WINTERSET

MARCH 2025

to remember

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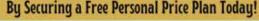
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WELCOME

AN OLD RV, a friendly farmer and a moose head

Jolene and I were married in Clive on Sept. 30, 1995. And, yes, this will be our 30-year anniversary.

Jolene's parents, Dean and Lois Porath, lived at Lake Panorama at the time, but we never even considered a lake wedding. I am not sure why. Maybe late September was pushing it for an outdoor wedding, but, more than likely, the decision had to do with our focus on being truly independent from our parents. Looking back, a lake wedding might have been the better option.



Our wedding ceremony was beautiful, and the church looked spectacular. From there, though, things got a little rocky. Rather than renting a limousine for the two of us, we thought it would be more fun to take the entire wedding party on a well-stocked cruise from the church to the reception hall. When a friend offered his RV for us to use, we thought we had the perfect plan. It was great fun — until the RV broke down on a rural road. We eventually found a friendly farmer who gave us a ride to the reception hall in his farm truck — complete in our wedding dress and tuxedo. He then gave the rest of the wedding party rides as well. Needless to say, the reception was delayed. Fortunately, or maybe unfortunately, the members of the wedding party were well-hydrated.

We had our wedding reception at the Jester Park Lodge, and not the new fancy one that is in the park today. We rented the old building with the giant moose head on the wall, which made for some entertaining photos. Not too many years later, that lodge burned to the ground, and that was probably a good thing.

Through it all, we sang, we danced, we toasted and we had one of the best nights of our lives. It certainly wasn't a storybook wedding, and after reading about the beautiful ceremony featured in this month's issue, it makes me wonder if we should have leaned on Dean and Lois to use their place instead. The scents of an approaching autumn. The sounds of nature. The love of my life. And a beautiful lake view.

Just no moose head or a broken-down RV. Aaaahhh, the memories. Happy 30th anniversary, Jolene! ■



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to remember

Couple shares how they made their day special.

By Rachel Harrington

the start

Few milestones are as momentous as a wedding. Family and friends often gather from near and far, the preparations may take months, and every detail is given thought. From the wedding attire to the decorations, music and venue, the couple makes countless decisions with one goal in mind: for theirs to be a wedding to remember. This month, one couple shares the scrupulous planning they did so their special day would be exactly as they envisioned. If a wedding is in your future, we hope you find inspiration from their story. Or, perhaps, their journey will spark memories of your own.

Wilson and Caitlin Addlink enjoyed a winter wedding, and though they had hoped for snow on the ground, they captured the spirit of the season with their wedding décor and flowers. Photo by Allison Knox Photography

FEATURE

Wilson and Caitlin Addink chose a winter wedding with a modest, classic style and elegant color schemes. They have beautiful memories of their wedding in December 2024, and, to make it happen, they did a great deal of planning and preparation to get ready for their big day.

Their wedding story began with a semisurprise engagement after eight months of dating. Wilson and Caitlin met at Northwestern College in Orange City. They had talked about engagement for a while, but Caitlin didn't know how soon the "big question" would be asked. Her brother worked at the Historical Complex in Winterset. Wilson arranged with him to visit with Caitlin when the Christmas lights were displayed. While Caitlin knew of the visit to see the lights, Wilson kept his other plans a secret. He led her to the white gazebo filled with lights on Dec. 29, 2023, and popped the question.

"I was kind of expecting him to ask soon, because we'd talked about a timeline, so I knew it was coming," Caitlin says. "But I didn't know when. I thought it would be the night before, so when it didn't happen that night, I didn't think it'd be happening that weekend."

Thus began the couple's year-long wedding planning.

Caitlin began by asking her good family friend, Emilie Rouw, to help her coordinate the event. Emilie, who enjoys planning and organizing, happily agreed. Caitlin shared with her what she envisioned. Since both Caitlin and Wilson come from large families, they decided to make the wedding more of a family event that was affordable.

"The church I grew up in wasn't big enough," Caitlin shares. "My parents knew people at New Bridge Church here in Winterset, and that church is really pretty. We knew we wanted to get married in Winterset, so that's where we chose to have our wedding."

After setting the date and location for the wedding, Caitlin, Wilson and Emilie got to work choosing wedding party attire, decorations and color schemes. Wilson helped where he could with the choosing and planning, but he was still attending college more than three hours away, so it was challenging for them to do planning together in person.

"He helped me with food selection, choosing tuxes and choosing colors," Caitlin says. "He helped a lot, just not as much in person. I can't even say I did most of the planning. I made a lot of final decisions, but I had a lot of people helping me along the way."



Evergreen and Lily Floral Studio and Gifts in Winterset provided Wilson and Caitlin Addlink's flowers, which were a combination of baby's breath, red roses and greenery, which reflected the color scheme the couple chose for their winter wedding. Photo by Allison Knox Photography

Caitlin shares that she didn't grow up planning a dream wedding like a lot of other girls do. She just knew she wanted to be married. Therefore, she had an enormous task ahead of her in the planning process.

"We were to be married almost a year exactly from when we got engaged. It was a leap year, and our wedding date was Dec. 28, 2024," Caitlin shares. "I didn't want a Christmas wedding, but one that was winter elegant."

She spent a long time searching to find the perfect cranberry color for her bridesmaids' dresses, and she finally found her ideal choice at Baltic Born. All the bridesmaids' dresses were the same style, and they were cranberry red velvet material that worked beautifully to reflect the winter light.

"We thought there might be snow then," she says. "I figured the colors would look good with the snow. There didn't end up being snow on the ground, but it was still pretty."

With Emilie and Wilson's input and help, ties to match the bridesmaids' dresses were found at Kohl's.

"Emilie is a bargain shopper," Caitlin shares, which helped meet her goal of affordability for the wedding.

Black tuxes for all the guys were chosen from Men's Warehouse.

"Most of the groomsmen live in different states, so we went with Men's Warehouse since there is one of those close to us and all of them," she shares. "I like to look together and uniform. It's a trend lately to have different colors, and that can be done prettily, but the words I kept using were 'classic' and 'elegant,'



The reception was held at the Jackson Building at the Winterset Fairgrounds. Since the building was a blank canvas, the couple could make it look how they wanted. Photo by Allison Knox Photography

and I feel like all the wedding party attire choices fit that theme."

In February of last year, Caitlin found her wedding dress at Affinity Bridal in Indianola.

"I visited a lot of places in Des Moines, but I didn't see a lot of dresses in the modest style that I wanted," Caitlin states. "The people at Affinity were so helpful. They called me and did a pre-interview to find out what I was looking for, so when I got there, they had the dresses pulled for me. I tried on several there, and the one I chose and came back to may have been somewhere in the middle of them."

Caitlin's long-sleeve dress was a mix of lace and satin, a blessing since she didn't know which of the two materials to choose. It had her desired buttons down the back and a longer lace



Wilson and Caitlin Addlink's wedding party was outfitted for an elegant look. Photo by Allison Knox Photography

train that flowed from the satin material. The dress was fitted, a slight deviation from what she originally thought she would want.

As the year progressed, the couple spent a lot of time planning the decorations for their big day, an ongoing process all the way until the big event.

"I'm definitely a planner, but I'm a practical planner," Caitlin shares. "I am definitely thankful for Emilie and everyone else who helped me with it."

The décor was piecemealed from a variety

of stores. Caitlin says Facebook Marketplace was her friend in finding items she wanted to use for her wedding. Sticking with their goal of affordability, vases for their flowers and décor were purchased from Dollar Tree.

Evergreen and Lily Floral Studio and Gifts

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FEATURE

in Winterset was chosen to provide the couple's flowers and greenery. Their flowers were a mix of baby's breath, red roses and greenery. A large garland was also provided.

"My experience with Evergreen and Lily was similar to that of Affinity Bridal. They sat down and talked with me about what I wanted and even did a vision board. She made it look beautiful, and, with the flowers and garland, everything looked perfect," Caitlin says.

Wilson and Caitlin wanted to use as many local vendors as possible for their wedding and reception, and it helped that she has a lot of connections around Winterset. Their wedding cake was made by Ellen Wade, owner of She Bakes.

"I originally didn't want a cake because I was trying to be practical," Caitlin relates. "My mom helped me remember that it's a one-time special event, and that it is OK to spend a little more. I think the cake was called a bare cake. Ellen was given my colors and décor theme. She added cranberries and greenery to the chocolate cake. It was so pretty and so good."

The cake was reserved for the cake cutting by the bride and groom and for the wedding party members who wanted it. Cookies were ordered from Sam's Club for the guests, a classic combination of chocolate chip, oatmeal raisin, sugar and M&M cookies.

Callie McNeese of Salon 107 in Winterset was selected to style Caitlin's hair, as well as that of her mom and sister.

"Callie goes to my church," Caitlin shares. "I grew up knowing her. I knew I wanted an updo because the back of my dress had lace on in, but, other than that, I told her to do whatever she though was best, and I trusted her."

The couple chose Allison Knox to be their photographer.

"I didn't know her personally, but, after messaging several people, I was sent her name. She had the most affordable package I'd seen, and she included engagement photos in her package," Caitlin says.

The couple took their engagement photos in May around the square and courthouse stone in Winterset, as well as at City Park.

The rehearsal dinner was hosted by Caitlin's home church, Winterset Foursquare Church. The dinner was served family style by women from the church.

"Wilson and I wanted soup. Several families made soups. and several ladies served it," Caitlin shares. "They made us feel so loved."

Caitlin and Wilson asked her dad, who is also her pastor, to officiate her wedding.

"Having Dad officiate was one of my favorite things because he could make it so personal," she says. "He got to share some sweet words with us. It was a special moment."

During the ceremony, Wilson and Caitlin invited two friends to assist with the music. Kiernan Blanchard played the piano, and Anna Floden played the violin. While people were coming in, Caitlin's brother, who is the band director in Winterset, played the piano.

After the wedding, the newlyweds' reception was in the Jackson Building at the Winterset Fairgrounds. Since the building was a blank canvas, the couple could make it look how they wanted.

"We were able to make it look really elegant inside," Caitlin says.

The reception was catered by Fireside Bar and Grille from Altoona.

"We had a lot of pasta such as chicken alfredo and mac and cheese," Caitlin says. "We also had gluten-free attendees, so the food was separate when served so they could make their dinner according to their own needs."



The bride wore a long-sleeve lace and satin gown with buttons down the back and a lace train. Photo by Allison Knox Photography

Their caterer, Nolan, even called Caitlin the week of the wedding and asked if they'd like to include brisket mac and cheese. The dish ended up being a group favorite.

Wilson and Caitlin's goal for the wedding was for the day to be about God and family, so wherever they could, they tried to make everything point to God and their faith, a trend she feels is less common for their generation. The couple believes they accomplished just that.

"We are very appreciative of all the support we had from family and friends through the planning process," Wilson says. "They helped with the behind-the-scenes details, which made the day go smoothly. All of the planning came together to make the day beautiful and special."



Stay Safe From Shingles

1 in 3 people will get shingles. Prevention is possible.

Shingles can cause a painful skin rash and lead to serious health problems, such as long-term nerve pain and vision loss. Shingles stays dormant in your nervous system after you recover from chickenpox. Your risk of shingles increases with age.

The shingles vaccine is the best way to protect against the virus and its complications.

The shingles vaccine is recommended for:

- · Adults 19 and older with weakened immune systems.
- Adults 50 and older.



EDUCATION By Lindsey Giardino

MEET Jon Barrett

Vocal teacher instills love for music.



Jon Barrett followed his wife, Megan, as the high school choir director.

Jon Barrett has lived in Winterset for most of his adult life. He and his wife, Megan, moved to town in 2005, making this summer their 19th year in the community.

It's also his 14th year teaching in Winterset. Megan was originally hired to be the high school choir director and held that position for six years before accepting a job at the elementary.

"We were both teaching high school programs at the same time, but when our kids came along, we knew our schedule needed to be available for them," Barrett explains. "High school gigs come with a lot of evening obligations. Luckily, Winterset hired me to replace her at the high school, and we got to teach in the same district for a number of years."

Barrett has known since his own high school years that he wanted a career in education. After making it to All State Chorus and seeing his choir directors be honored at the festival his sophomore year, he told them he wanted to be one of them someday.

"I had a great musical experience in high school, being active in theater, band and, of course, a huge choir nerd," he shares.

Barrett earned his degree in education from Drake University, which has a well-regarded choir program. Through it, he was able to travel the United States on regional choir tours and to England where he sang in a couple of cathedrals. His senior year, they traveled to Salzburg and Prague to perform as well.

Every year, he enjoys directing "Omnia Sol," their choir anthem, and looking each graduating senior in the eye as they perform for the last time in high school.

"I get to do it at the last concert of every year," Barrett says. "It's always special."

This school year in particular has been special for many reasons. Notably, it's the first time Barrett has had both of his own children in choir with him. Graham is in seventh grade and Bella is in tenth grade.

"They are proving to be great musical leaders for their peers, and it makes me proud," he says. "Winterset has been the perfect community for my family to explore musical adventures."

From church choir, school functions like band and choir, Lions choir, community musicals with The Winterset Stage, and now the new possibilities of the Madison County Music Company, "we have never run out of ways to use our talents and express ourselves through community music making."

BEAUTY By Annie Wiseman

SKINCARE aware

Most of us know the importance of skin care, but few of us take the steps necessary to improve our skin's health. I can't stress enough how much your skin needs regular attention. Even a little bit goes a long way.

Our skin is our largest organ and is the first line of defense against bacteria, viruses and toxins. Our skin absorbs the products we put on it, which can either have a negative or positive impact on

our entire body. Using skin care products with "clean" ingredients is important for our overall health. Another thing most people don't realize is our skin has a natural ph that some products can upset, which can wreak havoc on our skin. Everyone's skin is unique, and there is no one size fits all when it comes to skin care. Finding the right fit can be challenging but is key for amazing-looking skin.

Getting regular facials is a great way to balance that ph and find the right product fit for your skin. Facials should be specific to dry, oily, acne or normal skin types. Masques, serums and moisturizers should be picked specially for your skin needs. If you are experiencing breakouts after a facial, you need to question what is in your daily skin care products. They may be clogging your pores and not cleansing and balancing your skin to its full potential.

Our face is the first impression people notice. What we do to our face today matters for our tomorrow.

Information provided by Annie Wiseman, owner of Salon 107 and a licensed cosmetologist with 25 years of experience. 107 John Wayne Drive, Winterset, 515-462-4247, salon107style@gmail.com.

HEALTH By Dr. Amanda Queck **SET** your nervous system up for success during daylight savings

Spring is right around the corner. But, before we can get to those longer sunshiny days, we have to face daylight savings and the loss of a full hour of precious sleep. Daylight savings is hard on a lot of people. Once your body establishes its circadian rhythm, it is a lot on your body to switch gears unless you prepare your nervous system to handle the change beforehand. So, before you set your clocks ahead, consider these three tips:



Wrap up your day earlier. One week before daylight savings, start going to bed eight minutes earlier than your target bedtime. This will start preparing your nervous system for the upcoming time change. Do this every day for a week, adding eight more minutes each day.

Move often and regularly. Movement is the key, and all it takes is 20 minutes. Whether you are walking outside or on a treadmill, doing a set of jumping jacks and pushups, or hitting the gym for a workout routine, the more you move, the easier it is for rest.

Hydration is foundational. Your body needs water to function and thrive. Set a goal of drinking half of your body weight in ounces. For example, If you weigh 150 pounds, shoot for 75 ounces of water a day. Start small and increase slowly. If you really want to go the extra mile, try decreasing your caffeine intake by 8 ounces.

Information provided by Dr. Amanda Queck, D.C. Flourish Chiropractic & Wellness, 108 W. Court Ave., Winterset, 515-384-0360, www.flourishchiro.life.

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REAL ESTATE By Jennifer Stover

WHAT are an HOA and CC&R?

An HOA is an organization that creates and enforces rules and regulations for the properties and residents of a given residential community. The regulations or guidelines governing the HOA community are called restrictive covenants and are outlined in a document called a Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions.



What are HOA covenants? HOA covenants are the rules and expectations for living in a community

governed by a homeowners association. HOA covenants and CC&Rs are important because they can substantially impact the lives of community residents. They offer amenities and benefits, but these advantages may come at the cost of personal choice and individuality.

Covenants, Conditions & Restrictions (CC&Rs) CC&Rs are officially recorded and filed with the state. They cover the rights and obligations of both the HOA and the community residents. CC&Rs may cover propertyuse restrictions, maintenance obligations (for the HOA and residents), rule enforcement mechanisms, dispute resolution and insurance obligations.

How are CC&Rs enforced? The HOA usually has a detailed process for dealing with rule-breakers. The process may begin with one or two violation notices followed by fines. If the problem remains unresolved, the board may set up a meeting or hearing to discuss the issue and how best to proceed. If the situation escalates, the HOA may take legal action against the resident.

Information provided by Jennifer Stover, 515-480-3389, Madison County Realty, 65 W. Jefferson St., Winterset, jenniferstover@madisoncountyrealty.com. Licensed in Iowa.

AUTOMOTIVE By Dawn Lauer **MAINTAIN** your brakes

Maintaining your vehicle's brakes is crucial for both safety and performance on the road. To help you navigate this aspect of car care, here's a comprehensive guide to answer common questions about automotive brake maintenance.

Understanding when to replace brake pads is essential. Generally, they should be replaced every 30,000 to 70,000 miles, but this can vary depending on driving habits and the type of pads used. Keep an



eye out for signs of wear such as squealing or grinding noises, vibration or reduced stopping power.

Regularly checking and replacing brake fluid is equally important. Aim to inspect the fluid every 20,000 miles and replace it every two years or as recommended by your vehicle's manufacturer.

Costs for brake maintenance vary depending on factors like vehicle make and model, type of brake components and labor rates. Professional technicians can provide accurate estimates based on your specific vehicle's needs.

Lastly, prioritize brake maintenance not only for your safety but also to potentially preserve warranty coverage and ensure optimal vehicle performance for years to come. By entrusting your brake maintenance to local experts, you can rest assured that your brakes are in top condition and enjoy peace of mind on the road.

Information provided by Dawn Lauer, marketing specialist, Quality Car Care, 1012 N. 10th St., Winterset, 515-462-1035.

HEALTH By Dr. Jason Phelps

UNDERSTANDING high blood pressure (hypertension)

Blood pressure is the force of blood pushing against the walls of your blood vessels (arteries, veins, capillaries). It is recorded as two numbers. The upper number, or systolic blood pressure, measures the pressure of blood on your vessels when the heart beats, sending blood through the arteries to the rest of the body. The bottom number represents diastolic blood pressure. This is the pressure of blood on the vessels when the heart rests between beats. Normal



blood pressure is a systolic reading of less than 120 mm Hg over a diastolic reading of less than 80 mm Hg. It is written as 120/80 mm Hg.

Dangers of high blood pressure

Blood pressure can be high without any symptoms. For that reason, you should have your blood pressure checked regularly. Your physician, dentist, or perhaps even pharmacist can help you with this. High blood pressure can cause serious health problems like heart attack, stroke or kidney disease or failure and needs to be controlled.

Controlling high blood pressure

If your blood pressure is high, your dentist or physician may talk to you about ways to control it, including achieving and maintaining a healthy weight, following a healthy diet, reducing the amount of salt (sodium) you eat, getting some exercise and avoiding tobacco.

High blood pressure and your oral health

Many medications used to treat high blood pressure can affect your oral health. Some can cause gum problems, including swelling and bleeding. Some may also cause problems like burning patches in your mouth or changes in the way things taste. Dry mouth is a common side effect of many medications, including those used for high blood pressure. Dry mouth can cause cavities, difficulty chewing and swallowing food, trouble speaking and bad breath. Tell your dentist about all the medications you are taking so that he or she can keep an eye out for any effects they may have on your oral health.

Conclusions

High blood pressure can put you at risk for serious health effects, like heart attack, stroke or damage to major organs. You may have no symptoms of high blood pressure, so make sure to have your blood pressure checked regularly.

Information provided by Dr. Jason Phelps, Winterset Dental, 225 Wambold Drive, Winterset, 515-462-5755, Instagram: dr._jason_phelps

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INSURANCE By Eric Johnson

WHAT are comprehensive and collision insurances?

When you hear someone use the term "comp and collision," they are referring to two separate insurance coverages available for personal auto insurance policies: comprehensive coverage (also referred to as other-than-collision coverage) and collision coverage.



What is comprehensive insurance?

Comprehensive insurance helps pay for damages to your vehicle caused by factors other than an

accidental collision, such as fire, vandalism, weather (hail, flooding, wind, lightning, etc.), theft, impact with an animal, etc. (Exclusions may apply.)

Here are some examples of when comprehensive insurance may apply:

• Your vehicle is damaged in a hail storm (other damage sources may include flooding, wind and lightning).

• Someone vandalizes your vehicle by slashing your tires and breaking all the windows.

- You hit an animal with your car on your way to work.
- A storm causes a tree to fall on your vehicle.
- Someone steals your vehicle.

• Your neighbor's brush fire gets out of control and sets your vehicle on fire.

What is collision insurance coverage?

Collision insurance helps cover the cost of loss or damage to your vehicle when it is involved in an accidental collision with another vehicle or object. (Exclusions may apply.)

Collision insurance coverage is exactly what it sounds like. It covers you when your vehicle collides with an object or another car. It generally provides coverage for situations where you are the one being hit or where you accidentally hit another vehicle.

Even situations where your car is parked and hit by another vehicle or by an object on the ground are typically covered by collision insurance. Here are some examples of when collision insurance coverage may apply:

- Another vehicle hitting your vehicle.
- Your vehicle accidentally hitting another vehicle.
- Accidentally backing your vehicle into a pole or other object.

• Damage from another vehicle backing into your vehicle, even if you are parked at the time.

- Bottoming out your vehicle.
- Accidentally rolling your vehicle over an object or rolling your vehicle.

What do I need?

A few things to consider when deciding if you want comprehensive, collision or both coverages on your personal auto insurance policy include:

- What is the age and condition of your vehicle?
- Is your vehicle under a lease or loan?
- How much will it cost to repair or replace your vehicle if it is totaled?
- Do you park your vehicle outside?
- Do you have a long commute?

• Do you have an inexperienced driver in the household who may be more likely to be involved in an accident?

Information provided by Eric Johnson, IFG Insurance, 224 E. Highway 92, Suite B, Winterset, 515-462-4553. Credit: Auto-Owners Blog

SIMMONS helps make sense of Medicare

SHIIP volunteer provides free information.

Steve Simmons volunteers as the Senior Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP) counselor at Madison County Memorial Hospital in Winterset. That means he helps seniors understand and make informed choices regarding Medicare coverage and related programs.



"It couldn't

run any smoother,

Madison County

Hospital, SHIIP

makes it easy for

me as a volunteer.

I wouldn't do it

if I didn't like it,"

Simmons said. "I

and myself. It

in my opinion,

between the

The general qualification for Medicare eligibility is that a person must be at least 65, although Medicare may be available sooner than 65 for those with disabilities.

SHIIP is a free service in Iowa that helps Medicare beneficiaries make informed decisions about their health coverage, including Medicare, Medicare Supplements and Medicare Advantage Plans. SHIIP is offered through the Iowa Insurance Division.

Simmons explains the basics of what he does.

"It's through the state of Iowa, and it's everything Medicare — helping to onboard people to Medicare, helping them choose a plan," he says.

Simmons worked in the insurance field for 35 years before retiring and was looking for something to do when he first heard about SHIIP.

"There are about 400 volunteers like me throughout the state. My sister does it up in Belmond, and that's how I found out about it,"

Simmons says. "I've been doing it about four years now." Simmons' hours generally stay fairly low, other than during the busy season.

"Most of the year, I probably put in 15 or 20 hours a month. But, during open enrollment season, Oct. 15 through Dec. 7, I'll probably put in close to 25 hours a week," he says.

Simmons points out that individuals are free to sign up for Medicare without assistance if they prefer, but he's found that many people benefit from his training and experience. He adds that all SHIIP volunteers are extensively trained, including annual re-certification.

"One of the benefits of SHIIP, since we're unbiased and independent, is we can walk people through the options and help find the best plan for them. It's important that people understand the ins and outs," Simmons says. "In 2024, I helped 437 individuals. Most of that was during open enrollment."

Simmons offers advice for anyone nearing their 65th birthday.

"You're in your initial enrollment period three months before you turn 65. Whether you're going to retire or not, it's a good time to sit down with a SHIIP counselor and go through Medicare," Simmons says.

Anyone interested should contact the Madison County Memorial Hospital (515-462-5370) to schedule a time to meet with Simmons. Also, a free Welcome to Medicare seminar is set for Thursday, March 20, 6:30-8 p.m. at Madison County Health Care Systems Chesnut Building. Registration deadline is March 12.

Simmons says the SHIIP counselor position has been a great fit for him, allowing him to do something positive and enjoyable in his retirement.

Do you know a citizen who deserves recognition? Nominate him or her at tammy@iowalivingmagazines.com.

Felicia Weeks and Brittany Hilsabeck of Farm Bureau present the Citizen of the Month certificate to Steve Simmons.

really get a kick out of it. It's fun to help people through these situations and take the worry off of a lot of people's faces." \blacksquare

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WINTERS

BOXS WARSHEY COLLE

DATE	TIME	OPPONENT	LOCATION
Apr 10	12:00PM	Pella	Bos Landen
Apr 14	4:00PM	ADM CSD	River Valley Golf Course
Apr 15	12:00PM	Multiple Schools	Crestmoor Golf Course
Apr 17	4:00PM	Multiple Schools	Terrace Hills Golf Course
Apr 24	4:00PM	Multiple Schools	Tournament Club of Iowa
Apr 28	4:00PM	Multiple Schools	Lakeview Country Club
Apr 29	1:00PM	Oskaloosa	Edmundson Golf Course
May 1	4:00PM	Multiple Schools	Cedar Pointe Golf Course
May 2	12:00PM	Multiple Schools	Lakeview Country Club
May 6	10:00AM	Atlantic	Nishna Hills Golf Club
May 10	9:00AM	Away vs. Gilbert	Ames Golf and Country Club

COLLE WILL COLLE

DATE	TIME	OPPONENT	LOCATION
Apr 8	4:00PM	Van Meter	Lakeview Country Club
Apr 14	4:00PM	Multiple Schools	Lakeview Country Club
Apr 15	12:00PM	Multiple Schools	Crestmoor Golf Course
Apr 17	4:00PM	Multiple Schools	Terrace Hills Golf Course
Apr 21	1:00PM	Multiple Schools	Lakeview Country Club
Apr 24	1:00PM	Oskaloosa	Edmundson Golf Course
Apr 28	4:00PM	Multiple Schools	Ballard Golf & Country Club
May 1	1:00PM	PCM	Gateway Golf Course-Monroe
May 6	10:00AM	Atlantic CSD	Atlantic Golf and Country Club
May 15	4:00PM	Multiple Schools	Lakeview Country Club

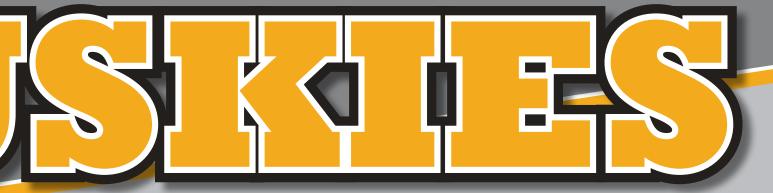
BOXZ WALKATHA ZOOCHIS

DATE	TIME	OPPONENT	LOCATION
Apr 3	7:00PM	Pella	Winterset High School
Apr 7	7:00PM	North Polk	Winterset High School
Apr 8	7:30PM	Carlisle	Winterset High School
Apr 15	7:00PM	Perry	Perry High School
Apr 19	9:30AM	Multiple Schools	Earlham High School
Apr 21	7:00PM	Ballard	Winterset High School
Apr 22	7:15PM	Greene County	Grand Junction Football Field
Apr 25	7:00PM	Gilbert	Gilbert High School
Apr 28	7:00PM	Des Moines North	Earlham High School
May 1	7:00PM	ADM CSD	ADM High School
May 5	7:00PM	Des Moines Christian	Des Moines Christian School
May 6	7:00PM	Boone	Boone Goeppinger Field/Track
May 9	7:00PM	Van Meter	Van Meter High School
May 13	7:00PM	Bondurant-Farrar	Winterset High School.
May 15	7:00PM	Carroll	Earlham High School





SET



SPRING SCHEDULE 24-25

GUILLE WATER BOOGHI

DATE	TIME	OPPONENT	LOCATION
Apr 1	7:00PM	Pella	Winterset High School.
Apr 7	7:00PM	North Polk	North Polk High School
Apr 8	7:00PM	Des Moines Christian	Winterset High School.
Apr 11	7:00PM	Indianola	Indianola High School
Apr 15	7:00PM	Perry	Winterset High School.
Apr 17	7:00PM	Creston Community	Creston High School
Apr 21	7:00PM	Ballard	Ballard Middle School
Apr 24	7:00PM	Des Moines East	Earlham High School
Apr 25	7:00PM	Gilbert	Winterset High School.
May 1	7:00PM	ADM CSD	Winterset High School.
May 6	7:00PM	Boone	Winterset High School.
May 8	7:00PM	Waukee	Winterset High School.
May 13	7:00PM	Bondurant-Farrar	Bondurant-Farrar High School
May 15	7:00PM	Carroll	Carroll Stadium
May 17	TBD	Nevada	Nevada High School
May 19	7:00PM	Carlisle	Carlisle High School





FOR ALL SCHEDULES Subject to change. Scan for most up-to-date schedules.



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MAGAZINES

BOXS HINA GAL & HIHAD

DATE	TIME	OPPONENT	LOCATION
Mar 31	4:00PM	Bondurant-Farrar	Bondurant-Farrar High School
Apr 3	4:30PM	Ogden	Ogden High School
Apr 4	4:30PM	Multiple Schools	Winterset High School
Apr 10	4:30PM	Van Meter	Van Meter High School
Apr 12	TBD	Jim Duncan Relays	Drake University
Apr 17	4:30PM	ADM CSD	A-D-M, Adel
Apr 22	4:30PM	Madrid	Madrid High School
Apr 24	4:30PM	Multiple Schools	Winterset High School.
Apr 29	4:15PM	Carlisle	Carlisle
May 1	4:15PM	Bondurant-Farrar	Bondurant-Farrar High School

CHIER R THINGK & THEFT

DATE	TIME	OPPONENT	LOCATION
Mar 31	4:00PM	Bondurant-Farrar	Bondurant-Farrar High School
Apr 3	4:30PM	Ogden	Ogden High School
Apr 8	4:30PM	ADM CSD	A-D-M, Adel
Apr 10	4:30PM	Van Meter	Van Meter High School
Apr 17	4:30PM	Ogden	Ogden High School
Apr 21	4:15PM	Bondurant-Farrar	Bondurant-Farrar High School
Apr 24	4:30PM	Multiple Schools	Winterset High School.
Apr 26	TBD	Jim Duncan Relays	Drake University
Apr 28	4:30PM	Multiple Schools	Winterset High School
May 1	4:15PM	Carlisle	Carlisle

A MOVE that was meant to be

El-Awar lives a full life in Winterset.



Cindy El-Awar enjoys the sense of history and being "in the rhythm of the action" living on the Winterset Square.

When Cindy El-Awar moved to Winterset, she felt something she never had before.

"It's the only place I've ever been where I've been able to exhale," she says.

El-Awar first visited Winterset in 2015 after her daughter moved to town and she came for a visit.

"I absolutely fell in love with the town," she says. "There was nothing like it."

She was stunned that people could roll out of bed and quickly do things like go to the courthouse to update their license, step away for coffee, and ride their bike to the library.

"I couldn't believe it," she recalls.

El-Awar returned to Yorktown, Virginia, after her two-week stay with her daughter and couldn't stop thinking about Winterset. She still had a 15-year-old living at home, but after spending 20 years in the same Virginia house, they decided to make the move. They packed up a truck and made the trek to Winterset.

El-Awar lived with her daughter for two weeks before seeing an ad for an apartment right on the square. One thing she knew when moving to Winterset was that she had to live either on the square or within walking distance. She wanted to be "in the rhythm of the action."

The history of the apartment building especially attracted her. Bevington Block, built in the 1880s, is on the square, and it is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The building initially housed First National Bank, where C.D. Bevington was president. Some later businesses on the main floor included Gillespie's Tavern, Flatt's Clothing Store, a water softening business, and an optometrist's office. From 1886 through the 1970s, there was a barber shop in the basement, accessed by an exterior stairwell.

El-Awar remembers touring the apartment and thinking about all the people and events the building had witnessed. It even still has the bank safe, along with some original flooring and wallpaper. She was immediately sold.

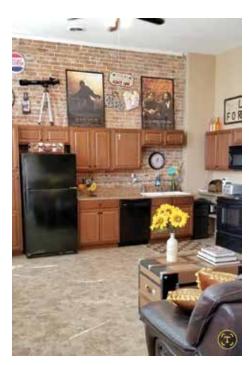
Her original plan was to move to Winterset for a year and then see how she felt. Fast forward a year, and she knew this was the only place for her.

Since there are only three apartments upstairs, El-Awar says there is a sense of family with her neighbors. She enjoys being able to walk outside and immediately be part of what's happening as well.

"It's just magical," she says. "Everything is within your fingertips."

Some of El-Awar's special memories include flying kites at the courthouse with her granddaughter, helping her learn to ride a bike on the square, and getting burgers and fries at Montross — all the great parts of small-town living.

"It's a beautiful way to live," El-Awar says.



Living in Winterset was good for her son, too, as he was able to graduate early from Winterset High School.

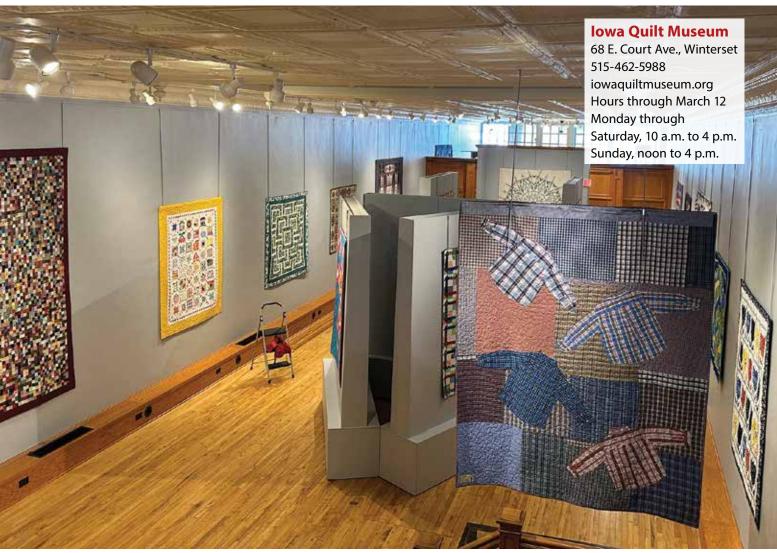
El-Awar, who works as a pet nanny, jokes that she's even expanded her client roster from just dogs and cats to donkeys, goats, chickens and more.

Truly, for El-Awar, it was fate to land in Winterset. ■

COMMUNITY By Lindsey Giardino

A PATCHWORK of lowa

Iowa Quilt Museum celebrates new exhibit.



"Iowa Quilts!" is the featured exhibit at the Iowa Quilt Museum.

The Iowa Quilt Museum's latest exhibit, "Iowa Quilts!" celebrates all things Iowa through the artistry of quilting.

Tony Jacobson, the exhibit's curator and owner of Piece Works Quilt Shop, set out to shine a light on the state's many quilt shops and talented quilters. He issued a challenge to these shops and asked them to submit quilts that best represented their unique styles and communities.

The response was remarkable. Jacobson gathered quilts from towns and cities across Iowa, including Pella, Conrad, Bondurant, Forest City, Urbandale, Redfield, Des Moines and more. Some of the featured quilters have gained national recognition for their designs, adding a layer of prestige to the exhibit.

"Being located in Iowa, we want to make sure that we don't overlook the talent that is right around us," he says. "Exhibits like this give us an opportunity to show how valued quilting in Iowa is."

The exhibit is sponsored by Robert Van Scoy and his daughter, RoxAnn Rhoads, in honor of Van Scoy's late wife, Velma, a gifted hand quilter. A selection of Velma's quilts is displayed in the museum's mezzanine.

"Each quilt is a work of art, and it's inspiring to see how creative quilters are," says Melody Reels, director of the Iowa Quilt Museum. "We have everything from primitive traditional to modern to art quilts." Jacobson carefully curated the quilts to reflect the diversity of quilting styles found across the state.

"Visitors to the exhibit will find that quilters from Iowa can't be pigeonholed into just one type of quilting," he says. "Iowa has the largest number of quilt shops per capita. That gives quilters in the state a lot of options for their quilting needs, and each shop has its own special niche."

Whether you're a lifelong quilting enthusiast or have never seen a quilt up close, "Iowa Quilts!" offers something for everyone. The exhibit runs through April 20 and is a must-see for anyone interested in the storied quilting heritage of Iowa.



IT'S TIME TO GET ε ιντ

Starting in spring 2025, Panora Fiber will invest in the installation of fiber-optic connectionsfirst in Rural Redfield to Adel/Earlham, followed by Rural Madison County. We can't wait to be your new provider and bring you the much-faster fiber internet service you've been wanting. However, it takes time for us to complete the many steps of a fiber build.

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Already completed the forms? Thank you! Follow us on Facebook and visit our website throughout 2025 to see our construction progress and updates.

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114 E Main St Panora, IA 50216 641.755.2424 panorafiber.com **COMMUNITY** By Lindsey Giardino

PREPARATIONS begin for Farmers Market

The Madison County Farmers Market is scheduled to begin on the courthouse lawn in Winterset on May 10 at 8 am. The farmer's market will continue every Saturday through Oct. 4.

Clinton and Kelli Eshelman recently took over as market managers. Donna Von Rentzell Carey stepped down after 14 years of running the market. A new website is currently in the works for the market.

This year, the inclement weather location will be at The Warehouse on 2nd, owned by the Barretts. This location will also host the March 8 vendor meeting at 10 a.m. Anyone who wishes to be a vendor is encouraged to attend. The meeting will review the market rules, as well as state regulations on produce and canned/ baked goods and cottage food laws. Paper applications will be available and questions answered.

Organizers are looking for sponsors for live music during the farmer's market this year.

Any questions on the Farmer's Market, setting up a stand, etc., can be directed to Clinton and Kelli Eshelman at madisoncofarmersmarket@gmail.com.

Special events scheduled

• May 10, June 28, July 26 and Aug. 30: Live music, Liv McNair • May 24 and Aug. 23: LifeServe Mobile Blood Drive (parked next to Chamber)

• July 26: Christmas in July: Farmer's Market Cash handed out for free to customers.

• Aug. 8: Zucchini Growing Competition (heaviest zucchini) at 9 a.m. Open to residents and all vendors. Cash prize and farmers market bucks to top three.

• Last Saturday of each month: Kids Booths — Under 18 kid vendor booths can set up for free. (Parent/legal guardian must be present for the entirety of the market. Must follow state/local regulations if selling baked goods, etc. Application signed by parent day of event.)



INVESTMENT By Jason Kleemeier

MANAGING money as a couple

When you marry or simply share a household with someone, your life changes - and your approach to managing your money may change as well. The good news is, it's usually not so difficult.

At some point, you will have to ask yourselves some money questions — questions that pertain not only to your shared finances but also to your individual finances. Waiting too long to ask (or answer) those questions might have some consequences.



First off, how do you propose setting priorities? One of your first priorities should be simply setting aside money that may help you build an emergency fund. But there are other questions to ask. Should you open joint accounts? How should you title assets that are owned by both of you?

How much will you spend and save? Budgeting can help you arrive at your answer. A simple budget, an elaborate budget, or any attempt at a budget can prove more informative than you realize. A thorough, line-item budget may seem a little over the top, but what you learn from it may be truly eye-opening.

How often will you check up on your financial progress? When finances affect two people rather than one, statements can become more important. Checking in on these details once a month (or at least once a quarter) may keep you both informed so that neither one of you have misconceptions about household finances or assets. Arguments can be avoided when money misunderstandings are resolved through checkups.

What degree of independence do you want to maintain? Do you want to keep some money separate? Some spouses need individual financial "space" of their own. There is nothing wrong with this approach.

Can you be businesslike about your finances? Spouses who are inattentive or nonchalant about financial matters may encounter more financial trouble than they anticipate. So, watch where your money goes and think about ways to pay yourself first. Set shared short-term, medium-term and long-term objectives.

Communication is key to all this. Watching your progress together may well have benefits beyond the financial, so a regular conversation should be a goal.

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EVENTS IN THE AREA

Be sure to check for cancelations

Upcoming in the April issue of Winterset Living magazine:

Foreign Exchange Students: Have you hosted a foreign exchange student in the past or are hosting one this year? Tell us about sharing your home and culture with a student from abroad and what you learned from the experience. Email tammy@iowalivingmagazines.com to be included in the April issue.

Dinner and Bingo

Various dates Madison County Fairground, 1146 W. Summit St., Winterset

Join the Madison County Fair Board on the first Tuesday of each month through May for an evening filled with delicious food, community fun and plenty of chances to win. Dinner begins at 5 p.m. Enjoy a meal prepared by one of the area 4-H and FFA youth groups who are creating amazing opportunities for our community. Freewill donations welcome. Bingo kicks off at 6 p.m. Cost is 11 games, six plays per game, \$10; 11



games, three plays per game, \$5; one game, six plays, \$1.50; or one game, three plays, \$1. Stampers available for purchase or bring your own.

Adult Game Days Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m. Winterset Public Library, 123 N. Second St.

Join in on some laughs and fun competitions. Many games to choose from or bring your own favorites. Snacks are welcome. No fees or registration required.

Game on!

Mondays, 3-5 p.m. Winterset Public Library, 123 N. Second St.

This game time for young adults, ages 12-18, features Xbox 360, Wii, Nintendo Switch and board games.



No fees or registration required.

Covered Bridges Winery events

2207 1700th Trail, Winterset coveredbridgeswinery.com See website for tickets and any last minute changes.

- March 9: Sunday Music at the Winery, 2-4 p.m., no cover charge, Jesse and the Medicine Men
- March 23: Sunday Music at the Winery, 2-4 p.m., no cover charge, Jake Schrodt
- March 29: Comedy Night Chowdown Improv
- April 13: Sunday Music at the Winery, 2-4 p.m., no cover charge, Liv McNair
- April 19: Music at the Winery, Kracklin, 6:30-9:30 p.m., \$5 cover

EVENTS IN THE AREA

Be sure to check for cancelations

FFA Alumni Piccadilly Auction March 29 Jackson Building, Fairgrounds

The Winterset FFA Alumni are hosting their third Annual Piccadilly Auction. Tickets are \$40 each or purchase a table of six for \$225. The money raised supports the FFA students in competing and excelling in public speaking competitions, judging contests, career development opportunities, and numerous community service projects that make a difference in our area. A Piccadilly Auction is a unique and lively bidding experience. Donated items are up for "bid" at pre-set amounts ranging from \$0.25 to \$5. To bid, toss your quarters into the basket on your table and raise your paddle. If your number is drawn, you win the item for the preset price. Each attendee receives a bidding paddle, but for those feeling extra lucky, additional "All-In" paddles are available for purchase. Check out the items and purchase tickets at www.ffablueandgoldalumni.org.

Women's Giving Circle Quarterly meetings

March 25, June 24, and Sept. 23, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Union State Bank's Community Room, 611 West Highway 92, Winterset

The Madison County Women's Giving Circle's quarterly meeting dates are set. Arrive at 5:30 p.m. if you wish to socialize before the meeting. Local charitable 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofits or other qualifying tax-exempt organizations that wish to present information about their projects for supporting women and children in Madison County should arrive by 6:15 p.m. to register to present. Each applicant is asked to provide a brief description of their project, their tax-exempt status, plus an email address and telephone number where they may be reached.

Three organizations will be selected (by drawing) to present at the meeting, and each will be allocated four minutes to present and four minutes to answer members' questions. One nonprofit will be selected by vote after the presentations to receive the quarter's donations. If more than three nonprofits wish to present, the rest will each have two minutes to talk about their project. Contact Kristie Hirschman, MadisonCOWomensGivingCircle@gmail.com, with any questions.

In 2024, members contributed a total of \$26,480 to multiple organizations, including the Winterset Lions Club, Short Years Diaper Bank and C.R.I.S.P. In addition, \$1,500 grants were awarded to McFable Farms and the C.R.I.S.P. Transportation Fund.

Iowa Home Expo

March 7-9 • Iowa State Fairgrounds, 3000 E. Grand Ave., Des Moines iowahomeexpo.com

All things home will be on display at the Iowa Home Expo, with local and national vendors in attendance giving tips, demonstrations and a showcase of products that best serve your home improvement needs.



EVENTS IN THE AREA

Be sure to check for cancelations

Estate Planning Workshops

Tuesday, March 18, and Thursday, March 25 Madison County Extension Office

The Madison County Extension Office is hosting two informative estate planning workshops aimed at providing vital information to individuals and families looking to plan for the future. The workshops will take place on Tuesday, March 18, and Thursday, March 25, with supper provided at 5:30 p.m. and the program running from 6-9 p.m.

The March 18 workshop will focus on The Language of Estate Planning, setting effective goals, and implementing an estate plan. The guest speaker for this session will be Tim Christensen, farm management specialist with ISU Extension and Outreach. Attendees will learn valuable tools to create a comprehensive estate plan that reflects their needs and aspirations.

On March 25, the discussion will shift to Gift, Estate and Inheritance Taxes and strategies for having the crucial family conversations around estate planning. This session will feature Kristiana Coutu, a legal expert from the Center for Agricultural Law and Taxation, who will share her knowledge on the legal and tax implications of estate planning. Cost: \$50 per person or \$150 for a family of four. For more information or to register, contact the Madison County Extension Office at 515-462-1001 or visit www.extension.iastate.edu/madison.

Friendly Sons of St. Patrick Pre-Party and Parade

March 15 and March 17

The Friendly Sons of St. Patrick is back with its St. Patrick's Day celebrations. Join them on Saturday, March 15, from 2-6 p.m. at The Shop DSM, 901 Cherry St., Des Moines, for a Pre-Paddy Party, featuring live music from Black Dirt Ramblers, a food truck and cash bar for an at-will donation. The parade is on Monday, March 17, and begins at noon. Participants will proceed from E. First Street, west



on Grand Avenue to Eighth Street, with the parade officially ending at Eighth and Grand Avenue. The after party will be in the Des Moines Marriott Downtown Hotel. Visit www.friendlysonsiowa.com for more information.

St. Paddy's Marathon, Half Marathon and 5K March 8

Iowa State Capitol, E. Locust Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, Des Moines

iowaruns.com/desmoinesstpaddys5k

Don your best green-colored athletic gear to avoid a pinch and take part in the St. Paddy's Marathon, Half Marathon and 5K. There are several finish-line goodies for the participants including medals, beer steins, beer itself and more.



RECIPE

SAVORY pork chili fresh from the slow cooker

(*Family Features*) If you're hunting for a cool-weather warmup or just need a break from the kitchen, the slow cooker is a perfect tool to make dinner a breeze. This Barbecue Chili recipe from "Cookin' Savvy" offers a hearty meal that serves a crowd. Visit Culinary.net to find more family-friendly dinner inspiration and step-by-step recipe videos.

Barbecue chili

Recipe courtesy of "Cookin' Savvy" Servings: 8-10

- 1 pork loin (2-3 pounds)
- 1 can (10 ounces) diced tomatoes and green chilies
- 2 cups barbecue sauce, divided
 1 cup water
- 1 cup water
- 1 can (29 ounces) tomato sauce
- 2 cans (27 ounces each) chili beans
- 1 package chili seasoning
- 1 tablespoon barbecue seasoning
- 1 tablespoon onion powder
- 1 tablespoon garlic powder
- salt, to taste
- pepper, to tastesour cream, for serving
- sour cream, for serving
 shredded cheddar cheese, for serving
- corn chips, for serving

Directions

- Place pork loin in slow cooker. Cover with diced tomatoes and green chilies, 1 cup barbecue sauce and water; cook on low 4-6 hours.
- Cut up cooked meat and place in Dutch oven along with juices from slow cooker. Add remaining barbecue sauce, tomato sauce, chili beans, chili seasoning, barbecue seasoning, onion powder and garlic powder. Season with salt and pepper, to taste.
 Cook over medium heat 20
- minutes, stirring occasionally. Serve with sour cream, shredded cheese and corn chips.
- Tip: Add can of beans if serving bigger crowd.





OUT & ABOUT

BRIDAL Show

The Bridal Show was held at The Livery on Feb. 16.



Bill Glenn and Paul Meyer



Owen Fuller



Jennifer Drake



Julie Heathcote and Bobbi Ellis



Rachael Heidorn



Diane Ward



Meredith Mauro



Kevin Miller and Leah Shortell



Kaitlin Alexander

OUT & ABOUT

CHAMBER Banquet

The Chamber Banquet was held at the Jackson building on Jan. 31.



Candice Dole, Kim Clark, Kristina Benshoof, Brittany Hilsabeck and Felicia Weeks



Miles and Brenda Easter



Allissa Johnson, Melissa Callstrom and Jen Frease



Amanda, Cris and Evan Queck



Laura, Katie and Chris Bertelson



Josie Sorensen and Kerry Hollingsworth



Jeff Nolan and Maria Yuhas



Scott and Amy Warnke



Matt and Randa Olson



Rachel Eller and Roger and Cris Queck



Lois Podoll and Ruth Reed

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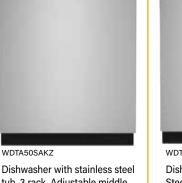
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