

# WHAT'SHAPPENING

- **AA:** M 7 pm, W 8 pm, St. Paul's Methodist Church, 531 W. Main, Cherokee; Sat, 9 a.m., Crossroads Christian Church, 515 W. Main, Cherokee. Use the back door.
- **Aurelia Community Coffee:** Wednesdays at 9 am at the Aurelia Community Center.
- **Aurelia Kiwanis:** Thursdays at 7 am at the Aurelia Community Center.
- **Aurelia American Legion:** 2nd Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm at the Aurelia Community Center.
- **CAP Food Bank:** Tu & Th, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., IC Church, 709 W Cedar. Anyone in need of food is welcome to stop.
- **Cherokee Community Blood Drive:** the last Thursday of the month from 12 to 5:30 p.m. at the lower level of the Cherokee Community Center. Schedule a blood donation appointment online at [lifeservebloodcenter.org](http://lifeservebloodcenter.org) or call 800-287-4903.
- **Cherokee Community School Board of Education:** The regular board of education meetings are held in the Cherokee Washington High School library. Agendas are posted on the school's website typically on the Friday prior to the meeting although they may be changed up to 24 hours before the scheduled commencement of each meeting. Visitors wishing to speak during the meeting should sign up prior to the meeting being called to order. Comments should be submitted to the superintendent, Tom Ryherd, at [tryherd@ccsd.k12.ia.us](mailto:tryherd@ccsd.k12.ia.us) by 2 pm the day of the meeting.

March 17, 2025 @ 5:30pmApril 21, 2025 @ 5:30 pm

May 19, 2025 @ 5:30 pmJune 16, 2025 @ 5:30 pm

July 21, 2025 @ 5:30 pm
- **Cherokee County Conservation Board:** 2nd Monday of each month at the 5 pm at the CCB Headquarters on River Road.
- **Cherokee Public Library:** READit Book Discussion, Thursdays from 10 to 11:30 am. Come as you are, bring what you're reading, and be part of our growing community of book lovers!
- **Cherokee VFW LA Wescott Post:** 2nd Monday of each month at 7:30 pm in the basement of the Kee Stirs building.
- **Memorial Presbyterian Church:** Free movie night is open to the public. This month's movie will be on Sunday, February 16 and will begin at 7 pm. The church is located at 127 E. Willow in Cherokee.
- **MMC Food Pantry:** Marcus Senior Center, 405 N. Main St., Marcus. Hours of operation are Wednesdays 6 to 7:30 pm and Saturdays 9 am to 10:30 am.
- **NA Recovery in Action:** Tu & Th, 7 p.m., First Church of Christ, 772 N. 2nd St., Cherokee. Park in the south lot.
- **Quimby Public Library:** Quimby Public Library has "Story Time" every Wednesday at 3:00. Join us for fun books, games, and crafts!
- **Sermons a la Carte: Wednesday, March 19:** Mark 14:53-65, "Jesus Before the Council," by Pastor Brenton Lopez. Serving churches include: Aurelia First United Methodist, Bethlehem Lutheran, Trinity Lutheran Church. Thank you to the following churches for serving Mar. 12: Quimby Methodist, Meriden Evangelical Free, and Larrabee Methodist
- **Siouxland Food Bank:** the third Friday of the month at Trinity Lutheran Church, 230 N. Roosevelt, 5:30 pm. Please bring your own bags. If you are unable to come to the Food Pantry, but need assistance with food security, please call 712-229-4443 or 712-221-0350.
- **Welcome Plate and Food Pantry:** The Welcome Plate is a free meal served at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 300 E. Bow Drive on Saturday, March 29 from noon until 1 pm. Devotions start at 11:45. Every one is welcome. Food pantry and clothes closet will be open at this time.
- **Christian Education:** Bethlehem Lutheran Church (BLC) and Memorial Presbyterian Church (MPC) will be holding a weekly Christian Education for all 4 year olds through high school youth in the Cherokee community for food, fun and learning on Wednesdays starting at 5:30 with a meal, followed by other activities. Dismissal is 7:05 for 4 year-olds through 8th grade. From January-April, meet at the lower level of MPC 127 E. Willow Street. **For more information contact Marilyn at 712-229-1868.**  
*Stay up to date with the online calendar on our website: [www.chronicletimes.com](http://www.chronicletimes.com)*

## WASHTA FIRE DEPARTMENT

### PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Sunday, March 17th

9 am - 1 pm

Pancakes, Sausage/Bacon, French Toast, Omelets, Biscuits and Gravy, Scrambled Eggs & Beverages

**FREE WILL DONATION**

Bake Sale hosted by Quimby Clovers 4-H Club

Pork products donated by Iowa Pork Producers. Egg Products donated by Michaels Foods

## Thank You

You may have sent cards, said kind words, offered prayers, or just had some quiet memories. We want to thank you for sharing our sorrow. Your kindness was deeply appreciated and will be remembered always.

**The Family of Dale "Papa" Graham**

## Thank You

The family of Norma Jean Hill would like to express our sincere thank you to our relatives and friends for the cards, beautiful flowers, plants, memorials and prayers extended to us.

A special thank you to Pastor David Matthews for his support and service; St. Luke Lutheran Home in Spencer for their care of Norma; Sioux Food Center in Sioux Rapids for the lunch and Greenwood Schubert in Cherokee for their services.

**God Bless you all.**  
**Sandra and Rick Nelson and Family**  
**Darcy Hill**  
**Sue Hill and Family**

# Obituary



**Milton Robert (Bob) Schroder**

Milton Robert (Bob) Schroder was born on December 15, 1933, along with his twin brother, Morris William (Bill) Schroder on a farmstead southwest of Harris, Iowa. His parents were Leonard and Ida (Salzman) Schroder. He attended 8 years at Allison #5 country school and then Ocheydan High School, graduating in 1951.

He married Shirley Turner and they had a son, Paul, and a daughter, Lorrie. In 1976, he married Jeanine Townsend Pedersen.

After growing up on the farm where he was born, Bob worked in construction in Estherville, Iowa and Worthington, Minnesota before moving to Cherokee, Iowa in 1953. He began laying brick for Osterling Construction on the new Washington High School. In 1959, Bob formed a masonry construction business known as Mill Creek Construction. He did many residential and commercial buildings and schools. His construction company was involved in the renovation and building of Manhattan Beach, Village West, Village East, and Arnold's Park in Okoboji, Iowa. Many other projects in the lakes area and he worked in a radius of 100 miles of Cherokee.

Bob was active in St. Paul's United Methodist church serving on the Board of Trustees for many years. He worked on the 1968-1970 renovation projects and the 2001 renovation as well. He served on the finance committee for 5 years and taught Sunday School. He belonged to the Methodist Men's club and was active in many church activities.

Bob was active in the local Toast Master's Club during the 60s and was Toast Master of the Year for Area 12 in 1969. Bob served on the Planning and Zoning Commission for the City of Cherokee and was chairman in 1975. He was president of the Sanford Museum Association and served on the board from 1991-2016. In 1999, Bob joined the Lion's Club and enjoyed the fellowship and contributing to the group objectives.

He spent several winters in Mesa, Arizona and had the opportunity to ride the trail down to Phantom Ranch with an overnight stay at the bottom of the Grand Canyon. Bob enjoyed the Lakes region, spending weekends there and later on weekdays with his wife, Jeanine, and their family and friends. Bob loved the outdoors, fishing, hunting, and placed nature as the most valuable asset on earth. Bob was a prolific poetry writer and enjoyed woodcarving as a hobby. Other projects he has worked on are too numerous to mention and are all around you, as a living tribute to a man who worked hard and did the best he could.

Bob was preceded in death by his parents and two sisters, Bonnie Hembd and Jeanne Miller of California, and one brother, Eldon Schroder of Sioux City, Iowa.

Survivors include his wife Jeanine; son Paul Schroder (Rosa Carole) of Minneapolis, MN.; daughter Lorrie (Chris) Wolle of Port Ludlow, WA.; two granddaughters, Hilary Northcraft and Kamilie James; four great grandchildren; brother Bill (Linda) Schroder of Huntsville, AL.; several nieces and nephews, extended and devoted family: Larry (Karen) Pedersen of Weston, FL., Lori (Alan) Brown of Des Moines, Iowa, Les (Linda) Pedersen of Cleghorn, Iowa and their families.

Memorial services will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 11, 2025 at St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Cherokee, Iowa. Pastor Mike Agnew will officiate. Burial will be held at Oak Hill Cemetery at a later date this spring.

The Boothby Funeral Home in Cherokee, Iowa is assisting the family with the arrangements.

Online condolences can be left at [www.boothbyfuneral.com](http://www.boothbyfuneral.com)

# Not all Superheroes wear capes

**Monthly Blood Donation 'Thank-You':**

"My husband received your donor platelets after his open-heart surgery. We can't thank you enough during this stressful time."

For over 15 years, Cherokee and surrounding communities have supported the local blood bank, LifeServe Blood Center, with at least one blood donation opportunity per month. Over the course of February 2 blood drives were hosted to support 150+ local hospitals that LifeServe Blood Center serves.

We successfully collected 65 units of blood that have the ability to save up to 195 local lives!

We also celebrate the following donor(s) who hit milestones with their most recent donation:

LYNN JOLLY - 5 Gallon  
DENNIS RUPP - 6 Gallon  
CONNIE LADWIG - 17 Gallon

Thanks to everyone who came out to show their support.

Generous, volunteer blood donors do more in one hour than most people will do in their entire lives. They are true heroes for people facing heart surgery, cancer, organ transplants, and other critical health conditions that require lifesaving blood transfusions.

You can be a superhero by being a blood donor and positively impacting up to three people's lives with just one donation.

**SAVE MORE LIVES IN 2025.**

We have several upcoming blood drives in Cherokee for the months of March and April:

- Thursday, March 27th - Cherokee Community Center (12pm - 5:30pm)
- Thursday, April 10 - Aurelia Community Blood Drive in the Bloodmobile at the Aurelia Community Center, 235 Main Street (1:30-5:30 PM)
- Friday, April 11 - Cherokee Regional Medical Center Blood Drive in the Bloodmobile at 300 Sioux Valley Drive (8-10:30 AM)
- Thursday, April 24 - Cherokee Community Blood Drive at the Cherokee Community Center-Lower Level Community Room, 530 W. Bluff (12-5:30 PM)

To schedule your lifesaving appointment, visit [lifeservebloodcenter.org](http://lifeservebloodcenter.org); call 800.287.4903; or text 'LIFESERVE' to 999-777 to make your next appointment

LifeServe Blood Center is a non-profit, community-based blood center that has served the needs of local hospitals and patients in our region since 1947.

As one of the 15 largest blood centers in the country, LifeServe provides blood products to 175 hospitals primarily in Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota, and Illinois.

LifeServe is committed to saving lives by providing premier service to volunteer blood donors and access to a safe, quality blood supply for hospitals and patients.

Your donation with LifeServe will help save your neighbor, a friend or family member or a stranger on the street. YOU make a difference in YOUR community.

For more information about blood donation or to schedule an appointment to donate blood, call 800.287.4903 or visit [lifeservebloodcenter.org](http://lifeservebloodcenter.org).

We look forward to seeing you next time!

# Death Notice

**Jean VerSteeg**

Jean VerSteeg, 86, of Cleghorn, Iowa passed away Thursday morning, March 13, 2025 at her residence in Cleghorn.

Funeral arrangements are currently at the Boothby Funeral Home in Cherokee, Iowa. Online condolences can be left at [www.boothbyfuneral.com](http://www.boothbyfuneral.com)

# Obituary



**Darlene R. Patten**

Darlene R. Patten, 97, of Cherokee, Iowa, passed away on Friday, March 7, 2025 at The Gardens Assisted Living in Cherokee, Iowa.

Funeral services will be held on Tuesday, March 11, 2025 at 10:30 a.m. at the First Church of Christ in Cherokee, Iowa. Pastor David Hall will officiate. Burial will be in the Oak Hill Cemetery at Cherokee, Iowa. Visitation will be held on Monday, March 10, 2025 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. with the family present from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. at Boothby Funeral Home in Cherokee, Iowa. Online condolences may be left at [www.boothbyfuneral.com](http://www.boothbyfuneral.com).

Darlene Ruby (Vannatta) Patten, a twin, was born at home on June 24, 1927 to Pearl Lynn (P.L.) and Myrtle (Gleason) Vannatta. She was a baptized member of First Church of Christ in Cherokee, IA. Darlene attended Lincoln, Garfield and Wilson schools in Cherokee, graduating from Wilson High School in 1947.

On May 21, 1949, she was united in marriage at the minister's home to the love of her life, Kenneth A. Patten of Alta, IA. They made their home in Cherokee where Ken was a foreman for Iowa Public Service for over 40 years. They met while roller skating and continued to skate for many years. Darlene loved to play her saxophone, fish, camp, travel to almost all states, and ride on the motorcycle with Kenny. She purchased their first motorcycle (Indian) while Kenny was in Korea. They were on one of those trips when Mount St. Helen erupted, riding in ash most of the way home.

Darlene was a member of Tone Circle, Order of Eastern Star (Alta Chapter), Lifetime member of V.F.W. Auxiliary (Alta). She was an avid bowler, bowling in a league and traveling to competitions. Along with some of her siblings, she was an ac-

tive participant in the Cherokee Community Band. For a time, while the children were young, she ran a day-care in her home. In her teens she worked at Main's Council Oak Market, serving ice cream and handling groceries. She remained employed in the grocery and food industry most of her life, working at the Golden Rule, Randalls, Cherokee school food program, as a marketing promoter and demonstrator for various name brand food products, a soybean genetic research processor, and primarily with Fareway Store for over 30 years. She retired when she was 91 from Fareway.

Christmas was her favorite holiday, sending cards and letters and rejoicing in the birth of Christ. She delighted in Santa's house visits and Christmas Eve drives viewing the city's house lights and decorations. Attendance at musical events brought much joy to Darlene. She was raised in a musical family, with her and all her siblings playing instruments. She joked that between the Vannattas and Pattens, they had their own band. With a heart of gold, her and Kenny found countless ways to help friends and family. Blood donation and voting was very important to her. She was passionate about her faith and her family, never missing an opportunity to celebrate or mourn life events and activities with family and friends.

Survivors include: Daughter-Margaret and Dennis Schultz of Wisner, NE; Son-Mark Patten of Sioux Rapids, IA; Grandson-Eric Schultz of Seward, NE and child Mason; Granddaughter- Megan and Billy Prescott of LeMars, IA and children Brody and Quinn Grandson Dirk and Kimberly Schultz of Pender, NE and children Avery, Emery and Henry; Sister-in-law-Linda Vannatta of Cherokee, IA and Sister-in-law Ruth Hoferman of Coon Rapids, MN; Brother-in-law-Doug Patten of Omaha, NE; also several nieces and nephews.

Darlene was preceded in death by her Parents; Beloved husband, Kenneth (January 25, 2012); Brothers and Sisters-in-law-Luverne, Robert & Dolores Vannatta, Clifford & Marion Vannatta, Darrel (Twin ) & Delores Vannatta; Sister & Brother-in-law Beverly & Harold Heschke; Brothers-in-law & Sisters-in-law- Tom & Joyce Patten, Neil & Pat Patten, Clinton Hoferman, Virginia Patten; Granddaughter-in-law, Amy Schultz.

# Knights of Columbus Calendar Winners

- March 8 - Randy Cane
- March 10 - Amber Thorson
- March 11 - Michelle Wilson
- March 12 - Dan Reinholdt
- March 13 - Jan McMurrin
- March 14 - Nora Andresen

# Accident Reports

**Obstructed view cause of crash**

The Cherokee Police Department responded to a collision in Cherokee Thursday, Mar. 6 when a driver's view was obstructed by another vehicle.

The two-vehicle accident occurred on Highway 59 near the Hy-Vee parking lot at 7:21 p.m. Glenn Lindsey, 60, of Cherokee, was attempting to turn left from the parking lot onto southbound Highway 59 when he collided with a northbound vehicle driven by Angela George, 42, also of Cherokee.

George's 2014 Ford van, carrying three passengers, was in the left lane of Highway 59. Lindsey told police he did not see George's vehicle because a third vehicle was simultaneously turning right into the Hy-Vee lot, blocking his view.

George's van sustained an estimated \$10,000 in damage but was driven from the scene. Lindsey's vehicle sustained an estimated \$20,000 in damage and was towed. No injuries were reported.

# Snowy road sends vehicle into ditch

A Perry, Iowa, man lost control of his vehicle on a snow-covered road in Cherokee County early Friday Mar. 7, striking a sign and ending up in a snowbank.

Louikenson Oczan, 28, was driving west on County Road C63 near South Avenue at about 5:15 a.m. when he lost control of his 2008 Toyota RAV4.

Oczan's vehicle entered a ditch on the north side of the road and struck a no-passing zone sign before stopping in a snowbank. The vehicle sustained an estimated \$2,500 in damage and was towed. Damage to the county-owned sign was estimated at \$100.