

2026

News & Views

2026

HAPPY NEW YEAR

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Paper's Lumber and Supply
Pearl Button Solar
Pit Crew BBQ
Price Oil & LP Gas
Quad City Door

Reliable Network Solutions
Rise & Grind Coffee
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Rock Valley Therapy
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Salon 360
Schumacher Company
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Spengler Auto Repair
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Today's Dentistry
Treimer Family Farms
Tri County Builders
Triple B Construction
Voelkers Plumbing
Wahkonsa Country Club
Wilton-Durant Advocate
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News and Views

News and Views is a free monthly publication serving the City of Durant and its surrounding community. The mission of News and Views is to be a line of communication between the organizations in the community and its residents. It is supported solely by the generous advertisers & the Durant Chamber of Commerce.

Do you have news from your club or organization you would like published in our next News and Views? Please submit your articles by the 20th of the month preceding the month it is published.

Articles written may be edited or reduced by the Editor as space provides. Articles must be dropped off, mailed, or e-mailed to:

Sidney Randolph, Editor
709 9th Street Durant, IA 52747
(563) 886-4699
sid.ann.ran@gmail.com

Phone Numbers

If you have had a change in your phone number, please let City Hall know so we may update your account. It is important that we have a working phone number on your account to keep

Snow Emergency

A snow emergency may be declared when two or more inches of snow are forecast. However, additional factors such as ice, wind and/or rain can also dictate the declaration of a snow emergency. Notifications of snow emergencies shall be made by the City through local TV news channels, City Facebook page, City website, and Alert Iowa. During a snow emergency, no vehicle shall be parked in or on any part of a public street or right-of-way of a public street during snow removal operations. Drivers are encouraged to find alternate parking spots before the first snow event. Please make every attempt to park off the paved section of streets. Please remove snow & ice from sidewalks within 48 hours of a snow event.

The complete snow removal ordinance (69.11 & 69.12) & sidewalk regulations (136.03) can be found on our city website www.cityofdurantiowa.com

****Please remember you will only be notified of snow and other emergencies if you signed up at Alert Iowa or Cedar County Emergency Management.**

Holiday Closings for City Offices

City offices will be closed Thursday, January 1st for New Year’s Day. Garbage & recycling collection will follow the regular schedule with pickup on Tuesday, December 30th.

Christmas Tree Disposal

Oveson Refuse & Recycle will not be picking up REAL Christmas trees. ARTIFICIAL Christmas trees will require a bulk sticker for \$6.00 and can be set out on any regular garbage day (Tuesday).

Board Members Needed

Thanks to all the community members that volunteer each year for the City of Durant boards and committees! We appreciate your service. This year we have vacancies on Planning & Zoning (2) and Variance (1). If anyone is interested, please call City Hall at 563.785.4451 by January 9, 2026.

Council Meeting in January

Monday, Jan. 12th and 26th at 6 p.m. at City Hall. Agendas and minutes for council meetings can be found on our website above.

Automatic Bank Payments (ACH)

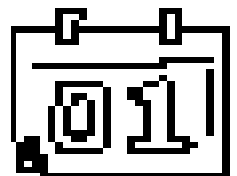
The City of Durant offers payment of your utility bills through automatic bank payments. We require the customer to fill out an “Authorization for Direct Payments” form (found on our website www.cityofdurantiowa.com or available at City Hall) and return it to City Hall by the 5th of the month that you authorize the city to start the automatic withdrawal. This can be set up for any bank or credit union. A statement bill will still be mailed or emailed to the customer and automatic payment will occur on the 20th of the month or if the 20th falls on a weekend or holiday, the first banking business day following the 20th.

Utility Reminders

Shutoff notices for delinquent December bills will be distributed on the morning of Thursday, January 8th, with payment due by noon on Friday, January 9th. Remember a \$25 fee is applied to your account if you receive a shutoff notice.



January



Pearl Button Solar

Pearl Button Solar is a proposed 156-megawatt solar photovoltaic (PV) project in Muscatine County, in Fulton Township. When built, the project will strengthen the local economy with new jobs, tax revenue, and valuable diversification. It will also help meet the growing demand for clean, affordable energy in Muscatine County and our region.

The project is currently under development by TED Renewables, a Kansas-based company comprised of a couple dozen dedicated employees whose mission is to be a responsible developer of clean power projects. They're recognized and respected for the creativity and integrity of their staff. As a company, TED Renewables focuses on becoming a part of the communities they work in. They do this by hosting events to educate the public about solar energy, getting involved in community events, volunteering with local organizations, and hosting regular hours at the local office in Durant. The Pearl Button Solar office is located at 821 5th Street in Durant, and our Local Representative, Dallas Feuerbach, holds office hours on Sunday from 10:00am – 6:00pm or by appointment.

Today, the Pearl Button Solar project is in the early stages of development and likely won't start construction for another two plus years. The process of developing a utility-scale solar facility involves several steps and variables. First, the team identifies the right site, which is the foundation for successful development. Developers seek open, flat land, with access to nearby transmission lines and substations, and interested private landowners. Next, there are a number of engineering, environmental, and cultural studies that are kicked off to ensure site suitability. Meanwhile, the electric grid is being studied to ensure that the site is suitable for solar power. Permitting happens next, both locally and with the State of Iowa, after which the project could be ready for construction. Construction generally takes 12-18 months, and the project will create approximately 200 jobs during that time. This type of project would then have a 40-year operation period with on-site operations and maintenance teams to guarantee safety and optimal operation.

The Pearl Button Solar project would diversify the local economy while generating enough electricity to power about 27,000 homes annually. The project would generate about 5 times the tax revenue annually that the land creates today, which helps carry the local tax burden of roads, schools, parks, etc.

Solar lease payments also give local farmers and landowners an opportunity to diversify their income by providing a stable revenue stream for decades to come. This steady income means farmers are less vulnerable to fluctuations in the weather and in markets. Their land will be cared for by maintaining healthy ground cover which provides benefits to both agriculture and ecosystems by improving soil health, retaining water, and supporting native pollinators.

If you'd like to learn more about the project, please visit the project website, www.pearlbuttonssolar.com, or Facebook page, facebook.com/PearlButtonSolar/. The project team is always interested in talking with the community, so please reach out.





Monthly Energy Savings Tip

Help Combat High Heating Bills: Run your ceiling fans in reverse, this circulates air within a room helping disperse the hot air throughout the room rather than gathering on the ceiling. Make sure if you have a fireplace that the flue damper is closed on your fireplace when not in use so that the warm air doesn't escape.

Call Before you Dig

Prior to starting an outdoor digging project call Iowa One Call at 811 or 1-800-292-8989 (it's the law). Iowa One Call is a free service that will notify utilities to come mark the location of underground lines. You must call 48 hours in advance of digging (not counting weekends or holidays).

Receive a one-time \$5 bill credit per account when signing up for email billing. Reminder DMEP offers E-billing, ACH options, or you can pay online at EdmundsGovPay.com/dmep

Museum Moments

Submitted by Mary Erickson

Frank's Sausage made from hogs that died happy" was a sign that hung in the Durant Meat Market. This photo, taken in 1930, shows the owner and meat cutter, Frank Bauer, on the left, and his employee, Art Fromme, at the meat counter. The market which was located in the present day 700 Block of 5th Street, was famous for its Durant Mettwurst. Liberty Trust & Savings Bank purchased the building in 1961 and razed it to make way for an addition to the bank.

Tri County Heritage & Genealogy Museum is located at 820 5th Street in Durant, is open on Saturday 9am to noon during the winter months. Durant Mayor Tom Daufeldt, will greet you on most Saturdays. He is open to discussing town business, questions and concerns, as well as, museum matters.




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Durant Iowa Food Pantry

Submitted by Justin L. Nelson

An Invisible Struggle: Food Insecurity Can Hit Small Towns the Hardest (And How to Help)

As the holiday glow fades and winter bills arrive, it's easy to think need happens "somewhere else." Yet in Durant and our tri-county area, food insecurity impacts our neighbors. It looks like a senior facing a medical bill, a single parent working two essential jobs, or a family whose savings were wiped out by an unexpected car repair.

At the Durant Iowa Food Pantry (DIFP), we see this daily. True community strength comes from extending empathy. We proudly distribute approximately **7,000 lbs. of nourishing food every single month** through your generosity. This feat is made possible by local hearts and volunteers. DIFP offers a supportive, dignified, grocery-store environment where neighbors choose what they need, maintaining independence.

Hunger doesn't take a holiday; your continued support ensures we can keep being that reliable hub of hope for everyone in our community. Help us take the chill out of the air by warming some hearts this winter!

Ways You Can Support Your Neighbors Today:

- 1. Donate Nonperishable Foods:** High-priority needs right now include canned soups, pasta, and peanut butter/jelly. Drop off donations during our operating hours: Saturdays (10:00 AM – 1:00 PM) and the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays (4:00 PM – 7:00 PM).
- 2. Host a Food Drive:** Turn a gathering or workplace effort into a force for good! Organizing a drive is a wonderful way to bring your community together and quickly restock our shelves after the busy holiday season.
- 3. Give Financially:** Monetary donations are the most flexible way to help. They allow us to purchase essential items in bulk and buy fresh perishable goods. Every dollar is maximized to help fill plates.
- 4. Volunteer Your Time:** Our pantry runs entirely on the boundless hearts of our passionate volunteers. Your time directly ensures our pantry doors remain open and welcoming.

Get to Know Us & Get Involved:

For more information about the Durant Iowa Food Pantry or how you can help:

- **Business Hours:** We're open the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month from 4-7 PM and every Saturday from 10 AM - 1 PM. Visits are limited to once per week.
- **Location:** 807 3rd Street, PO Box 883 Durant, Iowa 52747 (in the garage space)
- **Contact:** (563) 260 5322 (call or text) or durantfoodpantry@gmail.com
- **Volunteer or Donate:** Visit our website at difp.org



Thank you for making a difference in our community!



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Rise & Grind Coffee

Submitted by Hallie Hansell

Support our annual Durant green out event January 16th at Durant High School. Rise & Grind will offer the Purple Donor and Green Ribbon Motivation Energy Drink! A portion of each drink sold will be donated back to the donor network in honor of the Bohnsack family. Thank you for your support!

Business Hours: 5:00 AM - 4:00 PM Monday through Friday & 6:00 AM - 11:00 AM on Saturday. New Year's Eve 5:00 AM - 11:00 AM and Closed on New Year's Day.

Location: 624 5th St, Durant, IA 52747



Cedar County Senior Dining

Senior Dining at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church is for everyone 60 years young or older and their spouse regardless of age. Enjoy a nutritious meal while socializing. Reservations are required by calling Fay Wulf at 785-4525 or 563-320-4570.

Thursday's January Menu (All served with milk.)

1/1 Closed - No Meals New Year's Day

1/8 Scalloped Chicken Gravy, Mixed Vegetables, Applesauce Jello, & Cookie

1/15 Roasted Pork, Au gratin Potatoes, Peas, Carrots, Peaches, & Vanilla Pudding

1/22 Salisbury Steak, Mashed Potatoes/Gravy, Broccoli, Orange Cream Salad, & Brownie

1/29 Hamloaf, Scalloped Potatoes, Cauliflower, Oranges, Pineapple, & Sherbet Cup

Please remember to make your reservations by 8:00 a.m. for the meal that day

Senior Foot Health Clinic

Durant Community Center • Thurs., Jan. 8th, 9:00 - 11:30 a.m.

- Please bring your own basin and towel to the clinic.
- If you have diabetes you MUST have an order from your doctor.
- A \$10 donation is requested at the time of service.

Scott County Library

Submitted by Pamela Briggs

All Scott County library branches will be closed on Thursday, Jan. 1. and Monday, Jan. 19. Story times at 10 a.m.

Thursdays are best for ages 6 and under with a caregiver. Dates are Jan. 8, 15, 22, and 29.

On Monday, Jan. 12 at 3:30 p.m., all ages can make giant 3-D paper snowflakes with Cedar County Conservation naturalist Sarah Subbert.

The Adult Book Club will discuss "Happy Place" by Emily Henry at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 21.

On Monday, Jan. 26 at 5:30 p.m., all ages are invited to relax and enjoy Cocoa and Cookies with Cedar County Conservation naturalist Sarah Subbert.

The library is at 402 6th Street, in the City Hall building. Regular hours are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 2 to 7 p.m., and Thursday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon. Call 563-285-4794, option 1 during open hours with questions. If the Durant branch is closed, you can call the same number and choose option 0 for the Eldridge branch. Online resources are always available at scottcountylibrary.org.

Durant Chiropractic Clinic

Submitted by Mallory Warner

I'm a new chiropractor serving the Durant and Wilton communities and I'm so excited to finally be stepping into this incredible profession after years of hard work!

As I get started, I want everybody to get to know a little more about me and what I love! Outside the office, you can usually find me cooking, baking, crafting something, reading a good book, or thrifting for the perfect vintage find. I've always loved creativity and learning— both of which can be expressed through chiropractic. I love looking at each patient as an opportunity to learn and grow, as well as to find new ways to tailor chiropractic to each and every spine!

I love helping patients of all ages, from kids and teens to active adults, busy parents, seniors, and everyone in between. Whether you're dealing with pain, tension, headaches, posture issues, or you simply want to move and feel better, I'm here for you.



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Durant Ambulance

Submitted by Dennis D. Frisch

By the time you read this article the new year will have already begun with people wondering where did 2025 go! You will find that as you get older the years seem to go faster.

Last year 7 New Year's resolutions were listed that the Durant Volunteer Ambulance Service (DVAS) members were going to believe. This is the result: 1) the good samaritan that called 911 at 2:00 A.M. and reported "car in the ditch person injured" - not believed but we responded and did not find anyone; 2) the I-80 hitchhiker in 10 F degree weather claimed heart attack signs and symptoms - not believed as we determined the person was cold, hungry, and tired; 3) the street medicated unresponsive person who awakened upon our arrival and stated, "I'm OK!" - not believed and we transported for further evaluation; 4) the handcuffed person who fought with law enforcement and said, "I'll be good if transported to the hospital." - not believed and we transported with law enforcement aboard; 5) the "2 beer" person who parked in the ditch - not believed and we transported rather than law enforcement; 6) we made our best effort to respond to all calls received - believed as we did the best we could with the personnel we had; 7) we continue to give quality comfort and care to our patients - believed as patients transported or not received our best at their worst. As you can tell we accomplished about 29% of our resolutions. We will continue to try and improve this year.

We have a staff of 5 emergency medical technicians (EMTs), 5 paramedics, and 8 volunteer drivers. Our call volume decreased in 2025 from approximately 675 in the past to less than 1 per day this year. Our resolution this year is to continue to provide the best care and comfort we can to the individuals we are called to help. If in your busy schedule you can find time to assist us, ask a member/driver for an application or call our office (563-785-4540) and leave a message if no one answers. Like most services, we have the greatest need for assistance from 6:00 A. M. to 6:00 P. M.

We hope you have an enjoyable holiday season and wish you a happy, healthy, and safe new year!



J.L.Shryer Unit 430 Minutes

Submitted by Cassandra Nichols

The J.L.Shryer Unit 430 was called to order on December 19, 2025 at 7:00 PM by President Glenda Wulf with 8 members present. Polly Geurink provided the opening prayer. Cassandra Nichols read the minutes from the November meeting and Janet Hagen provided the treasurer's report.

In committee reports, the Unit will reserve two spots for Girls State in June 2026. January 10th will be the legions next fish fry. Glenda Wulf is in charge of getting volunteers lined up. The Unit passed a motion to send a donation to the Outreach Center in Davenport.

Polly Geurink provided the closing prayer and the meeting was adjourned by Glenda Wulf. After the meeting the Legion and Auxiliary enjoyed the annual Christmas meal and gift exchange. Our next meeting is January 16th at 7PM at the Legion hall.