

Obituaries



Donna M. Brdicko

Donna M. Brdicko, 90, of Cherokee, Iowa, passed away on Monday, September 16, 2025 at Accura Healthcare in Cherokee, Iowa.

Funeral services will be held on Monday, September 22, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. at Boothby Funeral Home in Cherokee, Iowa. Pastor Philip Beisswenger will officiate. Burial will be in the Oak Hill Cemetery at Cherokee, Iowa. Visitation will be held an hour prior to services beginning at 1:00 p.m. at Boothby Funeral Home. Online condolences may be left at www.boothbyfuneral.com.

In lieu of flowers, it was Donna's request for memorials be sent to Memorial Presbyterian Church or Cherokee Regional Hospice.

Donna Mae was born on May 8, 1935 in Omaha, Nebraska to Fred and Gertie (Jessup) Brdicko. She grew up in Clarkson, Neligh, and Newman Grove, Nebraska. When she was 3 years of age, her parents and grandfather, Fred Jessup moved to a farm

in Jefferson, South Dakota. At 6, she started first grade in a country school, walking with her 2 cousins each day. In March of 1942, her parents bought a farm North of Meriden, Iowa. She loved helping her dad by driving the John Deere tractor on hay and harvest days.

She joined the Cherokee Cloverettes 4H Club, holding all offices and taking her baking to the fair. Donna graduated from Meriden High School with her class of 1953 after recovering from Polio in 1952.

In 1954, she went to work at the Cleghorn State Bank in Cleghorn, Iowa as a bookkeeper and teller for 9 years. After moving to Cherokee, Iowa in 1963, she worked at Cherokee State Bank for 37 years and helped with the travel club. Donna retired in 2000 as an assistant vice president in customer service.

Donna was a member of the Memorial Presbyterian Church and served on many boards. She was on the 4H Council for five years, helping at the county fair during check in time for projects. She was a member of Business and Professional Women's Club in Cherokee.

She enjoyed reading and doing word finds, watching movies and sports on t.v. She loved helping others when able and also attending family get togethers. She was a cancer survivor.

Donna was preceded in death by her parents and her foster brother Raymond Wolfert and his wife Carolyn.

She is survived by many cousins and friends.



Bonnie J. Zoch

Bonnie J. Zoch, 97, of Cherokee, Iowa passed away

on Sunday, September 14, 2025 at Accura Healthcare in Cherokee, Iowa.

Private family services will be held at Oak Hill Cemetery in Cherokee, Iowa. Pastor Mike Agnew will officiate. There will be no visitation. The Boothby Funeral Home of Cherokee, Iowa is assisting the family with arrangements.

The family requests no flowers or memorials be sent.

Bonnie is survived by her three sons and their families, David and Judy Zoch of Ford Dodge, Iowa, Gary Zoch of Cherokee, Iowa, and Dale and Kathy Zoch of Cherokee, Iowa.

Cherokee City Council green lights repairs on West Bluff Street

Construction anticipated to begin next spring

BY MADELINE COMBS

West Bluff Street in Cherokee will soon receive much needed upgrades following project approval by the Cherokee City Council last Tuesday.

The council gave the greenlight to the nearly \$700,000 project last Tuesday after lengthy back and forth on the logistics of the project — much of which concerned access to the school, pool and homes via W. Bluff Street.

Kyle Basten, an engineer with Beck Engineering in Cherokee, explained to the council that the project would likely involve a complete overhaul of the road to replace the worn concrete between Ninth Street and the T-intersection near the community center.

“Last time I was here, the direction was to proceed with removing and replacing that whole stretch,” he said at last week’s meeting.

“That will allow us to get the grading we need, level we need and it’ll be a better long-term product instead of the plan we had discussed with the city doing some patching mainly around the pool.”

City Administrator Theresa Pudenz elaborated on the decision, saying that the city was looking for a long-term solution to repairing the road.

“I think at the end of the story, our discussion was to try and move forward because we wanted a better product, a longer longevity for the road than just kind of mishappily patching it in various spots that didn’t necessarily make sense when we were going along,” she said. “We were replacing this part but we were leaving this side and I’m like ‘OK, that doesn’t really make sense.’”

The project will likely consist of two phases, the first of which would be completed during the school year and hopefully finished by the summer when the community pool opens. The second phase will focus on replacing portions of concrete along W Bluff Street between the T-intersection near the community center and the railroad tracks

Basten emphasized that the concrete around the railroad tracks will not be touched.

While the estimated project cost sits just under \$700,000, the city is hoping to receive generous grant funding to cover 80% of the project equaling about \$500,000. The other 20% would be paid by the city.

Pudenz said that, without the grant, the city may have to pay an additional \$300,000 out of pocket for the project.

Funding for the project has already been factored in to Cherokee's FY26/27 budget

The project is currently scheduled to begin as early as next spring pending final approval by the Iowa Department of Transportation, but could change according to Basten. His hope is that the DOT will assist with the project to avoid potential traffic issues at the pool and the school during the duration

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RESEARCHED BY ADAM DUBLINSKE

For more historical archives from the area, check out this website: <https://cherokee.advantage-preservation.com>

1950 (75 years ago)

City Council Hikes Wages of Some Employees

The Cherokee city council in a special sessions Monday evening allowed a 10-per cent increase in wages to certain employees. The increase was specified as effective from Sept. 1, 1950 to March 31, 1951.

4-H Youths Win Honors At Interstate Show

Ray Dirksen and his 4-H members who showed calves at the Interstate Livestock show at Sioux City this week returned last night with several honors. Jim Anderson, who showed the junior Angus with which he won reserve championship at the Cherokee county livestock show in connection with the Pilot Rock event, took first honors at Sioux City.

700 Children Pack Theatre for Free Show

Over 700 youngsters crowded into the Arrow theater here this morning to celebrate Cherokee Kiwanis club's annual observance of national children day.

1975 (50 years ago)

Good Response to Willow Closed Noon Hour

The new closed noon hour at Willow Junior and Senior High schools has met with favorable response, the Willow Community Board of Education was told Monday night.

Move to Hike Pay for Council

Cherokee's City Council Tuesday night approved a motion granting next year's council a pay increase from the current \$6 per meeting rate to \$20 per meeting.

2nd Half Lifts Aurelia

The Aurelia Bulldog, tied with Sunburn 0-0 at the end of the first half, got two touchdowns from Todd Hallquist in the third quarter to win their second game of the season 14-0.

2000 (25 years ago)

M-M-C Homecoming King and Queen Crowned

John Volkert and Abby Alesch were crowned King and Queen of Homecoming 2000 held Wednesday night at Marcus-Meriden-Cleghorn High School. The theme of Homecoming week is Danger Zone as the MMC Eagles psyche themselves up for the big game Friday night against Lawton-Bronson.

Hughes heroics fire Braves

Cory Hughes put Cherokee's gritty Braves on his back in the fourth quarter and carried them, along with three LeMars passes to a tense 13-12 victory here Friday.

Braves do well at own tournament

The Cherokee Braves hosted an invitational volleyball tournament Saturday. Participating in the tournament were South O'Brien, Sioux City West, Sioux City East, MOC/FV, LeMars, Sheldon and host Cherokee. LeMars won the tournament 11-1. Cherokee advanced to the championship and was beaten by LeMars.

Blood drive results

Looking at the results from the August blood drive, let's take a moment to celebrate the incredible impact your community made in the lives of patients in need of blood transfusions.

While summer often brings a critical shortage, your generosity helped ensure that blood was available when it was needed most.

Every donation truly matters - and every donor is a hero.

Thank you for showing up, rolling up your sleeve, and saving lives.

August Highlights:

- 54 Appointments Scheduled
 - 53 Donors Stepped Up
 - 50 Were Eligible to Give
 - 57 Units of Blood Collected
 - Up to 171 Lives Impacted
- Every donation counts, and these numbers reflect the heart and dedication of your community. Thank you for stepping up!

Milestone Donors:

- 1 Gallon: Caiden Rebhuhn
- 2 Gallons: Steven Kremer
- 3 Gallons: Michael Bunt
- 4 Gallons: Thomas Ryherd
- 5 Gallons: Bradley Amick, Dennis Husman, Rachel Simonsen
- 6 Gallons: Michael Bunt
- 8 Gallons: Jennifer Buenger
- 16 Gallons: Lila Nelson
- 13 Gallons: Karen Muggee

A big round of applause for reaching these giving milestones!

Thank You to Our Donors:

- Kenzie Younker
- Katie Carnes
- Daniel Murphy
- Catherine Smith
- Stanley Finzen
- Lisa Hillman
- Linda Christensen
- Kimber Younker
- Brenda Perrin
- Mark Braunschweig
- Peter Younker
- Bruce Husman
- Dale Benson

- Mary Benson
- Judy Carlson
- Adam Benson
- Karey Williams
- Rebecca Todd
- Dena Claycamp
- Annette Mitchell
- David Cronin
- Kara Glenney
- Jon Fuhrman
- Dawn Jensen
- Fred Claycamp
- Paul Richter
- Derek Simonsen
- David Fordyce
- Cynthia Wiemold
- Luisa Erickson
- Preston Graham
- Kelsi Dalton
- Casandra Nelson
- Jennifer Madison
- David Hall
- Howard Nelson
- Angela Hall
- Jennifer Griffin
- Jason Langan
- Anthony Baker
- Brian Winterhof
- Gary Olsen

Why Blood Donation in August Mattered

August is one of the most challenging months for maintaining a stable blood supply - but patients in hospitals still need transfusions every single day.

Special Thanks

LifeServe extends its heartfelt thanks to the City of Cherokee, the Cherokee Community Center and the Cherokee community for their continued partnership in hosting this vital event. Your support ensures lifesaving resources stay in the community, for the community.

Join Us Again - Be a Lifeline for Patients Needing Blood

Your next Cherokee Community Blood Drive will be:

- Date: Thursday, September 25 from 12:00 pm to 5:30 pm
- Location: Cherokee Community Center
- Text 'LIFESERVE' to 999-777 or visit lifeserveblood-center.org to schedule your next donation.

KIWANIS KORNER

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

Ok, ok, ok, here's the deal. For the past 5 weeks this old cowboy has had some personal issues concerning the "old ticker" as well as some major changes in lifestyle. Nuf said.

During my hiatus we had speakers from 54 different states and 9 continents. I think.

Sometimes I exaggerate a bit, but you probably missed some of the greatest speakers on the planet, not to mention all the fun and excitement.

Today Amy had two different egg dishes, a rhubarb desert, and home made ice cream. Now that is way beyond expectation. Did you have homemade ice cream for breakfast? Would bet not. . Ha, ha.

Thanks Amy, it was awesome.

Our speaker for the day updated us on the progress being made my the Cherokee County Conservation Commission. You should have been there to hear about all the great things they do. Sure would like to tell you more, but you know the rules.

During our business meeting we gave a special thank you to Grey for all the work he does to organize the Kiwanis Car Show. He spends many hours behind the scene working to make the show a tremendous success.

We Kiwanians sure do appreciate all the sponsors who make the show possible. Without your support there would be no car show, so once again "THANK YOU"

Speaking of the Car Show and Family Day, I think we made about a million dollars. Ok maybe not that much, but close, I think. Anyway now we have some money in the kitty to help kids in the area, and make Aurelia even a more attractive place to call home.

Thank you everyone for your support. You are the best.

In other business that is none of your business, but will tell you any, we are having our annual fall banquet on Thursday November 6. This is a semi formal event that is highlighted by a gourmet meal, a short business meeting, and special entertainment. A truly gala affair.

This is a dinner for Kiwanis members only, but if you want to come just let me know and we can sign you up as an official blue shirt. Now wouldn't that be special.

We had other business items that are none of your business, so there. Make our business your business. Become a Kiwanian.

Have a great week.

Hugs.

NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 - 7:00 AM

AURELIA COMMUNITY CENTER

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.

• **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, September 14, starting at 6 pm. The movie is "Facing the Giants." 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 6:30 pm in the basement of the Kee Stirs building.

• **Christ for YouNite:** Bethlehem Lutheran and Memorial Presbyterian Churches unite in Christ for YouNite weekly Christian Education for all 4 year olds- High School youth in the Cherokee Area Community for food, fun and learning on Wednesdays starting at 5:30 with the meal followed by other activities dismissal at 7:05 for 4 year olds through 8th grade. The High School students will be transported to MPC for Bible study 7:15 - 8:00. September- December will be held at lower level of BLC 300 E Bow St. January-April will be held at lower level of MPC 127 E Willow St. September 17th will be registration and Kick off with a meal and Bingo night for the whole family. We will continue to meet on Wednesday evenings throughout the year. Our Goal is to help shape and guide the character of all Cherokee Youth. For more information contact Marilyn. Call or text 712-229-1868.

• **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, from 5:30 to 6:30 pm! Devotions at 5:15. Food pantry and clothes closet will be open. All are welcome. September's Welcome Plate will be held Thursday, September 25.

Special Upcoming Events

• **Cherokee Co American Legion/Auxiliary meeting,** September 29th, Quimby Community Center, 6:30 p.m. supper.

•Blessing of the Animals

You and your pets are invited to the Memorial Presbyterian Church's special service for all pet enthusiasts and animal lovers. This special service will be held on Sunday, October 5th at 3 pm at the Cherokee County Fairgrounds in the Bomgaars Building. Animals must be under control with a leash, lead, cage, or kennel. Please make sure vaccinations are up to date. For more information, call the Memorial Presbyterian office at 712-225-2637.