



My name is Kevin Alons. I’m a patriot, a conservative, and a Republican. It is my honor to serve as an Iowa State Senator. As I’ve seen for years, Iowa’s government is at a crossroads. People in power have a decision to make. The question is simple.

On one side: “The government should allow Eminent Domain for private gain.” On our side: “The government must protect Iowans’ property rights.”

This seems like an easy call. After all, in the Legislature where I serve, your elected representatives – Republican and Democrat alike – voted overwhelmingly to protect property rights, even under tremendous pressure from big business and big politics. As an Iowan, I was encouraged to see the Legislature finally bring up the elephant in the room: whether the government will allow Summit Carbon Solutions to invade and take your land for their own private interests. We – your representatives – voted for you. Now, the question is in the hands of Governor Kim Reynolds.

Let’s rewind the clock to last year. The Iowa Utilities Commission – people no one voted for – said “maybe” to that critical question. That government agency decided that if South Dakota and other states agreed to Summit’s pipeline, then the company could use Eminent Domain to take Iowans’ land. It is unusual and unthinkable that under Iowa law, three unelected people could actually give a private company the right to take my constituents’ land for some novel and unusual project. While it’s a good thing the Commission put some restrictions on this land grab, those weren’t nearly enough to protect people.

This year the Iowa Legislature passed a simple bill that puts traditional Eminent Domain rules back in place for these new, unusual, and dangerous things that Summit wants. Let’s be clear: all we want is a return to the free market. Specifically, when companies want pipelines to carry poisonous liquefied gas through so many farms and towns in Iowa – which is Summit’s goal – they should do so through voluntary easements, and not through the power of the government. 30% of Iowa’s ethanol plants have not signed up, how could it be acceptable to force private citizens to do so?

That’s the question now on Governor Reynolds’ desk. I and my colleagues – on behalf of so many Iowans whose lives and livelihoods are at risk - have one message: Let’s

Get This Done. Governor Reynolds has been a defender of individual rights and of our values since the day she took office. Protecting property rights can be her legacy – and it should be.

And yet - as a military officer, I am well aware that in a conflict, the other side gets a vote too. So, let me address that and cut through the junk. As some members of my own party came out swinging against House File 639, the “No Eminent Domain for Private Gain” bill, it nonetheless passed the Iowa Legislature in a once-in-a-generation bipartisan way. This is because Iowans want a return to the Constitution.

Opponents of this common sense legislation argued that “Iowa will be sued for half a billion dollars” if this becomes law. They said this utilities commission ruling is a “contract” between Iowa and the mega-million dollar company that wants our land – even though the conditions of the permit simply can’t be met. The argument is that Summit invested money with a guarantee that the pipeline was approved, so any legislative action represents a “breach of contract”.

When you consider the timeline of the unexecuted pipeline project, the pursuit of and payment for voluntary easements, and the issuance of the conditional permit, this argument is revealed for the deception it is. Most of these speculative payments were made long before June 2024, when the IUC conditional permit was issued – to imply that the state could be liable for actions taken by a company before any approval was granted is laughable or an admission of “quid pro quo”.

Regardless, standing for the constitutional rights of my constituents is worth the risk and I welcome the fight. We must respond to the abuses that the government and Summit has put upon affected landowners. It is a fight we must fight and will win.

Governor Reynolds has been a defender of property and individual rights since her first day in office. I am honored to be one of so many state legislators who put House File 639 on her desk. Not only should she sign it, she should sign it with real pride – her signature on this bill means a “win” for landowners, and a permanent restriction on government abuses of power over people.

After all, if the government can take your land, it can take everything else from you, too. So let’s fix this. Let this signature be the crowning achievement of Governor Reynolds’ legacy.

of The Reestablishment. Ten years since the notorious duo—Juliette Ferrars and Aaron Warner Anderson—led a worldwide rebellion and established the New Republic of the West. But after a decade of unsettling quiet, The Reestablishment is ready to make a devastating move, and they have the perfect person for the job.

Rosabelle Wolff had a plan. She always has a plan. On Ark Island, where constant surveillance is packaged as security, even emotions must be experienced with caution. A trained assassin, her every movement is monitored by synthetic intelligence—and when she’s given an order to kill, she never hesitates.

Two Sisters Murder Investigations By James Patterson

Rhonda and Barbara “Baby” Bird are half-sisters—and full partners in their Los Angeles detective agency. They agree on nothing.

Rhonda, a former attorney, takes a by-the-book approach to solving crimes, while teenage Baby relies on her street smarts.

But when they take a controversial case of a loner whose popular wife has gone missing, they’re accused of being PIs who can’t tell a client from a killer.

The Bird sisters share a late father, but not much else...except their willingness to fight.

Fight the system. Fight for the underdog. Fight for the truth. If they can stop fighting each other long enough to work together.

The Mysterious Bakery on Rue de Paris By Evie Woods

Nestled among the cobblestone streets of Compiègne, there existed a bakery unlike any other.

Rumours were whispered through the town that its pastries offered a taste of magic, chasing away the darkest of sorrows. Just one bite of a croissant might bring luck, unlock a precious memory or reveal hidden longings.....But dark clouds were looming on the horizon...

For Edie Lane, a recipe for disaster doesn’t require that many ingredients. Take an unhealthy amount of wishful thinking and a sprinkle of desperation and that’s how Edie left everything behind in Ireland for her dream job at a bakery in Paris. Except the bakery isn’t in Paris – and neither is Edie.

This might not be where Edie intended to be but she soon realizes it’s exactly where she needs to be...

Something In the Walls By Daisy Pearce

Newly-minted child psychologist Mina has little experience. In a field where the first people called are experts, she’s been unable to get her feet wet. Instead she aimlessly spends her days stuck in the stifling heat wave sweeping across Britain, and anxiously contemplating her upcoming marriage to careful, precise researcher Oscar. The only reprieve from her small, close world is attending the local bereavement group to mourn her brother’s death from years ago. That is, until she meets journalist Sam Hunter at the grief group one day. And he has a proposition for her.

Alice Webber is a thirteen year old girl who claims she’s being haunted by a witch. Living with her family in their crowded home in the remote village of Banathel, Alice’s symptoms are increasingly disturbing, and money is tight. Taking this job will give Mina some experience; Sam will get the scoop of a lifetime; and Alice will get better, Mina is sure of it.

But instead of improving, Alice’s behavior becomes increasingly inexplicable and intense. The town of Banathel has a deep history of superstition and witchcraft. They believe there is evil in the world. They believe there are ways of... dealing with it. And they don’t expect outsiders to understand.

As Mina races to uncover the truth behind Alice’s condition, the dark cracks of Banathel begin to show. Mina is desperate to understand how deep their sinister traditions go—and how her own past may be the biggest threat of all.

New Children’s Releases at Onawa Public Library

Warm and Fuzzy By Scott Rothman

Warm and Fuzzy are best friends. Warm wants to go on an adventure, but Fuzzy isn’t sure. What if it’s scary? What if it’s really cold or super hot? What if there are no bathrooms, or worse: no toilet paper!

Warm says they have everything they need, but Fuzzy is worried. Should they bring snacks? A sensible change of clothes? Toilet paper?

Warm knows where to go, but Fuzzy has questions. Have they been there before? Will there be people there? Should they bring gifts? Or toilet paper??

This reassuring story explores themes of resilience, patience, bravery and anxiety in a gently humorous and familiar way. It will remind worriers of all ages that no matter how big or small the adventure,

they have it in themselves to meet it. Even if it means bringing their own toilet paper.

Orson and the Worlds Loudest Library By Laura Gehl

When Orson visits his local library, he likes to sit and read quietly by himself. However, not everyone is on the same page. One day, when the library is buzzing with activities, Orson decides he’s had enough! But as he cools off after an emotional outburst, Orson begins to understand how much the library and its sometimes not-so-quiet community have to offer . . . and decides to turn things around.

Crushed By Melanie Conklin

Sophie Valentine would rather be at home, doing school virtually. Instead, she’s waiting in a crowded middle school building for her best friend, Eve, who’s finally back after an extended absence, which only Sophie knows the truth about.

But when Eve returns, things aren’t the same. First, Eve stops walking to school with her in the morning. Then, she’s ditching Sophie to hang out with the Crash Crew, a group of popular kids notorious for their social media dares. Eve seems to fit right in, but Sophie is devastated: Did she just lose her best friend?

When rumors surface that Eve is hiding a painful secret she didn’t share with Sophie, Sophie is spurred on an investigation to discover what—or who—caused the incident behind Eve’s sudden change... and why all clues lead back to the Crash Crew. Using lessons from her forensics class and the help of a new friend, Sophie will have to uncover the truth before more harm is done.

Services & Programs Offered at The Onawa Public Library:

Homebound Services Offered by The Onawa Public Library

Did you know The Onawa Public Library offers Homebound Services to any in city resident of Onawa who cannot get to the library due to advancing age, long term illness, or disability? This service includes requests for books, magazines, movies, and pickups. If interested in this service call the library 712-423-1733 and we will add you to our delivery service.

1,000 Books Before Kindergarten Program

Onawa Public Library is proud

to present the 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten Program. This program is free and it encourages you to read 1,000 books with your child before they start kindergarten. Stop at the library and pick up your starter bag! If you have any questions 712-423-1733.

Young Adult Alert: Have you heard about Page Break at the Onawa Public Library?

Page Break is a FREE subscription service for teens grades 7-12. Each month, participants receive a bag with two handpicked books to borrow for three weeks and some snacks and other goodies to keep. Teens can sign up by filling out a form with basic information about their reading preferences. We reach out each month when the bags are ready to be picked up at the main desk.

The Onawa Public Library Memory Plaza

The Onawa Public Library would like to continue working to fill in the Memory Plaza. Many bricks have already been installed around the flag pole next to the east entrance of the library. Your lasting contribution will be used to complete the plaza as well as help us raise funds to repair the roof of the original building.

This is your chance to carve your name in history and preserve your family name, honor a loved one, a favorite pet, name a short quote, book title, special anniversary... The options are endless

Please contact the library for an order form or if you have any question. Call 423-1733.

Tree moving, trimming, removal and stump removal. Insured – Aerial bucket – Free estimates. (Trees for sale in Season)

1-800-823-2437

ACCEPTING BIDS

**NOTICE OF SEALED BIDS
Portable Classroom For Sale**

The West Monona Community School District is accepting sealed bids for the purchase of a portable classroom unit:

- Size: 23’6” x 76’ (Approx. 1,786 sq. ft.)
- Manufacturer: Satellite Industries / Arrow Mobile Structures
- Year Built: 1997
- Includes: Portable classroom and steps

Viewing:

Available by appointment only. Please contact the Superintendent’s Office at 712-433-2043 and ask for April to schedule a viewing.

Bid Submission Deadline:

All sealed bids must be submitted by 4:00 PM on Monday, June 16, 2025 to:

Superintendent’s Office
1314 15th Street
Onawa, IA 51040

Terms:

- The winning bidder is responsible for all removal arrangements and costs.
- The portable classroom must be removed by July 20, 2025.

The School District reserves the right to reject any or all bids

SERVICES - SERVICES

FARM WORK WANTED

We have several crews of Bean Walkers & Detasslers. ***WE DO ANY KIND OF FARM WORK!!*** With 31 years of experience! We also do demolition work, cut trees, fence work (removal and installations)

**For More Information Call
(712) 251-3277 or (712) 943-2084**

**What’s Happening
at the
Onawa Public Library**

Upcoming Events at The Onawa Public Library:

**Magic Show With Mikaya Oz
Wednesday June 4, at 1:00p.m.**

Help us kick start our Summer Reading Program and Summer Story Time with Magician Mikayla Oz! This high energy magic show will bring AMAZING Magic, tons of laughs & gags, LOTS of audience participation where the kids get to do the magic, and special appearance by Bubbles the Bird!

This program is Sponsored by the Onawa Kiwanis Club and is free fun for all ages!! Everyone is welcome.

**Night Hike Nature in the Dark
Thursday, June 5th, 2025
8pm until Done**

Dress in layers of light clothing, use bug repellents, before you head out, wear sturdy shoes, bring a flashlight. Hike will begin at 9:15p.m at the Whiting Woods located at 14858 Peach Avenue. Whiting Woods is not handicapped accessible. In case of inclement weather, the night hike will be June 6, 2025.

This program is Sponsored by Sponsored by Monona County Libraries and Monona County Conservation. Fun for all ages!! Everyone is welcome.

Registration is appreciated, please call 712-881-1312, or contact your local library.

**Nebraska Virtual Reality
Gaming Truck
Middle/High School Program
Thursday June 12th at 3:30p.m.**

Join us for one of three sessions in the virtual reality gaming truck. This program is for kids going into 6th grade through going into 12th grade. Pre-registration is required due to limited space. Time slots are as follows: 3:30 - 4:30, 4:30 - 5:30, 5:30 - 6:30! Contact the library for more information!

**Do-Art Productions
Comic Book Workshop
Middle/High School Program
Thursday July 31, 3:00-5:00 P.M.**

This is a free program for kids going into 6th grade through going into 12th grade! At the Do Art Productions comic book workshop, we will explore the different languages of comics, from the eyes, to body posture, to the actual language within speech bubbles. The workshop is interactive and very creative with little tricks and turns to keep engagement. With a dynamic pose drawing exercise you may see juggling axolotls, flying giraffes, or dabbing pandas. After seeing how easy cartooning and creative expressions can be, we will generate a comic together out of the characters and creativity of the first half!

New Adult Releases at Onawa Public Library

Watch Me (Shatter Me: New Republic #1) By Tahereh Mafi

James Anderson had a plan. Or half of one. All that matters is that he managed to do what his older brother, the famous Aaron Warner Anderson, never did: infiltrate Ark Island, the last refuge of The Reestablishment. In the past decade no outsider has breached the stronghold of the authoritarian regime, but James is in. In a prison cell, sure, but as far as James is concerned, a win is a win.

It’s been ten years since the fall

Self-Inking Stamps
Available at the
Onawa Democrat Office
For Return Addresses.
Notice, Signature,
Warning, Crafts,
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712-423-2411
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