

Union Pacific Railroad Awards 2 AEDs to City of Salix for Year-Round Emergency Access

(SBA) - The City of Salix has received a grant from Union Pacific Railroad for two AEDs. These AEDs are located outside City Hall and by the park restrooms, secured in weatherproof cabinets accessible year-round. In case of an emergency, call 911 to obtain the code to open the cabinet. Provide the 911 operator with your location (listed on the box), and they will give you the code to access the AED. To learn how to use the AED, click on the QR code for a quick video. Thank you, Union Pacific Railroad!

Union Pacific Railroad’s Community Ties Giving Program awarded over \$5.2 million in local grants to 487 nonprofit organizations across the 23-state network where the railroad operates and its employees live and work. Millions of people will benefit from these awards, which support organizations and projects aligned with the railroad’s giving priorities: safety, workforce development, community vitality, and environmental sustainability. The grants, ranging from \$5,000 to \$30,000, will help create safer neighborhoods, expose students to future careers, revitalize parks, and launch new environmental initiatives.

“Union Pacific believes in the power of local, grassroots organizations to create positive and meaningful change in communities,” said Union Pacific President Beth Whited. “We are proud to support these nonprofits, which share our commitment to building safe and vibrant communities for today’s residents and for generations to come.”



Celebrate “Children of the Corn” in Iowa with On Set Cinema This July!

(SBA) - Join ON SET CINEMA this summer for a special weekend celebration of Stephen King’s horror classic “Children of the Corn,” filmed in several small towns throughout western Iowa. The main event will take place on Friday, July 11, 2025, in the heart of Gatlin, also known as the town of Whiting, where the infamous “Outlander” flagpole still stands today. On Set Cinema will screen the movie inside the Whiting City Hall Community Center, right next to the flagpole.

Whiting is home to many iconic scenes from the movie. This is where Burt (Peter Horton) and Vicky (Linda Hamilton) pull into the eerie ghost town in front of Hansen’s Café at the beginning of the film. It is also where many intense chase scenes occur, and where Malachai (Courtney Gains) holds Vicky in front of the flagpole, shouting “Outlander! Outlander!”

Before the screening on Friday night, fans will enjoy a guided walking tour of downtown Whiting, led by Kenny Caperton of On Set Cinema and “Children of the Corn” historian John Sullivan. They will show fans where all the movie magic and mayhem took place.

For those eager to explore even more locations from the movie, On Set Cinema is offering a filming locations school bus tour on Saturday, July 12, 2025. This 2.5-hour guided tour will take fans to additional filming sites in Hornick and Salix, Iowa, including an exclusive tour of the infamous “Children of the Corn” house.

This is going to be an amazing event and an unforgettable experience for fans of one of the greatest horror movies ever made!

ALL EVENT DETAILS AT
<https://www.myershousenc.com/onsetcinema>
DIRECT LINK TO PURCHASE TICKETS AT
<https://myershousenc.thundertix.com/events?genre=onsetcinema>.



From BOARD P1

high-quality education and opportunities for every student.

“School board members make a profound impact on students’ lives by setting the vision and direction for our district,” said Superintendent, Chad Janzen. “They dedicate countless hours to meetings, policy development, community engagement, and advocacy—all with the goal of ensuring students have the resources and support they need to succeed.”

The SBL school board plays a critical role in overseeing the budget, establishing policies, fostering a positive school culture, and making decisions that affect the entire community. Each year, board members reaffirm their commitment to guiding our schools forward—developing the next generation of teachers, doctors, business leaders, and even future

SBL

school board members.

To show our appreciation, we invite media, parents, and community members to join us in celebrating their contributions.

Meet Our School Board Members

Jeff Wright, Board President – 9 years
Jason Gehling, Vice President – 1 year
Lillyann Rodriguez – 3 years
Tammy Matthey – 18 years
Matt Britton – 3 years

We encourage everyone to take a moment to thank our board members for their dedication.

Importance of Measles Vaccination Amid Rising Concerns and Cases Nationwide

(SBA) - UnityPoint Health-Sioux City and Siouxland District Health are encouraging community members to stay informed and protected against measles as cases continue to rise in parts of the country. Both organizations remain committed to supporting families and patients through education, access to vaccines and trusted medical guidance.

“Vaccines remain one of the most important tools we have to prevent serious illness,” said John Jones, MD, chief medical officer at UnityPoint Health – Sioux City. “We understand that people may feel overwhelmed or hesitant, but our goal is to be a supportive partner to our patients and their families. The MMR vaccine is safe, effective and provides lifelong protection for most people.”

Measles is a highly contagious virus that spreads easily through coughing, sneezing, or even breathing the same air as someone who is infected. The virus can remain active in the air or on surfaces for up to two hours, increasing the risk of exposure in public spaces.

“Because measles spreads so easily, vaccination is the best line of defense,” said Tyler Brock, deputy director at Siouxland District Health. “A full series of the MMR vaccine is 97% effective. For young children especially, staying up to date on routine vaccines through well-child visits is essential.”

While vaccine fatigue and hesitancy are real concerns, local health leaders are urging the community to take action now—both for individual protection and community health.

“Measles is preventable,” added Dr. Jones. “By making sure you and your family are vaccinated, you’re helping protect not only yourselves but also those who are more vulnerable—like infants or individuals with weakened immune systems.”

Those who need to schedule vaccinations or have questions about their immunization status should contact their primary care provider. Patients are encouraged to call ahead before visiting a clinic or urgent care to ensure they are directed to the appropriate care setting.

For more information or to schedule a primary care appointment, visit unitypoint.org.

Immunization Requirements Announced for SBL-CSD 2025-2026 Registration

(SBA) - As registration for the 2025-2026 school year at Sergeant Bluff-Luton Community Schools continues, immunizations are required for students entering primary school, 7th grade, and 12th grade.

Students entering primary school after age 4 must have 5 doses of DTaP, 4 doses of Polio, 2 doses of Varicella, 2 doses of MMR, and 3 doses of Hepatitis B. For preschool requirements, please contact the nurse.

To enter 7th grade, students need 1 dose of Tdap and 1 dose of Meningococcal. For 12th grade, students must have 2 doses of Meningococcal.

If parents or guardians have any additional questions about immunization requirements at SBL-CSD, they can contact Nurse Tina (PS/ES) at 712-943-8813 or Nurse Veronica (MS/HS) at 712-943-8739.

From PROPERTY TAX P1

change means higher property taxes. For example, a house valued between \$400,000 and \$500,000 will see a significant increase in property taxes under the new system.

Assuming a house valued at \$450,000:

Under the current system, the rollback rate is 47.43%, making the taxable value \$213,435. With a GO bond rate of \$4.05 per \$1,000 of taxable value, the property tax amounts to \$864.11.

In contrast, the proposed system calculates property taxes based on the full assessed value of \$450,000. With a GO bond rate of \$2.85 per \$1,000 of assessed value, the property tax would be \$1,282.50.

Sen. Dan Dawson and Rep. Bobby Kaufmann, chairs of the Senate and House Ways and Means committees, respectively, stated that the updated property tax proposal includes measures to provide small communities with budgeting certainty and increases the homestead property tax exemption benefit from \$25,000 to \$50,000.

Despite these changes, local government representatives have raised concerns about the impact on tax increment financing (TIF) revenues and the shift of \$426

million in K-12 school funding from property taxes to the state. Critics argue that the legislation could threaten local governments’ ability to provide essential services. They worry that the cap on property tax levy growth and the elimination of the rollback system will disproportionately affect smaller communities and those with less robust economic growth. Additionally, the shift of school funding from property taxes to the state could create budgetary uncertainties for local school districts.

Rep. Kaufmann acknowledged the public’s concerns about rising property taxes, stating that the goal is to provide real relief to Iowans and make the state more competitive. Senate President Amy Sinclair emphasized the importance of getting the legislation right, even if it means delaying its passage.

While the proposed bill aims to bring predictability and transparency to taxpayers, the shift to taxing the full assessed value of properties will result in higher property taxes for homeowners. The legislation is expected to undergo further scrutiny and feedback before its intended passage during the 2025 legislative session.