

**DESCRIPTION OF KWWL (TV) PROGRAMS PROVIDING  
THE MOST SIGNIFICANT TREATMENT OF COMMUNITY ISSUES  
OCTOBER-DECEMBER, 2023**

<u>PROGRAM</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>TIME</u>
<b>Local News – 33 Hours Weekly</b>		
KWWL/NBC Today in Iowa	Monday through Friday	4:30-7:00 am
KWWL/NBC Today in Iowa	Saturday	7:30-9:00 am
KWWL/NBC Today in Iowa	Sunday	6:00-7:00 am
KWWL/NBC Today in Iowa	Sunday	8:00-9:00 am
KWWL/NBC News at Noon	Monday-Friday	12:00-1:00 pm
KWWL/NBC News at 4:00	Monday-Friday	4:00-4:30pm
KWWL/NBC News at 5:00	Monday-Friday, Sunday	5:00-5:30 pm
KWWL/NBC News at 6:00	Monday-Saturday	6:00-6:30 pm
KWWL/NBC News at 10:00	Monday-Sunday	10:00-10:35 pm

All the newscasts listed above represent a mix of news, weather, and sports, including many issue-responsive segments and multi-part series. 33 hours per week.

**Noon News Interview Segments**      Monday-Friday      KWWL News at Noon

- Oct 2** – Whitney Jensen – Boy Scouts of America-Winnebago Council.  
**Oct 4** – Dr. Martin Averil - Iowa Mission of Mercy and Laurie Traetow - Iowa Dental Foundation.  
**Oct 5** – Danica Haas – Junior League of Waterloo-Cedar Falls.  
**Oct 6** – Rich Congdon – Prairie Parkway Garden.  
**Oct 9** – Steve Carignan – Gallagher Bluedorn Performing Arts Center.  
**Oct 10** – Bryan Burten – Boys and Girls Clubs of the Cedar Valley.  
**Oct 11** – Danny Laudick – Red Cedar and Nicole Sallis – Grow Cedar Valley.  
**Oct 12** – Randi Kirkevold – Hops for Hospice and Becky Dirks – Allen Foundation.  
**Oct 13** – Ebony King – Formed Designs and Greg Holt.  
**Oct 13** – Greg Holt – Cedar Falls Community Theatre  
**Oct 16** – Angela Weekley – Veridian Credit Union and Nicole Sallis – Grow Cedar Valley.  
**Oct 18** – Quentin Hart – Mayor of Waterloo.  
**Oct 23** – Jessica Rucker – Main Street Waterloo.  
**Oct 27** – Robert Welch – Tri-County Child and Development Council.  
**Oct 30** – Sandy Nordahl – University of Northern Iowa School of Music.  
**Nov 3** – Ben Brustkern and Erin Langenberg – Friends of the Family.  
**Nov 7** – Trent Hunter – Exchange Club of Waterloo.  
**Nov 9** – Major Shannon Thies – Salvation Army of Waterloo and Cedar Falls.  
**Nov 10** – Chitra Reddy – Cedar Valley International Food Tasting event.  
**Nov 14** – Adam Bolander – Cedar Falls Tourism and Visitors Bureau.  
**Nov 20** – Jessica Rucker – Main Street Waterloo.  
**Nov 21** – Quentin Hart – Mayor of Waterloo.  
**Nov 22** – Tracie Cumberland – Strawberry Point Chamber of Commerce.  
**Nov 24** – Kim Groninga and Marley Miller – Cedar Falls Community Theatre.  
**Nov 27** – Tom Lang – Society of Saint Vincent de Paul and Steve Klawonn – Proud Image Chorus.  
**Nov 27** – Karin Rowe – House of Hope  
**Nov 28** – Major Shannon Thies – Salvation Army of Waterloo and Cedar Falls.  
**Nov 30** – Dusky Steele – House of Hope.  
**Dec 1** – Brett Dane – Waverly Winter Lights Parade event.  
**Dec 4** – Jessica Rucker – Main Street Waterloo.  
**Dec 6** – Cassidy Tessoroff – Cedar Falls Community Main Street.  
**Dec 7** – Edita Begic – Vine Valley Real Estate and Nicole Hackman – Leader Valley.  
**Dec 8** – Suzanne Benda and Jennifer Siech – Cedar Valley Hospice.  
**Dec 12** – Dan Huff – Athletics Director, Waterloo School District  
**Dec 20** - Quentin Hart – Mayor of Waterloo.

**Public Service Announcements**

Full Week ROS

Varying length announcements (:10, :15, :20, :30, and :60) that aired throughout the station's broadcast day about issues of community interest:

- :15 – Middle School Mental Health
- :15 – Stand Up to Cancer
- :15 – American Heart Association
- :15 - Heifer International
- :30 – Drug Impaired Driving
- :30 – Donate to Cancer
- :30 – Teachers
- :30 – COVID Vaccine Education
- :30 – Toys for Tots
- :30 - Save the Kids
- :60 – Obesity
- :60 - Lung Cancer
- :60 – Type 2 Diabetes
- :60 – Donors Choose
- :60 – Youth Advocates
- :60 – The Nonprofit Alliance

**Specific Public Service Announcements**

Full Week ROS

Varying length announcements (:10, :15, :20, :30, and :60) that aired throughout the station's broadcast day about issues of community interest:

**Local Events**

- Walk to End Alzheimer's
- Pink Ribbon Run
- Greater Cedar Valley Strictly Business
- Greater Cedar Valley Diversity Summit
- UNI Homecoming
- Festival of Trees
- Festival of Lights
- Battle of Waterloo
- Salvation Army Register to Ring/Love Beyond
- Heroes Among Us Nominations
- Goodwill - Ugly Sweaters

**Local Causes: Varying length announcements (:15, :30, program length)**

- Elks Club
- Crimestoppers (Lyric & Elizabeth & 218 Shooting)

## The Steele Report

**KWWL (Public Affairs) Sundays**

**Weekly 10-10:30am**

**METV (Public Affairs) Sundays**

**Weekly 11:00-11:30am**

Anchor Ron Steele takes an in-depth look at the major issues facing the communities we serve.

Second Quarter programs included:

- **Oct 1** – No show due to NBC's Ryder Cup Golf coverage.
  - **Oct 8** – Segment 1 – Cedar Falls historic church tour. Tom Strub, Cedar Falls Historical Society President. Sara Lair, Cedar Falls Historical Society Vice President. Segment 2 – Boys & Girls Club of the Cedar Valley. Bryan Burton, Chief Executive Officer. Kiley Kime, Development Assistant. Segment 3 – Pack the Bus for Hope Lodge. Candy Nardini, Organizer. Jay Nardini, American Cancer Society volunteer.
  - **Oct 15** – Segment 1 and 2 – Annual Economic Diversity & Inclusion Summit on October 20<sup>th</sup>. Cary Darrah, Grow Cedar Valley President & CEO. Gwenne Berry, UNI Chief Diversity Officer & Assistant to the President. Charles Mhoon II, UNI-CUT Educational Counselor. Segment 3 – Update on Restore Independent Mobility.
  - **Oct 22** – Largest gift to the University of Northern Iowa from David Wilson.
  - **Oct 29** – Segment 1 – Waterloo Exchange Club's One Nation Under God event. Trent Hunter, Exchange Club President. Sandi Sommerfelt, Exchange Club member & former President. Segment 2 – Americans for Independent Living's Music with a Mission event. Tim Combs, AFIL Executive Director. Lt. Col. Glen Keith, AFIL Board Vice President. Segment 3 – More on the UNI gift from David Wilson.
  - **Nov 5** – Cedar Falls Mayoral candidates. Water Burtis, candidate for Cedar Falls Mayor. Danny Laudick, candidate for Cedar Falls Mayor.
  - **Nov 12** – Iowa's Area Education Agencies. Joel Pedersen, Chief Administrator, Central Rivers Area Education Agency. Jen Boyd, future ready consultant, Grant Wood Area Education Agency. Tin Hadley, Oelwein High School Principal.
  - **Nov 19** – Carter Guse, Cedar Falls musician, singer, songwriter, entertainer.
  - **Nov 26** – Segment 1 – Waterloo Schools proposal for singular high school. Dr. Jared Smith, Waterloo School District Superintendent. Segment 2 – Love INC's Christmas Stores. Glen Keith, Executive Director, Love INC Cedar Valley. Segment 3 – Ron reminding people to check out past shows online.
  - **Dec 3** – Coffee and Camaraderie Military/Veteran event. Kris Jones, US Marine Corps Combat Veteran and Military advocate. Segment 2 – Agape Therapy facility tour and what they do. Segment 3 – Holiday concert at GBPAC with Bel Canto choir, Jesse Cosby Center choir and Cedar Falls High School choir. Jennifer Onuigbo, GBPAC Community Relations Manager. Sharrie Wright, Jesse Cosby Center Music Director & East High Assistant Principal. Alice Pruisner, Bel Canto Cedar Valley Founder & Artistic Director.
  - **Dec 10** – Segment 1 – 24/7 BLAC Home ownership program. Sharina Sallis, 24/7 BLAC Co-founder and Board President. Madelyn Ridgeway, 24/7 BLAC Executive Director. Jody Cook, new home owner through 24/7 BLAC Project Home. Segment 2 and 3 – A tour inside the renovations of Americans for Independent Living's new headquarters.
  - **Dec 17** – Segment 1 – ONE Cedar Valley. Joe Briscoe, Executive Director of ONE Cedar Valley. Segment 2 and 3 – Hope City Church. Renovations, expansion and Christmas services. Pastor Quovadis Marshall, Hope City Church lead pastor.
  - **Dec 24** – reairing of the Carter Guse show originally aired November 19<sup>th</sup>.
  - **Dec 31** – Segment 1 – J.J. Moses, homecoming in Waterloo and he has a new book. Guests, J.J. Moses and Sports Director Rick Coleman. Segment 2 and 3 – Iowa Caucuses only 2 weeks away and other big political stories. Chris Larimer, UNI Political Science Professor and KWWL Political Analyst.
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In addition to the local programs listed above, KWWL is an NBC affiliate and carries the full schedule of news and public affairs programming offered by the NBC Network. Additionally, KWWL offers Heroes and Icons and METV on its Multicast Channels.

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## **SIGNIFICANT COMMUNITY ISSUES**

- Agriculture
- Business and Economic Development
- Community Image
- Drugs – Including Illegal, New, Abuse, Prevention
- Education
- Employment, Job Opportunities and Training
- Government – National, State, Local – Operations and Policies
- Health – State, Medical, Medicaid, Issues
- Housing – Including Homeless, Rental, New Starts, Pricing
- Social Issues – Including Domestic Violence, Crime, Health
- Social Justice and Civil Unrest
- Population Divisions – Including Minority, Economic Divisions, Discrimination
- Youth – Including Achievement, Protection, Health

### **Agriculture**

#### **Farmers Coming Together**

10/12/2023

Today in Iowa

:25

A group of Hardin County farmers showed the true meaning of community yesterday. Over 70 people came together with about 13 combines and 14 grain carts to help harvest 400 acres of crops for a friend yesterday. Hardin County farmer Mark Schwark farmed these fields for over 40 years before passing away. Suddenly back in August. To help out his family, some of his friends worked to complete a weeks worth of work in just a couple of hours. Mark's family says they are thankful for the support they are receiving.

#### **Harvest Help**

11/02/2023

KWWL News at 4PM

:24

Volunteers came together today to support an Independence family who recently lost a loved one. The Copenhagen family lost their husband and father, Steve, to cancer a few weeks ago. They were having a hard time getting the crops out before winter. This week, the group "Farm Rescue" was on their land to help. Volunteers from the area came out to run the machinery. They helped with 300 acres for the family. Steve's son and wife are thankful.

### Crop Report

11/14/2023

KWWL News at 6PM

:26

Last weeks crop report is out and the warm dry weather we saw helped give farmers plenty of time to do last minute harvests. The warm weather gave farmers nearly a full weeks worth of suitable fieldwork. From harvests, to finishing fall tillage and putting in fertilizer. 94-percent of corn has been harvested statewide which is on pace from last year. Soybean harvests are almost done and are also on pace with 2022.

### Corn Harvest Wraps

11/28/2023

Today in Iowa

:28

The fall harvests are nearly done across Iowa. Despite the lack of rain in many areas this past summer one farmer on Carlisle says his farm has seen a surprisingly successful harvest. Mike Penick says this years corn was his second best in recent years. While he still wishes for rain he says the crops relied on groundwater to survive until it was time to harvest. Penick says he's still concerned about the drought continuing into the winter. He worries what that will mean for the next year.

### DNR Hunting Incidents

12/12/2023

KWWL News at 5PM

:27

The Iowa DNR has a warning for hunters. They say three recent close-calls should serve as a reminder to review safety measures before heading out on a hunt. Two separate incidents involved the same issue, shooting at running deer. The third was a self-inflicted injury due to improper handling of a firearm and lack of muzzle control. The DNR's hunter education coordinator says all three required medical attention and all three were preventable. In all, the DNR reports 12 hunting incidents and two deaths across all hunting seasons this fall.

### Niag Beef Beef

12/13/2023

KWWL News at 6PM

:29

Iowa's Secretary of Agriculture is among eight state AG leaders raising concerns with US Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack about a new rule allowing beef imports from Paraguay. The issue has to do with that country's history with foot-and-mouth disease. He and others are concerned about the threat it poses to our Nation's livestock sector if there were an outbreak here. They want the import rule paused, and are asking for a more current and reliable risk assessment to be completed.

## Business and Economic Development

### All in Grocers

10/03/2023

Today in Iowa

:35

A new grocery store and community center is opening up in Waterloo just off Franklin Street. The new All-In Grocers is filling such a desperate need in one of the biggest food deserts in the city's Northeast side. The ten million dollar development not only includes a grocery store, but a community center that will be used to host literacy and after school programs. The community-driven initiative will also provide opportunities to formerly incarcerated residents. The American Family Insurance Institute says local entrepreneur Rodney Anderson came to them with a need, and Investment Director Nyra Jordan says they were happy to contribute. The 28-thousand square-foot development is a part of the city's redevelopment plan for the Walnut area. Waterloo Mayor Quentin Hart says today's opening will mark a new chapter for the neighborhood.

### Q Casino Renovation

10/07/2023

Today in Iowa Saturday

:26

The Dubuque Racing Association has been given the green light to move ahead with the next two phases of the renovation and expansion plan for Q Casino. Groups can start developing a lower casino area, add a sports bar restaurant and sports book betting spot, and a family entertainment area. The total cost to expand the casino is between 75 and 80 million dollars and is a key component to a planned redevelopment of Schmitt Island.

### Cedar Falls Parking Study

10/16/2023

KWWL News at 6PM

:28

Cedar Falls is considering adding a parking ramp downtown. The city has set aside a budget of 100-thousand dollars for a downtown parking study to help identify the need for a downtown parking ramp. Along with pricing structure for paid parking. A committee tasked with overseeing this study looked over three proposals and selected a consultant. They are recommending approval of the agreement that would cost just under 40-thousand dollars.

### U of Iowa Groundbreaking

10/29/2023

Sunday 10PM

:24

The University of Iowa will be breaking ground on a nearly quarter of a billion dollar project. It will house three top ranked programs at the school. The new health sciences academic building will house the communication sciences and disorders, health and human physiology, and the Carver College of Medicine's physical therapy and rehab services department. A ceremony will take place on Tuesday at 3PM.

### **The Nook Opens**

11/12/2023

Today in Iowa Sunday

:26

The Nook, located along Main Street in Cedar Falls opened its doors to a crowd of customers excited to explore the bookstores shelves. Book lovers braved some cold temperatures yesterday as they waited for the highly anticipated grand opening of the store. The Nook is owned by husband and wife Brandon Conrad and Abby Olsen. It has two-thousand-five-hundred books from many different genres, and they plan to expand their collections.

### **Shop Small Saturday**

11/24/2023

KWWL News at Noon

:25

This weekend is all about holiday shopping and tomorrow is all about supporting small businesses. Many cities in Eastern Iowa are participating in small business Saturday. It's all about supporting those local businesses during the holiday season. Riverlights Bookstore wants to make sure customers have a specialized shopping experience this weekend. The bookstore will have best sellers, holiday items, and some discounts. Owner Dena Kurts says its important to spend time with each customer, as this is what shopping local is all about.

### **Independence Pet Food Owner**

12/1/2023

KWWL News at 5PM

:27

A new food manufacturer is taking over the Blue Buffalo plant in Independence. Independence Premium Foods made the announcement today. IPF was founded just this year. It plans to boost the local economy and bring in more jobs, with 230 employees planned at peak production. The company also says it has 15 million dollars in planned facility improvements. Earlier this year, General Mills announced it would close the plant after acquiring it in July of 2021.

### **UIHC New Branding**

12/14/2023

KWWL News at 5PM

:30

The University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics is re-branding itself. It will be re-named the University of Iowa Health Care Medical Center. There will also be new logos. There will also be new campus names for the University of Iowa Health Care locations. Including the University campus, for current academic medical center home across from Kinnick. And the North Liberty campus, which will be open in 2025 with a new hospital and clinic building. The health system says the changes are intended to reflect the integrated mission of medical education, research, and patient care as it expands.

### Michael's Coming to Southwest Side of Cedar Rapids

12/19/2023

KWWL News at 5PM

:24

The popular arts and crafts store, Michael's is coming to the Southwest side of Cedar Rapids. The long-term lease is for a space in the upcoming Westdale Town Center on Edgewood Road. Developers are transforming the former site of Westdale Mall into an open air shopping center. That includes three stand-alone anchor buildings and 32 development pads. Right now, the closest Michael's to that area is technically in Marion, near Lindale Mall. They want to open this new location by mid-2024.

### Waterloo Fiber First Customer

12/21/2023

KWWL News at 10PM

:28

The first customers for Waterloo's new high speed internet network are not online. The lucky few are on Sheridan Avenue. This is something residents have been asking for almost 20 years now. Work to install it for everyone will be split up into three phases, each taking about a year. Mayor Hart said the new network will eventually give every home and business in the city access to ultra-speed broadband. He hopes to start connecting a larger portion of the community to fiber, at the start of 2024 and expand service to the entire city by 2026.

## Community Image

### Dental Clinic

10/13/2023

KWWL News at 5PM

:30

You might see more smiles in Waterloo today. Community members were able to get free dental care at the Iowa Mission of Mercy Dental Clinic. The doors opened early this morning at 6AM. Volunteers from all across Iowa are offering dental care completely free of charge to people of all ages. The various services offered included cleanings, as well as a wide range of minor oral surgeries. Marty Averill is the co-leader of this year's event and helped start the original event back in 2008. The last time the Iowa Mission of Mercy was in Waterloo was in 2014. At that time, they provided \$768,000 worth of dental care completely free of charge to more than 11-hundred patients.

### Thanksgiving Drive Thru

11/05/2023

KWWL News at 10PM

:28

An Eastern Iowa church welcomed the community this morning. The Holy Family Parish fall festival Thanksgiving dinner took place in Parkersburg. Saint Patrick's Catholic church has held the dinner for more than 30 years. During the Pandemic, they made it a drive thru only experience. The events feeds families across a number of school districts including Hudson, Gladbrook Reinbeck, Grundy Center and Dike-New Hartford. They have between 55 and 65 volunteers to help each year. It's the church's longest and most successful fundraiser.



### **Cedar Falls Cranksgiving**

11/11/2023

Saturday 6PM

:29

Food drives in a bicycle. That's what members of the Cedar Valley took part in today during the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Cranksgiving celebration. It was part bike ride, part food drive and part scavenger hunt. It's the longest running Cranksgiving celebration in the state. Organizers reach out to local food banks to find out what they're in need of this year and then they set out to go find it. The event was put on by Bike Tech in Cedar Falls. They say they had a great turnout this year. All of the items collected today will go to the Northeast Iowa Food Bank and Cedar Bend Humane Society. The donations will give hundreds of needy families in the Cedar Valley a wealth of food for Thanksgiving.

### **11/18/2023**

Happy Anniversary KWWL

Saturday 10PM

:23

It was a special night around here as we toasted to seven decades on the air. Tonight KWWL staff, community leaders and some KWWL alumni attended a 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary dinner at the Waterloo Elks Club. It was a chance to celebrate seven decades of KWWL. And of course, none of that happens without you at home, so thank you for tuning in to the past 70 years and here is to 70 more.

### **Waterloo Lights the Night**

11/25/2023

Saturday 10PM

:24

Downtown Waterloo got into the holiday spirit early tonight by hosting their own Christmas block party. It's the third annual Waterloo Lights the Night. The fun took place this evening over at Anton's Garden, kicking off the holiday season for downtown, with the help from Experience Waterloo and the community. Tonight crowds were able to witness a tree lighting ceremony and fireworks, along with a visit from the big guy himself, Santa.

### **St. Vincent Christmas Giveaway**

12/09/2023

Sturday 6PM

:28

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul in Waterloo is getting into the Christmas spirit. They are preparing for their Christmas giveaway next week. Volunteers arrived this morning to organize and sort out toys that will be given out to around 400 kids during the event. Families that applied in advance can arrive anytime between nine to noon from Monday to Friday. The events co-coordinators say their goal is to make sure every child gets at least one toy for Christmas. Don Bosco Schools and Saint Patrick's Church in Cedar Falls donated toys and blankets. The group has been in the city since 1950. They have helped many groups of people in need during that time.

### **Camp Courageous**

12/26/2023

KWWL News at 4PM

:24

Camp Courageous is raising money by raffling off a car. Camp Courageous is a year-round recreational and respite cat facility near Monticello. Eloise Dennis donated a 2013 Fiat 500 to the non-profit. The camp is selling raffle tickets for the car for 25 dollars each. Camp Courageous serves nearly 10,000 campers every year. Campers are of all ages and special needs. The winner will be drawn on New Year's eve at noon.

## **Drugs Including Illegal/New/Abuse/Prevention**

### **At Home Flu Vaccine**

10/24/2023

KWWL News t Noon

:30

The FDA is reviewing an application for the nasal spray flu vaccine "flu mist" to be able to be self-administered at home. The vaccine, which is the only nasal spray option against the flu, has been on the market in the United States since 2003. Drug maker Astra Zenecka asked the FDA to allow adults ages 18 to 49 to be able to give themselves the vaccine, or give it to children as young as two years old. If approved, "flu mist" would be the first flu vaccine cleared for self administration. Patients would still need to go through an online pharmacy system to order the vaccine.

### **Drug Take Back Day**

10/28/2023

Today in Iowa Saturday

:27

Law enforcement agencies nationwide are participating in National Drug Take Back Day including here in Iowa. The initiative is meant to prevent pill abuse and theft which has been on the rise in recent years. Among those will be the Linn County Sheriff's Department. They'll take part from 10 to two collecting potentially dangerous expired, unused and unwanted prescription drugs at the Sheriff's Office on Second Street Avenue Southwest in Cedar Rapids. In total, 24 Police and Sheriff Departments in the KWWL viewing area will be taking part this year keeping our communities safe. Launched in 2010, this campaign has brought in over 86-hundred tons of prescription drugs.

### **Fayette Drug Bust**

11/20/2023

KWWL News at 4PM

:24

9 people were arrested in a drug bust in Fayette County. The Sheriff's office said today that it executed 4 drug warrants on Friday and Saturday. 9 people were arrested, facing a combined 90 drug related charges. During the investigation they found and seized a pound of marijuana, multiple grams of meth, numerous types of pills and 22 firearms. The Sheriff's office says more charges are pending.

### **Tiffin Narcotics Arrest**

12/2/2023

Saturday 6PM

:26

A Tiffin man has been arrested following a narcotics investigation by the US Postal inspector and Johnson County Drug Task Force. The inspector intercepted a package for Juan Lopez that contained about one pound of cocaine. During a search of his home and car, authorities found five guns, ammunition and packaging materials. He was arrested and booked into the Johnson County Jail for controlled substance violations.

### **Moderna Melanoma Vaccine**

12/15/2023

Today in Iowa

:27

Moderna says its experimental cancer vaccine, along with Merck's immunotherapy treatment is showing an almost 50 percent lower risk of recurrence or death from melanoma after three years. However, about a quarter of participants reported serious adverse events related to the treatment. The therapies have not been peer-reviewed or published in a professional journal yet. Moderna's goal is to get approval by 2025.

## **Education**

### **Employment, Job Opportunities, and Training**

### **New Black Hawk Health Director**

10/02/2023

KWWL News at Noon

:23

Black Hawk County has a new Public Health Director. Kaitlin Emrich is the new Director. She's been serving as interim Director since Nafisse Egbuonye left earlier this year. Emrich served as the lead public information officer during the COVID-19 Pandemic in 2020, and has also served in health roles in Linn County. The Board of Health approved Emrich in a 5 to 0 vote this morning. She starts the position October 9<sup>th</sup>.

### **Walgreens Walkout**

10/09/2023

KWWL News at Noon

:30

Employees at two of the Country's largest drugstore chains are demanding change. Some Walgreens employees are doing that by staging a series of walk-outs this week. They say harsh working conditions make it difficult to safely fill prescriptions and they believe this could put customers at risk. One organizer says it's due to the burdensome prescription and vaccination expectations placed on pharmacists by Corporate Management. In a statement, Walgreens acknowledged employees are overworked. This comes after pharmacy employees walked off the job at multiple CVS stores in the Kansas City area two weeks ago.

### September Unemployment

10/19/2023

KWWL News at Noon

:20

Iowa's unemployment rate rose up slightly last month. Unemployment hit 3-percent in September. That's up point-one-percent from last month but down from a year ago. The number of unemployed Iowans increased by more than 2-thousand to 52,800 in September. The US unemployment rate retained at 3.8-percent last month.

### Nunn Nursing Shortage

10/27/2023

KWWL News at 10PM

:30

Iowa Congressman Zach Nunn is working to fix the nursing shortage seen in the state. Today he introduced the Train More Nurses Act in Des Moines. The Legislation would help increase the capacity in nursing schools in Iowa. Congressman Nunn says last year nursing schools nationwide turned away 100-thousand applicants due to lack of staff. He hopes this legislation works to get nurses who left the field to come back as educators. Health leaders in Iowa believe adding more nurses will both improve the quality of care in the state and also ease off the heavy load being carried by current nurses. Congressman Nunn says nurses can be training on the floor in more rural areas of the state while also taking online classes.

### NICC President Update

11/04/2023

Today in Iowa Saturday

:24

We're learning more about the President at Northeast Iowa Community College and why he was placed on Administrative leave. The Board of Trustees made the decision after questions were raised about Herbert Riedel's initial evaluation, his hiring practices, and his treatment of staff. David Dahms has been named acting President for now and there's no timetable for how long Doctor Riedel will be on leave.

### Iowa Cyber Hub Ambassadors

11/06/2023

KWWL News at 4PM

:26

The Iowa Cyber Hub is looking for people to go out into the community to educate the public about how they can stay safe online. They're called Cyber security ambassadors, and they can be anyone who wants to have a hand in keeping Iowans from getting into trouble while using the internet. The Iowa Cyber hub was started by an Iowa State Professor, with the focus of improving Cyber security across the State. The plan is for the ambassador to start going out into the community at the beginning of the year.

### New School Guidelines

11/17/2023

Today in Iowa

:27

The Iowa Board of Education is moving ahead with proposed rules to clarify restrictions from a new state law. These new guidelines mean that parents would no longer need to give permission for nicknames unless a student wants to use a different name to affirm their gender identity. Schools who share resources with a public library are exempt from new rules about books with sexually explicit scenes. These new rules go into effect in January. The the State Board of Education will hold public hearings on the rules in January as well.

### Unemployment Applications

11/22/2023

KWWL News at Noon

:30

New applications for unemployment benefits dropped last week, remaining near historic lows, as the job market remains solid. Initial claims fell to 209-thousand after hitting their highest level since August the prior week. The four-week moving average also fell last week to 220-thousand. Initial jobless claims have trended higher since early last month. The unemployment rate rose slightly in October to three-point-nine percent. The highest rate since January 2022.

### Dubuque Police Wage

12/18/2023

KWWL News at 5PM

:28

Dubuque police are pushing for raise for some members of the department. Tonight, the City Council will discuss the chief's recommendation for a pay raise for non-union members of the command staff. The request is for a 5-percent increase for lieutenants, captains and the assistant chief for next year, and 6-percent for the chief. According to a council document, non-bargaining members haven't gotten yearly increases a few different times since 2011, when bargaining employees did. The document says the proposed raises will total 80-thousand dollars and there's enough savings within the police budget to cover it.

### New Dubuque Police Pay

12/24/2023

Today in Iowa Sunday

:31

This week Dubuque City Council approved wage increases for high ranking Dubuque police officers. It is a way to reduce parity of pay for the command staff and lower ranked officers, which reduced motivation to take promotions. Supervisors are non-bargaining members of the department. City council approved 5% raises for lieutenants, captains and the assistant chief and a 6% raise for the chief. Like may departments across the country, Dubuque police have had a hard time with recruitment and retention of officers. The total costs for the new wages will come out to around 80-thousand dollars. Lieutenant Welsh says that money will come from money already budgeted for wages this year, but not spent because of open positions in the department.

### Minimum Wage Increase

12/31/2023

Sunday 10PM

:25

Millions of workers will get a pay bump when the clock strikes midnight. Nearly half of all US states and the district of Columbia will increase their minimum wage in 2024. Washington State will have the highest minimum wage in the Country at sixteen dollars twenty eight cents and hour.

Meanwhile Hawaii will have the largest increase, raising it's minimum was two dollars to fourteen dollars and hour. Washington DC will have the highest hourly minimum wage the Country at seventeen dollars and five cents.

## Government

### National/State/Local Operations and Policies

### Candidates in Iowa

10/21/2023

Saturday 10PM

:23

Republican Presidential candidates campaigned across the Hawkeye state today. South Carolina Senator Tim Scott made several stops, including one in Maquoketa. Pella was among the stops on former South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley's agenda. North Dakota Governor Doug Burgum's campaign day included speaking to voters in Mt. Pleasant. And Vivek Ramaswamny also made a campaign stop in Mt. Pleasant.

### Benton County Health

11/03/2023

Today in Iowa

:37

Now to the controversy in Benton County over public health services. The county fired the entire board of health four weeks ago. County supervisors met earlier this week to discuss a proposed agreement for Virginia Gay Hospital to take over the public health department. Former health board members were at that meeting demanding answers about why they were terminated. The former board of health members demanded how they handled the budget. They said they presented cheaper options and the supervisors were the ones who approved the budget. They also pressed the county leaders on the timing of this proposed agreement with Virginia Gay Hospital. The county says it popped up in mid-October. After that back and forth, Virginia Fay's CEO said it was not worth the stress and withdrew the offer. During the meeting, Chairman Tracy Seeman apologized for draggig the hospital into the dispute.

### Iowa Operation Lonestar

10/26/2023

Today in Iowa

:27

Governor Kim Reynolds provided an update on Iowa State Patrol Troopers and National Guardsmen after they returned from the Mexico border. Earlier this year she sent personnel to the border to help the State of Texas with operation Lonestar. Governor Reynolds is one of several Republican Governors who sent personnel. They helped local authorities in preventing illegal border crossings and combating drug or human smuggling. During their 27 day mission, the 109 Iowa National Guard members stopped thousands of people from illegally crossing the border.

### USPS Shipping Prices

11/23/2023

Today in Iowa

:20

After the holiday rush, it will cost more to send a package through the US Postal Service. USPS says the changes include ground advantage, priority mail, and priority mail express. Their prices are going up just over five percent starting January 21<sup>st</sup>. The service also wants to increase the cost of forever stamps from .66 to .68 cents.

### More Aid Uncertain

11/26/2023

Sunday 5PM

:28

As the war overseas continues, the question here at home is whether or not the US continues to fund Israel during the war. Something Americans in support of Palestine have spoken out against due to the rise in deaths seen in Gaza. Lawmakers on both sides today speaking on the difficult road ahead they see in being able to help out Israel further. Congressman Mike Turner says the White house should focus on the Southern border over Israel and enact prior laws regarding the border like the remain in Mexico policy to help secure it.

### Biden Admin Menthol Cig Ban

12/07/2023

KWWL News at 4PM

:23

Critics are speaking out against the Biden Administration's move to once again delay a ban on menthol cigarettes. The new rules were originally planned to be finalized by August, but officials later stated it would happen before the end of the year. Now, the change is not expected until March at the earliest. The administration did not give reasons for the delay but indicated it was not because of tobacco industry lobbying.

### Presidential Politics Latest

12/27/2023

KWWL News at Noon

:30

Presidential candidates are in the final stretch with only a few weeks to go until the January 15<sup>th</sup> Iowa Caucuses. The prospect of catching up to former President Trump is increasingly appearing out of reach for the candidates. Right now, polls indicate in Iowa far less than some other candidates. According to an ABC News tally, he's visited 14 of Iowa's 99 counties. Nikki Haley has visited 23 counties. Ron Desantis and Vivek Ramaswamy have both visited all 99 counties. Now, Haley and Desantis are sharpening their attacks against each other. Haley is surging in New Hampshire. One recent poll putting the former South Carolina Governor within 14 points of the former President.

## Health/Mental Health State/Medical/Medicaid/Issues

### Cedar Falls Pink

10/05/2023

Today in Iowa

:27

The power of pink is on display in Cedar Falls all October long. City police and fire crews are joining together to support breast cancer awareness month. You may see local responders sporting pink patches and even a pink patrol vehicle. This is all part of an initiative to encourage discussions about breast cancer detection and treatment, while also raising funds for those affected by the disease. Cedar Falls Public Safety will be selling the patches and Beyond Pink shirts at community events this month. The Beyond Pink Team says all the funds raised will go directly to those individuals diagnosed here in Eastern Iowa.

### Mental Health Day

10/10/2023

KWWL News at 5PM

:24

It's World Mental Health Day and in the US experts fear that a crisis is growing, specifically among younger Americans./ The National Alliance on Mental Illness says one in six kids between the ages of six and 17 experience a mental health disorder every year. Child psychologists suggest parents normalize how their child feels, since they don't always have the words to express themselves. Social connections are also critical. So they encourage kids to have healthy friendships and join extracurricular activities.

### Study on Lung Cancer

10/14/2023

Today in Iowa Saturday

:26

New research shows more young and middle-aged women are being diagnosed with lung cancer at a higher rate than men, and scientists are struggling to understand why. The study included people diagnosed with lung cancer between 2000 and 2019. It found women ages 35 to 54 had been diagnosed with lung cancer at a higher rate than similarly-aged men. A lack of understanding about what is driving the gender trend in lung cancer is in part fueling a push for more funding to study these differences. The hope is to identify the drivers so public health leaders could target those particular issues.

### Iowa Pharmacies Struggling

10/20/2023

KWWL News at 4PM

:26

Small independent pharmacies across Iowa are shutting down, and there's concern more will soon follow. That's because those pharmacies often lose money when they fill prescriptions, and that's because of something called pharmacy benefit managers or PBM's. They're supposed to help pharmacists take insurance, but they also decide how much insurance money they get refunded. A study from Drake University found at least 87 independent pharmacies statewide have shut their doors since 2008.



### Eye Drops Infection Risk

10/30/2023

KWWL News at 4PM

:27

A warning from the FDA about dozens of over-the-counter eye drops. There's a possible risk of infection which could result in partial vision loss or blindness. Investigators found unsanitary conditions in the factory. The drops are marketed under the brands CVS Health, Leader, Rugby, Rite Aid, Target Up-and-Up, and Velocity Pharma. Despite the alert, the FDA hasn't yet gotten any reports of eye infection associated with the products.

### Long Term Aspirin Usage

10/31/2023

KWWL News at 4PM

:23

A new study found taking aspirin long-term may be ineffective and in some cases, even harmful. The report is published in the scientific journal circulation focused on high-risk cardiovascular patients with stents. Doctors often recommend taking aspirin for about a year after surgery to help prevent blood clots. But the study found taking it for just three months was just as effective.

### Walmart Sensory Hours

11/08/2023

KWWL News at Noon

:29

Walmart says it is making changes at its US stores to create a calmer experience for neurodiverse individuals with sensory disabilities. Starting on Friday, the retail giant will have sensory-friendly hours from eight to 10 each morning, seven days a week. During that time, stores will lower the store lights, turn off the radio and set in-store TV walls to a TV static images. These measures are meant to provide a less stimulating environment.

### Blood Pressure Study

11/13/2023

KWWL News at Noon

:30

A new study shows cutting out one teaspoon of salt from your diet each day can help lower your blood pressure just as much as blood pressure medicine. Researchers at Northwestern University say the benefits of lowering the amount of sodium in a person's diet were dramatic. Between 70 and 75 percent of people studied saw a drop in their blood pressure. Whether they already were on medicine or not. A teaspoon of salt is about 23-hundred milligrams. However, the American Heart Association recommends a diet with less than 15-hundred milligrams of sodium each day.

### Suicide Rates

11/15/2023

KWWL News at Noon

:28

Suicide rates in the US are highest among elderly men, and most involve guns. According to a report published today by the CDC, the suicide rate in the US spiked in 2021, reversing two year of decline. In 2021, there were about 30 suicide deaths for every 100-thousand men ages 55 and older. Men 85 and older were most at risk, with nearly 56 suicide deaths for every 100-thousand. Firearms accounted for at least three-quarters of suicides among men 65 and older in 2021.

### Respiratory Illness Rise

12/16/2023

Saturday 6PM

:24

Its a scene playing out in clinics and hospitals nationwide. It has prompted an urgent warning from the CDC behind troubling new numbers. The agency says the number of patients with the flu has shot up 200 percent over the last four weeks. Hospitalizations for RSV and COVID are surging as well. As of last week, the CDC says only about 40% of children and adults have gotten this years flu shot. The adult COVID vaccination rate barely breaks 17%.

### Holiday Mental Health

12/25/2023

KWWL News at Noon

:36

While its the season many refer to as the most wonderful time of the year, for some it can be a challenging time. Whether you are spending the holiday season alone or are battling seasonal depression, this time of year can take a toll on mental health. Psychiatrists say that those dealing with depression this time of year can do some things to combat it. But the responsibility to seek help doesn't just fall on the one suffering. Family members or friends need to be on the lookout for signs of depression, and if you see major changes don't be afraid to have a hard conversation. Experts say that a hard conversation might make the difference between life or death with someone struggling.

### CDC Flu Numbers

12/30/2023

Saturday 6PM

:24

According to the CDC's weekly influenza surveillance report, there was a 16-percent jump in people testing positive for the flu. The agency says outpatient respiratory illness was above the national baseline for the eighth consecutive week. The CDC said public health labs reported 875 viruses and there were six influenza-related pediatric deaths. That brings the total number for the 2023-2024 influenza season to 20.

## **Housing Including Homeless/Rental/New Starts/Pricing**

### Dubuque Tenant Forum

10/01/2023

Sunday 5PM

:30

The Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement is hosting a forum to discuss housing in the city. During the meeting, renters, mobile home residents and affordable housing advocates will be able to ask questions about the future of housing in Dubuque. City leaders including Mayor Brad Cavanagh and city council members are at the meeting to answer questions from the public. Community members say Dubuque is facing a housing shortage and needs to make homes affordable for everyone.

### Iowa City House Fire

11/21/2023

Today in Iowa

:20

Fire investigators in Iowa City are looking into what caused a house fire yesterday. The fire on Donegal Court started just after 10:30 in the morning. Firefighters brought it under control a little more than 15 minutes after they arrived. Nobody was home at the time and no firefighters were injured.

### Homeless Shelters and Cold

11/27/2023

KWWL News t 4PM

:23

Temperatures are dropping outside and those without homes, need extra help to stay safe in this weather. Today, KWWL spoke with the Cedar Valley Hospitality House. The non-profit provides day-time shelter and support for those without homes in the Waterloo area. They say numbers are up, and 15 to 22 people a day are coming in for services. They said as the temperatures drop, the more help is needed from the community.

### Cedar Rapids House Fire

12/3/2023

Today in Iowa Sunday

:23

A family of six safely escapes a house fire. Firefighters arrived to the house just before 10 yesterday morning along F Avenue Northeast. They found smoke on the first floor and fire above the bathroom the bathroom ceiling. Firefighters were able to put the fire out. The house has some smoke and water damage. Authorities say they are working to determine what caused the fire.

### Homelessness New High

12/17/2023

Sunday 10PM

:28

There's a rising number of homeless people across the country. Major cities are struggling to find shelter for them. New data shows over 653-thousand people are living on the streets. That is the highest it's ever been and a 12-percent jump from last year. Non-profits say the system is completely overwhelmed. Cities including New York, Phoenix and Los Angeles have been the hardest hit. Phoenix recently cleared a large encampment downtown and moved the tents into neighborhoods, and Los Angeles has declared a state of emergency for the crisis.

### Iowa City House Fire.

12/23/2023

Saturday 6PM

:22

A family in Iowa is displaced after a fire at their home last night. Firefighters say the fire started in the basement. It is not clear what caused it. Everyone inside was able to safely make it out unharmed. The estimated damage to the home is around 40-thousand dollars.

### **Mortgage Rates Drop**

12/29/2023

KWWL News at Noon

:24

Good news for home buyers facing the least affordable housing market since the 1980's. For the ninth week in a row, Freddie Mac reported a drop in US mortgage rates. 30-year-fixed rate mortgage rates fell to an average 6-point-61 percent for the week ending December 28<sup>th</sup>. That's a hair down from the previous week's 6-point-67 percent. The drop over the past two months has been partly fueled by the anticipation of federal reserve rate cuts expected next year.

## **Social Issues Including Domestic/Violence/Crime**

### **Cedar Rapids CSD Threat**

10/06/2023 KWWL News at Noon

:25

A 14-year-old has been arrested in connection to a Social Media threat towards the Cedar Rapids Community School District. Police have not released the person's name. They say no other information will be released at this time. The threat forced the district to close all schools on Monday. Classes resumed on Tuesday. Neither the District nor police have revealed much information on the threat itself.

### **Mortar Shells Found**

10/08/2023

KWWL News at 10PM

:22

Waterloo Police were called to the Cedar River this afternoon after a fisherman discovered what they believe to be mortar shells. Waterloo Police searched the river near the sixth street and railroad bridges around 5:30 today. The Waterloo Police Bomb Squad closed off the area while they inspected the shells. After looking them over, they determined none of the items were explosives and were just the shell casings.

### **Waterloo Shots Fired**

10/22/2023

Sunday 10PM

:20

A home in Waterloo was hit by a bullet early this morning. It happened around 1AM in the 400 block of Oneida Street. Authorities say three teens were at the home. Police were called to investigate around 30 minutes later. That's when the parents got home and discovered a bullet hole in the house. No one was hurt.

### Waterloo Sues Flirts

10/23/2023

KWWL News at 10PM

:30

The City of Waterloo is suing Flirts Gentleman's Club, to declare it declared as a nuisance property. Flirts liquor license was revoked by City Council because of the number of times police were called there. The city is using those nuisance calls as their argument in this lawsuit, alleging a history of gunfire, assaults and riots at the club. Earlier this year, the club agreed to install metal detectors, ID scanners and store photos of patrons. But the city says they never did. The incidents listed in the suit include a shooting in August of 2022, an assault in October, and a shooting and assault on December 31<sup>st</sup>. For now, Flirts can only serve alcohol from 6AM to 10PM. A hearing in the case has been set for this Friday.

### Waterloo Gun Violence

11/07/2023

Today in Iowa

:28

A year long effort to address gun violence in Waterloo is moving forward. Over the past year, the Safe Neighborhood Commission has received input and feedback from the community. The commission looked into approaches and models to address and prevent community gun violence. They've also worked with Iowa State University to come up with neighborhood safety strategies. Mayor Hart also shared his thoughts on what the future looks like for the program. The commission was created last year to look into how to prevent gun violence and the problems that feed violence in some areas of the Waterloo community.

### Thefts on the Rise

11/29/2023

Today in Iowa

:30

Many cities in Eastern Iowa are reporting a rise in car thefts. Police departments across the Cedar Valley are having people stay on high alert. Many cities like Cedar Rapids, Coralville and Marion say they are seeing a rise in retail thefts and car break-ins over the past couple of years. According to the National Insurance Crime Bureau December is a month in which you're more likely to have your car broken into. Now to avoid being a victim to the crime, Shoppers are encouraged to park in a well-lit area preferable near a security camera. The Cedar Rapids police department is asking residents to hid all valuables when shopping for the holidays. Sergeant Jennifer Roberts says even leaving your phone a simple shopping bag couple leave your car vulnerable to a break in.

### Iowa City Gun at School

11/30/2023

Today in Iowa

:27

A parent is facing charges in Iowa City. The school district says he had a gun on him and threatened staff members. Police say Brandon Jones threatened staff at the main office of Grant Wood Elementary. The school says he took the gun off his hip and handed it to another person and asked them to take it outside. Police arrested Jones. He's charged with carrying weapons on school grounds and harassment. During the incident, the building was placed on hold, similar to a lock down.

### Evansdale Bodies Found Anniversary

12/5/2023

KWWL News at 6PM

:28

Today marks eleven years since the bodies of cousins Elizabeth Collins and Lyric Cook-Morrisey were found. The children had gone for a bike ride on Friday July 13<sup>th</sup> in 2012. Hundreds of volunteers turned out to search for the missing girls shortly after they were reported missing. Their bikes, a purse and cell phone were found on the trail at Meyer's Lake, but no sign of the cousins. The years since they have been agonizing for Elizabeth's father Drew Collins. He spoke with us this past summer. No arrests have ever been made in the unsolved case. The cause of their deaths has never been made public at last check. The DCI told us there are no new leads in the case.

### Independence Child Endangerment

12/10/2023

Today in Iowa Sunday

:27

An Independence man is facing child endangerment charges after police say his kid ate THC. Jack Klein became a suspect when police were notified of a child ingesting the marijuana component at Klein's home. Police found various drugs and drug equipment and arrested him. He is charged with possession with intent to distribute magic mushrooms and child endangerment among other charges. If convicted on all charges, he faces up to 22 years in prison.

### Iowa City Fire Arrest

12/28/2023

KWWL News at 5PM

:27

An Iowa City woman is accused of lighting her ex-boyfriend's couch on fire. The fire started early Tuesday morning. Police say there was smoke and water coming from a unit on South Dubuque Street. It was out by the building's sprinkler system. No one was hurt. Victoria Lea was arrested according to the criminal complaint. Lea's ex-boyfriend lived at the unit. Police say it appeared she used lighter fluid to intentionally light the couch in the apartment on fire, as well as some of his belongings. She's facing a first degree arson charge.

### Dubuque 911 Center

12/28/2023

KWWL News at Noon

:29

The Dubuque County Board of Supervisors gave the ok for an agreement to pay for a new 911 communications center. A special meeting was held this week between the supervisors and the Dubuque county 911 service board. Under the proposed agreement, Dubuque county, the city of Dubuque, and the Dubuque county 911 service board would pay for an operate a new communications center. It will relocate from 770 Central Avenue to a larger space, according to a council document. Call volume is increasing and so is the need for more space to accommodate more positions. The city of Dubuque will discuss it at the city council meeting next week.

## **Population Divisions Including Minority/Economic Divisions/Discrimination**

### **UI Speaker Protest**

10/17/2023

Today in Iowa

:35

A controversial night at the University of Iowa Campus over an event featuring a critic of gender transition in minors. Chloe Cole is a detransitioner, someone who began the process to transition before ultimately deciding against it. Demonstrators began lining up inside of the Iowa Memorial Union about 45 minutes before the speech was set to begin. They first chanted inside the building, then moved outside, sending people to each building entrance to chant in support of transgender rights. Young Americans for Freedom says that they immediately saw backlash once they started spreading the word about Chloe Cole coming to speak. They have seen chalk advertisements being washed away, as well as posters advertising the event being stolen. Many that were protesting did not agree with Cole's rhetoric, saying that it is being used to "demonize an entire population."

### **Bilingual Tourism**

11/01/2023

KWWL News at 5PM

:28

Marshalltown is celebrating diversity with a new initiative they hope will better reflect the community. The city's Chamber of Commerce launched a new bilingual tourism identity "Meet in Marshalltown" and "Nos Vemos En Marshalltown." They decided on the name because they commonly hear that people from different cities meet there. This identity will have a new website, social media, and more to provide the community with information on businesses and events in their native language. Their next step is to work on expanding the initiative to other languages.

### **UI Support Palestine Protests**

11/10/2023

KWWL News at 10PM

:29

Rallies and protests in support of Israel and Palestine have taken place Nationwide since the war began over a month ago. Tonight a protest in support of Palestine took place on the campus at the University of Iowa people called for peace and a ceasefire. Speakers asking for a peaceful end to the conflict in Gaza and expressing disappointment with all Politicians in Washington for choosing not to engage in an agreement to end the war. Many groups were at tonight's protest including Veterans for Peace. They will be holding a separate event tomorrow morning in Iowa City to recognize armistice day, and the end of World War One.

### Iowa Churches Leave

11/19/2023

Sunday Today in Iowa

:26

Nearly 60 churches are parting ways with the United Methodist Church. The Iowa annual conference approved the disaffiliation agreements at a special session on zoom. The 59 churches follow 83 others who left in May. Most of this group are in Northeast Iowa. There are 20 here in Eastern Iowa. They will leave at the end of this month. The departures come amid discussions within the church about whether ministers can marry or ordain LGBTQ+ people.

### Iowa Satanic Christmas

12/06/2023

KWWL News at 4PM

:28

A new display at the Iowa State Capitol is sparking a mixed reaction. Among the Christmas decorations near the East door on the first floor of the Capitol, the Satanic Temple of Iowa has a new display on view. According to the website, the mission of the temple is to quote "encourage benevolence and empathy, reject tyrannical authority, advocate practical common sense, oppose injustice, and undertake noble pursuits." The Iowa Department of Administration Services says the group followed procedure to get approval for the display.

### Coralville Hate Crime Ordinance

12/20/2023

KWWL News at 6PM

:28

Coralville is working toward increasing penalties for hate crimes. The council passed the first reading of an ordinance last night. Violators will be fined 300 dollars for the first offense and 855 for subsequent offenses. The Coralville Mayor says this is something they'd talked about for a few years, but they thought that what was in the code was sufficient. It's similar to the ordinances passed by Iowa City and North Liberty except, like all Coralville ordinances, it does not mandate jail sentences for prosecution of simple misdemeanor offenses.

## Youth

### Including Achievement/Protection/Health

### Bus Problems

10/04/2023

KWWL News at 10PM

:31

We are more than a month in to the school year now and frustrated parents in Waterloo say they're still dealing with bus delays. The complaints include late pick ups or drop offs and even leaving some kids behind. The District Superintendent says First-Student has been listening to the feedback and working to make improvements but things still need to be better. In his statement, First-Student acknowledging the disruptions are impacting families well-being. Starting this week, they'll be bringing in extra drivers to help. The company also says it has 10 candidates in training.



### Safe Haven Box

10/11/2023

KWWL News at 10PM

:24

The State's first "Safe Haven" box for parents to give up their newborns is open now in Fort Dodge. The box allows people to surrender a baby without face-to-face interaction. The State's Safe Haven law legally allows parents to leave an infant up to 90 days old at certain locations, or by calling 911. The City says the box will be available, following a test period later this week.

### Cedar Falls Wave of Light

10/15/2023

KWWL News at 10PM

:29

Families in the Cedar Valley and around the world gathered tonight to create a Wave of Light. They honored children who died way too young, raising awareness for pregnancy loss and infant mortality. The Wave of Light takes place every year on October 15<sup>th</sup>. It marks the end of baby loss awareness week. People around the world light candles at 7PM. They keep them burning for an hour to remember all the baby angels who are no longer here. Organizers say the event helps comfort struggling with the loss of a child. Wave of Light ceremonies also took place tonight in Des Moines, Cedar Rapids and Sioux City.

### UI Band NIL

10/18/2023

Today in Iowa

:23

Eighteen University of Iowa Hawkeye marching band members have signed a "name, image and likeness" deal. The musicians are all members of the marching bands mellophone section. The deal is with the Brick Kitchen, an independent, family-owned kitchenware store in Independence. It's said to be the first ever NIL deal for Hawkeye band members.

### Ames Fighting

10/25/2023

KWWL News at Noon

:28

A school district in Central Iowa is addressing recent reports of violence at Ames High School. The Superintendent responded after a video apparently showing a fight circulated online. Ames police say one person was sent to the hospital because of the fight. The Superintendent says there have been multiple reports of fights at Ames High School. They have launched an anonymous reporting system in the school. The Superintendent also says they've ramped up security at high school athletics events to make sure attendees and students are safe.

### UNI Cue Program

11/09/2023

KWWL News at 10PM

:26

The University of Northern Iowa is expanding its center for Urban Education in order to help low-income children in Cedar Rapids. The expansion is for the educational talent search program found at six schools across the district. The director for the program says the main goal is to create a better learning environment for everyone in the city. UNI says its expansion in Cedar Rapids builds on the more than 1,200 students served by educational talent search in the Waterloo area.

### Iowa Rules on Book Restrictions

11/16/2023

KWWL News at 6PM

:29

The Iowa Department of Education has approved rules for banned books inside Iowa schools. Back in May, Governor Reynolds signed a law that removed any books that contain sexually explicit material from libraries. Under these new rules, the Board of Education looked to adopt new definitions of what they consider “age appropriate” and a “sex act.” To give clarity when evaluations whether or not to ban a book. The rules also state if a student wants to go by a different gender than the one on their birth certificate, the school must notify their parents. These new rules go into effect when the law goes into effect on January first.

### Iowa Teacher of the Year.

12/4/2023

KWWL News at 6PM

:27

A Des Moines High School teacher has been awarded with the Iowa Teacher of the Year award. Ann Mincks has worked as an English language learner teacher at Hoover High School for 15 years. The award recognizes her work using evidence based practices to improve her students literacy. She says her goal everyday is to help kids achieve their highest reading levels possible. She was honored with a proclamation today by Governor Kim Reynolds, who in a statement praised her for her work in the classroom saying in part quote “she is creating a foundation for them to thrive in school, work, and life. I look forward to the positive impact Ann’s advocacy will have for teachers and student across our state.”

### Wartburg Short Film Contest

12/08/2023

Today in Iowa

:28

Wartburg College will showcase some of the most creative minds in Waverly on the big screen. The public was invited to attend the first ever campus wide short film competition last night. They got to see a number of student made short films and then vote for their favorite. The president of the film organization explained why she feels film making is such an important aspect of our lives. The winners received little Wartburg College Oscar awards and gift cards. Six awards were handed out for the cinematography, best directing, editing, and best performances.

### Hawkeye Marching Band

12/11/2023

KWWL News at Noon

:27

The Cheez-It Citrus Bowl is reversing course. It will allow the Iowa and Tennessee bands to perform at halftime during the bowl game on New Years Day. Last week, the bowl game announced the bands would only perform before the game and singer Gavin DeGraw would perform at halftime. Several members of the Hawkeye marching band spoke out against the decision. In a post on X, the Citrus Bowl said both DeGraw and the bands will perform at halftime. The Hawkeye marching band says its excited to perform before the game and at halftime.

## Iowa Education Lawmakers

12/22/2023

KWWL News at 10PM

:29

A Federal Judge hearing arguments today about whether to block Iowa's new education law from being enforced in the New Year, while a lawsuit against it plays out. Last month several groups and families filed a lawsuit, saying the law infringes on the first amendment rights of students. The law forbids discussion of gender identity and sexual orientation with students through grade six, and bans books that depict sex acts from school libraries, except for religious texts like the bible. Both schools and educators can face discipline and penalties for violating the law. Lawyers for the State argued the students who filed the lawsuit don't have standing to do so, because they are not being penalized.