EMS for further evaluation. Rairden's vehicle received no damage and received a citation for 321.20b – Failure to Provide Proof of Financial Liability w/ Accident.

Press Release Authorized by the Ringgold County Sheriff's Office

*Any potential criminal charges identified above are merely allegations and any defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Stay safe on the ice this winter

The recent blast of arctic air is growing ice on lakes and ponds across the northern two-thirds of Iowa. Outdoor ice enthusiasts are ready to get out ice fishing, snowmobiling, ice skating or fat-tire bike riding.

The DNR recommends a minimum of four inches of clear ice for ice fishing and at least five to seven inches for snowmobiles and ATVs. Larger off-road utility vehicles should wait for seven or more inches of clear ice.

Ice forms at different rates on each body of water depending upon the size and water depth. Once frozen, conditions change constantly and ice thickness can vary across the lake. Rocks, trees, docks or other things that poke through the ice will conduct heat and make the ice around it less stable. Trust your instincts – if the ice does not look right, don't go out.

A blanket of snow on top of an ice-covered lake insulates the ice, slowing the growth of ice and hiding potential hazards or weak spots. River ice is 15 percent weaker than lake ice. Ice with a bluish color is safer than clear ice. Avoid slushy or honey-combed and stay away from dark spots on the ice. Don't walk into areas where the snow cover looks discolored.

Safety Tips on the Ice

- No ice is 100 percent safe.
- New ice is usually stronger than old ice.
- Don't go out alone - if the worst should happen, someone will be there to call for help or to help rescue.
- Let someone know where you are going and when you will return.
- Check ice thickness as you go out - there could be pockets of thin ice or places where ice recently formed.
- Avoid off-colored snow or ice. It is usually a sign of weakness.

Ringgold County Sheriff Arrest Reports

On Monday November 24, 2025, the Ringgold County Sheriff's Office received information about an assault. The following individual has been arrested on the charges below.

Daniel Eugene Long

Grand River, Iowa

708.2C(2) Assault W/ Intent To Inflict Ser Inj- Viol Of Individ Rights.

708.4(1) Willful Injury- Causing Serious Injury, Bond: $15,000.

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On Monday November 24, 2025, the Ringgold County Sheriff's Office received information about an assault. The following individual has been arrested on the charges below.

Matthew Anthony James Mate,

Kellerton, Iowa.

708.2C(2) Assault W/ Intent To Inflict Ser Inj- Viol Of Individ Rights.

708.4(1) Willful Injury- Causing Serious Injury. Bond: $15,000.

Press Release Authorized by the Ringgold County Sheriff's Office

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RAIDER EVENTS

Thursday, December 11
4:00 P.M.: Rocket League vs Emmetsburg
@ Mount Ayr Esports Arena
4:30 P.M.: Junior Varsity Boys Basketball vs Bedford
@ Bedford High School - Big Gym
6:00 P.M.: Varsity Girls Basketball vs Bedford
@ Bedford High School - Big Gym
7:30 P.M.: Varsity Boys Basketball vs Bedford
@ Bedford High School - Big Gym

Friday, December 12
1:00 P.M.: Varsity Boys Wrestling, Dan Christensen Wrestling Invitational @ Central Decatur High School Gym
4:00 P.M.: 8th Grade Boys Wrestling vs Nodaway Valley
@ Nodaway Valley Middle School - Gym
4:00 P.M.: 8th Grade Girls Wrestling vs Nodaway Valley
@ Mount Ayr Middle School Gym
4:30 P.M.: Junior Varsity Boys Basketball vs Southeast Warren
@ Mount Ayr High School Gym
5:00 P.M.: 7th Grade Boys Basketball vs Nodaway Valley
@ Nodaway Valley Middle School - Gym
5:00 P.M.: 8th Grade Girls Basketball vs Nodaway Valley
@ Mount Ayr Middle School Gym
6:00 P.M.: Varsity Girls Basketball vs Southeast Warren
@ Mount Ayr High School Gym
7:30 P.M.: Varsity Boys Basketball vs Southeast Warren
@ Mount Ayr High School Gym

Saturday, December 13
1:00 P.M.: Varsity Boys/Girls Bowling, SEW Invitational
@ Bowlearma Lanes, Des Moines, IA

Sunday, December 14
Nothing Scheduled

Monday, December 15
7:50 A.M.: FFA - High School Officer Meeting
7:00 P.M.: High School/Middle School Band Concert
@ Mount Ayr High School

Tuesday, December 16
4:00 A.M.: Mount Ayr Esports vs Anamosa playing Overwatch 2 @ Mount Ayr Esports Arena
4:00 P.M.: 8th Grade Boys Basketball vs Interstate 35
@ Mount Ayr Middle School Gym
4:00 P.M.: 8th Grade Girls Basketball vs Interstate 35
@ Mount Ayr Middle School Gym
4:00 P.M.: Varsity Boys/Girls Bowling, Tri
@ Tiger Lanes, Lenox, IA
5:15 P.M.: 7th Grade Boys Basketball vs Interstate 35
@ Mount Ayr Middle School Gym
5:15 P.M.: 7th Grade Girls Basketball vs Interstate 35
@ Mount Ayr Middle School Gym
6:00 P.M.: Varsity Girls Basketball vs Wayne
@ Wayne Community High School - HS Gym
7:30 P.M.: Varsity Boys Basketball vs Wayne
@ Wayne Community High School - HS Gym

Wednesday, December 17
Nothing Scheduled

Bake Sale Fundraiser
for Tegan Streit upcoming Mission Trip March of 2026 to The Netherlands.
12/23 - Courthouse Lobby
7:30 am till Sold Out

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