

# Montezuma church launches shoe drive

MONTEZUMA — Montezuma United Methodist Church is conducting a shoe drive from now through the end of April to raise funds for the church. The church will earn money based on the total weight of the pairs of shoes collected. Funds2Orgs will issue a check for the collected shoes. Anyone can help by donating gently worn, used and new shoes at 200 S. Fourth St. in Montezuma. Shoes can be dropped off Monday through Thursday between the hours of 9 a.m.

— 3 p.m. The church can also arrange for pickup of shoes if needed. All donated shoes will then be redistributed throughout the Funds2Orgs network of small business partners. Funds2Orgs works with micro-entrepreneurs to help them create, maintain and grow small businesses in developing countries where economic opportunity and jobs are limited. Proceeds from the sales of the shoes collected in shoe drive fundraisers are used to feed,

clothe and house their families. One budding entrepreneur in Haiti even earned enough to send her son to law school. “We are excited about our shoe drive,” said Jen Bolibaugh, the church’s secretary. “We know that most people have extra shoes in their closets they would like to donate to us. By doing so, we raised money for the church and we have the chance to help families in developing nations who need economic opportunities. It’s a win-win for everyone.”

# Letter to the editor Bill would limit learning, discovery at libraries

I’m writing with urgent concern about Senate File 347, legislation that would dramatically restrict our library’s ability to serve as an anchor institution of learning and discovery for everyone in our community. As a librarian, I’ve witnessed firsthand how our library sparks curiosity and opens doors through its diverse collection of materials. This bill would create a chilling environment where libraries might remove valuable educational resources out of fear of costly penalties and legal action. The financial impact alone is staggering. SF 347 would allow lawsuits carrying minimum penalties of \$5,000 plus daily fines that could devastate our community’s budget. These are resources that currently fund summer reading programs, tech-

nology access for job-seekers and educational materials that benefit families throughout our community. What excites me about our library is how it connects people with opportunities to grow, learn and explore new ideas. This legislation threatens that mission by creating a pathway for individuals to target materials they personally find objectionable by circumventing established process; imposing harsh financial penalties that would drain resources from innovative programs and devastate small communities; undermining the professional judgment of skilled librarians; and potentially limiting access to materials that many community members value and need. Rather than fostering an environment of discovery where young

people can develop critical thinking skills, this bill would restrict access to information and create barriers to learning. Our library has always thoughtfully curated its collection with community needs in mind, and this legislation unnecessarily inserts government regulation into that process. I encourage everyone who values our library as a cornerstone of learning and community connection to contact their representatives and express opposition to SF 347. Let’s ensure our library remains a dynamic space where curiosity thrives and everyone has access to the resources they need to grow and succeed. **Sam Helmick**  
**Iowa Library Association Past President**  
**American Library Association President-Elect**

# Ox Yoke Inn celebrates 75 years

By Alison Gowans, Cedar Rapids Gazette

AMANA -- In 1908, William Leichenring was born in what is now a dining room at Ox Yoke Inn in Amana. Today, his son Bill Leichenring owns the restaurant, carrying on the Amana history and culinary traditions his parents and grandparents passed down to him. Ox Yoke Inn celebrates its 75th anniversary this year. William and Lina Leichenring first opened the restaurant’s doors on April 4, 1940, serving meals based on recipes Lina learned as a child working in an Amana Colonies communal kitchen. Before Amana gave up the communal lifestyle in 1932, the colonies’ communal kitchens served about 30 families each. Ox Yoke Inn keeps that communal dining tradition alive by serving ‘family-style’ meals. Entrees come with refillable bowls of salads, vegetables, potatoes and gravy for the table to share. The shared dishes are part of the Amana experience, Bill Leichenring says. ‘Family-style is not so much about the food,’ he says. ‘It’s the time spent sitting around the table and the interactions in-



Variations of rhubarb pie, one with a meringue topping (left) and one with streusel topping, are available at the Ox Yoke Inn restaurant in Amana on April 29. The restaurant is celebrating 75 years in business this year. (Jim Slosiarek)

grained in passing the food.” Walls, shelves and cabinets throughout the restaurant’s four dining rooms, banquet room and bar are covered with Amana and German antiques, all from the Leichenring family collection. Leichenring has turned the second story into a museum of sorts, with framed photos and copies of news articles on the walls. The restaurant’s original location was next door. It moved to 4420 220th Trail in 1950, into the former Leichenring family home, which was first built in 1856. A fire in 1962 destroyed the second floor and attic, but with the help of friends and neighbors, the restaurant reopened after only two

days. A major renovation between 1976 and 1978 expanded the eatery to its current size of almost 14,000 square feet. Today, the restaurant can seat over 500 diners. Things have changed a lot since the Ox Yoke Inn opened. The original menu listed steaks and family-style meals for 65 cents. Now, a family-style steak dinner starts at \$18.99. Ox Yoke Inn now carries a gluten-free menu and in recent years began offering ‘plated meal’ options with non-refillable, single-serving side dishes. But the heart of the restaurant remains the same, Leichenring says. ‘The Amanas - they’re not fabricated like some visitor attractions. The history is real,’ he says.

# CLASSIFIEDS

February 13, 2025  
The Poweshiek County Board of Supervisors met in regular session at 8:30 a.m. Members present Jason Roudabush, Jacki Bolen, and Jeff Tindle. Also, present Derek Bates, The Record.  
Moved by Bolen, 2nd by Roudabush to approve agenda. 3 ayes. Motion carried.  
Moved by Roudabush, 2nd by Bolen to approve February 10, 2025 board minutes. 3 ayes. Motion carried.  
Moved by Roudabush to approve February 14, 2025 payroll for \$313,321.05. 3 ayes. Motion carried.  
Moved by Roudabush, 2nd by Bolen to approve the following claims:  
Advanced Correctional Svc 3,858.29  
Aigas Usa LLC Svc Pwr Washer 1,875.00  
Alliant Energy/IPL Svc 1,245.88  
Altortor Machinery Co Goods 4,173.53  
Amazon Capital Services Inc Svc 6.99  
American Legion Blakley Stevens Svc 423.00  
Amy Andrews Durbin Reimb Phone 48.75  
Amy Stevenson Mil 84.24  
Arnold Motor Supply Inc Goods 3,866.60  
Asphalt Paving Assoc Of Iowa Svc 1,875.00  
AT&T Mobility Svc 763.37  
Audas Sanitation Svc 623.65  
Bauer Svc 2,550.00  
Binns & Stevens Explosivs Goods 2,622.00  
Bob Barker Co Inc Goods 72.62  
Bowker Pinnacle Svc 1,190.32  
Brooklyn Hardware Goods 44.55  
Brooklyn Muni Utilities Svc 1,676.37  
Brooklyn Mutl Tvc Svc 274.01  
Business Card Svc 108.48  
Calhoun-Burns & Assoc Inc Svc 2,269.75  
CCDA Svc 100.00  
Century Link Svc 1.75  
Chris Nolte Mil Reimb Goods 284.57  
Cintas Corporation Goods 113.74  
C J Cooper & Associates Inc Svc 650.20  
Colum Electric LLC Svc 4,528.00  
Community Of Flags Store Goods 80.00  
Connectwise LLC Svc 414.72  
Construction & Aggregate Goods 920.52  
Craig Kuntz Reimb Goods 676.45  
Daniel Shreur Reimb Goods 64.99  
Dawn R Disney Bruggeman Contract Work 2,333.33  
Deep River City Of Goods 68.55  
Dental Associates Svc 447.00  
DJ Hendrix Reimb Goods 15.34  
Ecobab Svc 195.97  
Ed Evans Mil 99.60  
E-Kit Training Svc 595.00  
Fareway Stores Inc Svc 209.15  
Fastenal Company Goods 13,827.95  
Forbes Office Equip Inc Goods 22.68  
French Reneker Assoc Svc 25,265.00  
Galls Inc Goods 10.07  
Gary A Sears Rent 900.00  
Gafr Truck Center Goods 2,798.61  
Gordon Flesch Company Inc Svc 194.00  
Grinnell City Of Svc 74.71  
Grinnell Firestone Svc 2,795.43  
Grinnell Herald Register Svc 426.71  
Hawkeye Lock & Security Svc 149.76  
Helmuth Repair, Inc Svc 671.15  
Henders Prieder Inc Goods 419.28  
Henry M Adkins & Son Inc Goods 5,680.00  
Hometown Hardware Goods 484.39  
Housby Mack Inc Goods 739.74  
Ina Marie Andrews Mil 88.80  
Informax Svc 1,049.80  
Informax Office Svc 211.10  
Iowa City VA Volunteer Svcs Svc 282.00  
Iowa Cts Cleaners Svc 75.00  
Iowa Dnr Svc 14,136.09  
Iowa Dot Svc 485.00  
Iowa Emerg Mgmt Assn Svc 225.00  
Iowa Prison Industries Goods 665.50  
IP Pathways Svc 135.56  
ISAC Svc 210.00  
Jason Roudabush Mil 100.80  
Jim Hawk Truck Trailers Goods 1,580.48  
John Deere Financial Goods 2,688.95  
Johnson County Medical Exam Svc 251.00  
Karl Emergency Vehicles Goods 11,399.19  
Keltek Inc Svc 1,005.12  
Kenneth Desrochers Mil 115.77  
Key Cooperative Svc 3,453.50  
Lacayse Lawn Care & Snow Removal Svc 1,012.50  
Latitude Signage & Design Goods 350.00  
Lawrence Wilson Mil 38.40  
Live Deep Publishing LLC Svc 1,148.72  
Lowry Equipment Inc Svc 7,583.54  
Mahaska Communication Group Svc 719.33  
Mail Services LLC Svc 714.13  
Manatis Inc Svc 3,350.04  
Master's Touch LLC Goods 4,500.00  
MCI Svc 36.00  
McKesson Medical Surgical Goods 105.01  
Microbac Laboratories Inc Svc 160.50  
Mid American Energy Svc 3,666.78  
Monte Car Wash Svc 768.21  
Montezuma Municipal Utilities Svc 6,685.96  
Montezuma State Bank Svc 35.00  
Montezuma Super Valu Goods 16.04  
Morrison Enterprises Inc Svc 79.00  
Motorola Solutions Svc 725.00  
Mutual Wheel Co Goods 391.44  
NACE Svc 945.00  
Napa Auto Parts Goods 897.98  
New Century F.S. Inc Svc 3,060.64  
Oden Enterprises Inc Goods 82,098.06  
Pauls Ace Hardware Inc Goods 218.36  
Pura Rosa Supply Ltd Goods 253.13  
Pow Co Employee Health Plan Tr Svc 12,006.12  
Powerdms Inc Svc 6,950.00  
Poweshiek County Auditor Goods 26.00  
Premier Office Equip/RK Dixon Svc 143.18  
Region 6 Housing Trust Fund Housing Trust 19,239.00  
Robert Collum Mil 23.20  
Robert Wilhelm Mil Reimb Goods 215.82  
Rodney Carlson Mil 43.50  
Rohrer Brothers Inc Svc 540.00  
Sadler Power Train Goods 134.55  
Schumacher Elevator Co Svc 318.20  
SCISWA Svc 1,569.70  
Searsboro Telephone Co Svc 200.00  
Shive-Hattery Svc 8,127.34  
Sinclair Napa Goods 2,161.68  
Smith Funeral Home Svc 1,500.00  
Spruce Village Mhc LLC Svc 325.00  
Stellar Services LLC Goods 3,439.04  
Team Services Inc Svc 7,160.00  
The Depot Express Svc 2,220.98  
The Record Svc 49.91  
Tifco Industries, Inc. Goods 552.37  
TIP REC Svc 341.91  
Tivlor Nelson Reimb Goods 393.55  
United States Cellular Svc 282.57  
Uwe Meyer Mil 26.34  
Vanguard Appraisals Svc 12,425.00  
Vannov Chevrolet Co Svc 358.27  
Verizon Svc 45.21  
Vestis Svc 113.10  
Victor Oil, Inc. Goods 978.04  
Wex Bank Svc 3,282.87  
Windstream Svc 4,617.97  
WMPP Group LLC Svc 585.83  
Xerox Financial Services Svc 235.11  
Yellowstone Narcotics Svc 1,200.00  
3 ayes. Motion carried.  
Tivlor Nelson, Conservation Director, met with the board for a monthly meeting, presenting information from his monthly conservation board meeting held February 11 and the conservation annual report. Nelson provided an update on the lake restoration project. The board discussed the proposed FY26 budget for the conservation department with Nelson.  
9:49 a.m. Lyle Brehm, Engineer joined the meeting.  
Brehm updated the board on the county road conditions and snow removal. Brehm spoke with the board regarding the possibility of starting the process of hiring an additional mechanic. Brehm stated one of the mechanics is nearing retirement and he would like to get someone hired so the current mechanic could train and also look at the possibility of the need for three mechanics instead of two. The board agreed with Brehm. Tindle inquired about old trucks and equipment that Brehm is disposing of and Brehm stated there were a few trucks that were unsafe and of no value that were disposed of and there are some that will be auctioned. Brehm did not know the date of the auction at this time or if it would be online or live. Bolen asked Brehm if the county was ever offered the rock that the wind turbines used for temporary driveways. Bolen stated she was told that the company doing the digging work took that rock. Brehm stated he had never been offered the rock. Tindle stated that the rock would probably need to be cleaned as it has a lot of dirt within it.  
The board held FY26 budget workshop. 11:18 a.m. Moved by Roudabush, 2nd by Bolen to adjourn. 3 ayes. Motion carried.  
Melissa Ellander,  
Poweshiek County Auditor  
Jeff Tindle, Chairman

February 20, 2025  
The Poweshiek County Board of Supervisors met in regular session at 8:30 a.m. Members present Jacki Bolen and Jeff Tindle. Also, present Derek Bates, The Record.  
Moved by Bolen, 2nd by Tindle to approve agenda. 2 ayes. Motion carried.  
Moved by Bolen, 2nd by Tindle to approve February 13, 2025, board minutes. 2 ayes. Motion carried.  
Moved by Bolen, 2nd by Tindle to approve ownership update and liquor license renewal for Travel Centers of America, dba TA Operating LLC. 2 ayes. Motion carried.  
Sandy Ross, Treasurer met with board to discuss postage machine. Ross stated the lease on the current machine will expire in May this year. Ross looked for an option to enter another 5-year lease and an option to purchase the machine. After getting all the figures, the difference in the cost of purchase verse the cost to lease was only around \$30 different. Ross proposed to the board to pursue the option to lease the postage machine from Pitney Bowes for another 5 years. Ross stated she will present the lease agreement for approval and signature in March.  
Sheriff Maschmann provided the board with an updated 28E Agreement for law enforcement services with the City of Brooklyn. Sheriff Maschmann stated City of Brooklyn had approved the 28E Agreement and it now needs board approval. Moved by Bolen, 2nd by Tindle to approve 28E Agreement between Poweshiek County Sheriff and City of Brooklyn for law enforcement services for FY26. 2 ayes. Motion carried.  
Sheriff Maschmann presented a certificate of appointment for a new dispatcher/jailer. Maschmann stated with this hire, he will be full staff for dispatchers/jailers. Moved by Bolen, 2nd by Tindle to approve certificate of appointment for Derek Quigley, dispatcher/jailer effective February 24, 2025; rate of pay \$22.45 per hour. 2 ayes. Motion carried.  
Farm Bureau members met with board of supervisors, conservation director, sheriff, and engineer to receive information from each of the respective offices. Farm Bureau members present: Lee King, Tom Cheney, Adam Cheney, Kim Plantz, Ashley DeKoning, Eric Fivner, Mike Kleitans, Mona Nelson, Dakota Hudnut, Katherine Boelen, and Joe Armstrong.  
Moved by Bolen, 2nd by Tindle to approve Resolution #2025-23; support to Grinnell Veterans Monument Campaign for \$10,000. 2 ayes. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE GRINNELL VETERANS MONUMENT CAMPAIGN  
WHEREAS, the Poweshiek County Board of Supervisors desire to use this resolution to express their support for the Grinnell Veterans Monument Campaign and the City of Grinnell's Enhance Iowa Application to the State of Iowa; and  
WHEREAS, the County has provided support for the project by investing \$10,000 in the monument campaign; and  
THEREAS, the \$10,000 contribution from the County can be used by the Grinnell Veterans Monument Commission to demonstrate a history of support by the County; and  
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, POWESHIEK COUNTY, IOWA:  
Poweshiek County will provide \$10,000 of cash contribution in FY 2025/2026 in support of the Grinnell Veterans Monument Campaign.  
Approved this 20 day of February 2025.  
POWESHIEK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
Jeff Tindle, Chairman  
Jason Roudabush, Vice Chairman  
Jacki Bolen, Member  
Attest: Melissa Ellander, Poweshiek County Auditor  
Moved by Bolen, 2nd by Tindle to approve letter of support for Enhance Iowa-CAT Grant & Grinnell Veterans Monument Campaign and authorize board chair to sign. 2 ayes. Motion carried.  
12:17 p.m. Moved by Bolen, 2nd by Tindle to adjourn. 2 ayes. Motion carried.  
Melissa Ellander, Poweshiek County Auditor  
Jeff Tindle, Chairman

NOTICE OF PROBATE OF WILL, OF APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTOR, AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
CASE NO. ESPR019947  
THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR POWESHIEK COUNTY  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JIMMY J VAN ERSVELDE, Deceased  
To All Persons Interested in the Estate of JIMMY J VAN ERSVELDE, Deceased, who died on or about January 29, 2025:  
You are hereby notified that on February 11, 2025, the Last Will and Testament of JIMMY J VAN ERSVELDE, deceased, bearing date of March 6, 2024, was admitted to probate in the above-named court and that Janet A Van Ersvelde was appointed Executor of the estate. Any action to set aside the will must be brought in the district court of said county within the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice to all heirs of the decedent and devisees under the will whose identities are reasonably ascertainable, or thereafter be forever barred.  
Notice is further given that all persons indebted to the estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned, or having claims against the estate shall file them with the clerk of the above-named district court, as provided by law, duly authenticated, for allowance, and unless so filed by the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice (unless otherwise allowed or paid) a claim is thereafter forever barred.  
Dated February 11, 2025.  
Janet A Van Ersvelde  
Executor of Estate  
4435 V18 Rd  
Montezuma, IA 50171  
Jennifer L Zahradnik, ICIS#: AT0008656  
Attorney for Executor  
Kollmorgen, Schlue & Zahradnik, P.C.  
920 12th St  
PO Box 283  
Belle Plaine, IA 52208  
Date of second publication the 28th day of February, 2025.

NOTICE OF PROOF OF WILL WITHOUT ADMINISTRATION  
CASE NO. ESPR019946  
IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR POWESHIEK COUNTY  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ANN E. RAFFETY, Deceased.  
To All Persons Interested in the Estate of ANN E. RAFFETY, Deceased, who died on or about January 22, 2025:  
You are hereby notified that on February 10, 2025, the Last Will and Testament of Ann E. Raffety, deceased, bearing date of November 12, 2021, was admitted to probate in the above named court and there will be no present administration of the estate. Any action to set aside the will must be brought in the district court of the county within the later to occur of four (4) months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one (1) month from the date of mailing of this notice to all heirs of the decedent and devisees under the will whose identities are reasonably ascertainable, or thereafter be forever barred.  
Dated: February 12, 2022  
Megan Veldboom  
3564 20th St  
Grinnell, IA 50112  
Travis J. Schroeder, AT0010099,  
Attorney for Petitioner  
Simmons Perrine Moyer Bergman, PLC  
115 3rd Street SE, Suite 1200  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52401  
Date of second publication: the 28th day of February, 2025.

TRUST NOTICE WITH WILL WITHOUT PRESENT ADMINISTRATION  
IN THE MATTER OF THE TRUST: ANN E. RAFFETY REVOCABLE TRUST ORIGINALLY EXECUTED APRIL 2, 2015, AS AMENDED AND RESTATED NOVEMBER 12, 2021  
To all persons regarding Ann E. Raffety, deceased, who died on or about January 22, 2025. You are hereby notified that Megan Veldboom is the trustee of the Ann E. Raffety Revocable Trust Originally Executed April 2, 2015, as Amended and Restated November 12, 2021. Any action to contest the validity of the trust must be brought in the District Court of Poweshiek County, Iowa, within the later to occur of four (4) months from the date of second publication of this notice or thirty (30) days from the date of mailing this notice to all heirs of the decedent settlor and the spouse of the decedent settlor whose identities are reasonably ascertainable. Any suit not filed within this period shall be forever barred.  
Notice is further given that any person or entity possessing the trust assets must trust mail proof of the claim to the trustee at the address listed below via certified mail, return receipt requested, by the later to occur of four (4) months from the date of second publication of this notice or thirty (30) days from the date of mailing this notice to all heirs of the decedent settlor and the spouse of the decedent settlor whose identities are reasonably ascertainable. Any suit not filed within this period shall be forever barred.  
Notice is further given that the will of the decedent has been admitted to probate without present administration in the above-named court, that such will designated the trustee as the residuary beneficiary of the estate, that all persons indebted to the estate of the decedent are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned trustee, and that any person or entity possessing a claim against the estate must mail proof of the claim to the trustee at the address listed below by certified mail, return receipt requested, by the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or thirty days from the date of mailing this notice if required, or the claim shall be forever barred, unless paid or otherwise satisfied.  
Dated: February 12, 2025  
Ann E. Raffety Revocable Trust  
Originally Executed April 2, 2015, as Amended and Restated November 12, 2021  
Megan Veldboom, Trustee  
3564 20th St  
Grinnell, IA 50112  
Travis J. Schroeder, AT0010099,  
Attorney for Trustee  
Simmons Perrine Moyer Bergman PLC  
115 3rd St SE, Ste 1200  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52401  
Date of second publication: the 28th day of February, 2025

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