

The News-Review

\$1.50

SERVING THE KEOKUK COUNTY AREA SINCE 1860

WEDNESDAY, APR. 1, 2026
NUMBER 13, 165TH YEAR

Community CALENDAR

Harper Knights of Columbus Weekly Fish Fry

Every Friday during Lent, 5-7:30 p.m. at Knights of Columbus Hall/Windhorst Club of Harper. Catfish, Tilapia, Shrimp, Au Gratin and baked potatoes, coleslaw, green beans, roll and drink. For information and carryout orders, contact Mic Berg at (319) 461-3281

Sigourney Blood Drive

Wednesday, April 1, 10:30 AM - 1:15 PM at Sigourney High School Gym. To book your appointment, contact Shannon Greiner at shannon.greiner@sigourneyschools.com

Ham and Beans Supper

Thursday April 9, 4:30-6:30 p.m. at Delta Town and Country Center-Delta, Iowa. Free will offering. All Proceeds go to towards the remodeling!! Ham and Beans, Potato Soup, cornbread, Relish Tray, Desserts, and Drinks. Dine in or call 641-660-7848 for to go orders. Dine in or carry out available

NEW Homeschool Support Group Meet and Greet

April 9, 1 p.m. at Free Grace United Church, What Cheer

Richland Women's Club Paint Party

Monday, April 13th 6-9PM. Call Sandy Eidahl at 641-919-9835 or Candy Pfeifer at 641-919-8384

Keota Blood Drive

Thursday, April 23, 7:30 AM - 12:30 PM at Keota Junior High School Gym

Sigourney American Legion Post #19

Meets 7:00 p.m., Third Tuesday of every month at Memorial Hall

Keswick American Legion Post #319

Meets Monthly @ 5:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month at the Keswick American Legion Post



In this issue

- Agri-View..... 6B
- Church Calendar.....5
- Classifieds6
- Local 2-3, 7
- Records 2B-3B
- The Sun Spot.....8
- Sports..... 9-10



A Personal Note to Our Readers and Community

By Katie Phillips | The News-Review

SIGOURNEY — As Mid-America Publishing prepares to cease operations, I wanted to take a moment to speak directly to the readers and community members who have meant so much to me over the past several years.

I began my journey with The News-Review in June of 2020, and from the very beginning, this newspaper has been near and dear to my heart. What started as a role in advertising quickly became so much more. Over time, I had the opportunity to contribute in many ways—helping local businesses share their stories, creating weekly “Recipe of the Week” features, publishing the Agri-Review, and writing articles that highlighted the people, events and moments that make this community special.

It has truly been an honor to be part of something that connects people in such a meaningful way.

As many of you are aware, Mid-America Publishing will cease operations effective April 1. While this marks the end of The News-Review as you have traditionally known it, efforts have been made to ensure that a version of the publication will continue moving forward.

The Iowa Newspaper Association will coordinate the printing of public notices, commonly referred to as legals, ensuring those required publications remain available to the public. In addition, the publication will include content from the Iowa Capital Dispatch, which provides statewide reporting on government and public policy.

All current subscribers will continue to receive this version of the paper, and the masthead and general style

of The News-Review will remain the same.

While this transition ensures that certain functions will continue, it does represent a significant change for local news coverage in our community.

One of the greatest joys of this role has been the relationships built along the way. Whether it was stopping into a local business, attending a community event, or simply running into someone around town, those daily interactions are what made this work so rewarding. I will deeply miss seeing and connecting with the community on a regular basis.

I also want to extend my sincere thanks to our advertisers. Your continued support has not only helped sustain this publication, but has also played a vital role in

COMMUNITY
pg. 3

Goodbye

By Casey James | The News-Review

SIGOURNEY — The masthead on this paper states that the News-Review has been in publication for 165 years. That would place this paper's founding to the same year the American Civil War began. Unfortunately, the 165th year will be our last.

Less than two weeks ago, the News-Review staff received word that Mid-America Publishing, the company that owns the News-Review and many other newspapers across the state, would be ceasing all operations due to insolvency. As a result, the entire News-Review office has been dismissed.

The News-Review will continue in a modified format. The Iowa Newspaper Association will

coordinate the printing of public notices (legals), and the publication will possibly include content from the Iowa Capital Dispatch. However, these issues will not feature local coverage. All current subscribers will continue to receive this version of the paper.

Speaking personally, I began working at this paper in 2022, right after graduating college. It has been the highest privilege, these past four years, to be allowed to share the stories of the community that raised me. This is the best job I have ever had, and I will miss it. I hope that, eventually, some form of local journalism returns to Keokuk County; this community deserves to be treated like it matters.

Thank you for the years of dedicated readership.



Keota Drama Teacher Directs Final Play

By Casey James | The News-Review

KEOTA — In two months, Jane Edwards will retire after 51 years of teaching, 30 at Keota, during which time she estimates she directed 75 different plays. On March 27 and 28, she watched the curtains raise for the final time, with her students performing in “The Princess Quest,” an adaptation of the fairy tale “The Princess and the Pea,” told from the perspective of a prince forced to go on a quest to find a princess.

“I like the story,” said Edwards. “I’ve done ‘The Princess and the Pea’ several times, but I like this point of view. I like the characters that fit the people that I had that would be doing the play,

and I have some younger kids that are involved, some Junior High kids that are going to get their feet wet. For example, I had a freshman do the entire play perfectly last Tuesday. That’s just something that doesn’t really happen...We have to pull it together in 20 rehearsals. So we have 30 hours to pull this off, because we’ve got to get between basketball and golf, soccer, track.”

When asked what her favorite play she had done was, Edwards stated “The one I’m doing right now. I mean, I just always like whatever production I’m doing, and I’ve learned sometimes it’s not good to do a show and then try and do

PLAY
pg. 3



Print your favorite memories



The News-Review

120 E Washington St.,
Sigourney, Iowa
(641) 622-3110
M-F 9 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

