# November 2024

# New Chapter

in Senior Care for Story County

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#### By Nate Thompson **Story Medical CEO** and **Melissa Opperman Story Medical Senior Care Administrator**

We are excited to announce the grand opening of the new Story Medical Senior Care facility and invite you to join us for a Ribbon Cutting and Open House on Monday, Nov. 4. This is a monumental step forward for Story Medical, and we couldn't be more proud to share it with the community that made it all possible.

The Ribbon Cutting will take place at 4:30 p.m. at 710 S. 19th St. (just southwest of the main medical center campus), with remarks from our leadership team, followed by an Open House that will run until 7 p.m. You'll have the chance to tour the new facility, meet our staff, and enjoy light refreshments as we celebrate this momentous occasion together.

The new 59,000-square-foot Story Medical Senior Care represents the culmination of years of planning, input, and dedication from many. From the initial feedback gathered from community members and families, to the hard work of our Board of Trustees, and the tireless efforts of our leadership team and staff, this facility is truly a community-wide effort. We are grateful for the support and collaboration that has brought us to this day.

This new facility is designed with the future of senior care in mind. With 60 spacious private rooms and homelike features like porch entries and family gathering spaces, the goal is to create a comforting, welcoming environment that allows our residents to thrive. The proximity to our medical center enhances care, ensuring that our residents receive the highest quality services, while staying close to their home and loved ones.

We're eager to welcome you to see firsthand what this new chapter in senior care looks like for Story Medical. Please join us on Nov. 4 to celebrate a brighter future for senior care in our community.

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#### **CONTACT US**

Email us at

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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.



# A New Chapter in Senior Care for Story County

Residents set to move into new facility in November

This month, Story Medical will welcome residents to its brand-new Senior Care facility—a state-of-the-art, 59,000-square-foot center designed to meet the growing needs of seniors in Story County and surrounding communities. With private rooms and a host of other modern features, the new facility marks a major step forward in the way senior care is delivered at Story Medical.

The move to this new facility is part of a long-term commitment by Story Medical to provide high-quality, compassionate care to residents. Since 1969, Story Medical Senior Care has been a vital part of the community, offering around-the-clock care for older adults. However, the former facility, while beloved, was in need of replacement to meet the needs of the modern healthcare environment.

"Opening this new facility represents the culmination of years of vision and hard work," says Melissa Opperman, Senior Care Administrator at Story Medical Senior Care. "It is the result of the dedication of our Board of Trustees, our leadership team, and our staff, all of whom have worked tirelessly to ensure that our seniors receive the best care in an environment that truly feels like home."

#### **Creating a Homelike Environment**

One of the most exciting aspects of the new Senior Care facility is its focus on creating a more homelike environment for residents. Unlike traditional nursing homes, where the layout can often feel institutional, Story Medical's new facility has been designed with comfort and familiarity in mind. Residents will enjoy 60 spacious private rooms, home-like porch entries, and family gathering spaces where they can connect with loved ones.

"We're moving away from the idea of a clinical, sterile environment," explains Ashley Wilson, Director of Nursing at Story Medical Senior Care. "From the porch entries to the enclosed gardens, every aspect of this new facility is intended to make residents feel like they're living in a home, not just a care center. The small aesthetic touches—like communal dining areas and family gathering spaces—will make a big difference in the daily lives of our residents."

In addition to providing a warm and welcoming environment, the new facility will offer a range of amenities designed to enhance residents' quality of life. These include therapy rooms, enclosed gardens for each household and more. All of these features are designed to help residents remain active, mentally engaged, and socially connected—key components of successful aging.

#### Focus on Efficiency and Comprehensive Care

While the new facility places a strong emphasis on creating a homelike atmosphere, it has also been designed with operational efficiency in mind. The facility will be located adjacent to Story County Medical Center, which includes the hospital and clinic facilities, allowing for seamless coordination of services.

"Having our Senior Care facility on the same campus as our medical center is a game-changer," says Opperman. "Our residents typically require more frequent medical care than older adults in independent living environments. Now, they'll have easy, immediate access to the full range of services Story Medical offers, from primary care to specialized treatments. It reduces the barriers and the stress of arranging transportation, offering peace of mind for both residents and their families."

Having Senior Care located so close to other Story Medical services ensures the facility will also benefit from shared resources, enhancing overall efficiency. This allows the medical center to streamline operations,



focus on delivering top-notch care, and reduce logistical challenges that can arise when coordinating services across multiple locations.

#### **Community-Driven Vision**

The decision to build the new Senior Care facility was largely shaped by feedback from the community. Story Medical's leadership team and Board of Trustees listened closely to the needs of seniors and their families, ensuring that the new facility would reflect the highest standards of care.

"We take great pride in this project," says Nate Thompson, Story Medical CEO. "Our community is at the heart of everything we do, and this facility is no different. It was important to us to create a place where seniors feel cared for, valued, and connected to their loved ones. This facility is a direct reflection of the feedback we've received and our ongoing mission to provide comprehensive, compassionate care locally."

The facility will offer specialized care options including physical therapy and rehabilitation services through on-site therapy rooms. The goal is to create a continuum

of care that ensures residents can receive all the services they need in one place.

#### **Designed for Future Generations**

The new Story Medical Senior Care is also designed with the future in mind. As the Baby Boomer generation ages, the demand for senior care services is expected to increase.

Story Medical is committed to ensuring it has the capacity to meet these growing needs.

"With this new facility, we're positioning ourselves to not only meet the needs of our current population but also to be prepared for the future," says Opperman. "We are building a facility that can accommodate increased demand without sacrificing the personalized, high-quality care we've always provided."

This forward-thinking approach is part of what makes the new Senior Care facility so unique. In addition to serving the local population, Story Medical is looking into expanding its services, including becoming a VA-certified facility to serve veterans in the area.

#### A Legacy of Compassionate Care

Story Medical has been serving the senior population in Nevada since the opening of its long-term care unit in 1969. Over the decades, the hospital has expanded its services to meet the changing needs of the community.

This new Senior Care facility represents the next step in that legacy—a commitment to ensuring that seniors in Story County and beyond receive the care and attention they deserve.

"We have a long history of providing exceptional care to seniors in this community," says Thompson. "This project represents a significant investment in our future and ensures that we can continue to provide these vital services locally, long into the future. We're proud to offer a place where seniors can thrive and live with dignity, surrounded by caring professionals."

For more information about Story Medical Senior Care or to inquire about room availability, contact Story Medical Senior Care at (515) 382-7019.

# News & Notes

#### FLU, COVID, RSV VACCINES AVAILABLE

Story Medical Clinics in Nevada and Maxwell are now offering flu, RSV, and COVID-19 vaccines for the 2024 season by appointment. Current patients are encouraged to schedule their vaccines as soon as possible by calling the clinic or using MyUnityPoint to book online.

For those who have not yet established care with Story Medical, you can still receive your vaccines—just call to schedule an appointment.

"Getting vaccinated early is key, as flu season typically peaks between December and February," says Dr. Arthur Check, Story Medical Clinic, Nevada. "Along with flu, RSV and COVID-19 can also have serious impacts, especially for those in high-risk categories, such as older adults, young children, and people with chronic conditions. Vaccines offer a safe and effective way to protect yourself and your loved ones."

The flu vaccine, specifically, is highly recommended for those in these high-risk groups:

- Children aged 6 months and older
- Pregnant women
- Adults 65 and older
- People with chronic conditions like asthma, diabetes, or heart disease
- Caregivers of high-risk individuals, including babies too young for vaccination

To schedule your vaccines, call the Nevada Clinic at 515-382-5413 or the Maxwell Clinic at 515-387-8815, or use MyUnityPoint.

#### **WORK AT STORY MEDICAL**

Learn more about our career opportunities 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!



## **Elementary Teachers Embrace Summer Learning**

This past summer, five teachers from Central Elementary School went diving into an adventure—one that promised to elevate their teaching game and better support their students and colleagues. These educators spent four days of their summer break at a 2024 PLC (Professional Learning Communities) at Work Institute in vibrant Charlotte, North Carolina.

As shown in the photo, from left to right, Kerri McLeod, Kedra Hamilton, Amanda Fitch, Katie Thompson, and Holly Jergens traveled to Charlotte to soak up the latest insights on working collaboratively within their grade-level teams in order to help their students be successful academically. The conference provided a variety of sessions on understanding standards, reviewing data, and developing strategies to support both struggling students and those who are thriving in the classroom.

"We attended many sessions with useful information to help us be better teachers and leaders for each other," said Mrs. McLeod. "What we learned will help us lead our teaching teams by using our student data to make better instructional decisions."

The conference offered interactive break-out sessions designed to address the diverse needs of students and teachers. From innovative ways to help those students

learning English, to building a culture of celebration, our teachers returned with a wealth of knowledge and enthusiasm.

They also enjoyed exploring the city's sights and sounds. It wasn't all work and no play as you can see from the picture of the team on scooters!

"Even though we were there to learn, we also had a chance to bond and enjoy each other's company, which will only make our team stronger," said Mrs. Hamilton. "It was a wonderful mix of professional development and personal enjoyment."

Our Nevada schools will undoubtedly benefit from the knowledge and inspiration these educators brought back. With their fresh perspectives and newly-acquired skills, they are already implementing what they have learned to make a positive impact on our students.

Follow us on Social Media!

@NevadaCSD









# **Empowering Middle and High School Students for Future Success with Xello**

Over the course of the last year, Nevada Community School District has reviewed our plans for delivering our framework of providing students with resources, programs, and support systems available to help them explore careers, set goals, and plan their educational journeys in school and beyond. These plans aim to enhance students' readiness for post-secondary education and the workforce by promoting self-exploration and informed decision-making throughout their academic careers in Nevada Middle School and High School. To support this process, 6th-12th grade students have started the school year utilizing a new online program called Xello.

Xello is an interactive career exploration and planning platform designed to help students navigate their educational and career pathways. It provides personalized resources and tools that enable students to discover their interests, strengths, and potential career options.

Through engaging assessments, students can identify their skills and preferences, which Xello uses to suggest suitable career paths and educational programs. The platform also offers a wealth of information on colleges, training programs, and job opportunities, along with features that help students set goals, build a resume, apply for scholarships, create action plans, and track their progress.

As part of the district's career readiness plan, 6th-grade students will also participate in BizTown next spring. Specifically known as Junior Achievement's BizTown, this opportunity will be an interactive educational program designed to simulate a real-world town where students can learn about personal finance, entrepreneurship, and teamwork through hands-on experiences.

In BizTown, students take on various roles within a mock community, such as working in businesses, managing finances, and understanding the economy. This immersive experience helps them grasp important concepts like budgeting, saving, and the responsibilities of citizenship. By engaging in this practical learning environment, students develop critical life skills and a better understanding of how businesses operate and contribute to the community.





Students in action at JA Biztown, exploring real-world roles and responsibilities through hands-on community simulations.



# Nevada Field House earns City an 'All-Star' award

The City of Nevada, with its Nevada Field House project, was named the 2024 People's Choice All-Star Community by the Iowa League of Cities. The city was recognized at an Awards Banquet at the League's Annual Conference & Exhibit, held in Sioux City, Sept. 18-20.

The All-Star Community Award is the most prestigious honor given by the League to Cities. Entries are judged by a panel of former city officials and others familiar with municipal government. With one project selected from each of the three population size categories, the remaining projects are entered into a bracket on the League's Facebook page. In each round, people can vote for the project they feel is most deserving of the award, with the winners moving on to the next round.

This year's two finalists were Garner and Nevada. In the end, Nevada 'garnered' more votes than the competitor's ballfield project.

The Nevada Field House is an incredible amenity for the community. The Field House is designed to serve all ages from very young to older adults. With a three-lane walking track, unique playground, turf fields, gymnasium, meeting spaces and more, the Nevada Field House is truly a multi-generational gathering place for all residents.

The facility has grown the recreation, exercise, and communal options available in Nevada year-round.

This year's other All-Star Community Award winners were Bondurant, Burlington, and Monroe.

# City to observe several holidays in November

City offices will be closed this month on Monday, Nov. 11, for Veterans Day, and on Thursday, Nov. 28, and Friday, Nov. 29, for the Thanksgiving holiday.

## **City Employee News**

#### TWO NEW POLICE OFFICERS

Nevada's mayor swore in officer **Maddi Friedrich** on Sept. 23. Friedrich is a certified officer, which allows her to go right into department training and then patrol.



A native of Chickasaw County, Friedrich started her law enforcement career in the town of Sumner. She worked toward relocating closer to the Des Moines metro and finding a department that was a good fit. Nevada was the right size. "I like this mid-size community, which has a good activity level, but still has a small-town feeling," she said.

She also likes the size of the police department. "I don't want to feel like a number. I want to be part of a family in the agency where I work."

As for working in the Nevada community, Friedrich is excited for what Nevada offers, especially all the restaurants, coffee shops and the bakery. "I'm excited to go into the restaurants to have a conversation with people when I'm on breaks, or go to a sporting event and meet people."

Meeting people, serving people, and building relationships is part of what she loves about being an officer. "It's about meeting people where they're at. They may be having an amazing day or they've had a horrible day, and I have to see whether I can make their day better and be encouraging to them, or whether I need to hold them accountable."

**Joseph Meyer** began working in the police office Sept. 30 and was sworn

in as an official officer during the Oct. 14 City Council meeting. He will begin at the Law Enforcement Academy in January 2025.



Joseph was

home schooled. After finishing high school in the spring of 2020, he headed to Winona State University that fall, majoring in history and also starting in the ROTC (Reserved Officers' Training Corps). "I initially wanted to pursue active-duty Army," he said, but after signing up for the Minnesota Army National Guard in December of his freshman year, his goals changed.

"I liked the Guard, and it was a way to serve, and to better myself and the community," he said. Joseph found the National Guard to be "a constant force" in helping him be better. There's always more to know, and more skills to become better at."

This past summer, Joseph moved to Central Iowa after his wife, Samantha, began graduate studies at Iowa State University. Joseph began looking at firefighter jobs, as he'd also been a volunteer firefighter in the past. Out of curiosity, he clicked on a link for the Nevada Police Officer position and decided to pursue the possibility. It worked out as another avenue to pursue public service.

"I've found that my life's purpose is to be in the service of others and to use my skills and abilities to help people. I like being there for people and being someone they can rely on," he said.

#### **NEW WASTEWATER EMPLOYEE**

Logan Rasmusson, a 2004 graduate

of Colo-Nesco High School, began employment with the City of Nevada on Oct. 1.



Rasmusson, who lives in the rural Zearing area, followed his father into a career as a

butcher, which he's done since graduating from high school. He is excited about the challenge of learning a new career as a wastewater treatment operator.

"It's been a good first few days. I've learned a lot about the different processes of the (wastewater treatment) plant, and I got to see the new plant (south of Nevada)," he said.

Rasmusson and his wife, Tess, who works for the Colo-Nesco School District in the elementary school in Zearing, are raising four sons: Asher, 7th grade; Sylas, 5th grade; Finley, 3rd grade; and Riggs, kindergarten. When asked what he does in his free time, Rasmusson laughed and said, "What free time?" He spends a lot of time following his boys' activities, especially sports.

The family also enjoys camping, hunting and fishing.

Rasmusson said the hours and benefits of working for the City of Nevada appealed to him. He has lived in the Nevada area his entire life and feels that Nevada has always been a good community. He likes the annual Lincoln Highway Days celebration, eating at Cubbies On Main and MiCasita, and grocery shopping in Nevada.

# **Library News**

#### REGULAR MONTHLY **ADULT PROGRAMS**

**Grounds for Murder Book Club** — Saturday, Nov. 2, 10 a.m.

**Sweet Reads Book Club** — Saturday, Nov. 16, 1 p.m.

**Books After Dark** — Tuesday, Nov. 19, 7

Craft and Chat — Thursday, Nov. 21, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. (3rd week instead of 4th week)

#### CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Regular Children's Programs will continue through Tuesday, Nov. 26.

**Toddler Time** — Tuesdays, 10:30-11:30 a.m. for children 0-3

**T.A.L.E.S.** — Wednesdays, 3:30-5 p.m. for 4th-6th graders

**Teen Lounge** — Wednesdays, 3:30-5:30 p.m. for 7th-12th graders NEW TIME!

**STEAM Lab** — Thursdays, 3:15-4 p.m. for K-3rd graders NEW TIME!

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

Friday, Nov. 1 and Saturday, Nov. 2 10 a.m.-1 p.m. All Ages Nevada Public Library Basement

#### **HUNGER & HOMELESSNESS**

Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week is Nov. 17-23 and the Nevada Public Library will have a Food Drive to collect non-perishable goods for Cubbie's Cupboard! Drop off any food or personal care donations at the Nevada Public Library.

#### ONF4WATER WITH HANK KOHLER

In 2021, Hank Kohler paddled over 1,900 miles from west central Minnesota to the

Gulf of Mexico. The uniqueness of the journey, which he named



One4Water, was that he left from the same starting point where in 1979 he had canoed to Hudson Bay. He was in his 20s then, and 42 years later, he embarked on the One-4Water journey. As a storyteller, Hank is honored to share his tales with us at the Nevada Public Library. Wednesday, Nov. 6, 6:30 p.m. All Ages

Meeting Room

#### TELESCOPE TRAINING

Join Doug Anderson as he teaches us how to use the Library's telescope! Thursday, Nov. 7, 6:30 p.m. All Ages — Anyone under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Registration required Meeting Room

#### **MOVIE MATINEE**

Visit our website to find out what will be playing! Saturday, Nov. 9 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. All Ages

#### LIBRARY CLOSURES

Monday, Nov. 11 — **Veterans Day** 





#### **EQUAL OPPORTUNITY INFORMATION**

The City of Nevada, Iowa, is an Equal Housing Opportunity City in accordance with the Federal Fair Housing Law.

It is illegal to discriminate against any person because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin in the sale or rental of housing or residential lots, including advertising, financing, brokerage services, and appraisals. Blockbusting is also illegal.

For complaints or concerns, residents may contact the US Department of Housing and Urban Development or the City. You will also find more discrimination information on the City website, under Departments and then at the bottom of the City Clerk/Finance Officer page.

U.S. Dept of Housing/Urban Dev

**Asst Sec for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity** Washington, D.C. 20410 1-800-669-9777 (toll-free) 1-800-927-9275 (TTY)

www.Hud.gov/fairhousing

OR

City Clerk, City of Nevada, IA 1209 6th St. Nevada, IA 50201 515-382-5466

www.cityofnevadaiowa.org



# Genior Thanksgiving

November 26, 2024 11:30 AM

MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Veteran & Spouse Meals Provided In Memory of Toni Abbe

FREE WILL DONATIONS ACCEPTED



RSVP BY NOVEMBER 11

NEVADA PARKS & RECREATION

515-382-4352

DINE IN - CARRY OUT - DELIVERY





#### 2024 LITTLE TYKES BASKETBALL

This program is for children 4 years old - Kindergarten interested in playing basketball! Socialization, fun, & good sportsmanship will be emphasized. Participants will be coached by Parks & Rec Staff and parent volunteer coaches/helpers. We will work on fundamental skill development along with short-court/coach-guided scrimmage play. Extend a hoops and smaller basketballs will be used for age-appropriate skill development.

- DATES: MONDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS JANUARY 6-29
- TIME: 5:30-7:00 P.M.
- LOCATION: NEVADA FIELD HOUSE
- FEE: \$45/PARTICIPANT

For more information and to register visit **nevadaia.recdesk.com** 

Registration Deadline: Friday, December 20



## Santa Collection **Shared** to help **Theater Foundation**

A precious Santa collection that started back when Mike Foley was 20 years old has now been handed over by the retired Nevada school teacher to the Camelot Theater Foundation.

"Rita and I are downsizing," Mike said. "She will retire a year from now (November 2025) and our plans are to travel. There's not a lot of room in our fifth wheel for the collection."

Mike's Santa collection, which was featured in a 2017 Nevada Journal article, includes over 1,400 pieces with everything from figurines, pillows, throws, pictures, cookie jars, collectors' plates, framed puzzles, toilet seat covers, ornaments and more. Ornaments alone account for 500 or more of the collection pieces.

Foley, who often wore the red suit himself for community events and special gatherings, collected everything from "woodsmen" type Santas to Irish Santas. Many of the Irish Santas, dressed mostly in green, are the creations of Artist Pipka Ulviden, who was born in Slovakia and raised in Germany. After WWII, she emigrated to a small town in North Dakota and immersed herself in American culture and Santa, according to Mike. Did we mention he's a retired "history" teacher!

Mike's collection includes skinny Santas and hefty Santas. Mike explained that the robust version of Santa came about after Clement Clarke Moore wrote "Twas the Night Before Christmas" in 1822. It was after that when Thomas Nast, a famous cartoonist, published the book "Thomas Nast's Christmas Drawings for the Human Race" in 1890, showcasing many illustrations of Santa with a great big belly. That would solidify the image of Santa that Americans have today.

As the Foleys were considering what to do with the Santa collection, Rita came up with the idea of donating it to the



Retired school teacher Mike Foley is shown in this photo, taken in December of 2017, with some of the pieces of his Santa collection, which includes over 1,400 pieces. Foley, needing to disperse of the collection, took the suggestion of his wife, Rita, to give the pieces to the Camelot Theater Foundation. Sale of many of the pieces will help raise funds to continue theater renovations. Some pieces will also remain at the theater for decorative purposes. Every resident has the opportunity to buy a piece of Foley's collection this holiday season and keep Santa's spirit alive and well in Nevada. Read the story to learn about where pieces will be sold!

Camelot Theater to use for decorations or to sell for money that the Camelot needs for future renovation. Mike liked the idea. "The Camelot has lots of memories from

Rita's childhood, our kids' childhoods, and my time in Nevada," Mike said. "It just felt 'right,' and it keeps the collection and sale of the collection in Nevada."

Mike admits he couldn't have gone through the process of selling the collection piece-by-piece. "I would have felt like I was selling a piece of my soul each sale. Now I'm at peace."

Melissa Sly of the Camelot Theater Foundation said the group is thankful for the generous donation. Members of the Foundation have been busy cataloguing some of the larger pieces, which will be sold online or through a "Santa Pop-Up" shop at 1120 6th St., next to the theater. They plan to have the shop open during the Nov. 9 weekend (when the WHO Craft Fair happens at the high school), and on select dates during the holiday season, including Christmas on Main, Dec. 14.

"Proceeds from the sales will go toward Camelot projects," Melissa said.

The collection items that are not sold will be used to decorate the theater for the holiday season, and residents are invited to view those items during Christmas On Main and while coming to movies and special events at the theater during the holiday season.

The best source of current information on hours to view the Santa collection and/or come to these events is the Camelot Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/camelottheaterfoundation.

Back in 2017, Mike shared that Santa is special for two types of people — the very young and the very old. "To see the joy that Santa brings can be indescribable at times."

# Nevada growing to the northwest

Three Nevada High School graduates are involved in a new housing development on the City's northwest side.

Scott Henry, a 2008 graduate, and his brother, Eric Henry, a 2013 graduate, who are with Nevada Dev, and BJ Stokesbary, a 2008 graduate, who is with ATI Group, are developing "Northview."

"We are excited for this project and look forward to giving more people the opportunity to live in this great community we call 'home," Scott said.

On-site work for Northview's first phase of development began in mid-September when they broke ground South of T Avenue between S-14 and 1st Street. The project, however, has been in the works for several years.

"We began the permitting and platting process several years ago, but were delayed due to certain findings that impacted the grading and utilities plans," Scott said. Those findings led to the developers having to redesign the entire phase I subdivision of nearly 20 acres. Phase I will include 33 buildable lots.

"Having grown up in Nevada, we'd always heard that Nevada was short on housing," Scott said. As Scott, with the Henry's rural Nevada business, LongView Farms, became more involved with the Nevada Economic Development Council and saw the growth of many industries in the area, the idea

This aerial photo shows how Phase I of the Northview subdivision will begin to grow the community to the north and west. Infrastructure work began on the land in mid-September. If Mother Nature cooperates, the first lots could be for sale in early 2025.

to develop more residential housing seemed intriguing to him, his brother, and their friend, BJ.

"Like other employers," Scott noted,
"we were also seeing new employees
choose to live elsewhere due to the lack
of available homes in Nevada."

The Henry family didn't own the land where Northview is being established. Scott said the land was acquired in multiple transactions and some farmland trade outs.

Northview phase I will be comprised of single-family homes, and home type will vary by buyer and builder.

"We believe this will be a great spot for entry-level homes that are at an attainable price point (ranging from the upper \$200,000s to the low \$400,000s) for many different buyers. Our project is to develop shovel-ready lots that can be sold to builders or a buyer with their own builder. Housing prices will vary based on size and buyers will be able to customize homes as much or as little as they would like," Scott said.

The developers say there is potential for a few spec homes in the mix, depending on interest from home builders. There is also potential to develop more nearby land for additional phases.

As for recreational space, Northview's detention basin will be accessible by a walking path, and future phases of development could lead to a walking path being placed all the way around it. There's also the potential for small-scale fishing after the detention pond has been dedicated back to the City.

The Henrys and Stokesbary are proud that two of the three contractors selected for the project are local: OnTrack and Con-Struct. They say with cooperation from Mother Nature, the first lots could be ready for sale early in 2025.



## **Guarding Against AI Scams:** Protecting your community & organization

Al scams are becoming a significant concern, especially for city administrators, school leaders, and economic development groups. These sophisticated scams can lead to severe financial and reputational damage for institutions, making vigilance critical.

#### **COMMON AI SCAMS TARGETING ORGANIZATIONS**

#### **Voice Cloning Fraud:**

Cybercriminals use AI to clone the voices of executives or officials, tricking employees into transferring funds or disclosing sensitive information. A McAfee study found that 1 in 4 people have encountered Al-related scams, highlighting the widespread risk.

#### **Deepfake Phishing:**

Scammers create realistic deepfake videos or images impersonating trusted individuals. These are used in phishing attacks that deceive administrative staff, often resulting in compromised data or financial losses.

#### **AI-Enhanced Social Engineering:**

Al analyzes publicly available information to craft highly personalized social engineering attacks, particularly targeting high-profile individuals within organizations.

#### THE IMPACT

Al scams have far-reaching effects:

- 43% of customers leave brands that suffer account takeover scams.
- Financial losses can reach millions, with organizations facing not only monetary damages, but also lasting reputational harm.
- Victims of these scams often experience stress, lowering productivity and morale.
- Smaller organizations, including schools or local agencies, may be particularly vulnerable due to limited resources for advanced security measures.

#### PREVENTION STRATEGIES

#### 1. Multi-Factor Authentication:

Interested in learning about the annual bioassessment done on the South Skunk River? Check out https://www. storycountyiowa. gov/CivicAlerts. aspx?AID=3825



Use strong multi-factor authentication and avoid relying solely on voice recognition.

#### 2. Verification Protocols:

Establish protocols, such as callback procedures, for confirming requests involving sensitive transactions.

#### 3. Staff Education:

Regularly train staff on recognizing Al scams, such as urgent or unusual requests.

#### 4. AI-Powered Fraud Detection:

Invest in AI tools that monitor for suspicious patterns and anomalies.

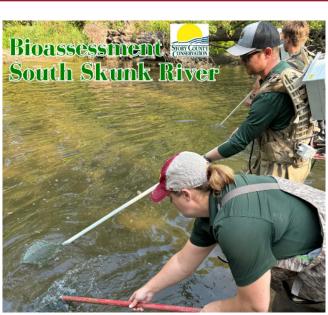
#### **5. Security Culture:**

Encourage staff to question and report suspicious activities without fear of reprisal.

By implementing these strategies and staying informed about the latest AI threats, organizations can significantly reduce their vulnerability to these sophisticated scams and protect both financial and reputational assets.

Contributing to this piece

- -Josh Webster, Story County Sheriff's Office
- -Paul H. Fitzgerald, Story County Sheriff



### Over \$30,000 awarded in human services funding for Nevada

The Nevada Foundation, in partnership with the City of Nevada, recently awarded \$33,450 in human services grant funding for this year.

These funds, awarded to seven nonprofit missions, will

provide necessities in the areas of food, shelter, and clothing for Nevada citizens with these hasic needs.

Sandy Ehrig, a City Council representative on the four-member funding committee, gave some background about recent changes regarding the process of this funding program during the Sept. 23 City Council meeting.



Ehrig has been on the committee for around three years and explained that as she came onto the committee, the group was looking at how to maintain this funding for Nevada nonprofits.

"It had been an issue of the auditors for the State of Iowa," she said. The way it had been given previously by the City Council "was not a favorable way (in the eyes of the auditors) for the City to participate with our nonprofits."

Therefore, the committee was looking for what would be a "favorable way," and it was about that time that the Nevada Foundation was taking on several projects.

"So, it made sense, where [the Foundation] already has an accountability machine with an application process, and with the opportunity to have an application workshop," Ehrig said. The workshop has been important, Ehrig noted, because not only does it allow the committee to help nonprofits receive money, but "it's also a chance for [nonprofits' leaders] to learn about what other resources are out there."

Ehrig said she feels the funding committee has made big strides in improving human service funding, as well as big strides in cleaning up the process and outlining that groups must be focused on meeting people's basic needs of food, shelter, and clothing to qualify for these grants.

Ehrig is also proud of the "accountability" that is now a big part of the process. "They don't just get the money. They have to report back to us," she said.

The organizations selected to receive funding this year include:

- St. Patrick Catholic Church/Good Samaritan Fund \$6,000 to help with rent and utility assistance
  - Boys & Girls Club of Story County — \$4,000 to help with the agency's food support
  - Nevada Community School **District's Cubbie's Cupboard** — \$7,500 to offer food support
  - Nevada Community School **District's Safe and Stable Hous**ing — \$7,500 for rent and utility assistance
  - Nevada First United Methodist Church and Kiwanis of Nevada — \$1,600 for Free Little **Food Pantries**
- Nevada Food at First \$3,850 for additional quantities of
- Nevada Community School District's Nevada Community Resource Center - \$3,000 for additional outerwear needs/ Angel Tree

If you have questions regarding this year's awards, please contact Brenda Dryer, Nevada Foundation Board member, at brenda@amesalliance.com.





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# **Calendar of Events**

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

November 1 & 2, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Nevada Public Library

#### **NEVADA COMMUNITY CUPBOARD OPEN**

Every Saturday, 10-11:30 a.m. 1110 11th Street Provides food for children, families, & seniors in need in our community

#### **NHS FALL PLAY** November 2, 7 p.m. November 3, 1:30 p.m. Josephine Tope Auditorium Presenting "Puffs"

#### **RIBBON CUTTING & OPEN HOUSE FOR NEW SENIOR**

November 4, 4:30 P.M. 710 S. 19th St. (just southwest of Story Medical Center's main campus)

#### **NCSD SCHOOL BOARD** November 4 & 18, 6:30 p.m. Gates Memorial Hall Auditorium

**CARE FACILITY** First Tuesday of the month **AMERICAN LEGION MEAL** November 8, 5-7 p.m.

#### **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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

#### **BLOOD DRIVE** November 6, 1-6 p.m. Gates Hall

#### **SCMC BD OF TRUSTEES**

November 7, 11:30 a.m. Story Medical Center

#### **AMERICAN LEGION BINGO**

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

#### **TACO TUESDAY**

November 5, 4:45-6:30 p.m. American Legion Post

American Legion Post Fish Fry or Meatloaf dinner. Cost is \$12 per adult (\$5 per child, age 10 and under)

#### **WHO CRAFT FAIR**

November 9, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. November 10, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Nevada High School Featuring lots of vendors. Admission is \$2 per person

#### **SANTA POP-UP**

Nov. 9, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Nov. 10, 12-3 p.m. Camelot Theater Shop the Foley collection!

#### **NEVADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY HOLIDAY BAZAAR**

Nov. 9, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Nov. 10, 12-3 p.m. Evergreen Lane, 1204 H Avenue

#### **NEVADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY PAWS WITH CLAUS**

Nov. 9, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Evergreen Lane, 1204 H Avenue. \$10 to take a picture or get a picture taken with Santa

#### **CAMELOT THEATER MOVIE**

November 10, 12 & 13, 2 & 6 p.m. Showing "The Wizard of Oz"

#### **SENIOR CENTER POTLUCK**

November 11, 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**

November 12 & 25, 6 p.m. City Hall

#### **MIX-N-MINGLE**

November 13, 4-6 p.m. at The Milford Schoolhouse All residents invited to visit with others and enjoy refreshments

**'IT TAKES A VILLAGE'** SCREENAGERS, GROWING **UP IN THE DIGITAL AGE** November 14, 6 p.m.

**Camelot Theater** Free childcare at First United Methodist Church for attendees

#### **CAMELOT THEATER MOVIE**

November 17, 2 & 6 p.m. November 19 & 20, 2 p.m. Showing "Meet Me in St. Louis"

#### **AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY SALAD LUNCHEON**

November 12, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. American Legion Post Soup, Salads, and Desserts. Cost is \$12 per adult (\$5 per child, age 10 and under)

#### **CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING**

November 24, 6 p.m. In front of City Hall Join us to celebrate the lighting of Nevada's huge Christmas tree, courtesy of the Wirtz family.

#### **PARKS AND REC ANNUAL THANKSGIVING MEAL**

November 26, 11:30 a.m. Memorial Lutheran Church (See details on page 11)

EVENTS LEGEND:













