

## District hopes to bring 'stability' to GCHS with principal hiring

By JOE FOREMAN  
EDITOR

The Glenwood Community School District will start the 2023-24 school year in August with a new high school principal.

The Glenwood Board of Education approved Cole Albright's "separation from the district" as Glenwood Community High School principal at its regular board meeting last Monday, May 8. GCSD Superintendent Dr. Devin Embray said Albright's departure from the position he had held for just nine months was "mutually agreed upon."

Albright's contract with the district ends on June 30 but he will not be present in the building for the remainder of the school year, Embray stated.

First-year GCHS Associate Principal Lorraine Duitsman is now serving as the interim principal and is a possible candidate for the open position.

"Lorraine is very capable, a very bright person, and is doing a really good job by all accounts, so I think she would be in strong consideration for that position," Embray said.

Embray said the district would likely make a decision this week on the direction it will ultimately go in filling the vacancy. Embray believes the high school principal position would be an attractive job for quality candidates, but the timing of Albright's departure is less than ideal.

"Obviously, it's May and a lot of people are locked in for next year already, so we don't know where the pool is right now," he said. "We feel we have a very attractive



position, obviously, in Glenwood — what we've done, what we've accomplished. I think our district would attract quality candidates.

"We're trying to figure out how to best go about moving forward and get some stability at that position."

Stability at the high school administrative level has been a challenge for the school district and an area of growing concern for some parents and GCHS staff. The next hire will be Glenwood's sixth high school principal in 12 years. Shane Stephens replaced Kerry Newman in 2013 but left after one year. Richard Hutchinson held the post from 2014-2019 and was replaced by Rick Nickerson, who resigned in 2022. Albright replaced Nickerson on July 1, 2022.

Embray is confident this year's change in leadership at the high school will prove to be beneficial to the district in the long run.

"I think it's the first steps to moving forward with our concerns and the climate and culture at the high school," he said. "I feel like we're taking steps to correct that and working for the betterment of our school district."



Cole Albright



Lorraine Duitsman

## Women's Health, Wellness Conference set for June 1

The Mills County Chamber of Commerce is coordinating the 2023 Women's Health and Wellness Conference on June 1 from 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at Bodega Victoriana Winery.

The conference aims to refresh, renew, and restore women's health and wellness through informative sessions from a lineup of local speakers.

The conference is sponsored by the Methodist Jennie Edmundson Hospital & Foundation, Kohl's Pharmacy and Clarkson College.

"These organizations are committed to promoting health and wellness through education and awareness," said Mills County Chamber Of Commerce Executive Director Jennie Davis.

The day will focus on physical health, mindset wellness, and preventative options that are of interest to women. The conference will feature experts in their fields who will share their knowledge and



insights on these topics.

Attendees will have the opportunity to earn Continuing Education Units (CEUs) while connecting with other attendees and learning from the experts. Explore health options and gain valuable insights to lead a healthier life.

"The Women's Health and Wellness Conference is an excellent opportunity to increase knowledge and awareness in a supportive and informative environment," Davis said. "Join us on June 1 at Bodega Victoriana Winery and take a step towards a healthier and happier life."

To register to attend or sign up to be a vendor, visit [glenwoodia.com](http://glenwoodia.com) or call Davis at 712-520-4250.

DEATH NOTICES  
Vicki Bird, 75

Obituaries Published  
On Page 2A

\$1.50



## Aquatic center repairs completed; city targets Memorial Day opening

By JOE FOREMAN  
EDITOR

City of Glenwood officials have their fingers crossed this week as the Glenwood Aquatic Center gets filled with water in preparation for the 2023 summer swimming season.

If the recently-completed repairs hold up and the water level doesn't recede, the swimming season in Glenwood will begin on Memorial Day (May 29) and season passes will go on sale later this week at City Hall.

Water-loss issues kept the seven-year-old facility closed for the entire 2022 swimming season. Following a thorough inspection last fall, repair work was completed in April. The work included repairing and sealing joints, replacement and installation of filter tees on a water supply line and the replacement of

decking near the diving board area.

The majority of the repairs were completed by Ericksen Construction, the original contractor for the aquatic center, under the watchful eyes of representatives of JEO Consulting and Eagle Engineering. JEO is the engineering firm the city selected in 2014 to oversee construction of the aquatic center, which opened in July 2016. Although the warranty for the aquatic center has expired, JEO agreed to assist the city in making the necessary repairs and covering the costs. Eagle Engineering was contracted in 2022 by the city to handle its engineering-related matters.

Admission rates for the 2023 swimming season were approved at last week's meeting of the Glenwood City Council. Updates about the repair work and sale of season admission passes are being posted on the Glenwood Aquatic Center and city Facebook pages



COURTESY PHOTO / CITY OF GLENWOOD  
Public Works employees began filling the Glenwood Aquatic Center with water on Monday.

and City of Glenwood website. Season passes will only be available for purchase at City Hall.

## County solar, renewable energy measures passed

By JOE FOREMAN  
EDITOR

After more than a year of research and discussion, Mills County finally has an updated ordinance for solar energy and approval from the board of supervisors to include a renewable energy chapter in the county's comprehensive plan.

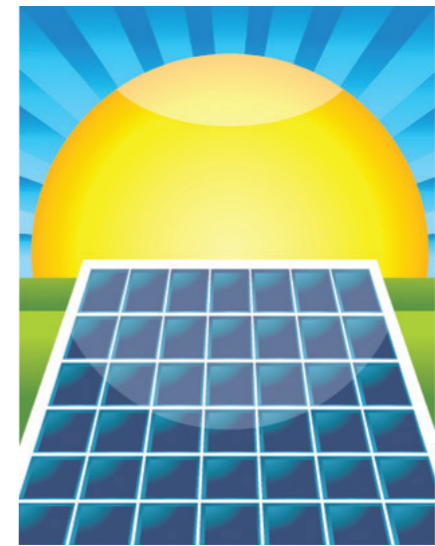
Second and third readings of the measures were passed at the May 9 board of supervisors meeting.

Mills County Building and Zoning Department personnel and members of the Mills County Planning and Zoning Commission developed the

amendments to the county solar ordinance already in place. The commission's recommendations were presented to the board of supervisors for approval.

The county's solar ordinance addresses several areas, including the permitting process, setbacks, groundcover standards, landscaping buffer, fencing, maintenance, storm water management, aviation protection, agricultural impact mitigation and decommissioning.

A unique aspect of the Mills County ordinance is the use of a pollinator scorecard, designed to encourage the planting of pollinator-friendly groundcovers.



Luminaries line the sidewalk at Glenwood Lake Park during the 2022 Mills County Relay For Life.

## Annual Relay For Life returning to park

The annual Mills County Relay For Life will be held Saturday, June 10 at Glenwood Lake Park and the Davies Amphitheater. This will be the 27th annual Relay For Life event in Mills County.

Relay For Life is the world's largest peer-to-peer fundraising event dedicated to saving lives from cancer through the American Cancer Society. Over 5,000 Relay events happen every year in countries around the world and have raised over \$5 billion in the battle against cancer.

Locally, the Mills County event has raised over \$1 million for the American Cancer Society. In 2014-2017 Mills County Relay was a national per capita award winner, putting it in the top 10 of Relay For Life events across the nation.

This year's event will run from 5:30 - 9 p.m., at the Davies Amphitheater and Glenwood Lake Park. It consists of entertainment, recognition of teams, sponsors, care givers and survivors. Activities will take place in and around the amphitheater and for those interested in the "relay" part of the event there is the half-mile

walking trail around the lake.

Relay For Life entertainment this year includes the return of Amy Demlow, Kelly Evans, Tim Langholz and Elvis.

All registration for the event must be done on line and going to the Relay For Life website is the best way to get started. Go to [www.relayforlife.org/millscountya](http://www.relayforlife.org/millscountya) or just Google Mills County Relay For Life.

From there you can do just about anything that needs to be done. If you have registered for previous events, just type in your name and you can get registered in just a couple of mouse clicks. Participants and supporters can also sign up as a cancer survivor, make a donation and purchase luminaries.

The relay group is especially interested in honoring cancer survivors. If you are a survivor of any type of cancer please contact your team captain or Mills County Relay For Life chairman Jessica Lincoln at 402-658-6669.

Luminaries are a great way to remember those who have passed from cancer or to honor those who are battling the disease. The



JOE FOREMAN / THE OPINION-TRIBUNE  
The Relay For Life is a fundraiser for the American Cancer Society.

lighting of the luminary candles at the close of the show is always a moving event. Luminary bags are \$10 and can be purchased from any Relay For Life team member or online.

## OBITUARIES

### Vicki Bird, 75

March 16, 1948 – May 9, 2023

Vicki Bird, a beloved member of the Glenwood community, passed away on May 9, 2023, at the age of 75.

Vicki was born on March 16, 1948, to Helen Rohde and Kenneth Henry. She graduated from Glenwood High School in the Class of '66 and went on to lead a life of service and selflessness.

After graduation, Vicki married Richard Alan Bird and had two children, Mark and DeShawne. She devoted her life to making others happy and had a light that shone from within that could not be dimmed. She had an amazing sense of style and loved to wear beautiful jewelry, which only made her light shine brighter.

Vicki was a dedicated volunteer and spent all of her extra money on those less fortunate. She made sure that everyone felt loved and appreciated, and it was impossible to dislike her. She worked at the Glenwood Resource Center and was a member of the Asset Group. She played Bridge with some wonderful women from Glenwood and remained an active member of the Vine Street Church (First Christian).

Vicki started the Love Tree in her basement, which began by serving a few families and quickly grew to serve more than 500 children each year. Her love and generosity knew no bounds, and she spent the majority of her time following her children and grandchildren to every single event. She arrived early and sat in the front row, arriving hours early to get the best seat for her family.

Vicki loved to travel. She took lots of group trips - waking the rest with her early morning coffee routines. She spent hours on the road traveling with Richard. They often spent weeks traversing the country and weekends hitting the lake with the kids. Her free spirit required anyone in her friend group to enjoy traveling and shopping in every shop she passed - including every gift shop and Casey's.

She hosted family dinner each Wednesday night and has had anywhere from 2 to 22. She cooked full meals including salads and desserts each week. Extended family and friends would stop and she always had enough for all. No one was turned away.

Vicki is survived by her loving husband of almost 55 years, her daughter DeShawne and husband Ryan Sell and their children, Madeleine (Brandon) Wilson, Parker Sell, Haylee Sell, and Brock Sell. She is also survived by her son Mark and wife Jeana Bird and their children, Chelsea (Eric) Lee, Lucas (Megan) Bird, Keaton (Megan) Parks, Mason Parks, Lexi Bird, and Dylan Bird. Vicki had three great-grandchildren, Frederick Lee, Roland Richard Bird, and Callaghan Lee. She also enjoyed her large family including her half-siblings and step-siblings.

Vicki Bird was a shining example of kindness, love, and generosity, and her passing will be deeply felt by all who knew her. Her legacy of selflessness and devotion to her community will continue to inspire others for generations to come.

A Celebration of Life service was held Saturday, May 13, 2023, at the Glenwood High School Auditorium. Memorials are directed to the family for the establishment of a foundation scholarship to encourage volunteerism for generations to come.

Loess Hills Funeral Home in Glenwood is caring for Vicki and her family.



Obituaries May Be Submitted Online at [sports@opinion-tribune.com](mailto:sports@opinion-tribune.com)

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## East Mills, F-M chosen for 'farm to school' program

The Carroll, Fremont-Mills, Logan-Magnolia, East Mills, and Stanton school districts have been chosen to begin and/or reinvigorate agriculture education in their communities as part of a new farm to school program offered by the Center for Rural Affairs.

The schools were selected from applicants in the Monona, Crawford, Harrison, Shelby, Pottawattamie, Cass, Mills, Montgomery, Fremont, Carroll, Audubon, and Page counties.

"We can't wait to begin working on farm to school education activities with these districts, the students, and teachers," said Cait Caughy, beginning farmer and market associate with the Center. "Our goals for this program are

to increase access to agriculture and gardening skills for food production and to promote access to healthy, delicious locally grown foods for students and their families."

The Southwest Iowa Farm to School Program will provide technical assistance and support on food production through December 2023. In addition, the schools will receive farm to school curriculum resources; assistance with accessing Iowa local foods procurement programs; and grant writing assistance on school garden or greenhouse grants.

Monetary awards include: \$2,000 mini grant for food production, garden, greenhouse, aqua/hydroponics. \$200 for garden tools.

\$150 stipend for one teacher to attend the Iowa Farm to School Conference in June 2023.

\$150 stipend for one teacher to attend the Southwest Iowa Local Foods Summit in fall 2023.

\$200 for one farmer speaker who grows fruits, vegetables, herbs, and/or livestock to visit the school and give a presentation.

The center began accepting applications for the farm to school program in March. Applications were evaluated on school demographics and plan for food production, student involvement, community involvement, sustainability, teacher engagement, food service director collaboration, and creativity.

## DISTRICT COURT

### Judge Richard Horton Davidson

Tomas Enrique Nieves, Missouri – possession of controlled substance (methamphetamine), pleaded guilty, sentenced to serve 14 days in county jail with credit for time previously served, ordered to pay court costs and fees.

Jeffery Stuart Hurd, Council Bluffs – possession of a controlled substance – second offense, pleaded guilty, sentence suspended to 14 days in county jail, one

year probation, ordered to pay court costs and fees.

Daniel Charles Thomas, Glenwood – contempt of court for violation of terms of probation on original charge of 2nd-degree theft, pleaded guilty, deferred judgment, two years probation, ordered to pay courts and fees.

Clifford John Bonnaci, Omaha – possession of contraband in a correctional institution, pleaded guilty, ordered to pay \$430 fine, court costs and fees.

Kameron Riley

Myers, Glenwood – child endangerment, pleaded guilty, sentenced to time previously served, ordered to pay \$855 fine, court costs and fees; eluding, pleaded guilty, sentenced to time previously served, ordered to pay \$430 fine, court costs and fees.

Magistrate Keith Tucker Dana Brocke Burkholder III, Council Bluffs – contempt

of court for violation of no-contact protective order, pleaded guilty, sentenced to serve five days in county jail with credit for time previously served, ordered to pay court costs and fees.

Jesse James David Ahrendsen, Omaha – public intoxication, pleaded guilty, ordered to pay \$105 fine, court costs and fees.

## POLICE REPORT

Incidents reported a case of criminal May 9 – Hotel Arthur mischief.

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A reception **HONORING THOSE RETIRING** from the Glenwood School District will be held

**TUESDAY MAY 23, 2023**  
4:30-6:30

AT KEG CREEK BREWERY

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Mary Beth Day, Kathi Krzycki, Barry Loeffelbein, Elizabeth Maryott, Genie O'Grady and Pat Staebell.

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• RETAIL & CLASSIFIED DISPLAY CLASSIFIED LINE

**TUESDAY, MAY 23**  
MAY 31 EDITION

Our Office will be closed Memorial Day Monday, May 29

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PITCH – Thur. @ 1 PM  
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**Trio CONNECTIONS MEALS @ 11:45**  
(Reserve Meals the day head Only \$5)

Wed 5/10 – Roast Beef	Wed 5/17 – Chicken Salad
Thur 5/11 – Hamburger Patty	Thur 5/18 – Spaghetti Casserole
Fri 5/12 – Oven Fr. Chicken	Fri 5/19 – Salisbury Beef w/ Gravy
Mon 5/15 – Cheese Omelette	Mon 5/22 – BBQ Rib Patty
Tues - 5/16 – Shred BBQ Pork	Tues 5/23 – Chicken Casserole

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The Red Oak Express and Glenwood Opinion-Tribune newspapers is looking for an enthusiastic, motivated sales/marketing consultant to create custom advertising packages that will help clients gain desired business results. We are looking for someone who understands small business owners and can connect with customers and help them achieve their business objectives through effective advertising campaigns. You'll have a unique opportunity to sell our paid advertising base with effective digital strategies and should easily earn more than \$30,000.

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- Research and build campaign solutions, including overall branding and creative approaches; ensure campaign execution meets client expectation
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**The ideal candidate will have the following skills:**

- Passion for contributing to a sales team with a positive mindset
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Please email a cover letter and resume to [josh@harlanonline.com](mailto:josh@harlanonline.com).

## RECOGNIZING THE FINEST OF THE FINE ARTS



JOE FOREMAN / THE OPINION-TRIBUNE

Outstanding fine arts students at Glenwood Community High School were recognized last Tuesday, May 9, during the annual Fine Arts Night. Jessica Herron (holding award) was named the overall outstanding fine arts student at GCHS for the 2002-23 school year. She's shown here with fine arts department coaches and instructors. From left: Speech coach Stephanie Patzer, Vocal instructor Kevin Kilpatrick, Instrumental instructors Elsa Wemhoff and David Clark, Herron, Instrumental instructor Dan Schoening, Speech coach Jeff DeYoung and Drama coach Craig Florian.



JOE FOREMAN / THE OPINION-TRIBUNE

Sam Taylor (right) is the 2023 recipient of the National School Choral Award, presented annually to the most outstanding GCHS vocal music student. Instructor Kevin Kilpatrick presented the award.



COURTESY PHOTO

Ashley Aust and Addison Mitchell were named the visual artists of the year at Glenwood Community High School during last week's Fine Arts Night program.



JOE FOREMAN / THE OPINION-TRIBUNE

Trice Buchanan (second from right) was recognized with the Louis Armstrong Jazz Award by instrumental music instructors Elsa Wemhoff, David Ckark and Dan Schoening.



JOE FOREMAN / THE OPINION-TRIBUNE

The National Marching Award for instrumental music was presented to Logan Mowery (second from right) by instructors Elsa Wemhoff, David Ckark and Dan Schoening.



JOE FOREMAN / THE OPINION-TRIBUNE

The Michael Schmidt Speech Award was presented to Glenwood Community High School's outstanding individual speech performer Sawyer Patzer and outstanding large group speech performer Jessica Herron. They're shown here with coaches Stephanie Patzer and Jeff DeYoung.



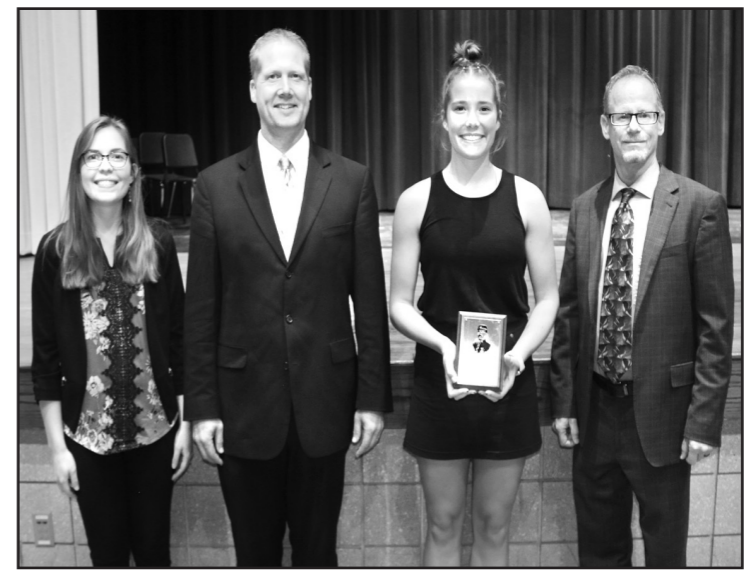
JOE FOREMAN / THE OPINION-TRIBUNE

Shannon Marley was recognized as Glenwood Community High School's Outstanding drama student at Fine Arts Night. Coach Craig Florian presented her award.



JOE FOREMAN / THE OPINION-TRIBUNE

Jessica Herron received the John Philip Sousa Award as the outstanding instrumental music student at GCHS. She was also named the winner of the Woody Herman Jazz Award. Her awards were presented by instructors Elsa Wemhoff, David Ckark and Dan Schoening.



JOE FOREMAN / THE OPINION-TRIBUNE

Julia Nightser is the Patrick S. Gilmore Band Award recipient in 2023 at GCHS. Her award was presented by instructors Elsa Wemhoff, David Ckark and Dan Schoening.



COURTESY PHOTO

Visual art award winners from Glenwood Community High School were recognized at Fine Arts Night. From left: Caitlin Hebel, Maxi Abbot, Chelsea Vang, Ashley Aust, Addison Mitchell, Even Belt, Alyssa Goy, and Lacy Clark.

### GCHS Visual Art Award Winners

- Outstanding Artists** - Ilsa Kemling, Emberlee Anderson, Madelyn Berglund, Lacy Clark, Caitlin Hebel, Gavin Wilson, Maxi Abbot, Alyssa Goy, Kelsey Sutton, Averie Kendal.
- Bronze Raphael Award** - Avery Joyce, Even Belt.
- Silver Salvador Dali Award** - Quin Richardson.
- Gold Michelangelo Award** - Chelsea Vang.
- Artists of the Year** - Ashley Aust, Addison Mitchell.



### Homes For Sale

Both homes are Affordable Family Homes that will be offered to flood victims. Visit: <https://www.swipco.org/housing-swifill/funding-sources-dashboard/> for details on homebuyer assistance. Buyers must apply through SWIPCO.

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## Glenwood CITYWIDE CLEAN UP

**FRIDAY, MAY 19**  
**8:00AM - 5:00PM**

**SATURDAY, MAY 20**  
**9:00AM - 5:00PM**

**ACCEPTABLE ITEMS**

- Household Trash
- Major Appliances (limit 3)
- Lawn & Household Furniture
- Toys
- Bikes
- Clothes
- Lawn Mowers
- Grills
- Mattresses
- Cement
- Tree Branches less than 6 inches in diameter

**UNACCEPTABLE ITEMS**

- Vehicles & Large Auto Parts
- Paint
- Oil
- Medical Waste
- Explosive Materials
- Hazardous Liquids/Materials
- Animal Waste
- Tires
- Televisions/Computer Monitors
- CPU's

Available to City of Glenwood Residents at no cost. ID will be required at time of drop off. Drop off Location - Vine Street Ballfields. Please contact Glenwood City Hall with questions (712) 527-4717.

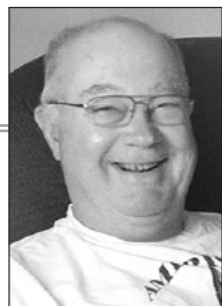
## Glenwood's Bloom Senior Center Welcomes You

When my wife and I moved to Glenwood in 2017, the first thing we learned about the area was that we should not miss the Homecoming weekend, and as promised, it was something to experience!

**YOU HAD TO BE THERE**

**Dennis Kelly**

Guest Columnist



From friends in our neighborhood, and at our church, we next learned we should check out the Bloom Senior Center on the courthouse square. We were too young for that (I thought) as we were barely in our 70s, but we did notice it was a really nice looking building and as advertised, situated right on the town square at the corner of First and Vine, catty-cornered from the American Legion. Still, since we were SO young, I hesitated to visit the place. Yet, many of our friends at church, we found out, were volunteers there, and they and others went there on a regular basis to meet friends, play cards, have a lunch from time to time or to attend other functions.

Curious now, I checked it out a few times and while I saw a few folks there I knew, I found this beautiful facility was not being heavily used, to say the least. With nearly 2,000 Mills County residents being of retired age, and so many of those, from the Resource Center, Offutt, or the school districts, I wondered why more people weren't using this facility regularly.

In 2019, at the urging of an active volunteer at the Center, Joyce Draper, I visited with the center's director, Bonnie Millsap to find out more about this special Mills County gem. Thus, I wrote a column about the center for the O-T in early 2020.

In early years, the churches in the area supported senior meals and for a long time, the Senior Center was hosted up at Holy Rosary Catholic Church. Over a decade ago, there was an opportunity to purchase the old Masonic Hall, right on the town square itself. A generous community gathered money to make a big down payment and a small loan was taken, but was paid in full within six months.

In 2016, a very generous gift from the Bloom estate allowed the center to expand toward the square, a new modern kitchen was installed, and a large, modern rental space was created that is also used for center activities. Additional monies from the trust were deposited in a local bank to help a bit with future operations. Yet, this trust fund proved to be both a blessing and a curse, in that the local citizens came to think no more support would be needed.

With very low interest rates, income from the trust is quite small and the Bloom Center is not funded by any government agency and relies almost only on income from its meeting room rental, and small donations from those who use the center. While there are suggested prices for the daily lunches and snacks that are always available, these offerings run at a small loss each day. A regional non-profit, Connection AAA, brings down the luncheon meals each day and provides Meals on Wheels in the community, but reservations are needed if you plan to eat the daily lunch which is served at noon Monday through Friday. While the meal is offered for a suggested cost of only \$5 for those over 60, no one sees what you donate, and as mentioned, this service does not operate at a profit.

Throughout the year, there are various fundraisers and special events and the hall is rented from a few times a month to being fully booked during the wedding and graduation season. Despite the thousands of senior citizens in the area who could come down on a regular basis, on most days only a few dozen show up at various times and another dozen may drop in for the delicious and nutritious lunch.

A special occasion, like the Valentine's Day lunch, or the special salad luncheons, may attract upwards of 50 diners. A special free-will offering breakfast is held the third Saturday morning of each month. In the bright and sunny game room, you can find folks playing cards, cribbage, dominoes or scrabble, or you can shoot pool in the party room. The coffee is always hot, and a large array of snacks await your sweet tooth.

You'll find the center open on weekdays from 8 or 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and on Saturday from 9 to 11 a.m. This is a state of the art, modern, and beautiful facility that Glenwood is so lucky to have. There is plenty of parking, easy handicapped access and always some cheerful volunteers to greet you and show you around. Without the generosity of their time by the many volunteers, it would not be possible to operate the Bloom Center.

What would be great is to see more of the good Mills County folks of all ages, stopping by to visit the center and then to come by on a regular basis to enjoy the facility with their friends. More recently, I was very happy to join the center's Board of Directors, so am now more directly involved in the behind the scenes work at the Center.

Recently, bookings have been up and daily attendance seems to be slowly growing. Happily, my own Scrabble skills are slightly improved, and we have three full tables now for our Monday afternoon matches. I know there are other places in town to meet and socialize, but you should give your own Bloom Senior Center another, or a first, look. You might even run into me there to regale you with one of my infamous stories!

### We Welcome Your Letters to the Editor

The Opinion-Tribune welcomes all Letters to the Editor, but reserves the right to edit, shorten or refuse publication of any letter.

All letters must be signed, and the identity of the author must be verifiable to be considered for publication. We ask that letters be no more than 300 words in length and submitted by noon on Friday to be considered for publication the following week. Thank you letters from civic groups and non-profit organizations may be published, but the names of individuals and businesses will not be published except in the form of a paid advertisement. Letters may be delivered in person at The Opinion-Tribune newspaper office, located at 116 S. Walnut St. in Glenwood, sent via fax to 712-527-3193 or submitted by e-mail to [news@opinion-tribune.com](mailto:news@opinion-tribune.com).



J. Heller 2023  
www.opinion-tribune.com

## Being Queen Would Be A Royal Pain

There are very few things that will get me out of bed in the middle of the night and royal watching isn't one of them so I missed the coronation of King Charles on May 6. But I hear it was a big deal. The people who plan such things code-named it Operation Golden Orb which sounds like a James Bond movie. But one article I read beforehand said it was more like a royal wedding, only 10 times more intense.

That would make it a couple thousand times more intense than my wedding since my husband and I eloped. The guest list was limited to 2,000 - at the coronation, not our wedding. There were six people at our wedding and that included us.

There was a time when I thought a big event in my honor sounded fun - maybe when I was seven. But long ago, I realized that I'm not cut out to be royalty. Queen of my house? Absolutely. Queen of England? No way. And not just because I don't live there.

For one thing, being a member of the royal family is like living in a fishbowl, a really glamorous

ROSBY'S WORLD

**Dorothy Rosby**

LIBRARY BOOK REVIEWER

Guest Columnist



fishbowl where the fish dress in expensive clothing and other fish wait on them hand and fin, but a fishbowl none-the-less. Everywhere they swim paparazzi take pictures of them and other fish gawk at them like gorillas in a zoo.

And yes, I realize I'm mixing my metaphors. If I were royalty, I'd probably be criticized for that. Every other mistake they make goes public. You might be thinking I should be used to that since I admit my dumbest mistakes in this column to literally tens of readers. That's where you're wrong. While it is true I once admitted to pulling away from the gas tank with the nozzle still in the tank, that was not my

dumbest mistake. By far.

One of the hardest things for me about being a female member of the royal family would be having to wear a hat all the time. Protocol dictates that royal women wear hats to formal occasions, an etiquette rule that dates back to the 1950s when it was considered improper for them to show their hair in public. Their hair shows under every hat they wear so they're obviously flouting the rule a bit. I probably would too. I wouldn't like being required to wear a hat. I do have one, a sunhat. It goes with anything - except the kind of outfit you'd wear to a coronation or any other public event.

Also many of the royal

hats I've seen can only be called hats because they sit on top of heads. If you do an internet search of hats worn by royalty you'll see a lot of attractive ones. But you'll also see what look like elaborate centerpieces, cake toppers, overturned flowerpots and mini satellite dishes. I have no idea how you'd keep them on in a high wind.

I wouldn't like having to dress up all the time either. If you were royalty, you could never run to the grocery store in jeans and a sweatshirt that said, "My other shirt is in the laundry." Of course, I doubt the royal family has to run to the grocery store - or that they wear sweatshirts. But I bet sometimes they wish they could sneak away and shop for their favorite foods so their staff wouldn't leak to the press that they're fond of Lucky Charms and Fruity Pebbles.

It could happen. Their likes and dislikes, errors in judgment and photos of them wearing strange objects on their heads all make it into the tabloids.

That alone would make being royal a royal pain.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### A 'different perspective' on Malvern legislative coffee

Two Letters to the Editor in the May 3 issue both addressed the April 15 Legislative Breakfast in Malvern. I was fortunate to attend the session and would like to offer a different perspective.

"Taking food away from the most vulnerable is disgraceful" was the inflammatory headline to Diane Marshall's letter about a bill to require new asset tests for people receiving food assistance benefits, and regular eligibility checks on recipients to make sure they qualify. There are sound points and supportive statistics on both sides of this debate.

But certainly the intent of the bill is not to "take food away from the most vulnerable." I don't believe Sen. Mark Costello and Rep. Dave Sieck want to use the bill "as an excuse to punish the poor." Nor do I think they provide a "cruel example of 'leaders' not working for Iowans."

The other letter, co-authored by two officers with the Mills County Democrats, provided a recap of the meeting. It included a sentence that began -- "One woman who spoke noted that..." - and went on to say the woman mentioned a list of items that the legislature had not addressed. Your readers should know this unnamed woman was actually a co-author of the letter - Mills County Democrats Chair Candella Foley-Finchem. I'm not sure why Ms. Foley-Finchem didn't just say that she had made those remarks,

rather than attributing them to some anonymous woman. Perhaps she wants readers to think there was an army of angry Democrats who attended the meeting.

A later sentence began with "In another interaction, a woman..." and went on to talk about someone who spoke in opposition to the recently-passed laws related to transgender issues. Again, the co-authors did not disclose that the woman who made these comments was Andrea Meagan Schnoor, who also is an officer with the Mills County Democrats.

The letter went on to complain that Rep. Sieck accused Ms. Schnoor of "bitching" and said that was "unprofessional and unnecessary." Yet during her comments at the meeting, I heard Ms. Foley-Finchem mock Rep. Sieck by saying he "was not being a very good Christian."

The letter concluded: "Rep. Sieck is there to serve all Iowans, not just those who agree with him." But registered Republicans outnumber Democrats by more than three-to-one in Mills County. Apparently the letter-writers think Sen. Costello and Rep. Sieck should be voting for what they want instead of representing the interests of the majority of their constituents.

I mean no disrespect to the individuals who wrote these two letters. Rather, I salute and admire them for speaking out and being involved in the political process. But a lot of us have had enough of the nasty name-calling and tired political rhetoric.

Joe Pittman, Glenwood

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## 2001-2002

35 Cups Of Joe



1988 1990 1992 1994 1996 1998 2000 2002 2004 2006 2008 2010 2012 2014 2016 2018 2020 2022  
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Editor Joe Foreman reflects on notable story lines and memorable people he's met over the past 35 years at The Opinion-Tribune

### SEPTEMBER 2001 - County Touched By 9/11 Terrorism Glenwood native witnessed, escaped New York explosions

Excerpt From The Opinion-Tribune  
 September 19, 2001

The bright, clear morning of Tuesday, Sept. 11, started out like any other weekday morning for Craig Goos.

Around 7:30 a.m., the 1988 Glenwood Community High School graduate boarded a crowded New York City subway train near his home in the Westside of Upper Manhattan and headed for work at his office in the city's famed Financial District. Around 8:15 a.m., Goos' train reached the Chambers Street / World Trade Center station, where he exited his car and made a quick trek through the underground concourse area that once connected the two towers of the city's largest skyscraper. From the World Trade Center, a skywalk carried Goos across the busy Westside Highway and into One Financial Center, the building that houses his 31st-floor office.

At 8:45 a.m., Goos, the Marketing Director of Alternative Investments for CIBC - Oppenheimer, was just settling in behind his desk when he heard a loud roar outside his windows. Goos' first thought was that a military airplane was flying over the nearby Hudson River. Hoping to catch a glimpse of the plane, Goos took a long stare out the window facing the river. He saw nothing in the sky, but then, with a slight roll of his chair, he turned to the window facing the World Trade Center. What Goos saw outside that window, just 300 feet away, was the beginning of one of the most-horrific scenes in our nation's history.

"I looked out the window to the northwest and saw the explosion at the World Trade Center. Almost immediately, glass and debris started hitting my window," Goos recalled during a telephone conversation Thursday night. "I didn't see the plane strike the building. At that point, I thought the World Trade Center just exploded."

With cellular telephone and palm pocket in hand, Goos rushed to the hallway and alerted his co-workers of the explosion. The office staff orderly made its way down the fire escape stairwell and safely out of the building.

With one of the 110-story twin towers above them engulfed in flames, Goos and a group of co-workers started working their way to a nearby parking garage where some employees had parked their vehicles.

"We got about a block and a half away when we walked around a corner and saw the (second) plane. I saw the plane and then heard and felt the impact," Goos said. "At that point, it was very apparent that it was intentional and the first roar had been a plane, as I had initially thought."

"Once the (second) plane made impact, there was mass confusion. People were shocked and confused, as I was. We just started running from the area."

With sirens sounding and black smoke blanketing the Manhattan skyline, the Oppenheimer employees moved as fast they could to get away from the epicenter of destruction.

At 9:50 a.m., now several blocks away from the Financial District, and nearly 45 minutes after United Airlines Flight 175 had been the second commercial airplane to ram the trade center, Goos sensed something else was about to happen.

"Things almost seemed to be calming down as we made our way away (from the towers)," Goos said. "We were probably a quarter mile to a half mile away when I felt the ground trembling and saw a huge cloud of dust. At that point, it became total chaos - people running and cars hitting one another when the tower collapsed, it was a second wave of screams and shaking."

It didn't take long for the cloud of dust and soot to catch up with Goos as he continued to work his way up the shore of the Hudson River to Midtown Manhattan. Eventually, the dust became so thick Goos was forced to cover up his face with his shirt. Several times, he attempted to tele-



JOE FOREMAN/THE OPINION-TRIBUNE

The Sept. 19, 2001, edition of The Opinion-Tribune was devoted to the impact the 9-11 terrorist attacks had on Mills County.

phone his wife, Kerry, from his cell phone, but was unable to make outbound calls. Each public telephone booth he passed had a waiting line of "10-20 people," he recalled.

"You kept getting these updates as you went along - the Pentagon was hit and another plane had crashed (in Pennsylvania), he said.

Nearly three hours after taking part in a mass evacuation from the Financial District, Goos finally made his way to his wife's office in Midtown. The two walked home together, where they were greeted by their 22-month-old daughter, Carson.

Like many New Yorkers, Goos has spent a good portion of the last week trying to learn the whereabouts of missing friends and acquaintances who may have been in the World Trade Center at the time of catastrophe. Before going to work for Oppenheimer, Goos worked for over three years on the 73rd floor of the World Trade Center for the office of Dean Witter.

"I've been able to be in contact with some of my close friends, but not everybody has been accounted for," he said.

Goos said New Yorkers are still in a state of shock over the tragedy.

"I'm just here waiting. The totality of the whole thing has not set in. It may never sink in," he said. "The thing that's been amazing to me, coming from a great community like Glenwood, is that you see the same compassion you see back there. I went to give blood today and there was a five-hour wait. There's been all kinds of stories of people taking other people into their apartments because a person had lost a shoe trying to get away or had been cut."

Goos has lived in New York City since 1995 and insists it's a community that offers more positives to its citizens than it is often given credit for. Goos said he's appreciative of the calls and support he and his family have received from friends in Glenwood.

Understandably, last week's events created some tense moments for Goos' parents, Neil and Linda, back in Glenwood.

"I was getting cleaned up around 8 o'clock when I heard the news," Neil Goos said. "His wife called me about 9:30 to let me know he was OK, and three blocks away (from the World Trade Center). Shortly after that, the tower collapsed. I thought he was OK, based on the conversation with his wife, but I wasn't sure where he was exactly when the tower collapsed."

After the collapse, Neil and Linda Goos didn't hear from their son until mid-afternoon. "Craig's father-in-law is in Connecticut. He was able to call into New York and got a hold of Craig at home later that day and was able to patch us in on a conference call," Neil Goos said. "Craig said, 'Hello, Dad.' I was just so relieved to hear his voice."

### Impact of terrorist attacks on 9/11 were felt in Mills County

Like many of you, I remember exactly where I was the moment I first heard the news on Sept. 11, 2001. It was a Tuesday morning and I was driving into the newspaper office when the "Mike and Mike" sports talk radio show reported that an airplane had just crashed into one of the towers at the World Trade Center.

As the events of the day unfolded, it became clear that Sept. 11, 2001, was going to be one of those "Where were you when" days. The 9/11 terrorist attacks impacted our nation like no other event in history.

For a journalist in Glenwood, Iowa, one might assume there wasn't much of a local angle to report on in regard to the 9/11 attacks. That wasn't the case.

By Tuesday afternoon, rumors that gas prices were about to soar to \$4 or \$5 a gallon created panic at the local gas pumps. The lines got so long at all five of the local fueling stations that Glenwood police officers were brought in to direct traffic.

We also learned that President Bush had been transported to Offutt Air Force Base and was bunkered down at Stratcom Headquarters while he was briefed on the situation. Word got out late in the afternoon that the president was preparing to leave Offutt and would return to the White House. I had a strong hunch that we'd see Air Force One fly over Glenwood after departing Offutt and I was right.

I was parked on the southeast corner of Town Square, in front of what is now City Hall, when Air Force One, escorted by a pair of fighter planes, appeared in the west sky. The planes made a turn toward the southeast as they flew over Glenwood. All air traffic had been grounded by then and I remember thinking at the time how strange it was that I was probably watching and photographing the only planes flying anywhere over American air space.

In the days that followed, we did interviews and stories with some local people who witnessed the attacks and chaos first-hand, including Glenwood native Craig Goos.

The attacks also hit home for Glenwood residents Don Smart and Dan Schoening.

Smart, an employee with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, was in Washington, D.C., attending a training program on terrorism, of all things, when the Pentagon was hit just blocks away. He ended up stranded in D.C.

Part 7 Of A Series



JOE FOREMAN/THE OPINION-TRIBUNE

Air Force One, transporting President George W. Bush from Offutt Air Force Base back to Washington, D.C., passes over Glenwood on Sept. 11, 2001.

because of all the flight cancellations.

Schoening, an instrumental music teacher, had performed two months earlier with the Prairie Cats band at the "Windows On The World" restaurant and nightclub at the top of the WTC. Schoening was understandably saddened to learn that several of the "Windows On The World" employees he and other band members had made friends with were on duty the morning of the attacks.

"I'm still shocked like everybody else," he said a few days after the attacks. "I've only been there once but I still feel a connection there. That first night, I could not sleep. I just kept thinking about it."

In the days and weeks that followed 9/11, several observances and tributes were held in Mills County and across the nation for victims of the attacks and first responders. On Sept. 11, 2002, a large remembrance ceremony was held in front of the Glenwood Firefighter Memorial north of the fire station.

We, as a nation, vowed to never forget what happened on 9/11. Nearly 22 years later, the startling images of that horrific day are still fresh in our minds.

Joe

### AUGUST 2002 - Glenwood Celebrates Sesquicentennial



JOE FOREMAN/THE OPINION-TRIBUNE

Above: Glenwood's Sesquicentennial merchandise in 2002 included T-shirts, ballcaps, a belt buckle, buttons, and a Glenwood-oply board game.

At right: Damon Leonard and Brooke Bird were dressed in pioneer-era attire for the Glenwood Sesquicentennial Parade in August 2002.



### Glenwood ready to blow out 150 candles

Excerpt From The Opinion-Tribune  
 August 21, 2002

Glenwood will commemorate its 150th birthday this weekend by remembering its pioneer past.

The city's sesquicentennial celebration will be held in conjunction with Keg Creek Days at Glenwood Lake Park.

The festivities will kick off Saturday with a business exposition and sesquicentennial parade on the Glenwood Town Square. Several businesses and individuals have signed up for the expo and will have informational tables and booths set up on the north and west ends of the square from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

The parade will begin at 4 p.m. on the northeast corner of the square. The theme of the parade is "The Greatest Generations," a tribute to Glenwood's veterans who have served in our nation's military forces.

Following the parade, action moves to Glenwood Lake Park where a variety of activities will take place Saturday evening and Sunday. The schedule includes entertainment at the Davies Amphitheater, historical presentations and displays,



JOE FOREMAN/THE OPINION-TRIBUNE

Glenwood's Sesquicentennial celebration included an appearance by Civil War re-enactors.

canoe races, antique farm machinery display, toy show, refreshments and exhibits at the Mills County Historical Museum and Glenwood Indian Earth Lodge. The festivities will conclude Sunday with a fireworks show over Glenwood Lake Park.

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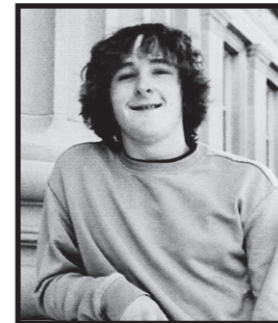
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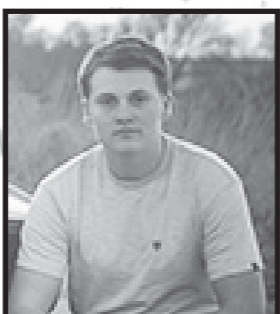
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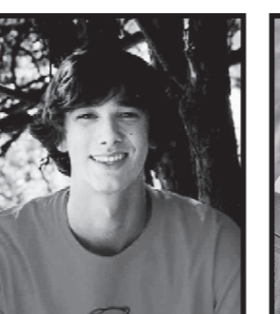
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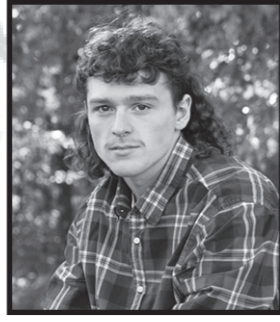
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## TREES FOR ARBOR DAY



COURTESY PHOTO

Members of the Glenwood Tree Board carried on an Arbor Day tradition by distributing seedlings to fifth graders at West Elementary School. With the help of a grant from MidAmerican Energy company and the support of fifth grade teachers at West Elementary, board members were also able to give a brief presentation to students on the importance of trees to humans and the environment. Board members shown here are Roger Sell, Bill Lindau and David Ensley. Not pictured: Don Duysen and Tom Hoogstraat.

## 'Too much to read, too little time'

Don't you hate it when you get into a book that you don't like, don't understand and wonder how soon it will be of interest?

One thing I have personally learned is that I don't have to finish an unsavory book after I've started it. I have friends who determinedly feel they have to finish a book but my motto is "too much to read, too little time."

I am hearing comments about John Butler, adult librarian, being so helpful and ready with suggestions when quizzed by patrons. He has been helpful to me in my searches, too, and I've loved his guest speakers. So watch your paper for future speakers; you'll be glad you did.

\* \* \*

*The Downstairs Girl* by Stacey Lee (large print)

The library has chosen several large-print books lately. I have several friends who search for them and I like them too. Did you know some of the Southern states

### NOTES FROM A BOOKWORM

*Barbara Taenzler*

Glenwood Library Book Reviewer



imported Chinese laborers to take the place of freed slaves after the Civil War?

The new citizens were ridiculed, overworked and underpaid with as much prejudice as the blacks were. Jo Kuan was a Chinese girl, living with an elderly, grandfatherly man in a basement of a residence in Georgia in the 1800s, unknown to residents who ran a small newspaper upstairs. The modest apartment was thought to be a hide-out for slaves using the Underground Railroad.

Jo has been released from two jobs by biased women

and has to take a job as a lady's maid. The spoiled, abusive lady was Jo's age, and an expert at insults. Segregation ruled the city and Jo has an opportunity to anonymously write an advice column for the newspaper upstairs.

She is a plucky, naive little gal, who has untapped talents.

## Business Spotlight

◆ Nishna Productions, Inc. ◆



By JOE FOREMAN  
EDITOR

Since 1974, Nishna Productions has been providing "support and opportunity" for adults in southwest Iowa with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

"We were started by a group of parents whose children had disabilities and were getting to graduate from high school," said Nishna Productions Development Specialist Emily Martin. "They wanted to know, 'Now what? What's out there for them so they can be sufficient and as independent as possible with the support they need?' So, they created this agency."

Nishna Productions provides support and a variety of services for residents of Page, Mills, Fremont and Montgomery counties. On average, Martin said, about 225 people are served weekly.

"We provide residential services for people who don't need a lot of support and for people who need 24-hour, 1-on-1 support," she said. "We provide the entire spectrum of care."

The non-profit agency's services include residential care for people living in homes owned or being rented by Nishna Productions, life skills assistance (meal planning, budgeting, housekeeping, shopping and medication management), day habilitation (opportunities for socialization, learning new skills and community involvement) and employment assistance.

"Community Employ-



COURTESY PHOTO

Gary Farwell, a Nishna Productions direct-support professional, helps Austin shave.

ment works with somebody with a disability who wants to work, - somebody who says, 'I want to be productive, I want to have a purpose' or they just want some spending money," Martin said. "It includes assessment of skill sets and what they're capable of learning, and some job training."

Martin stressed that the jobs Nishna Productions-served residents are working at are positions open to anyone, not just persons with disabilities. They must meet the same qualifications as any other job applicant and receive the same wage as any other person.

"Nishna Productions can provide a job coach to help make sure they're meeting the expectations of the employer," Martin said.

Presently, Nishna Productions has 24 houses it operates in southwest Iowa, including six in Mills County. There are up to four people

living in each house.

Three more houses are planned - one each in Shenandoah, Malvern and Red Oak - as Nishna Productions tries to help meet a growing need for care being created by the pending closure of the Glenwood Resource Center.

"We didn't really want to build houses, but the struggle is finding accessible and affordable homes," Martin said. "As a last resort, we decided we need to build so that these people could stay in southwest Iowa, where they want to stay."

Nishna Productions has an office in Glenwood, on the northwest corner of Town Square at 103 N. Walnut St. Later this year, plans call for a "day hab" program to be reestablished in Glenwood.

Information on all Nishna Productions services is available from any of the agency's offices and online at [www.nishna.org](http://www.nishna.org).

### Business Spotlight

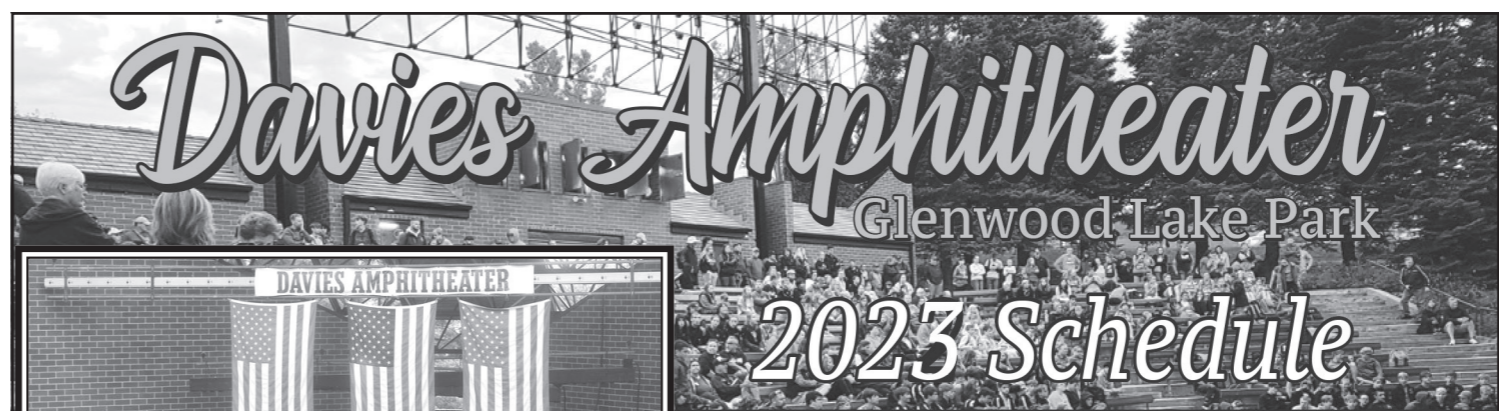
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## MILLS COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



### All Shows Start at 7:00 PM

Admission \$5 or Free with Davies Amphitheater Gold Card (except where noted)

#### JULY

- Saturday, July 1 .....Keep Pushin' REO Speedwagon Tribute  
*Sponsored by Portside Travel and Harvest Moon Coffee*
- Sunday, July 2..... US Air Force Heartland of America Band  
**FREE**
- Saturday, July 8 ..... Come Together Band  
*Sponsored by Stouder Plumbing - Chad & Tina Stouder*
- Saturday, July 15 .....Dustin West Band  
**George Strait Tribute**  
*Sponsored by Hilltop Animal Hospital*
- Saturday, July 22 .....Taxi Driver  
*Sponsored by Jim Hughes Real Estate*
- Saturday, July 28 ..... Touch of Grey  
*Sponsored by Best Finish Auto*

#### AUGUST

- Saturday, Aug. 5 .....Bozak & Morrisey  
*Sponsored by Creative Association Management, Joe and Mary Pittman*
- Saturday, Aug. 12 ..... Shadow Ridge  
*Sponsored by Lincoln Trust*
- Sunday, Aug. 13 .....Glenwood Community Band  
**Free Will Offering**
- Saturday, Aug. 20 .....Tanner Foss Project  
**Free Will Offering**
- Sunday, Aug. 27 .....Silas Creek  
*Sponsored by Land Surveying Services*

#### MAY

- Saturday, May 27 .....Billy McGuigan  
*Sponsored by Barrett Auto Center*  
**Admission \$15 or \$5 discount with Gold Card**

#### JUNE

- Saturday, June 3 ..... Those Guys with Kelly Evans  
*Sponsored by John Gregory, Farm Bureau Financial Services, class of 1978*
- Saturday, June 10 ..... Relay for Life  
*Community Event*
- Sunday, June 11 .....Acoustic Thieves  
*Sponsored by Chris & Catherine Weide*
- Saturday, June 17 .....High Heel  
*Sponsored by Sugar Makery*
- Saturday, June 24 .....Nebraska Rock and Roll All Stars  
*Sponsored by Bravo! and the Brendan Buchanan Family*

**B&D Sawmill L.L.C.**  
Family & Veteran Owned  
Glenwood, IA | 402-718-1768  
**Wanted: Mature Walnut Trees**  
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Visit <https://go.iowa.gov/ttGG> to take the quiz and stop diabetes before it starts.

STATE OF IOWA DEPARTMENT OF Health-Human SERVICES