

SUN COURIER

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Grundy County candidates file for June 2 primary election

Three Republicans vie for retiring Supervisor Mark Schildroth's seat

RUBY F. MCALLISTER | rbodeker@northtamatelegraph.com

GRUNDY CENTER — Last week Friday at 5 p.m. the county filing deadline passed for Iowa's Tuesday, June 2, 2026 primary election. The offices of Grundy County attorney, recorder, and treasurer as well as two seats on the Board of Supervisors, will be on the ballot locally. The deadline for written objections to nomination papers is today, Friday, March 27, at 4:30 p.m.



Schildroth

Grundy County Supervisor District 4

According to information provided by Angela Silvey with the Grundy County Auditor's Office, longtime Republican District 4 Supervisor Mark A. Schildroth of Reinbeck, currently vice chair of the Board of Supervisors, did not file for reelection and is retiring. The newspaper reached out to Schildroth via email for comment.

"I am retiring from the position of District 4 Grundy County Supervisor after my current term ends December 31, 2026. I have served for 24 years," Schildroth said.

GRUNDY | P3



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tama County District 3 Supervisor Heather Knebel (R-Traer) pictured earlier this month at the Tama County Administration Building in Toledo after filing to run for reelection in the June 2, 2026 Republican primary. Knebel was the only candidate to file in either the GOP or Democratic primaries for the District 3 seat.

Tama County candidates file for June 2 primary election

Knebel to run unopposed; 4-way race in GOP primary for treasurer

RUBY F. MCALLISTER | rbodeker@northtamatelegraph.com

TOLEDO — Last week Friday at 5 p.m. the county filing deadline passed for Iowa's Tuesday, June 2, 2026 primary election. The offices of Tama County treasurer, recorder, and attorney, as well as two seats on the Board of Supervisors, will be on the ballot locally. The deadline for written objections to nomination papers is today, Friday, March 27, at 4:30 p.m.

CANDIDATES | P3

WEEKEND FORECAST:

Saturday: SUNNY
High: 54 / Low: 34

Sunday: PARTLY SUNNY
High: 60 / Low: 42

INSIDE:
Weekly Journal.....2
Your Government.....3
Opinion.....4
Church5
Legal Notices.....6
Sports.....8

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Chapter 1: In the Books



PHOTO BY RUBY F. MCALLISTER

Reinbeck Public Library Director Lenah Oltman, left, pictured alongside RPL's new director, Michelle Sieh, on Monday, March 23, 2026, in the library's 1991 addition which recently underwent an extensive renovation, including new carpeting. Earlier this year, Oltman accepted a newly-created position with Generational Wealth Partners in downtown Reinbeck. Her last full day at the library was March 20; Sieh will begin full-time in her new role June 1.

Reinbeck Public Library opens doors to completed phase 1 remodeling project; Sieh hired as new director

RUBY F. MCALLISTER | rbodeker@northtamatelegraph.com

REINBECK — Chapter 1: First Impressions, the first phase in the Reinbeck Public Library's ambitious remodeling project, is now officially in the books.

"[Homefront Builders] finished last week. We mad-scrambled and had the doors open [to the Clark Street entrance] on Wednesday. It's beautiful!" Lenah Oltman, RPL's library director since 2022, told the newspaper this past Monday afternoon as she stood near the library's relocated welcome desk which is now tucked just past the Clark Street double doors. During construction, those doors were closed, giving patrons the opportunity to use the original Carnegie entrance on the east side of the building. Following roughly five weeks of construction, Oltman and her staff reopened the Clark Street doors to the public on March 18.

Last fall, Oltman began fundraising for the three-phase 'Writing the Library's Next Chapter Remodel Project,' raising the first \$100,000 at such a brisk pace, it nearly gave her library board trustees whiplash.

"The speed of our fundraising was a surprise," Oltman said before breaking into a huge smile. When asked how fundraising has progressed for the second phase, Chapter 2: Community Cafe,



PHOTO COURTESY OF LENAH OLTMAN

Reinbeck Public Library's evening book club members pictured on Wednesday, March 18, in the updated lounge area located just inside and to the right of the Clark Street entrance.



PHOTO BY RUBY F. MCALLISTER

Reinbeck Public Library children's librarian/library assistant Cherie Eckhoff smiles from behind the relocated welcome desk this past Monday afternoon.

LIBRARY | P6

Republican Rocky Damiano officially files for Iowa SD27

SUBMITTED ARTICLE

DES MOINES — On Monday, March 9, Republican candidate for Iowa Senate District 27 Rocky Damiano officially filed paperwork with the Iowa Secretary of State's office to appear on the primary ballot.

"I am extremely proud to have filed, surrounded by family, supporters, and members of the legislature. Running for office is a team effort, and it takes people from all backgrounds joining our movement to make a real difference," Damiano said. "The majority of people that joined us to file are people who are directly affected by the eminent domain abuse being pushed by the CO2 pipeline project, and they have been a consistent presence at the Capitol for years now. They have tried over and over again to

get their message across to our current senator, and they feel completely ignored and as though their situation doesn't matter.

"When I am in the senate, the concerns of this district and state won't fall on deaf ears anymore. I will be a hard-charging advocate for everyday Iowans, especially those in District 27. On the issue of eminent domain abuse, I will tirelessly fight for quality legislation in the senate to ensure eminent domain abuse doesn't become a norm in this state. It's unacceptable, and I will put the interests of landowners above any big money interests. I don't need another title, but I jumped into this fight to defend people like those who are standing with me today."



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Rocky Damiano (third from right), Republican candidate for Iowa Senate District 27, pictured Monday, March 9, 2026, in Des Moines surrounded by supporters while filing for the Tuesday, June 2, 2026, primary ballot with the Iowa Secretary of State's office.

DAMIANO | P3