- ► RIBBON CUTTING
- FALL IN LOVE



The Clarence Main Street office is located at 514 Lombard Street, Clarence, Iowa. The Clarence Cardinal is published independently, in partnership with Clarence Main Street.

Work Progresses on Clarence Corner Shops

What began as a sketch on paper, a lot of conversations and a whole lot of "wow, we can really do this!", the Clarence Main Street Board of Directors announced they are undertaking a project to transform one of the highest visibility properties in our business district. In January, the Board pursued the pre-application process for the Community Catalyst Building Remediation Grant, available through the Iowa Economic Development Authority. After submitting that preapplication, Clarence Main Street was invited to apply for the final grant application. On June 30 the community was informed the project was awarded the \$100,000 grant.

The objective of this project is to create four small commercial spaces within the walls of the old Casey's building at 502 Lombard Street. This has the potential to bring four new businesses into our district. The Clarence Corner Shops project will have lots of updates in the coming weeks and months along with all the ways you can get involved. This community project will have a tremendous impact on the future of Clarence business.



Crews from WJ Leeper Construction and Miller Construction collaborated to complete concrete work at Clarence Corner Shops

The Clarence Main Street Board of Directors are incredibly grateful to the Iowa Economic Development Authority for believing in the potential to transform this part of our business district, and to the City of Clarence, for partnering with us, providing in-kind investment and looking to the future of our community.

CLARENCE MAIN STREET

Butterfly Dreams Boutique Welcomed to Clarence Main Street

After working with the Clarence Main Street Economic Vitality Committee, to find a suitable location, Butterfly Dreams Boutique celebrated their grand opening the weekend of October 10 and 11. Owner Alexis Kimbrough now occupies the retail space inside Prime Design at 501 Lombard Street. Butterfly Dreams

Boutique features apparel, accessories and giftable items.

The excitement was high as the community gathered on Friday, October 10 to welcome Alexis with a ribbon cutting ceremony.

"From the moment I arrived in Clarence, I felt such a warm and genuine welcome. I'm beyond grateful to everyone who made this new chapter possible and so excited to officially join Clarence Main Street. I can't wait to be part of this wonderful community and help more people discover just how special Clarence truly is!", exclaimed Kimbrough.

Follow Butterfly Dreams Boutique on Facebook, Instagram and at www.butterflydreamsboutique.net.



Fritz Drexler, Mayor Steve Bixler

Harmony Hustlers 4-H Club

The end of the year celebration for the Harmony Hustler 4-H club was a mini golfing and ice cream party held on Sunday August 3rd. We went to the Ice Cream Derby in Delmar. Several members also attended the great Iowa State Fair and performed at share the fun. Our act was called "Synchronized Swimming." Record books were due September 12th to the extension office. If you are interested in joining our 4-H club please contact Carrie Pruess at 563-357-3459. Reporter Levi Pruess



Kimbrough, Zach Schlote, Lori Dennis, Shirley Geadelmann, Dr.

Autumn Fun Comes to Clarence

Enjoy the falling leaves and autumn fun in Clarence, Iowa this month! The Annual Fall in Love with Clarence weekend kicks off on Friday evening, October 17 with the Moonlight & Magic Stroll from 6pm to 9pm.

Enjoy a stroll to see the monsters at the Elvis Museum, tarot reading at Demeter's Market, candlelight shopping at Onion Grove Mercantile, Halloween themed drinks at Freezy Dreams, tenderloins at Mill Creek Café, a visit to Tacos Don Pote food truck, music, smores and apple cider with Chief Thurston in the green space next to the mural, trick or treating at Butterfly Dreams Boutique and the Lincoln

Highway lamp post dedication at 7:30pm at the pocket park.



Saturday, October 18 brings lots of fun for the kiddos! Children's events will be featured at the Clarence American Legion Hall (304 6th Avenue) from 10am to 1pm. Clarence Dance & Tumble will host their fall recital at noon on the upstairs stage. Enjoy some pumpkin decorating sponsored by Scheer Insurance, cookie decorating by St. John's UCC, face painting and more! The Tiny Taco Co and Get Your Bake On Sweet Treats will be set up in the pocket park for some delicious treats. Be sure to stroll the district to explore all the businesses have to offer.

Victory Lane will be hosting a fun afternoon grilling out on the patio from 11am to 1pm, horseshoe tournament at 1pm and the Basement Band 2pm—5pm.

Sunday, October 19, Ipm-2pm, brings the annual tradition of Trunk or Treat in the parking lot at the Clarence Assisted Living. Businesses and organizations will pop their trunks and treat the children of Clarence to a sweet treat. If you are interested in opening your trunk, please be parked no later than 12:45pm.

Construction Progress at Clarence Corner Shops







Fall in Love with CLARENCE

a weekend of autumn fun

OCTOBER 17, 18 & 19

WWW Clarence Main Street com



RIDAY

- Tenderloins at Mill Creek Café, 5pm to 6:30pm
- Tacos Don Pote Food Truck, next to City Hall
- Music, S'mores & Apple Cider with Chief Thurston next to the mural
- Stroll to see the monsters at the Elvis Museum
- Candlelight Shopping at Onion Grove Mercantile
- Trick or Treating at Butterfly Dreams Boutique, gift with purchases over \$40
- · Halloween-themed drinks at Freezy Dreams
- Tarot Reading at Demeter's Market, 6:30pm to 8:30pm
- Lamppost Dedication: 7:30pm, at pocket park



SATURDAY

Children's Events at American Legion Hall

- Face Painting
- Pumpkin Decorating (Sponsored by Scheer Insurance)
- Cookie Decorating (Sponsored by St. John's UCC)
- Clarence Dance & Tumbling Performance, 12pm
- Tiny Taco Co & Get Your Bake On located in the pocket park

Clarence Public Library:

Krop Cake Hunters, 10am-Noon

Victory Lane: Grill Out 11am - 1pm, Horseshoe Tournament 1pm, Basement Band 2pm - 5pm



SUNDAY

Clarence Trunk or Treat

- Clarence Assisted Living Parking Lot
- No sign up required, just bring your decorated trunk, and treats for the kiddos



THIS & THAT

Yoga with Janel

St. John's UCC Fireside Room

*Yoga, Mondays, 5:30pm \$10

*Sound Meditation, first Sunday of the month, 6pm, suggested \$20 or contribute as you are able.

Preregister with text or call Questions?

Contact Janel at 319-721-9559

The Clarence Main Street Committees (Design/Promotion/ Organization/Economic Vitality) invite YOU to join in the fun! Contact the Clarence Main Street office for details.

October is Black Cat Awareness Month

October glows on every cheek, October shines in every eye, While up the hill and down the dale

Her crimson banners fly.
-Elaine Goodale Eastman (1863
-1953)

Clarence United Methodist Church New Worship Times 11:15am Sundays, Pastors Derrick and Theodora Okine. All are welcome. 316 7th Avenue

St. John's Food Pantry open 5pm – 7pm every Wed. Use north door at St. John's UCC, 320 9th Ave, Clarence. Worship with St. John's UCC Sunday at 9:30 a.m. All are welcome!

320 9th Avenue, Clarence

Lori Dennis President Marcia Syring Vice President Terry Hoy Treasurer Jamie Wilhau Secretary CLARENCE MAIN STREET BOARD

Fritz Drexler Becky Corbett Angie Wood CLARENCE MAIN STREET



October 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 CMS Board Meeting 6:15pm	3	4
5	6	7 RECYCLE PICKUP	8	9	10	11
12	13 City Council 6:15pm	14	15 Girls' Night Botox Party Butterfly Dreams Boutique 5:45p-8:45p	16	17 Moonlight & Magic Stroll 6p-9p	Fall in Love with Clarence 10a-6p
Trunk or Treat Ip-2p	20 Articles due for November Cardinal	21 RECYCLE PICKUP	22	23	24	25
26	27	28 RECYCLE PICKUP	29 Farmer's Market Planning Meeting 7p	30	31	

{submit calendar items to ClarenceNewsletter@gmail.com}

Clarence Main Street Meetings and Events

October 2, 6:15pm: Clarence Main Street Board Meeting

October 15, 5:45pm-8:45pm: Girls' Night Botox Party, Butterfly Dreams Boutique

October 17, 6pm-9pm: Moonlight & Magic Stroll

October 18, 10am-1pm: Fall in Love with Clarence Celebration

October 18, 11am-6pm: Victory Lane Grill Out, Horseshoes & Live Music

October 19, 1pm-2pm: Trunk or Treat, Clarence Assisted Living October 20: Articles due for November issue of Clarence Cardinal

October 29, 7pm: Clarence Farmer's Market Planning Meeting, Clarence Main Street Office, 514 Lom-

bard

Clarence Corner Shop Design Plans

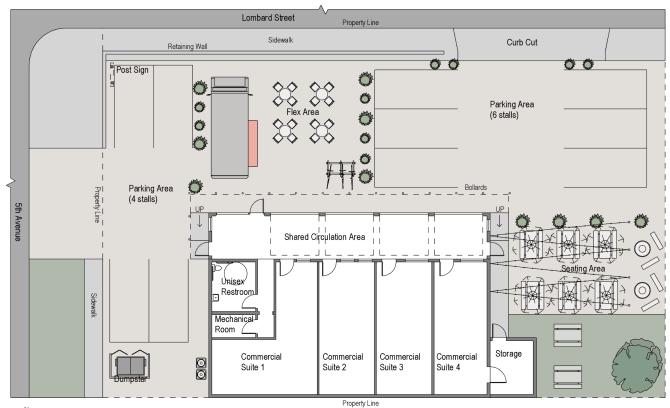
Clarence Main Street partnered with the Design Specialists at Main Street Iowa to develop the plans for the old Casey's site. Sarah Lembke and Keegan Hall established designs that reflect the history of this site. The site housed service stations prior to the Casey's construction. In addition to the building, the site design reflects Clarence Main Street's need for community gathering space.

The front addition will feature five glass garage doors, which can be opened in fair weather to expose the storefronts, as well as the seating/gathering area inside the building. The building interior will feature four commercial spaces available for rent, a public restroom and a mechanical room.



Clarence Main Street has access to these NO COST design services because of our Main Street Iowa designation.









CHAIR EXERCISE CLASS WELCOMES ALL

Chair Exercise Class

Location: Clarence United Methodist Church, 316

7th Avenue

Time: 9:30am Cost: \$2/week

Contact: Terry Hoy, 319-560-8190



A Note From Ferry

A bottle of water is given in each class for all attendees.

Coffee and snacks with fellowship after class most Mondays and Thursdays. After Saturday class we go to Demeter's Market for fellowship.

If classes need to be cancelled, I will try to post on Facebook, call, text and place a note on the church door, weather permitting I am able to get to the church. Reasons to cancel class include snow or ice overnight, temperatures below 10 degrees or severe weather.

Class Schedule

October 2025

- 2, Thursday, Fellowship at Demeter's Market after
- 6, Monday
- 9, Thursday, Fellowship at Demeter's Market after
- II, Saturday, Fellowship at Demeter's Market after
- 13, Monday, NO CLASS
- 16, Thursday, Fellowship at Demeter's Market after
- 20, Monday
- 23, Thursday, Fellowship at Demeter's Market after
- 27, Monday
- 30, Thursday, Fellowship at Demeter's Market after November, Class on Monday, November 3 and Thursday, November 6

Clarence Main Street Capitol Campaign to Kick off in November

The revitalization of the Clarence Main Street is undeniable, as new businesses move in, beautification projects are completed and even bigger endeavors are on the horizon. November will usher in the largest capitol campaign, undertaken by the Clarence Main Street Board of Directors, to date. The city of Clarence generously allocates \$10,000 each year to fund programmatic needs, and the balance of the Clarence Main Street budget is supported through several funding ave-



nues. A typical budget year requires \$46,000 to fund the program, with contributing funding sources including the city allocation, multiple grants, in-kind support and private investment. The Board is planning for opportunities beyond the typical budget for the future, with the upcoming completion of the Clarence Corner Shop project, and several large projects that are in the development stage. The Clarence Main Street program is one of the smallest programs under the umbrella of Main Street Iowa, yet big things are happening under the tutelage of this determined group of volunteers. The Clarence Main Street Board of Directors invites our supporters to consider the transformational efforts currently underway in our community and how you can be a part of this incredible revival. Together we are leaving behind a legacy of success for future generations of Clarence leaders. A legacy wall is being planned inside the Clarence Corner Shop addition, which will honor investors at the following levels; \$1000-\$5000, \$5001-\$10000, \$10001-\$20,000, \$20,001-

\$50,000 and \$50,001 and above. Details about this giving opportunity will be available in the November issue of the Clarence Cardinal. Together we can continue to grow Clarence as a destination for visitors and as a terrific place to call home!

Tree Planting Time in Clarence

BY KEVIN KELLY

It is tree planting time again in the Clarence area and this is your last chance of the Clarence American Legion Remembering Our Veterans by planting trees destroyed from the 2020 Derecho and ash disease recently.

There are many streets that need tree cover so please consider planting some trees at no cost to you this year. We will recommend a location, mark where the tree is to go, do an lowa One call, plant the trees and provide information on future care of your trees.

We have some very nice Oak, Maple and Hackberry trees that will grow for over 100 years and stand up to the derecho winds that can come again. Talk to your neighbors and let's get together and cover the streets in Clarence with tree cover.

Contact Kevin Kelly, phone or text 563-210-6300 to get on the list this fall.



Contact Kevin Kelly Phone/Text: 563-210-6300



Sun News Ends Publication

One hundred forty one years of history came to an end this summer, as the Sun News shuttered its doors. Publisher Stuart Clark sadly described the struggle of small newspapers to continue publication and how difficult this decision was for him. ""For many years the newspapers of northern Cedar county provided news

and advertising to their many subscribers. Over time the papers began to consolidate, much like the individual community schools. The consolidation eventually resulted in the Sun News, serving Clarence, Lowden, Stanwood and Mechanicsville. Newspapers remain a vital source of information for the public, but the reality is that the readers are getting older and the number of retail and commercial establishments continues to fall. We appreciate the support of the subscribers we have had for many years and will strive to continue to serve them through The Tipton Conservative. Community members may send stories, news



releases and photos to me at StuartC108@aol.com or send them to Box 271 in Tipton. Thank you."

The Clarence Sun, published for the very first time on May 9, 1884, under the leadership of publisher M. Spurlock. The Sun would continue its long history in Clarence, eventually led by the Seaton family for many years. The Clarence Sun merged with the Pioneer Press and Stanwood Herald in May of 1963.

The Sun had been in the Seaton family continuously since 1901 when the late Charles A. Seaton, purchased it. Harlo Seaton joined his father in the business in 1937, and operated the business alone after his father's death in 1951. Mr. and Mrs. Seaton left Clarence in September 1963 to make their home in England. The merged newspaper later joined forces with the Lowden News, becoming the Sun News.

With the closing of the Sun News, you are encouraged to subscribe to the Tipton Conservative to continue to receive news from Cedar County, Iowa. Local news cannot thrive without your active support.

Treat yourself to home delivery!

In Cedar, Linn, Jones, Muscatine, Scott, Clinton and Johnson counties: \$46 per year * \$88 for two years \$132 for three years Other counties, in state: \$58 per year Out of state: \$62 per year

Or call 1-563-886-2131
The Tipton Conservative

- Subscription -

Mail to: The Tipton Conservative PO Box 271, Tipton, IA 52772

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State____

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New_____ Renewal____

KNIGHTS UNITE!

Vote November 4, 2025

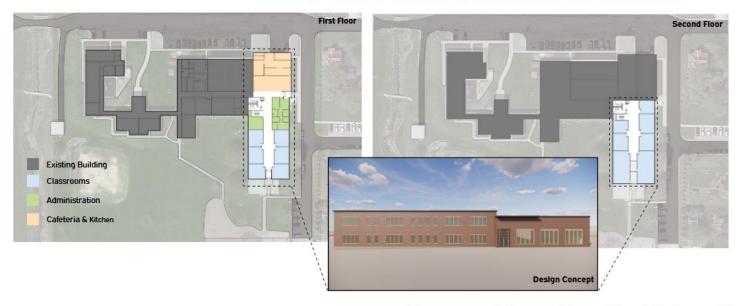
Renovated and new school facilities will ensure our students, and our communities, are prepared for the future.

On November 4, residents of the North Cedar Community School District will have the opportunity to vote to allow the district to extend an existing loan to pay for improvements to Lowden Elementary School and the Jr/Sr High School. The projects, proposed to the school board by a community-led group, will create better learning environments for current and future Knights without raising property taxes.

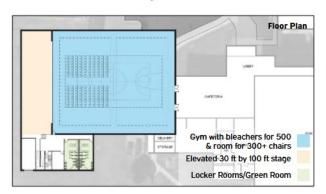


NEW & IMPROVED Lowden Elementary

Renovating the 75-year-old part of Lowden Elementary School is more expensive than building new. This portion will be replaced with a new two-story structure so that students at both of our district's elementary schools have similar experiences.



FINE ARTS & ATHLETICS Jr/Sr High School



A new multipurpose activities addition with a full stage will replace the current auditorium, which is too small and does not have the technology to support our fine arts program. When not used for fine arts, it can be used for athletic practices.



The bond will be an investment in updated learning spaces at Lowden Elementary School and multipurpose flexible performance and practice space for the entire district at the Jr./Sr. High School.

Knowing that we needed to address some facility needs, the district has been preparing for these projects for several years. In 2022, the district hired OPN Architects to conduct a thorough assessment of all our facilities. The district also convened a community-based committee to review the findings of the assessment and prioritize projects. In 2025, the committee recommended renovations at Lowden Elementary and the Jr/Sr High School because they were the areas of greatest need. Lowden Elementary needs to be improved so it is on par with facilities in Mechanicsville and the secondary school needs additional activity spaces to support fine arts education and extracurricular activities.

How will we pay for it?

The total project cost is \$21 million. The district plans to use a combination of sales and property tax revenue.

Sales Tax: The district will use sales tax funds that come directly from the state for a portion of the project. This will not affect property taxes.

Property Tax: The remainder will be paid for using a general obligation bond of \$18.9 million. This will replace a current bond, which paid for the new gymnasium and science and fine arts wing at the Jr/Sr High School and a classroom addition at Mechanicsville. It will not create a tax levy increase

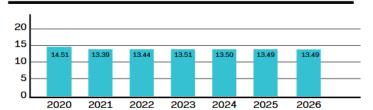
The district intends to maintain its current tax levy rate of \$13.48 per \$1,000 of taxable property value, which is one of the lowest in our area.

PROPERTY TAXES WILL NOT GO UP.

COMPARABLE DISTRICT LEVY RATES

Mount Vernon
Lisbon
Midland
Anamosa
West Branch
Camanche
Wilton
Monticello
West Liberty
Muscatine
North Cedar
Mid Prairie
Tipton
Calamus Wheatland

HISTORIC DISTRICT LEVY RATES



What will the ballot say?

On November 4, 2025, there will be **two questions** on the ballot related to funding North Cedar Community School District's proposed facility plan.



The first question asks for authorization to issue a general obligation bond.

"Shall the Board of Directors of the North Cedar Community School District in the Counties of Cedar and Jones, State of Iowa, be authorized to contract indebtedness and issue General Obligation Bonds in an amount not to exceed \$18,900,000 to build, furnish, and equip an addition to the secondary building for a multipurpose gymnasium/auditorium, including site improvements; and to demolish, reconstruct, renovate, furnish, and equip a portion of the Lowden elementary building, including site improvements."



The second question will renew the district's ability to use the Secure an Advanced Vision for Education Fund (SAVE) sales tax dollars it already receives from the state to fund facility projects.

"In the North Cedar Community School District, the following Revenue Purpose Statement which specifies the use of revenues the North Cedar Community School District will receive from the State of Iowa Secure an Advanced Vision for Education Fund shall be adopted."



Absentee In-Person voting is available beginning October 15 through 5 p.m. November 3 at the county auditor's office.



Mail-In Absentee Ballots must be requested by October 20. Ballots must be received by 8 p.m. on Election Day or hand deliver your ballot to the auditor.



location

Vote In-Person on November 4 at your assigned polling place.

FROM THE CLARENCE ARCHIVES INTERESTING TIDBITS FROM CLARENCE HISTORY

School Notes

Kindergarten Miss Patricia Timberlake, Teacher

This week we are working on "Polly and Peter Pocket". They are made of colored construction paper folded like an envelope. When the flap of the envelope is down, they are "sleeping". Every envelope will be "sleeping" when we start a new skill, and as we learn the skill, we will tack the flap up until every Polly or Peter Pocket is "awake". Some of the skills are: Know your phone number, know left and right, follow directions, know eight colors, rest quietly, tell a story, write numbers to ten, count to twenty. Some of these, of course, will come later in the year.

For the past week we have had a unit on Halloween. Next week we will begin our unit on Indians.

Third Grade

Mrs. Charlotte Klatt, teacher

We conducted experiments in science classes last week to show "rusting" and "dissolving" some of the changes which are taking place about us. We put nails, marbles, pennies, paper clips, a comb and thumb tacks into six different glasses of water. We learned that only the articles containing iron rusted when wet. Those taking part in these experiments were: Bobby Mingst, Dennis Sheldon, Kathy Carbaugh, Victor Hoffman, Marlys Gade, Peggy Schilling and Linda McVay.

Our next experiments showed how soap, sugar, and salt dissolve in water. Kent Sheeley, Douglas Bixler and Jan Hasselbusch took part in these. Bob Stolte celebrated a birthday last Tuesday. His mother, Mrs. Wilbert Stolte, visited us in the afternoon and Bob had treats for each of us. Friday was the day we'll all remember. We had our first Halloween Parade. It was such fun! Afterwards we read Halloween stories and had doughnuts with our milk.

Clarence Sun, November 6, 1958

Poem by Sybil Klatt Fourth Grade Halloween Ghosts and goblins are out tonight Walking with their candlelight. I wonder who is dressed up like Jack and Jill going up their lonely hill. It's candlelight The moon's shining bright, On this scary, scary night, Ohoooooooooo! Rarence Iona

FROM THE DIARY OF ELSIE PRUESS

October 31, 1947: Airstrip opened at Stoney's.

October 31, 1956: Laverne Schwien ran over hog by Roses.

October 31, 1974: The Halloweener's broke some windows on ME Church, BB shot.

October 7, 1983: Remington's store sold to Lange from Lowden.

October 1, 1986: Drug store closed in PM from now on.

October 1, 1990: Lloyd Thien upset with tractor -5 ribs broke on each side.

Elsie Pruess, Clarence, kept a detailed journal for decades. Portions of this journal were donated to the Clarence Cardinal. Excerpts from this wonderful collection will be included each month in the newsletter