


SBPD and IDR Team Up for Underage Alcohol Checks

(SBA) - Sergeant Bluff, Iowa (April 23, 2025) – The Sergeant Bluff Police Department has announced a partnership with the Iowa Department of Revenue (IDR), Alcohol & Tax Compliance Division, to conduct underage alcohol compliance checks aimed at reducing and deterring underage alcohol sales.

The Iowa Underage Alcohol Enforcement Program, a collaborative effort between IDR and the Sergeant Bluff Police Department, seeks to combat underage alcohol sales by

See CHECKS P.11

WEEKLY FUEL REPORT



Gas price dip saves Americans \$200 million per day


(SBA) - The nation's average price of gasoline has declined for the second straight week, falling 3.4 cents compared to a week ago and stands at \$3.10 per gallon, according to GasBuddy® data compiled from more than 12 million individual price reports covering over

See FUEL REPORT P.4

5 DAY WEATHER OUTLOOK

May 1, 2025

(11%)




PARTLY CLOUDY

HIGH: 72° | LOW: 45°

May 2, 2025

(3%)




MOSTLY SUNNY

HIGH: 73° | LOW: 45°

May 3, 2025

(8%)




PARTLY CLOUDY

HIGH: 79° | LOW: 53°

May 4, 2025

(24%)




MOSTLY CLOUDY

HIGH: 75° | LOW: 55°

May 5, 2025

(24%)



MOSTLY CLOUDY

HIGH: 76° | LOW: 53°

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May 1, 2025 - Vol. 47, No. 18

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(USPS 702-150) (ISSN 0746-2220)

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Sergeant Bluff-Luton NHS Students Lead, Inspire, and Serve with Excellence

(SBA) - What does it mean to strive for excellence? For SBL students in National Honor Society (NHS), the challenge isn't simply to earn high grades or be recognized for their academic achievements. NHS students are asked to use their talents to lead, inspire, and serve their classmates and community. The Sergeant Bluff-Luton NHS chapter is an active one. Their members meet once a week to plan and facilitate a variety of service projects and social events that occur throughout the school year. NHS members must complete at least ten volunteer hours per semester, in

See NHS P.12



Back Row (L-R): Jack Zeleny, Hudson Schuetz, Tyler Mullinex, Aden Konopasek, Ryan Husen, Nolan Herbst, Andrew Kolar, Parker Buchheit, Stella Britton. Front Row: Hailie Frankl, Kenleigh Panowicz, Mya Kleve, Brenna Ocker, Madison Kvidera, Peyton Brestler, Kaitlyn Hardie, Ella Cary, Bailey Ball

What Iowa Homeowners Need to Know about the Proposed Property Tax Overhaul

By Timothy Loftus, Sergeant Bluff Advocate Publisher

(SBA) - On April 17, 2025, the Sergeant Bluff Advocate published an article by Robin Opsahl titled "Iowa Republicans Release Updated Property Tax Legislation." The article addresses the Iowa Legislature's attempt to overhaul the state's property tax system, which is set to begin sooner than anticipated, allowing local governments to collect more revenue during periods of high inflation. The updated legislation, Senate Study Bill 1227 and House Study Bill 328, was released by Republican chairmen of the Legislature's tax-writing committees.

The proposed changes aim to replace Iowa's current "rollback" system with a "revenue-restricted" system. Under the rollback system, only a portion of residential property taxes are taxable, calculated annually based on statewide property growth and capped at 3%. The new system will tax the full assessed value of properties but limit the annual increase in property tax levy rates to 2%, with exceptions for new construction and inflationary periods.

For homeowners, this


See PROPERTY TAX P.3

USPS Proposes 7.4% Rate Increase Effective July 2025

By Timothy Loftus, Sergeant Bluff Advocate Publisher

(SBA) – For businesses and residents of Sergeant Bluff, it will be a little more expensive for a business to send out mailings to their customers or to send little Timmy that birthday card. The United States Postal Service (USPS) has announced a proposed rate increase of 7.4%, expected to take effect on July 13, 2025, if approved by the Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC). This adjustment will impact various postal products, including Forever stamps, domestic and international letters, and postcards. The initiative aligns with USPS's 'Delivering for America' plan, which aims to stabilize its financial health through regular price adjustments every January and July until 2027.

The proposed changes, already approved by the USPS Board of Governors, will see the Forever stamp rise from \$0.73 to \$0.78, one-ounce letters increase from \$0.69 to \$0.74, domestic postcards go from \$0.56 to \$0.62, and international postcards and letters both increase from \$1.65 to \$1.70. Additionally, the USPS plans to introduce a 12% reduction in postal insurance



See PRICE INCREASE P.10



Brooke Hanson (left) was the chapter vice-president during the 24-25 school year. Claire Husen (right) served as chapter president and was named a 2025 national scholarship semifinalist.

Join us in Celebrating Iowa's School Board Members This May

(SBA) - May is School Board Recognition Month, a time to honor the dedicated individuals who serve as a Guiding Light for Student Success in Iowa's public schools. Sponsored by the Iowa Association of School Boards (IASB), this month-long celebration recognizes the vital role school board members play in shaping education and supporting students.

SBL Community School District is proud to celebrate the hard work and leadership of our school board members. In partnership with families, educators, and the community, they ensure our schools provide

See BOARD P.3

Sergeant Bluff-Luton Teacher Roberta Huju Honored with Golden Apple Award

(SBA) - Sergeant Bluff-Luton Middle School's 6th grade math teacher, Roberta Huju, has been honored with the Golden Apple Educator of the Month award by Powell Broadcasting. This award recognizes outstanding educators in the region for their dedication and contributions to education. Each month, Powell Broadcasting selects a teacher who has demonstrated exceptional commitment to their students and school community.

Recipients of the Golden Apple award are celebrated for their innovative teaching methods, positive impact on student learning, and overall excellence in education. The award aims to highlight the importance of great teachers and their role in shaping the

See AWARD P.7

SB-L parents and graduating seniors are reminded to get your Senior Profiles turned in for the Advocate Graduation Special Issue coming out on May 15th. Seniors can turn their profiles into office at the high school. Don't be left out of this special issue and keepsake. The NEW deadline to be included in the special graduation publication is Tuesday, May 6, 2025.