# Adm National County Government Month

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# Nevada Lowa The Opener

### By Latifah Faisal Chair of the Story County Board of Supervisors

Bring on the spring showers, warmer days and sunshine. April is a great month to appreciate the changing of the seasons that we

get to treasure here in Iowa. It is also a good time to remind you to please be sure you are registered with the Story County Iowa Alerts System. This will enable a text message to be sent to you in case of severe weather alerts, such as tornado warnings or flash flooding in your specific area as well as other import-

ant messages. You can find a link to sign up on our website homepage at storycountyiowa.gov.

April is also National County Government Month. NCGM is an opportunity for us to highlight county roles and responsibilities in serving our residents.

County government touches all of us no matter what community we live in, and the examples are broad. From county naturalists visiting classrooms and field trips to McFarland Park to prescription drug discount cards through the General Assistance Department. Road and bridge maintenance are top of mind, as is keeping everyone safe when clearing the snow in winter. If you have questions about our five-year transportation plan, I would encourage you to contact us.

Have you considered signing up to participate in the Sheriff's Citizen Academy? Do you want to learn more? Contact Sgt. Quinn in the Sheriff's office at 515-382-7458.

Did you know that Story County, through our national association and iCivics, provides a full curriculum to educate students, grades 6 through 12, about the important role and functions of county government? (https://www.naco.org/counties/icivics)

All local government does a lot of work that we don't see or sometimes think about so that businesses, schools and communities are safe and able to do the work they need to do. If you are interested in learning more about Story County Government, please hop over to our website or stop in and see us on your way to grab a coffee and doughnut while you're in downtown Nevada.

On the Cover: In honor of March being International Women's Month, we celebrated all the dedicated women who work for Story County! Five of the eight Story County elected officials are women, including County Supervisors Latifah Faisal, Linda Murken and Lisa Heddens, County Recorder Stacie Herridge and County Auditor Lucy Martin.



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## **CONTACT US**

Email us at communitynewsletter@nevadacubs.org

### ABOUT OUR NEVADA

Our Nevada is a monthly joint publication between the City of Nevada, Nevada Community School District,



Story County Medical Center, Story County, NEDC, and Main Street Nevada.

# **Fiscal Year 24 Budget Information**

Story County has been working on the fiscal year 2024 budget. Fiscal year 2024 begins July 1, 2023 and ends June 30, 2024. The public hearing on the budget is scheduled for 10 a.m. on April 11, in the Public Meeting Room, second floor, of the Story

County Administration building.

Any questions you may have regarding the County budget can be directed to Lisa Markley in the Auditor's Office at 515-382-7210.



## **2023 Assessment Notices mailed out**

2023 Assessment Notices were mailed out on March 24, 2023, by the Story County Assessor's Office. Iowa law requires all real estate to be equalized every two years which is in the odd numbered year, and recent assessments are the result of market sales and conditions which have taken place since January 1, 2021.

lowa law requires that the classes of urban residential, rural residential and agricultural dwellings, commercial, multi-residential, and industrial real estate are assessed at the property's fair market value. Based on conditions affecting market sales and conditions since 2001, it is estimated that the average residential assessed value in the state of Iowa will increase on an average of 22%. In Story County, residential property and multi-residential property will see an increase in assessed value in the 25% to 30% range, with some properties seeing a higher increase. Commercial and industrial property will see similar increases (+25% to +30%) in value depending upon the location, type of business, age, and condition of the property. There is often confusion that tax rates will increase by the same percentage as valuation, but that is not the case.

2023 assessed values will be used to calculate property taxes which will be payable the fall of 2024 and the spring of 2025. The Assessment Limitation or Rollback Factor is applied on the assessed values each year based upon allowable growth by class statewide. The end result is the taxable value which is used by the levy rate to calculate the tax due for each parcel of property. This taxable valuation is used by the various taxing entities such as schools, cities, county, townships and area community colleges to adopt budgets. This determines the tax levy, which is the rate of taxation required to raise the money budgeted to provide the services by each respective taxing entity. Assessment will be subject to a new limitation rollback factor, and new budget requirements by the various taxing entities. Also, the 2023 assessments may be subject to legislation which may affect the process of calculating property taxes payable the fall of 2024 and the spring of 2025.

Assessment and sales data may be obtained on the Story County Real Estate and Beacon GIS Web site at www. storyassessor.org. For more information, please contact the Assessor's Office at 515-382-7320 and online by visiting http://www.storycountyiowa. gov/index.aspx?NID=803.

## National County Government Month

National County Government Month (NCGM), held each April, is an annual celebration of county government. Since 1991, the National Association of

Counties has encouraged counties to actively promote the services and programs they offer. Story County will celebrate National County Government Month (NCGM) during the month of April to showcase how the county achieves healthy, safe and vibrant communities. The



theme for this year's celebration of NCGM is "Counties RISE!," inspired by the signature focus of National Association of Counties (NACo) President Denise Winfrey. The theme is an acronym for and highlights Resiliency, Inclusion, Solvency, and Empowerment — all County priorities undertaken with energy and passion for building stronger communities.

# **Conservation has summer camps for all**

Summer is approaching quickly and Story County Conservation (SCC) is excited to announce its 2023 Summer Camps! All camp information for the upcoming

season is currently posted online at www.mycountyparks.com for viewing. Summer camp registration will open online also at the My County Parks website on Thursday, April 13 at 6 p.m.

Does your family need financial assistance for summer camp costs? Please consider our NatureConnect



service assistance program to help cover the costs of SCC summer camps, educational programs, and campground or shelter reservations. This service assistance program, managed through Mid-Iowa Community Action, allows SCC to increase access to youth and adult programs and other recreational experiences for Story County residents by providing a 50% discount to families experiencing financial need.

Please contact Mid-Iowa Community Action at 515-956-3333 to verify need and receive your discount code. Summer camp registrations fill quickly, so it is recommended to obtain your discount code prior to the opening date (April 13) of summer camp registration. **ATV/UTVs and Golf Carts** 

carts are now legal to drive on the streets of Nevada, Drivers

must follow all basic traffic laws as if they were driving a regular, full-sized vehicle, plus there are special ordinances to consider as well.

All ATV/UTV drivers must have a valid Driver's License, be at least 18 years old, and must have proper insurance to operate on City streets. ATV/UTVs and carts shall only be used on public roads. This means you cannot drive them on the City's trail system, in parks, on sidewalks, in public cemeteries, or on any private property without permission. ATV/UTVs and carts should be driven as far to the right as possible in a single file line to allow for faster traffic to pass.

The most important rule is to maintain safety for yourself and others on the road. You cannot drive in a reckless manner and can only be on the roadway if there is enough visibility to see 250 feet or more. Drivers must obev all speed limits and shall not exceed 35 miles per hour on any road. ATV/UTVs and golf carts cannot be operated on Highway 30.

Golf carts have a few additional requirements. All golf carts on the roadway shall have a bicycle safety flag, ade-

ATVs, UTVs, and golf quate brakes, brake lights and a rear-view mirror. There is no age requirement for operating a golf cart; any valid, licensed driver can operate one on the City streets. Golf carts cannot be operated on Highway 30, Lincoln Highway, 19th Street, or W 18th Street as they have been designated "primary road extensions" by the City of Nevada.

Please remember you can still be charged with any traffic violation in an ATV/UTV or golf cart including Operating While Intoxicated. For more information, please refer to the City Ordinance, Chapter 78 (ATV/UTV), Chapter 77 (golf carts) and Iowa Code 3211.10 or contact the Nevada Public Safety Department.

# Keep your safety in mind when walking in town

Pedestrian safety is becoming a more important focus today, where distractions like cell phones can put us at risk, even when doing something as simple as walking.

In order to walk around town safely, it's important to make sure you pay attention to your surroundings. This includes not just cars in the roadway, but also bicyclists, children on scooters, skateboarders, etc. If you're at a four-way intersection, it's just as important to watch for traffic approaching from across the intersection as well as from behind you. And definitely, "look both ways" before you cross any street. Also, pay attention to the speed of vehicles if you are going to cross a roadway.

At night, all of the concepts previously mentioned still apply. And in addition, you must now be aware of others' reduced visibility due to less light. Wearing bright colors and reflective clothing will allow others to see you from a distance and then adjust their driving/riding behavior.

Bottom line, assume that others, at any time day or night, cannot or will not see you, and react accordingly for your own physical safety.

# **Springtime Open Burning Reminder**

As you start your outside cleaning, the Nevada Public Safety Department reminds you of City Ordinance 105.05, OPEN BURNING PROHIBITED.

Springtime open burning season for yard waste is April 1 through May 15, from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. each day.

It is important to remember these additional requirements to comply with the law and to remain safe while burning vard waste:

• Yard waste must be 40 feet from any structure (including wooden fences and utility

poles).

• An approved incinerator for yard waste is permitted no closer than 15 feet from structures.

- Burn barrels are not approved for burning rubbish or vard waste.
- An adult must attend any fire until it is completely out.
- You must have a source of extinguishment near the open fire; one suggestion - a garden hose.
- Flammable liquids shall not

be used to start or aid fires. Moreover, it's just a bad idea.

• You may not burn in the street or alley.

- Please respect your neighbors when burning. Never burn when it's windy or conditions are not absolutely perfect for burning.
- We recommend informing your neighbors when you intend to burn, so they do not inadvertently call the fire department.

Those who violate this ordinance will face a first offense fine of \$300, with court costs of \$85. No fire is worth this, so burn at the appropriate times and within the dates provided. If you have questions, contact Director of Fire & EMS Ray Reynolds at 515-382-4593.

#### **Another Option**

Story County residents can dispose of yard waste at no charge on Saturday, April 29, at the GreenRU facility in Ames. Drop off yard waste at GreenRU, 400 Freel Drive, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Waste can include both yard waste and brush.

## MIDWEST AUTHOR SERIES



## HEAR FROM AUTHORS AGAIN THIS YEAR

The Midwest Author Series is back this year at the Nevada Public Library, featuring (top row, from left) Nevada's own Jackie Haley, Beth Hoffman, Joseph LeValley, Fern Kupfer & Joseph Geha, Leah Johnson, and Sarah Prineas.

Find out more on the Nevada Public Library's website: https://nevada-lib.libcal.com, and click on calendar. We will also mention the presentations on the calendar on the back of each issue for the month when they happen!

Nevada's Jackie Haley is the first speaker of the year. Haley will present on April 12, from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the Library Meeting Room. Her first novel, *Crystal Beach*, received many powerful endorsements following its release in 2012, and *Brenda's Wish* won gold in the Spiritual/Religion Category for Reader Views Literary Awards.

## **CELEBRATE NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK**

The Nevada Public Library encourages community members to visit the library during National Library Week, April 23-29, and explore all we have to offer.

Most people know about the wealth of stories available at the library, from picture books to large print to audiobooks and ebooks. But, there's so much "More to the Story" when it comes to what you'll find at the library.

The Nevada Public Library plans to have some special fun activities during that week. We encourage the public to stay tuned to our Facebook page for more details.

# Parks & Recreation Night

### Tuesday, April 11 - 6:00-8:00 pm Gates Hall Auditorium

Parks and recreation facilities provide opportunities for physical activity and can help people of all ages lead a more active lifestyle. Nevada Parks and Recreation is excited to grow with the addition of the Nevada Field House and wants you to be able to explore opportunities, ask questions, give input and also pick up aquatic center and Field House user cards. There's so much new that we can't wait to show you and talk with you about! So come join us from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.! We will have a short presentation beginning at 6:30 p.m.

### NEVADA FIELD HOUSE

Construction Update Amenities and Opportunities Facility Scheduling

#### FAWCETT FAMILY AQUATIC CENTER

Finalize RecDesk Account User Card Handout Swim Lesson Program Aqua Aerobics

#### FUTURE PROGRAM IDEAS

Indoor Playtime Walking Program After School Opportunities Adult Open Recreation Your Ideas!



http://nevadaia.recdesk.com

WHAT'S NEXT? NEVADA'S 2040 PLAN HAS LOTS TO OFFER FOR RECREATION SERVICES

Trail Expansion Splash Pad Nevada Bark Park Water Quality Project



# Community Cupboard needs new director

The Nevada Community Cupboard Board, which is comprised of representatives from many of the churches in town that support its mission, is looking for a new director.

Taylor Watson, who took the position in early 2021, will still help the mission in some ways, but with a career opportunity, she can no longer continue as director.

Marlys Brehn, a member of the NCC Board, said the person in the director's position should have the ability to relate to people, and a background of service would be valuable.

Former longtime director Gil Petersen, who held the position for 23 years, said to those interested in taking on this position, "you need the ability to handle money, the ability to look at what's in the Cupboard, and what is needed for the next Saturday. You'll need to have flexibility when people call and want food ... and you'll need to be organized."

He added that it's important to be considerate of people. "You have to understand that sometimes, people just want to talk and need someone to listen."

The director's position offers a small stipend. If you'd like to learn more about the position and/or apply for it, you may talk to any of the Board members: Marilyn Brodie, Fred and Kenzie Alderson, Teresa Haaland, Marlys Brehm, and Carole Whitehead.

If you want to apply, please email your resume and important information to Teresa Haaland: tjh1126@gmail.com. You can mail it to her at 1221 4th St., Nevada, IA 50201. You can call her with questions: 515-441-0295.



## **Plots available** VOLUNTEERS ALSO NEEDED FOR DONATION GARDEN

Looking to get your hands dirty? Got a green thumb but nowhere to use it? The Nevada Community Garden has plots available for rent for the 2023 season. We have both raised and in-ground 4ftx12ft beds. Rent ranges from \$20-30 for the season.

We also are looking for volunteers to help with our donation garden that serves local food pantries and free meal programs. No experience necessary and all ages are welcome.

Questions and signup for both can be done by emailing NevadaCommunityGarden@gmail.com or checking us out on Facebook at "@NevadaCommunityGarden."

# Save The Date ALUMNI HOMECOMING WEEKEND IS JUNE 24 & 25

Nevada alumni have been holding reunion banquets for 145 years. This year will be no different.

Alumni of Nevada Schools are invited to celebrate at this year's banquet and enjoy other events of the weekend, which include a Saturday breakfast, community tours, a social time, honoring Veterans, and a special Sunday event featuring Nevada alum Andrew Allen, President and CEO of Youth and Shelter Services in Story County. Allen credits YSS with saving his life.

Special classes, especially those celebrating their five-year-increment milestones, will be honored and invited to have speakers at the banquet.

The Nevada Alumni Committee wants to help you (and your class) be part of this special weekend. Please email: kls.alumni@icloud.com or bullocksherry628@gmail.com, or call: 515-291-4733 or 515-238-5053, to sign up or get more information about participating in some or all of the Reunion Weekend events. Mid-States Companies recently announced the building of a new 15,000 square foot headquarters that will be located on the east side of the property. The new building is designed to help them grow as they plan to add over 20 jobs across their network of companies. Mid-States **Companies offer** premier millwright, design, crane and trucking services.



## Nevada Field House project progressing



Check out these pictures from RHM Architects on the progress of the Nevada Field House. This exciting community amenity will be a multipurpose sports and activity venue for youth and adult recreation. These images show the structural steel going up with the facility set to open this coming fall.



## **Foundation awards human services funding**

The Nevada Foundation, in partnership with the City of Nevada, has awarded \$16,069.58 in grant funding. These funds, awarded to five non-profit organizations, will provide necessities in the areas of food, shelter, and clothing in the community.

Nevada Mayor Brett Barker explains, "In the past, the Council has considered these requests directly. Upon the recommendation of our auditors, we developed a more formal and focused process to support these important causes in Nevada. We are grateful that the Nevada Foundation assisted with the formal grant-making process."

A four-member committee evaluated and scored the applications. Organizations selected to receive funding this year include:

- The Nevada Community Resource Center
- Harmony Clothing Closet, Inc.
- Salvation Army of Ames & Story County

- Nevada Food at First
- Good Samaritan Fund

The goal of these Human Services grant funds is to support projects that enhance the basic needs for food, shelter, and clothing in Nevada.

We anticipate another funding round will be held this fall. If you have questions regarding this year's awards or future funding rounds, contact Brenda Dryer, Nevada Foundation Board member, at brenda@ameschamber. com. VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED! IF YOU CAN HELP US BY WORKING A 4-HOUR SHIFT ON MAY 13, PLEASE SIGN UP AT OUR WEBSITE: PIZZAPIELOOZA.COM



# Main Street Nevada organizes many events for our community

Main Street Nevada hosts an event nearly every month. Many are for business networking or education, but several are for the whole community. You may already know about the Trick-or-Treat on Main Street event in October, which sees hundreds of families dressed up in costume, parading Main Street for goodies from the businesses. This has been an annual event for several years.

You likely also know about Lincoln Highway Days, which will be celebrating its 40th year this August! This annual celebration commemorates the Lincoln Highway. Many organizations in town come together to make this a family friendly event. From the 5K and parade in the morning to the rodeo in the evening, it's weekend fun for everyone! Keep your eyes peeled for upcoming information about this year's anniversary event.



Christmas on Main, a vision that belonged to Marlys Barker, has taken place on Main Street the past two years, and is gaining a lot of attraction. From shopping to making crafts and searching for Christmas characters, this event has something for all ages. With enough volunteers, this event will continue to grow.

Other events you may see advertised are our networking events: Mixn-Mingle, Lunch-n-Learn and The Grind. But what exactly are these events and who can attend?

Mix-n-Mingles are monthly after-hours

events held at an investing business. While anyone can come to these, they are typically attended by local business employees and clients of the hosting business. The purpose of a Mix-n-Mingle is to promote a local company in town.

Lunch-n-Learn events are held about six times a year with a purpose of providing education on a business-related topic. We have had presentations on how to use Canva for your business, how to help your business get exposure on Google and an upcoming presentation on cyber security. Anyone is welcome to join these one-hour trainings to help support your business.

The Grind is Main Street Nevada's newest networking event, which takes place early in the morning. These are opportunities for business people to catch up with other businesses and hear a short presentation from a local company. As all other events are, these are open to anyone to attend.

All of Main Street Nevada's events are organized by volunteers and would not be possible without them! We have a lot of great people who want to create fun events for the community to participate in. We hope you can join us in celebrating a community to be proud of!



# Longtime Nevada businessman starts new business in same location

Thirty years ago, Eric Gabrielson's family was celebrating the purchase of Nevada Lumber Company at 639 N Avenue.

This year, Eric Gabrielson is celebrating the opening of a new business, KB Cabinets, in that location. "Nevada Lumber is yesterday," Gabrielson said, while noting that the process of closing Nevada Lumber has been a gradual transition as he sells out of remaining supply. KB Cabinets celebrated its grand opening on Feb. 25.

KB Cabinets will help customers design rooms/spaces and sell everything needed to finish a room/space except for the flooring and the paint. Most customers will likely be looking to KB Cabinets to design and/or remodel kitchen and bathrooms, but KB Cabinets can help with any area that needs cabinets, countertops, etc.

"In the back of my mind, I had been wanting to get out of the lumber business for years — dealing with inventory, markets, competition, equipment... the whole bit. I'd always wanted to try a cabinets business," Gabrielson said.

But he knew that getting into cabinets would require someone who understands technology and designing interior spaces through technology. "I'm way in the back seat (on technology), but I knew we had to have it, and I'd have to find people who could do it."

Enter Mike Goettsch, a tech-savvy guy with a construction background. Goettsch is a veteran, who served in the Navy, and then did several types of jobs, including a long stint working for relatives in Ames who had a small plumbing/heating manufacturers' rep business. "I worked for my uncle as an inside salesman and later an outside salesman," Goettsch said.

When his uncle sold the business, Goettsch worked for a wholesaler for a time, and also worked in a computer program business for manufacturers reps with his uncle until technology caught up and the service was no longer needed.

Goettsch was working for Lowe's in

Ames as a kitchen designer when he and Gabrielson met and started talking.

Last summer, Goettsch came to work for Gabrielson, and since that time, the transition from lumber company/store to cabinets store has been happening.

KB Cabinets, named for Gabrielson's granddaughter's nickname initials, will have a selection of cabinets from different product lines. It will also have finished room displays for customers to get a feel of how certain products — countertops, sinks, faucets, door handles, etc. — look together. But the main work of helping customers finish spaces, whether it's new construction or remodeling, will happen on the computer.

"In today's world those (computer) programs have gotten sophisticated enough that you can choose from all your colors, and finishes, and you can see a 3D rendering," Goettsch said. "He can actually put you in the kitchen," Eric added.

Goettsch said a lot of people are very

nervous about redoing a kitchen, because it's a huge project. "So, if you can take them and put them there (virtually)... not only can they think about it, they can visualize it."

Goettsch believes the true job of a designer is to prevent mistakes. "A lot of people if they're doing it themselves or working with someone who isn't fully trained, don't take into account clearances. You have to think about the spacing of everything and the ergonomics."

Both Goettsch and Gabrielson agree, a designer also has to listen to customers, listen to their wants and needs, and help them determine all the things they can have in a space, because kitchens, especially, are expensive and time-consuming projects that you don't want to have to do more than once in a lifetime, or at least in a 20-year span.

"There's nothing worse than a month after it's done, saying, 'Gosh, I wish I would have done that,'" Goettsch noted.

Goettsch said he enjoys what he's doing because he loves working with people. "I truly do enjoy helping people create the things they want, need and desire. My job is to help them get that."

Gabrielson becomes reflective when talking about what he has enjoyed about being in business in Nevada for so many years, and now starting a new business in this community.

"Nevada has become my home," he said. And he's happy to see the entire Story County community working together to help local businesses. "I'm really pleased to see the Story County mayors and leaders working together. I'm impressed with some of the younger business people in our community and what they're doing."

And while he's not actually on main street, Gabrielson said he wanted to join Main Street Nevada for the networking opportunities and connections. Some may not remember it, but Gabrielson was very active in the Nevada Chamber of Commerce and was a past president, in his younger years.

Gabrielson, who holds a degree in business and was a nursing home administrator before joining his family business, said he has no regrets about the path he's taken. "I've always been crazy about my extended family, and I was one of those lucky, lucky guys who was fortunate enough to be around a good dad and uncles who I listened to. So the idea to be in this business with lots of family is that we were forced to keep in contact and that's not a bad thing. And to be paid to be doing this, I've said a thousand times, I have been on vacation for 30 years!"

And about his decision to start another business in Nevada, he said, "I was not ready to not be in this building and not be in this town."

## Volunteerism takes center stage in Nevada

A team of local leaders is involved in a statewide volunteer initiative to improve volunteerism in our community.

One of the things started already is a Facebook



page, **Nevada, IA — Volunteer Opportunities**, and it includes the art shown here.

This page is a place where organizations needing volunteers can post about the things they are needing help with, and those looking for ways to volunteer can find something that interests and works for them.

Check out the page today! Watch for more exciting news about Nevada's focus on volunteerism coming this year. We want to be a community of many helping hands.

# Zaletel to present history of highway

Local historian Hank Zaletel (pictured) will share his collection of photos showing "Life on the Lincoln Highway in Story County, 1910-1950" in a **program on April 27, at 6 p.m. at the Nevada Public Library**.

Zaletel collected many of the photos (and stories) during his 34-year career with the Iowa Department of Transportation.

Zaletel's presentation is part two of "Promise Road: How the Lincoln Highway Changed America," the audiovisual exhibition that appeared at the Nevada Public Library last August and September.



This presentation and the traveling exhibit have been funded in part by grants from the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs and Greater Iowa Credit Union with support from the Iowa Department of Transportation.

For more information about the Lincoln Highway National Heritage Byway in Iowa, visit Prairie Rivers of Iowa's website at prrcd.org.



# **3rd Graders Learn About Community**

What is a community? What does it take to have a community? Why do people move? These were the driving questions that started the journey. Corey Barloon's third grade class started by looking at what it takes to make a community and the roles and needs of its people. From there they took a trip back in time, looking at the Westward Expansion. This helped them think about why people move. Students studied the difficulties the people endured to make a better life. Students got to experience the Oregon Trail journey by utilizing the 1992 version of the simulation game Oregon Trail.

After experiencing the journey on the Oregon Trail, students moved into the next phase of learning: building their own community. Students were given a job and a money allotment to purchase materials to build their own homestead. Students first created a budget for purchasing materials. Then they went through the application process to purchase land and finally the purchasing of materials to build their house.

The next step in this journey was to name the town they built and decide what laws they needed to make the community work. Students were given the opportunity to run for public office. Individuals that were interested created posters and gave a speech on why they would be a good choice for office. After an election was held, they had a city council, mayors and city managers.

Next, students were given a unique opportunity- one student's parents, Erin and Joe Mousel, arranged for them to have their council meeting in the Nevada City Council Chambers. They walked to city hall and conducted their council meeting. In this meeting, members discussed possible names for their town, laws to make their town safe, and future needs of the community they built. While in the chambers, students learned about how a council meeting is managed and the roles each member plays.

After long discussion and some passionate dialog and negotiations, the members voted on a name for their town: City of the Cubs. The council also voted and passed the following city ordinances: speed limits should be set to appropriate levels, no robbing houses, treat others kindly and obey all traffic laws. The council instructed the city managers to research the following topics and bring information to share at the next meeting: need for a police and fire station, a water plant, a dirt bike track and parks.

After adjourning the meeting, students returned to Central Elementary having experienced authentic city government.

## FFA ANNUAL GREENHOUSE SALE TO BE HELD

With the onset of spring, the members of the Nevada FFA chapter plan to host their annual greenhouse plant sale. The greenhouse is filled with vibrant colors and fragrant scents as the students work hard to present their work to the public.

The FFA greenhouse sale is a highly anticipated event in the Nevada community and this year is shaping up to be no exception.

The FFA students have been preparing for the plant sale for months, carefully cultivating a wide variety of plants in their greenhouse. The sale will feature an assortment of vegetable plants, including tomatoes and peppers, as well as a variety of hanging baskets.

In addition to providing the community with high quality plants, the greenhouse sale serves as a fundraising event for the FFA chapter. The money raised from the sale will go towards supporting the FFA's many educational programs and activities.

Additionally, the greenhouse sale allows FFA students to showcase their learning, skills, and dedication to agriculture.

The greenhouse sale will be held at the High School greenhouse, which is located behind the HS on the east side.

The FFA plant sale promises to be a fun event for the whole family with lots of options and variety. So mark your calendars and come out to support the Nevada FFA - and pick up some beautiful plants for your home or garden!

## **April Greenhouse Sale Dates**

Saturday April 22, 10am-2pm Saturday April 29, 10am-2pm

## **SPRING EVENTS**

Spring brings the excitement of changing seasons and warmer weather ahead. With spring activities, that changing weather often brings changing schedules!

Be sure to keep an eye on our Activities Calendar for any postponements and cancellations.

https://bit.lyNCSDActivitiesCalendar

## 2023/2024 SCHOOL CALENDAR

The 2023/2024 School Calendar has been approved by the School Board.

To view / print, go to https://bit.ly/NCSD24Calendar

## MEDICAL REMINDERS FROM THE NURSES

**Incoming Preschoolers:** a completed immunization record and a current physical exam before school starts.

**Incoming Kindergartners:** a dental screening certificate (no earlier than age 3) and a student vision card/ form.

The vision card/form should be performed no earlier than one year prior to enrollment. If your child had their eyes screened here at school through the Iowa KidSight program this last January, you do not need another evaluation for kindergarten.

**Incoming 3rd Graders:** a student vision card/form which should be performed no earlier than one year prior to enrollment.

**Incoming 7th Graders:** all students entering 7th grade must have proof of TDAP (Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertussis) and Meningococcal Vaccines before school starts in the fall. Medical or Religious waiver will be accepted if signed by the physician and/or notarized. **Incoming 9th Graders:** Iowa law requires that all 9th grade students provide proof of a dental screening. Any screening from 8th grade or a dental screening while in 9th grade will be accepted.

**Incoming 12th Graders:** seniors will need proof of a second Meningococcal vaccine, done after the age of 16 years. First dose was required for 7th grade.

**Sports Physicals:** all 7-12 students participating in sports will need a yearly sports physical. Physicals are good for 13 months and need to be signed and dated by the health care provider and parent.

Any student with a food allergy can fill out the Diet Modification Request Form. This will need to be signed by the health care provider and parent.

All forms can be found at www. nevadacubs.org.

## PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN SIGNUP

Central Elementary is now taking signups for preschool and kindergarten for the 2023-2024 school year!

If you have a child who will be four (Preschool) or five (Kindergarten, not currently attending Nevada) by Sept. 15, please call Central Elementary to get your child signed up at 515-382-2383.





# Improving Access to Mental Health Services

Story Medical partners with Central Iowa Psychological Services to deliver counseling, medication management in Nevada. At one point or another, we all face challenges in life. When those challenges affect our mental health it can have a significant impact on quality of life. With the aim of making a continuum of mental health services available locally, Story Medical began partnering with Central Iowa Psychological Services (CIPS) in 2021.

The partnership started modest, but has grown to include services delivered at Story Medical Clinic in Nevada by CIPS providers Daniel Bench, MSN, PMHNP-BC, and Emily Loynachan, LMSW. Bench specializes in medication management and Loynachan offers counseling services for children and adults.

Bench says offering services in rural areas is important.

"Rural populations are traditionally widely under served when it comes to



Daniel Bench, MSN, PMHNP-BC



Emily Loynachan, LMSW

mental health," Bench says. "Many people in rural regions have next to no access to specialized psychiatry care and instead rely on their primary care providers. It is a real benefit for a rural community to access specialty care locally." Bench has worked in a variety of capacities in mental health for the better part of two decades. He says serving those in need is his passion.

"This is a profession that spoke to me from early on," says Bench, who helps patients effectively manage their medications. "I remember my first mental health clinical rotation and how it all just clicked with me. I enjoy helping those who reach out in acute distress find a higher level of functioning. It is work that matters."

Loynachan, who provides an array of counseling services, worked as an engineer before her own mental health journey opened her eyes to another career path.

"I sought out therapy as a young mother," Loynachan says. "I was going through a difficult time and seeking that care was such a powerful experience. It was transformational and I felt inspired to pay it forward."

At Story Medical, Loynachan offers services to adults and children, often in partnership with Bench.

Having access to intensive therapy and medication management in one location greatly improves the ease of accessing needed services.

Loynachan says her work is rewarding.

"My favorite thing is helping people make meaning of their suffering," Loynachan says. "I want those I serve to know that they are not facing challenges alone. They are supported."

"I am so inspired by those I serve," she continues. "Hearing the stories of how others have persevered shows me the resiliency of the human spirit."

## Partnering to Deliver Compassionate Care

Central Iowa Psychological Services (CIPS) and Story Medical Clinic in Nevada partner to offer mental health services and counseling for children age 2 and up, adults and families.

The CIPS team offers evidence-based programs designed to meet the unique needs of clients.

## Mental Health Services at Story Medical

We are currently accepting new mental health services patients. To make an appointment with Daniel Bench, MSN, PMHNP-BC, or Emily Loynachan, LMSW, please call Story Medical Clinic in Nevada at 515-382-5413.

# **News & Notes**



## **IMMUNIZATIONS AREN'T JUST FOR KIDS**

We are all familiar with the critical role vaccines play in protecting our children from a host of serious illnesses. But did you know that there are also vaccines that adults should receive?

Beyond the seasonal flu vaccine and the COVID vaccine and boosters, there are a handful of others adults should have. See what vaccines are recommended for you and your children at cdc.gov/vaccines.

To schedule an appointment at Story Medical Clinic to get up-to-date on your vaccines, call 515-382-5413 in Nevada or 515-387-8815 in Maxwell.

### KIDS CLINIC AVAILABLE IN NEVADA AND MAXWELL

If your child wakes up not feeling well, you don't have to wait all day for an appointment.

Story Medical's Kids Clinic in Nevada offers same-day appointments for infants to children up to 18 years old between 8 a.m. and 9 a.m. Monday through Friday. Call 515-382-5413 for an appointment.

## WORK AT STORY MEDICAL

If you are looking for a new career in a friendly work environment, look no further than Story Medical. We are always recruiting and currently have a number of clinical and nonclinical positions open. Learn more about what is available and fill out an online application at storymedical.org/careers.

## FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL!

You can keep up with all that is happening at Story Medical by following us @StoryMedical on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram!



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# **Calendar of Events**

#### **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Every Tuesday, 10 a.m. Story Co Admin Bldg, Nevada

#### **BINGO**

Every Tuesday, 7-9 p.m. **American Legion Post** \$5 to play all games

#### **MAIN STREET NEVADA LUNCH-N-LEARN**

April 4, 12:30 p.m. **Copper Spaces** "Grow with Google"

#### **AMERICAN LEGION**

**TACO TUESDAYS** April 4 & 18 5-6:30 p.m. American Legion Post

#### **FRIENDS OF LIBRARY BOOK SALE**

April 7, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. April 8, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Nevada Public Library

SCMC BD OF TRUSTEES April 6, 11:30 a.m. Story Medical Center

#### **NCSD SCHOOL BOARD**

April 3 & 17, 6:30 p.m. Gates Memorial Hall Auditorium

#### **AMERICAN LEGION FISH FRY**

April 7 & 14 5-7 p.m.

American Legion Post There will be an alternate main course choice on April 14. Cost is \$10 for adults (\$5 for children age 10 and under)

#### **CITY COUNCIL**

April 10 & 24, 6 p.m. City Hall

#### SCC LANDSCAPING FOR WILDLIFE PROGRAM

April 10, 6:30 p.m. Nevada Public Library Register on library website!

SENIOR CENTER POTLUCK April 10, 11:30 a.m. Senior Center (by City Hall),

#### **PARKS & RECREATION** NIGHT

April 11, 6-8 p.m. Gates Hall Auditorium

#### **MIDWEST AUTHOR SERIES-JACKIE HALEY**

April 12, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Nevada Public Library Registration Required on Library's website!

#### **MAIN STREET NEVADA MIX-N-MINGLE**

April 19, 4-6 p.m. Sweet Dreams Mattress Center, 1136 6th St.

### **COUNTY BROWN BAG LUNCHEON SERIES**

April 21, 12-1 p.m. Story County Administration Building Topic will be Floodplain Management

#### SCC EARTH DAY WILDFLOWER HIKE

April 22, 1:30-3:30 p.m. Robison Wildlife Acres Register by April 19 at www. storycountyconservation.org

#### **MAIN STREET NEVADA 'THE GRIND'**

April 25, 7-8 a.m. **Copper Spaces** Stop in for coffee and catch up on business happenings.

#### SCC OUTDOOR ALLIANCE WILDFLOWER HIKE

April 27, 1:30-3:30 p.m. Robison Wildlife Acres Open to all ages; No registration required

#### **AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY FISH FRY**

April 28, 5-7 p.m. American Legion Post Grill Out with Couser Cattle Company, burgers & brats. Cost is \$10 for adults (\$5 for children age 10 and under)

EVENTS LEGEND: STORY COUNTY

STORY MEDICAL CITY OF NEVADA

OTHER