

A VERY BIG
THANK YOU
 TO POTTAWATTAMIE COUNTY
 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR THEIR
 GENEROUS FUNDING.

On behalf of everyone at the Western Iowa
 Development Association, we sincerely appreciate
 your continued support and generosity ~ keeping
 our fire fueled.

- Walnut Community Center Foundation
- Community Foundation for Western Iowa
- Marne Elk Horn Telephone
- Pottawattamie County Trails Association



**Pottawattamie
 County**
 Find Your Fire



- CARSON
 HANCOCK
 MACEDONIA
 MCCLELLAND
 MINDEN
 NEOLA
 OAKLAND
 SHELBY
 TREYNOR
 AVOCA MAIN STREET



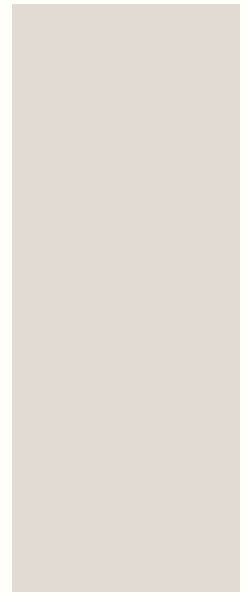
THANK YOU
 TO OUR CITY SPONSORS
 & VALUED BUSINESS
 MEMBERS

Because of you, we continue our efforts in the success of our rural western Iowa communities. Together, we make a difference. Together, WE ARE WIDA.



Western Iowa Development Association

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



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A WARM WIDA WELCOME RUSTIC DOOR BOUTIQUE

-Illuminating Homes with Handcrafted Delights



SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY
MORE ON PAGE 5

At Rustic Door Boutique, the essence of coziness and warmth is captured in every flickering flame. Embodying the spirit of artisanal craftsmanship, our small business specializes in pouring 100% soy wax candles presented in uniquely curated vessels. In addition to our signature candles, we offer a delightful assortment of car diffusers, wax melts, and room sprays that bring a touch of tranquility to any space.

beautiful candles, leading to an outpouring of support from family and friends. The year 2022 marked the official beginning of our journey, with the birth of Rustic Door Boutique and a steadfast commitment to quality and authenticity.

THE ORIGIN STORY

As the world paused during the upheaval of the COVID era, Rustic Door Boutique came to life in the basement of a home filled with antiques. A spark of creativity ignited the idea of repurposing old jelly jars into



Rustic Door Boutique | Avoca, IA

We are excited to welcome Rustic Door Boutique to our WIDA community. Cnt'd page 3.

LIVE • WORK • EXPLORE • THRIVE





Rustic Door Boutique | Avoca, IA

PASSION FOR EXCELLENCE

Our devotion to excellence drives us to prioritize quality over quantity, resulting in products that not only illuminate rooms but also hearts. We continuously seek unique candle vessels while using only the finest ingredients to craft each creation with care and precision.

WHAT SETS US APART

- *Our humble beginnings in a kitchen imbued with dedication*
- *Shipping our candles internationally to enchant homes in far-off lands*
- *Collaborating with boutique partners for bespoke wholesale orders*
- *Personalizing candles to commemorate special moments with cherished clients*
- *The gentle crackle of wood wicks enhancing the ambiance of our creations*

A COMMUNITY-DRIVEN APPROACH

At Rustic Door Boutique, community engagement is more than a practice—it is a way of life. From active participation in local farmers' markets to collaboration with neighborhood enterprises, we embody the ethos of uplifting each other and fostering a tight-knit bond within our rural surroundings.

LOOKING AHEAD WITH RESILIENCE

In navigating the uncertainties of 2020, we learned the value of resilience, adaptation, and unwavering determination. Every poured candle, every home illuminated, is a testament to our steadfast commitment to creativity and growth.

SUPPORT AND ENGAGEMENT

We invite our community to rally behind us by spreading the word about our upcoming events, joining us in the celebration of artisanal craftsmanship, and fostering a culture of collaboration and support among local businesses.



RUSTIC DOOR BOUTIQUE

www.facebook.com/rusticdoorboutique

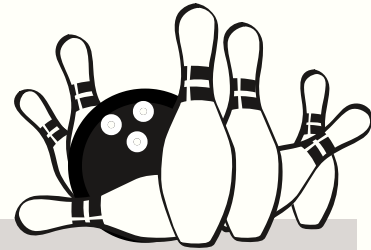
As we embark on this splendid journey of creativity and community, we extend a heartfelt invitation to attend our next event and discover the enchantment of Rustic Door Boutique firsthand. Together, let us illuminate moments, kindle connections, and celebrate the beauty of handcrafted delights.





GRAND REOPENING MINDEN BOWL

-Congratulations on your reopening!



November 4th marked the reopening of Minden Bowl, which had remained closed following the impact of an EF-3 tornado in April.

This establishment serves as a testament to the resilience prevalent throughout the town, promising a positive outlook for Minden's ongoing recovery.



209 Broadway St | Minden, IA

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CONNECT WITH US



WIDAIOWA.ORG



SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY

"It may be hard to see sometimes, but your local dollar comes back to you in a variety of ways"

Small Business Saturday is celebrated annually every Saturday after Thanksgiving, which this year falls on November 30, 2024. First introduced in 2010, the day has grown into a key occasion to recognize and support the small businesses that are essential to our economy.

The goal of Small Business Saturday is to encourage people to shop locally and invest in small businesses, helping to stimulate local economies, foster vibrant communities, and highlight the critical role small businesses play in the nation's economic landscape.

HOW DOES SHOPPING LOCAL BOOST THE ECONOMY?

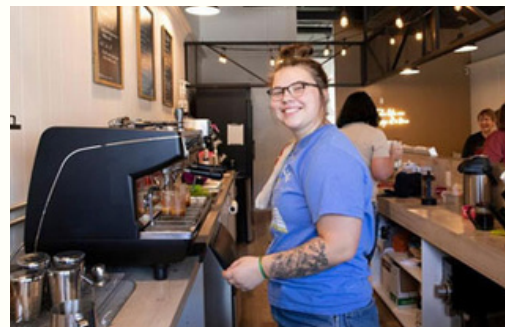
When you shop at a local business, you're not just supporting the business itself—



you're also helping fund your community. The sales tax generated from your purchases contributes to vital public services, such as schools, parks, roads, and sidewalks, as well as supporting essential workers like firefighters.

Shop Local - WIDA edition

- Bevs Porch Neola
- B Restored Walnut
- Zimmerman Sales & Service Neola
- Frosting inc Walnut
- Crockery & More Walnut
- Occasional Collective Treynor
- Bertelsen Beef Underwood
- A bit of Iowa Walnut
- The Finish Line Car Wash Carson
- Power Tech Council Bluffs
- Treynor Java Supply Treynor
- The Unique Boutique Neola
- Collins Consulting Treynor
- Bear Trap Antiques Walnut
- Rustic Door Boutique Avoca
- Brewed Awakening Avoca
- Absolute Dance Academy Neola
- Mrs.b's helping Hand Walnut
- Sideline Tees and Sports Neola
- Judge Richard Distillery Carson



WHAT IMPACT DOES SHOPPING SMALL HAVE?

There are 33.2 million small businesses in the U.S., representing 99% of all businesses. For the past 20 years, small businesses have contributed approximately 40% of the nation's gross domestic output (GDP), amounting to trillions of dollars in economic activity.

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Extension and Outreach

WHAT WE WANT
#STRONGIOWA

JOIN US WWW.EXTENSION.IASTATE.EDU/ESTPOTTAWATTAMIE

This institution is an equal opportunity provider. For the full non-discrimination statement or accommodation inquiries, go to: www.extension.iastate.edu/governance. ADN/20.04 February 2020



WALNUT
Community
Center
Foundation

Amanda Lebeck
walnutcommunitycenter@gmail.com

Center (712)784-2727 | Walnut Antique Show (712)784-3710
walnutcommunitycenter.org | walnutantiqueshow.com

415 Antique City Drive Walnut, Iowa 51577



SHOP LOCAL, SUPPORT BIG DREAMS

It's wonderful to see the support for local businesses and the initiative to encourage the community to shop locally during Small Business Season.



By shopping locally, we foster a sense of unity while encouraging sustainable economic growth. These small businesses are our backbone, providing jobs while contributing to the unique character and vibrancy of our community.

Let's celebrate Iowa's hard-working community, shop your small local businesses for all your upcoming holiday needs.



COLLINS
CONSULTING INC.

CONNECT WITH US



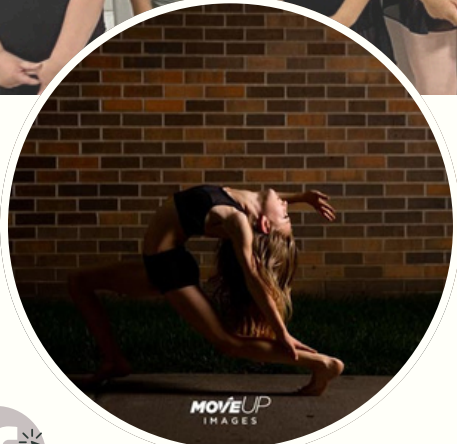
WIDAIOWA.ORG

LIVE • WORK • EXPLORE • THRIVE

NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Absolute Dance Academy | 108 3rd St Neola, IA 51559



ADA has upheld a tradition of fostering a love for dance and instilling values such as responsibility, creativity, and integrity in its dancers. Unique offerings like clogging set ADA apart, creating a vibrant tapestry of dance styles that captivate both students and audiences.

It's not just about perfecting routines but empowering individuals to embrace their uniqueness, build self-confidence, and celebrate the transformative power of dance.

As a community hub, ADA's impact transcends generations, with former students returning to share the joy of dance with their own children. This cyclical journey embodies the studio's core values and the enduring spirit of family and community that defines its essence.

From its talented team of instructors, many of whom are former students turned mentors, to the exciting opportunities offered through the MTADA Competition Team, ADA thrives on culture of inclusivity, creativity, and excellence. **Cnt'd page 8**



Looking to the future, ADA eagerly anticipates its upcoming Spring 2025 session, inviting young talents to immerse themselves in the joy of movement and self-expression. The studio's commitment to empowering young dancers is a testament to its enduring legacy and unwavering dedication to the art form.

At the heart of ADA's success lies a deep-rooted passion for nurturing talent and fostering artistic growth.



LIVE • WORK • EXPLORE • THRIVE

ABSOLUTE DANCE ACADEMY | NEOLA

-Stepping Into the Rhythm of Community

Absolute Dance Academy (ADA) stands as a beacon of artistic expression and personal growth in the heart of Neola, IA. Nestled in this small town, ADA is more than a dance studio; it's a nurturing environment where passion, discipline, and creativity converge to inspire young dancers on their artistic journeys.

The story behind ADA is one of organic growth and unwavering dedication to the art of dance. Founded by Tammy Leehy, the studio's roots trace back to humble beginnings, teaching mini-sessions to 3- and 4-year-olds in a local daycare. As demand blossomed, ADA found a home in the Neola VFW building, setting the stage for a legacy marked by excellence and community impact.

Since its inception on June 1, 2021,



ABSOLUTE DANCE | NEOLA

The studio's unwavering commitment to providing a comprehensive dance education ensures that every student finds their rhythm and passion within the world of dance.



For aspiring business owners, ADA's journey offers valuable insights: follow your dreams with unwavering dedication, embrace challenges as opportunities for growth, and build a community rooted in shared values and authenticity. ADA's success story is a testament to the transformative power of passion, hard work, and community support.

In the rhythm of Neola's vibrant community, Absolute Dance Academy continues to dance to the beat of creativity, inspiration, and togetherness, shaping young talents and spreading the joy of dance one step at a time.

Exciting news! Our fall dance season is starting on September 3rd, and we can't wait to welcome new and returning students to our studio. Join us for our showcase on **December 14th** at 1:00 PM at the Underwood Performing Arts Center to see the incredible talent and hard work of our dancers.

For more information and to register for future seasons, visit our website at absolutedanceacademy21.com.

Don't forget to follow us on our social media pages for updates and behind-the-scenes glimpses. We look forward to dancing with you in the future!



From the Director of
Western Iowa
Development Association



A QUICK HOLIDAY
hello

Stacie Kinney

The holidays are a time for celebration, reflection, and, above all, togetherness. Whether it's decorating the tree, baking cookies, or gathering around the table for a festive meal, holiday traditions play an important role in creating lasting memories. This season, take a moment to reflect on the traditions that make your Christmas special.

“

The beauty of Christmas traditions is that they are a reflection of what matters most: family.

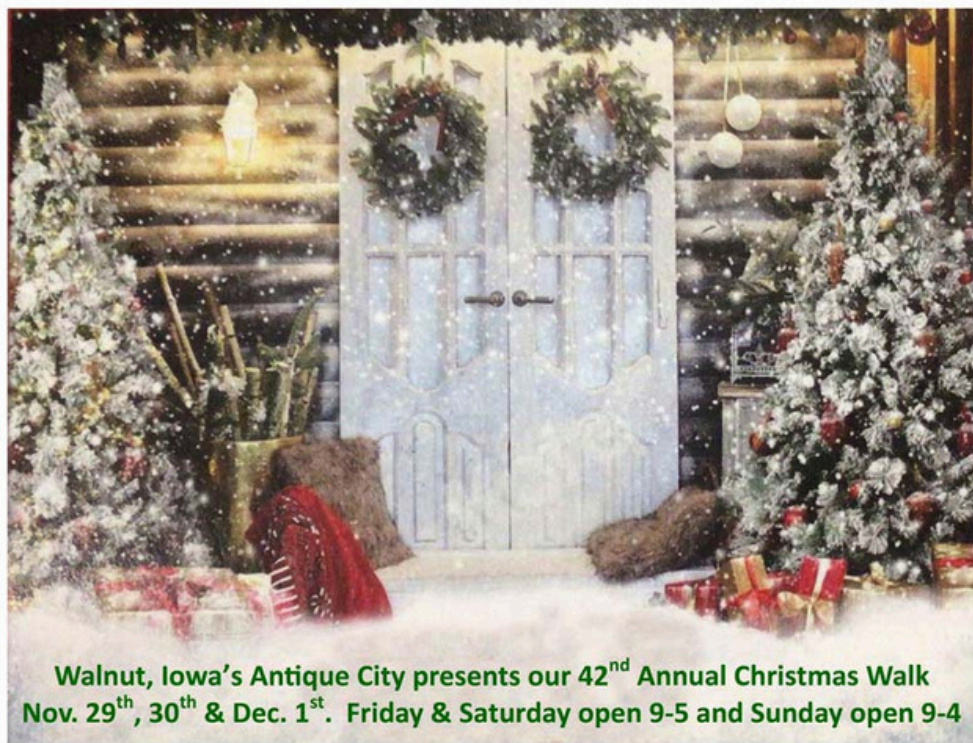
Wishing you and your loved ones a warm and joyful holiday season, filled with meaningful traditions and cherished memories!

”



UPCOMING EVENTS

Walnut



Walnut, Iowa's Antique City presents our 42nd Annual Christmas Walk
Nov. 29th, 30th & Dec. 1st. Friday & Saturday open 9-5 and Sunday open 9-4



Construction is completed in Shelby! Please contact us to move your existing service to Fiber. Want to give Marne Elk Horn a try?

Apply for service at <https://www.metc.net/shelby-internet-residential/> or give us a call at 712.784.2211



What can you do?

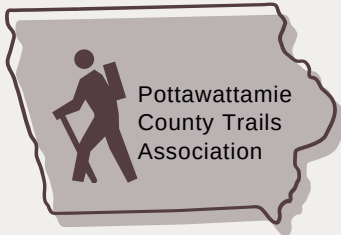
Do more with our Fiber Network

Do more exploring, more growing, and more dreaming thanks to our Fiber Network with speeds up to 1 Gig

Have a question? Ask us today!

Rural Underwood (West of I-80) – Fiber is Ready!
SIGN UP TODAY!
www.metc.net/fiber-sign-up-west

Marne Elk Horn
Your Local Connection



Pottawattamie County

Find Your Fire

“ DO YOU HAVE AN UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENT?
Contact Stacie at westerniowadevelopment@outlook.com ”



UPCOMING EVENTS

Walnut

WALNUT COMMUNITY CENTER

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

SUNDAY 

WALNUT Community Center Foundation DECEMBER 8TH 9AM - 12PM

FREE PHOTOS BY **TIFFANY JODENE PHOTOGRAPHY**

TIFFANY JODENE PHOTOGRAPHY

JOIN SANTA FOR A FREE WILL DONATION PANCAKE BREAKFAST
DONATIONS GO TO SUPPORT THE WALNUT COMMUNITY CENTER & PLAY HAVEN CHILD CARE

415 Antique City Drive Walnut, Iowa





UPCOMING EVENTS

Walnut

Frosting, Inc. Christmas Menu

DECORATE YOUR OWN COOKIE KIT - \$28
12 cutout Christmas cookies, 3 colors buttercream, 2 small containers sprinkles

CHRISTMAS TREE CAKE CUPCAKES - \$48/DOZEN
White cupcakes filled with creme, white chocolate buttercream, topped with red ganache and green sprinkles

FROSTED ALMOND OR SUGAR COOKIES - \$25/DOZEN
Almond or sugar cookies with buttercream and Christmas sprinkles

CHOCOLATE COVERED CHERRIES - \$18
A dozen drizzled chocolate covered cherries

PEANUT BUTTER BALLS - \$18
A dozen peanut butter balls, dipped in chocolate with peanut butter drizzle.

9" PIES - \$30
Salted Caramel Apple, Apple Crumb, Pumpkin, Pecan (\$35), French Silk, Peanut Butter, Triple Berry

602 Highland St.
712-249-5942
kimjcanada@gmail.com

Please join us for an

Ugly Sweater Christmas Party

Prizes

4:30-7:30pm

Thursday **12** December

Hot Cocoa Bar

Photo Ops

Frosting, Inc.
602 Highland St.
Walnut, IA

Hosted by:
Frosting, Inc.
Rustic Door Boutique
My She Shed

Holiday FOOD DRIVE

Help us support those in need as we fill our Local Food Pantries

ACCEPTING NON-PERISHABLE FOOD DONATIONS AT OUR

ELK HORN & WALNUT OFFICES

NOVEMBER 1ST THRU DECEMBER 19TH

YOUR DONATION WILL ENTER YOU IN A DRAWING FOR

1 MONTH FREE 100MB INTERNET

RECEIVE ONE ENTRY PER BAG DONATED

Marne Elk Horn
Your Local Connection

4242 Main, Elk Horn - 510 Highland St, Walnut

POWERTECH

The Power to Solve.™

JR

JUDGE RICHARD

DISTILLERY

Bev's Porch

Local Goods • Housewares • Gifts

The perfect blend of comfort and charm

Neola, Iowa - est. 2021

Coffee, Espresso & Pastries

Stay up to date with our news and announcements!

Facebook.com/BevsPorch
Instagram:BevsPorch51359

Contact us at
skpp9@hotmail.com or
Facebook messenger!

114 Third Street Neola, Iowa



MEMBERSHIP TESTIMONIAL

“The time and effort Stacie had dedicated to me and my small business means the world to me. This past year she has encouraged me to step out of my shell, collaborate with other small business, and build my own business.

Stacie is always a phone call, text or email away. Her work with WIDA and services they provide to businesses in SW Iowa don't go unnoticed.

*Melissa Wisniewski
Rustic Door Boutique*

”

WIDA BUSINESS MEMBERSHIP

CIVIC MEMBERSHIP

\$75⁰⁰

Per Year

- Help you claim a FREE Google account
- Offer Facebook groups for B2B networking
 - Rural Pott. Co. Boz Network Group
 - Rural Pott. Co. Dining & Drinking Group
- Brainstorming promotional/marketing ideas with you
- Receive WIDA quarterly e-newsletter
- Advertisement of your promotions and specials.
 - Specials
 - Open houses
 - Holiday promotions
 - Specialty days (military discounts), etc.
- Recommendation of grants (if nonprofit)

BRONZE MEMBERSHIP

\$100⁰⁰

Per Year

- Front page welcome in WIDA's e-newsletter
- Listed on WIDA website as a member
- Listed on WIDA Annual Report as a member
- WIDA membership window decal
- Receive WIDA quarterly e-newsletter
- Access to Ribbon Cuttings for special events
- Promotion of news releases, when sent in
- Event postings on WIDA calendar, when sent
- Opportunity to be a "Did You Know? Wednesday" business
- Promo flyers on our website, when sent
- Business-card ad in 4 consecutive WIDA e-newsletters
- Listed in our website business directory

SILVER MEMBERSHIP

\$500⁰⁰

Per Year

- Front page welcome in WIDA's e-newsletter
- Listed on WIDA website as a member
- Listed on WIDA Annual Report as a member
- WIDA membership window decal
- Receive WIDA quarterly e-newsletter
- Access to Ribbon Cuttings for special events
- Promotion of news releases, when sent
- Event postings on WIDA calendar, when sent
- Opportunity to be a "Did You Know? Wednesday" business
- Promotional flyers on our website, when sent
- Business-card ad in 4 consecutive WIDA e-newsletters
- 30 min. professional branding photoshoot with Stacie Kinney

GOLD MEMBERSHIP

\$1000⁰⁰

Per Year

- Front page welcome in WIDA's e-newsletter
- Listed as WIDA website as member
- Listed as WIDA member on Annual Report
- Access to Ribbon Cuttings for special events
- Event postings on WIDA calendar
- Business-card ad in 4 consecutive WIDA e-newsletters
- Listed in our website business directory
- WIDA town landing page sponsor for a year
- Technical assistance
- Event organizational checklists
- Social media account
- Tourism venues listed on Travellowa.com
- Marketing materials upon request
- Front page WIDA e-newsletter sponsor for a year
- Grant review and proofreading upon request
- One voting representative on the WIDA Board
- 30 min. professional branding photoshoot with Stacie Kinney





UPCOMING EVENTS

Walnut



15 Most-Watched HOLIDAY MOVIES

According to USA Today



1. Elf (2003)
2. National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation (1989)
3. Home Alone (1990)
4. The Santa Clause (1994)
5. Four Christmases (2008)
6. How the Grinch Stole Christmas (2000)
7. Best. Christmas. Ever! (2023)
8. The Holiday (2006)
9. Family Switch (2023)
10. A Christmas Story (1983)
11. Candy Cane Lane (2023)
12. It's a Wonderful Life (1947)
13. Die Hard (1988)
14. Love Actually (2003)
15. The Polar Express (2004)



2024 OPERATION HOMEFRONT

Christmas Raffle

Help our Veterans who served for our FREEDOM!

Operation Homefront aids our Veterans and Caregivers.
 Our Veterans gave for us to have our FREEDOM!
 Will you give \$10. for a chance to win this "Pedal Car"?
GOD BLESS, THANK YOU



Tickets \$10. ea.

MORE GIFTS ADDED

This Wrecker Pedal Car filled with goodies will be raffled off on

DECEMBER 15 @2pm at
 "a bit of IOWA Cafe"
607 Highland St., Walnut

ALL MONIES GOES TO OPERATION HOMEFRONT

Tickets Sold At these LOCATIONS

WALNUT

a bit of IOWA
 BEAR TRAP
 ANTIQUE MALL
 B RESTORED
 GLENN'S BAR
 THE BUNKER BAR
 GRANARY
 WALNUT LIBRARY

ATLANTIC

DESPERADOS BAR
 CAPPEL'S

Co. BLUFFS
 BIG AL'S BAR



Sponsored by "a bit of IOWA cafe", Walnut

a bit of IOWA

GALLERY CAFE

Karol Calabro

607 Highland
Walnut, Iowa 51577

712.784.3187
712.784.2369



THE FINISH LINE

CAR WASH

Carson, Ia.

Randy & Susan Miller
402-651-0652 (cell)

RASE90@frontiernet.net
712-484-3969 (home)

Serving Carson & Surrounding Communities for 25 Years

MENARDS®

Bob Richmond
Site Manager

9402 East Street
Shelby, IA 51570

PH: 712-207-2627
Fax: 712-207-2736

brichmon@menard-inc.com

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Avoca



The world is waiting



11th Annual Holidays on Main

Saturday, November 30th, 2024

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 1-6 pm** Vendor Craft Fair at United Church (304 N Elm St.)
- 2:30 pm** Ugly Sweater Race (2:00 registration)
- 3-5 pm** National Guard Rock Climbing Wall on Elm St
Free Lil' Ponies Riding and Painting on Elm St
Inflatable Axe Throw at Exchange Lot
- 3:45 pm** Performers in front of City Hall; Lutheran Youth & Sue's Stepper-ettes
- 4 pm** Reindeer Races in front of Courthouse
- 3-5:30 pm** Santa at Olesen's Garage
Main Street Stores Open
Hayrack/Trolley Rides to Inflatable Wonderland in front of Siever's Plumbing
Little Tyke Coupe Rides and Bouncy Horses in front of Courthouse
Putt Putt Golf, facepainting and balloon artist at Fire Hall
Girl Scouts Craft at Community 1st Credit Union
Cub Scouts selling hot chocolate at Charlie's Barber Shop
Petting Zoo behind Post Office
Child's Barrel Train Rides in front of State Farm
Antique Firetruck and S'mores at Courthouse
Library has Parade of Trees
- 5-7 pm** Legion Supper and Riverside Drive Acoustic Duo at Avoca Veterans Community Center
- 5:45 pm** Bethlehem Walk/Live Nativity followed by Tree Lighting

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING FOR SUPPORTING THIS WONDERFUL EVENT!!

Sponsors: Community Foundation of Western Iowa, Meighan McCarthy Johansen Hope Fund, Knights of Columbus, Community 1st Credit Union, Mt Nebo Lodge, Avoca Flower Shop, Avoca Seed & Chemical, Avoca Veterinary Clinic, Brewed Awakening, D&S Services, Feekes Heating and A/C, FNIC, Grace & Wellness Massage, Griffin Plumbing, Hair Factory, Holtz Service, House of Colour, Iowa Kid's Outfitters, Lil' Vikes Child Care, Marne Elk Horn, Martin & Sons Construction, McCarthy Trenching, Midstates Bank, Olesen Auto Center, Pauley Jones, Rhonda Hope State Farm Ins, Shelby County State Bank, Tillie's, Avoca Foodland, Casey's, Subway

Special Thanks: American Legion, Claire Petersen Photography, AHSTW Youth, Avoca Fire Dept, Avoca Historical, East Pottawattamie County Fair Board



SCAN ME

Christmas TRIVIA



- How long is the average growing time for a Christmas tree? *Answer: 7 years*
- How many real Christmas trees are sold in the U.S. each year? *Answer: Approximately 25-30 million*
- In what year did "A Charlie Brown Christmas" first air? *Answer: 1965*



- What is the name of the traditional warm holiday beverage that's made from mulled wine or cider, orange, cinnamon and other spices? *Answer: Wassail*
- In total, how many gifts were given in the "Twelve Days of Christmas"? *Answer: 364*



DONNA DOSTAL, MPA
PRESIDENT + CEO

712.256.7007 Ext. 11
402.699.5206
ddostal@givewesterniowa.org
536 E Broadway
Council Bluffs, IA 51503
www.givewesterniowa.org



Kim Canada
Owner

Walnut, IA
712-249-5942
kimcanada@gmail.com




Crockery & More

225 Antique City Drive
Walnut, Iowa 51577

Erich Cochran
John Sell

Bus.: (712) 784-2626
Cell: (402) 714-7360

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Carson



CARSON'S 31ST ANNUAL COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS 12 Days of Christmas all in One Night!

Wednesday, December 4th

A shuttle will be provided to transport from Broadway to the Community Building & Country Store

Community Center 5 - 7:30

- Soup Supper - Hosted by Coral Lodge
- Craft & Vendor Fair
- Kids Activities
- Sponsored by Eckles Memorial Library
- Selfie with an Elfie
- Reindeer Run Start (Poker Run) 50/50 Pot
- Bake Sale-CPW
- Food Bank Donation Table
- Town Scavenger hunt
- Elf on the blank? Where's Frank?

Town Events

- Scoop the Loop and enjoy the luminaries
- 9am-8pm Festival of Trees @ the Fire Station
- Hot Cocoa Bar at the Fire Station 5pm - 8pm
- Sponsored by: TFS Agronomy Inc. & Wyfiels Hybrids
- Christmas Fire Truck Rides 5pm - 8pm
- Sponsored by: Cen Pro Graphics
- Business Open Houses 5-8
- Rolling Hills Bank 9am-3pm
- Presbyterian Church Heritage Open House
- Sign up for prize drawings at Open Houses
- Riverside Band Performance at the Theatre
- 7pm Santa arrives at the theater, bring your cameras!

A Special Thanks to all the volunteers we couldn't do this without you!

Prize drawings at Cen Pro at 8:30



Holiday Garbage Collection ANNOUNCEMENT

Due to the holiday, Mills Trash Service has announced that all garbage totes will need to be set curbside on TUESDAY NIGHT, NOV 26, 2024. TRASH COLLECTION WILL COMMENCE AT 12AM (MIDNIGHT) ON WEDNESDAY, NOV 27, 2024.

It is imperative that your totes are set out by this time, or your trash will not be collected until the regular collection day the following week. Thank you for your cooperation.



Carson CHRISTMAS

Planning is underway for the popular and festive Carson Christmas, our town's own special way of kicking off the holiday season! As is tradition, the event will be held on the first Wednesday of December, the 4th, with classic events of the past. It takes several volunteers to make this event a success. If you wish to assist, please contact Randi Henderson at 712-310-3877.



THE OCCASIONAL COLLECTIVE

— locally sourced goods —

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CARSON CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE
DECEMBER 4TH DURING CHRISTMAS IN CARSON
CANNED FOOD, NON-PERISHABLE ITEMS AND MONETARY DONATIONS WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED FOR OUR LOCAL FOOD PANTRY.
DROP OFF WILL BE IN THE LOBBY OF THE CARSON COMMUNITY CENTER, 316 S. COMMERCIAL, STARTING AT 9 AM.

CHRISTMAS TREE DISPLAY OPEN TO ALL DECORATORS
LET'S GET DECORATING!

- THIS EVENT IS OPEN TO ALL: FAMILIES, INDIVIDUALS, LOCAL GROUPS, SCHOOLS, CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS, AND BUSINESSES.
- SPACE IS LIMITED SO DECORATORS WILL NEED TO REGISTER IN ADVANCE. DECORATORS ARE WELCOMED ON A FIRST COME FIRST SERVE BASIS.
- DECORATORS WILL NEED TO PROVIDE THEIR OWN TREE OR "CREATE" THEIR OWN TREE FORM FOR DECORATING, AS WELL AS SUPPLIES FOR DECORATING. ALL EFFORTS WILL BE MADE TO PROVIDE ELECTRICAL SERVICE FOR EACH TREE BUT IS NOT GUARANTEED.
- NO SPECIFIC THEME
- NO REGISTRATION FEE
- BUSINESSES AND ORGANIZATIONS ARE ENCOURAGED TO USE THIS AS AN ADVERTISEMENT OR RECRUITMENT OPPORTUNITY.
- SET UP 12/1/24 WITH TAKE DOWN 12/7/24

CONTACT LISA EASTON TO RESERVE YOUR SPACE: TEXT OR CALL 712-435-0273





UPCOMING EVENTS

Neola



CELEBRATE THE SEASON OF GIVING!

JOIN US FOR OUR
CHRISTMAS DRIVE

SHOP & WRAP COMMUNITY EVENT

On a tight budget? Can't find the perfect gift?
Multi-store shopping stress you out?
You're not alone! Let us help!

- 🎁 Shop donated children's toys, books & gifts
- 🎁 Enjoy free will donation beverages & treats
- 🎁 Have your gifts wrapped on site!

HOW CAN YOU CONTRIBUTE?
DONATE & VOLUNTEER!

Now accepting donations!

- 🌿 *New or very gently* used toys, books & gifts for ages infant-early teen
- 🌿 Batteries of all sizes
- 🌿 Gift Bags & Gift Wrap
- 🌿 Boxes of all sizes
- 🌿 Scotch Tape
- 🌿 Gift Tags, Ribbon, Bows

Welcoming volunteers!
It's the season of giving! Please see our link to sign up as an event volunteer!

DONATION DROP-OFF LOCATION Bev's Porch 114 Third Street Neola	SHOP & WRAP EVENT Neola Area Community Center December 8th 2-6 PM
---	---

*Featuring:
Hot Cocoa & Coffee from Bev's Porch + Holiday Baked Goods by Simple & Sweet Treats*

elf on the SHELF



The Elf on the Shelf tradition started back in 2005 when Carol Aebersold and her daughter Chanda Bell self-published the book "The Elf on the Shelf: A Christmas Tradition" along with a special box with a small Scout Elf inside. Bell said the tradition is like a "simple game of hide and seek."



"The elf will watch us during the day, report to Santa at night, and in the morning before kids wake up, the elf flies back from the North Pole and lands on a different spot in the house," Bell said. "They move around the house, they engage with families, hopefully they bring lots of joy and lots of fun."



ZIMMERMAN SALES & SERVICE, INC.
KEVIN ZIMMERMAN 402-676-9019
KPRENTALS@WALNUTEL.NET
202 SOUTH 2ND ST, NEOLA IA



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bertelsenbeef@outlook.com
bertelsenbeef.com



B [ReStoRed]
HOME & GARDEN
216 Antique City Drive | Walnut, Iowa 51577
facebook.com/BRestoredHomeandGarden





UPCOMING EVENTS

Oakland

OAKLAND CHRISTMAS

DECEMBER 14TH, 2024
Oakland Community Building Events

8AM Pancake and Sausage Breakfast
Free will donation

9pm-2pm Craft Fair

9-2pm Crafts - Eckels Library

10-12pm Hot Chocolate \$ Cookies- Becca McClain Edwards Jones and FMJ\

9-2pm Balloon Arch Photo Opt

10-12 SANTA!!!!

11-1pm Soup Lunch Free Will Donation.

6-8pm Main Street Oakland

- Christmas Lighted Fire Truck Rides
- Caroling at the Methodist Church
- Open House at Local Business on Main St.
- Craft at Tinik and Museum
- Photo Opt at Tiffany Jodene Photography.
- Scavenger Hunt and Trivia Contest. Winner will be announced on FB!!
- Ugly Sweater Contest at Pour Choices 8pm-??



TAYLOR'S Quik Market

Successful ribbon cutting for the City of Oakland.



A BIG heartfelt welcome to Taylor's, a third-generation family owned convenience store chain established in the 1950's. Where customers are number one priority!



MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Treynor

A FEW OF THE CATEGORIES...

Most Whimsical *Most Colorful*

Holiday Light Competition

Light Up Treynor

Be Creative, Festive & Have Fun

Cardinal Spirit *Most Traditional*

Judging will be
6 PM | DEC 20

Call or Email to Enter
712-487-3787

or
deputyclerk@cityoftreynor.com

TREYNOR COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS

TREYNOR COMMUNITY CENTER
12.1.2024 4:30-7:00PM
SANTA ARRIVES AT 5:30PM

PANCAKE MAN • CRAFTS
PHOTO STATION • COOKIE DECORATING
HOT COCOA STATION • CARDINAL TREE

Girls Day in the Shed

3rd Annual Girls Day
Hosted by ReMakes Home Decor & Rustic Door Boutique.
Grab your group of friends as its sure to be a day full of fun.
You can choose to craft, shop and hang out.
Bring your choice of drink and snack to share

December 8
12-4

Vendors:
Dusted Charm
Frosting Inc
Meadow & Charm
B Baker Craft Maker
ReMakes Home Decor
Rusctic Door Boutique

29787 Dogwood Rd Treynor, IA

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ESTD 2024

712-307-6612

158 S. Elm St.
Avoca, IA 51521

BREWED AWAKENING

brewedawakeningavocaiowa@gmail.com

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MELISSA WISNIEWSKI
OWNER
402672.0869
RUSTICDOORBOUTIQUE@GMAIL.COM

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Hitchcock Nature Center | Honey Creek, IA

RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY INFORMATION

CONGRATULATIONS

On your upcoming business milestone! Whether you're opening a new business, celebrating an anniversary, or relocating/expanding an existing business in western Iowa, we are thrilled for your success and grateful for the opportunity to assist you in commemorating this special occasion. Our services for ribbon cutting ceremonies are entirely free for businesses in our area.

WHY HOLD A RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY?

This event serves as a significant milestone in the history of your business and presents an excellent photo opportunity to capture the moment. It allows the owner to introduce themselves to the attendees and the wider community, explaining the nature of their business. Additionally, a ribbon cutting ceremony provides a platform to express gratitude to financial backers, employees, family, friends, and business partners. We, at WIDA, can coordinate with city officials, invite our Board of Directors and business members, and promote the event on our website, Facebook page, and newsletter (if submitted ahead). Our staff will arrive with ceremonial scissors and ribbon, as well as capture photos to be shared on our social media platforms and in our next newsletter. We have a wide reach within western Iowa, and we want others to hear about your business.

THINGS TO CONSIDER FOR YOUR RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY:

- Who will cut the ribbon? It is common for owners or top executives to perform this honor, but ultimately, the choice is yours.
- When will you hold the event? We recommend Wednesday-Fridays, during the lunch hour, late afternoon, or early evening to attract the largest crowds. It's also advisable to promote the event 3-4 weeks in advance to maximize attendance and exposure.
- What would you like to share before cutting the ribbon? You can express gratitude towards those who supported you throughout the journey, share the story behind your business, or mention any special offers or upcoming events. Please limit your speech to three minutes or one page of notes.
- How can you maximize the event? Make sure to invite your family, friends, and clients. Consider hosting a drawing or raffle to collect business cards and expand your database. While drinks, refreshments, decorations, and door prizes are optional, keep in mind that the ribbon cutting ceremony itself is typically short. However, your grand opening celebration with others can continue as long as you wish.

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Small Town Feel, Big City Heart.

Meet the WIDA Board

At our core, we are the voice of business, dedicated to supporting our members' success. Our ultimate goal is to champion and promote the prosperity of our communities.



PRESIDENT
Kevin Zimmerman



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Stacie Kinney

MEMBERSHIP DRIVEN COMMUNITY GROWN

WIDA continues its efforts to engage members and the community through its website, social media platforms, electronic newsletters (print newsletters as requested), as well as email communication.

These outlets allow us to remain on the cutting edge of digital communications as well as provide traditional forms of communication while serving as a voice for our rural businesses and communities.



VICE PRESIDENT
Mike Holton



Brian Shea



Ron Kroll



Susan Miller



Trace Frahm

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POTTAWATTAMIE COUNTY RESOURCES



ELECTED OFFICIALS

>>> CARSON

Mayor

Tim Todd

City Clerk

Brianne Duede

(712) 484-3636

carsonclerk@gmail.com

>>> HANCOCK

Mayor

Vince Guyer

City Clerk

Kimberly Gress

(712) 741-5665

>>> MACEDONIA

Mayor

Melia Clark

City Clerk

Moriah Mahan

(712) 486-2323

macedoniacityhall@gmail.com

>>> MCCLELLAND

Mayor

Mitchell A. Kay

City Clerk

Denise Magnuson

(402) 670-1062

magnuson1971@gmail.com

>>> MINDEN

Mayor

Kevin Zimmerman

City Clerk

Teresa Tenner

(712) 483-2991

ttenner@walnutel.net

>>> NEOLA

Mayor

Karla Pogge

City Clerk

Heidi Erwin

(712) 485-2307

neolacityclerk@walnut.net

>>> OAKLAND

Mayor

Brant A. Miller

City Clerk

Marissa Lockwood

(712) 482-6811

oaklandclerk@frontiernet.net

>>> SHELBY

Mayor

Ron Kroll

City Clerk

Chris Martin

(712) 544-2404

smu2@walnutel.net

>>> TREYNOR

Mayor

Allen Hadfield

City Clerk

Michael Holton

(712) 487-3787

cityhall@cityoftreynor.com

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WITH US



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

WIDA is asking our members to keep us in mind when you want to share your business events, successes and information with the community. There is no cost to you as a member. Whether it is exciting news regarding your business or an upcoming event, we will find the perfect way to showcase your information. Send a description of what you would like to share, and we will be happy to place your news in our newsletter and on the WIDA Facebook page.

Send your business news by the 20th of every month to: WesternIowaDevelopment@outlook.com to be included in the newsletter. For more information, you can also call us at (712) 406-6234.

Our members benefit from the visibility that we bring to the local business community, including opportunities to connect with potential customers and partners, as well as access to resources and support to help you succeed. Additionally, WIDA provides a platform for members to share their stories and experiences so that others can learn from their successes. We hope you make the most of your WIDA membership and that it helps you to continue to grow your business!



2.9K
FACEBOOK FOLLOWERS



791
INSTAGRAM FOLLOWERS



1,040
NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIBERS

Your generous and ongoing support provides our 501(c)6 nonprofit organization with the resources necessary to promote our members and western Iowa communities, advocate for a favorable economic climate and quality lifestyle, and promote overall tourism in the region. Building strong, thriving business communities takes each of us working together, and WIDA is proud to serve as a resource, connection, and voice for business.

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