

Service Notice

Shirley C. Larson

Shirley C. Larson, age 91 of Cherokee, IA, passed away Tuesday, July 8, 2025, at the Cherokee Regional Medical Center in Cherokee, IA, due to injuries received from a fall at her home.

Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m. Monday, July 14, 2025, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Cherokee, IA. Pastor Jonathan Riggert will officiate. Burial will be at Oak Hill Cemetery in Cherokee, IA. Visitation with family present will be held one hour prior to the service at the church.

The Greenwood-Schubert Funeral Home in Cherokee, IA is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.greenwoodfuneral.com.

Birth Announcements

Raya Louise Burkhart

McKenzie and Michael Burkhart are happy to announce the birth of their daughter, Raya Louise Burkhart.

She was born on Friday, July 10 at 9:21 am.

Raya weighed 6 pounds, 7 ounces and was 18 inches long. She is welcomed home by her big sister Nora Jean Burkhart.

Raya's grandparents are Abby and Matthew Harding of Cherokee, and Linda Burkhart and Mike Burkhart, both of Cherokee.

These birth announcements are sponsored by

Cherokee Regional
Medical Center

Your Place. For Exceptional Care.

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.
- **BuenaVista Parkinson's Support Group:** Second Tuesday of each month at 1:30 pm in the library at St. Mark's Lutheran Church. The B.V. Parkinson's Support Group is affiliated with the American Parkinson Disease Association, the country's largest grassroots organization providing funds for research and patient and caregiver education and support across the United States. For more information contact Glenn Schulz at: Home - 712-732-1792 mobile - 201-317-3318
- **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 on the third Monday of each month. 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. 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, July 13, starting at 6 pm. The movie is King of Kings. 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, on Thursday, July 31st, from 5:30 to 6:30 pm! Devotions at 5:15. Food pantry and clothes closet will be open. All are welcome.

CHEROKEE AREA FARMERS MARKET
Cherokee Depot
119 S 4th St.
Under Canopy
each Thursday, 4-6pm
June thru September

Fresh Produce, grown locally in Cherokee and adjoining counties.
Baked Goods & Craft Items made by the people who sell them.

Vendors Welcome for information
CALL 712-229-9502

Please join us for a Come n Go Baby Shower

Honoring Jessica (Alesch) and baby girl Foley

July 12th from 9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. at the Cleghorn Community Center

She is registered at Target and Amazon

Donna Mae Waterbury

Donna Mae Waterbury, age 89 of Cherokee, IA, passed away Sunday, July 6, 2025, at Cherokee Regional Medical Center in Cherokee, IA. Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m. Friday, July 11, 2025, at the Greenwood-Schubert Funeral Home in Cherokee, IA. Burial will take place at Oak Hill Cemetery in Cherokee, IA. Visitation with the family present will be 5:00-7:00 p.m. Thursday night at the Greenwood-Schubert Funeral Home in Cherokee, IA.

The Greenwood-Schubert Funeral Home in Cherokee, IA is assisting the family with arrangements.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.greenwoodfuneral.com.

On September 30, 1935, in a farm house at East Chain, Minnesota, a baby girl was born to Jens and Esther Irene (Benson) Madsen. They named her Donna Mae. She was baptized and confirmed at the East Chain Lutheran Church.

Donna attended school at East Chain School until 6th grade when the family moved to Swea City. When she started school in Swea City, she met another girl who had just moved there. The girl had the same last name (Madsen - no relation). Donna was 7 days older than Leah. They be-

came very good friends and still are.

After graduation from Swea City School, Donna worked at Eddie's Food for 5 years.

On November 2, 1955, Donna was married to Richard (Dick) Waterbury at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Swea City. Dick was on leave from the Navy. Three days later Dick went back to the Navy and Donna to work. Their wedding day was fast and furious!

Dick and Donna lived in Honolulu, Hawaii; Swea City and Cherokee, Iowa. They moved to Cherokee when Dick became a state trooper for 30 years.

In 1970 they bought an acreage east of Cherokee and raised cattle, sheep, and pigs. Donna attended to baby pigs and saved many at birth.

In 1979, Dick and Donna sold this acreage and moved to 80 acres they had bought in 1973, They raised cattle and crop farmed. Donna was not a tractor person, so she gave Dick some merry rides!

Dick and Donna were animal lovers and had several dogs, cats, and horses. Any dog or cat wandering in found a home with them.

In addition to her long-time friend Leah (Madsen) Miller, Donna leaves behind special friends Clem Shemmel, Dennis Oleson, Joanne Jones, and Sandra Heid.

Donna is survived by her husband; brothers Roger (Donna) of Spirit Lake, Iowa and Dennis (Carol) of Fairmont, Minnesota; sisters-in-law Karen Williamson of Des Moines, Iowa and Delores Waterbury of Fairmont, Minnesota; and 13 nieces and nephews.

Donna was preceded in death by special friends Wayne and Bill Carson. She was also preceded in death by her parents; sister Karen Tarrant; sister-in-law Marilyn Schoon, brothers-in-law Merlin Waterbury and Gary L. "Butch" Waterbury; and nephew Michael Madsen.

Allen John Stange

Memorial Services for Allen Stange, age 64, of Aurelia, will be Tuesday, July 8, 2025 at the Aurelia Community Center from 4-6PM with the family present.

Allen John Stange was born at Sioux City, Iowa, on February 11, 1961, to Jerry Lee and Karen Fisher Stange. He attended school in Rembrandt and was in the last graduating class from Rembrandt High in 1979. Al then attended Buena Vista University majoring in K-12 Special Education, and later attained his Master's Degree from Morningside University in Counselling.

Al was united in marriage to Deborah Lundquist on March 11, 1989 at the First United Methodist Church in Aurelia.

Al worked as the IT Administrator for the Cherokee Mental Health retiring in February of 2022. In his spare time he loved to garden, including working in his personal greenhouse. He is a past member of the Cherokee Shrine Club and Pheasants Forever.

Al could often be found doing yard work, riding his bike, and enjoyed camping, hunting, and fishing.

Al died unexpectedly on Friday, July 4, 2025 at his home.

Preceding Al in death are his parents Jerry and Karen, and his father-in-law Chuck Lundquist.

Survivors include his wife of 36 years Deb, and their two children, Stephanie Stange and Nick Radke of Alta, and Brett and his wife Kelsi Stange of Aurelia. Al had one grandson, Beau Stange. Three siblings, Sonja and her husband Curtis Sievers of Linn Grove, Jeff and his wife Sharon Stange of Pomeroy, and John Stange of Alta. Mother-in-law Sylvia Lundquist, and Brother and sister-in-law Jeff and Heather Lundquist, many nieces and nephews, relatives and friends.

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Penalties increase for assaulting Iowa's law officers

Law goes into effect immediately

DES MOINES - The new Iowa law that increases penalties for assaults against law enforcement officers and first responders goes into effect today, July 1, 2025. The law was Attorney General Brenna Bird's legislative priority this past session.

"Starting today, Iowa's law works harder to protect our law enforcement heroes who daily put on their badge and risk their lives to keep us safe," said Attorney General Bird. "We want these women and men to know that in Iowa, we back the blue."

The law protects law-enforcement officers, first responders, and corrections officers by raising penalties for assaults to:

- Up to 10 years in prison when the assault involves a dangerous weapon or is meant to inflict serious injury
- Up to 5 years when the assault causes bodily injury

A mandatory minimum sentence of 7 days in jail for all other assaults against first responders

The law also raises the penalty for spitting on law-enforcement officers, first responders, or corrections officers to assault with other bodily fluids.

Obituaries

Donald "Donnie" Wayne Skou

Donald "Donnie" Wayne Skou, age 64, of Marathon, Iowa died July 6, 2025 at UnityPoint St. Luke's in Sioux City, Iowa.

Memorial services will take place Saturday, July 12, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. at Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Storm Lake. Visitation will be held prior to the service from 12-2:00 pm at the funeral home. The Fratzke & Jensen Funeral Home in Storm Lake is in charge of the arrangements.

Donnie Wayne Skou was born October 24, 1960 to David and Rita (Ehrig) Skou in Ida Grove, Iowa. He was baptized and confirmed at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church in Holstein, Iowa. After high school, Donnie studied Automotive Technology at Iowa Central Community College, graduating in 1985.

On November 19, 1983, Donnie was united in marriage to Connie Smith at the Methodist Church in Galva, Iowa. They were blessed with a son, Brian.

Donnie was a member of the Loyal Order of the Moose and was a past Governor. He was also a member of Moose Riders and served as President. Donnie worked as a mechanic and was a talented woodworker. In his free time, he enjoyed being outdoors, motorcycling, and fishing. You could find him watching Nascar races. Donnie will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him.

Donnie is survived by his wife, Connie Skou; son: Brian Skou; siblings: Diana (Rich) Otto; David (Patricia) Skou; brothers-in-law: Dennis (Diane) Smith; Tim (Barb) Smith; extended family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents: David and Rita Skou; grandparents: MJ and Essie Skou; and sisters: Bonita Gordon; Betty Nafe; and Bonnie Hintz.

Police & Court Reports

Table leg assault leads to prison time for CCCUSO patient

A patient at the Cherokee Civil Commitment Unit for Sex Offenders was sentenced to two years in prison for an alleged assault using a metal table leg against a staff member.

Cherokee County District Associate Judge Kristi Busse handed down the maximum two-year sentence to Bobby Messier, 43, with credit for time previously served, according to an order June 23. Messier pleaded guilty to assault while displaying a dangerous weapon, an aggravated misdemeanor, on June 21, according to a plea filed by his attorney, Fred Perkins of Emmetsburg.

On June 12, Messier allegedly engaged another CCUSO patient in a verbal argument, then "kicked a metal table leg off a nearby table and secured it in his hands," according to an affidavit filed by Cherokee police. Messier allegedly walked towards the other patient with the table leg, "intending to use the leg as a weapon," according to the affidavit. CCUSO staff reportedly secured the weapon from Messier and de-escalated the situation.

Cherokee woman turns herself in three years later

A Cherokee woman turned herself into the sheriff's office last month for a three-year-old warrant alleging a string of probation violations connected to a 2019 felony drug case.

Kendra Yohe, 32, reportedly turned herself into the Cherokee County Sheriff's Office on June 13. District Court Judge John Sandy issued a warrant for Yohe's arrest on Feb. 14, 2022.

District Associate Judge Kristi Busse scheduled a probation revocation hearing for Yohe on July 21 during which she'll have to answer to three-year-old allegations.

Yohe was arrested in Cherokee in April 2019 after police executed a narcotic search warrant at a residence in the 400 block of West Cherokee Street and allegedly seized methamphetamine, according to district court records. Yohe was charged with three felonies but pleaded guilty to one: gathering where controlled substances are unlawfully used. A judge later agreed to dismiss the other two charges.

In 2020, Yohe was sentenced to five years probation in lieu of five years in prison and ordered to complete a residential treatment program in Sioux City, according to court orders.

In February 2022, Cherokee County Attorney Ryan Kolpin filed an application to revoke Yohe's probation, claiming she lost her employment and failed multiple court-ordered drug tests.

That February, Yohe allegedly told her probation officer that she was laid off from BoDean's, a food supplier based in Le Mars, along with 12 other employees, according to the revocation application. The officer reportedly contacted BoDean's to verify her employment and "they reported she no-called no-showed for work" in December 2021 and was terminated for "job abandonment."

In January 2022, Yohe allegedly tested positive for methamphetamine and THC during multiple urinalyses and admitted to marijuana use, according to the revocation application. A warrant was subsequently issued for her arrest. Cherokee law enforcement agencies never executed the warrant before she arrived at the sheriff's department last month. It's unclear from court records where Yohe has been living over the last three years.

Cherokee women arrested for marijuana in car

Storm Lake police arrested two Cherokee women after a search of their vehicle allegedly yielded 44 grams of marijuana and other drug-related items.

Lilly Weier, 19, and Hannah Munoz, 31, were arrested around 4 a.m. on July 6, according to affidavits filed in Buena Vista County District Court.

The women were both charged with failure to affix a drug tax stamp, a felony, hemp inhalation and possession of drug paraphernalia, misdemeanors, according to district court records. Weier was also charged with possession of a controlled substance while Munoz was charged with second-offense possession of a controlled substance.

In the early morning July 6, Storm Lake police reportedly conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle near the intersection of Northwestern Drive and West Milwaukee Avenue for operating without any tail lights on, according to an affidavit. When an officer approached the driver's side of the vehicle, he allegedly detected an odor of marijuana. A subsequent probable cause search of the vehicle allegedly yielded 1.5 ounces of marijuana, "THC vapes, rolling papers, a grinder and a joint," according to an affidavit.

Weier allegedly admitted to possessing the marijuana and nicotine vapes, according to affidavits filed July 6.

Police transported Weier and Munoz to the county jail Sunday on a \$7,300 bond, according to a statement released by the SLPD on Tuesday.

No court dates for either cases have yet been scheduled.