

## in this issue >>>

Holmes Drug Store

Pray, not pout

Stay Cool & Hydrated

Go see the Historical Museum

Happy Birthday to YOU!

.... And SO Much More!



August  
2024

Steamboat Rock, Iowa

641-868-2240

srcityhall@heartofiowa.net

www.steamboatrockiowa.com

# Friendly Valley Times



## YOUR City >>>

### City Council Members

David Mull, Mayor

Kevin Peiters Cory Schurman

Marc Havens Travis Hollander

### City Hall Hours

Monday 8:00am-1:00pm

Tuesday Closed

Wednesday 8:00am-4pm

Thursday Closed

Friday 8:00am-1:00pm

Recycling 7:00am

Monday, July 29<sup>th</sup>

Monday, August 12<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>

If you would like to dump tree branches, please get ahold of Dave Hagberg at 214-693-1928

Have anything for this Newsletter?

email Heidi at [hry@heartofiowa.net](mailto:hry@heartofiowa.net)



## Did You Know ???

### The Last Month of Summer

August is named after the first Roman Emperor, Augustus Caesar. He was the adopted son of Julius Caesar and ruled from 27 BCE until his death in 14 CE. And, an additional fun fact is this: Augustus Caesar was born on September 23, 63 BCE, but he was named Augustus in honor of the month of August.

Originally, August did not have 31 days. Now this is probably one of the most intriguing facts about August because it seemingly came from a tinge of jealousy. August had only 30 days, while July, which was named after Julius

Caesar had 31 days. However, Augustus, the Roman Emperor did not want his month to have fewer days than Julius' month. So, he added a day to August, making it 31 days long, just like July.

gemstone that brings courage and happiness.

August's flowers are the gladiolus and poppy. The gladiolus is a tall and elegant flower that symbolizes strength, honor, and moral integrity. The poppy, is a beautiful red bloom made famous

from the poem centuries ago, is often associated with remembrance and is used as a symbol of respect for fallen soldiers and veterans.

August is national peach month. It's dedicated to the delicious and juicy fruit



The Perseid Meteor Shower is one of the most popular meteor showers. It usually peaks around August 11th to 13th and can be visible from most parts of the world. Similar to May, August also has two birthstones. The birthstones for August are peridot and sardonyx. Peridot is a green gemstone that brings good luck and protects against nightmares. Sardonyx is a reddish-brown

that is a summertime favorite for many people.

This month comes from the Latin word "Augustus, which means "inspiring reverence or admiration"

In a standard year, there is no other month that begins on the same day of the week as August. In a leap year, however, it begins on the same day as February.

# Steamboat Rock Visionary Group >>>



**Members:** Dave Hagberg, Mike Finger, Toni Nederhoff, Sandy Trampe, Mariah Schurman, Mary Gast, Bob Hutchcroft

## Thank You

Thanks to everyone who attended our brisket dinner fundraiser. We heard many compliments about the food and the brisket from Wes Beenken was delicious.



Funds from the dinner will be spent on additional mulch for the playground. Playground mulch is expensive and additional mulch must be added at least every three years. So, thanks for those who contributed.

## Shelter Reservations

Reservations may be made by placing a sheet of paper in the holder with your name and dates you wish to use the facility. The holder is on the south side of the shelter attached to a support pole.

## Rivers Edge Trail

The RE trail committee is hoping to receive a significant grant that will provide funds for completing the trail to Marshalltown. If this grant is awarded the trail should be completed in five to six years. We will then be flooded with people looking for all kinds of services. Let's get ready.



**Steamboat Rock Baptist Church**  
107 2<sup>nd</sup> St; Steamboat Rock, IA 50672  
641-868-2458

[church@steamboatbaptist.org](mailto:church@steamboatbaptist.org)

Office Hours: 8:00am-4:00pm

Traditional Service – 8:30am

Pathway Classes (Sunday School) – 9:30am

Contemporary Service – 10:30am



**Steamboat Rock Presbyterian Church**  
401 Market St. Steamboat Rock, IA 50672  
641-868-2292

[srpresbychurch@gmail.com](mailto:srpresbychurch@gmail.com)

Worship:10:30am

## Community Resources >>>

### Steamboat Rock Visionary Group

PO Box 344  
Steamboat Rock, IA 50672  
641-868-2812  
[bhutchcroft@hotmail.com](mailto:bhutchcroft@hotmail.com)

### Steamboat Rock Fire & Rescue

PO Box 174  
Steamboat Rock, IA 50672  
641-868-2314  
[srchief@heartofiowa.net](mailto:srchief@heartofiowa.net)

### Steamboat Rock Cemetery

19325 Z Ave.  
Steamboat Rock, IA 50672  
641-751-5096  
[50672cemetery@gmail.com](mailto:50672cemetery@gmail.com)

### Steamboat Rock Historic Society

409 W. Market St.  
Steamboat Rock, IA 50672  
641-858-6085  
[jimkkramer@heartofiowa.net](mailto:jimkkramer@heartofiowa.net)

### Steamboat Rock Public Library

511 W. Market St.  
Steamboat Rock, IA 50672  
641-868-2300  
[srocklib@heartofiowa.net](mailto:srocklib@heartofiowa.net)

### Steamboat Rock Public Library

511 W. Market St.  
Steamboat Rock, IA 50672  
641-868-2300  
[srocklib@heartofiowa.net](mailto:srocklib@heartofiowa.net)

## Looking for a way to give back?

Donations are appreciated at the Little Food Patries around Hardin County.

### Located at the Library

Iowa Falls: Friendship Club, Hospital, Julia O'Neal park, First United Meth. Church, Library, & Dale Howard Activity Center (inside)  
Eldora: Bud's Laundromat, Library, & Dorothy's.  
Hubbard: Post Office Radcliffe: Elem. School  
Ackley: Library Union: Library Alden: Library





# HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOOOUUU!!!

*May you live a long life, Full of Gladness and Health,  
with a pocket full of gold as the least of your wealth,  
May the Dreams you hold dearest, be those which Come True,  
May the kindness you spread, keep returning to YOU!*



July 14<sup>th</sup> Mary Kuechenberg    July 24<sup>th</sup> Austin Brouwer

August 11<sup>th</sup> Mariah Schurman

August 15<sup>th</sup> Marcia Frerichs

August 22<sup>nd</sup> Sydnie Johnson

August 23<sup>rd</sup> Tricia Frerichs

August 24<sup>th</sup> Nate Johnson

August 26<sup>th</sup> Tami Bear

& Kip Roelfsema

August 31<sup>st</sup> Derek Witt

## We Welcome YOU to come Stay with US

### The Guest House

641-640-5425  
202 E Market St; Steamboat  
Rock, IA 50627



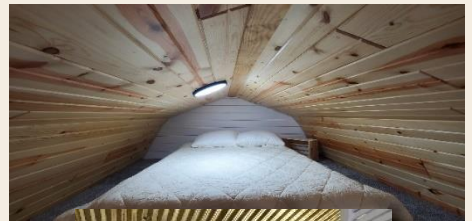
### Cottage on the Edge

Doug & Mona Bleeker  
641-640-0568  
[www.airbnb.com/h/cottageontheedge](http://www.airbnb.com/h/cottageontheedge)



### Trailhead Cabins & Camping

Jarret, Kim, & Mel Winninger  
[www.trailheadcnc.com](http://www.trailheadcnc.com)





# Steamboat Rock Fire Department

## What Happened to June?

It doesn't seem like the seventh month of the year already. That means five short months and Christmas will be here. Lol!!

According to the calendar, summer time really has just begun. Remember that if you are doing work outside, please stay hydrated!! One can become overheated very quickly. Take breaks regularly to make sure you are not overworking yourself. Even though you may not feel thirsty, drink some fluids.

If you have pets outdoors, they too will need plenty of water available. Farm animals need to have an eye kept on them when the temperature creeps up.

This is also the season that many unfortunate mishaps occur in vehicles. It doesn't take long for the inside of a vehicle to become deadly. If you should take your pet for a ride, roll down the windows or leave your vehicle on with A/C. Just cracking the windows isn't enough.

A helpful reminder would be to place your workbag/purse/briefcase in the rear on the same side of the carrier. This would allow a check in case they may have fallen asleep.

I would like to say thank-you to those that were instrumental in getting the Haunted Hospital up and running, and then to keep it an annual event. Each year the board seeks out those volunteer groups that could use assistance in purchasing items they need or wishing to have. SRFD was asked to put together a wish list for assisting with parking. We assembled a list and some of the items we listed were 1 3/4" hoses (red and orange 50' ea.), 5" Stors (50'), a new 2,000 gal. aluminum port-a-tank, and two 10,000 lumens LED lights. After compiling this list, it was turned in. A short time later, we were donated the money to acquire each of these items. This has been a special group of people to continue the hard work and keep this fun tradition alive. Through recent business opportunities, I believe the building has been purchased. Not knowing what lays ahead, this fun event may have had its last scare, screams, and laughter. SRFD cannot express gratitude and appreciation to the Haunted Hospital.

### MAINTAINENCE TIP:

- Check all AC filters
- Blow all dead grass off your mower to help prevent a small engine fire

Stay Cool and Hydrated,

Scott – Chief SRFD

## Pastor Lynn Arends, Steamboat Rock Presbyterian Church and East Friesland Presbyterian Church

Maybe it's the fact that I'm getting older and more cynical. Or maybe it's the state of the world these days. Or maybe...it's just me. But seems like I get angry easily these days. If I made a list of the things that angered me, from the slightest little thing to the biggest thing, I could fill a good page or more.



And that's a problem. Anger. No matter what, we can always find a long list of things to be angry about. We can be angry about Biden, Trump, abortion, gun control, court decisions, public morals, the injustice in this world. We can be angry about someone cutting us off or pulling out in front of us. We can be angry about a coach's decision, wins and losses or Caitlin Clark not being on the Olympic team. Lots of things to be angry about.

In the Gospels, when Jesus fed the 5000, He and the disciples were just looking to get away for a little bit. But the people of the surrounding towns and villages went looking for them and eventually found them on the other side of the lake. And these people were angry, too. Hey, the Romans had taken over; the future looked dismal; sickness, poverty, even death were always just right around the corner. Wouldn't you be angry with all that?

But they did what I didn't do when I make my angry list. They looked for Jesus, ran to Him and brought their cares and worries to Him. And when they did that, they found hope and peace. No, their lives didn't instantly become perfect. But they found hope and peace when they brought their concerns, their worries, their joys, their lives, to Jesus.

*Con't on page 6*



# Steamboat Rock Public Library

511 W. Market St.; Steamboat Rock Phone/Fax: 641-868-2300

[www.youseemore.com/nile/steamboatrock](http://www.youseemore.com/nile/steamboatrock) or on Facebook @SteamboatRockLibrary

For the last 7 years Dar and I have planned summer reading at the Steamboat Rock Public Library, and I am always afraid the contributions won't come in to pay for the programs, prizes, books, and treats. Truly should never have worried. This community and the surrounding area have always been terrific with their support.

This year I want to thank the following for their support. The people that use this facility need to let them know just how much the patrons appreciate them and their contribution not just for summer reading but for any program.

The following are in no type of order:  
Dale Howard Auto Center, Eldora Veterinary Care, Hardin County Savings Bank, Gary Rolph, Plastic Recycling of Iowa Falls, Tim &

Linda Sterns, Vision Health Center, Jackie Hagberg, Aaron Armstrong, Mick Kramer, Bob & Vickie Hutchcroft, Jim & Julie Green, and OEL Construction.

Along with these individuals there have been cash donations when we have programs and the following have provided food, Sunny D, and books. Suzie DeVries, Anna Doolaard, The Rock Stop, and Greenbelt Bank & Trust.

When you see any of these contributors, I hope you thank them for their contribution. We could not have done this without their help.

Melissa Johanson, Director



## Hours

Tuesday 1:00-6:00pm  
Wednesday 2:00-5:00pm  
Thursday-Friday 12:00-4:00pm  
Saturday 9:00am-1:00pm

## New to the Library

### Biography

*Never Enough* by Andrew Wilkinson

### Fiction

*Lula Dean's Little Library of Banned Books* by Kirsten Miller

*How to age Disgracefully*  
by Clare Pooley

*Shelterwood* by Lisa Wingate

*Little Secrets* by Lisa Jackson

*Resurrection* by Danielle Steel

*The Teacher* by Freida McFadden

### Mystery

*The God of the Woods*  
by Liz Moore

*Dog Day Afternoon*  
by David Rosenfelt

*Breaking the Dark* by Lisa Jewell

*Final Girls* by Riley Sager

*The Burning* by Linda Castillo

*Camino Ghosts* by John Grisham

*If Something Happens to Me*  
by Alex Finlay

*The Last Time She Saw Him*  
by Kate White

*Alone in the Woods* by Charly Cox

*Middle of the Night* by Riley Sager

*All the Colors of the Dark*  
by Chris Whitaker

*The Invitation* by N.L. Hinkens

*The Class Reunion* by N.L. Hinkens

### Nonfiction

*Cheaper, Faster, Better*  
by Tom Steyer

### Romance

*Look on the Bright Side*  
by Kristan Higgins

### Children's Fiction

*The One and Only Family*  
by Katherine Applegate

### Science Fiction

*Eruption* by Michael Crichton and James Patterson

## Steamboat Rock Historical Society

**President:** Jim Kramer    **Vice President:**  
**Secretary:**                      **Treasurer:** Kitty Hemmen  
*At Large:* Keith Griffen  
Email: [jimkkramer@heartofiowa.net](mailto:jimkkramer@heartofiowa.net)



### **OUR Mission:**

"To preserve and promote the history of Steamboat Rock and the surrounding area"

### Museum Open By Appointment Only

We are still in the planning stages as to when the museum will be open again on a regular basis. However, we would be happy to give you a tour. Call me at 641-858-6085 or send me an email at the address above, and we will find a date and time to meet.

### Historical Society Leadership Team

Over the past several months, the leadership team has been meeting to discuss and make plans for future events. Our first order of business has been to make sure the building is updated. New window shades have been installed and the window frames on the east side of the building have been repaired. We have plans in place to have the stucco repaired and then have the entire outside repainted later this summer.

### Monthly Meetings

You are welcome to join us at one of our monthly meetings. We meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday night of each month at 6:30 PM. Dates for upcoming months are July 8<sup>th</sup>, August 12<sup>th</sup>, and September 9<sup>th</sup>. We would love to have you join us.

### Guest Writer

Our guest writer this month is Cindy (Boomgarden) Snittjer. Like myself, Cindy is a long-time community member of Steamboat Rock. Cindy and I started kindergarten together here in Steamboat Rock many years ago. I think you will enjoy her article. It brought back lots of memories for me. Enjoy!

Jim Kramer—President of the Steamboat Rock Historical Society

*Cont'd on page 6*



*Cont'd from previous page 5*

## **Steamboat Rock Historical Society**

### **A Day in the Life of a Small-Town Kid**

**By Cindy Snittjer**

As I write this, I have to preface this by saying growing up in small town Steamboat Rock was and still remains today an integral part of my life long perspective. I am reminded of all the colorful characters that helped form those perspectives.

As a kid, the summers seemed longer, and the winters seemed shorter. These colorful characters provided us kids (much to their I suppose chagrin sometimes) with activities all summer long. Our itinerary on Tuesdays usually started with a standing appointment behind Knight's Locker where the main attraction was the slaughtering of a beef or swine where we would wait patiently for Jerry to open the big door and lead the intended victim to their demise. Jerry had a great sense of humor and was quite a showman, always willing to expound on this trade. He never asked us to leave and I'm guessing we were quite entertaining considering his given task. After the show we would sometimes receive an invite into the big freezer to cool off.

I don't know how he put up with it, but we ran in and out of that big freezer all day during those hot summers. He never said "no", he just let us in. He had the patience of a saint.

In between, we would spend time in Holmes Drug Store where Russell would regale us with never-ending stories of the Rainsbargers, from his perspective of course. He sent us on enough wild goose chases to last a whole afternoon. Usually by that time the good ol' boys would have been at Sonny's tap long enough to get a little tipsy. They'd end up sitting on the bench outside where it didn't take us kids long to figure out they'd cough up a nickel every time we rode our bikes by. Which would eventually take us back to the drug store for a double dipper of our favorite flavor. Those are a few colorful characters who shall remain nameless for obvious reasons.

Those days were long, giving us plenty of time to head up to Mrs. Pierson's yard, grab a hold of the willow tree branches to swing across the crick. We spent our days running through the cemetery, trying to climb Tower Rock, and dangling our feet off the pontoons down by the river. We swam in the river and knew well enough to stay away from the dam. I truly can't think of one bad experience above the usual kid stuff. We were safe and it seemed we were looked after wherever we went.

They say time is the stuff life is made of. We had the time of our lives growing up in the small town in Iowa. I wouldn't change a thing.

*Cont'd from page 4*

## **Pastor Lynn Arends, Steamboat Rock Presbyterian Church and East Friesland Presbyterian Church**

See, I don't like it when I do this. I say I'm not watching the news anymore. And then I do. And it just makes me madder and madder about the things going on in the world. Then I spend a lot of time complaining and worrying, throwing more gas on my fires of anger. But I spend very little time bringing all this to Jesus.

In other words, I spend lots of time pouting and not nearly enough time praying. When I get so focused on my anger and my frustration, I convince myself, along with a lot of help from Satan, that it's up to me, and people who think like me, to save this world.

But it's not up to me. Christ already saved the world. It's not up to me.

Christ is bigger than any of my fears, and stronger than any of my worries, brings more peace than any of my angers, and

brings more hope than I can even begin to wrap my head around.

So, I've decided, I'm not going to spend my time posting Facebook messages about everything that makes me mad, or fretting about people who scare me. And there's a lot of those. No, before I do anything else, I want to find out where Jesus is. I need to find out where Jesus is and get close to get him. I need to pray, not pout.

May God bless you this month and always.



**MAYOR**  
David Mull

*A Valley Of  
Friendliness*



**CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Kevin Pieters  
Cory Schurman  
Marc Havens  
Travis Hollander  
Marvin Veld

The Steamboat Rock City Council met in regular session on Monday, July 8, 2024 at City Hall. Mayor Dave Mull called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm with council members: Kevin Pieters, Travis Hollander, Marv Veld, Marc Havens, and Cory Schurman present.

Cory Schurman made a motion to approve the agenda and was seconded by Kevin Pieters. Motion passed unanimously.

There were no comments or concerns from the public.

Library Director Melissa Johanson reported that there was 2 weeks left in the summer reading program and all was going well. Good attendance for the special programs. Several books are being checked out, but movies are not as successful.

Fire Department report was given by Kevin Pieters (Scott Williams was not present). The Fire Department has purchased two torpedo nozzles to use to combat fires faster. They should be in service by the end of the month.

Public works: Shannon reported that the new pump has been ordered and is on its way. The pump should be here in 3 to 5 weeks giving time to get things ready for installation. Discussion on how to get information from residents concerning lead in the pipes at the water meters, need a picture from residents or to physically inspect the meter. Topic will be put on next month's agenda for further discussion.

Motion was made by Kevin Pieters to approve the minutes as written and seconded by Marc Havens. Motion was approved unanimously.

Motion was made by Travis Hollander to approve the bills as presented and was seconded by Marc Havens. Motion was approved unanimously.

Motion was made by Cory Schurman to approve the hours and was seconded by Kevin Pieters. Motion was approved unanimously.

**Old Business:**

Utility Deposits – This was discussed in the June meeting and tabled for later discussion. The Council compared the current deposit of \$100.00 in comparison to the minimum water bill for a month and decided to raise the utility deposit. Motion was made by Cory Schurman to raise the utility deposit from \$100.00 to \$200.00; motion was seconded by Kevin Pieters. Motion passed unanimously.

**New Business:**

Scott Pottorff of MMS Consultants, Inc. from Iowa City was present and talked to the council about possible ways he could help the city in the future with projects: such as how and where to apply for grants and low interest loans. He will keep in contact via email.

Discussed the issue of the East door, had water in the conference room after a big rain and it seemed it came in the east door entrance. Marc was going to check with Scott on fire code and then see what can be done to fix the issue.

Several items were listed for next month's agenda: Property Cleanup, Street repairs, Promotion for the School to attract businesses to rent space.

Motion was made by Kevin Pieters to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Cory Schurman. Motion approved unanimously and meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.

David L, Mull, Sr., Mayor

Valeria Kjormoe, City Clerk



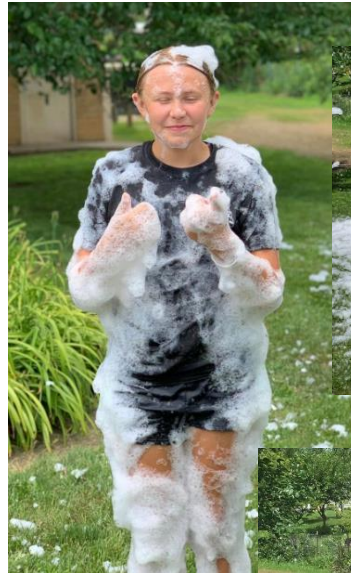
# I Heard it On...



If you didn't get a chance to see & hear about the Steamboat Rock Baptist Church **2024 Guatemala Mission Trip**

<https://www.steamboatbaptist.org/watch-past-sermons/v/guatemala2024>

Looks like the Kids (& Adults) had a Blast at the Library on Friday, July 19<sup>th</sup>.



Check out **The Rock RC Raceway**  
RC dirt oval track, 32847 200th Street  
Steamboat Rock Iowa 50672  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/995768137944487>

This was put together and is maintained by  
Austin Williams, Scott Williams, Brady Clark,  
Skyler Clark, and Cody Coates.



## Looking Ahead...

Saturday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> Karaoke @Happenings 9:00p-1:00a

Monday, August 12<sup>th</sup> City Council Meeting @6:30pm City Hall

Saturday, August 17<sup>th</sup> NOON – Jeep Jam & Bike Night- LIVE Music @Happenings 5-9pm

Every Wednesday @6:30pm- Awanas Club @SR Baptist Church  
AND Celebrate Recovery @Presbyterian Church