

NEWS

	Saturday Partly Cloudy 32° 13° Precip: 3% Wind: NW 14 mph	Sunday Sunny 26° 10° Precip: 2% Wind: NW 19 mph	Monday Mostly Sunny 30° 19° Precip: 2% Wind: NNW 10 mph	Tuesday Partly Cloudy 51° 37° Precip: 1% Wind: SSW 16 mph	Wednesday Partly Cloudy 55° 24° Precip: 4% Wind: W 15 mph	Thursday Partly Cloudy 49° 33° Precip: 24% Wind: WNW 11 mph
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Richard Mathes to celebrate 90th birthday

The children of Richard Mathes are hosting an Open House in honor of his 90th birthday on Saturday, March 7, 2026 from 2-5 p.m. The event will be held at the Knoxville Church of the Naz-

arene, 1121 S. Lincoln, in the Fellowship Hall (located behind Dollar General).

Cards may be mailed to: Richard Mathes, 53035 320th Ave., Russell, IA 50238.



Richard Mathes



Listed are the Beef trophy buyers for the 2026 4-H and FFA Fair pictured left to right, Donise Althenhofen - Lucas County Cattlemen, Aaron McGee - Russell Livestock Market, Karelle Adams - Osceola Vet Clinic, Wes Rodgers, Nicole Jacobson, Jodi Briggs - Peoples Bank, Brian Decker - Lockridge Lumber, Kevin Kent - Kevin and Debbie Kent Construction, Monte Brown - Vetter Equipment - Indianola/Corydon. Not pictured Tracy Taylor - Midwest Heritage Bank. (Submitted photo)

Chariton FFA members achieve success at District FFA Competition

Members of the Chariton FFA chapter demonstrated their dedication and skills at the Southeast Sub-District FFA Competition held at Moravia on February 6th. The chapter's 20 participants showcased their expertise in various leadership events, bringing home impressive results.

Chariton FFA members competed against 10 other chapters in seven different categories. The following members achieved outstanding results:

- Harbor, Derek Chipp, and Waylon McCurdy: Gold rating and advances to districts in the Chapter Program of Activities. Chapters participating in this event present activities and the accomplishments of their chapter during the 12 months of the event year.
- Mya Curran: Gold Rating and advances to districts in Freshmen FFA Creed. This event recognizes outstanding FFA members for their ability to present the FFA Creed from memory and answer questions on the meaning and purpose of the FFA Creed.

- Marin Neer Elin Keith, Emily Scieszinski, Ava Mittenberger, Weston Umbenhowe, Bristol Brown, Sophia Willis, McKinley Dotts, and Gwenn Shanks: Gold and advances to districts in Conduct of meetings. Teams participating in this event were composed of seven members organized to act out the duties of an officer team. Teams were required to perform opening ceremonies, demonstrate two parliamentary procedure abilities, and successfully close a meeting.
- KentLee Loynachan, Maci Krutsinger, Landon Chipp, Julia Gontheier, and Garrett Chipp: Gold and advances to districts. Teams participating in this event are composed of five members organized to chair and act out parliamentary procedures.
- Breckyn McGee: Silver rating in Agriculture Sales. Members participating in the Agriculture Sales Leadership Development Event had to demonstrate their salesmanship skills when selling a product.
- The Middle School Discovery

Quiz team received a gold, and the High School Greenhand Quiz team earned a Bronze. Members took a 50-question test on their knowledge of FFA.

"We are incredibly proud of our members' hard work and dedication. Their success at the Sub-District FFA competition is a testament to their commitment to FFA and leadership development," said Susan Greubel, FFA Advisor.

The competition allowed FFA members to develop valuable skills in public speaking, leadership, teamwork, and FFA knowledge. These skills will serve them well in their future careers and as active members of their communities.

About FFA:

FFA is a national youth organization that prepares members for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education. With over 1,027,273 members nationwide, FFA provides opportunities for students to develop their potential and make a positive difference in their communities.

Derby Blue Ribbon Winners

The Derby Blue Ribbon Winners 4-H club met on Wednesday, February 4 at the Derby Community Center. There were 7 members, 2 leaders and 5 guests present. Emmy Gunzenhauser, Vice President, called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Emmy Gunzenhauser. Levi Evans led the 4-H pledge. The secretary's report was given by Shantel Larrington. Emmy Gunzenhauser made a motion to approve the secretary's report and it was seconded by Chase Cobb. Levi Evans gave the

treasurer report. A motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Emmy Gunzenhauser and seconded by Colton Schlutz. Dates were read for the livestock check in/weigh in for the coming months. Members were reminded to complete the post test for YQCA and to turn in their certificates to the Extension Office. The club discussed and voted to donate 2 baskets for the Lucas County Fair Fundraiser on February 28. At the end of the meeting the members played Project Bingo led by Chase Cobb.

Reporter: Colton Schlutz

ORDINANCE Continued from page 1

property lines.

Chariton City Manager Doug Anderson explained that the main gist of the ordinance is to change setbacks for fences to two feet from the lot line and for accessory buildings to five feet from the lot line.

Action taken on 1110 Braden Ave. in Chariton

After a short discussion, the council approved a motion to authorize Chariton City Attorney Verle Norris to commence a 657A.10B action on 1110 Braden Ave. in Chariton.

"This is something we've worked on for awhile and discussed before. This was the recommendation we received," Chariton Mayor Jayma Davis said.

Claims and financial statement approved

The council reviewed the claims and after one question on them they approved to pay the bills.

The council briefly reviewed and also approved the January 2026 financial statement. There were no questions on the financial statement before it was approved.



Back row, left to right: Weston Umbenhowe, Garrett Chipp, Waylon McCurdy, Julia Gontheier, Mya Curran, Chole Briggs, Ava Mittenberg, Keara Atwell, and Breckyn McGee. Middle Row left to right: Bristol Brown, Sophia Willis, McKinley Dotts, Elin Keith, Marin Neer, Gwenn Shanks, and Emily Scieszinski. Front row, left to right: Landon Chipp, Derek Chipp, Harbor Loynachan, KentLee Loynachan, and Shantel Larrington. (Submitted photo)

What's Happening in Chariton

Feb. 23rd, ICC Food Pantry 410 S. 7th St. Chariton 9:30am-11:15am Lucas County Retired School Personnel Association Meeting 10:30am-11:30am Feb. 24th Cornerstone Food Ministry 120 Northwestern Ave. Chariton 3:30pm-5pm Low-Income Carry-Out Meal First United Methodist Church 5pm-5:30pm Bingo Chariton Senior Center Starting at 6pm Free Grace Recovery Free Grace United Church 6:30pm-7:30pm	 Feb. 25th ICC Food Pantry 410 S. 7th St. Chariton 9:30am-11:15am LEGO's Chariton Public Library 2pm-4pm Midweek Bible Study Free Grace United Church 6pm-8pm 	Feb. 27th Kiwanis Meeting Lucas County Health Center Conference Room A 6am-7am Coffee Club Chariton Senior Center 8am-9:30am ICC Food Pantry 410 S. 7th St. Chariton 9:30am-11:15am Chariton Rotary Meeting Lucas County Health Center Conference Room A 12pm-1pm Rotary Trivia Night CB&Q Freight House 6:30pm-9:30pm Doors Open at 6:30pm Trivia Starts at 7am	Feb. 28th Vaccine Clinic Almost Home Animal Rescue 8:30am-9:30am March 2nd American Legion Meeting Free Will Donation meal at 6:30pm Meeting Starts at 7pm American Legion Hut
Monthly Crochet Club Second and Fourth Saturdays of the month from 12:30pm-3:00pm at the Chariton Library Meeting Room. All Experience levels welcome.	Creative Writing Club Chariton Public Library Monday 5pm-6:45pm	If you have any upcoming events you would like us to put in the paper. Please feel free to reach out to the Chariton Newspaper at Jen@charitonleader.com	

Chariton Band Program prepares for Band Extravaganza

On Feb. 24, the entire Chariton schools band program is coming together to perform in their 5th-12th grade band concert. The concert will be held in the High School Chardome at 7 p.m. and will feature all 100 plus students in the band program. Each band will perform two selections. Bands are lead

by 6th-8th grade Director Ryan Hyslope and 5th and High School Director Ryan Gruman.

"Concerts like this are really special," Gruman said, "It's a performance that celebrates the band students, their families, and the community."

Hyslope added, "It's a great experience for our

middle school students to see what playing in the High School band is like. It is amazing to see the progress students are making this time of the year."

APPROVED

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two resignations at the meeting. They accepted the resignation of Cindy Offenburger as a Nutrition Service Assistant. They also accepted the resignation of Will Swarhout as the Chariton 9th grade baseball coach.

Secretary's report and bills approved

The board approved the Secretary's Report and bills. These included the Monthly Treasurer's Report, the January 2026 deposits, and the board bills.

I am very grateful to everyone who sent me cards and called on my 90th birthday. Special thanks to my family and friends for my lovely parties. Lots of love to all. Kay