

# TPD

- School Sports ~ Page A12-13
- Religion/Obits ~Pages A8
- Legals~A9-10
- HoCo News~A5
- Perspective~A4
  - Education ~Page A11
  - Classifieds ~Pages A6-7
- Wrestling ~A2-3
- Special Game Section ~A7

## CRESCO TIMES PLAIN DEALER

\$1.50



Wednesday, February 25, 2026 • Volume 168 • Issue 8 • One Section • 14 Pages • © 2009 Evans Publishing, LLC



Cresco & Lime Springs ~ Library Info ~ A5

\$1.50 - Save \$30 when you subscribe!

## Meet Jim Wolfe Cresco's Newest City Councilor



Jim Wolfe takes his experience in Ag public service and applies it to his new public service position as Cresco City Councilor for Ward 2.

RACHEL RILEY TPD Editor TPDeditor@crescotimes.com

CRESCO - He didn't go looking for a seat at City Hall. Retired and content with a full life—longstanding community ties, and a con-

servation farm that keeps him busy—James (Jim) Wolfe figured he had plenty on his plate. Then two city council members called and asked if he'd consider stepping in. He p a u s e d , weighed the timing and the need, and said yes getting his n o m i n a t i o n pages in right before the deadline. A month and a half in, he's surprised by how much he's enjoyed it.

utilities, public safety, parks, housing, and the community's long-term growth. The work is concrete, —visible, practical, and deeply local—just the way he likes it.

Wolfe, comes to the council with a public-service résumé that stretches across decades and continents. He spent 35 years with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) an agency of USDA, including 20 as a District Conservationist, working side by side with farmers, landowners, and local governments to steward soil and water. A resident of Ward 2, he has been active in providing a cleaner, safer environment for his neighbors throughout his career, experiences that has helped shape his view that local government's most important work often happens closest to home.

Cresco has a new representative for Ward 2 in Wolfe, who was elected to the City Council on November 4, 2025 and sat for his first City Council meeting on January 5, 2026. He succeeds Amy Bouska, stepping into a role that will put him at the center of decisions on streets,

of the Driftless Area. Those hills taught him patience and attention, the kind of care that keeps farms thriving from one generation to the next. There were six boys in the house then—Wolfe and his five brothers—working, arguing, laughing, and learning together, each day tied to the rhythms of the farm. One brother has since passed away, a loss that's part of why the remaining brothers are writing a book about their life there. It's a way to honor their shared history: the long chores at dawn, muddy boots by the door, and the quiet joys of a family farm that asked much and gave much in return.

His father set the tone. A gifted conservation farmer, he was ahead of his time in protecting soil and water while keeping a farm productive. His father installed many contour strips, grass waterways and dams to control soil erosion. His efforts were recognized nationally with the Goodyear Award, an example that pointed Wolfe toward his own life's work.

WOLFE - CONTINUED PAGE 9

**Don't Let Deer Get The Best Of You!**

**SCHATZEE'S BODY SHOP**  
COLLISION REPAIR CENTER  
214 5th Street SE • Cresco, IA  
schatzeesspeedshop@gmail.com

**PROFESSIONAL AUTO BODY & COLLISION WORK**

- SEMI DOWNDRAFT SPRAY BOOTH
- INSURANCE CLAIMS
- WE ALSO DO RUST REPAIR

**Guaranteed Workmanship**

563-203-8070  
Fax: 563-203-8093  
M-F 8-5 • Sat. Closed

Family Owned & Operated

**CALL FOR YOUR FREE ESTIMATE APPOINTMENT**

## Digging out: After the Storm



PHOTO BY RACHEL RILEY/TPD

Snow removal in progress. A large pile of snow blocks partial access to Elm Street in Cresco while crews work to clear the roads.

HOWARD COUNTY - We knew the snow was coming but many didn't anticipate this much. Overnight Thursday into early Friday, a sheet of heavy snow fell, covering Howard County in a bright, thick white sheet of snow. The City limits of Cresco measured about eight inches. Travel slowed to a crawl as roads were extremely slippery, and many businesses closed or opened late. US 63 in Howard County saw temporary closures amid blizzard conditions and crashes, with reports of reopening early afternoon. At one point it was reported that 42 semi-trucks were stuck in the Casey's parking lot of Lime Springs unable to navigate the roads due to bad conditions. For a day, the county hushed, and everyone seemed to move through the day a little more careful than usual.



PHOTO BY AMANDA HENKES/TPD

Kaydn Schmelzer from Lickteig's Snow Removal works on clearing the sidewalks on North Elm Street in Cresco.

## 20 Year Tradition Carried On: Masopust 2026



Miss Czech-Slovak U.S 2025-2026 1st Runner Up Isabel Sherman displays one of the Live Auction items at Masopust. This was a painted saw blade by a local Czech.



PHOTOS BY DAN EVANS/PUBLISHER

Just enjoying the Masopust is this group of four wearing some fun hats at the event held at the Pivo Brewery in Calmar. Shown are Gene Pisney, Joyce Pisney, Colleen Stika & Karyl Pisney.



Ken Zajicek shows 20 years of Masopust buttons on his vest as the event celebrated the milestone this year.

MORE MASOPUST PHOTOS PAGE 14

## Goings on!

- SUNDAYS:**  
-BINGO AT THE CRESCO WILDLIFE CLUB. NOON
- MONDAYS:**  
-AA MEETING, VFW HALL CRESCO 5PM  
-BINGO AT FAMILY FUN & FITNESS, LIME SPRINGS 6:30PM
- TUESDAYS:**  
-EUCHRE AT PUB NO. 7  
-TOURNAMENT STARTS AT 6:30  
-500 AT KESSEL LODGE, 1PM
- WEDNESDAYS:**  
-EUCHRE AT KESSEL LODGE, 1PM  
-TRIVIA NIGHT AT PUB NO. 7, 6PM
- 2/28:** Howard County Farm Bureau holds a Town Hall Meeting with Area Legislators. Open to the public at the Howard County Farm Bureau in the backroom 11:30am
- 3/3:** 5th-12th Grade Crestwood Band Concert 6:30pm
- 3/6:** Daddy/Daughter Dance. Notre Dame Parish Hall 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- 3/7:** Iowa & Minnesota Permit to Carry Class 9am-7pm.
- 3/14:** Pub Crawl - Downtown Cresco Participating Locations to be Announced.
- 3/14:** Shamrock Run 5k, Cresco Fitness Center @ 2pm.
- 3/19:** Plantpeddler Ribbon Cutting @ 5pm.

## Wrestlers battle hard at State Tourney



DES MOINES - Carter Schmauss, left, placed 3rd at 132 pounds at the State Tourney. Mitchell Williams, center, took seventh at 120. Carver Butikofer, right, competed hard at 113 pounds but did not place in the top eight.

MORE WRESTLING - PAGES A2, 3 & 12

## Boys Push to District Finals!



TOP: Ben Isaacson fires a pass to a teammate during Thursday's district game vs. Waukon.

BOTTOM: Dane Curtin goes up for two points against Waukon during the playoff game.

PHOTOS BY RACHEL RILEY/TPD

MORE BASKETBALL - PAGE A13

## Cresco Wildlife Club Marks 80 Years with Annual Wild Game Feed

RACHEL RILEY TPD Editor

CRESCO — The community helped celebrate 80 years of the Cresco Wildlife Club at the organization's annual wild game feed on Saturday, February 21, from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Howard County Expo Building at the Fairgrounds. The event was a huge success as a full house packed the expo center for fun and the chance to taste dishes they normally may not have the chance to try. The hearty menu showcased venison ribs, duck, raccoon, smoked turkey, Rocky Mountain oysters, rabbit, beaver, wild hog, liver and onions, alligator and more, served with all the trimmings and dessert. Guests enjoyed raffles, drawings, kids' raffles and door prizes throughout the evening. It was an evening of fun, great food and good company.



Rex Larson, Memphis Knox, Brandon Knox, Lane Knox and Stephanie Fisher prep their raffle tickets to enter in for some of the great prizes available at the Annual Wild Game Feed.

PHOTO BY HALLIE VISSERS/STUDENT

MORE WILD GAME PHOTOS - A14