

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 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 by 2 pm the day of the meeting.
May 19, 2025 @ 5:30 pm June 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 Memorial Presbyterian Church** will hold a movie on Sunday, May 4, starting at 6 pm. The movie is On Wings of Eagles. This is a free community event. Popcorn and drinks provided
- **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.
- **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!
- **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. Watch for time and date of the next Welcome Plate.
Stay up to date with the online calendar on our website: www.chronicletimes.com

Community Baby Shower for HOPES

The baby shower event is free and open to expectant parents in Cherokee, Iowa. Attendees will learn about LSI's HOPES home-visiting program which recently expanded to Plymouth and Cherokee Counties. Attendees will also connect with multiple other family-serving organizations from the area and receive free resources, support, and materials to help as they prepare for their new baby. This event is sponsored by Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) as part of its Early Childhood Services. The shower will be held on Thursday, May 8, 2025 from 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. at the Cherokee Community Center at 530 W Bluff St., Cherokee, IA. For questions about the event, contact Mallory Berkenpas at Mallory.Berkenpas@LSIowa.org or 712-870-2589. To learn more, visit LSIowa.org. Join us on Facebook at Facebook.com/LSI.iowa and on Instagram at [@lsi_iowa](https://Instagram.com/@lsi_iowa).

CHEROKEE CITY WIDE CLEAN UP ON MAY 21st

The City of Cherokee is sponsoring a city wide clean-up day on Wednesday, May 21, 2025. In order for your items to be picked up, you **MUST** contact City Hall (225-5749) no later than Monday, May 19, 2025 by 4:30 p.m. to put your name and address on a list. **YOU MUST CONTACT US AND GIVE US YOUR ADDRESS IN ORDER FOR YOUR ITEMS TO BE PICKED UP! ITEMS WILL BE PICKED UP AT THE CURB ONLY.** Appliances and tires can also be picked up but will need a sticker, which may be purchased at City Hall. Appliances will be \$10 and tires will be priced according to size. **ONLY STICKERED EMPTY APPLIANCES AND TIRES WILL BE PICKED UP!** The City Council encourages residents to take advantage of this to help you clean your property. This is a great chance to get your items hauled away and clean up your property prior to any nuisance citations being issued. Excludes Yard Waste. Thank you for your cooperation!

Announcing the Cherokee Chronicle Times

Cute Cow Contest



Submit a photo of the most beautiful bovine, cutest calf or heavenly heifer you know to news@cetimes.biz by Monday, May 5th at 5 pm

Winning entry will be given a 3-month online subscription to the Cherokee Chronicle Times! Winner will be announced in the Farm Times on Friday, May 9th.

Last year's winner was Skoots submitted by Kacy Wolf.



Lucas named April Healthy Hero



This month's Healthy Hero Award winner is Cord Lucas. Cord was involved in football in the fall. Cord is a quiet leader that does what he is supposed to in the classroom. He participates in class no matter what the activity is. He is nice to his fellow classmates and staff. Congratulations Cord!!

Reader of the Month is Cronin



The May Reader of the Month is Easton Cronin. His favorite series are Wings of Fire and Harry Potter. His all time favorite book is "The Fort" by Gordon Korman. Ms. Hare nominated Easton because he has a love of reading and is an avid reader. He worked really hard to complete the 24 Book Challenge this year! Easton also makes use of the resources available at the Public Library. The Reader of the Month is a joint collaboration between the Middle School Library and the Cherokee Public Library. Easton will receive a gift card to the Book Vine (courtesy of the Friends of the Library) as well as a journal to keep track of the books that he has read. Congratulations Easton!

Horse Arena springs back to life



Volunteers helping on April 13 Clean Up Day were, from left to right, committee members: Abbi Ogren, Becca Cowan, Julie Mortenson, Chyenne Mortenson, Duane Heschke, Morgan and Zane Young, Dan and Kathrine Martin, Weston Shupe and daughters. Not pictured: Tanner Schroder, Chad Staver, Patricia Martin, Ben Martin, Madi Stief, Bree Stief, Bob Leach, Jim Johansen, Jerry Berglund.

On a sunny Sunday afternoon, the Cherokee Downtown Arena echoed once again with the sounds of energy and purpose—not from hooves or cheering crowds, but from rakes, shovels, and the laughter of volunteers. This Spring Clean-Up Day marked a new chapter for the historic arena of 20+ years as a newly appointed committee stepped forward to restore the beloved facility after flood damage in 2024.

Approved by the City of Cherokee, the new Downtown Arena Committee is made up of passionate community members determined to bring the arena back to its full potential. Their mission is clear: to reestablish the Cherokee Downtown Arena as one of Northwest Iowa's premier equine event destinations.

Originally built in the early 2000s, the arena was the result of a collaborative effort between like-minded individuals and generous local businesses who envisioned a space where rodeos, barrel races, and horse shows could thrive. Now, 20 years later, the facility is in need of essential

upgrades. Planned improvements include restoring electricity, replacing the arena's footing with fresh sand for safer riding conditions, and investing in updated equipment such as new speakers and roping chutes. Thanks to the support of community-minded businesses like Back Electric, who restored the power, and LG Everist, who generously donated new sand from a local pit, some of these improvements are already underway.

The committee is committed to preserving this important venue for future generations, but these upgrades come with significant upfront costs. While the arena will be self-sustaining through rental income from hosted events, we're asking for help from the community to meet these initial expenses. If you're able, please consider making a donation—every contribution, big or small, brings us one step closer to revitalizing this space for all to enjoy.

The clean-up on April 13th was just the first step. Volunteers tackled debris left behind by last year's floodwa-

ters, scrubbed the grounds, and began assessing areas in need of repair. The atmosphere was upbeat, as many recognized that this work not only revives the facility, but also revitalizes community pride.

Committee members emphasized the economic impact the arena can have on Cherokee. With each equine event hosted, a wave of contestants and spectators is expected to visit—bringing foot traffic to gas stations, restaurants, shops, and other local businesses.

As plans move forward, the committee is excited to unveil a schedule of events designed to celebrate the arena's comeback and reintroduce it to the public. From competitive rodeo events to youth riding clinics and family-friendly gatherings, the arena's future is already taking shape.

For more updates and ways to get involved, follow the "Cherokee Downtown Arena & Events" Facebook page. To inquire about donations please contact Bob Leach 712-229-2043, or Madi Stief 712-221-5799.

April blood drive results

Monthly Blood Donation "Thank-You": "Thank you so much for your blood donation. Blood transfusions are literally giving me more life as I battle stage 4 cancer. Time is precious with my 5-year/8-old, family, & friends. Bless you!"

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 April 3 blood drives were

hosted to support 150+ local hospitals that LifeServe Blood Center serves. We successfully collected 72 units of blood that have the ability to save up to 216 local lives!

We also celebrate the following donor(s) who hit milestones with their most recent donation:
KENDALL ANDERSON - 1 Gallon
JENNIFER MADISON - 3 Gallon
CASANDRA KRANIG - 3 Gallon
MICHELLE HORTON - 6 Gal-

lon
GAIL THILL - 12 Gallon
DANIEL SPEELMON - 19 Gallon

SAVE MORE LIVES IN 2025. The blood drive in Cherokee for the month of May is on Thursday, May 22nd at Cherokee Community Center from 12pm to 5:30pm)

Thanks to everyone who came out to show their support. Be sure to text 'LIFE-SERVE' to 999-777 to make your next appointment and we look forward to seeing you next time!

There's always more at www.chronicletimes.com