

## in this issue >>>

Christmas Tree Lighting

Burn Bans & Santa's Christmas Sacks

Hoopla & Overdrive

Open House to honor Vietnam Vets

October 31<sup>st</sup> Trick or Treat Night

.... And SO Much More!



Steamboat Rock, Iowa 641-868-2240 srcityhall@heartoftiowa.net www.steamboatrockiowa.com

# Friendly Valley Times

## YOUR City >>>

David Mull, Mayor

Kevin Pieters 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 Mondays

November 4<sup>th</sup> & November 18<sup>th</sup>



May the Lord bless you and protect you.  
May the Lord smile on you and be gracious to you.  
May the Lord show you His favor  
and give you His peace. -Numbers 6:24-26

## Welcome to November

*And the dead leaves lie huddled and still, No longer blown hither and thither;  
The last lone aster is gone; The flowers of the witch-hazel wither ...*

—Robert Frost (1874-1963)

November, the 11th month of the year, has 30 days and marks the beginning of the winter holiday season for most folks, even if the winter solstice, doesn't occur until late December.

November's full Moon is traditionally called the **Beaver Moon**. Why this name? In the Colonial Era, this was the month to set one's beaver traps before the swamps froze and beavers retired to their lodges, to ensure a supply of warm winter furs.

In 2024, November's full Moon occurs on Friday, November 15.

November's traditional birthstone is the **topaz**, usually a yellow to amber color. The ancient Greeks believed that topaz could make a wearer invisible. A symbol of honor and strength, topaz was also believed to bring longevity and wisdom.

November's birth flower is the **chrysanthemum**. Generally, chrysanthemums represent cheerfulness. A red one conveys, "I love you." White symbolizes truth or pure love. A yellow one indicates slighted love.

The Anglo-Saxons had quite a fitting name for November. It's usually at this time of the year in the northern hemisphere that cold winds start to chill you to the bone, and as such, they called it "Wind Monath," or wind month.

The Anglo-Saxons also called the month of November "Blod Monath," or blood month

It gained this name as it's in November that they would traditionally slaughter cows to provide food for the long winter months.

Thanksgiving is celebrated on the fourth Thursday of November and has been celebrated since 1621. The first Thanksgiving was a feast celebrating the first bountiful harvest of the pilgrims of Plymouth and New England. It is still celebrated in a similar way, with families coming together and sharing plentiful amounts of food traditionally available during November.

The beginning of the end of the War of Independence began on November 30, 1782, when a provisional treaty was signed between the newly-formed United States of America and the Kingdom of Great Britain. The final treaty wasn't completed and signed until nearly a year later in Paris on September 3, 1783.

On November 19, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln delivered the Gettysburg Address at the consecration of the National Cemetery at the site of the Gettysburg battle. While Lincoln's speech was just two minutes long, it summed up everything important there is about democracy. Interestingly, Lincoln was in the middle of a minor bout of smallpox while he gave the speech and looked drained and ghost-like.

# Steamboat Rock Visionary Group >>>

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



## Keep the Date

The 6th annual Christmas tree lighting event will be held on **Wednesday, November 27, beginning at 5:30 with tree lighting about 6:45.** We will again provide free hot dogs and other food items as well as prizes for adults and kids. Santa will also make an appearance. It will again be an evening filled with fun. Further details will be coming out as we get closer to the date. Mark your calendars so you don't miss out!

## Washington Square Park

We will continue with the basketball lights remaining on until 10:30pm through the end of October and the porta potty staying until that

time also. Problems at the park should be Reported to any committee member.

## Memorial bench

A reminder that memorial benches or picnic tables are still available for placing at the playground. If you would like to honor a loved one in this manner, contact a committee member of your choice.

## T shirts

We have a few extra small and extra-large long sleeved t shirts still available at the library. \$20.

**Donations.** Donations to the committee can be made by sending a check to VG, PO Box 344, Steamboat Rock, IA 50672. Thank you for any amount you wish to give.



Steamboat Rock Baptist Church  
107 2<sup>nd</sup> St; Steamboat Rock, IA 50672  
641-868-2458 Ofc Hours: 8:00a-4:00pm  
[church@steamboatbaptist.org](mailto:church@steamboatbaptist.org)

8:30am Traditional Service  
10:00am Contemporary Service &  
Pathway Classes  
11:15am Contemporary Service with  
Children's Church



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







## Steamboat Rock Fire Department

Just a friendly reminder that Hardin County is still in a burn ban at the time I wrote this article. Should you burn and your burn gets called in, we will extinguish it, and you have the possibility of receiving a fine.

Burn Ban includes no open burning – campfire, trash, etc.

Doesn't seem possible that harvest is almost over, but it is. Please be aware of the large machinery still out on the gravel roads. Be cautious when traveling on gravel, the dust is horrible. Take it slow as you may not see that semi parked on the side, slow moving wagon, or a broke down vehicle or equipment because of the dust factor.

Speaking of dust; now would be a good time to look at your furnace (change filter??) or dust off the top of your base heaters. Don't forget to blow out your AC fins before putting that cover on.

Please remember that the SRFD is not taking cans or bottles. If there is a group that you may know that is interested in doing this, please have them contact either myself or city hall and they can relay the message to me.

The Steamboat Rock Fire and Rescue will again be hosting Santa's Christmas sacks, but this year will be a little different. Santa and sacks will be present the night of the lighting of the tree, Nov. 27th. Santa and his Fire Dept. helpers will be there from 6 – 6:30 p.m. Come and grab a sack and watch the lighting of the tree.

Yes, it is almost Thanksgiving!! If you are traveling, please travel safe.

Take time to reflect and be thankful for those who are still around you and let them know how thankful you are. Then sit back with those that you are feasting with and reflect about those that use to spend time with you during this time of thanks!! Enjoy your time with family – as we never when the last time is.

Be Fire Safe,  
Chief Williams

## Steamboat Rock Historical Society

**President:** Jim Kramer  
**Secretary:**

**Vice President:**

**Treasurer:** Kitty Hemmen      *At Large:* Keith Griffen  
Email: jimkkramer@heartofiowa.net



### OUR Mission:

“To preserve and promote the history of Steamboat Rock and the surrounding area”

### Open House to Honor Viet Nam Veterans

Mark your calendars. We will be having an open house at the museum on Saturday, November 16<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am until noon. We would encourage ALL veterans to attend. We are excited to have you see some new and exciting things that we have for you at the museum:

- Steamboat Rock Veterans of the Viet Nam War Era—Grace Starr has put together a display to honor some of our local veterans who served during the Viet Nam War. You will have the opportunity to read some of their stories from their time serving our country. Be sure to thank these veterans as you see them and also thanks to Grace for putting this display together.
- New Signage on the East Side of the Building—Thanks to the artwork of Sandy Trampe, we will be covering the old windows on the east side of the museum with her drawings that relate to the history of Steamboat Rock. If all goes as planned, these will be installed within the next couple of weeks.
- Artifacts from Steamboat Rock—Since it has been quite some time since our museum has been open, you should take the time to tour our museum to view all the artifacts that are on display. Keith Griffin does an excellent job of putting all these items on display for you to see.

### Lighting of the Tree

The Steamboat Rock Historical Society will once again sponsor Love-A-Latte serving hot chocolate and hot apple chai at the annual “Lighting of the Tree” at the lot west of the museum on Wednesday evening, November 27<sup>th</sup>. The museum will be open prior to this event, so consider visiting us and seeing all of our displays.

# 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

The annual Tree Lightening will be on Wednesday, November 27<sup>th</sup>. Again, the Visionary Group will serve grilled hot dogs on the street in front of the tree. The library is planning a Christmas ornament event for the children of the community and area. Please stop in at the library to pick up the wooden ornament and take home to paint as you would like or paint here with Johnnie. When you bring it back it will be hung on the small tree in front of the library. We won't be having a drawing, but you can pick up your ornament when the tree lightening event is over with. Just a reminder we do have a camera out front watching to the east and one to the west so please do not vandalize the trees, lights, or ornaments.

The book walk displays should be installed soon along the trail through Steamboat Rock. There will be 20 2-sided displays where the library will put up laminated pages for kids of all ages to read. These books will be aimed

mainly to children ages 2 to 6 but all should enjoy reading them. Other organizations in the community will also be able to use these displays as a way to get information out to all who walk this trail. A very big "thank you" to the Hardin County Endowment for the grant to purchase these displays for our community. Might be another reason for everyone to get out on the trail and enjoy Steamboat Rock, not just looking for trees with eyes! If you have a children's book that you want to recommend, please let us know. The books do need to be short in length, but we would love to hear from you with a recommendation. We did a weeding of adult fiction books and there is a rolling cart in the library with free books if you are looking for something to read and pass on to others. Please stop in to check them out.

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

### Fiction

*The Forest of Lost Souls*  
by Dean Koontz

### Mystery

*The Housemaid's Secret*  
by Freida McFadden

*Bad Liar* by Tami Hoag  
*The Perfect Son* by Freida McFadden

*The Inmate* by Freida McFadden

*The Boyfriend* by Freida McFadden

*The President's Lawyer* by Lawrence Robbins

### Romance

*Counting Miracles* by Nicholas Sparks

### Children's Fiction

*The Girl Who Never Make Mistakes*  
by Mark Pett

*What Should Danny Do? 2017* by Ganit and Adir Levy

*What Should Danny Do? School Days 2018* by Ganit and Adir Levy

*The Girl Who Makes a Million Mistakes* by Brenda Li

### Junior Biography

*Margaret and the Moon* by Dean Robbins

Please don't forget Hoopla and Overdrive apps to check out items for your device. Overdrive is through the State of Iowa Library and Hoopla we pay for our patrons in the 50672-zip code. Overdrive is only books and usually not newer ones. Hoopla are all kinds of items from music, magazines to books in all formats.

Contact us for information

## Trailhead Cabins and Camping

Jarret, Kim, & Mel Winger brings to you [www.trailheadcnc.com](http://www.trailheadcnc.com)





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



Ancestry.com, myheritage.com, 23andMe. Anybody out there into genealogy? Anybody out there ever traced their family lineage? Ever looked up your family tree? I looked up my family tree once. Turns out it's full of nuts. I know, that explains a lot, doesn't it?

Well, consider this. If you're a Christian, if you've professed Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior and you believe that Jesus died and rose again for you and for the forgiveness of your sins; then I'm your brother.

John 1:12-13 in the NIV Bible affirms this. "To all who received him, to those who believe in his name, he gave the right to become children of God — children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God." Everyone who receives Christ, everyone who believes in Christ becomes a child of God. Everyone, like you and me. So, how've you been, bro! Good to see you, sis!

If having me as your brother doesn't excite you, having Jesus as your brother and God as your Father should! God as our Father is described in Romans 8:14-17a in the NLT Bible. "For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ... Instead, you received God's Spirit when he adopted you as his own children. Now we call him, 'Abba, Father.' For his Spirit joins with our spirit to affirm that we are God's children. And since we are his children, we are his heirs. In fact, together with Christ we are heirs of God's glory."

Do you see that? As children of God, with God as our Father, we are "together with Christ." That means that we, as believers, are brothers and sisters, not only with each other, but more importantly, with Jesus Christ Himself. Jesus gives us this honor in Mark 3:35 in the ESV Bible, "For whoever does the will of God, he is my brother and sister and mother."

Notice that Jesus says not just to believe, but to do the will of God. Not just words, but believers' actions. But that's another devotion.

Want to be my brother? Well, maybe that's not the question to ask. Want to have God as your Father, Jesus as your brother? Ask Him to come into your heart, turn your life over to Him, accept His gracious mercy and love and become an adopted member of the family. 1 John 3:1 again in the NIV, "How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!" Amen!

May God bless you this month and always.

The Friends of the Steamboat Rock Library would like to publicly thank the Church Women United of Iowa Falls, Iowa, for the wonderful donation of \$1,000, which we will use to replace the lighting in the back conference room/kitchen. This will certainly brighten up this room and make it more inviting. Please let this organization know how much we appreciate their donation to the library.

Donations are always welcome for ongoing projects at the library.

### *Cottage on the Edge*

[www.airbnb.com/h/cottageontheedge](http://www.airbnb.com/h/cottageontheedge)

Doug & Mona Bleeker 641-640-0568



### *Antiques by Mona*

[www.antiquestbymona.com](http://www.antiquestbymona.com)

Doug & Mona Bleeker 641-640-0568  
17552 V Ave, Steamboat Rock, IA



### 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 November 11<sup>th</sup> and December 9<sup>th</sup>. We would love to have you join us.

### Cemetery Theater Revisited

During "Cemetery Theater" back in 2002, one of the people that we portrayed was Heinie Eckhoff. Below you can read the script that was researched and written by Terry Folkerts and Dennis Holmes. You will see that Heinie Eckhoff played a big part in helping this community grow. Some things that he helped organize are still in use today.

### **Heine Eckhoff**

#### **Researched by Terry Folkerts and Dennis Holmes**

My name is Henry Eckhoff, but most folks call me Heinie. I'm proud to say that Steamboat Rock is my town even though I was born in Dumont way back in 1897. My folks were Arend & Helen Fessner Eckhoff, and I was raised in the Reformed tradition. I got my education right here in Steamboat Rock. At the age of 19, I married Helen Luiken at her father's house. WE had two daughters, Roberta, and Marjorie.

I tried my hand at many things over the years. I owned and operated a dairy for a number of years down near where Jamie Potgeter now lives. We milked the cows, pasteurized the milk, bottled it, and delivered it to our customers throughout the town. Having a good restaurant in town was always near to my heart because I wasn't the greatest cook, and my pa and ma operated a little restaurant here years ago. For years I maintained a building that I owned as a café and brought in many people to operate it. Some did a pretty good job, and some not so good. Oh, did I mention that I partnered with Fred Eilers for a while in the farm implement business?

Through it all, I was Steamboat Rock's rural mail carrier for 51 years. When Doc Caldwell passed away, the town wanted the building that housed the post office for a doctor's office 'cause young Doc Temple was coming to town.' I owned the building where the post office is today. I leased it to Uncle Sam, and it's been there ever since.

I tried my best to promote the town of Steamboat Rock. I served on the council and the fire department and was Marshall for a while. When the town had Christmas drawings, I promoted them and even called out the names of the winners. I was instrumental in getting Harry Blosch to come to Steamboat Rock and get our cheese factory going. By the time of the centennial the little factory was turning out over a thousand tons of Colby and cheddar cheese for Kraft each year.

I especially enjoyed helping with the centennial back in 1955. I helped organize the recognition of the town people over 75 and helped to bring in the carnival. Several years later I suggested that the town have a "Callithumpian" parade during one of our celebrations. Hardly anyone knew what a "Callithumpian" parade was, and I took my share of razzing about it. It is simply a parade with a lot of hullabaloo. From time to time, we set up little carnivals with games and the like in the school gym to raise money for the fireworks and what-not. Speaking of school, every once in a while, I volunteered to drive kids to the ball games. Most of the kids never forgot those rides but I believe we stayed on the road most of the time.

One summer evening five of us guys were sitting on Neil Hoekstra's front porch, right up there where the patrolman lives now. We came up with the idea for the boat club. I leased the ground to the club for the club house and later sold 150 acres which make up the present Iowa River Conservation and Improvement Club. It has been a great asset for the town and I'm glad to have had a part in getting it started. Over the years I docked my little launch I called the African Queen nearby. For many years, I gave rides up the river at boat club events. I also took various groups out on the river for early morning breakfasts or evening cookouts. Gosh that was fun.

I passed away July 23, 1989 at the age of 92. My funeral was at the Presbyterian Church where I had maintained my membership

Jim Kramer  
Steamboat Rock Historical Society







Join Us

**Wednesday, November 27th, 2024**

The Annual Steamboat Rock Community

# Christmas Tree Lighting

**5:30pm Festivities Begin**

**6:45pm Lighting of the Tree**

**Hot Chocolate, Apple Cider, Hot Dogs & Christmas  
Cookies Available to All!**

**Adults & Children may enter to win door prizes at the  
refreshments table.**

**One lucky child will be drawn to light the tree!**

**The Progress Club will be selling decorated Wreaths  
donated by Norm Houston. Proceeds used to purchase  
winter gear for local children.**



**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 on October 14, 2024, for their regular meeting. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM BY Mayor David Mull with council members Travis Hollander, Marc Havens, Cory Schurman, Kevin Pieters and Marv Veld present.

Cory Schurman made the motion to approve the agenda, and the motion was second by Marc Havens. Motion carried.

**COMMENTS & CONCERNS:** No comments from the public.

**REPORTS:**

Library: No report.

Public Works: No report.

Fire Department: Fire Chief Scott Williams reported for the Fire Department. The department will do the training on Thursday 10/17. Reported calls for one combine fire and one auto accident. The Steamboat Rock area is in a burn ban – no open burn of any kind until further notice. The department ordered four new scene lights to aid the department during night calls. Possible training for grain bin emergency in the month of November. Will also have training on driving the fire truck soon.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Updated the council on the Engineering Service Agreement for Search Grant – the money is to be used for the search only. The council agreed to sign the agreement.

Cathy Armstrong's permit for goats is on hold, she did not show up with the additional signatures needed.

Information was needed for signers for the account at Hardin County Savings Bank to be recorded in the minutes. Cory Schurman made the motion to have David Mull Sr., Marc Havens, and Valeria Kjormoe as signers on the account. Motion was second by Marv Veld. Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Halloween Trick or Treat hours were set for October 31<sup>st</sup> starting at 5 to 7:30. Marc Havens made the motion, and it was second by Travis Hollander. Motion carried.

A Resolution for water service line to be run under the river for the Hardin County Conservation board is needed from the City of Steamboat Rock. Motion was made by Cory Schurman and second by Marc Havens to approve the Resolution 2024-04 stating that the City of Steamboat Rock grants permission for the Hardin County Conservation Board to run and maintain a permanent water service line for connecting their property. Motion was approved by a vote with Marc, Travis, Marv, and Cory voting yes. Kevin Pieters left the meeting before the vote.

Resident Kailey Tubbs had inquired concerning the requirement for a permit for installing a storage building on her property. The issue was discussed by the council, and they would like to have her attend the next council meeting or send a letter stating what size and how the building will be placed on the property (on a concrete slab, concrete blocks, or skids, etc.) The council would then decide if a permit is required.

Building permit(s) application: Marc Havens and Kevin Pieters both applied for building permits. Motion was made by Cory Schurman to approve both permits, with Travis Hollander seconding the motion. Motion was approved with Marv Veld voting no on the permit for Pieters.

Motion was made by Marvin Veld to adjourn the regular meeting, with Marc Havens seconding the motion. Motion passed with the meeting being adjourned at 7:26 PM.

David L, Mull, Sr., Mayor

Valeria Kjormoe, City Clerk



City of Steamboat Rock Monthly Bills - October 2024

TYPE	DATE	NUMBER	NAME	AMOUNT
			JCJDW Investments LLC	\$2,143.92
			Blythe Sanitation	\$2,300.50
			Cooley Sanitation	\$95.00
			Eldora Hardware	\$16.74
			Shield Pest Control LLC	\$0.00
			Rock Stop	\$301.38
			Mastercard	\$419.41
			JJ Veld - Cleaning	\$200.00
			Hardin County Sheriff's Office	\$613.54
			Danko Emergency Equipment	\$1,525.00
			Danko Emergency Equipment	\$256.23
			USA BlueBook	\$101.95
			Iowa DNR	\$115.00
			ClerkBooks	\$1,800.00
			T & T Computers	\$164.99
			Column	\$377.84
			Ag Machinery Service	\$800.00
			Overdrive	\$363.36
			Off Fire, LLC	\$354.00
			Shannon Hazelton	\$27.96
			Superior Welding Supply Co.	\$90.00
			Ag Source	\$43.50
			Homestead Evergreens	\$770.00
			Times Citizen	\$99.63
			Elite Paving	\$12,000.00
				\$
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>24,979.95</b>



ACH	9/24/2024		Microbac Laboratories	\$1,635.25
	10/20/2024		Culligan	\$10.00
	10/14/2024		Alliant - Pumping	\$387.70
	10/16/2024		Alliant - Street Lights	\$1,063.33
	10/20/2024		Alliant - Fire Station	\$26.52
	10/17/2024		Alliant - Sewage Treatment Plant	\$627.48
	10/17/2024		Alliant - East Sign	\$25.67
	10/17/2024		Alliant - Event Center	\$20.40
	10/17/2024		Alliant - Library	\$136.44
	10/17/2024		Alliant - Pump Station	\$109.59
	10/25/2024		Heart of Iowa	\$243.21
	10/25/2024		Heart of Iowa	\$57.88
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,343.47</b>

Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> Karaoke @Happenings 9:00p-1:00a

Monday, November 4<sup>th</sup> City Council Meeting @6:30pm City Hall

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