

A Floyd County official newspaper serving the communities of Nora Springs, Rudd, Rockford and Rock Falls

Hoover's Hatchery launches easy-clean chicken coop to support backyard poultry growth

BY LIV DENNIS
Nora Springs Rockford Register

Hoover's Hatchery is expanding beyond chicks and into coop design with the launch of its first branded housing product, the Hoover's Lean-To Easy Clean Chicken Coop.

The family-owned company, which has specialized in hatching poultry for more than 80 years, developed the coop to address common frustrations backyard chicken keepers face with traditional wooden structures. According to Marketing Director Matt Bradley, maintenance issues were a key factor driving the product's development.

"We have seen what troubles people when they get into it," Bradley said. "There's a lot to love about the lifestyle but there are chores that go along



Hoover's Hatchery's new Lean-To Easy Clean Chicken Coop built from recycled plastic.

with it just like with any pets or anything that you bring into your house."

A traditional wooden coop

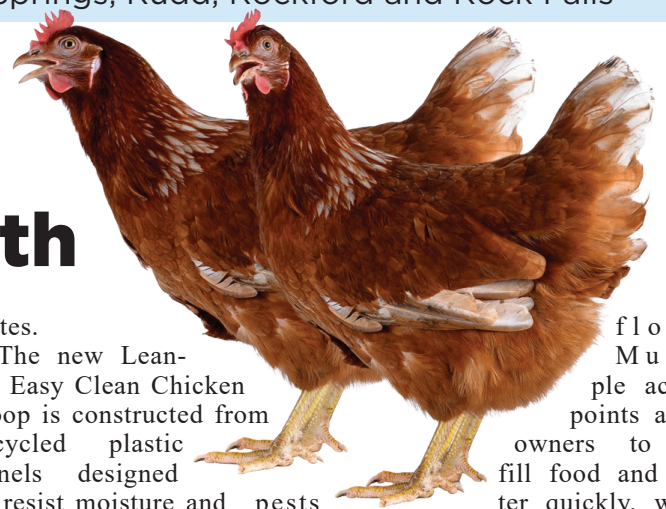
requires a lot of maintenance and is much harder to clean. Along with that, it is prone to rot, warp and is hospitable to

mites.

The new Lean-To Easy Clean Chicken Coop is constructed from recycled plastic panels designed to resist moisture and pests while simplifying maintenance. The smooth interior and removable panels allow users to rake out bedding, hose down surfaces and complete cleaning in roughly five minutes.

"It doesn't take nearly as much time and it also lasts for a really long time due to the materials. They don't rot, they don't warp and it's just a solid, easy way to handle a lot of the big headaches that can come with backyard chickens," he said.

The coop can house up to 10 chickens and includes external nest boxes for easy egg collection without disturbing the



flock. Multiple access points allow owners to refill food and water quickly, while built-in ventilation and predator-proof latches keep birds safe and comfortable. A raised design, ramp, perches and nesting boxes make daily tasks like feeding, watering and health checks simple.

While the design offers practical benefits, Bradley noted that introducing a non-traditional coop style has presented some challenges.

"It's taking some education for sure," he said. "I think it's ingrained in people's minds that a chicken coop looks like

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RRMR BOE names Nick Johnson as superintendent, secondary principal

The Rudd-Rockford-Marble Rock Community School District Board of Education has announced that Nick Johnson will serve as the district's new superintendent/secondary principal, pending formal board approval.

Johnson currently serves as the secondary principal at RRMR, where he has demonstrated strong leadership, a commitment to student success, and a deep understanding of the district and its community. With over 20 years of service to RRMR Schools as a coach, teacher, and administrator, Johnson brings a wealth of experience and established relationships

that position him to lead the district forward.

During his time as secondary principal, Johnson has focused on strengthening academic systems, supporting staff development, and building a positive school culture aligned with the district's "Warrior Way." He has also led efforts in Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS), college and career readiness through Xello implementation, and expanding student opportunities both inside and outside the classroom.

Johnson expressed gratitude

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RRMR secondary principal Nick Johnson holds a poster made by faculty in celebration of him being named the new superintendent effective July 1.

Central Springs BOE addresses RRMR conversations

BY VAN MITCHELL
Nora Springs Rockford Register

The Central Springs Community School District Board of Education at their March 23 meeting discussed conversations with Rudd-Rockford-Marble Rock School officials about opportunities with RRMR.

"We are in conversations with Rudd-Rockford-Marble Rock School District," Jean Schilling, Board President said. "Their board

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CSCSD BOE President Jean Schilling

FIRES WREAK HAVOC ON HOMES, BALES

Fire destroys apartments in Rudd

BY JULIE SALISBURY
Nora Springs Rockford Register

An early morning fire on Sunday, March 29, destroyed six apartments in Rudd. The building often referred to as the old manor went up in flames a little after 1 a.m. with fire departments from Rudd, Rockford, Marble Rock, Nora Springs

and Floyd responding. Thankfully, everyone got out safely and there were no injuries. Sunday afternoon, flames could still be seen popping up in the ceiling of one of the apartments and a fire alarm could still be heard beeping. It is not known how many people have been displaced by the loss of the structure.



What remains of the apartments on the east side of Rudd, referred to as the old manor, after early Sunday morning's fire.



The aftermath of the fire at the David and Janice Willert home east of Rockford.

Fire destroys main floor of Willert home

BY JULIE SALISBURY
Nora Springs Rockford Register

A fire at the David and Janice Willert home east of Rockford on Thursday, March 19, started in the kitchen and ultimately destroyed the main level of the home with smoke and water dam-

age. Janice, who was home at the time, was able to safely evacuate and the firemen were able to get their daughter's dog safely out of the basement. The Marble Rock and Rockford fire departments responded to the fire, and not only saved the dog but kept the house intact so it can be repaired.



Firefighters spray water on the smoldering bales just yards away from livestock at the farm of Doug and Jo Hain of Nora Springs.

Fire destroys 120 bales

BY JULIE SALISBURY
Nora Springs Rockford Register

A fire south of Nora Springs on Monday, March 23, destroyed 120 round bales of hay at the residence of Doug and Jo Hain. It ap-

pears the bales got hot and started on fire and with the strong winds the fire easily spread. Rockford and Nora Springs volunteer fire departments responded to the call and contained it as the only thing that could be done was to let them

burn. On Saturday, March 28, the strong winds stirred things up again and Rockford, Rudd and Nora Springs were back to contain the fire again. Thankfully, no one was injured and no livestock were lost.