

PALO ALTO COUNTY SHERIFF

Friday, October 2, 2026

At 6:15 p.m. the Palo Alto County Sheriff's Office was called to the 4000 block of 360th Street for a two- vehicle accident. After investigation, it was determined Karter Stark (19) of Spencer, IA. was eastbound on 360th Street in a 2021 Nissan Murano pulling a 2025 Carry On utility trailer. Stark was stopped behind a vehicle turning into 4081 360th Street. Jacklynmae Allen Black (52) of Emmetsburg, IA. was eastbound behind the Stark vehicle in a 2016 Nissan Rouge. Black did not see the Stark vehicle stopped in the roadway as it was yielding to the turning vehicle. Black would rearend the Stark vehicle. Damage to the Stark trailer and vehicle was estimated at \$2,500. Damage to the Black vehicle was estimated at \$3,000. No injuries were reported at the scene. Black was issued a citation for failure to stop at an assured clear distance, a simple misdemeanor. Assisting the Palo Alto County Sheriff's Office at the scene was the Emmetsburg Police Department and Wickman Towing.

Saturday, October 3, 2026

At 11:07AM, the Palo Alto County Sheriff's Office conducted a traffic stop in the 4900blk 460th Ave. Mallard, IA. After an investigation, the Palo Alto County Sheriff's Office arrested Matthew Mark Gagen (36) of Bode for the following charges: 3rd Offense Possession of a Controlled Substance-Methamphetamine, a Class D Felony, 3rd Offense Possession of a Controlled Substance-Marijuana and Driving While Barred, both Aggravated Misdemeanors, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia and Failure to Provide Proof of Financial Liability, both Simple Misdemeanors. Gagen was also issued a written warning for Improper Lamps. Gagen was booked into the Palo Alto County Jail to await his initial appearance in front of a magistrate.

Sunday, October 4, 2026

At 9:38 p.m. the Palo Alto County Sheriff's Office received a report of a person that had driven through a yard, then backed up and hit a mailbox in the 200 block of South Elder Street in Graettinger. After investigation by the Palo Alto County Sheriff's Office, Steven Boyd (27) of Graettinger was arrested for operating while intoxicated 1st offense, a serious misdemeanor, and failure to maintain control, a simple misdemeanor. Boyd was held in the Palo Alto County Jail to await an initial appearance in front of a judge.

Tuesday, October 6, 2026

At 6:30 pm, the Palo Alto County Sheriff's Office arrested Brandy Robbins (46) of Mallard on a valid Palo Alto County warrant for harassment 3rd degree, which is a simple misdemeanor. Bond was set in the amount of \$300.00 cash only. Robbins was booked into the Palo Alto County Jail to await her initial appearance before a magistrate.

Wednesday, October 7, 2026

At 2:39PM, the Palo Alto County Sheriff's Office was dispatched to the area of Hwy 15 in West Bend for a report of a reckless driver. A short time later, a Palo Alto County Deputy attempted to stop this reckless driver on 1st Ave NW/4th St. NW in West Bend. The driver fled and a pursuit began, going into Pocahontas and Humboldt Counties. The pursuit ended in Humboldt County when the suspect rammed a Kossuth County patrol vehicle. After the investigation, the Palo Alto County Sheriff's Office arrested Randal Dennis Shimon (59) of Rolfe, IA on the following charges: Eluding-speed over 25mph over the limit, a Class D Felony, Reckless Driving, an Aggravated Misdemeanor, Speeding (125mph in a 60mph zone), 1st Offense Possession of a Controlled Substance-marijuana and 1st Offense Operating While Intoxicated, both Serious Misdemeanors, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, Failure to Obey a Stop Sign at a Railroad Crossing, Driving on Wrong Side of Two-Way Highway, and Failure to Obey a Stop Sign and Yield Right of Way, all Simple Misdemeanors. Shimon was placed under arrest and booked into the Palo Alto County Jail to await his initial appearance in front of a magistrate. Shimon was charged in Humboldt County for Assault with a Deadly Weapon on a Peace Officer, a Class C Felony, and Interference with Official Acts with a Dangerous Weapon, a Class D Felony.

The Palo Alto County Sheriff's Office was assisted by the Kossuth County Sheriff's Office, Humboldt County Sheriff's Office, the Iowa State Patrol, Humboldt EMS, and Bode First Responders.

A criminal charge is merely an accusation and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty in a court of law.

Warriors beat West Bend-Mallard, 62-16

By Doug Dornath

During week seven of the 2026 8-Man, District 2 varsity football season Friday, Oct. 9 in Armstrong, West Bend-Mallard (5-3) lost to North Union (6-1) 62-16. The Wolverines are now 2-2 in District 2 play while the Warriors moved to 3-1.

The Wolverines wrap up the regular season Friday, Oct. 16 at home against Bishop Garrigan, who is 6-1 overall and 3-1 in District 2 play.

Against the Warriors Oct. 9, WBM had a second quarter touchdown on Cesar Falcon's 10-yard run as Trent Morey added the two-point conversion and the Wolverines would trail 55-8 at the half. Lex Christensen scored on a five-yard run in the fourth for WBM as Leyton Veon added the two-point conversion..

For the game, Morey was 6-for-18 passing with four interceptions. Falcon had two catches for 30 yards, Kacen Flynn had a 29-yard reception, Wyatt Hanson caught a 15-yard pass, Grady Goddard had a 14-yard reception and Abner Zaugg had a 8-yard reception.

On the ground for WBM, Morey had 21 carries for 37 yards, Falcon had eight carries for 36 yards and a score and Christensen had five carries for 34 yards and a touchdown.

Hanson led the defense with 6.5 tackles, both Goddard and Trevin Montag had 5.5 tackles each, Zaugg added three tackles and Easton Montag had two of them. Trevin Montag had 1.5 tackles for loss and Otis Fehr had 0.5 tackles for a loss.

In the return game, Morey had two kickoff returns for 51 yards and Hanson had three of them for 50 total yards.

North Union's Carson Crouch had 10 carries for 117 yards and four rushing scores, Greyson Colegrave was 3-for-5 passing for 59 yards and a touchdown while he had six carries for 63 yards and two rushing scores and Cooper Hoye had two catches for 32 yards and a touchdown reception. Christian Reyes was 8-for8 on PAT kicks for the Warriors.

Zinnel, Kampen race at SCC XC Invite

By Doug Dornath

At the 2026 Brian Knapp Cross Country Invitational hosted by South Central Calhoun at Lake City Oct. 6, two West Bend-Mallard runners were in the varsity boys race.

Easton Zinnel placed 13th in 18 minutes, 59.4 seconds for WBM. Teammate Bryson Kampen was 61st as he posted a time of 22:29.1.

This week, the West Bend-Mallard runners will compete at the 2026 Twin Lakes Conference Meet Thursday, Oct. 15 at Pocahontas.

WBM sweeps Jaguars at Gowrie

By Doug Dornath

West Bend-Mallard won in three straight sets Thursday, Oct. 8 at Gowrie in varsity volleyball as they improved to 11-12 overall.

The Wolverines won set one over Southeast Valley 25-23 then won set two 25-16. They closed out the match with a 25-14 win in the third set.

This week, WBM hosts Eagle Grove Tuesday, Oct. 13 and will host PAC Thursday, Oct. 15. Next week, WBM opens post-season play Oct. 19 at Bishop Garrigan.

No. 1 Iowa Lakes Earns Impressive 3-0 Road Victory Over NIACC, Remains Unbeaten

Mason City, Iowa - October 10, 2026 - The No. 1 nationally ranked Iowa Lakes Community College Men's Soccer team continued its unbeaten season Saturday afternoon, securing a 3-0 victory over North Iowa Area Community College (NIACC) in ICCAC conference action.

With the victory, the Lakers improve to 8-0-5 overall and remain tied for first place in the ICCAC standings with Northeast Community College, currently ranked No. 2 nationally.

Despite playing with 10 men for the majority of the contest following an early red card, Iowa Lakes delivered an impressive second-half

performance, scoring three unanswered goals while maintaining a clean sheet.

After a scoreless opening 45 minutes, the Lakers broke through in the 65th minute when Nino Ermini found the back of the net following an assist from Eugene Wessels, giving Iowa Lakes a 1-0 advantage.

Just under five minutes later, Gavario Bester doubled the lead in the 70th minute, finishing an opportunity created by Jack Orange.

The Lakers continued their attacking momentum, adding a third goal in the 75th minute when Jaleel Thomas converted off another assist from Wessels, putting the match out of reach.

Wessels finished the afternoon with two assists, while Ermini, Bester, and Thomas each contributed a goal.

Defensively, Iowa Lakes delivered a disciplined performance despite being a player down for more than 80 minutes. Goalkeeper Kohki Takeichi recorded three saves to secure the shutout, while the Lakers limited NIACC to just four total shots.

Iowa Lakes finished the contest with 13 shots, including eight on target, compared to NIACC's four shots and three on target.

Lakers Remain No. 1 Nationally, Tied Atop ICCAC Standings

The victory keeps Iowa Lakes undefeated through 13 matches and firmly positioned among the nation's top programs as the regular season approaches its conclusion.

The Lakers remain No. 1 in the NJCAA Division II Men's Soccer national rankings, while conference rival Northeast Community College holds the No. 2 national ranking.

Both programs are currently tied for first place in the ICCAC standings, setting up an important final stretch of conference competition as teams battle for postseason positioning.

Up Next: No. 19 Iowa Central Visits Iowa Lakes

The Lakers return home

on Wednesday, October 14, for another nationally ranked conference matchup against No. 19 Iowa Central Community College.

Kickoff is scheduled for 3:30 p.m.

With the ICCAC regular-season title race still undecided, Wednesday's matchup presents another important opportunity for Iowa Lakes to strengthen its position atop the conference standings while protecting its unbeaten record.

The Lakers will look to continue their strong run of form as they prepare for the upcoming postseason.

IOWA PUBLIC NOTICES

IOWA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION www.iowapublicnotices.com

Probate: Karl Richard Johnson

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT
FOR PALO ALTO COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF
THE ESTATE OF
KARL RICHARD JOHNSON, Deceased
CASE NO. ESPR012698

NOTICE OF PROBATE OF WILL, OF
APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTOR,
AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of
Karl Richard Johnson, Deceased, who died
on or about December 18, 2023:

You are hereby notified that on September
21, 2026, the Last Will and Testament of Karl
Richard Johnson, deceased, bearing date
of May 30, 2018, was admitted to probate
in the above-named court and that Richard

W. Johnson was appointed Executor of the
estate. Any action to set aside the will must
be brought in the district court of said county
within the later to occur of four months from
the date of the second publication of this
notice or one month from the date of mailing
of this notice to all heirs of the decedent and
devises under the will whose identities are
reasonably ascertainable, or thereafter be
forever barred.

Notice is further given that all persons
indebted to the estate are requested to make
immediate payment to the undersigned, and
creditors having claims against the estate
shall file them with the clerk of the above-
named district court, as provided by law,
duly authenticated, for allowance, and unless
so filed by the later to occur of four months
from the date of the second publication of this
notice or one month from the date of mailing

of this notice (unless otherwise allowed or
paid) a claim is thereafter forever barred.
Dated October 7, 2026.

/s/ Richard W. Johnson
Richard W. Johnson, Executor of Estate
6587 North Winwood Drive
Johnston, IA 50131

/s/ Michael J. Cunningham
Michael J. Cunningham, ICIS#: AT0001829
Attorney for Executor
Cunningham & Kelo, PLLC
2830 100th Street, Suite 106
Urbandale, IA 50322

Date of second publication October 22, 2026
41.2

Palo Alto County Supervisors

Courthouse
Emmetsburg, Iowa
October 6, 2026, 8:00 a.m.

The Palo Alto County Board of
Supervisors met in regular session.
Members present: Linus Solberg, Chair;
Keith Wirtz, Ron Graettinger, Craig Merrill,
Roger Faustick, Present: Diane Weiland,
Reporter/Democrat; Anne Quail, County
Attorney; Amanda Hansen, Auditor's Office.

Unless otherwise indicated, all of the
motions offered at this meeting were carried
with the following vote: Ayes: Faustick,
Merrill, Graettinger, Wirtz, Solberg. Nays:
None. Abstentions: None.

Linus Solberg, Chairman, called the meeting
to order and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Faustick, 2nd by Wirtz to
approve the agenda for October 6, 2026.
Motion Carried.

Motion by Graettinger, 2nd by Wirtz to
approve the minutes for September 29, 2026.
Motion Carried.

Motion by Graettinger, 2nd by Faustick
to approve the Veteran Affairs' monthly
report and the quarterly report ending
September 30, 2026. Motion Carried.

Motion by Wirtz, 2nd by Merrill to

approve the Recorder's monthly report
ending September 30, 2026. Motion carried.

Aletha King, Zoning, met with the
Board. Motion by Wirtz, 2nd by Graettinger
to approve the master matrix for Hoppe
Properties II, LLC, in Section 29 of Great
Oak Township. Motion Carried.

Motion by Faustick, 2nd by Merrill to
approve hiring Tom Shimon as the full-time
IT Director with starting salary of \$80,000
per year effective November 5, 2026. Motion
Carried.

Committee Reports: Keith—safety/
wellness; Craig—economic development.

No one was present for public comment.

Walter Davis-Oeth, County Engineer,
met with the Board. Walker presented partial
acquisition contracts for bridge projections.

Motion by Graettinger, 2nd by Wirtz
to approve the partial acquisition contract
with Ronald Girres for in Section 12 of West
Bend Township for \$149.84 for temporary
easement. Motion Carried.

Motion by Wirtz, 2nd by Merrill to
approve the partial acquisition contract
with David Girres in Section 11 of West
Bend Township for \$148.40 for temporary
easement. Motion Carried.

Motion by Graettinger, 2nd by Merrill

to approve the partial acquisition contract
with Ronald Girres in Section 2 of West
Bend Township for \$149.36 for temporary
easement. Motion Carried.

Motion by Wirtz, 2nd by Merrill to
approve the partial acquisition contract
with Martin Zaugg in Section 8 of West
Bend Township for \$1,535.71 for permanent
easement. Motion Carried.

Moton by Merrill, 2nd by Wirtz to approve
the partial acquisition contract with Martin
Zaugg in Section 8 of West Bend Township
for \$3,764.29 for permanent easement.
Motion Carried.

Dave Walters, HBW Insurance, met with
the Board to review the ICAP insurance
renewal. Property insurance renewal will
not increase for FY27.

Motion by Faustick, 2nd by Merrill to
increase the property deductible to \$5,000
for FY27. Ayes: Merrill, Faustick, Solberg,
Nays: Graettinger, Wirtz. Motion Carried.

Motion by Graettinger, 2nd by Faustick
to adjourn. Motion Carried.

Linus Solberg, Chairman
Carmen Moser, Auditor

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Notice Of General Election

NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION

All the qualified Electors of Palo Alto
County, Iowa, are hereby notified that a
General Election will be held on Tuesday,
November 3, 2026.

All polls in Palo Alto County will be open
from 7:00 a.m. till 8:00 p.m.

Voters must vote in their precinct of
residence. You may also verify the voting
location for your home address at [https://
sos.iowa.gov/elections/voterace/pollingplace/
search.aspx](https://sos.iowa.gov/elections/voterace/pollingplace/search.aspx).

The precinct polling places and addresses
for this election are as follows:

Emmetsburg-
Election Center, 1302 Broadway,
Emmetsburg, IA

For voters in Emmetsburg Ward 1:
Emmetsburg Ward 2:

Emmetsburg Ward 3, Emmetsburg
Township, pts. Walnut, Lost Island,
Highland and Silver Lake Townships

Emmetsburg Ward 4, Vernon,
Independence, Freedom, Fairfield, Nevada
and pt. Fern Valley Townships

Graettinger-
Graettinger Public Library, 115 W. Robins
St., Graettinger, IA

FEDERAL OFFICES

United States Senator
• Josh Turek (Democrat)
• Ashley Hinson (Republican)
• Thomas Laehn (Libertarian)

United States Representative District 4
• Dave Dawson (Democrat)
• Chris McGowan (Republican)

STATE OFFICES

Governor/Lieutenant Governor
• Rob Sand/Dave Muhlbauer (Democrat)
• Zach Lahn/Derek Wulf (Republican)

Secretary of State

• Ryan Peterman (Democrat)
• Paul D. Pate (Republican)

Auditor of State

• Taylor Wettach (Democrat)
• Chris Cournoyer (Republican)

Treasurer of State

• John Norwood (Democrat)
• Roby Smith (Republican)

Secretary of Agriculture

• Chris Jones (Democrat)
• Mike Naig (Republican)

Attorney General

• Nate Willems (Democrat)
• Brenna Bird (Republican)

State Senator District 5

• Dave Rowley (Republican)
• Rachel Gravett (No Party)

State Representative District 10

• John H Wills (Republican)

COUNTY OFFICES

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

District 1

• Keith Wirtz (Republican)

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

District 2

• Craig Merrill (Republican)

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

District 5

• Linus Solberg (Democrat)
• Aaron Dietrich (Republican)
• Matt Reding (No Party)

TREASURER

• Robin Jamison (Republican)

RECORDER

• Sue Ruppert (Republican)

ATTORNEY

• Anne Quail (Republican)

PUBLIC MEASURES

Public Measure A

Shall the Board of Directors of the
Emmetsburg Community School District
in the County of Palo Alto, State of Iowa,
be authorized to contract indebtedness
and issue General Obligation Bonds in an
amount not to exceed \$25,000,000 to provide
funds to build, furnish, and equip a new
elementary school, including site acquisition
and site improvements, and for partial
demolition of the existing elementary school,
and to repair and improve the remaining

Graettinger, pts. Walnut and Lost Island
Townships

West Bend- West Bend Public Library, 316
S Broadway Ave, West Bend, IA

West Bend, West Bend Township and pt.
Fern Valley Township

Mallard- Mallard Community Center, 605
Inman, Mallard, IA

Mallard, Ellington, Rush Lake, Booth,
Great Oak and pt. Silver Lake Townships

Ruthven- Ruthven Social Center, 1503
Rolling St, Ruthven, IA

Ruthven, pt. Highland Township

All polling places for this election are
handicap accessible; however, any voter who
is physically unable to enter the polling place
has the right to vote in the voter's vehicle.
For further information, please contact
the County Auditor's office at the following
telephone number or e-mail address:

Telephone: 712-852-2924
E-mail: cmoser@paloaltocounty.iowa.gov

Pre-registered voters are required to
provide an approved form of identification
at the polling place before receiving and
casting a regular ballot. Voters who are not
pre-registered – such as voters registering
to vote on Election Day – and voters

portion of the existing elementary building,
including site improvements?

Public Measure B

Should the Palo Alto County Board of
Supervisors fill the offices of Trustee and
Clerk of Fairfield Township by appointment
as the terms of the office of the incumbent
township officers expires?

Public Measure C

Should the Palo Alto County Board of
Supervisors fill the offices of Trustee
and Clerk of Silver Lake Township by
appointment as the terms of the office of the
incumbent township officers expires?

Public Measure D

Should the Palo Alto County Board of
Supervisors fill the offices of Trustee
and Clerk of West Bend Township by
appointment as the terms of the office of the
incumbent township officers expires?

PUBLIC MEASURE RQ

Shall the Board of Directors of the
Pocahontas Area Community School District
in the Counties of Pocahontas, Calhoun and
Palo Alto, State of Iowa, be authorized to
contract indebtedness and issue General
Obligation Bonds in an amount not to exceed
\$20,000,000 to provide funds to remodel,
repair, improve, and equip the middle/high
school and elementary school, including
career and technical education and classroom
spaces; to build, furnish, and equip additions
to the middle/high school and elementary
school, including site improvements; for
playground improvements at the elementary
school; and to build, furnish, and equip a
central office and regional learning center
building and a transportation facility,
including site improvements?

Shall the Board of Directors of the North
Union Community School District in the
Counties of Emmet, Kossuth, and Palo Alto,
State of Iowa, be authorized to contract
indebtedness and issue General Obligation
Bonds in an amount not to exceed \$12,000,000
to provide funds to build, furnish, and equip
additions to the school building, including a
gymnasium, multipurpose room, and related
spaces, and to improve the site?

NON-PARTISAN OFFICES

Silver Lake Township Clerk

• Jake Treymbal

Silver Lake Township Trustee

• Kyle Licht

Fairfield Township Clerk

• Jana Mathisen

Fairfield Township Trustee

• AJ Osborn

West Bend Township Clerk

• Donald E. Banwart

West Bend Township Trustee

• Jeffrey Gambell

County Public Hospital Trustee

• Nick Steinkamp

• Mark Hobart

• Cindy Magee

• Mary Cooper

• Mikel Jones

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Contact us for all your advertising needs - 712-852-2323