Celebrate CB wraps up PAGE A3





Groups say energy bill would cost ratepayers PAGE A5

WHERE YOUR STORY LIVES

Tuesday, May 13, 2025

nonpareilonline.com

CELEBRATE CB

WHAI MAKES CUUNCIL BLUFFS SPECIAL?



ANDREW SMITH PHOTOS, THE NONPAREIL

Lifelong Council Bluffs residents Giles and Debbie Whitney take a selfie in front of the fountain in Bayliss Park after the annual Celebrate CB parade on Saturday, May 10, 2025.

Residents reflect at annual Celebrate CB parade

ANDREW SMITH

Council Bluffs Nonpareil

A big week has wrapped up in Council Bluffs.

What was marketed as a journey through the city's eras — playing off a trend popularized by Taylor Swift's Eras Tour — worked to add greater context to familiar events held each year.

Saturday morning's bustling parade saw some organizations and businesses incorporate nuggets of history into their floats

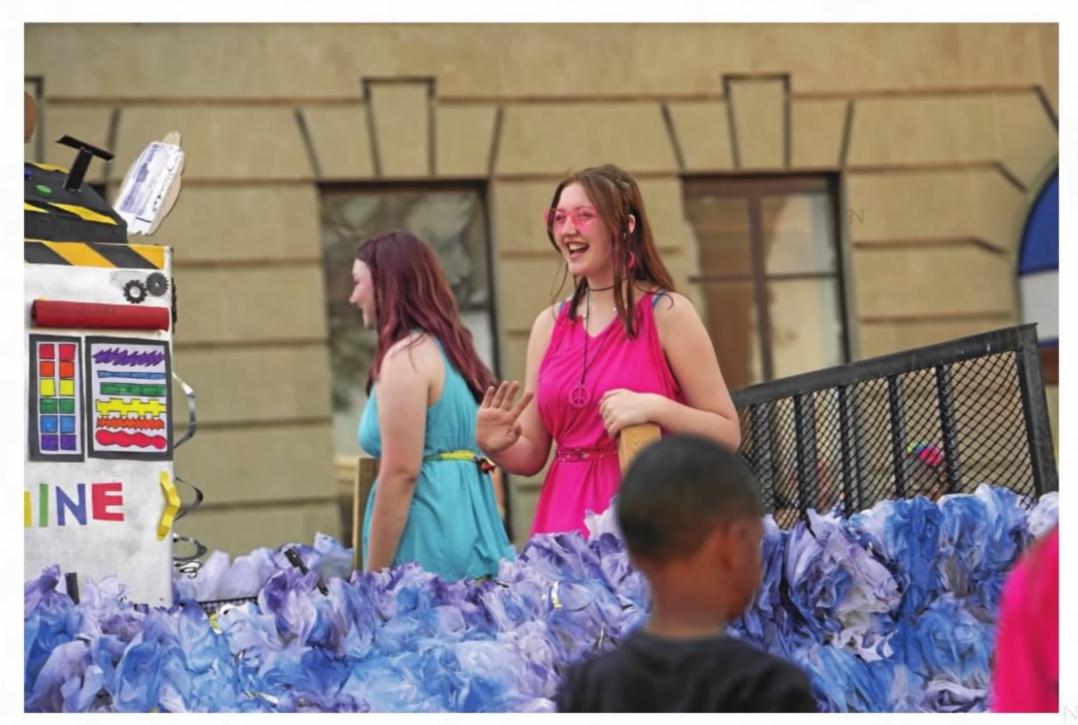
and props. Wilson Middle School's iLEAD students

 who won first place for their floats the three previous years - rocked a "time machine" and groovy apparel. Vintage-looking photos of students and facilities covering their colorful set looked to be from old yearbooks.

Those walking with Broadway United Methodist Church carried signs depicting historical information. Tim Johnson, a former reporter for The Nonpareil, shared church milestones through the medium.

One fact: the church was started in 1850

Please see COUNCIL BLUFFS, Page A2



Wilson Middle School iLEAD students ride on their "time machine" float during the annual Celebrate CB parade on Saturday, May 10, 2025. The float references the "CB Eras" theme and incorporated what seemed to be old yearbook photos.

Redevelopment underway

Glenwood Resource Center changes hands

HAILEY PECK

Council Bluffs Nonpareil

The Glenwood Resource Center is moving toward its next step after a redevelopment group took over the property.

Over 200 acres of the property were transferred to the Glenwood Redevelopment Corporation on April 11, with the remaining 900 acres owned by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources as a preserve.

Larry Winum, board member of the Glenwood Redevelopment Corporation, presented the updates to the Mills County Board of Supervisors late last month during one of its weekly meetings.

The state-run facility was closed in 2023, and the corporation continues to work with the state to decommission the buildings.

The goal for the property right now is to get permanent utilities in buildings that are still in use, such as the Glen Haven Village and the 103 building that the Glenwood School District uses. Currently, the corporation is responsible for paying utilities on all buildings, which costs nearly \$60,000 a month, Winum said.

The corporation is working with Glenwood Municipal Utilities and MidAmerican Energy to finish the installation of permanent utilities before the center's power plant is decommissioned.

"The goal is to try to have that done, really, by the middle of June. So it gives us two weeks to decommission the power plant, which will shut down. The folks are employed up there through June 30, and then they'll be done," Winum said. "Hopefully, we can get those two tenants hooked up."

The group has hired also an architect to pursue a master plan for development.

"The key is to find somebody that knows how to pick, do some things with some of those existing buildings, maybe remodel into multi-family housing and those types of things," Winum said.

Winum noted that per the agreement with the state about 85% of the buildings on the campus will be torn down. However, if the state had stayed involved in the future of the campus, all the buildings would have been torn down.

"The goal for that facility up there is to get the site development ready for what we believe will be residential," Winum said.

The Iowa Department of Transportation will be working on constructing roads off of U.S. Highway 34 as well as repairing a couple of surrounding roads after initial studies revealed one of the best uses of land was residential, Winum said.

The board expressed they would like to see development stay local.

"If it's housing, you can call every builder in Mills County or Southwest Iowa to give them an opportunity. So, I don't want us to leave this room thinking that some big outfit out of Omaha is going to come in and build a bunch of housing," Winum said. "That could happen if nobody wants to do it, but everybody is going to get an opportunity before anybody from outside is going to come in."

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Puzzles	A6	National	B1		

Weather Sunny, breezy and warm High 86 • Low 60 FORECAST • A8



DIGEST

Boil advisory for Regional Water customers in **Southwest Iowa**

Regional Water is recommending boiling the water before using it for drinking and to use an alternative source if possible for its Avoca Treatment Plant customers (all customers except those in and around Underwood, McClelland and Weston.)

Regional Water recommends boiling water due to depressurization in its water towers, according to a press release from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. The pressure loss is affecting over

half of their system, prompting the system-wide boil advisory.

The depressurization in the distribution system was due to demand that caused the system to lose pressure on Saturday. Drought-impacted wells are struggling to meet water demands.

Due to the potential for bacterial contamination, it is recommended that the water be boiled before being used for drinking or cooking or that an alternative source be used. It is recommended not to drink the water without boiling it first.

Boiled or bottled water should be used for drinking, making ice, brushing teeth and food prepara-

tion until further notice. Boiling kills bacteria and other organisms in the water. The water may be used for bathing and other similar purposes. If the water is colored, use an alternative source such as bottled water.

For more information, contact the Regional Water Office at 712-343-2413. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

When water service is restored, there may be air in water piping and the water may be discolored. It is recommended to run the first

water from a faucet that does not have an aerator screen, such as a bathtub or hose bib. Open the faucet slowly to allow the air to escape. Once the water is flowing, allow the faucet to run until it is clear. The water may be cloudy at first due to air in the water or particles that dislodged as the pipes filled with water. This should be clear fairly quickly. If water is cloudy or colored throughout the house and it does not clear after allowing the water to run for several minutes, use an alternative source such as bottled water and contact Regional Water at the number listed above. The system is being repressur-

ized, and bacteria samples will be collected. This advisory is a precaution until bacterial sample results are available. Customers will be notified when the results are

available and the advisory is lifted. The system is working with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources to resolve the situation.

Regional Water has approximately 2050 service connections (business and residential) impacting approximately 25,000 people in the Southwest Iowa counties of Shelby, and portions of Pottawattamie, Harrison, Audubon and Cass. This does not include the Urban Bluffs area.

Governor names new leader for Iowa Department for the Blind



COURTESY OF IOWA GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

Stacy Cervenka will lead the Iowa Department for the Blind, starting July 7.

TOM BARTON

Lee-Gazette Des Moines Bureau

Gov. Kim Reynolds this week announced the appointment of a new director to lead the Iowa Department for the Blind after a monthslong search.

The search was launched to fill the role after the former director resigned last July while battling Stage 4 kidney cancer.

Stacy Cervenka will lead the Iowa Department for the Blind starting July 7.

Cervenka most recently worked as senior director of policy with the nonprofit Disability Belongs, formerly RespectAbility, in Virginia. She also was the director of public policy for the American Foundation for the Blind and served as a legislative assistant to former U.S. Sen. Sam Brownback, R-Kansas.

She currently works as a volunteer on the consumer advisory panel for the Mitsubishi Electric America Foundation and is a contributing writer to U.S. News and World Report and the Omaha World-Herald,

according to Reynolds' office.

Cervenka has a bachelor's degree from the University of Minnesota and a master's degree in rehabilitation counseling from Texas Tech University.

"From her experience starting as a legislative assistant to working her way up to director of public policy for a national organization, she has shown she is uniquely qualified to continue the department's mission to empower blind Iowans to be gainfully employed and live independently," Reynolds said in a statement.

Cervenka, in a statement, said he is "honored" to be appointed and serve in the position.

"The Iowa Department for the Blind has a legacy of leading the nation in innovative, high-quality services for blind and low vision people," she said. "I'm excited to build on that history by ensuring all blind Iowans have access to the services they need to enter or remain in the workforce and to live actively in their communities."

Former director Emily Wharton roughly \$103,000 in 2023.

had led the department for seven years and previously served as its technology director. She is a former client of the Department for the Blind and graduated from its Iowa Blindness Empowerment and Independence Center.

In her resignation letter to Reynolds last summer, Wharton said she has been battling Stage 4 kidney cancer since January 2023. She thanked Reynolds and her staff for allowing her to take time needed for treatments and healing.

Reynolds appointed Sarah Willeford, library director at the Department for the Blind, to serve as interim director while the state conducted a search of candidates.

Willeford will return to her role as library director of the Department for the Blind once Cervenka assumes her role, according to a spokesperson for Reynolds' office.

Willeford received a base salary of approximately \$105,500 in 2024, according to the state's salary database. Wharton received a salary of

Council Bluffs

From A1

in a cabin before preacher Henry DeLong purchased land once belonging to the notorious Ocean Wave Saloon off Broadway, which had burned down after a lightning strike.

A group with the Kanesville Memorial Historic Site and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints honored the "historic pioneers" that settled Kanesville, now Council Bluffs. The paraders - dressed in 1800s-esque regalia - pulled wagons with Council Bluffs.

As stated by Lindsey Rodgers, director of marketing and public the parade with bracelet making, relations for the Council Bluffs Area Chamber of Commerce, in Saturday's paper: "Celebrate CB strengthens community spirit and reminds us all why CB is a great place to call home."

So what are residents saying today about the city?

Giles and Debbie Whitney have lived in Council Bluffs for pretty much their entire lives, married for 53 of their 70-some years. They've made the parade every year they can, but especially so when their kids marched with middle and high school bands.

Giles said he comes with eyes peeled for the police and fire deand Girl Scouts floats and the dudes." bands.

Bluffs?

"Homey atmosphere, good people," Giles said.

"It seems like a small town but it still has lots in it to enjoy," Debbie said. "I love Iowa Western college, too. We've got grandkids that have gone there."

On the opposite side of the others.

spectrum, Ethan Brown has lived in Council Bluffs with his wife and family for three months after moving from Omaha.

"It's cheaper, it's a smaller city, but still has the city life," Brown said. "We've really enjoyed it. We like our neighborhood and we haven't had any issues at all."

The parade was one of the first ways they've gotten to integrate into the community, besides attendance at Broadway United Methodist Church.

"In Omaha, there's not really much that you can go to without being crowded," Brown said. "This was a big event but we didn't feel artwork depicting those eras of crowded at all, and we were able to actually enjoy it."

> Bayliss Park stayed busy after magic, makeup and balloon art. Jill Rains, who brought her son Tristan to the parade for his first time, watched him practice skating with Thomas Ramirez of SkateFest Omaha.

> A partnership between the First Avenue Trail and SkateFest is bringing free skateboarding classes to Cochran Park starting June 13. There will be six or seven sessions with capacity for 15 students each. Funding for the program comes from the Iowa West Foundation.

"It doesn't matter if you've never skateboarded or you're semi pro," said Turner Morgan, First Avenue Trail ambassador. "Learn to partment floats, the Cub Scouts skateboard for free from these cool

Parks like Cochran, with empha-What's special about Council sis on Lake Manawa State Park, are features Rains' family enjoys most in town.

> The SkateFest tent was just one of several offering services and information at the parade. The Council Bluffs Public Library and Firefly, which provides services to families, were some of those



ANDREW SMITH PHOTOS, THE NONPAREIL

People representing Broadway United Methodist Church in the annual Celebrate CB parade on Saturday, May 10, 2025, hold signs telling the story of church through different eras.



People from the Kanesville Memorial Historic Site and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints represent pioneers that settled Kanesville, later to become Council Bluffs, during the Celebrate CB parade on Saturday, May 10, 2025.

THE DAILY

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RELIVE THE 2025 CELEBRATE CB PARADE IN PHOTOS



VIEW: For additional photos, point your smartphone camera at the QR code, then tap the link.

People from
the Heartland
Properties group
at the Celebrate
CB parade hand
out American
flags to attendees
on Saturday, May
10, 2025.

ANDREW SMITH PHOTOS, THE NONPAREIL



Members of the Wilson Middle School Jacket Band march through the annual Celebrate CB parade on Saturday, May 10, 2025.



Parade Grand Marshal Dick Miller, far right, rides with others on a Council Bluffs Fire Department boat during the annual Celebrate CB parade on Saturday, May 10, 2025.



A member of the Kirn Middle School Band bangs a drum while marching in the annual Celebrate CB parade on Saturday, May 10, 2025.



Rocky Reiver of Iowa Western Community College throws T-shirts to the crowd at the annual Celebrate CB parade on May 10, 2025.



The Lewis Central High School cheer squad performs in front of announcers during the annual Celebrate CB parade on Saturday, May 10, 2025.



A member of the Abraham Lincoln Dance Team shares an embrace during the annual Celebrate CB parade on Saturday, May 10, 2025.



Ethan Brown and his son watch the Celebrate CB parade on Saturday, May 10, 2025.



A girl picks up candy thrown during the annual Celebrate CB parade on Saturday, May 10, 2025.



Thomas Ramirez with SkateFest Omaha helps Tristan Rains learn to skate during the annual Celebrate CB parade on Saturday, May 10, 2025.