

LA Communications Community Issues 1st Quarter 2024

Jan thru March

Posted: January 4, 2024

The 4000 Foundation, Limited proudly announces plans for The 32nd Annual Great Tri-State Rail Sale to be held Saturday, January 27th, 2024 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at The La Crosse Center, Second & Pearl Streets, downtown La Crosse. Since 1992, the Great Tri-State Rail Sale has grown to become the Tri-State's largest one-day Railroad Hobby Sale, Model Railroad Flea Market & Swap Meet. This 32nd annual railroad extravaganza celebrates the area's railroad heritage while raising funds to maintain and restore The La Crosse Short Line Railroad Heritage Museum in Copeland Park.

The Rail Sale traditionally hosts vendors from six states offering **300 tables** of railroad related merchandise. Rail Sale patrons will have the opportunity to buy, sell, and trade an outstanding selection of model, toy and antique trains, books, magazine, railroad memorability, railroad art, hobby supplies, repairs and replacement parts and accessories, and many more related items.

Admission is just \$5.00. Children under 12 are free when accompanied by an adult.

All proceeds from this event are used to maintain and restore The La Crosse Short Line Railroad Heritage Museum. The 4000 Foundation is a non-profit organization formed in 1998.

Mark Hamre – *President*

[608.498.9522](tel:608.498.9522)

[Email Us](#)

[Learn More](#)

Posted: January 19, 2024

Skip making breakfast and let Winneshiek County 4-Her's make you, your very own personalized omelet on Sunday, March 3rd from 8:00AM to 12:30PM in the Community Building at the Winneshiek County Fairgrounds. Tickets will be sold at the door for \$10.00. Youth ages 9 and under are \$5.00.

While enjoying your omelet you will be able to learn more about 4-H in Winneshiek County. Silent auction items will be available to bid on throughout the event. Proceeds from the event will be used to off-set direct expenses and to support the 4-H Youth Development County Extension Program.

We hope to see you at our EGG-CELENT event!

Ashley Horgen – *County Youth Coordinator - Winneshiek County Extension & Outreach*
[563-382-2949](tel:563-382-2949)
[Email Us](#)

Posted: January 22, 2024

The Waukon Music Departments will be hosting the 15th annual Pop's Concert on Friday February 23rd at the Waukon Middle School gymnasium. Doors will open at 6:00PM, with concert time at 7:00PM. The Pop's Concert features high energy musical numbers from the 1950's through today with costumes and choreography included in every performance! Groups performing will include the high school and middle school choirs, high school and middle school jazz bands, drumline, middle school rock band, featured soloists, song and dance skits, and emcees.

The Pop's Concert is an annual fundraising event sponsored by the Allamakee Music Boosters. This event is open to the public for a general admission fee of \$5 per person with seating in the bleachers, and includes refreshments. Tables, which can seat up to ten people, can be sponsored for \$70. Table sponsors can decorate their table, provide snacks/desserts to their guests, and invite family and friends to join in on the memorable night. For more information about reserving a table, please contact Brenda Dougherty at 563-568-7997 or email acsdmusicboosters@gmail.com. In case of inclement weather on Friday February 23rd, the back-up date for the Pop's Concert performance has been set for Saturday February 24th at 7pm.

Tami Gebel – *President of the Allamakee Music Boosters*
[563-568-7146](tel:563-568-7146)
[Email Us](#)

Posted: January 24, 2024

Annual Lucky Leprechann Bingo and Raffle, March 17,2024 with money raised going for our Canton Day Off Celebration in August 2024. Sponsored by Canton Community Association. Location ZZTAP 200 N Main St, Canton MN

<https://www.facebook.com/CantonDayOff>

Cindy Shanks – *Canton Community Association*
[507-743-8484](tel:507-743-8484)
[Email Us](#)
[Learn More](#)

Posted: January 25, 2024

Who- West Clermont Lutheran Church Luther League group

What- Freewill Valentines Dinner- Option to Dine In or Carry Out

When- Sunday February 18th 5-7 pm

Where- West Clermont Lutheran Church- 221 Larrabee St. Clermont, Iowa

Why- Fundraiser for our Luther League group

West Clermont Lutheran Church – *Church*

[Email Us](#)

Posted: January 26, 2024

The Landing Market, Decorah, is celebrating the Chinese New Year – the Year of the Dragon – on Sat., Feb. 10, with authentic Chinese cuisine, games, and a traditional wish-making and lantern launch.

The event will run from 4-7:30 p.m. This includes happy hour from 4-5 p.m. when Chinese beer and traditional snack cakes will be offered. The meal, served buffet style from 5:-7:30 p.m., will feature meat-filled dumplings and dessert porridge. A Chinese version of ring toss and an animal guessing game will take place throughout the event. Lantern launching outdoors are scheduled for 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Luther College economics instructor and Chinese native Hongxiao Yu and her friends are preparing the meal. Yu was recently awarded the Decorah Area Chamber of Commerce's Excellence in Collaboration Award.

The event is free to attend. Cost for the meal is \$20 per person. Reservations are requested, but not required, by emailing info@thelandingmarket.com.

This event is one of the Landing's Passport Dinners, introduced in 2023, to bring the cuisine of other countries and cultures to the Decorah area and provide an opportunity to get to know about other places and meet new people

The Landing Market is located at 211 College Dr., Decorah. It houses food and beverage-oriented establishments, which include Justin's, The Buzz, and Root 43, as well as space

for events. For more information, email info@thelandingmarket.com or call (563) 277-1893.

<https://fb.me/e/3yjMcMebN>

Ellen Wilke – *Events & Publicity Coordinator*

[563.277-1893](tel:563.277-1893)

[Email Us](#)

Posted: January 30, 2024

Northeast Iowa Community Action (NEICAC) is excited to host its Head Start Preschool Open House on Thursday, February 1, 2024 from 5-6 PM. Head Start is a FREE, all day preschool program for kids who will be 3 or 4 by Sept. 15, 2024. The open house will be held at our classroom inside West Elementary School at 301 Center St, Decorah. Head Start is an independent program, separate from the public school's preschool program. Families can check out our classroom and staff is available to help families apply with NEICAC for the 24/25 school year at the Open House.

Martin Ahrndt – *ERSEA Specialist*

[563-387-4947](tel:563-387-4947)

[Email Us](#)

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Posted: January 30, 2024

Waterville Fire Department Pancake Breakfast Sunday, March 3rd from 7AM to 12 PM at the Waterville, IA Fire Station.

All you can eat Buttermilk Pancakes, Sausage patties, eggs, milk and juice!

Posted: February 1, 2024

Clermont Fire Department will be hosting a Fish Fry Fundraiser Friday, February 16th from 4:30 – 8:00 PM. Will be serving: Fish, French Fries, Coleslaw, Baked Beans, & Buns. Dine-in will also include coffee, lemonade, & water. Carry-outs available. \$15 per meal. Proceeds to go towards replacing firefighter turnout gear.

Kenny Monteith – *Secretary - Clermont Volunteer Fire & Rescue*

[563-517-1047](tel:563-517-1047)

[Email Us](#)

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Posted: February 1, 2024

Landing Market to Host Fundraiser to Help Ukraine Feb. 21

To mark the second anniversary of the Russian invasion of Ukraine in 2022, The Landing Market, Decorah, will again host a fundraiser to help provide humanitarian relief to people in areas ravaged by war. The event is scheduled for Wed., Feb. 21, 11 am-7pm, and will feature a meal of traditional Ukrainian fare and a silent auction.

The meal will feature beef, pork, and rice cabbage rolls called *holubtsi* (“little doves”), black bread, and *bilochka* (“little squirrel”), a type of cheese and garlic spread. A vegetarian option (rice, carrots, and onions) will also be available. Ukrainian native and Luther College Professor of Anthropology Maryna B. Nading, her husband Scott, and close friends will prepare the meal.

Cost is \$15 per person. Freewill donations will also be accepted. Reservations are not required.

In addition, a silent auction will take place onsite at The Landing Sun., Feb 18-Sat., Feb 24. Items include an original framed Carl Homstad painting and scarves, Ukrainian Post commemorative stamps, “rushnyk” (embroidered towel), and other items Nading brought back from a recent trip to Ukraine.

All proceeds will help benefit volunteer groups in Khmelnytskyi, Ukraine, (Nading’s hometown), who deliver medicine, protective gear, and food to the frontlines.

This is one of the Landing’s Passport Dinners, introduced in 2023, to bring the cuisine of other countries and cultures to the Decorah area and provide an opportunity to get to know about other places and meet new people

The Landing Market is located at 211 College Dr., Decorah, and houses food and beverage-oriented establishments which include Justin’s, The Buzz, and Root 43 along with space for events. For more information, email info@thelandingmarket.com or call (563) 277-1893.

Posted: February 8, 2024

RSVP of Northeast Iowa and the American Red Cross are holding their “Battle of the Badges” Blood Drive on Friday, February 16th from 12 noon until 5 pm at Stone Ridge Community Church, 1111 Montgomery Street in Decorah. Respond to the call to give blood during this time of critical need and vote for your favorite public service

department – EMS, Fire, or Law Enforcement – and we'll show our appreciation by sending you a \$20 Amazon Gift Card by email after you come to give.

Now is the time to give with your whole heart. Without more blood donors, patient care could be at risk. Donating blood is an act of kindness you can carry with you! For an appointment, call 1-800-RED CROSS or visit redcrossblood.org and enter code DECORAH. Or, simply call Pete at 309-236-2382.

Peter Vogel – *Red Cross Blood Program Leader and RSVP Volunteer*
[3092362382](tel:3092362382)

[Email Us](#)

[Learn More](#)

Posted: February 8, 2024

Northeast Iowa Community Action (NEICAC) is excited to announce its Waukon Head Start Open House and Registration night will be February 29, 2024 from 4:30-6:30 PM. The Open House and Registration will be at our Head Start Preschool classrooms at 955 3rd Ave NW, Waukon. We are located on the back end of West Elementary. Families with children who will be 3 or 4 by September 15 are encouraged to attend to meet the staff, visit the classrooms and complete an application for next school year that night. Head Start is a free all day, five days a week, preschool for students age 3 and 4. All services, meals, and extended day services are free for all families. Families can also contact Robin at the NEICAC Waukon office at 563-568-4224 to apply.

Martin Ahrndt – *Family and Community Partnership Enrollment Specialist*
[5633874947](tel:5633874947)

[Email Us](#)

[Learn More](#)

Posted: February 8, 2024

Northeast Iowa Community Action Corporation (NEICAC) is excited to announce its Postville Head Start Preschool Open House and Registration Event on March 1, 2024 from 4:30-6:30 PM. The registration event will be held at the Postville Childcare Center and Head Start classrooms in Postville at 210 S. Ogden St, Postville. Head Start is a free, all day, five day a week preschool for students who will be 3 or 4 by September 15. All meals and services, including extended day WRAP around services for families working full time, are free to accepted families. All families with a child age 3 or 4 for the 2024/25 school year are encouraged to come see the classrooms, meet staff and complete aHead Start application that evening. Please make sure to stop at the NEICAC table. This

is a joint preschool information night for Head Start, Postville Childcare Center, and the Postville CSD.

Martin Ahrndt – *Family and Community Partnership Enrollment Specialist*

[5633874947](tel:5633874947)

[Email Us](#)

[Learn More](#)

Posted: February 13, 2024

Waucoma Fire Department will be holding there annual pancake breakfast March 3rd 2024 from 9am to 12 at the Waucoma Event Center. Serving Pancakes sausage apple sauce eggs orange juice milk. Raffle Prizes will be able to win.

Waucoma Fire – *Chief*

[641-330-4028](tel:641-330-4028)

[Email Us](#)

Posted: February 15, 2024

Join us for our 2nd Annual Music Boosters Fundraiser- Supporting our SG Music and Band Departments.

* Social Hour 6pm-7pm

* Concert 7pm-10pm

* Tickets are \$30 in advance ~ \$40 at the door

* Cash Bar

* Free Will Donation Snacks will be available

* 50/50 Cash Drawing

Non-Refundable Tickets can be purchased in person starting February 1st at the Spring Grove School Office, Reds IGA or you can purchase online via

Paypal <https://www.paypal.com/donate/...>

All Proceeds go to SG Music Boosters to offset costs for future trips, instruments and needs for SG Music Students

Heidi Christiansen – *Treasurer of the music boosters*

[5074212158](tel:5074212158)

[Email Us](#)

Posted: February 19, 2024

The Latecomers Relay for Life team will be taking donations for American Cancer Society at the Waucoma vendor show. Each \$5.00 donation gets you a chance in a raffle drawing of your choice of and Iowa Hawkeyes or Iowa State Quilt.

Quilts will be given away in August at the Chickasaw County Relay for Life event.

Posted: February 20, 2024

According to new data from the Federal Trade Commission’s website, “consumers reported losing nearly \$8.8 billion to fraud in 2022, an increase of more than 30 percent over the previous year”. Roger Huinker, a Northeast RSVP Volunteer trained by the Iowa Insurance Division, will be presenting an “Iowa Fraud Fighters” seminar. He will be joined by staff from Waukon State Bank, Waukon Police Department, and Decorah Tech. Join us at the Robey Memorial Library Meeting Room on February 27th at 10 AM (401 1st Ave W, Waukon). No registration is required. Presenters will share about different types of scams, ways to identify fraud or scams, what is happening locally, and tips on how to protect yourself from being taken advantage of or what to do if you think you have been scammed. Information will be available from the Iowa Insurance Division Fraud Fighters and the Federal Trade Commission.

Northeast Iowa RSVP matches volunteers age 55 and better with opportunities to serve at non-profits in Allamakee, Howard, and Winneshiek counties.

If your business or organization would like to host a Fraud Fighters seminar, please contact Deana Hageman at 563-277-5181 or rsvp@decorahlibrary.org.

Posted: February 26, 2024

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 23, 2024

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Decorah, IA is one of 6 National Winners in Interfaith Power and Light’s Cool Congregations Annual Award for Leadership and Sustainability

Interfaith Power and Light Announces ‘Cool Congregations Challenge’ Winners as Faith Communities Prioritize Energy Efficiency, Renewables, and Sustainability

WASHINGTON, D.C., February 24, 2024

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Decorah, IA is one of the six national Interfaith Power & Light (IPL) 2024 Cool Congregations Challenge winners awarded a \$1000 prize. The annual contest accepts applications from religious congregations around the United States who are doing work to address climate change by reducing their carbon footprint as they create models of sustainability within their communities.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church won the Energy Saver Award for entirely eliminating the use of fossil fuels in heating, cooling, lighting, and powering their buildings. They have converted their building to all-electric, with heat pumps to heat and

cool their buildings, powered entirely by solar on their property, preventing 25 tons of carbon emissions annually.

“**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church** and the other national winning congregations are casting a vision for the kind of world in which they want to live, and then carrying out that vision with practical actions that make a real difference in creating lasting solutions to climate change,” said Rev. Susan Hendershot, President of Interfaith Power & Light.

The *Cool Congregations Challenge* shows that people of faith are united by concerns about climate change and are taking action. The winners provide strong moral role models for their communities, and their activities have a ripple effect on people in their own homes, demonstrating that acting on climate is a moral issue.

“Iowa IPL congratulates Good Shepherd Lutheran Church on their well-deserved recognition for their work and commitment on prioritizing sustainability. Good Shepherd shows us all what is possible when people of faith come together and live into bold and just action on the climate crisis. They are a leader and will inspire other houses of worship to see what they can do,” says Deaconess Irene DeMaris, Executive Director, Iowa Interfaith Power & Light.

Interfaith Power & Light is mobilizing a religious response to global warming in congregations by promoting energy conservation, energy efficiency, and renewable energy. www.interfaithpowerandlight.org **Twitter: #CoolCongregations @interfaithpower** **Facebook: [facebook.com/interfaithpowerandlight](https://www.facebook.com/interfaithpowerandlight)**

Posted: February 26, 2024

Donated by the Rick and David Carlson families in 2016, Carlson Park is one of the newest parks in Decorah and is in the early stages of development. We are excited to kick off the next phase, which includes a series of professionally built, bike-optimized trails that will connect back to the park’s existing two-mile loop, as well as additional hiking, running, and snow sports trail systems.

We hope you will join us at the Happy Trail Happy Hour, where we will celebrate the groundbreaking of this phase, share about future developments, and share how the community is supporting this project. Social time starts at 5; the program starts at 5:30. Special thanks to T’Bocks for hosting – we will be in their Upstairs!

The Carlson Park Trail Development Fund is housed at the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa at <https://www.cfneia.org/giving/find-a-fund/712-bv>. Thanks to several generous donors, donations to this fund leading up to and immediately following the happy hour (March 1-18) will be matched, up to \$60,000.

Brecka Putnam – *Carlson Park Trail Development Team*

[Email Us](#)
[Learn More](#)

Posted: February 27, 2024

News Release: Immediate

Contact Person: Ric Zarwell, Friends of Pool 9

1-563-419-4991

Email: Refuge100AnniversaryRicZ@gmail.com

Free Events Celebrate

100th Anniversary of Upper Miss. River Refuge

One hundred years ago, a group of concerned citizens banded together to protect the Upper Mississippi from being turned into farmland. This group, spearheaded by Will Dig, who created the Isaac Walton League, petitioned congress in 1924 to create the largest wildlife preserve at that time, The Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge. This Refuge set aside 261 miles of the Mississippi River from Wabasha Minnesota to Rock Island IL and protected over 240,000 acres of the Mississippi River floodplain. Currently the Refuge is home to hundreds of species of fish, mammals, and birds, in addition it is a migratory stop for swans, pelicans, and many other birds. The Refuge brings 3.7 million annual visitors to the area for hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, and other recreation.

In celebration of this 100th anniversary, the Friends of Pool 9, a non-profit group whose mission is to preserve the cultural and natural resources within Pool 9 (between Locks and Dams 8 & 9) is hosting two free events on Saturday, March 9 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the beloved Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge. More information about the refuge may be found at <https://www.uppermiss100.com/>

AT TJ Hunters Banquet Hall on Main Street Lansing, Steven Marking will present his performance entitled "*A Visit from Will Dilg*" (the father of the refuge) plus jhe will show his film "Our Mighty Mississippi" beginning at 2 P.M. Marking is a seasoned performer

with an incredible voice who sang professionally for a decade in New York City, before following his heart back to the beautiful and peaceful Mississippi River. During warm months Marking performs for the American Cruise Lines on the big paddlewheel boats on the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers; and creates remarkable river films.

The same day, March 9, at 7 p.m. until close at TJ Hunters, *Big Blue Sky* will delight audiences with lively music celebrating the beauty of the river. Well-known in the area, the popular group Jon “Hawk” Stravers and his band *Big Blue Sky* will create a party-like atmosphere, with abundant camaraderie among all those who love and use the Refuge.. Jon “Hawk” Stravers and Big Blue Sky create original easy listening, folk-rock type music, much of which is focused on connections with the rivers and forests within the Driftless Area. CDs will be available for purchase. .Often playing in SW Wisconsin and NE Iowa, the group has amassed a loyal following. Stavers is also well known for his research on tracking red-shouldered hawks and his data on cerulean warblers.

Both events will take place at TJ Hunters Banquet Hall, 377 Main Street, Lansing, Iowa, where lunch, cash bar and dinner will be available

The Friends of Pool 9 (FOP9), the 93 square miles of publicly owned refuge available to all between Lock and dams 8 & 9 will present these free events to celebrate 100 years of amazing recreational opportunities throughout the refuge. A second purpose is to show appreciation and honor the scores of volunteers who have participated on annual river clean-up days, education activities for nearby school districts such as MRAD (Mississippi River Adventure Days), Kids Fishing Days, help at the Genoa National Fish Hatchery, Tree Planting Projects on new islands, and various other activities.

Friends of Pool 9 is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization which conserves the cultural and natural resources within Pool 9, and fosters wise public use and enjoyment of the Refuge and the Upper Mississippi River. For more information, please go to “events” on the FOP9 website: friendsofpool9.org , or visit the FOP9 FaceBook page. A free will donation at the events will help support the activities of the FOP9. Membership in FOP9 is free to anyone who supports the goals of the organization.

Ric Zarwell – *100th Anniversary Celebration Committee*

[1-563-419-4991](tel:1-563-419-4991)

[Email Us](#)

Posted: March 4, 2024

The Porter House Museum in Decorah will offer a lecture titled “Women’s Work for Public Good” by Elizabeth Lorentzen and David Faldet on Thursday March 21 at 6:15 and again at 7:45 p.m.. The lecture, at the Porter House on 401 W. Broadway, is open to the public and free of charge

John Reynolds – *Museum Manager*

[Email Us](#)

Posted: March 13, 2024

The Landing Market is again hosting its Little bunny Breakfast for families and anyone wanting to spring into Easter on Sat., Mar. 30, 9-11 a.m.

This hopping good time will include free activities for children, including crafts, balloon art from Twisted by Mariann, and crafts. They can also order the bunny face pancake special from Justin’s.

Justin’s complete breakfast and lunch menu will be available along with a full slate of hot and cold beverages from The Buzz.

The Landing is located at 211 College Dr., Decorah. It houses food and beverage-oriented establishments, which include Justin’s, The Buzz, Root 43, and others along with space for events.

For more information, visit www.thelandingmarket.com, email info@thelandingmarket.com, or call (563) 277-1893.

Terry Ramlo – *Manager*

[563.277.1893](tel:563.277.1893)

[Email Us](#)

