

ROWAN RING

City of Rowan—A small but friendly town

Musings from the Mayor.....



In 2002 a stranger by the name of Mike Thompson moved into the community of Rowan. Very little was known about the guy except that he had some Irish blood running through his veins. On March 17 of 2003 this same man, dressed in Irish green, held a one-man parade down the Main Street of Rowan with only a handful of bystanders attending.

In 2013 (ten years later) Mike Thompson was still holding his one-man parade but that year St. Patrick's Day happened to fall on a Saturday. The weather was beautiful and a group of coffee goers from the Rowan Community Center decided to join him on his annual journey down Main Street. From that day on the event has mushroomed into a full blown St. Patrick's Day Parade throughout the entire town of Rowan with parade entries from all over the surrounding area. The event has been covered by KLMJ Radio-on-the-Go, the Fort Dodge Messenger and the Mason City Globe Gazette along with local newspapers.

Several years ago it was decided to hold the event on the Saturday closest to St. Patrick's Day and includes an Irish Stew lunch before the parade.

This year marks 20 years since the event began in 2003 and will be bigger and better than ever. Plan to join the community of Rowan on Saturday, March 18, 2023 for our Annual St. Patrick's Day Celebration.

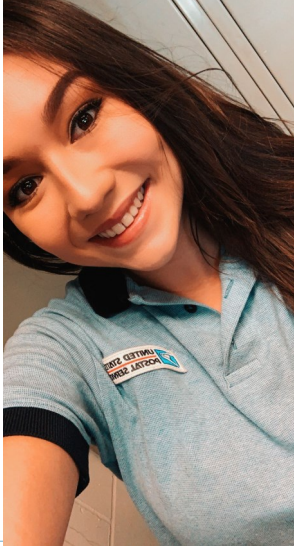


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If you have items you wish to have printed in the Rowan Ring send them by the 15th of each month to
rowanmayor@outlook.com

Get to Know Your Neighbor... Mariah Smith



Mariah Smith is no stranger to Rowan. She is the daughter of Mike and Karen (Osier) Smith and the granddaughter of Jerry and Marge Osier. She lived in Rowan for a short time as an infant but she spent many hours here during the summers with Grandma Marge.

Mariah moved to Rowan in 2019 and currently resides at 203 Broadway St. with her friend, Sloan Ziller. Both Mariah and Sloan love animals and take interest in animal rescue and safety.

Mariah is currently employed at the Rowan Post Office and is a friendly face if you go in to visit. She is also currently serving on the Rowan Library Board and feels it is very important for small towns to have good libraries so everyone has an opportunity to continue grow through literature.

"I joined the Library Board because I wanted to become more involved in the community."

UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE LIBRARY

Wednesday, Mar. 8
5 p.m.
Library Board Meeting

Monday, Mar. 20, 2 p.m.
Book Chat
Bring whatever you are
reading and share with the
group!

[https://
www.facebook.com/
therowanlibrary](https://www.facebook.com/therowanlibrary)

[http://
www1.youseemore.com/
NILC/RowanPL/](http://www1.youseemore.com/NILC/RowanPL/)

Librarian: Mandi Rink
641-853-2327
Mandi.Rink
@rowan.lib.ia.us

Stories From the Library

NEW ARRIVALS AT THE LIBRARY:

Slaughter of the Mountain Man by William Johnstone
Edgewater Road by Shelley Shepard Gray
Vow to Protect by J.L Beck
It Starts with Us by Colleen Hoover
The Heart of the Cowboy by Jody Hedlund
Sam by Allegra Goodman
Gwendy's Button Box by Stephen King
Love, Pamela by Pamela Anderson
Rainbow Grey by Ella L Anderson (JR Fiction)
The Ice Cream Machine by Adam Rubin

Call or email the library if you'd like your name on the *Holds List* for any of the above titles

Library News:

The library is offering new shirts and various branded items for fundraising efforts. ALL proceeds will go to the library. The new design will be retired in May of 2023. You can order at the library or online. Visit our updated website or visit us on social media for more info. Along with this fundraiser, the library has set up an Amazon wish list. Please contact Mandi with questions! See page 4 for examples.

From the Clerk's Corner.....

**PAY UTILITY BILLS
ONLINE
Go to
cityofrowan.com
And click on
MAKE PAYMENT**

**Office Hours:
Thursday 2:00 -5:00 pm
1st & 3rd Saturdays
9 a.m.—Noon
Tuesday after regular council
meeting 10:00 a.m.—Noon**

**Rowan City Hall
101 Main Street
Rowan, IA 50470
(641) 853-2345
cityofrowan.com**

**Clerk: Aimee Frohling
cityofrowan@gmail.com**

**Mayor: Lennea Groom
(515) 293-1657
rowanmayor@outlook.com**

**Council Members:
Mark Bruns
Dale Hollman
Virgil Park
Marcos Hurtado
Ashley Bosch**

Rowan City Council met twice in the month of January. Once on Monday, January 2 at 7:00 p.m. for the regular meeting and again on January 23 for a special meeting. During the regular meeting most discussion was based around the FY24 city budget. The Public Hearing for Max Levy of FY24 Property Taxes was set for Monday, February 6, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. during the regular council meeting.

Mayor Groom also appointed Councilman, Dale Hollman to the Wright County Landfill Commission Board. Also during this meeting Mayor Groom brought it to the attention of the council that employee compensation for the Rowan City Clerk and the Water Dept. staff was much lower than other surrounding communities of similar size. The council voted to increase the Water Superintendent salary to \$700 per month plus \$50 per meter for installation, increase Assistant Water Superintendent to \$150/month and the City Clerk to \$22/hr and an 8% increase to other city staff (Maintenance/Janitor).

During the special meeting on January 23 the council approved Resolution 2023-01 Support Heart of Iowa Trust Fund. Wright County Economic Director, Darrell Steven Carlyle was present to answer questions from council members prior to passing the Resolution. Other business during the meeting was a request from Carbon Solution Pipe Lines for bulk water access. No council member present was in favor of supporting this and the request was defeated unanimously. One council member was absent from the meeting.

Rowan City Council met on February 6, 2023 for its regular meeting in February. Mayor Groom closed the regular meeting and opened the Public Hearing for FY24 Max Property Tax Levy. No public input and the Mayor closed the public hearing.

Katie Meyer, Library Board President, presented the Library Budget for FY24 and updated the council on library activities. Updates to staff and public computers is a priority of the new librarian and a firm from Clear Lake to help with the updating.

The FY24 budget was updated with Library, Fire and Emergency Management numbers. A public hearing for the budget has been set for Monday, March 6 at 7:00 p.m.

During an EMS/911 meeting attended by Mayor Groom late in January the EMS Commission Board voted to donate a generator being replaced by the Sheriff's Dept. to the City of Rowan. Several electric contractors will be contacted to submit bids for the installation of the generator at the United Church of Rowan for use in emergency situations for the city. P&P Electric in Webster City and DeBoer Electric in Latimer will be contacted to obtain bids.

During old business the selling of the city tractor and mower, the Community Center Roof, and lettering on the Fire Dept. and Water Dept. doors was tabled until this Spring. The hearing for the 121 Main Street abandonment is scheduled for February 15, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. The Mayor will attend.

The next City Council Meeting is March 6, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Rowan City Council
Monday, March 6
7:00 p.m. at
Community Center

Library Hours
Mon, Wed
10:00 a.m.—6:00 p.m.
Fri
10:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.
Sat
9:00 a.m.—Noon

United Church of Rowan
10:00 a.m.
Sunday Church Service



20th Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade Saturday, March 18, 2023 in Rowan, IA

Irish Stew
11:30—1:00 p.m.
Irish Stew & Biscuits or Hot Dog & Chips—Free Will Donation
United Church of Rowan at 811 Pesch Street
Enter through the west door.

Come check out the Bake Sale during the meal!

Anyone and everyone is welcome to join in the parade. Lineup
by 1:30 p.m. in from the Rowan Events Center (Iowa River
Players Theater) Parade begins at 1:30!