

March 2025 | Volume 23, Issue 3

# News & Views

# HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Durant Future Growth and Prosperity Meeting**  
Please save Tuesday, March 4th at the Durant Community Center.

Meet & Greet: 5:00 PM – 5:30 PM

Community Presentation: 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM (approximately)

If you want to be in the know about what is going on in your community now and in the future, please consider attending.

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

**Make a resolution to get involved!**

Attend the next Durant Chamber of Commerce Meeting  
Monday, March 10th at noon at the Community Center!

## Welcome News and Views New Editor, Sidney Randolph!

We are thrilled to welcome Sidney Randolph as our new editor for News and Views! Sidney is proud to call Durant home and is the daughter of Orville Randolph, Durant's Chief of Police and Jill Randolph who works at Durant High School. Sidney attended Durant Community high school from 2012-2016 and graduated from the University of Iowa with a bachelors in Business and Technology.

Sidney looks forward to enhancing the "News & Views" publication and keeping residents informed and connected.

We would also like to take a moment to express our sincere gratitude to Heather Wiskow for their dedication and contributions to News & Views. Their hard work has helped keep the community informed, and we appreciate the time and effort they put into this publication.

News and Views is a free monthly community publication and is sent to all residents of the Durant School District. 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.

The views and opinions expressed in News & Views are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the policy or position of advertisers and the Durant Chamber of Commerce. Any content provided by our authors are of their opinion and are not intended to malign any religion, ethnic group, club, organization, company, individual or anyone or anything.

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](mailto:sid.ann.ran@gmail.com)

## Durant PTO

*Submitted by Shanna Schneider*

Welcome to March!

At the end of January, the PTO hosted the annual Breakfast with Someone Special! We hope everyone had a great time, and we thank all the staff who organized and served food that day!

March brings the highly-anticipated dodgeball tournament! We thank everyone for their patience and understanding as details were changed due to school maintenance.

The March PTO meeting will be a week early due to spring break! We will meet on Wednesday, March 12th at 6PM in the elementary library.

Follow us on Facebook by searching Durant School PTO to stay up to date on activities and more!



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### **Council Meetings in February**

Monday, March 10th and March 24th at 6 p.m. at City Hall. Agendas and minutes for council meetings can be found on our website above.

### **Dog Owner Reminders**

Remember to be courteous and pick up after your dog when out walking and playing in the parks. It is against our city ordinance to let your dog defecate on private property (other than the owner's), public walks and recreation areas unless such waste is immediately removed and disposed of by the owner. Please remember when walking your dog, they must be on a leash. If they are not on a leash, they are considered "at large." This is prohibited in the City of Durant according to our city ordinance. The initial fine for a "dog at large" is \$100 with \$95 court costs. The fines go up substantially after the first.

### **Golf Carts**

Golf Carts may be operated on City streets between sunrise and sunset as set by the U.S. Naval Observatory beginning March 1st and continuing through November 30th. No person shall operate a golf cart on any public street or alley, for any purpose unless the golf cart has passed a safety inspection by the Durant Police Department and the operator possesses a City of Durant permit to operate a golf cart, issued by the Chief of Police or designated officer. Any non-resident of the City of Durant that would like the privilege of operating a Golf Cart within city limits will also need to register for a permit. Please contact the Durant Police Department at 563.785.6049 with any questions or to set up an appointment for a safety inspection to obtain a permit. Please see the full Golf Cart/UTV Ordinance on our website [www.cityofdurantiowa.com](http://www.cityofdurantiowa.com).

### **Sidewalk Program**

Beginning March 1, 2025, the first five applicants that fulfill requirements and meet the need for sidewalk replacement, shall qualify for up to \$500 reimbursement for concrete, upon projects passing inspection and proof of paid invoice for concrete. Applications will be available March 1, 2025 and are due April 1, 2025 to city hall. For complete application and details of the program please check the city website [www.cityofdurantiowa.com](http://www.cityofdurantiowa.com) on the Zoning/Ordinance/Permit page, or pick up a copy at city hall. The program excludes property considered new construction.

### **Recycling**

If you are putting recycling out on windy days, we would suggest purchasing a container with a lid. Recycle bins have a tendency to blow over and scatter recycling all over the neighborhood. It is your responsibility to collect the recycling if it blows over and scatters, not your neighbors or the garbage employees. If you are using an open container, it would be best to wait and put out on a day when it is not windy. Thank you!

### **Burning Schedule**

Yard waste burning will begin on March 1st and continue through May 31st. Burning is allowed from 9:00 am-7:00 pm. Please do not burn on any Durant streets, curbs and gutters, or sidewalks. All burning should be done in a controlled environment. No burning of garbage is allowed.

### **Yard Waste Site**

Think Spring!! The yard waste site will reopen the third Monday in March, weather permitting. Please remember to put your tree brush outside the yard waste site in the area left of the driveway as you are headed to the sewer plant. The hours are as follows: Monday-Sunday 8:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.



## Yard Waste and Brush Disposal

Service is provided through Oveson Refuse & Recycle from April 1st through November 30th for grass, leaves, and garden debris only. Yard waste must be placed in a paper yard waste bag (these can be purchased at a grocery, hardware, or discount store) with a yard waste sticker that can be purchased at City Hall for \$1.00 each. Yard waste should be put out on Tuesday with your regular garbage

## Building Permits

Please call building inspector, Terry Goerdt, at 319.330.9806, or email [tgoerdt@cityofdurantiowa.com](mailto:tgoerdt@cityofdurantiowa.com), for all questions on permits. Permits are required for all new construction, building alterations, accessory & storage shed buildings, and concrete work. Permits are also required for signs, fences, and swimming pools over 5000 gallons. Per state regulations building permits are required for electrical work, plumbing, and heating/AC projects. Permits are not required for roofing, siding, & windows. Building permit applications are available at City Hall and on our website [www.cityofdurantiowa.com](http://www.cityofdurantiowa.com). We ask that you please allow at least 48 hours for your permit to be approved before starting your project.

## 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](http://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.

## Go Green Earn A \$5 Credit By Signing Up For E-Bills

Due to rising postage fees, the City of Durant and Durant Municipal Electric are offering a one-time \$5 credit on your utility bill to anyone signing up for emailed bills.

Utility billing E-bills (emailed bills) offer you these exciting advantages:

- Go paperless (Go Green!)
- Eliminate the risk of your bill being lost or damaged in the mail
- Receive your utility bills earlier than via traditional mail
- Increase the level of privacy compared to postcard bills delivered via traditional mail

Sign up today by stopping at City Hall and Durant Municipal Electric to fill out the E-bills application. You must stop at both locations to sign up, as each entity has its own form.

## Utility Reminders

Shutoff notices for delinquent February bills will be distributed on the morning of Monday, March 10th with payment due by noon on Tuesday, March 11th. Remember a \$25 fee is applied to your account if you receive a shutoff notice.

## 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).



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# Monthly Energy Savings Tip



## Spring Energy Efficiency Tips

1. Check your thermostat to see if it is programmable and be sure the schedule is appropriate for the weather needs to avoid excess heating or cooling energy waste.
2. Check the ceiling fan direction, be sure it is set to run counterclockwise, so the air is blown towards the floor.
3. Check in on your roof and siding, freezing ice and heavy snow could have damaged your shingles and siding over

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 <https://ubi.gworks.com/durantmunicipalelectric/>



You can help your neighbors this winter through *Project Share* -- an ongoing program directed by Durant Municipal Electric to assist needy families with wintertime heating bills.

Under *Project Share*, you can donate any amount you are able through your regular monthly utility bill or by making a direct donation to Project Share. Those qualifying for help are carefully identified by an area social service agency. These funds will then be distributed to neighbors in need for wintertime energy costs.

Call us today for more information on *Project Share* -- or fill out and return the coupon provided with your donation! You will be helping to keep someone in Algona a little warmer this winter!

Durant Municipal Electric  
PO Box 138  
Durant IA 52747  
563-785-6213



**I'd like to help a neighbor in need with a tax-deductible contribution to Project Share**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

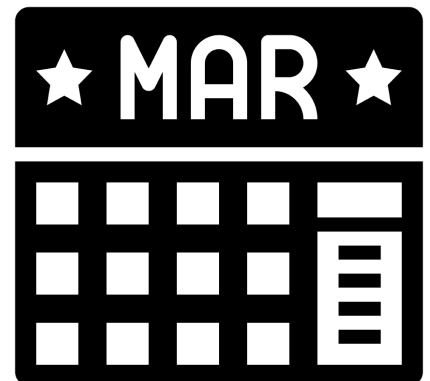
Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

- I will contribute \$\_\_\_\_\_ per month to Project Share. I understand this amount will be billed to me monthly.
- I have enclosed a \$\_\_\_\_\_ donation to Project Share.

## Notice to Our Customers

Durant Municipal Electric Plant does its best to see that you are satisfied with your utility service. However, if you have any questions or complaints regarding your utility service, you may contact a utility representative at DMEP 601 4th St Durant IA 52747, 563-785-6213. A representative will try to assist you with your problem. If your complaint is related to service disconnection, safety, or renewable energy, and we do not resolve it, you may request assistance from the Iowa Utilities Board by calling toll-free 877-565-4450; by mailing 1375 E Court, Rm 69, Des Moines IA 50319; or by emailing [customer@iub.iowa.gov](mailto:customer@iub.iowa.gov).



# Spring Sports & Chiropractic Care for Your Student Athlete

*Submitted by Dr. Melissa Kelling of Durant Chiropractic Clinic -*

*Written by Carissa Orcutt*

It's March, spring is coming, and the next season of sports is upon us. How exciting after being cooped up over the winter. It's time to start thinking about getting the kids outside and letting them run and practice as they gear up for a season of competitive sports!

As parents of athletes, you have an important job. You coordinate getting them to and from practices & games. You purchase the necessary gear. You've got their schedule. You come prepared with snacks and drinks. You're ready to sit in the stands and cheer. You've got everything covered for a successful and fun season. As prepared as you are, though, you may be missing one key component to ensure your child has a successful season.

## Sports Injuries for Your Student Athlete

When it comes to sports, injuries happen. We've all seen it. Sprains and strains are common problems for children who participate in sports. Unfortunately, so are concussions and broken bones. It can happen during practice, during a game, or even just practicing at home. Someone's ankle gets twisted running bases or sliding into home, a shoulder gets injured throwing a ball, kids trip and fall battling for a soccer ball. These are all too common.

Some injuries are evident immediately when they happen while other injuries may not appear right way, and oftentimes, kids will ignore or push through the pain to keep playing.

So, what can be done? We've already discussed how, as an athlete's parent, you are willing to invest your time and money making sure they have the necessary equipment. You ensure they wear the protective gear and practice to prepare themselves.

You may even be willing to invest in trainers, camps, and other things to help them excel in their chosen sports. Why not also invest in their health and in preventing injuries that take them out of the sports they love?

## Chiropractic Care for your Student Athlete

Chiropractic care is a worthwhile investment in your athlete. Not only is chiropractic care helpful after a sports injury, but it is also greatly useful as a preventative measure to avoid injuries in the first place. Children who routinely see a chiropractor are less likely to have balance issues.

Chiropractic kids are also less likely to have injuries while playing sports. Spinal adjustments help relieve tension from muscles and connective tissues. This improves mobility, flexibility and range of motion which assists in their ability to perform at their best. Increased range of motion further helps reduce over-stretching and tearing of ligaments and tendons, thereby preventing injuries.

Chiropractic is a great way to avoid the need for pain medications if your child does become injured. Our skilled doctors can evaluate their health, develop a treatment plan that includes adjustments, other physical modalities, and exercises to help speed up recovery times. Taking care of their bodies now is important as it will help avoid developing chronic issues as they become adults.

No matter what season or sport your child is in, making chiropractic care part of their normal routine is a great way to invest in their health and wellbeing. The doctors and staff at Durant Chiropractic Clinic are excited to be on your team and help your child excel athletically.

Now, let's get back to the game & play ball!

## 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.

### March Menu (All served with milk.)

3/7 Chili with Beans, Mixed Green Salad, Applesauce Jello, Cornbread

3/14 Scalloped Chicken with Gravy, Green Beans, Strawberries & Bananas

3/21 Fried Pork Chops, Au gratin Potatoes, Cauliflower, Raisin Rice Pudding

3/28 Beef & Noodles, Mixed Vegetables, Strawberries & Bananas, Dinner Roll

### HACAP Fresh & Free Produce

Everyone 60 years and older are welcome to take advantage of HACAP's fresh and free produce distribution on Thursday, March. 20, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at the Senior Dining meal site.

### Senior Foot Health Clinic

Durant Community Center • Thurs., March. 13, 9 - 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.



## DURANT IRON & METAL CORP

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# Durant Library

Submitted by Pamela Briggs

Spring weather can't be too far away! As usual, the Durant branch library has books, DVDs, Blu-rays, and much more. We have special items to check out, including a light therapy lamp, WiFi hotspots, passes to Quad-Cities attractions -- even a sewing machine! If you have a library card number starting with 20072, you can put these non-traditional library items on hold, and we'll have them brought here for you. Same with all kinds of games -- board games, video games; you can even borrow outdoor games! We also have a new jigsaw puzzle exchange in Durant -- bring in a puzzle and swap it for a different one.

Library story times are at 10 a.m. Thursdays. They are geared for ages 6 and under with a caregiver. Sarah Subbert, the Cedar County Conservation naturalist, will present the March 13 story time. The other dates are the 6th, 20th, and 27th.

All ages are invited to make things happen with Electronic Snap Circuits on Monday, March 10 at 3:30 p.m. Cedar County Conservation naturalist Sarah Subbert will show how to follow simple blueprints to safely complete circuits to make sounds, flash lights, spin fans, and more. On Wednesday, March 26 at 3:30 p.m., Sarah Subbert will return with train cars, track, bridges, and more. All ages can help build an epic wooden train layout indoors! These programs, like all library events, are free, and you don't need to have a library card to attend.

The Adult Book Club will discuss "By Any Other Name" by Jodi Picoult at 10 a.m. Wednesday, March 19 at the Durant branch library, 402 6th Street. It's about two young playwrights, centuries apart, who must struggle to have their work published. All are welcome; call 563-570-0797 for details.

Adults and teens, ages 13 and up, can take the year-long challenge to Read 25 Books in 2025. Keep track of progress all year, on paper or at [scottcountylibrary.beanstack.com/reader365](http://scottcountylibrary.beanstack.com/reader365), then submit trackers in January 2026 for a chance at a prize. (They need not be library books.) The library is in the City Hall building at 402 6th Street. 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. When the Durant branch is closed, call the Eldridge information staff at the same number by choosing option 0. The Scott County Library System's online resources are always available at [scottcountylibrary.org](http://scottcountylibrary.org).

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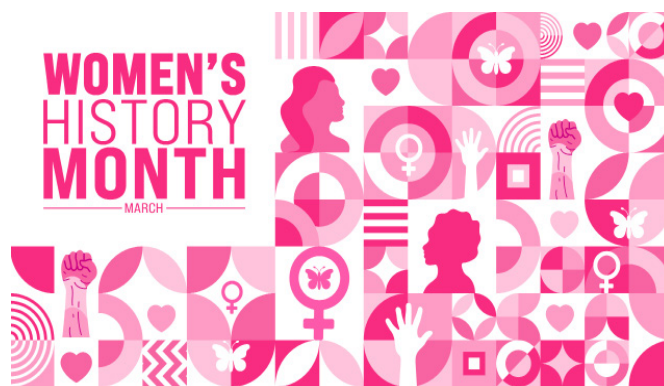
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# Durant/Wilton Ministerial Group Lenten Lunches

Date	Host Church	Preaching
March 11th	Grace United Church of Christ	-----
March 18th	First Presbyterian	Mother Haugen
March 25th	St. Mary's Catholic	Pastor Axtell
April 1st	United Methodist of Wilton	Pastor Slessor
April 8th	Peace United Methodist (hosted at bank)	Pastor Mack
April 15th	St. Paul's Episcopal	Pastor Jennings



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## TriCounty Heritage & Genealogy Museum

Submitted by Mary E.

This 10 gallon gas can was donated to the Tri-County Heritage & Genealogy Museum by Leo and Sandy Rathjen in 2015. The gas can was used at the American Petroleum Station. Present day location of the station is the north-side of the 200 Block of 5th Street. In 1933, Harry McMurphy operated the station, followed by Stanley Rynott in 1935 and later by Frank Meitner.

The TriCounty museum is open on Saturday 9 am to noon, for more information, please call 563-320-5809 and leave a message. We appreciate all donations and the volunteers who work to keep our museum open.



Walcott American Legion Post 548  
Walcott, Iowa

## CATFISH FILLET SUPPER Friday, March 28, 2025

Serving 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm  
Donation of \$13.00  
Children's Chicken Nugget Meal - \$4.00  
Raffles & Desserts

MEALS AVAILABLE AS FOLLOWS:  
Dining in or Carry Out

For further information, call Commander Jim Farmer @ 563-299-6326



# Ambulance Update

*Submitted by Dennis D. Frisch*

If you recall from last month's News and Views, Bill and Bob were talking about drivers and driving the ambulance. Bob wanted to know more about the Durant Volunteer Ambulance Service (DVAS) and Bill told him they could continue their conversation next month. Once again I overheard them talking this time about an incident that occurred at the restaurant where Bob happened to be..

"My wife and I were enjoying our meal when a lady two tables over started yelling, "Someone call an ambulance! My husband is having a heart attack." Someone must have called because within 5 - 10 minutes law enforcement and a fire truck arrived. 4 or 5 firemen and women came in and went right over to the guy. They had a big red bag, a green tank, and the officer had a case that had AED printed on it." exclaimed Bob.

"What did they do?" asked Bill.

"One of them introduced herself to the guy and his wife then began asking them all sorts of questions." Bob answered.

"What kind of questions?" queried Bill.

"The one asked what's your name, what seems to be the problem, and when did it begin? Are you short of breath? What were you doing when this started? Do you have any pain? Does anything make the pain increase or decrease? Does the pain stay in one place or does it go elsewhere? On a 1 - 10 scale with 10 being the worst, what value would you give your pain? Are you allergic to any medications? Are you taking any medications on a regular basis? Taking any blood thinners? Any past medical issues such as a heart attack, stroke, seizure, respiratory issue, or diabetes? There were more but I cannot remember them. I was amazed they could remember all of them!" Bob replied.

"Bob, what did they do for him?" asked Bill.

"Well, the guy said his name (I'll call him Al) and he was short of breath. The fireman with the green tank put a tube on the tank and placed the other end around Al's ears and into his nose. Must have been oxygen. Al said he could breathe better in just a couple of minutes. Another person gave him 4 low dose aspirin to chew once they determined he was not allergic to it and he had not taken any yet. He also asked him whether he had his nitroglycerin with him as Al had said one of his medications was nitroglycerin.

Al said it was in his pocket but he was too anxious to get it or give it to himself. The fireman got it from his pocket, checked the name and date on the vial, and placed one tablet under Al's tongue and told him not to swallow it. Another fireman had placed a device on Al's finger and read some numbers aloud for the officer to write on a paper along with the other information he was compiling. Bill, they were busy!" exclaimed Bob.

"Sure sounds like it. Sounds like Al received really good care from those First Responders and law enforcement was ready with the Automated External Defibrillator (AED) if it was needed." stated Bill.

"Bill, what is a First Responder? These folks looked like firemen and women." replied Bob.

"First Responders are individuals who have been trained to assist someone having a medical or traumatic emergency such as Al. They have to attend a 40 - 60+ hour class then pass a written exam and a practical exam to become certified to work in Iowa. Every 2 years they have to recertify which requires additional hours of education. Some of the skills they learned were used on Al. The questions asked and vital signs taken (blood pressure, pulse, respiration rate) were examples. The device placed on Al's finger was a pulse oximeter and told them his pulse rate and oxygen saturation. They also administered oxygen with a nasal cannula. They also learn when to give some medications such as aspirin, nitroglycerin, Narcan, and glucose." Bill explained.

Bob was listening intently while Bill talked then exclaimed, "That sure is a lot to learn!"

Bill told Bob, "That is only a portion of what they have to learn."

"Bill, those First Responders did a lot but why didn't they take Al to the hospital?" asked Bob.

Bill replied, "They do not transport but care for the patient until a transporting service arrives."

"What happens then Bill?"

"Personnel in the ambulance are at a higher level than the First Responders and are capable of providing care the First Responders could not give. If you would like, we can discuss their abilities next month after spring arrives and the birds arrive to sing. Right now, let's get a green beverage and toast St. Patty's Day!" suggested Bill.

Bill reminded Bob by saying, "Remember Bob, you can always get more information about the DVAS by contacting a member/driver of the service or calling 563-785-4540 and leave a message if no one answers."

Happy St. Patrick's Day!!!

## Durant Iowa Food Pantry

*Submitted by Justin L. Nelson*

### Being a Helping Hand to a Friend: That's What the Durant Iowa Food Pantry is All About

We believe in the power of community – neighbors helping neighbors, friends supporting friends. Life can be tough, and sometimes, the greatest gift we can offer is a helping hand. That's what the Durant Iowa Food Pantry is all about: being a friend when someone needs it most.

### More Than Just Food, It's Friendship:

Imagine a friend struggling. They're facing food insecurity or at risk of missing a payment due to unforeseen bills. Chances are the thought of asking for help feels overwhelming. That's where you come in. The Durant Iowa Food Pantry is a place where anyone can find support, and sometimes, the biggest hurdle is simply taking that first step. That's where your friendship makes all the difference.

### Why Your Friendship Matters:

- **Easing the burden:** Food insecurity can bring feelings of shame and isolation. Your friendly support can help alleviate those feelings and make the first visit less of a hurdle.
- **Offering a familiar face:** Accompanying a friend on their first visit can provide comfort and reassurance. Knowing they're not alone can make a huge difference.
- **Breaking down barriers:** Sometimes, people hesitate to ask for help. Your encouragement and understanding can be the key that unlocks the door to much-needed support.
- **Showing you care:** Simply being there for a friend shows them that they're not alone and that you and their community care.

The Durant Iowa Food Pantry is here to provide nutritious food and connect people with other resources. We're a place where everyone is welcome, and no one is judged.

### How You Can Help a Friend:

- **Offer to go with them:** This simple act of friendship can make a world of difference.
- **Reassure them:** Let them know the food pantry is a friendly and supportive environment.
- **Share information:** Tell them about the pantry's hours, location, and the resources available.
- **Be a listening ear:** Sometimes, just listening and offering your support is the most valuable thing you can do.

### Learn More & Get Involved:

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

## Durant-Wilton Food Pantry

The Durant Wilton Food Pantry serves individuals and families living in the



Durant and Wilton School districts. The pantry will be open to serve individuals and families on February 18. Hours on both Tuesday's are 9 - 11 am and 6 - 7 pm. The pantry is located at 408 Cedar Street in Wilton.

Those in need of immediate assistance outside of these hours, can contact Jon at 563-732-2461 to arrange for assistance at another time.

Individuals that wish to support the pantry with donations can also contact Jon. Financial donations are always helpful and can be mailed to PO Box 473, Wilton, IA 52778-0473.

- **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 895 Durant, Iowa 52747 (in the garage space)
- **Contact:** (563) 260 5322 (call or text) or [durantfoodpantry@gmail.com](mailto:durantfoodpantry@gmail.com)
- **Volunteer or Donate:** Visit our website at [difp.org](http://difp.org)

**Thank you for making a difference in our community!**