

WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S BLOTTER

January 5: There was a request for the Kalona Fire Department and First Responders for an unknown injury at an accident at Black Diamond Road and Cosgrove Road in Johnson County. Responded, unable to locate vehicle in area.

There was a report of a mini van going into the ditch south of Crawfordsville on Highway 218, near road construction. No injuries. More than \$1,500 damage.

January 6: There was a report of a gas odor at 311 9th Street, Kalona. All occupants out of residence. Kalona Fire Department responded. Alliant contacted.

There was a request for a welfare check on a six-year-old male in Kalona who called the Alliant Energy Emergency Line. Spoke with mother who advised everything was fine.

Lucas Anthony Ray, 21, of Kalona was arrested on a Washington County warrant for failure to appear on original charge of no driver's license. Bond: \$300. Subject taken to Washington County Jail.

January 7: In related cases, two subjects were charged on Washington County warrants for possession of a controlled substance, marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia. Charged were Mitchell John Herr Yoder, 24, of Kalona and Bradley Joel Bontrager, 24, also of Kalona. Both were arrested at 416 A Avenue, Kalona and taken to Washington County Jail. Bond for each is \$1,300.

January 9: A Kalona caller reported receiving threatening and harassing text messages from a subject after repeatedly asking him to stop. Deputy contacted male and asked him to cease contact.

There was a complaint about dogs loose from a blue house with burgundy door next to 1220 Gingko Avenue. Door of house is standing open and there is a white Dodge Stratus in driveway. Responded,

located two dogs. A boxer attempted to bite deputy; pepper spray was deployed. Both dogs went into residence, deputy secured door. Deputy's vehicle damaged by boxer jumping on it.

January 10: Deputy reported being out with female subject looking for her juvenile daughter. Responded. Female left with parents.

January 10: A caller reported several hunters tearing around area of 1995 Larch Avenue, Washington, blocking her driveway and running stop signs. Got license plate. Responded and located Zachary Joseph Escher of Kalona. Confiscated loaded shotgun Remington 879 super mag. Charges pending. All information forwarded to county attorney.

A caller reported someone sitting in parking lot at 505 11th Street, Kalona for over an hour. Ford Explorer with no plates, male in passenger seat. Responded. No one in vehicle upon deputy's arrival.

A caller reported that while husband was backing out of driveway, another vehicle hit the back end of their semi. Other driver not injured. Debris in road-way and lane is blocked. No damage to semi.

January 11: Alexander Warren Dehouges, 23, of Kalona was charged on a Washington County warrant for possession of controlled substance, marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia. Bond: \$1,300. He was located in Iowa City and taken to Washington County Jail.

Jail count

As of January 12, there was a total of 21 inmates with 13 males, three females, one in holding, one in work release, one at another facility and one female contract inmate in the Washington County Jail. Total income from contracting inmates, to date, is \$2,057,316. Since January 9, there were 8 incarcerations and 7 releases.

Putting some fun in a road trip

By Bill Gatchel

If you have ever taken one of those long drives across the country trying to figure out a way to make it a little more interesting, here is one way to do so - act like a road enthusiast.

What is a road enthusiast, you ask? Well, it's someone who has an interest in roads and especially going on long road trips as a hobby. There are many groups across the country who take the roads not just to get to their destination, but rather how they get to the destinations and for the roads themselves. Over the New Year's holiday, two such road enthusiasts visited the Washington County area to absorb what some of the sights and roads in this part of the state and country had to offer.

Alex Nitzman, who is a co-webmaster for the website www.aaroads.com, says he has always had a love for roads. "I would be riding in the car with my parents noticing traffic lights and road signs. I also received a road map from an uncle as a Christmas gift in 1984, and I was hooked from that point on."

Nitzman who lives in the Tampa Bay, Florida area and was visiting his in-laws in the Quad Cities over the holidays says he always tries to take some time every time he visits someplace to get in a road trip, whether he is on a trip with his family or for business. "If I am some place where I have been a bunch of times, I won't go on a trip, but if it is to visit family in Iowa, my home state of Delaware or to see my dad in northwest Florida, yes, I will make time to get in a road trip."

"Since I run the website, I'm always keeping tabs of road projects all across the country. This could be an interchange upgrade or different highway number change. If it's fairly close to where I'm going, then I'm going to make a trip. If it's daylight hours and I have my camera with me, then I'm going to make an update to the website or a



Scott Onson from Platteville, Wisconsin, and Alex Nitzman from Bradenton, Florida, were excited to see this old Iowa Highway 218 route marker located next to the Farmers Coop in Ainsworth. Both Onson and Nitzman were visiting the area and looked at various highways in Washington and Johnson counties Wednesday, December 31, 2014. (Photo by Bill Gatchel)

blog post about the changes.

While there are only two people that update the website, there are some people who will provide updates of things around the country as well. Nitzman says he also receives photo contributions from people on social media. "Occasionally, people will share articles about local highway upgrades and I will share that with others."

While the primary focus is interstates, Nitzman says because of time, he doesn't get on to the US and state highways as much as he would like. "I will focus on some of the other highways if there are old alignments to major routes (Vine Avenue in Washington County is an old alignment of Highway 218) but not always."

Nitzman didn't just happen to be in the Washington County area, he was invited by me as I have been "on the fringe" of becoming a road enthusiast, as I have always loved taking the less-traveled roads to get to my destination if time allows. He says many times, people will invite him to come to a certain part of the country, just as I did, because of something interesting related to

going down the highway."

While there are road enthusiast conventions mainly in the Great Lakes and northeast parts of the country, Nitzman says he doesn't usually attend them since they are usually too far away for him to go. Instead, he will meet up with a couple of people and will go on a trip to learn about the local roads. Such as he did during our road trip, he invited fellow road enthusiast Scott Onson from Platteville, Wisconsin, to join us. In terms of people from Iowa, there aren't many who really take up the hobby of being a road enthusiast, however, Nitzman says there are a couple who do have websites devoted to Iowa highways. He says, "I'm always excited to learn about people who are into roads and different things about them, and I'm grateful to have someone from southeast Iowa like yourself who is willing to get the word out about us."

In terms of taking up the hobby of being a road enthusiast Nitzman says, "Sure. It gives you something to do while traveling and makes it more enjoyable while going from here to there. It's better than looking at a screen while

When asked what his thoughts were about someone starting up a webpage or a blog about their interest, he says, "sure, why not? The more the merrier. It gives us more to read and to check out."

I should note that over the course of four hours, we covered over two hundred miles of highways in Washington and Johnson counties, Nitzman and Onson really enjoyed seeing the different highways and old alignments that I found. The best part of the day was seeing a very old highway marker in Ainsworth located next to the Farmers Coop. Nitzman said, "it's seeing things like that old sign that make my road trips worthwhile. I would have never known it was there had you not shown me." Onson agreed. That made my afternoon of driving around worth it. I invited both of them back to the area this summer to get in another road trip, who knows where we will go then.

If you want to know more about being a road enthusiast, you are welcome to contact Nitzman through his website or through the AA Roads Facebook page.

Wellman Rotary



Last week, December 31, Eldon and Phyllis Yoder (parents of Rotarian Sherry Crow), spoke to the Wellman Rotary Club about their involvement in a missionary program to the "Lord's Servant Orphanage" in Kitale, Kenya, Africa. Several years ago, the orphanage was going to close because the people from Holland who were supporting it could not afford it anymore. Two men from their son's Sunday School class provided the funds to keep it open and the Sunday School class has

taken it as a project.

The water for the orphanage came from a mud hole and these same two men provided funds to drill a new well. Seven from their group went last year and they purchased three treadle sewing machines to take with them. Eight people will be going there this year with Sherry's brother and sister-in-law and a group from their church in North Carolina.

Eldon plans to help with maintenance work and building some cabinets. Phyllis will work with the older

girls to teach them how to sew with the treadle sewing machine.

Currently there are 60 preschool to high school aged children in the orphanage. Among other things the volunteers provide fun evening activities for the children, such as rubber band looming, making paper airplanes and decorating long banners.

Barry Johnson had the program January 7.

Roger Borup resigned from the Wellman Rotary as of December 7 and joined

the Rotary Club of Cape Coral in Florida. He has completed 45 years of perfect attendance and said, "A lot of good things have occurred during that time and I appreciate all the help given me by the Wellman Club. You haven't seen the last of me, but we'll not be back as often, or for as long as in the past."

The next Wellman Rotary Blood Drive will be held Monday, March 9, from 2-9 p.m. Mark your calendars.

Managing for today and tomorrow: farm transition planning

It's hard to talk about passing on the farm. "Managing for Today and Tomorrow" is

for farm women of all ages who want to plan now for a successful transition later.

Through this five-session program, farm women will learn about the four components that create a successful transition - succession, business, estate and retirement planning.

Succession planning transfers knowledge, labor, management and ownership over time. Explore communication barriers that hold back succession planning. Understand the difference between fair and equal.

Business planning determines what makes up the farm business and intentions for the future. Understand why personal and farm finances are important for business management,

succession and retirement. Learn how a business plan can be used for farm business development and/or transition.

Estate planning reflects the intentions of the established generation. Understand key estate planning terms, tools, and concepts. Begin assembling estate information.

Retirement planning prepares the established generation with the means and desire to hand over responsibilities. Develop individual retirement definitions and goals. Investigate retirement options, and explore sources of retirement income.

The sessions will be conducted by ISU Farm Management Specialist, Ryan Drollette. The program will


be held at the Washington County Extension office in Washington beginning Tuesday, January 27. A light meal will be served at 5:30 p.m. and the program begins at 6 p.m. The cost of the sessions is \$75 and includes course materials and meal.

The sessions are limited and pre-registration is required. For more information or to register, go to www.aep.iastate.edu/annie or contact Washington County Extension at 319-653-4811.



4 Reasons to Build Now!


1. Historic Low Mortgage Rates
2. Lower Your Utility Bills
3. Material Costs are Rising
4. We Make Building Fun!




Statler Construction Inc.
319-656-5131
"Taking the Headaches out of Construction"

Now Booking Spring Construction!

Model Home Open



Fri. & Sat. 1:00-3:00
1139 Pelican Dr.
Kalona, IA
2 mi. E. on Hwy. 22,
N. on Pelican Dr.



Amwood Building Systems
Your Component Supplier

www.statlerconstruction.com • Kalona, IA





Tracy Owens
Sales Associate
319-461-5598



Marengo
319-642-5525
800-593-5525



Washington
319-653-3304
866-653-2486




Williamsburg
319-668-1910
800-728-1912

www.copperautogroup.com
Quality People - Quality Product