

Panora TIMES

AUGUST 2024

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'RACING ON INTO THE GUTHRIE COUNTY FAIR'

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AND IMPROVED
FEATURES THIS YEAR**

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**PANORAMA TIRE KEEPS
ITS CUSTOMERS ROLLING**

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**FISHERS SIMPLY
ENJOY SPECIAL CARS**

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**TAKE CAESAR SALAD
BEYOND THE BOWL**

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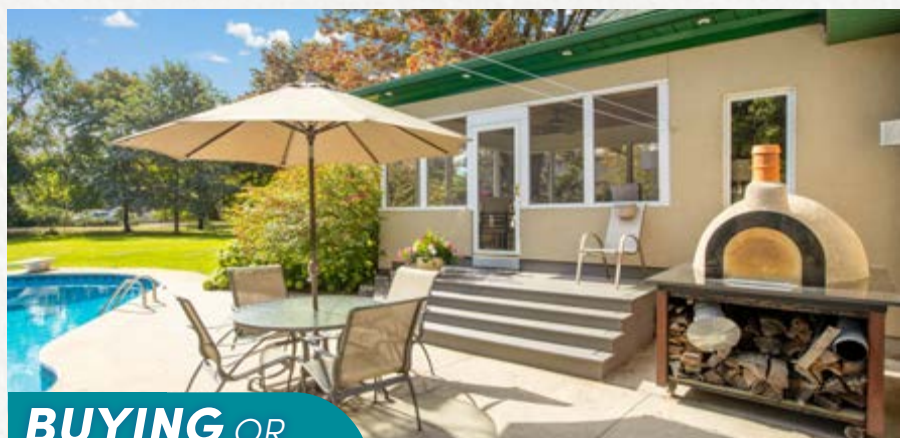
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FROM THE COVER:

Recent Panorama High School graduate Sarah Westergaard showed the Grand Champion Feeder at last year's Guthrie County Fair. Photo by Mallory Quick



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FROM THE PUBLISHER

NO NEED TO SCRATCH AND SNIFF

The Guthrie County Fair is just around the corner. This is the time when people of all ages show their livestock, fruits, vegetables and projects of all kinds, and they are judged on their accomplishments. Great life lessons are learned by seeing a project through from beginning to end and being responsible for the day-to-day tasks in making that happen. This is ever apparent at the Guthrie County Fair.

For the farm kids, this is their Super Bowl. The competitions are important to them, especially for those participating in the major livestock categories. The

trophies mean something, as they should.

With a decrease in the number of farms in Iowa, fewer kids are involved in FFA and 4-H across the state. Even so, few things define Iowa life like county fairs.

Several years ago, we published a “scratch and sniff” issue of CITYVIEW magazine with small circles on photos of things like corn dogs, lemonade, cotton candy, various foods on a stick and livestock



Shane Goodman

from the Iowa State Fair. We encouraged people to scratch the spot and give it a whiff. Of course, this was a farce, but it didn't stop readers from scratching, sniffing and sharing with others. It was amusing to watch as people really thought they could smell the photographed items.

Well, you don't have to scratch and sniff this issue of Panorama Times, as you can attend the Guthrie County Fair and experience the smells and scents in person. I make it a point to do so each year, and I enjoy every minute.

Whether you grew up on a farm, in

town, or in Iowa's metro areas, you can surely identify with the happenings of the Guthrie County Fair in some way. Look inside for details on this year's fair and plan some time to attend.

Thanks for reading. ■

Shane Goodman
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'RACING ON INTO THE GUTHRIE COUNTY FAIR'

Learn about new and improved features this year

BY RICH WICKS
Panora Times

The theme of the 2024 Guthrie County Fair is "Racing on into the Guthrie County Fair." That theme seems appropriate for two reasons. Various types of racing have been popular events at the fair over the years, and the fair has traditionally been well attended by folks from throughout Guthrie County and beyond. In fact, historical reports describe traffic jams of horses, buggies and wagons as people raced to get in on the fun of the Guthrie County Fair.

HISTORY

The Guthrie County Fair is one of the oldest in the state. In 1858, the first fair was held in Guthrie Center and was successful enough that a small tract of land was purchased just west of the river as a site for future fairs. Over the coming decades, more land was gradually added, and buildings were constructed and enlarged.

In the late 1800s and early 1900s, the fair often included various racing events. Horse and mule races, car races, and human running races were commonly seen.

When the Great Depression hit, attendance dwindled, so organizers had to come up with creative ways to attract more people to the fair. One example was in 1933 when organizers offered a free wedding (including the pastor and wedding license) for any couple who would agree to be married at the fair. Two couples accepted, and a double wedding was held. The identity of the marrying couples was kept secret until the ceremony to heighten the excitement.

Unfortunately, the fair has had its share of setbacks as well. Due to the low-lying location, heavy rains occasionally submerged parts of the fairgrounds during the



The livestock shows are a big draw at the Guthrie County Fair. This photo from last year's fair shows Jameson Glade, who competed for the first time in 2023.

fair, but organizers and attendees generally slogged through the challenges. In February of 1948, a fire at the fairgrounds destroyed the 4-H barn and scale house. The cause was determined to be an overheated stove. Luckily, the fire was contained so no other buildings were lost. A replacement building was constructed in time for the fair that September.

OLD AND NEW

According to Collin Clark, Guthrie County Fair Board president, the 2024 fair will be a blend of the familiar and the new.

The Guthrie County Fair Queen coronation is a highlight of the fair. Riley Gibson, daughter of Jim and Karwyn Gibson, is the reigning queen and will pass her crown on to the new queen on Sunday at 6 p.m.

The parade is another longstanding tradition of the Guthrie County Fair. This year's parade will begin at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 31. There is no sign-up; those wishing to be in the parade are simply asked to line up beginning at 9 a.m. along School Street (between Highway 25 and the high school). The parade route will go north on Highway 25, then turn west onto

State Street to go through the business district. Questions can be directed to Cathy Sheeder, parade coordinator, at 641-757-8226.

Clark described some of the other features of the fair that will be much the same as in previous years.

"We'll have a rodeo again with mutton busting. That's kind of a staple with our fair, and the carnival is coming back. It's Scott's Amusements, and we're keeping the rides still free," Clark said.

Longtime residents of Guthrie County will recognize a familiar face, according to



This historical photo shows a large crowd attending an early Guthrie County Fair.

Clark.

"Toby the Kid is coming and will be walking around the grounds a couple of days," Clark said.

Toby has clowned around at area events for many years, bringing his magic and comedy to kids of all ages.

One familiar and unique feature of the Guthrie County Fair is the fact that a large campground is adjacent to the fairgrounds, and the camping option has been a longtime and popular option for those attending the fair.

"We have 83 acres there and 280-some camping spots. It's always full, and there's a waiting list," Clark said.

Camping has been so popular that reservations are taken during the fair every year for the next year's fair. The camping fee is \$210, which includes two season passes for the fair. Tent area camping costs \$50. Check-in for all camping spots opens at 8 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 24, and check-

out is Monday, Sept. 2. More camping information and guidelines are available on the fair's website.

According to Clark, the headliner of "new and improved" features at this year's fair centers around a new building.

"The showing is going to be our big new thing this year. It's been a lot of work. 4H had their own food stand before. Now they're going to be inside the new showing. That way, we'll have an eating area in the showing, and there will be a picnic area in there so they can serve out of both windows," Clark said. "The extension office will be in the showing as well. It'll have air conditioning, which is nice. We added that last minute."

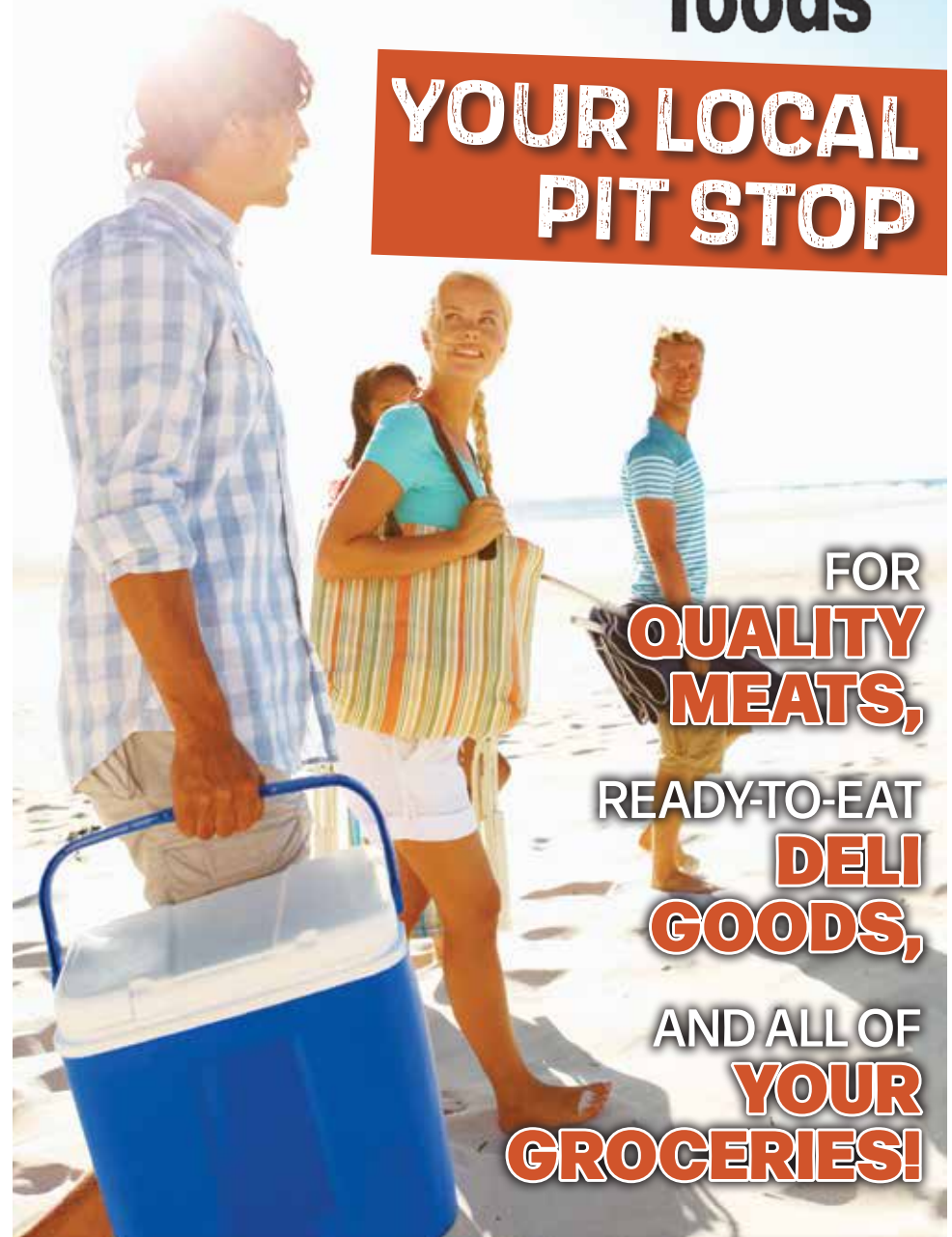
Over the years, the Guthrie County Fair has occasionally seen flooding of the grounds, due to the fact the fairgrounds are in a low area near the river. But the fair board has taken steps to help alleviate that potential problem. Clark explained that

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Members of the Guthrie County Fair Board try out the new showing bleachers.

several members of the board helped put in new tiling while the new showing was being built.
 Clark mentioned several other changes to this year's fair.
 "Wayne Francis is coming to the Little Amphitheater. He's a ventriloquist, which we've never had before," Clark said. "There's also going to be a juggling and aerial show. That will be new."

Clark also pointed out a change regarding grandstand entertainment.
 "We did change Sunday. Rather than having another motorsport event, we decided to bring in a band," he said. "And before that, we're going to have nag races. Essentially, it's a golf cart, and one person is blindfolded, and the other is telling them where to go."

The band for Sunday night will be Tyler Richton and the High Bank Boys. Following the band will be fireworks.

Asked about a "best kept secret" at the fair, Clark mentioned the Little Amphitheater.

"There's always something there," Clark said.

This year's entertainment at the Little Amphitheater includes the Fair Queen coronation, Bill Riley Talent Show, musical acts, the juggling and aerial show, and the kids pedal pull.

SCHEDULE

Below is a partial listing of events scheduled at this year's fair. For a complete listing and more details, visit www.guthriecountyfair.com.

Wednesday, Aug. 28

- 4-7 p.m., Exhibit check-in
- 5 p.m., 4H/FFA Dog show

Thursday, Aug. 29

- Livestock check-ins (see website for details)
- 7 p.m., Bill Riley Talent Show

Friday, Aug. 30

- 6 a.m. to 5 p.m., 4H Food Stand
- 7 a.m., Cribbage tournament at Events Center
- 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Antique tractor display
- 1-10 p.m., Free carnival rides
- 3 p.m. to close, American Legion Bingo
- 6 p.m., Grandstand: Mutton busting, followed by the rodeo at 7 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 31

- 6 a.m. to 5 p.m., 4H Food Stand
- 7:30 a.m., Register for 5K walk/run
- 8 a.m., 5K walk/run
- 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Antique tractor display
- Noon to close, American Legion


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An advertisement for the 1900 Guthrie County Fair states, "Come to the best fair ever held."



The annual Guthrie County Fair rodeo will begin at 7 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 30 at the Grandstand following mutton busting, which begins at at 6 p.m.

Bingo

- Noon to 10 p.m., Free carnival rides
- 1:30 p.m., Kids pedal pull
- 4 and 6 p.m., Wayne Francis, ventriloquist
- 7 p.m., Grandstand: Figure 8 races (registration is 4-6:15 p.m.)

Sunday, Sept. 1

- 6 a.m. to 5 p.m., 4H Food Stand
- 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Antique tractor display
- Noon to close, American Legion Bingo
- Noon to 10 p.m., Free carnival rides
- 6 p.m., Announcement of 2025 Guthrie County Fair Queen
- Grandstand: Nag races at 5:30 p.m. (sign up at 5 p.m.)
- 8-11 p.m. Tyler Richton and the High Bank Boys concert
- Fireworks after the concert

Monday, Sept. 2

- 6 a.m. to 5 p.m., 4H Food Stand
- 9 a.m., Tractor ride
- 9:30 a.m., 4H/FFA Parade of Champions
- 3 p.m., Clean up the fairgrounds

A single day admission to the fair costs \$15, or a "season pass" (for admission any/every day of the fair) is \$35. Children younger than 5 are admitted free. As always, grandstand events and carnival rides are free.

An event such as the Guthrie County Fair can only succeed if many people pull together to make it happen. Besides Fair President Collin Clark, other members of the Fair Board include Scott McClellan, Emma Vogl, Michelle Halbur, John Knobbe, Troy Schwartz, Sage Bailey, Mike Irlbeck, Mike Kenyon, Tyler Carney, Roger Richter, Bryce Arganbright, Preston Drake, Nathan Olesen, Greg Rochholz, Wes Clark, Travis Clark, Matt Harman, Spencer Sloss, Spenser Jorgenson, Jeremy Wolfe, Kirk Rochholz and Derek Betts.

Guthrie County Fair Foundation Board members include CW Thomas, John Knobbe, Jerri Hawkins, Roy Sargent, Paul Clark, Scott McClellan, Jim Laughery, Penny Wetzel and Dale Behrends.

Collin Clark also pointed out the strong support of the community.

"There are roughly 155 local sponsors for our fair, businesses and individuals, and we are absolutely thankful for the sponsorships we get and the community that's behind us," he said. "We also have fundraisers. It's amazing, and we appreciate it."

A report in the Aug. 15, 1889, edition of The Guthrian newspaper rings true today, just as it did when written 135 years ago: "This county is noted for the excellence of its county fairs. These gatherings bring out people in real numbers to view the annual exhibitions... Let us all do our part to make the coming county fair grandly worthy of grand old Guthrie County." ■



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LOCAL FILM REVIEWS

A LONG-LOST LOVE, A SERIAL KILLER, HOMELESS KIDS, A FAKE MOON MISSION AND TWO TORNADOS

BY MICHAEL C. WOODY

Panora Times

With summer blockbusters hitting the theaters every weekend, there aren't a lot of other movies being released right now. I managed to get out and see a handful, but, on many weekends, it has been slim pickings.

“TOUCH” (should be heading to the streaming services)

I love getting surprised by movies I have never heard of. “Touch” tells the story of a young man who drops out of college and takes a job washing dishes in an Asian restaurant. He needs the money, but he is also very much smitten with the owner's daughter. This story is entwined with the current day situation of this boy, now an old man, searching for his now long-lost love. This is a charming story of this man, near the end of his life, wanting



to reconnect with this woman who disappeared so many years ago. It is a sweet story, told (and acted) very well. **Grade: A**

“LONGLEGS” (in theaters)

I am not a fan of serial killer films, but this one is so over-the-top creepy and very well produced that it sucked me in. “Longlegs” is well made, well-acted and so frightening. Nicolas Cage stars, but good luck recognizing him in the film. This one will haunt you long after leaving the theater.

Grade: A-



“SOUND OF HOPE: THE STORY OF POSSUM TROT” (in theaters)

This faith-based story from the people who last year gave us “Sound of Freedom” is based on a true story about a small



town that single-handedly tries to solve the issue of homeless kids in the system. An amazing true story, this movie is better than you might expect. **Grade: B+**

“FLY ME TO THE MOON” (in theaters)

This cute movie tells the story of a fake U.S. moon mission. Rumors have floated that one of our moon missions was faked, but here we get a romantic comedy taking on that story. Channing Tatum and Scarlett Johansson play two people trying to pull off this hoax that has been deemed too dangerous and too important to fail. Woody Harrelson is excellent as the bad guy. Not a great movie but definitely a fun one.

Grade: B



“TWISTERS” (in theaters)

“Twisters” is not a sequel to the 1996 movie (maybe best described as a com-



“Touch”

panion piece?) that was partially shot in Iowa. “Twisters” takes the tornadic action to Oklahoma and doubles the fun with not one but two tornados. Glen Powell (who seems to be in every other movie these days) and Daisy Edgar-Jones star. I saw this at the IMAX Theater in Waukee, and it was like a carnival ride — fun while you are there but not entirely memorable. Still, I recommend it for the su-



NEW MURAL COMING TO GUTHRIE CENTER!

Dear Friends,

The Guthrie County Arts Council is excited to announce that Guthrie County native Chad Elliott has been commissioned to paint the mural pictured here honoring Guthrie County. This mural will be placed on the east side of the Guthrie Center Fire Hall, where it is visible for almost twelve blocks along Highway 44 of the Western Skies Scenic Byway.

In addition to funds already collected from a previous benefit concert by the artist himself, the Arts Council invites you to help fund this project by mailing a donation to Art on State, 320 State Street, Guthrie Center, Iowa 50115 (checks payable to GCAC Mural Fund) or by scanning the Venmo code.

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"Longlegs"



"Sound of Hope: The Story of Possum Trot"



"Fly Me to the Moon"



"Twisters"

per-crazy action scenes. **Grade: B**

I've been posting recent movie reviews on my Facebook page "Mr. Movie Reviews" if you wonder what I do with my spare time. Comments, good or bad, are welcome. ■

Michael C. Woody has been reviewing movies on radio and television since 1986. He and his wife, Susan, are residents of Guthrie County.



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GUTHRIE COUNTY SUPERVISORS MOVE FORWARD WITH EMS PLAN

BY RICH WICKS

PanoraTimes

On July 23, the Guthrie County Board of Supervisors continued their discussion about the process of developing a countywide EMS plan.

“What is the plan?” Supervisor Mike Dickson asked. “We’ve looked at a map, and we know, at the 75 cent level, what the funds will be coming in, so what is the plan with these funds?”

The supervisors discussed the need to begin working on allocating the expected dollars so that this information can be shared with voters prior to the November ballot item. There was discussion about whether the allocation should be based on population or call volume.

Supervisor Maggie Armstrong said her opinion is that population should be the basis for the allocation. She gave an example of her reasoning.

“911 would never consider me a call, because I’ve never had to call for an ambulance at my home, but I still should be considered as a potential call, because I might have to call,” she said.

Board Chair JD Kuster said he heard that Adair EMS voiced confusion about the ongoing process and felt “left out” of the July 17 special meeting. Armstrong said the board members need to make sure to maintain good communication with all involved groups within each district.

When considering approval of the county’s payroll, Dickson voiced a con-

cern.

“There’s just way too much overtime in there. I don’t think we need that much,” Dickson said.

After discussion, the supervisors agreed that it would be helpful if department heads would give an explanation of overtime submitted and the reasons for it. Kuster said he would ask this of the department heads.

JULY 30 - CAMPGROUND AND ATV PARK IN BEAR GROVE TOWNSHIP

On July 30, the board discussed the next steps in efforts to create a countywide EMS service plan.

On behalf of Panora EMS, John DeLavernge shared that there seems to be confusion as to whether or not the supervisors have accepted or rejected the RFPs from the three EMS services that are being discussed (Stuart, Adair and Panora). The supervisors voted to formally accept the RFPs from the three services with negotiations continuing regarding geographic coverage areas and funding.

The supervisors had lengthy discussion about how to allocate the funds to each of the three services. The two measures suggested were population and call volume. After calculating the percentages of each service area compared to the county as a whole, Supervisor Maggie Armstrong shared what she found.

“Call volume and population are pretty closely correlated,” Armstrong said.

Supervisor Steve Smith pointed out that the expected revenues will not allow each of the three entities to receive the amount of funding each has requested, so more discussions are needed. The supervisors will communicate with each of the three entities to negotiate the proposed funding.

The supervisors approved the public notice to voters on the EMS levy ballot measure, on a 4-1 vote, with Mike Dickson opposed.

Jason and Andrea Betts addressed the supervisors regarding their preliminary interest in opening a campground and ATV park in Bear Grove Township. Board Chair JD Kuster shared his opinion.

“I’ve traveled around to different states and taken the ATV and all the trails. A lot of people enjoy that,” Kuster said. “It would be great for Guthrie County to have that right here. I look forward to that.”

After discussion, the supervisors were generally in consensus about support for the idea and said a conditional use permit would be the most appropriate way to allow such a venture.

AUG. 6 - ROAD CONDITIONS IN THE COUNTY

The Aug. 6 meeting had a light agenda, which resulted in the meeting lasting only 13 minutes.

Board Chair JD Kuster shared an update about an upcoming meeting regarding EMS.

“I contacted the Adair EMS, and they set up a meeting for tomorrow night over in Adair. Steve (Smith, supervisor) and I will attend, 6:30 p.m. at the fire hall,” Kuster said.

Supervisor Maggie Armstrong shared that she and Smith will meet with Panora EMS and city staff on Thursday morning, Aug. 8.

Kuster asked Armstrong for an update on the county’s development of a new website.

“Good. We’re making progress. There are a couple of departments that still need to submit information to the web development team,” Armstrong said.

Steve Smith mentioned he has received calls from citizens concerned about road conditions in the county.

“You know, it’s rained a lot. It’s washed,” Smith said. “I also feel like it’s a bigger issue on the hills than it is on the flats.”

Supervisor Mike Dickson added that this is the time of year when more vacation time is likely being used by the county’s road crew, so roads aren’t getting worked on as quickly. He also said that when the new website is up and running, it will be helpful in communicating how the county is addressing issues the public may be asking about.

AUG. 13 - COMPLAINTS ABOUT CO2 PIPELINE AND EMINENT DOMAIN

On Aug. 13, during the Public Comments portion of the meeting, sever-

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al citizens spoke in opposition to the planned CO2 pipeline. Among the main concerns from those who spoke were frustration over the lack of clear and early communication about the proposed pipeline and a feeling that citizens are getting “the runaround” when they try to get questions answered. There were also complaints about using eminent domain to push the project through.

Supervisors Brian Johnson, Mike Dickson and Steve Smith shared their views on the matter.

“It’s my view that there’s not much we, as a board, can do,” Johnson said. “We could bring up a resolution and vote against it, but it doesn’t have any standing. I’m speaking for myself now. I don’t like the eminent domain part of it.”

Johnson also pointed out that fighting the pipeline could be very costly in time and dollars.

“This board has expressed before that we’re not necessarily for the eminent domain. I definitely don’t agree with it,” Dickson said.

Dickson agreed that the board could pass a resolution, but it may not carry

any weight.

“I think the important thing to do is to let people see where we stand on those issues. So even if we feel like our hands might be tied, people need to know that this is not what we want, and we’ll go down kicking,” Smith said.

“That really is the core of the argument. Is this regulated by state and federal government versus the counties?” Johnson asked.

State Senator Jesse Green was in attendance and spoke on the issue.

“When it comes to linear projects, projects that cross county lines, that is strictly regulated by the state. If you didn’t have a structure like that, it would be absolute chaos,” Sen. Green said. “The reality is that this is a legislature problem.”

Green said he would research further to see what can be done.

The supervisors meet regularly each Tuesday at 9 a.m. in the courthouse. The public is welcome to attend in person or via remote technology. To join remotely, call 323-792-6123, then use meeting code 547029216#. ■

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CITY GOVERNMENT NEWS

PANORA CITY COUNCIL TABLES STORAGE CONTAINER ISSUE

BY RICH WICKS

Panora Times

At the July 22 regular meeting of the Panora City Council, several citizens had signed up to address the council regarding the proposed Ordinance 354 (Chapter 149). The council had proposed prohibiting the large shipping containers that several citizens have brought onto their properties in the city.

Jerry Armstrong explained that he and his wife, Nancy, recently moved into town from a rural Panora address. He added that they've had a storage container for eight years and recently moved it to their new home in Panora.

"We've spent over \$7,000 in cleaning the lot and landscaping. We removed two ugly buildings," Armstrong said. "We've beautified that piece of ground, so now we've got an ugly storage container apparently sitting on it."

Armstrong said that storage facilities in the Panora area are mostly unavailable for rent, because there has been so much demand. Regarding the container on his yard, he said he's willing to do what is needed in order to keep it.

"We're willing to landscape it. We're willing to do the things, if we have to, to make it more appealing," Armstrong said. "We don't want an eyesore either."

Ron Sheeder addressed the council, explaining that he doesn't have such an item, but feels the council shouldn't prohibit them.

"I really don't feel it's your place to tell people what they can and can't have on their property, even if it is an eyesore," Sheeder said. "It's just not fair to people."

Roger Snyder spoke regarding his two storage containers.

"I feel like if the council wants to control it, let them permit," Snyder said. "They've got to bring in just like they did for a garden shed. They've got to give you a drawing and paint it the same color as the house."

Snyder advocated for "grandfathering in" those who already have such containers in the city. He also said if the containers are not allowed, the contents may be more of an eyesore if items are not contained.

Chris Arganbright spoke in support of

the council's efforts to control storage containers in the city.

"A lot of work has been done to beautify Panora and bring business in, and I just feel like something has to be done," Arganbright said.

The council voted to table the planned second reading of the proposed ordinance.

The council voted to approve the first reading of a proposed ordinance (Ordinance 355, amending Chapter 41) by adding a section related to fishing from and/or jumping off bridges. This is to address concerns at the bridge near Lenon Mill Park. The council voted to waive the second and third readings. Signs will be posted at the bridge from both directions.

Jeremy Muell asked the council to consider granting his business (NAPA) permission to operate golf carts when the business is working on them.

"Sometimes, we have a lot of issue trying to shake out what the problem is. Sometimes, you've got to drive them for a half an hour or 45 minutes. We don't have any hills around the business," Muell said.

He explained that it's helpful to drive the carts to some of the hilly areas near the lake to fully test them. He added that this would only be done for these repair/testing situations and only during daylight hours. No council action was taken at this time.

AUG. 12 MEETING - MORE DISCUSSION ON STORAGE CONTAINERS, GOLF CARTS

During the regular meeting of the council on Aug. 12, the council returned to the topic of portable storage containers. Discussion focused on a variety of issues, such as whether to "grandfather in" residents who already have such a container on their residential property, as well as what to do if a storage container doesn't meet setback requirements.

Mayor Curt Thornberry said the city's building inspector had discussed portable storage containers with the planning and zoning board, and that group found the information helpful. Thornberry said the city council may benefit from hearing that input as well.

"He (a member of the planning and zoning board) will be here on the 26th," City Administrator Lisa Grossman said.

Thornberry explained that the three storage containers that are already in the city were placed without authorization from the city, as compared to sheds, which are to be built/installed only after a permit is approved. He said the potential grandfathering of storage containers is therefore fundamentally different than issues where something was once allowed but later disallowed due to the city changing an ordinance.

Councilmembers spoke in favor of some type of permitting process so that requests to have a container in the city for a very specific and brief amount of time could be considered.

No action was taken at this time, but the matter will be on the agenda for the Aug. 26 meeting, and the council will meet with the building inspector at that meeting.

The council considered a request from Jeremy Muell of NAPA Auto Parts to allow an exception to Chapter 74 Operation of Golf Carts on City Streets. Muell had previously explained that, when repairing golf carts, it's helpful to be able to test-drive them on hills near Lake Panorama. He said, if an exception were granted, it would only be used for this specific purpose. The council voted unanimously to approve the exception, with the stipulation that a direct and specific route is designated.

Blake Wolinski addressed the council,

asking if the city could forgive any portion of his water billing, which he said is quite large due to watering his backyard lawn at 111 S.E. Eighth St. He explained that his usual monthly usage has been around 3,900 to 4,800 gallons, but for the month of June, his usage was 83,800 gallons as he tried to get the grass to grow in such hot weather. He asked if the sewer portion of the bill could be decreased to his usual usage, since the lawn watering usage did not go through the sewer.

"I personally think it's reasonable to waive the sewer fees on water that didn't go into the system," councilmember Mark Sheeder said.

Grossman pointed out that, although the city has sometimes forgiven sewer fees following a water leak, it has not done so for this type of situation. She mentioned that this would set a precedent. After discussion, Mayor Thornberry asked if any councilmember wished to make a motion. No motion was made, so the matter passed with no action taken.

The next regular meeting of the Panora City Council will be Monday, Aug. 26 at 5:30 p.m. The public is welcome. Interested persons may attend in person or electronically by visiting the website <https://meet.goto.com/cityofpanora> or by phone 1-312-757-3121 (Access Code 295-099-701, Audio PIN 220#). ■

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EDUCATION

PANORAMA SCHOOL BOARD SETS 2024-2025 MEAL PRICES

BY RICH WICKS
Panora Times

The Panorama School Board met in regular session on Aug. 12. One of the issues discussed was meal prices.

"A school's nutrition fund should be self-sufficient, meaning the money that comes in is what we have to work with," Superintendent Kasey Huebner said. "Our nutrition fund revenue has decreased by around \$100,000 in the last few years, so it is necessary to adjust our prices to ensure our nutrition department can fund itself. This last year, we've had to loan money out of general fund money to support nutrition salaries, as revenue wasn't where we needed it to be."

The board approved the following meal prices for the 2024-2025 school year:

- **Student Lunch** - \$3.50
- **Student Breakfast** - \$2.25
- **Adult Lunch** - \$5.10
- **Adult Breakfast** - \$2.85.

The board approved the milk bid from Anderson Erickson (AE).

The following list of spring/summer extracurricular contracts was approved:

- **Ammy Webster** - Junior Class Sponsor
- **Ben McDaniel** - High School Assis-

tant Wrestling Coach

- **Laci Rishel** - Junior High Girls Basketball Coach
- **Jauclyn Curry** - Full Time Para - Elementary
- **Carla Church** - High School Spec Ed
- **Jeremy King** - adjustment from May contract - .5 FTE to 1 FTE Football Coach
- **Bryce Olive** - .5 FT Football Coach
- **Dave Simmons** - Head Custodian/Maintenance
- **Dean Lyons** - High School Boys Assistant Basketball
- **Shannon Kepple** - Junior High Boys Basketball

The board discussed and approved a proposed change regarding vacation payout. The change stipulates that, when a full-time, noncertified employee resigns, the vacation leave payout will be prorated instead of being paid out in full. This means that, if an employee works 10% of the year, he or she will receive 10% of the vacation pay since it regenerates to 100% each fiscal year.

The next regular meeting of the school board will be Monday, Sept. 9. The board also set a Facility Work Session for Sept. 18 to discuss the district's future facility needs.

The public is welcome at all meetings other than special closed meetings. ■

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HEALTH

HOSPITAL BOARD REVIEWS YEAR-END FINANCIAL REPORTS

BY RICH WICKS
Panora Times

During the regular meeting of the Guthrie County Hospital Board of Trustees on July 29, CEO Chris Stipe discussed the financial performance for the recently ended fiscal year.

"It's a heck of a year, you know, when we're budgeting for a loss, and you end up with a \$2.1 million gain for the year...expenses were a little high, but we had more activity, so we're going to have a few more expenses," Stipe said. "We grew in a lot of places."

Chief Financial Officer Brandon Johnson explained that the hospital is looking to put funds into a new CD, and he plans to shop

around to see where he can get the best rate for the hospital. The board voted to grant Johnson authority to perform transactions for any and all of the hospital's financial accounts.

Stipe brought up the recent CrowdStrike global IT outage, and said that the hospital's IT manager, Andy Huitt, had responded immediately and worked long hours to get the hospital's IT functioning back up and running as quickly as possible.

The board's next regular meeting is set for Thursday, Aug. 22 at 4 p.m. The public is welcome. For information on how to participate in the meeting, either in person or via remote technology, visit www.guthriecounty-hospital.org. ■

Panora ASK TIMES



Submit your questions at
www.guthriecentertimes.com or
email shane@gctimesnews.com.

Q: DID SOMEONE VANDALIZE THE BEAUTIFUL PETUNIA PLANTS IN THE POTS IN PANORA?

A: The petunias potted around Panora have not been vandalized. The Panora Garden Club members have simply given them a good summer trim, which helps to flush new growth and bloom late into the fall.

Q: I REALLY ENJOYED THE PANORAMA DAYS PARADE AND AM THINKING ABOUT HAVING AN ENTRY NEXT YEAR. IS THERE A FEE, AND HOW DO I GO ABOUT DOING THIS?

A: There is no fee to have an entry in the Panorama Days parade, but you do need to register. Check out www.panorachamber.org/panorama-days next year as Panorama Days draws nearer and sign up with your email address to receive news and updates.

Q: MY CHILD MADE THE HONOR ROLL AT THE COLLEGE HE ATTENDS. DO YOU PUBLISH THESE NOTICES? IF SO, HOW DO I GET THEM TO YOU?

A: We do publish local students who make the college honor rolls in our twice-weekly Times Vedette e-newsletter. Most colleges and universities submit these items to us, but you can also send to shane@gctimesnews.com. Sign up for the email or text versions of the Times Vedette for free at www.gctimesnews.com.

Q: DID I READ CORRECTLY THAT IOWA FARMLAND VALUES HAVE DECLINED?

A: Yes. According to the latest Benchmark Farm Value Trends Report issued by Farm Credit Services of America (FCSAmerica) and Frontier Farm Credit, farmland values in Iowa declined for the first time in five years. Values for Iowa farmland have shown an average decline of -2.4% for both the past six and 12 months.

Tim Koch, FCSAmerica executive

vice president of business development, said, "The combination of higher interest rates and tighter margins for grain producers is having an impact on cropland values." He also noted that the market continues to benefit from willing buyers competing for limited land. But as grain prices have fallen, attention is shifting to a more challenging economic environment.

Q: HOW MUCH OF AN ECONOMIC IMPACT DOES GUTHRIE COUNTY HOSPITAL HAVE ON THE LOCAL COMMUNITIES?

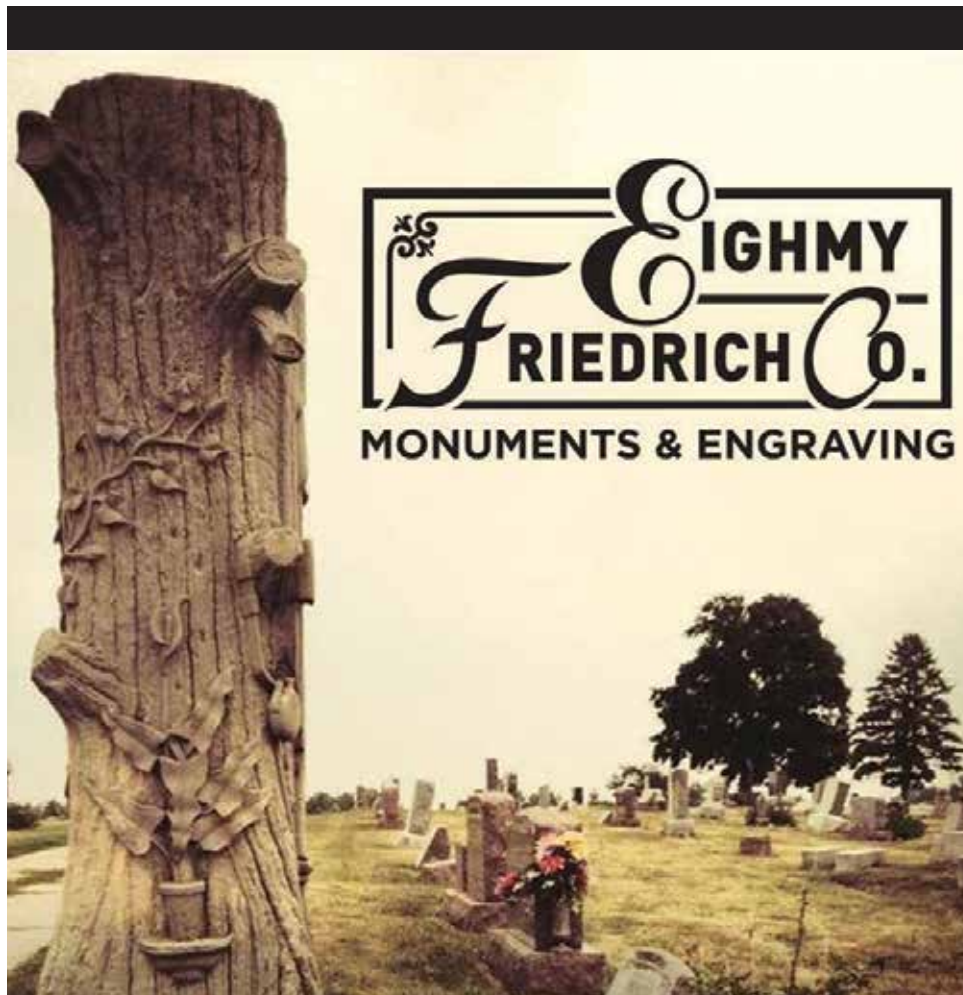
A: Last year, Guthrie County Hospital supported 431 local jobs in the community that added \$18.9 million to Guthrie County's economy, according to the latest study by the Iowa Hospital Association. The study was compiled from hospital-submitted data to the American Hospital Association's annual survey of hospitals. The study found that Iowa hospitals employed 137,841 people in 2023. As an income source, hospitals provided more than \$9 billion in wages. Hospital expenses accounted for more than \$21.3 billion of the state's gross domestic product.

Q: WHEN DOES SCHOOL START FOR PANORAMA?

A: The first day of classes is Friday, Aug. 23. Preschool starts Tuesday, Aug. 27. There is no school on Aug. 30 because of the Guthrie County Fair.

Q: WHAT ARE THE MOST RECENT REVENUE NUMBERS FOR THE GUTHRIE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER?

A: The Guthrie County Sheriff's Office reported July revenues of \$32,270 for processing of out-of-county inmates during the month of July. A total of 77 inmates were processed through the facility during the month including 39 from out of the county. This includes \$1,000 in jail fees for a male serving time for Palo Alto County. Stated revenues are billed amounts not collected amounts. ■



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WINNERS FROM PANORAMA DAYS ANNOUNCED

BY RICH WICKS

Panora Times

The Panora Chamber of Commerce released a partial listing of winners and/or top three finishers from contests and sporting events held during Panorama Days this past weekend.

- **Little Miss/Mister Panorama:** Annie Loffredo and Reed Leo
- **Scavenger Hunt:** 1st Posey Ortner, 2nd Kathy Klinge, 3rd Calvin Naeve
- **Bass Fishing:** 1st Mike & Nicole Lauzon, 2nd Jake & Jax Lauzon, 3rd Jacob and David Bendickson
- **5K run:** 1st Kal Hoppe, 2nd Jonah Niedermeier, 3rd Knute Rogne
- **Parade, Commercial:** 1st Guthrie County State Bank, 2nd Panorama Gardens, 3rd Nutrium
- **Parade, Organizations:** 1st Panora Garden Club, 2nd Panoram Athletics, 3rd Lake Panoram Ski Team
- **Parade, Novelties/Floats:** 1st Jolly Roger (Shroyer)
- **Parade, Tractor/Farm:** 1st Massey Harris, 2nd Allis Calmers, 3rd Paul Little
- **Parade, Fire Dept/Emergency:** 1st Panora Fire Department, 2nd Guthrie Center Fire Department, 3rd Panora EMS
- **Parade, Golf Carts:** 1st Girl Scout Troop 857, 2nd Little Panther Day-care, 3rd Napa Bronco
- **Citizen of the Year:** Matt Harmann
- **Baby Contest, Cutest:** Alivia Grote
- **Baby Contest, Best Hair:** Bennett Spencer
- **Baby Contest, Prettiest Eyes:** Mylea Jensen
- **Baby Contest, Best Smile:** Zoey Lorenson
- **Baby Contest, Best Personality:** Aria Lamb
- **Baby Contest, Best Dressed:** Reese Carney
- **Classic Car Show:** 1st Bob Fisher, 2nd Don Hensin, 3rd Clem Sende
- **Softball:** 1st The Bolders, 2nd Hawk Tuah, 3rd Dream Team
- **Kids Fishing:** 1st Will Wieland, 2nd James Matthews, 3rd Raelyn Knudsen
- **Alumni Golf:** 1st Crandall, Uhlman, Pudenz, Grove, 2nd Brewster, Twigg, Kempf, Kurtz. 3rd Anderson, Anderson, Anderson, Anderson
- **Car Show Best of Show:** Bob Fisher
- **Car Show Top 20:** Don Henson, Clem Sende, Gary Kesselring, Dennis Hendricks, Travis Higgins, Jim and Diane Dawson, Steve VonDielingen, Keith Tuttle, Gary Rochleau, Dave Kimble, Ernie Coverdell, Jerry Lee, Tom and Ellen Campbell, Jason Boozell, Monte and Kathy McAlister, Mark and Arlone Humphries, Kent Wolfe, Roger Dorr Sr., Phyllis Fisher
- **Kids Fishing, 3-5 year old, smallest fish:** Addy Hemphill
- **3-5 year old, biggest fish:** Angeline Hemberger
- **6-8 year old, smallest fish:** Macy Peters
- **6-8 year old, biggest fish:** James Matthews
- **9-11 year old, smallest fish:** Blake Stanley
- **9-11 year old, biggest fish:** Raelyn Knudsen
- **12-13 year old, smallest fish:** Eva Pelzer
- **12-13 year old, biggest fish:** Will Wieland ■



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SUSAN M. HANSEN

1955-2024

Susan M. Hansen, age 69 of Clarksville, Tennessee, passed away peacefully at her home on July 31, 2024.

Susan was born May 21, 1955, in Panama. She was preceded in death by her parents, Gordon and Virginia Hansen, of Panama.

She is survived by her sister, Karla VanWinkle; brother, Carl "Skip" (Teresa) Hansen; her son, Cameron (Kelly) Rodgers; her daughter,

Rebecca (Brandon) Foster Newcom; her stepson, Mike Corbin; and her very much-loved grandchildren, Samuel, Laine, Whitnye, Brooklynn, Braylen and Brycen.

Sue began her career in The United States Army, serving as an M.P. After her last station at Fort Campbell, she joined the Clarksville Police Department. Throughout her career, Sue displayed unwavering commitment and dedication to serving others. She went on to give almost 30 years of dedicated employment to the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office. She retired in October of 2022 as Sergeant Sue M. Hansen.

In addition to loving her country and being a true patriot, Sue was an avid lover of gardening, reading, cooking, the great outdoors, and time with her family. She found joy in the simple pleasures of life. She was particularly fond of sharing her passions with those she held dear — evident in her attempts to teach

her daughter the art of canning.

Services were held Aug. 11 in Clarksville, Tennessee. Sue's family received friends at McReynolds-Nave & Larson Funeral Home from 1 to 3 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 11, 2024, followed by a memorial service that celebrated her life at 3 p.m. In honoring Sue's legacy of dutiful service to her community, the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office Honor Guard reverently concluded the services with the rendering of honors.

Sue's family will hold a celebration of life on Saturday, Oct. 12 at the Panora Community Center from noon to 3 p.m.

Sue will be missed by her family, friends and her community she proudly served. For friends and colleagues who were not able to attend in person, condolences and words of comfort may be shared with her family at www.NaveFuneralHomes.com. ■



RITA JO HALSEY

1937-2024

Rita Jo Halsey, daughter of Carl and Dorothy (Anderson) Paup, was born July 10, 1937, at St. Anthony Hospital in Carroll. She died peacefully at the New Homestead in Guthrie Center Aug. 8, 2024, with family beside her.

She graduated from Scranton High School and then went on to attend beauty school at Iowa School of Beauty in Des Moines. On Aug. 11, 1958, she married G.

David Halsey at St. Mary's Church in Guthrie Center. To this union, five children were born.

She enjoyed playing the organ, crocheting, feeding the birds and caring for her many beautiful flowers, especially her orchids. She had a very green thumb when it came to flowers and gardening. The Green Bay Packers were her and David's team to watch until Aaron Rogers went to another team. She was an excellent cook, especially when it came to Christmas time. Her homemade candies and T-rings were enjoyed by so many as she gave them away for many years as Christmas gifts. Her pickled beets and lime green pickles were a hit at any family meal or gathering. The number of beautiful afghans she gave as gifts for graduations, weddings, new babies, special occasions, etc. were endless. Even with five children, her home was always in pristine shape. Some of her kids now claim that she had OCD before it was a "thing/disorder."

She operated an in-home beauty shop for

more than 50 years and even cut hair when she went to The New Homestead Independent Living in her early 80s.

Left to cherish the memories are her children, Tony (Sarah) Halsey, Paula Behrens, Alex (Patty) Halsey, Adam Halsey, Merici (Russell) Sheeder; sister, Jane (Gary Sherman) Higgs; grandchildren, Randi (Jon) Cretsinger, Austin Hertz, Grant (Lauren) Sheeder, Becky (Ryan) Elgin, Emily (Mark Charlet) Sheeder, Katie (Cole) Fenske, Maria (Paxton) Mareno, Patrick (Samantha) Halsey, Phillip (Allison) Halsey, and Nic (Nick) Halsey; as well as 15 great-grandchildren, many nieces, nephews, cousins and great friends.

She was preceded in death by her husband, David, in 2013; parents and parents-in-law; special friend, Andy Foster; sister-in-law, Donna Feeley; niece, Teresa Feeley; sisters Donna MacDonald and husband, George; Peggy Scheffler and husbands, Francis and Cliff; nephew, Kim Laursen; brother-in-law, Norman Higgs; and son-in-law, Jeff Behrens. ■

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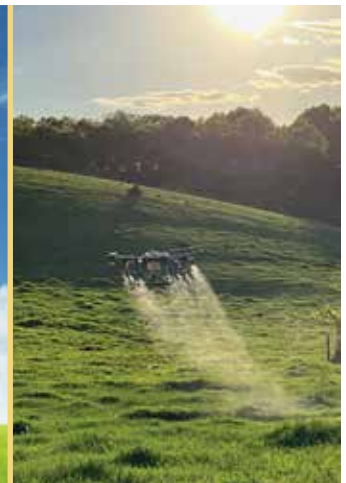
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JUDITH 'JUDY' DARLENE NELSON

1940-2024

Judith "Judy" Darlene Nelson, aged 83, passed away peacefully at Pine Acres Facility on Monday

Aug. 5, 2024, surrounded by her family. She was a beloved mother, grandmother, great grandmother and friend who will be deeply missed by all who knew her.

Judy was born Nov. 10, 1940, in Knoxville. After graduating, she began a career with many talents. She spent her years waitressing, owning bars in several locations, and obtaining her CDL certification. One of Judy's greatest achievements and hardest work was redesigning and operating the Hudson House in Panama.

Her greatest joys were her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. In her free time, Judy enjoyed watching sports and crafting: painting, knitting

and sewing. She loved to be in her flower garden at Pine Acres. It was joy, not work, for her. Judy was also known for her quick wit. She was an active member at the West Des Moines Christian Church and of the community.

Those left to cherish her memory are Deb and Joe Milewsky of McGregor and her sons Michael (Bonnie) and Mitch (Josh) Ryan; Denise and Lon Seemann of Woodward and their children Brock Seemann with his sons Karter and Klayton and Brittany (Jordan) Allsup with their daughters Harper and Hadley; and Cozy and Rod Nelsen of Guthrie Center with their children Kennedy (fiancé Hudy), Jazlyn, and Noah Nelsen. Additional loved ones entrusted to

honor her memories are many cousins, nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Margaret; stepfather, Orlin; brother, Bud Headrick; and sister, Linda Vestal.

A funeral service was held for family and friends on Saturday Aug. 10, with visitation prior at the West Des Moines Christian Church (4501 Mills Civic Parkway, West Des Moines). Her final resting place will be the Liberty Cemetery north of Woodward. Memorial contributions can be directed to the family in Judy's honor.

The family would also like to thank the staff at Pine Acres for their love and care of Judy these past years. ■

MAMIE BARR HAFNER

1924-2024

Mamie Barr Hafner, 99 years and 11 months, was the youngest child of Samuel and Zada (McMerty) Barr. She was born Sept. 2, 1924, in rural Clark County. She passed away Tuesday, July 30, 2024, at the Community Care Center in Stuart.

Mamie went to country school in rural Clark County and attended high school in Osceola. On Aug. 6, 1942, Mamie married Dwight Hafner at the Jamboree Celebration in Murray. To this union, four children were born.

Dwight and Mamie were in North Carolina while Dwight was in the Army. They moved back to Iowa and farmed with family in rural Guthrie County. In 1948, they bought a farm southeast of Panama where they farmed, milked cows and sold Grade A milk until 1979 when they built their house in Stuart.

Mamie enjoyed gardening and the many flowers she planted around the house. Inside, Mamie enjoyed sewing, making quilts, and rag rugs, anything to keep busy. She and Dwight always worked together after their retirement from the farm until he passed in 2014. Mamie

moved to the Stuart Community Care Center in November 2017.

Mamie was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Dwight, of 72 years; two sisters; a brother; son-in-law, Walter Craft; and grandson-in-law, Reggie Koop.

Mamie is survived by her children, Ernie (Nancy) of Fairfax, Missouri; Derald (Margot) of Franklinton, North Carolina; Earl (Ronda) of Panama; and Gail Craft of Mineral City, Virginia. Mamie was blessed with 13 grandchildren, 27 great-grandchildren and 11 great-great-grandchildren.

Mamie will be missed

by family and friends.

Funeral services were Aug. 5 at the Twigg Funeral Home, Panama, with visitation held one hour prior. Burial was in Morrisburg Cemetery, rural Stuart. ■

COMMUNITY

TEN SQUARED PLUS MEN'S GROUP DONATES TO PANORA CHAMBER FOR DOWNTOWN SOUND SYSTEM

BY SHANE GOODMAN
Panora Times

The Ten Squared Plus Men's group met Thursday, July 25 at the Links Conference Center. Social time was sponsored by Mitch Johnk and Panorama Benefits.

Three presentations were made: Kirby Klinge presented on behalf of the Yale Fire Department, Dale Hochreiter on behalf of the Panama Chamber of Commerce for the downtown sound system, and

Bill Messinger for equipment for ACGC tech courses.

The 43 members in attendance chose the new sound system project for the Panama Chamber of Commerce. Final details on the payout and a check presentation will be published at a later date.

The final meeting for 2024 for the Ten Squared Plus Men's group will be Nov. 19. For more information on Ten Squared Plus Men's group, contact Barry Monaghan at b.monaghan@gcsbank.com ■

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50 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrian, Aug. 21, 1974

IT'S A LONG RIDE: Mark Moore, 15, of Panora is joined by Debbie Semroska of Guthrie Center as he retraces the last few yards of his journey from Panora to Guthrie Center on a unicycle Tuesday afternoon. He said he only fell three times, twice because of the wind.

40 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie County Vedette, Aug. 9, 1984

ON STAGE: The first of five nightly performances of the Lenon Mills Players was Wednesday evening. This year's dinner theatre at The Port is "Luxury Cruise," which is directed by Avis Finley. Cast members include, seated, Katie Goodling, Carole McClellan and Mona Hammans. Standing, Serita Bradshaw, Andy Arganbright, Mike Hennick, Cindy Luckinbill, Linda Williams and Brian Haden.

30 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie County Vedette, Aug. 25, 1994

MELON MEN: Enterprising Panora youth manned a wagon full of watermelon Tuesday and, by early evening, sold all but four of the Muscatine melons. Clockwise, from left, Cody Brittain, 9, Chris Brittain, 9, Tim Kirk, 8, Tommy Gaylord, 10, and Chris Hay, 12.

20 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie County Vedette, Aug. 5, 2004

SPLISH, SPLASH: Some horses on the Yale Saddle Club's trail ride stopped at the river for a drink and a little play time before continuing down the trail. The ride began Saturday morning six miles southwest of Guthrie Center and ended at the Harold Mobley farm near Linden.

10 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie County Vedette, Aug. 14, 2014

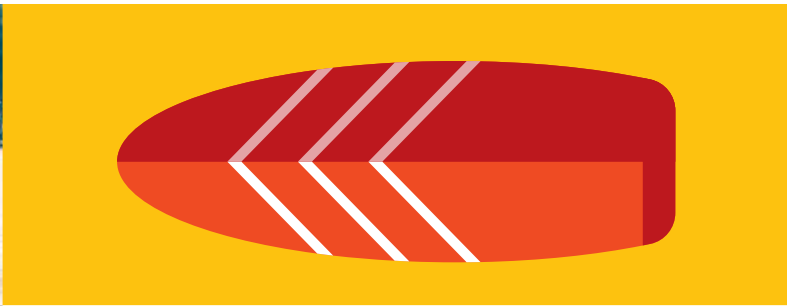
PANORAMA PANTHER ALUMNI BASKETBALL: Panorama alumni basketball players returned to the court last Sunday afternoon for a game against the current Panther high school girls basketball team. Playing for the alumni were (front, from left) Olivia Godfrey, Karlee Johnk, Ellie Wilke, Elly Arganbright and Claire Arganbright, (back row) Erin Gerlich Ambrose, Michelle Harmann Meinecke, Kylee Heiland Boettcher, Stacy Smithson Kemble and Sharon Schaefer Martin.

5 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie County Times Vedette, Aug. 29, 2019

WAKE-UP CALL: Storms swept through Iowa early Tuesday morning. The National Weather Service first reported severe storms with strong winds up to 70 mph and dangerous lightning striking Guthrie County about 4 a.m. The severe weather passed through the area by 7 a.m. Disaster was averted when a tree in the yard of a home on First Street in Panora fell away from the house. The forecast calls for partly sunny and mild temps through the week with rain possible this weekend. ■

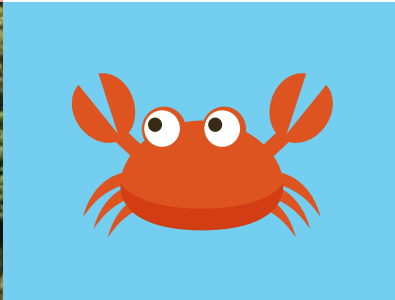
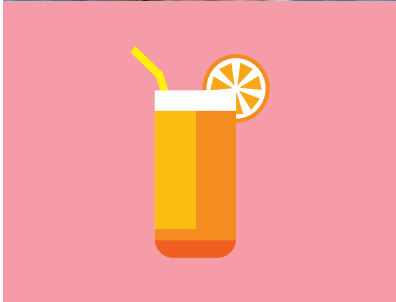


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PANORAMA TIRE KEEPS ITS CUSTOMERS ROLLING

Kade Arganbright continues the family business.

BY RICH WICKS
Panora Times

What's in a name? Well, for Panorama Tire, there's more to the business than just tires. Owner Kade Arganbright explained the wide variety of services offered at the shop.

"We do oil changes, brakes, we do some suspension work, light motor work, and general maintenance," Arganbright said. "But tires and service calls is about 60-70% of our business."

Arganbright explained how he became owner of the shop.

"My grandpa owned Smith Tire in Yale, and he had a few other shops around the area," Arganbright said. "He bought Panorama Tire in 2019, and then he was thinking of retiring, so I bought it from him on Sept. 1, 2022."

Arganbright added that his grandfather, Tom Smith, still helps out at the shop occasionally. Other members of the Panorama Tire crew include Amanda Doran and Evan Johnson (shop crew) and Baylee Gymer (office).

According to Arganbright, many people assume he only offers passenger vehicle tires.



The lot stays busy at Panorama Tire in Panora.

"People are still learning that I do tractor tires and semi tires and things like that," Arganbright said. "And I've got a service truck for on-farm service when needed."

Looking to the future, Arganbright doesn't plan to change much at his business, other than wishing for a little more elbow room.

"Someday, I'd like to change the layout of the building. I wish it was a little deeper, and I wish I had bigger doors," he said. "I can get a semi in, but it's tight. I don't really like to change semi tires outside in the middle of winter."

Much of Panorama Tire's business shows

up as a result of normal wear and tear, but some is also the result of mistakes and/or accidents — and that includes Arganbright himself. He shared a story of a recent near-miss with one of his work vehicles.

"I backed my service truck up in front of my doors, and then I was inside working. I had my doors shut. My service truck is a stick, and I guess I forgot to put it in gear, and the truck rolled back almost into the parking lot across the street. The back end of it was sticking out into the road."

The truck had rolled completely across Highway 44, which is usually bustling in



PHOTOS BY RICH WICKS | TIMES VEDETTE

Kade Arganbright is proud to carry on his grandfather's tradition at Panorama Tire.

Panora during the workday. Arganbright discovered the roll-away about the same time a police officer arrived on the scene to check out the situation. Fortunately, there were no injuries or property damage.

"I got kind of lucky," Arganbright said.

If/when your luck runs out, or when something just wears out, Arganbright and his crew are ready to help get your vehicle ready to roll again. ■

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HARMANN NAMED 2024 PANORA CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

SPECIAL TO PANORA TIMES



The 2024 Citizen of the Year, Matt Harmann, was honored Saturday after the parade during Panorama Days. He is pictured here with the 2023 Citizen of the Year, Kirby Klingle.

BY SHANE GOODMAN

Panora Times

The Panora Citizen of the Year award has a long history of recognizing community members who have given of themselves to better the Panora and Lake Panorama community. The Panora Chamber of Commerce asked for and collected nominations over the past weeks and, ultimately, named Matt Harmann as the 2024 Citizen of the Year.

Harmann received numerous nomination letters with comments such as, "Matt exemplifies the qualities of leadership and service that define this award."

Harmann has served as the Fire Chief for the City of Panora Fire Department since 2006 and is an Advanced EMT with Panora EMS.

"The department's confidence in Matt is a great recognition of his leadership

skills," a nominator stated.

Harmann is also a volunteer member of the Guthrie County Fair Board and gives both his time and financial support to countless school, 4H and youth sports causes throughout the year.

"If there is a fundraising effort for youth programs, you will almost always find Matt Harmann or Harmann Excavating listed as a key sponsor," a nominator wrote.

In addition, Harmann has served as a Guthrie County deputy since 2018. He is a 2018 graduate of the police academy and has served as one of the Guthrie County Sheriff Department's two K9 officers.

Harmann is the owner of Harmann Excavating and enjoys farming and raising cattle in his spare time.

"It's a great honor," Harmann said. "I appreciate it." ■



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COMMUNITY

TEN SQUARED WOMEN GIVE TO STUART POLICE



Katie Gordon, Sgt. Katie Guisinger, Lisa Sherman, Katelyn Bovinett, Karen Varley and Kristen Crouthamel resist the Grinch's attempt to steal the check.

Special to Panora Times

The 10 Squared Women of Guthrie County held its second quarter meeting on Tuesday, May 28 at Twin Vines Winery in Panora. Fifty-two women attended in person and 12 members attended via Zoom.

After hearing presentations from Stuart Police Department Community Programs (SPDCP), Guthrie Center Lions Club and Little Panther Daycare and Preschool, the group announced a lump sum donation of \$14,400 to SPDCP. This consists of member donations and several employer matches.

The SPDCP is a 501(c)3 non-profit that was incorporated in 2022 but has been serving the Stuart area for years. As a non-profit, SPDCP relies heavily on fundraisers, donations and grants. The mission of SPDCP is to improve relationships between law enforcement and the community through community programming, outreach, education and youth activities.

SPDCP programming includes Books & Badges, Bicycle Rodeo, National Donut Day, Summer Youth Programs, National Night Out and Shop With A Cop. SPDCP

also participates in community events such as Good Egg Days, Trunk or Treat and Emergency Services Christmas, along with programming at West Central Valley Schools through their school resource officer program with Sgt. Katie Guisinger.

Books & Badges was SPDCP's first program, which began in 2019 in partnership with the Stuart Public Library. During Books & Badges, Sgt. Guisinger reads stories, gives away free books and has other activities or crafts for the kids to do.

Summer Youth Programs began in 2022, to offer local youth with fun activities during June. Summer Youth Programs consist of four camps that take local youth on trips to Springbrook State Park, the Blank Park Zoo and to an Iowa Cubs game.

Shop With A Cop also began in 2022, as a way to help at risk or economically disadvantaged youth in West Central Valley Schools with holiday shopping. Officers take youths on a fun-filled day of shopping, lunch and wrapping presents. The youths shop not only for themselves but also for any household members they reside with.

The Bicycle Rodeo was re-established

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in 2023, after an almost 10-year hiatus. During the Bicycle Rodeo, a book about bicycle safety was read, a STEM demonstration was completed, free helmets were handed out and a basic safety course was available for kids to participate in. A light lunch is served, and new bicycles are also raffled off.

“SPDCP wishes to extend our sincere appreciation and gratitude to the 10 Squared Women of Guthrie County for their generous donation. Funding for community programming and youth activities can sometimes be hard to come by, and this donation will allow SPDCP to not only enhance our

current programming but also to expand with new programming,” Guisinger said.

10 Squared Women of Guthrie County has donated \$343,050 since its inception in 2017.

The 10 Squared Women’s group holds meetings quarterly the fourth Tuesday in February, May, August and November. The group currently has 144 members and welcomes new members to help their communities and Guthrie County. To learn how to get involved, visit the Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/10squaredwomengc>, or email 10squaredgc@gmail.com. ■

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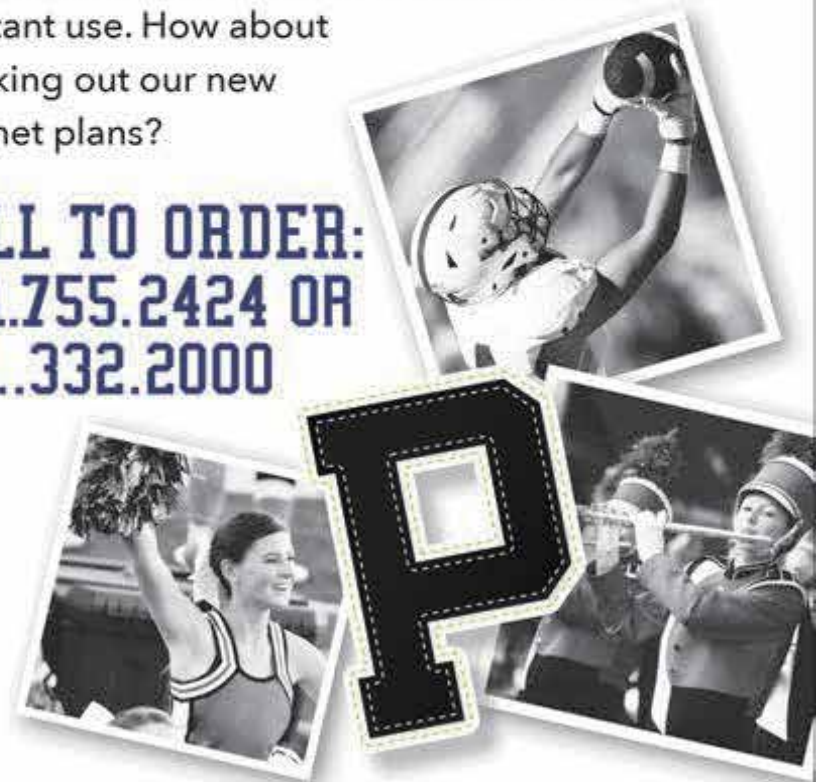


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WHAT'S IN YOUR GARAGE?

FISHERS SIMPLY ENJOY SPECIAL CARS

Bob Fisher says he clearly enjoys his vehicles, but the most enjoyable parts of his hobby are the conversations and friendships he has made.

BY RICH WICKS
Panora Times

As with many married couples, Bob and Phyllis Fisher of Panora spent many years raising a family and making a living. Now, in retirement, they find themselves with the time and resources to have fun just for the sake of fun, and one of their favorite ways to do that centers around really impressive cars.

Bob explained that he is a member of the Mid-Iowa Region Plymouth Owners Club, and he currently has four cars in his collection (a 1999 Plymouth Prowler, a 1970 Plymouth Superbird, a 1969 Road-runner convertible, and a 2006 Viper).

"I'm kind of a Mopar nut, so I tend to stay with cars that really stand out," Bob said.

One of the cars Bob showed is his bright red Prowler.

"I actually bought this on a whim at an auction six years ago. It only had 134 miles on it," Bob said.

He drove it from St. Louis to Dubuque as part of a Plymouth Owners Group event, so now it has just more than 1,600 miles on it. Since the interior is a two-seater, extra space is nonexistent.

"If you're going to travel with it, you've got to have a trailer, because there's no room," Bob said.

Another gem in the Fisher garage is the Plymouth Superbird, which is quite rare.

"We just had the Superbird down at the state fair," Bob said. "There were three Superbirds there, and it's pretty rare to see three of them from Iowa together."

Bob explained what makes the Super-



Bob Fisher and his 1999 Plymouth Prowler.

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Bob Fisher's 1970 Plymouth Superbird.

bird special and how the cars came to be.

"The Superbird has a really high tail for better traction. It was a new thing for NASCAR, and that's back when NASCAR had to run cars as they came off the production line," Bob said. "To get Richard Petty to leave Ford and drive for Plymouth, they built the Superbird for him. The Superbirds won about 70% of the NASCAR races in 1970, and then NASCAR put in regulations...to even the field."

Since the car is rare and in such great condition, it catches the eyes of those who know classic cars. This was evident at the recent Lake Panorama Days car show, where Fisher's Superbird was named Best of Show. At shows, he'll sometimes put mirrors on the ground, under the Superbird, so people can see that the underside of the car is as clean and impressive as the rest of it.

Bob told of the powerful engines in the 1970 Superbirds.

"This was 385 horsepower back in 1970, which was pretty big. The hemi was 425 horsepower," Bob said. "They made almost 2,000 of these so that every dealer got one, and just a few hundred of the hemis were made. I'd like to have a hemi-powered car,

but they're really expensive. I don't know if I'll get one or not."

Bob's 1969 Plymouth Roadrunner is the classic car he drives most often. He said he's driven it roughly 10,000 miles in the past eight years.

"Probably the most fun car I've got is the Viper. It just has muscle. There's nothing fancy about it," Bob said. "This is a car guy's car. It has a V-10 and 510 horsepower. It comes with a six-speed transmission. It's a really fun car to drive, but I try to keep it under 500 miles a year."

The Fishers enjoy going to local car shows, as well as occasional national classic car events. The Fishers' three children have also caught the car bug to some extent, as Bob mentioned a few classic cars owned by his kids.

Although Bob clearly enjoys his vehicles, he said the most enjoyable parts of his hobby are the conversations and friendships he has made.

"I'm fortunate enough in my life now, the family's all doing OK, so I can indulge myself," Bob said. "My wife, Phyllis, likes going with me, so we enjoy the cars together. I love talking to people. The best people on the planet are car people." ■



The interior of Bob Fisher's Plymouth Prowler.



The Superbird engine is ready to roar.

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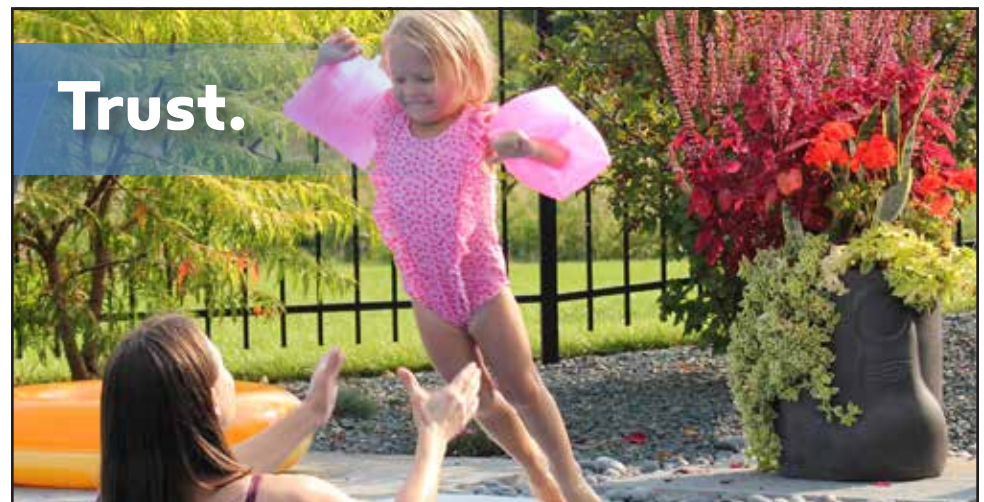
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RECIPE

TAKE CAESAR SALAD BEYOND THE BOWL

BY JOLENE GOODMAN

Panora Times

I love a good Caesar salad, especially at a restaurant. Enjoying this version of salad at home has been a disappointment for me over the years with store-bought varieties of the dressing — until now.

Say what you want about salad kits, but they changed how I prepare meals in recent years. The variety of salads available now have so many tasty ingredients and are perfect for a household of two — not to mention that I don't have to peel, chop or slice anything. I really like the Caesar salad kit, and you will, too. From putting a meal on the table after a long day of work or activities to hosting a large crowd at your next get-together, a seasonal favorite like Caesar salad can serve as the perfect canvas for creating quick, easy-to-prepare meals.

With more than 100 varieties of fresh, healthy and convenient ready-to-eat salads — including 11 Caesar salad varieties like the Caesar Chopped Salad Kit — Fresh Express provides tasty, versatile salad kits that can be modified to fit nearly any kind of

meal you might be craving. Inspired by high-end dining experiences, the Fresh Express Twisted Creamy Truffle Caesar Chopped Salad Kit provides a gourmet twist to turn the recipe here of Creamy Truffle Caesar Pork Sandwiches into a culinary delight.

These are ready in just 20 minutes and feature tender pork strips and a Caesar salad mix of garden-fresh crispy romaine lettuce, delicate sprinkles of truffle Parmesan cheese, crunchy garlic brioche croutons and creamy dressing. Be sure to add sauteed onions on a toasted bun. Every bite is a sensation to be savored. For recipes like this, I prepare large batches of cooked meat and then vacuum seal them in four-serving portions. This makes meal prep the day of your meal much faster. ■

Jolene Goodman is the advertising director for Panora Times and vice president of Big Green Umbrella Media.



Jolene Goodman

CREAMY TRUFFLE CAESAR PORK SANDWICHES

(Family Features)

Prep time: 5 minutes

Cook time: 15 minutes

Servings: 4

Ingredients

- 2 pounds boneless skinless pork chops
- 4 tablespoons Italian seasoning
- 2 tablespoons canola oil
- 1 red onion
- 1 bag (9.3 ounces) Fresh Express Twisted Caesar Creamy Truffle Caesar Chopped Salad Kit
- 4 long sandwich rolls

Directions

Preheat pan on stove over medium-high heat. Season pork chops with Italian seasoning. When pan is hot, add oil and pork chops. Cook pork chops, turning halfway through, until they reach minimum internal temperature of 145



F, 6-8 minutes per side (depending on thickness). Once pork chops are cooked through, remove from pan and let rest a few minutes. Peel and slice onion. After resting, slice pork into strips; set aside. In same pan, sauté onion until translucent, about 5 minutes. Set aside. In large bowl, combine lettuce, dressing, croutons and cheese from salad kit. In separate pan, toast buns until golden brown; set aside.

To build sandwiches, place sliced pork on bottom halves of toasted buns. Top with prepared salad mixture and sauteed onions. Finish with top halves of buns. ■

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PHOTO COURTESY OF THE IOWA STATE FAIR BLUE RIBBON FOUNDATION



Peter Cownie, the executive director of the Blue Ribbon Foundation (left) and Speed Herring of Cookies Food Products (right) present Rozanne Cogil with the honor of being Iowan of the Day at the Iowa State Fair on Aug. 10.

BY RICH WICKS
Panora Times

On Saturday, Aug. 10, Roxanne Cogil of Jamaica was honored as Iowan of the Day at the Iowa State Fair. Since 1997, the Iowa State Fair Blue Ribbon Foundation has been selecting one person for this honor each day of the Iowa State Fair.

Cogil volunteers in a variety of local events and organizations in and around Jamaica. She also serves with the Epilepsy Foundation and Iowa Developmental Disabilities Council.

Cogil's honor came on a picture-perfect day at the fair, which resulted in a new all-time, single-day attendance record. ■



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BAGLEY

Bagley United Methodist Church
401 Main Street, PO Box 40
www.umc.org



JAMAICA

Jamaica Union Church
409 Van Nest St., Jamaica
Sunday School: 9 a.m.
Sunday Service: 10 a.m.

LINDEN

Linden United Methodist Church
106 N. Evans St., Linden
641-439-2458

PANORA

Church Of The Brethren
2946 200th Road, Panora
641-755-3800
Sunday School: 8:45 a.m.
Sunday Service: 9:45 a.m.

Calvary Chapel Of The Raccoon River Valley
604 E. Main St., Panora
www.calvaryraccoon.com
641-755-4268
Sunday service: 10 a.m.



Faith Bible Church
2096 Highway 4, Panora
www.fbcpanora.com
641-755-3034
Sunday Service: 9 am
Wednesday Bible Study: 6:30 p.m.



First Christian Church
102 E. Church St., Panora
www.panorafcc.org
641-755-2227
Sunday School: 9 a.m.,
Sunday Service: 10 a.m.
Wednesday: God's Squad, AWANA 6 p.m.



Fountain of Life Church
2322 Wagon Road, Panora
www.folcpanora.com
641-755-2322
Sunday Service: 10 a.m.



Lighthouse Assembly of God
400 S.E. Third St., Panora
www.panoralighthouseassemblyofgod.com
641-755-3060
Sunday School: 9 a.m.,
Sunday Service: 10 a.m.
Wednesday: Children/Youth 7 p.m.



Lutheran Church of Hope
5405 Chimra Road, Panora
641-755-2222



Panora United Methodist Church
119 E. Main St., P.O. Box 601, Panora
www.panoraumc.org
641-755-2655
Sunday Service: 9:30 a.m.

Saint Cecilia Catholic Church
220 N. First St., Panora
www.st-mary-patrick-cecilia.com
641-747-3843
Catholic Mass: Sunday 8 a.m.;
Wednesday and Thursday 8 a.m.
Confession: Sunday 7:30 a.m.,
Wednesday and Thursday 7:45 a.m.
Adoration: Tuesday 3:30-4:30 p.m.



Saint Thomas Lutheran Church
2106 Highway 4, Panora
<http://panoralutheran.com>
641-755-2051
Sunday School /Adult Bible Study: 9 a.m.
Sunday Service: 10:30 a.m.
Bible Study: Tuesday 11 a.m.



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The answer to last month's photo is the checker board at the Panama Library. Cassie Reed had the first correct answer. Have a guess on the location of this month's photo? Have one to submit for future issues? Send to shane@gctimesnews.com. ■



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