

# Our Nevada

Iowa

August  
2024

## Lincoln Highway Days 2024

Get ready for Nevada's longest-running town celebration happening this month!

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Local Teen Continues Mission

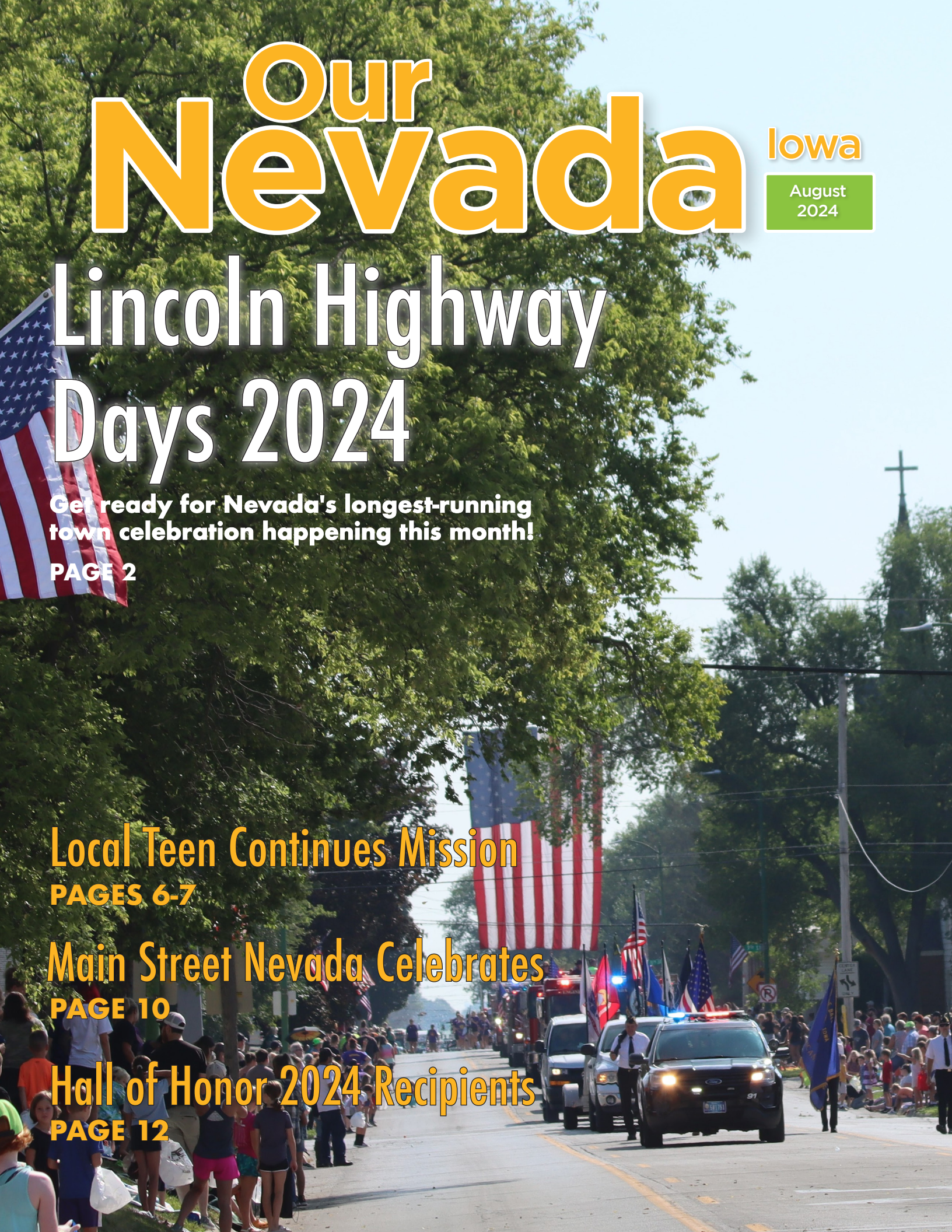
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# Our Nevada Iowa

August 2024

## The Opener

**By Marlys Barker**  
**City Communications Specialist/Our Nevada Editor**

The Lincoln Highway Days celebration and back-to-school frenzy, has always meant for busy Augusts in the City of Nevada, IA. I've covered many Lincoln Highway Days celebrations, and wanted to let you know what I know about this year, so far.



The Saturday morning parade (featured in the cover photo from last year's celebration) has always been one of the biggest draws for families with young children and for us older folks, myself included! There's never a shortage of candy or entertainment along the parade route, which travels west from 15th Street to 1st Street along the historic highway. The parade will happen again this year, starting at 10 a.m. on Aug. 24.

Carnival rides will not return this year, due to increase in cost for those attractions. However, families with younger children can still find plenty of fun things to enjoy, including free kids' games, provided by the Baptist Church, as well as a Kids Pedal Tractor Pull and magic shows at 1 and 4 p.m. in the Williams Pavilion on Saturday.

Friday evening's Nevada Truck and Tractor Pull is returning for a second year, and the Nevada Community Rodeo will also be back on Saturday evening. These events are both held at the fairgrounds and are big draws that are well worth the price of admission!

The car show will be back this year in the Main Street District on Saturday afternoon. These events are also happening: 5K at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, Ice Cream Social at Central Presbyterian on Saturday, Hog Roast at the Fire Station on Saturday for lunch, the band "One More Time" in Williams Pavilion Saturday afternoon, a Vendor Show in the Community Building Saturday, and the band "Bad Friends" following the rodeo in the Williams Pavilion Saturday night.

The City of Nevada is an amazing place to live because of great volunteers and organizations who make celebrations like Lincoln Highway Days (41 years strong), and all of its activities, happen. Main Street Nevada is the official organizer of Lincoln Highway Days.

To learn more about this year's activities, especially start times, and to view the full schedule (they hope to have it available soon!), visit the Lincoln Highway Days website at: [www.lincolnhighwaydays.org](http://www.lincolnhighwaydays.org).

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## CONTACT US

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## 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.







Last Full Weekend  
in August  
Aug. 23-24, 2024



# Celebrating 41 years 1983-2024

Presenting sponsor Mid-States Companies

Full Schedule Available soon:  
[lincolnhighwaydays.org](http://lincolnhighwaydays.org)



## Serve Your Community

# When you join our TEAM!

- Lateral transfers can start up to \$59,633/year
- Non-certified Starting wage: \$56,264/year
- 4-day weekends every other week
- 40 hours vacation upon hire
- 90 hours of floating holiday time
- IPERS benefits

Application Deadline: Friday, September 6, 2024  
Physical Agility Testing: Saturday, September 14, 2024

For complete job details and an application link, go to [cityofnevadaiaowa.org/employment/](http://cityofnevadaiaowa.org/employment/)





# Library News

WOW! We are blown away with the amount of kids and teens who have participated in our Summer Reading Challenge and programs! Thank-you to our 32 sponsors for helping us make this summer fun and exciting.

We will have an End of Summer FOAM Party on Friday, Aug. 9, from 6-7 p.m for everyone who participated in the reading challenge or attended any of our summer programs. Anyone who turns in their reading log during the last week of the challenge will earn a FREE ice cream treat from Pint Sized Ice Cream! We can't wait to celebrate all of your reading, crafting, thinking, and participation!

## EVENTS IN AUGUST

NO YOUTH PROGRAMS IN AUGUST except for the End of Summer FOAM Party on Aug. 9, 6-7 p.m.!



### Friends of the Library Book Sale

Aug. 2 & 3, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., both days

### Iowa Scenic Views By Foot with Tyler Sullivan

Thursday, Aug. 1, 6:30-7:45 p.m.

Come listen to a program by Tyler Sullivan, who has visited and ran at least 1 mile in 96 of the 99 counties in Iowa.

### Nevada Library Author Talk

Thursday, Aug. 8, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Minnesota author, Mindy Mejia, is joining us to talk about the newest book in her Iowa Mystery series.



### Parental Guidance: Navigating Substance Awareness in Youth

Thursday, Aug. 29, 6-7:30 p.m.

Jennifer McEvoy, Community Outreach Specialist, and Ashley Monahan, Prevention Specialist, will join us in the meeting room to discuss alcohol use, Kratom, and vaping.



Youth Services Librarian Dylan Davison is part of a demonstration by Circus POP The Giant Bubble, which presented one of the summer library programs in June.



# New Assistant Library Director is a familiar face

Many children and families who recently attended elementary school in Nevada will easily recognize the Nevada Public Library's new assistant director.

Emily Holm, 32, has taught in the Nevada district for about 10 years. She even did her student teaching at Central Elementary while she was still a student at Iowa State University.

"Nevada was not even on my radar until I was in college and did student teaching here with Janis Brendeland," Emily said. Brendeland, now retired, was a longtime second-grade teacher at Central.

Emily grew up in the nearby Roland-Story School District and was a 2009 graduate of that high school. She attended Iowa State for a degree in education. Her first job after graduating was in the Hampton-Dumont School District, teaching 3-year-old special education.

She was then hired by Nevada Schools and has spent most of her time in a kindergarten teaching position, other than a few years of teaching multi-age 1-2.

Teaching was always a passion for her, but after becoming a mom, Emily realized she would enjoy finding something education-related that was less stressful and would allow her to save more of her energy for her own children and family. The Nevada Public Library provided that opportunity.

Emily isn't the first person with a teaching degree to find a place at the library. Current Library Director Erin



Emily Holm

Coughlin also has a teaching background.

"One of the reasons I thought this would be a perfect fit for me is because of the relationships. Being a teacher, I'd formed so many relationships with families, children, and community members, and coming here, I can continue those relationships and also build new ones," Emily said.

In considering all of the duties she'll have as the assistant library director, Emily said she's most excited about the following:

**Marketing** - She's excited to help with the library's Facebook page, newsletter, sign, and more.

**Programming** - She is especially excited about planning "adult programs," which will be a new challenge for her.

**Interlibrary Loan Work** - "I've been doing some of that already, and it's really fun."

Something else that's new for Emily is that she'll now be a supervisor of the three new clerks hired at the library. "Erin put together a training for the new clerks, and I went through that training too. It has been really fun."

## A few other fun things to know about Emily Holm:

Her family includes her husband, Jaccob (a 2012 graduate of Nevada High School and a middle-school teacher at West-Marshall Schools); and their three sons: Blake, 7; Luke, 3; and Hayes, 1.

Her favorite authors are Colleen Hoover, primarily a romance writer, and Freida McFadden, a thriller writer. "I love both genres of books, and I go back and forth," Emily said.

Two services she thinks are really great that the local library offers: 1) the Spanish collection: "A lot of people don't know that we have a pretty good Spanish collection, and it's growing. 2) "Our Seed Library has been a great resource for community members, and our collection is always growing."

What are her favorite hobbies outside of work? "Hanging out with my family is my number 1 favorite pastime. We like to go on hikes, visit different lakes, and be outside." Also, while noting that she's an amateur, Emily loves to take photos. "I was co-editor of my high school yearbook and that's when I fell in love with photography."





Dakota Davis (holding certificate) was honored in March of this year during a Nevada City Council meeting when representatives of the Sons of Union Veterans and Sons of the American Revolution came to give him a Certificate of Commendation and a Bronze Good Citizenship Medal for his work on the Christmas project he did for Veterans at the Iowa Veterans Home. He was surrounded at that time by the Mayor, family, and friends. His work didn't stop at Christmas. It has continued into the present year with more ways to honor and give back to veterans.

## Local teen continues to make a difference in the lives of veterans

It started less than a year ago — right before the Christmas season of 2023. Dakota Davis, a Nevada High School sophomore at the time, came home one evening and told his parents that he wanted to do something for veterans for Christmas.

"I have a lot of family and friends in the military or who are going into the military," he said. "So, I wanted to fill a stocking for each veteran at the Veterans Home in Marshalltown."

His thoughts were to give each veteran a cocoa kit and mug, and collect any other miscellaneous items that they might need. Then he'd deliver the gifts to them in person, so they'd have someone visiting them for the holiday.

He announced his mission, set up some collection points in the community, which included having a table during Christmas On Main. The generosity from the Nevada community was overwhelming. "We blew it way out of the water," Dakota said.

He delivered gifts to veterans on Dec. 23, 2023, and then found himself overwhelmed by their reactions.

"Some of them were on the verge of tears... mostly happy

tears, because a lot of them may have family, but they don't get to see them often," Dakota said. His mother shared that he even got a call from a lady in Georgia who wanted to tell him how much it meant to her that he was able to visit her brother at the Veterans Home. Due to her own health challenges, it was the first year she couldn't get back to Iowa to be with him. "She called us in tears," said Dakota's mother, Lola, because it meant so much to her that Dakota was there for her brother.

All of it impacted Dakota more than he could imagine. It made him realize how much it meant to veterans and their families. He knew he couldn't just stop what he'd called a "Sophomore's Salute" after Christmas.

He began working on his next mission, a "Summer Salute," which would include taking a group of veterans to an Iowa Cubs baseball game in July.

As you read this story, that trip will have already happened. Just under 50 veterans and their companions/caregivers were treated to an I Cubs game with food, beverages and prime seating in the Left Field Lounge. All of it was made possible



by donations given by many businesses, who supported the experience for these veterans — most from Story County, and about half from Nevada — to enjoy the all-American pastime of baseball.

Also happening in July was a smoke-off fundraiser to begin collecting money for the holiday season this year. Dakota said he wants to bring Christmas joy and also Thanksgiving meals to veterans who can't provide a meal on their own for themselves or their families.

He enlisted the help of Nevada Parks and Recreation in putting on the smoke-off competition and fundraiser. "Parks and Rec gave us the space to store the meat, and let us use the SCORE Pavilion for the smoke-off," Dakota said. The meat was provided by the Iowa Pork Producers and the Story County Pork Producers.

And the smoke-off isn't his only fundraiser in the works. Dakota plans for a chili cook-off on Oct. 12 at the Nevada Legion Post, and he's enlisted the help of former Nevadan Tony Dunson, who does shirt printing, to do shirts. Each shirt sold will raise funds for his "SalutING Service" mission.

What keeps Dakota going when it comes to veterans? "Their faces," he said of the reactions he's witnessed. "One of them actually gave me a replica of a painting he did after he got back

from Nam," he said, and this meant the world to Dakota, who lost a great uncle who had served in Vietnam and died from Agent Orange in 2004.

For those who follow Dakota on Facebook, one might think that all of Dakota's time is spent raising funds for veterans and thanking his sponsors and supporters, but he does have other activities.

As he enters his junior year of high school, he's excited to be starting the DMACC Auto Tech program, which is the career he hopes to pursue. He also plans to continue to be active in wrestling and baseball, and to continue his job at Sports Bowl as a cook.

Everything he's done on behalf of veterans, and that his parents Lola and Harold Davis have helped him accomplish, is worth it, he said, because he's learned an important lesson from these veterans about the "value of life."

"A lot of these veterans have told me that no matter what, if they could go back, they would. They would keep fighting. They are proud of what they did, and they did what they thought was right."

Dakota is working with an attorney in Des Moines on licensing "SalutING Service" as a nonprofit, public charity.



Parks and Recreation Assistant Director Rhonda Maier accepts a Certificate of Appreciation from Dakota Davis for Parks and Rec's help to him in putting on a summer smoke-off fundraiser at the SCORE Pavilion. Dakota said it's important for him to always thank those who support his efforts, because that's what his grandpa would expect of him.





CITY OF NEVADA  
**PARKS &  
RECREATION**

**NEVADAIA.RECDESK.COM**

**We have lots to offer this fall! Be sure to check out [nevadaia.recdesk.com](http://nevadaia.recdesk.com) for registration info. on these and other programs, including the Nevada Field House. For additional help please contact us at 515-382-4352.**



## YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Don't miss out on registering for our various programs beginning in August with a registration deadline of August 4.

- Flag Football
- Youth Volleyball
- After School at the Field House (M-F 3:30-5 p.m.) Various activities will be planned throughout the year for those coming after school.

## ADULT ACTIVITIES

- Pickleball: Monday - Friday from 9-11 a.m. See who's playing by signing up at [www.playtimescheduler.com](http://www.playtimescheduler.com).
- Adult Volleyball League: Join the fun on Wednesday evenings beginning September 25. Register your team today!
- Walk with Ease: A new session of Walk With Ease will begin on Monday, September 9.



## LEGENDS

The Legends Program offers competitive training, camps, clinics and game opportunities throughout the year. This includes basketball, volleyball, baseball, softball, etc. Current registration is taking place for Legends Softball and Baseball. Those with a Legends Pass may also come after school. A monthly option is now available for those interested in a Legends Pass.

**BE A LEGEND.**







# Cutting Edge celebrates completion of new building

On May 29, Cutting Edge officially opened its new facility in Nevada that now serves as home to the company's operations after an eight-month new construction build.

The event was commemorated with a ceremony led by the Nevada Economic Development Council (NEDC) and included representation from the City of Nevada and local business owners. Mike Wiezorek, owner of Cutting Edge Painting, and others, provided remarks that highlighted the unique partnerships between organizations across the community that made this project come together.

The ceremony marked another great

example of local businesses growing and expanding in the region. At the September 2023 groundbreaking event, City of Nevada Mayor Brett Barker said, "We're really excited about the project here and for what it will do for the community."

Cutting Edge Painting is a professional paint company and epoxy floor coating company that services central Iowa. From residential interior and exterior, commercial jobs, epoxy flooring, and more, they do it all. Wiezorek noted that Cutting Edge has grown steadily over the past several years and currently employs just over 30 people.

The new building is located in the Ne-

vada West Industrial Park on land previously owned by the NEDC and sold to the company for this project. Brenda Dryer, NEDC Executive Director, said, "It was our pleasure to work with the City of Nevada and Cutting Edge Painting to make this project a reality."

The new facility is now home to Cutting Edge's entire operation and allows for continued growth in Nevada and across central Iowa. In his final remarks, Wiezorek thanked the NEDC and City of Nevada for their support of the project. "We've searched other properties, other places, and other cities, and we're excited to be able to stay here and put our roots down."





# MAIN STREET NEVADA AT THE HISTORIC CAMELOT THEATER

## WE ARE CELEBRATING

— FIVE YEARS —

It's been a great five years in the downtown district as we've carried out our mission to implement the National Main Street Four Point Approach, which encourages downtown economic growth, preserves and promotes Nevada's historic image, and improves the quality of life for all.

### HERE ARE A FEW HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE PAST 5 YEARS:

- 62 LIGHT POLE BANNERS HUNG
- 130 WELCOME BAGS DELIVERED TO NEW RESIDENTS
- 3 CHRISTMAS ON MAIN EVENTS
- 4 DOWNTOWN TRICK-OR-TREAT EVENTS  
*(continuing the tradition)*
- 1 HOMECOMING TAILGATE
- 2 SEASONS OF FARMERS MARKETS
- LOTS OF LUNCH-N-LEARNS
- LOTS OF MIX-N-MINGLES
- 18 NEW BUSINESSES
- 9,500 VOLUNTEER HOURS
- 5 YEARS OF NATIONAL ACCREDITATION WITH  
MAIN STREET AMERICA
- 1 MAIN STREET IOWA DEVELOPMENT AWARD
- 7 WINNING GRANTS
- OVER \$2 MILLION PRIVATE DOLLARS SPENT IN  
RENOVATIONS
- ... AND SO MUCH MORE!



Thank you, Nevada, for your continued support!



# VA of Central Iowa Healthcare System Virtual Mobile Clinic

Central Iowa VA Virtual Health has scheduled an onsite visit to provide services to Veterans at a location near you! It will be in the parking lot of the Human Services Center, 126 S. Kellogg Ave., Suite 001 in Ames, on Aug. 20. The unit will allow Veterans to schedule appointments to meet with their VA healthcare provider in a secure and private Virtual Medical Room.



The following lists outline several of the services which will be offered with more to come. To schedule a VA visit on the Virtual Mobile Clinic, call 515-401-5452. It is our pleasure to serve you,

and VA staff are standing by to accommodate your virtual needs using Telehealth.

## Services Available for Scheduling:

- Primary Care, •Respiratory, •Oncology, •Cardiology, •Tele-wound, • Tele-dermatology, • Urology, • Mental Health, • Nutrition, • Social Work, • Speech Therapy, • Occupational Therapy, • Physical Therapy, • Lab draws, • Vaccinations

## Walk-in Availability

- Tele-Eligibility, • Blood Pressure Checks, •Battlefield Acupuncture, • Home Telehealth Screening/Enrollment Scheduling, •Live Telehealth Scheduling, • My HealtheVet Enrollment

# Story County offers timely response to May 21 tornado

On May 21, 2024, a high-end EF-2 tornado hit Story County, just east of Cambridge, traveling northeast through the county to just south of Zearing. While there were no Story County towns hit, there was major damage in unincorporated areas. Over 70 houses were totally or partially destroyed; roofs, outbuildings and grain bins sustained damage; extensive tree damage and flash flooding occurred in the southeast portion of the county; and there were no fatalities in Story County. Story County was then declared a disaster area at the county, state and federal levels, qualifying for assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

## Story County quickly responded:

- County Supervisors toured the county
- County employees who are trained by Emergency Management conducted in-person assessments
- Story County Sheriff's Office assisted with drone footage

- County Secondary Roads cleared fallen trees, debris; assessed damages to roads and culverts

## Resources were offered to residents:

- County managed debris site opened May 29 (currently open by appointment only)
- Communications to residents throughout the County via website, social media, Story County Alerts
- Assistance to FEMA with a Disaster Recovery Center at County Administration Building. Center was open June 14-17 and June 22-25. Sixty-eight households and renters were registered for assistance.

**Thank you to all Story County employees and individuals who took time to assist with the aftermath of the storm. Special recognition to Emergency Management, Planning & Development, Facilities Management, Secondary Roads, and the Sheriff's Office for their efforts to provide for the safety of our citizens!**

**The Story County Treasurer's Office would like to remind residents that you all should have received your property tax statements in the mail. If you did not receive yours, please call the Treasurer's Office at 515-382-7330.**





# Books receive Hall of Honor

Loren and Ruth (Horine) Book, graduates of the Nevada High School Class of 1964, are recipients of this year's Hall of Honor Distinguished Alumni award. The honor was presented to the couple during the Nevada High School Alumni Banquet on June 22 at Gates Hall.

Loren and Ruth attended Iowa State University and then enlisted in the Peace Corps to serve in Pohnpei, Micronesia. During their time in Pohnpei, Loren used his background in agriculture and animal science to assist the island farmers to better establish their crops, as well as create markets and coops for their harvests. He also showed farmers the value of using local materials to build hog houses and how to aid sick animals.

Ruth used her education background to work with teachers. She helped improve their skills in English and equipped them to better teach students. She also implemented a head-start program for the islands.

When the couple returned to Nevada, Iowa, they were guardians of an island girl, Maria, and gave her educational opportunities she would not have had on her small island. They also spoke publicly to organizations to expand everyone's understanding of the island. Maria graduated from Nevada Schools and went on to college.

Loren and Ruth were very involved in the movement to save family farms during the farm crisis of the 1980s. Their efforts included legislative advocacy in Washington, D.C. Loren also worked on the Iowa Concern Hotline, helping farmers and bankers to connect with support programs. Ruth became a spokesperson, speaking regularly on WHO radio, writing articles for local newspapers, working with ISU Extension, and meeting with families throughout the state to provide resources and encouragement. She was also invited to appear on the Oprah Winfrey Show in Chicago to bring awareness to stories of the farm crisis.

"For Loren and me, it is not about listing awards and achievements, but how our lives after graduation contributed something to our community, and gave us experiences and skills that have continued to help us quietly reach out and help neighbors, friends, and strangers," Ruth said. "In everything, Loren and I have worked together. We're a team."

Nevada's Hall of Honor was established in late 2012 to recognize alumni who have distinguished themselves based upon academic excellence and achievement, career accomplishments, community service, personal excellence, and dedication to lifelong learning. Awards are now presented by the Nevada Foundation. The first recipient of the award in 2013 was Stephanie Kellogg Ellingson, Class of 1986.



# Nevada student performs on Broadway

Our very own Jackson Baker had his Broadway debut as an Iowa High School Musical Theater Awards Showcase Triple Threat Award Winner. Jackson had 11 days of coaching, seeing musicals and working with Broadway professionals to produce the National Musical Theater Awards or the Jimmy Awards. The process began with over 130,000 students performing Jimmy required musicals. Those are then reduced to a few thousand students who are declared Triple Threat students. At the regional districts, it is reduced to the 102 students from across the country who traveled to New York City for the Jimmy Awards. Jackson performed in the Jimmy's, The National High School Musical Theatre



Jackson Baker, Nevada High School student, stands outside of the Broadway's Minskoff Theatre in New York City where he performed for the Jimmy Awards.

Awards, a national celebration of outstanding student achievement, recognizing individual artistry in vocal, dance, and acting performance and elevating the importance of theatre arts education in schools.

Jackson's trip included staying on the campus of Juilliard and working on his skills every day of the 11 day stay. They did get to meet the MJ choreographers and see MJ the musical. Probably one of the biggest surprises was going to the Tony Awards rehearsal and then to the actual show where they saw all of the legends that inspire them.

Jackson is back in Nevada where he wants to work on refining his craft and his goal is to do Musical Theater in college and then head back to Broadway.

## BACK TO SCHOOL ORIENTATIONS

### High School

#### Academic & Activities Meeting

- Academic August 8, 6 p.m. (Tope)
- Activities August 8, 7 p.m. (Tope)

#### 9th Grade and New Student Orientation

- August 22, 10 a.m.

### Middle School

#### 5th Grade Orientation

- August 19, 5:30 p.m.

#### Open House and Activities Meetings

- Open House August 21, 5:30-7 p.m.
- All Activities Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- Fall Sports Meeting, 7 p.m.

### Central Elementary

#### Open House

- August 21, 5:00 - 6:30 p.m.

#### Preschool Orientation

- August 27, 5 - 6:30 p.m.
- Scheduled by Appointment

## Nevada FFA Team earns bronze award at State event

A team of four Nevada FFA members received a bronze award at the Iowa FFA State Nursery-Landscape Career Development Event. The competition tested their knowledge and skills through various components, including a comprehensive written exam and plant identification challenge. Additionally, participants tackled segments on floral production and management, which covered pest and disease management, as well as plant nutritional disorders. The event also featured a practical team exercise focused on efficiently fulfilling a customer order, allowing the Nevada FFA members to demonstrate their teamwork and application of horticultural principles.



Members of the Nevada FFA Nursery-Landscape team that participated in state FFA contest are Wrigley Isleb, Savannah Klein, Greg Arends, and Mackenzie Arends.





# Remodel Boosts Quality, Comfort

Story Medical upgrades Operating Room with patients, care team in mind

With the aim of enhancing comfort, quality and efficiency for both patients and staff, Story Medical began a comprehensive remodel of its operating room (OR) facilities in the Spring. This extensive renovation project—which underscores Story Medical’s commitment to providing the highest quality care in a state-of-the-art environment—is now complete, and patients are being served in the new area.

## Making Privacy a Priority

The remodel has placed an emphasis on improving patient privacy and comfort. The pre- and post-op bays, which previously used curtains for separation, are now individual rooms. This change provides greater privacy for patients as they are admitted and discharged and offers a little more space in each bay.

“Privacy is a significant benefit for our patients,” says Cathy Haley, RN, Director of the Outpatient Clinic and Surgical Services at Story Medical. “The new individual rooms will offer a more comfortable



and secure environment for them, enhancing their overall experience at Story Medical.”

Each bay is equipped with a ceiling radiant heat device, allowing for better temperature regulation. This is particularly beneficial as the bays are located along outside walls, which could be cold during the winter months.

## Focused on Comfort

Another significant upgrade is the installation of a dedicated HVAC system for the OR. Previously, the OR shared an HVAC unit with the lab, creating a sometimes-uncomfortable environment for staff, especially during hot weather. This required regular manual adjustments to maintain a constant temperature in the room.

“With the OR now getting its own dedicated HVAC system, providers and staff will have a much more desirable environment to perform procedures,” Haley says. “Patients and the quality of the care they receive here has always been our primary focus, and that means taking care of the people who take care of them.”

The endoscopy procedure room—which is used for gastrointestinal procedures like colonoscopies—is included in the HVAC renovation, ensuring consistent temperature and humidity levels. Although the room’s appearance won’t change much, the functionality will be significantly improved.

## Improved Instrument Processing

As part of the overhaul, the decontamination area has received a significant facelift. The outdated sterilizer, which could only process two large pans at a time, is being replaced with a much larger steam sterilizer capable of handling nine pans simultaneously. This upgrade is particularly beneficial for total joint replacement surgeries, as it allows all items needed for one replacement to be sterilized in a single load, enhancing efficiency and reducing turnaround time.

“Efficiency in sterilization is crucial for maintaining the high standards of care we strive for,” Haley explains. “With the new sterilizer, we can process instruments much more quickly and effectively, ensuring everything is ready when needed.”

In addition to the new steam sterilizer, the instrument washer will also be upgraded to a model with a pass-through door, enabling dirty instruments to enter from one side and come out clean on the other. This improvement streamlines the workflow and minimizes the risk of cross-contamination.

The sterile storage area will now feature electronic monitoring for temperature and humidity, thanks to the new HVAC system. This ensures that instruments remain in optimal condition until they are needed for procedures.

The endoscopy decontamination area has also undergone a substantial upgrade, with the addition of a new machine to disinfect endoscopes more efficiently. There is also a new scope drying closet that enhances the workflow and safety of the decontamination process.

## Commitment to High-Quality Local Care

The remodel of the operating room at Story Medical is not just about enhancing facilities; it’s about improving the overall experience for patients and staff alike. By creating a more efficient, comfortable, and safe environment, Story Medical continues to uphold its mission of providing exceptional healthcare to the community.

“These improvements are a testament to our dedication to investing in facilities that enable us to deliver high-quality care locally,” Haley says. “We are committed to ensuring that our patients receive the best possible care in the best possible environment.”

**For more information about the Outpatient Clinic and Surgical Services at Story Medical, please visit [www.storymedical.org/surgery](http://www.storymedical.org/surgery).**

# News & Notes

## WORK AT STORY MEDICAL

We are always recruiting and currently have a number of clinical and non-clinical positions open. Learn more about what is available and fill out an online application at [storymedical.org/careers](http://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!



Postal Customer

# Calendar of Events

## SCMC BD OF TRUSTEES

**August 1, Noon**  
Story Medical Center

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

**Every Tuesday, 10 a.m.**  
Story County Admin. Bldg,  
Nevada

## FRIENDS OF LIBRARY BOOK SALE

**August 2 & 3, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.**  
Nevada Public Library

## NEVADA FARMERS MARKET

**August 4 & 18, 12-3 p.m.**  
Main Street District

## NCSD SCHOOL BOARD

**August 5 & 19, 6:30 p.m.**  
Gates Memorial Hall  
Auditorium

## AMERICAN LEGION MEAL

**August 9, 5-7 p.m.**  
American Legion Post  
*Fish Fry with an alternate main choice. Cost is \$12 per adult (\$5 per child, age 10 and under)*

## SENIOR CENTER POTLUCK

**August 12, 11:30 a.m.**  
Senior Center (by City Hall), 1231  
6th St. *Bring a dish to share. Program will begin around 12:15 p.m.*

## CITY COUNCIL

**August 12 & 26, 6 p.m.**  
City Hall

## BACK TO WELLNESS

**August 13, 3-6 p.m.**  
Central Elementary School  
*A chance for families of school-age children to learn about resources available to improve the health and wellbeing of their children.*

## BACK TO SCHOOL BLAST

**August 13, 4-5:30 p.m.**  
Central Elementary School  
*Families in need can receive a backpack with school supplies for the coming school year.*

## MIX-N-MINGLE

**August 21, 4-6 p.m.**  
Halley Schoolhouse on the  
Evergreen Lane property

## FIRST DAY OF CLASSES FOR NEVADA SCHOOLS

**August 23**

## AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY MEAL

**August 23, 5-7 p.m.**  
American Legion Post  
*Last of Summer Fun! We'll feature grilled hamburgers & hot dogs/ brats with potato salad, baked beans & fruit salad. Cost is \$12 per adult (\$5 per child, age 10 and under)*

## LINCOLN HIGHWAY DAYS

**August 23, 24**  
*Saturday morning parade, 10 a.m., along the Lincoln Highway and many more events. Find out more at [lincolnhighwaydays.org](http://lincolnhighwaydays.org)*

## NEVADA TRUCK & TRACTOR PULL

**August 23, 6 p.m.**  
Nevada Fairgrounds  
*Find out more on Facebook @Nevada Truck and Tractor Pull*

## NEVADA COMMUNITY RODEO

**August 24, 6 p.m.**  
Nevada Fairgrounds  
*Find out more at [nevadarodeo.com](http://nevadarodeo.com)*

## SENIOR VARIETY SHOW

**August 23, 7:30 p.m.**  
**August 25, 2 p.m.**  
at Ames City Auditorium  
*Several Nevadans will be part of this year's cast! The theme is "Footloose & Fancy-Free"*

## CAMELOT THEATER MOVIE

**August 25, 2 & 6 p.m.**  
**August 27 & 28, 2 p.m.**  
Showing "Brigadoon"