

Guthrie Center TIMES

SEPTEMBER 2024

Mailed to all addresses in
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FREE!



THE RESULTS ARE IN!

A TOTAL OF 471 READERS PARTICIPATED
IN OUR INAUGURAL BEST OF GUTHRIE
COUNTY POLL. LOOK INSIDE FOR
DETAILS FROM ALL 82 CATEGORIES.

PAGE 6

**DOWD DRUG IS A
TRUSTED NAME**

PAGE 24

**OBERHOLTZES
LOVE '57 CHEVYS**

PAGE 26

**SPICY CHIPOTLE
CHICKEN PASTA**

PAGE 38

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ON THE COVER: Colleen Conrad, owner of Tin Lizzie's Sports Bar, located at 620 Mc Pherson St., in Casey was voted winner of Best Bar, Best Happy Hour and Coldest Beer. Photo by Rich Wicks

THANK YOU

for voting us the
**BEST OF GUTHRIE COUNTY
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FROM THE PUBLISHER

THE VOTES HAVE BEEN TALLIED!



People like lists. Not the “honey-do” lists so much, but records, compilations and collections seem to be a hit. I guess we naturally want to know where we — or the people, places and events we like — rank with everything else.

I have been gathering this type of information and celebrating the results for quite some time. Our company also publishes CITYVIEW magazine, and you are likely familiar with the Best Of Des Moines readers’ poll. It was the first of its kind in the metro area and continues to be the primary source of central Iowans’ favorites. So, I thought, if it works for Des Moines, then why not Guthrie County?

With that in mind, I bring you our in-

augural Best of Guthrie County readers’ poll. We invited residents in the area to vote by answering 82 questions with open-ended responses, and a total of 471 of you replied. We didn’t, like some polls do, rig the poll by “suggesting” choices of businesses that pay to be on the ballot. That is unethical in our eyes, and it doesn’t give a true snapshot of what the locals really like.

I had one person tell me this poll was nothing more than a popularity contest. That is exactly what it is. Because, when



Shane Goodman

you are looking for a plumber or a pastor or a pizza, you want to know who others like the most.

With that in mind, please remember that the results listed in these pages are chosen by our readers, not by us. I explain this each time we do one of these polls, but, inevitably, I have someone who says, “I can’t believe YOU named (fill in the blank) as the best...” We didn’t.

Surely you will agree with many of the results, and you will likely disagree with some, too. Hopefully, you took the time to cast your vote. If not, be sure to do so next year. Look to the pages of this magazine for full details as the time draws nearer.

In the meantime, take a gander at

the favorites of your friends and neighbors, as we published the top three vote-getters in each of the categories inside these pages. Be sure to congratulate all the people, places and events that were selected as the best and let them know how much you appreciate them being in Guthrie County.

Thanks for reading. ■

Shane Goodman
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BEST OF GUTHRIE COUNTY 2024

BY RICH WICKS

Guthrie Center Times

America loves a contest. The Super Bowl. The World Series. March Madness. The Daytona 500. The Fourth of July hot-dog-eating competition. We simply love seeing who comes out on top.

On a local scale, Big Green Umbrella Media launched its first ever “Best of Guthrie County” poll to gather the opinions of our readers as to which individuals, businesses, events and organizations stand out from the crowd.

A total of 471 votes were cast, and that is a large number — more than some city council or school board elections. Much like those elections, this is not a scientific poll. Rather, it’s more of a popularity contest among those who take the time to vote. Readers may prefer one business over another for any reason(s), such as location, quality of the service or product, prices, nostalgia, personal friendship with the owner, etc. But, regardless of the reasons, we each have our preferences, and that’s simply what we asked readers to tell us.

You’ll likely agree with some of the results but not with others. That’s to be expected. If you took the time to vote, we thank you. If not, watch for your next opportunity. This poll had 82 categories, but there was nothing sacred or comprehensive about the list. Categories may be added or deleted based on interest. So, if you have a category to suggest, we’re all ears. For purposes of this poll, we defined “Guthrie County” slightly more broadly than the exact county borders, because some communities straddle the county line. For any city that is partially in Guthrie County, we recognize the entire city as a part of this poll.

Runners-up are listed alphabetically in each category. In a few instances, someone listed may no longer be in the role where he or she garnered so many accolades. The person may have moved away or simply changed jobs. We view this poll as a “snapshot” of the time when the poll was used, so we have listed winners and runners-up even when some may have moved on.

We encourage you to use this list to try something new and see why voters named certain businesses, venues and/or individuals as the best.

It’s clear that Guthrie County has many outstanding people, businesses, places,



The staff of Café on the Hill, winner of Best Caterer and Best Breakfast Spot.

events and services. Please join us in congratulating all of those listed here. Keep in mind that, in many cases, only a few votes separated first place from third place or others that did not make the top three.

With all that in mind, and without further ado, here are the winners and runners-up in the various categories of our Best of Guthrie County poll for 2024.

CAMPING SPOT

- **Springbrook State Park**
- Runners up: Lenon Mill Park, Nations Bridge Park

DINNER SPOT

- **Prime Time Restaurant**
- Runners up: Pioneers Pub & Grub, Ruby’s Pub & Grill

ATTORNEY OR LAW FIRM

- **Bump & Bump Law Offices**
- Runners up: Eric Reinhart, Varley Law Office

AUTO PARTS STORE

- **NAPA Panora**
- Runners up: NAPA Guthrie Center, NAPA Stuart

AUTO SERVICE CENTER

- **Leonard Automotive**
- Runners up: M & L Service, Panorama Tire

BANK

- **Guthrie County State Bank**
- Runners up: Farmers State Bank of Yale, First State Bank

BAR

- **Tin Lizzie’s Sports Bar**
- Runners up: Owl’s Nest, Ruby’s Pub & Grill

BARGE SERVICE

- **Lake Panorama Barge Service**
- Runners up: Deluxe Docks & Lifts, Van Houten Barge Service

BARTENDER OR SERVER

- **Amanda Carl at Ruby’s Pub & Grill**
- Runners up: Amber Godwin at Just One More, Stacy Nelson at Owl’s Nest

BOUTIQUE

- **Tribe Boutique LLC**
- Runners up: B & B Marketplace, Pearls & Lace

BOWLING ALLEY

- **Incredi-Bowl**
- Runners up: Coon Bowl III, Stuart Bowl & Lounge

CAR WASH

- **All Seasons Car Wash**
- Runners up: Guthrie Center Car Wash, Karl’s Chevrolet

CATERER

- **Café on the Hill**
- Runners up: Cabbage Rose Restaurant, Lidderdale Country Store

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

- **Panora**
- Runners up: Guthrie Center, Stuart

CHIROPRACTOR (PERSON)

- **Josh Calmer**
- Runners up: Bailey Schreiber, Jodi Bassett

CHURCH

- **Faith Bible Church**
- Runners up: Guthrie Center United Methodist, Lutheran Church of Hope Panora

COACH

- **Cody Matthewson, ACGC football**
- Runners up: Colin Shawgo, Kylee Boettcher

COFFEE SHOP

- **Crafty's Coffee & Gifts**
- Runners up: Casey Creamery, The Cup on 2nd

COMMUNITY FESTIVAL

- **Panorama Days**
- Runners up: Guthrie County Fair, Yale 4th of July

CPA (PERSON)

- **Lisa Calvert**
- Runners up: Janet Dickson, Sarah

Langgaard

CUSTOMER SERVICE

- **Panora Fiber**
- Runners up: Dowd Drug, The Cup on 2nd

DANCE STUDIO

- **Main Street Dance Studio**
- Runner up: Adair Dance Academy

DAYCARE

- **Little Panther Daycare & Preschool**
- Runners up: Exploration & Learning Station, Little Charger Early Learning

DENTIST (PERSON)

- **Dr. Larry Spray**
- Runners up: Dr. Ames Cross, Dr. Daniel Nelson

DOCTOR (PERSON)

- **Dr. Joshua Strehle**
- Runners up: Dr. Eric Ash, Dr. Steven Bascom

DOG BOARDING FACILITY

- **Mitzie Rue's Canine Corral**
- Runners up: Guthrie County Veterinary Services, Pretty Paws Pet Grooming



The staff of Prime Time Restaurant, winner of Best Dinner Spot, Best Lunch Spot and Best Place to Take Mom and Dad.

ELECTED OFFICIAL

- **Maggie Armstrong**
- Runners up: Marty Arganbright, Steve Smith

ELECTRICIAN (BUSINESS)

- **Berger Electric**
- Runners up: Kane Powell Electric, Miller Plumbing & Electric

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Cheinie Reha makes delicious treats at the Casey Creamery. Casey Creamery won both Best Ice Cream Place and Best Place for Dessert.

EMPLOYER

- **Guthrie County Hospital**
- Runners up: Panora Fiber, The Cup on 2nd

ESTHETICIAN (SKIN CARE PROFESSIONAL)

- **Lexi Blakely**
- Runners up: Amy Bassett, Courtney Claussen

EYE DOCTOR (PERSON)

- **Cassie Martinson**
- Runner up: Kyle Stalder

FINANCIAL PLANNER

- **Dave Grove**
- Runners up: Melissa Loest, Russ Wagner

FLORIST

- **Panorama Gardens**
- Runners up: B & B Marketplace, Stuart Flower & Gifts

GOLF COURSE

- **Lake Panorama National**
- Runners up: Guthrie Center Golf Course, Panorama West Golf Course

GROCERY STORE

- **Hometown-Guthrie Center**
- Runners up: Hometown-Panora, Hometown-Stuart

HAIR SALON

- **Main Street Hair Design**
- Runners up: Britt's Family Hair Care, Revel Salon & Boutique

HAPPY HOUR

- **Tin Lizzie's Sports Bar**
- Runners up: Owl's Nest, Ruby's Pub & Grill

HARDWARE STORE

- **Lake Lumber**
- Runners up: Stuart True Value Hardware & Lumber, Tractor Supply Co.

HEALTH CLUB/GYM

- **Reshape Fitness Studio**
- Runners up: Active Health Solutions, Guthrie County Hospital

HOME BUILDER

- **Donovan Construction**
- Runners up: Dave Arganbright



Guthrie County Veterinary Services earned two awards for Best Veterinarian. Doug Frels was voted Best Veterinarian, and runner-up was Donna Frels.

Construction, DL Customs LLC

HOME IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTOR

- **Donovan Construction**
- Runners up: Dave Arganbright Construction, Kevin Laughery Construction

HOME PAINTER

- **Kunkle Painting**
- Runners up: Baker Painting, Jeremy Rigger Painting

HVAC COMPANY

- **Doug's Plumbing & Heating**
- Runners up: Controlled Environments, Miller Plumbing & Electric

INSURANCE AGENT (PERSON)

- **Chris Arganbright**
- Runners up: Carrie Sloss, Robert Carr

LANDSCAPING COMPANY

- **Wood Duck Landscapes**
- Runners up: Schwinger Lawn Service, Wood Brothers Landscaping

LAWN CARE BUSINESS

- **Schwinger Lawn Service**

- Runners up: D & S Lawn & Handyman Service, Hansen Lawn Services

LIBRARY

- **Panora Public Library**
- Runners up: Mary Barnett Memorial Library, Stuart Public Library

LOCAL BAND OR MUSICIAN

- **Dale Menning - Stardusters**
- Runners up: Chancey Hill, Kile Jackson

MESSAGE THERAPIST (PERSON)

- **Jade Irlmeier**
- Runners up: Amy Bassett, Madison Berger

MEXICAN RESTAURANT

- **Los Altos-Panora**
- Runners up: Fuego, Los Altos-Stuart

NURSERY OR GARDEN CENTER

- **Panorama Gardens**
- Runners up: Grandma Marie's Greenhouse, Red Maple Greenhouse

PARENT/CHILD DATE SPOT

- **The Stuart Scoop**
- Runners up: Casey Creamery, Pedal-In



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Reaghan Oakleaf at Springbrook State Park, winner of Best Park, Best Camping Spot, Best Place to Take Your Dog and Best Place for a Field Trip.

PARK

- **Springbrook State Park**
- Runners up: Mitchell Park, Nations Bridge Park

PASTOR (PERSON)

- **Trevor Nunn**
- Runners up: Fr. Ray Higgins, Jenny Knutter

PEST CONTROL COMPANY

- **Cyclone Pest Management**
- Runners up: Colin's Pest Control, Paul's Pest Control

PHARMACY

- **Dowd Drug**
- Runners up: Medicap-Panora, Wright Pharmacy-Stuart

PHOTOGRAPHER

- **Betty Cooper**
- Runners up: Ketelsen Photography, Serenity & Bliss Photography

FIRST DATE SPOT

- **The Port on Lake Panorama**
- Runners up: Pioneers Pub & Grub, Prime Time Restaurant

PLACE FOR A FIELD TRIP

- **Springbrook State Park**
- Runners up: Guthrie County Historical Village, Nation's Bridge Park

PLACE FOR GUESTS TO STAY

- **Lakeside Inn**

- Runners up: Lake Panorama National Resort, Midway Motel

PLACE FOR PIZZA

- **Casey's**
- Runners up: The Stuart Scoop, Zipp's Pizzeria food truck

PLACE TO BUY MEAT

- **Guthrie County Quality Meats**
- Runners up: Downing's Farm to Fork, Hometown Foods

PLACE TO HOLD AN EVENT

- **Guthrie County Event Center-Fairgrounds**
- Runners up: Saints Center for Culture and the Arts, Twin Vines Winery

PLACE TO BUY GIFTS FOR HER

- **Tribe Boutique LLC**
- Runners up: B & B Marketplace, Dowd Drug

PLACE TO TAKE KIDS OR GRANDKIDS

- **Guthrie Center Aquatic Center**
- Runners up: Guthrie County Historical Village & Museum, Springbrook State Park

PLACE TO TAKE YOUR DOG

- **Springbrook State Park**
- Runners up: Lake Panorama Dog Park, Mitzie Rue's Canine Corral

PLUMBER (BUSINESS)

- **Doug's Plumbing & Heating**



Colleen Conrad, owner of Tin Lizzie's Sports Bar, winner of Best Bar, Best Happy Hour and Coldest Beer

- Runners up: J5 Plumbing, Miller Plumbing & Heating

REAL ESTATE COMPANY

- **Sunset Realty**
- Runners up: Lake Panorama Realty, Stuart Realty

REALTOR (PERSON)

- **Laura Kemble**
- Runners up: Dave Wagler, Vicki Crannell

RETAIL STORE

- **Dowd Drug**
- Runners up: Doe A Deer, Tribe Boutique LLC

SCHOOL

- **Panorama Schools**
- Runners up: ACGC, West Central Valley

SENIOR LIVING FACILITY

- **New Homestead**
- Runners up: Lakeside Village, Stuart Community Care Center

TEACHER

- **Laurie Behrends**
- Runners up: Aly Dahlhauser, Bob Bolton

VEHICLE DETAILING BUSINESS

- **Detailer's Eye**
- Runners up: Collision Concepts of Bagley, Karl's Chevrolet

VETERINARIAN (PERSON)

- **Doug Frels**
- Runners up: Donna Frels, Shawn Nicholson

WINE SELECTION

- **Twin Vines**
- Runners up: Hometown Foods, Local Liquor

ICE CREAM PLACE

- **Casey Creamery**
- Runners up: Pedal-In, The Stuart Scoop

LUNCH SPOT

- **Prime Time Restaurant**
- Runners up: Café on the Hill, Pedal-In

PLACE TO TAKE MOM & DAD

- **Prime Time Restaurant**
- Runners up: Pioneers Pub & Grub, The Cup on 2nd

BREAKFAST SPOT

- **Café on the Hill**
- Runners up: Crafty's Coffee & Gifts, The Cup on 2nd

DESSERT SPOT

- **Casey Creamery**
- Runners up: Crafty's Coffee & Gifts, The Stuart Scoop

COLDEST BEER

- **Tin Lizzie's Sports Bar**
- Runners up: Owl's Nest, Ruby's Pub & Grill

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LOCAL FILM REVIEWS

A CRAYON, AN ALIEN, A CROW, A PENGUIN AND MORE

BY MICHAEL C. WOODY
Guthrie Center Times

“DEADPOOL & WOLVERINE” (still in theaters)

Ryan Reynolds teams with Hugh Jackman in what will undoubtedly be not only the highest grossing film of the year but one of the wildest movies of this year or any other! It is a crazy and irreverent romp through the Marvel Universe with many characters you haven't seen, or thought about, in years. It is fun and funny at the same time, but it never... never... takes itself seriously. If you catch even half of the jokes, you are lucky, as they come in rapid fire succession. Creative, engaging and just pretty damned fun.
Grade: A



“Deadpool & Wolverine”

“HAROLD AND THE PURPLE CRAYON” (in theaters)

This film is based on a children's book (in case the title didn't already tell you that). Harold lives in an animated world with two good friends, a porcupine and a moose. When the three of them



“Harold and the Purple Crayon”

head into “our” world, crazy hijinks ensue. This is a clever film that the entire family can enjoy, and Zachary Levi proves once again (as he showed in “Shazam”) that he is a master of these types of family action movies. **Grade: B**

“ALIEN: ROMULUS” (in theaters)

If you turn the “Alien” franchise over to



“Alien: Romulus”

a talented horror director, you are moving in the right direction. A group of scavengers board an abandoned ship to see what they can salvage. Since it is an “Alien” film, the scavengers find more on the ship than they ever could have imagined. This is about as effective of a horror film as I've seen in a while. I



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and Runner-up for
Best GC Health Club/Gym



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"The Instigators"



"The Crow"



"My Penguin Friend"



"It Ends With Us"

would put this right behind the original "Alien" film on the horror level, and that is high, high praise. **Grade: A**

"THE INSTIGATORS"
(Apple TV)

Matt Damon and Casey Affleck star as two damaged men trying to pull off a heist way above their pay grade. It's a crazy mix of comedy and action that manages to rise a bit above average. The story holds them back, but both actors (two of our best) get moments to shine. **Grade: B**



"THE CROW"
(in theaters)

I might be the only film critic in America who really enjoyed this movie, but I thought it was well-made, well-acted and it does a nice job fixing the problems with the troubled first version of this film. That being said, it is absolutely the most bloody and violent film I have ever seen. You have been warned. **Grade: B+**



"MY PENGUIN FRIEND"
(in theaters)

This family film is based on a true story of a man who befriends a penguin. Or maybe it is the other way around? French



film legend Jean Reno stars in this PG-rated family film that manages to be humorous, heartwarming and really fun. **Grade: B+**

"IT ENDS WITH US"
(in theaters)

This would fit firmly into the category of "chick flick," and I tried to avoid it. But people continued to flock to it, and the reviews have been good, so Sue and I caught a Sunday afternoon matinee. It was also more than 100 F, so I had even more incentive to hide in a dark theater. You know what? It wasn't a bad movie at all — romantic with many shades of darkness and excellent perfor-



mances all around. Blake Lively does a nice job as the lead character with a conflicted past. Expect a sequel. **Grade: B**

These movies scored pretty good grades for the month of August — way above average compared with the typical August fare. Look for news next month on the return of the "Murph & Andy Show" and their Wednesday companion, Mr Movie. Until then, stay cool. ■

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 ‘RESPECTFULLY OBJECT’ TO EMINENT DOMAIN IN CO2 PIPELINE PLAN

BY RICH WICKS
Guthrie Center Times

AUG. 13

The Guthrie County Board of Supervisors met in regular session Aug. 13. During the Public Comments portion of the meeting, several citizens spoke in opposition to the planned CO2 pipeline. Among the main concerns 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.

AUG. 20

The Aug. 20 meeting was held in the courtroom to accommodate the anticipated large attendance. The audience was estimated at 50 or more individuals, including those participating via remote technology.

The bulk of the meeting involved discussion about the proposed CO2 pipeline to be built by Summit Carbon Solutions. County Attorney Dana Minter provided a brief statement.

“The decision was primarily made by the Iowa Utilities Board (Iowa Utilities Commission),” Minter said. “It’s already been determined that counties do not have jurisdiction.”

She added that, in her opinion, there is not much the county can do other than pass a resolution in opposition, but she said that could result in the county being sued and possibly paying damages to Summit.

Fourteen local citizens individually spoke to express concerns and opposition

to the pipeline. None spoke in favor of the pipeline. The two main objections centered on eminent domain and safety.

When asked to give their opinions, the supervisors individually responded, with objection to eminent domain use being the most consistent comment.

Local citizen Lyle Wilson read aloud from Iowa Code Chapter 331 regarding the county supervisors’ duties regarding rights, property, safety and health of residents. He also voiced his opinion as to what the local supervisors’ duty is on this issue.

“That’s your job, gentlemen and lady, so step up,” Wilson said.

Riley Gibson from Summit Carbon Solutions gave information about the project and its status. He explained that while a general “corridor” for the pipeline has been approved, the exact route is not yet determined. He said Summit hopes to come to individual easement agreements with landowners so that eminent domain will not have to be used.

Gibson shared that a public meeting will be held on Tuesday, Aug. 27 at 6 p.m. at the Guthrie Activity Center, 209 State St. The public is invited, and Gibson said Summit representatives will share information and answer questions. He added that such meetings generally may last up the three hours.

The supervisors discussed agenda item No. 6, which was listed as “Review Resolution Objecting to the Iowa Utilities Board’s Authority to Enact Eminent Domain Authority Within Guthrie County for Privately Owned and Operated Carbon Dioxide Pipelines.” Supervisor Mike Dickson suggested using a lengthy resolution that had been passed in Shelby County for a similar,

but not identical, situation. After discussion about using Shelby County’s resolution as an aid but shortening it significantly, the supervisors agreed that Guthrie County’s proposed resolution’s exact wording should be reviewed by Minter. Supervisor Steve Smith agreed to help work on developing proposed wording.

AUG. 27

The supervisors reviewed a resolution regarding objection to the use of eminent domain in Guthrie County as part of the Summit Carbon Solutions proposed pipeline. Supervisor Brian Johnson shared that he was not comfortable with the tone of the wording, since he felt it could be read as disrespectful.

Supervisor Maggie Armstrong shared his concern.

“I agree. Can we combine the two parts and say ‘respectfully object’.. I feel like ‘object’ is a stronger term, but we can still be respectful,” Armstrong said.

The supervisors agreed to change the wording slightly, to add that the supervisors “respectfully object” instead of just “object.”

After discussion, the supervisors unanimously approved the draft of the resolution.

The supervisors heard a recommendation from the Assessor’s Office regarding applications for 2024 credits and exemptions. The supervisors approved those recommended, in four categories (Homestead Tax Credit applications, Homestead Tax Exemption 65-plus applications, Military Exemption applications, and Disabled Veterans Homestead Tax Credit applications).

Quinten Pote and Ryan Recker were ap-

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pointed as medical examiner investigators.

As part of the consent agenda, the supervisors approved a payroll change notice regarding the hiring of Christopher Simmons at the transfer station.

SEPT. 3

During the Sept. 3 regular meeting, the supervisors again heard from citizens concerned about the proposed CO2 pipeline. After listening to the public's comments, the supervisors unanimously approved Resolution 25-05: Resolution Objecting to the Use of Eminent Domain by the Iowa Utilities Commission.

Next, the supervisors discussed the communications plan related to the countywide EMS plan, which will be put to vote in the Nov. 5 election. The plan will include a number of small group meetings. Wixted Communications is helping the county develop consistent talking points to roll out the plan to citizens.

"I don't want to leave any groups out... sometimes we get more out of, and people can ask their questions better, in a room of 15 or 20 people versus a town hall of 200 people," Supervisor Steve Smith said. "That's my perspective."

Brian Johnson and JD Kuster voiced comments about the success of the Guthrie County Fair. Johnson said attendance

was good, and he stated appreciation to the Guthrie County Fair Board.

SEPT. 10

On Sept. 10, the supervisors met in regular session. During the Public Comments portion of the meeting, Jill Albright asked the status of the resolution that the supervisors voted on regarding eminent domain and the proposed CO2 pipeline. She was informed that the resolution was filed with the Iowa Utilities Commission on Sept. 9.

Supervisor Maggie Armstrong provided an update on progress regarding the county's new website. Armstrong showed the preliminary look of the website and said it is still on track for a full rollout later this month.

"It's super customizable," Armstrong said.

At 9:23 a.m., the supervisors voted to go into a special closed session as allowed by Iowa Code. The supervisors also had a scheduled tour at 1 p.m. of the Herndon Trail, from Herndon to Bagley. No county business was to be discussed during the tour, and no formal action was scheduled during the tour.

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

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GUTHRIE CENTER CITY COUNCIL SETS TIMELINE FOR GARAGE REMOVAL

BY RICH WICKS
Guthrie Center Times

As part of the regular meeting of the Guthrie Center City Council on Aug. 12, the council held a public hearing on the proposed sale of real estate (907 Main St.). Council members reported they had not heard any concerns from citizens. No citizens were in attendance, so the hearing was closed. The council then voted to approve the proposed sale.

The council discussed the proposed purchase of a street sweeper. City Clerk Kris Arrasmith explained that two city staff members had tried out the sweeper that is being considered.

"They both came in and said it's so much better," Arrasmith said.

The council approved the purchase from Rutledge Enterprises at a price of \$20,000.

The council voted to approve a three-year tax exemption on two properties in the city, 201 Newton (C. Knapp) and 507 North St. (V. Andersen). The council also voted to post a notice of accepting bids on two of the lots on Grand Street.

Arrasmith reported that the recent citywide cleanup was a success and raised money for the high school baseball team, which helps with the event.

"We had about 20 more people sign up than we did last year," Arrasmith said.

Councilmember Carolyn Masters reported that she's seen lots of citizens

enjoying the city park and equipment. As the school year approaches, summer events are wrapping up.

"The pool's last day was Friday, and they had the dog swim Friday night," Arrasmith said.

AUG. 26

On Aug. 26, the council heard a request from Dr. Kelly Bast, who asked the council to allow time for the residents of 100 N. 12th St. to clean out, tear down and remove the garage on the property. Bast explained that this is the Cathy Morrell property and that he's been helping those living at that address to make progress on cleanup and disposal to comply with the city ordinances.

Bast said those living at the house have been dealing with significant health challenges, and he asked the council to take this into consideration.

"Give them a break. They need it," Bast said.

Councilmembers said they are generally willing to allow adequate time, if clear progress is being made. Councilmember Ian Steensen shared that the city has seen many instances when progress stalls, so he asked for assurances that the work will get done.

"In the past, when we just let people be, what they say is going to happen never happens," Steensen said.

Bast said he's allowing Morrell to borrow his pickup to take loads to the landfill, and he plans to keep helping when able.

After discussion, the council voted unanimously to allow until Jan. 1 for the garage to be emptied. At that time, the city will check for compliance. If this deadline is met, the city will allow until May 1 for the garage to be razed and removed. If necessary, the city will perform the work, with costs assessed to the property's taxes.

SEPT. 9

During the regular meeting on Sept. 9, City Clerk Kris Arrasmith offered a suggestion regarding the city's Park and Recreation board. She explained that the board basically only deals with two activities: the aquatic center and the city's "pee-wee" baseball/softball leagues. She went on to explain that since the pee-wee leagues have now been split off as "clubs," they are no longer under city control, so she suggested changing the Park and Rec board into an "aquatic center committee" that would manage operations of the pool. She said it might be easier to fill such a committee with family members who have kids involved in swimming. The consensus of the council was to move forward with this plan.

Rod Rumelhart, representing EMC Insurance, addressed the council regarding the city's property coverage.

"I think you will be happy with this renewal," Rumelhart said. "The state of Iowa is still reeling with property coverage all over."

He went on to explain that some in-

surers are refusing to continue covering properties in Iowa, due to severe wind events in recent years. He said for those insurers who are still offering such coverage, premiums and/or deductibles are going up steeply. He explained that because the city is "pooled" with all other cities in Iowa, that helps control the fluctuations, so the city's premium increase is not nearly as much as he had feared. Arrasmith agreed, saying she had budgeted for a larger increase than Rumelhart presented.

Rumelhart explained the new deductibles and offered the city an option to purchase additional coverage (through another company) to "buy down" the deductibles. The option he mentioned would cost an additional \$12,400 per year. Arrasmith pointed out that the city has a reserve built up that would help in case of catastrophic loss. After discussion, the council approved the coverage through EMC but did not opt for the "buy down" at this time. Council members suggested asking the Utilities Board for their opinion.

Liquor permits were approved for Tori's Angel's Foundation and for Guthrie County Quality Meats.

Building/fence permits were approved for 105 N. 12th St. (portable shed, Clark) and 602 State St. (fence, Bates).

The next regular meeting of the council is set for Monday, Sept. 23 at 6:30 p.m. The public is welcome. ■

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EDUCATION

LETTER GRADES RETURN AT ACGC HIGH SCHOOL

BY RICH WICKS
Guthrie Center Times

A joint meeting of the Adair-Casey and Guthrie Center school boards was held Aug. 21. Superintendent Josh Rasmussen discussed the need to revamp the grading system the high school had been using.

"We really just want to find something that works," Rasmussen said. "And we want to make sure we are still ensuring that kids are learning...That's the guidance I gave Brian."

Brian Sauser, principal for grades 9-12, outlined the high school grade reporting system that ACGC will use for those students this school year. He talked about the staff survey that was administered to gather their opinions on various topics, and he said many opinions were shared about standards-based grading.

"The two words that kept coming up were 'consistency' and 'clarity'...those did not seem to be there, across the board," Sauser said. "I also learned that there was a lot of confusion from parents."

Sauser also pointed out that colleges do not recognize standards-based grade reporting, so those grades then had to be converted back to letter grades (A, B, C, D or F). He said that, for this school year, ACGC High School students will again have traditional letter grades. He added that, for any missing or late work, there will generally be a three-week window for students to turn in. After that, any scores of zero will generally not be

changed.

The school will continue to use Infinite Campus to allow parents to access their students' grades, check progress, pay fees and add to lunch accounts.

For Adair-Casey, the board noted the resignation of Nickie Nelson from the position of nutrition director. Contract recommendations were approved for Veronica Bennett (1:1 paraeducator) and Laura Fever (elementary art/reading teacher).

For Guthrie Center, resignations included Brenda Sheeder (high school paraeducator) and Toni Colling (high school paraeducator). Contract recommendations were approved for Deb Ocker (food service), Brooke Boals (dance team sponsor), Tara Largent (volunteer assistant volleyball coach), Patti Halbur (SPED transfer), and Kylie South (high school paraprofessional).

Adair-Casey Board Chair Randy Carney suggested making changes to the position of the admission gate and ticketing tables during basketball and baseball games to help prevent attendees from going in to watch games without paying for admission.

For each of the school boards, upcoming dates noted included no classes on Aug. 30 and Sept. 2, Whole Grade Sharing (WGS) meeting at the high school at 8 a.m. on Sept. 4, and the Iowa Association of School Boards (IASB) annual school board convention Nov. 20-22.

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Sept. 18 at 7 p.m. The public is welcome. ■



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HEALTH

GUTHRIE COUNTY HOSPITAL PAYS \$52,000 IN STAFF BONUSES

BY RICH WICKS

Guthrie Center Times

During the Aug. 22 regular meeting of the Guthrie County Hospital Board of Trustees, CEO Chris Stipe asked the trustees to consider approving employee bonuses for all staff. Stipe explained how, following feedback from employees, the hospital is now considering employee performance reviews (and any possible related pay increases) separately from consideration of possible employee bonuses.

"Last year, we included whether or not the organization achieved its goals as a part of the individual review for each employee. Twenty percent of your review was dictated by the organization's performance," Stipe said. "No longer is that the case."

Stipe said any potential bonuses are now based on the overall performance of the organization.

"We rise or fall as a team," Stipe said.

Stipe suggested a bonus of \$512 for each full-time and part-time employee, and \$256 for each "as needed" employee. He said any bonuses would be taxed, so employees would get a somewhat smaller

take-home amount. The total budgetary impact to the organization would be roughly \$52,000. The board voted to approve the bonuses as proposed. The timing of the bonuses was not yet determined.

Danielle Lauzon provided a summary of recent quality measurement data. She said there were 41 medication errors in fiscal year 2024, up slightly from the 39 medication errors in fiscal year 2023. She also shared data on employee injuries.

Stipe shared that regarding Workers Compensation, the hospital was tied for the lowest claims of any hospitals in Iowa, which he said is excellent.

"Even though we have some injuries, they're not serious, and we're not missing a lot of work days, so we're doing better than almost all the hospitals in the state," Stipe said.

Upon completion of the other agenda items, the board went into a special closed session as allowed by law.

The next regular meeting of the board is set for Thursday, Sept. 26 at 4 p.m. The public is welcome. For more information, including how to view remotely, visit www.guthriecountyhospital.org. ■

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Q: WHAT IS THE STATUS OF GUTHRIE COUNTY'S DOG ORDINANCE?

A: We asked this question to Guthrie County Auditor Dani Fink, and she told us that the county does not currently have a dog ordinance but that one is being worked on by the supervisors. Supervisor Maggie Armstrong added that the Public Health Department is working on an ordinance, but, as it stands right now, the county does not have an official dog ordinance. It is something the Public Health Department and the Board of Supervisors plan to implement when available.

Q: IS IT TRUE THAT THE GUTHRIE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT IS BRINGING IN MORE THAN \$30,000 IN REVENUE EACH MONTH FOR INMATES AT THE NEW JAIL?

A: In August, the Guthrie County Sheriff's Office reported revenues of \$35,750 for processing of out-of-county inmates. A total of 75 inmates were processed through the facility during the month including 36 from out of the county. Keep in mind that these stated revenues are billed amounts and not

necessarily collected amounts.

Q: ARE A GROUP OF IOWA REPUBLICANS FILING LAWSUITS AGAINST THE SUMMIT PIPELINE DECISION?

A: Yes, a group of Iowa Republican lawmakers are planning to ask federal and state courts to rule that the Iowa Utilities Commission acted illegally and unconstitutionally in its approval of a controversial pipeline project, according to a story in the Iowa Capital Dispatch last week. The group of nearly 40 Iowa lawmakers includes Sens. Kevin Alons, Rocky De Witt, Lynn Evans, Jesse Green, Dennis Guth, Mark Lofgren, David Rowley, Sandy Salmon, Jason Schultz, Jeff Taylor and Cherielynn Westrich. Also, Reps. Eddie Andrews, Brooke Boden, Steven Bradley, Ken Carlson, Mark Cisneros, Zach Dieken, Dean Fisher, Dan Gehlbach, Thomas Gerhold, Cindy Golding, Helena Hayes, Bob Henderson, Steven Holt, Heather Hora, Thomas Jeneary, Bobby Kaufman, Joshua Meggers, Anne Osmundson, Bradley Sherman, Jeff Shipley, Luana Stoltenberg, Henry Stone, Mark Thompson, Charles Thomson, Skyler Wheeler and Derek Wulf. ■

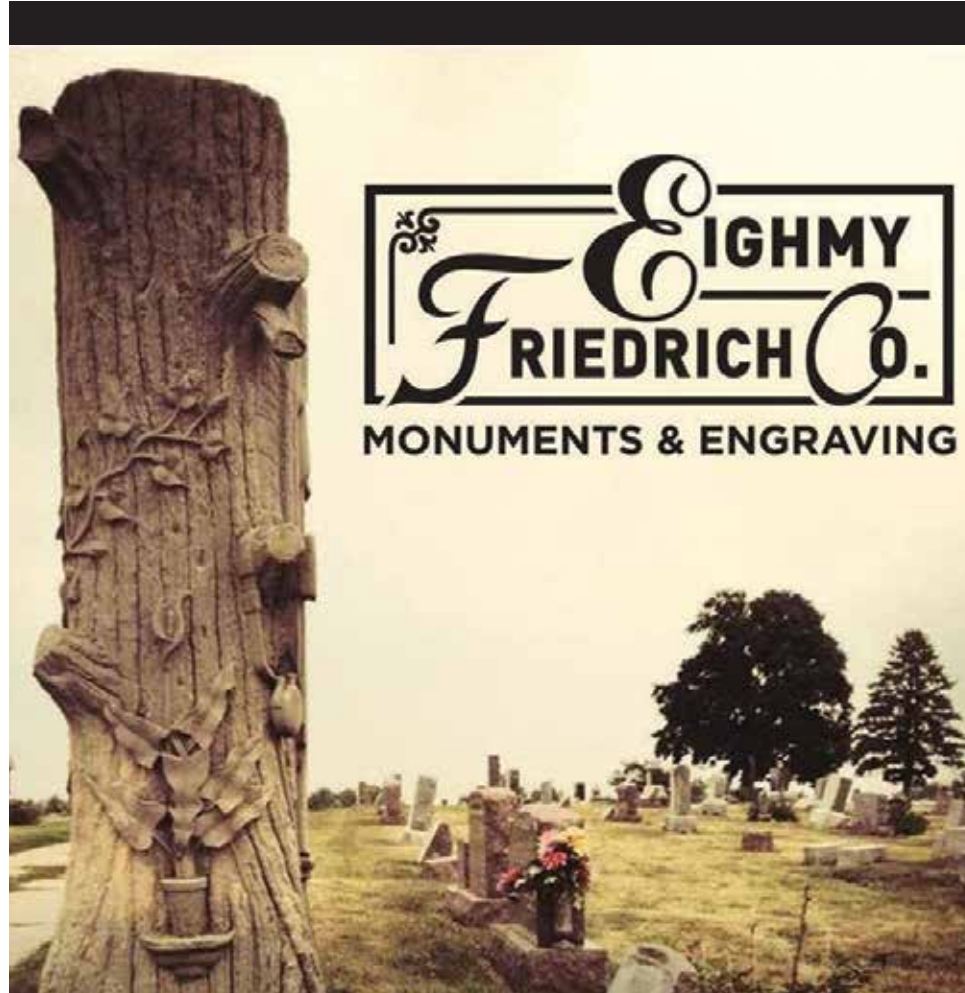
LIONS CLUB AND LEO CLUB MAKE DONATIONS



Special to Guthrie Center Times

The Guthrie Center Lions Club and the Leo Club made check presentations on Thursday. The Lions presented a check in the amount of \$38,500 to Little

Chargers Early Learning Center, and the Leo Club presented a check in the amount of \$1,500 to Little Chargers as well. The Lions also presented a \$2,500 check to the Leo Club for helping in the food stand. ■



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BILL BEN NICKEL

1948-2024

Bill Ben Nickel, 76, was born Sept. 2, 1948, in Carroll, to Clifford and Fern (Scott) Nickel and was the youngest of five children.

Surrounded by his family, he peacefully passed away at home Sept. 10, 2024. Bill faced his battle with cancer with the unwavering determination and strength that shaped his entire life. Refusing to let the illness define him, he fought fiercely with sheer determination through every challenge. His legacy will forever be one of courage and a refusal to give up, no matter the odds.

Bill grew up on the family farm in Guthrie Center, where he attended grade school and high school, graduating in 1967. After graduation, he moved to Des Moines and was employed by Meredith Corporation.

On Nov. 25, 1968,

Bill was drafted into the Army, serving in Vietnam from 1969 to 1970. He was honorably discharged on June 29, 1970.

During the summer of 1968, Bill met the love of his life, Margene Peters, at the A&W in Carroll. On March 20, 1971, they were united in marriage at Holy Family Church in Lidderdale. They were blessed with three wonderful children: Brent, Melonie and Amy, who in turn gave them eight beautiful grandchildren, with two great-grandchildren on the way.

During their marriage, Bill and Margene lived in several places, including Guthrie Center, Des Moines, Sheridan (Wyoming) and Perry, before purchasing a farm in Woodward, where they lived from 1986 until the present.

Bill was a hard worker and had several different occupations, often working two jobs at the same time. Among his roles, he drove a logging truck in Wyoming, operated machinery for Perry Asphalt, and worked at the Woodward State Hospital Farm. For 18 years, Bill was employed by Meadow Gold Dairy in Perry, first operating a novelty ice cream line and later becoming the plant manager. During this time, he also farmed 460 acres, some of which included a legacy family farm, while raising livestock. After retiring from Meadow Gold, Bill drove a semi-truck

and drove for Heartland Express. In addition, Bill and Margene owned and managed rental properties, of which Bill handled all the maintenance.

Bill enjoyed life to the fullest. He loved fishing in Canada, first with his brothers, then with Margene, the kids, grandkids and friends. He treasured traveling with Margene in their motorhome, especially their three-month-long trip to Alaska. The couple also enjoyed spending winters in Arizona, where Bill loved four-wheeling, rock climbing in his side-by-side, and making new friends.

Bill especially cherished time with his eight grandchildren. He began a tradition of "Grandpa/Granddaughter Camping" and tubing at Lake Anita with his four oldest granddaughters, a tradition that continued for 11 years. As his two grandsons grew older, he was excited to take them fishing each year at Red Lake, Canada, always hoping they would catch a big one. He took great joy in patiently coaching them as they reeled in their catch. When the two youngest granddaughters were old enough, Bill proudly took them camping, often to their favorite spot, Spring Lake, where he taught them how to roller skate. Bill also loved spending time with friends, playing cards, and participating in the neighborhood's beloved Margarita Mondays.

Bill is survived by his wife, Margene of Woodward; his son, Brent (Shantel) Nickel of Grinnell; daughters, Melonie (Jay) Slight of Johnston and Amy (Stacy Lilley) Nickel of Perry; his grandchildren, Emily (Ian) Webster, Casey Nickel, Jared Nickel, Jack Nickel, Taylor (Noah) Webster, and Madalyn Lee, Mackenzie and Natalie Lilley; his sister, Evelyn Mathews; his brothers, Wayne Nickel and Dan Nickel; along with several nieces and nephews. Bill is also cherished by many close friends who continue to share his memory.

Bill was preceded in death by his parents; his sister, Molly Mehalovich; brothers-in-law, Tony Mehalovich, Keith Mathews and Howard Peters; his sisters-in-law, Cheryl Nickel and Madelyn Sink; and his in-laws, Alvie Peters, Helen (Peters) Leonard and Carl Leonard.

A funeral service was held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 14, 2024, at Caldwell Parrish Funeral Home, Perry Chapel (1721 Park St., Perry). Family greeted friends one hour prior, beginning at 9 a.m. Bill was laid to rest with Military Honors at Woodward City Cemetery following the service. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be directed to the family to sponsor an Honor Flight for military veterans in Bill's memory. Online condolences may be left at www.caldwellparrish.com ■



THOMAS JOSEPH (T.J.) REDFERN, II

1977-2024

Thomas Joseph (T.J.) Redfern, II was born in Guthrie Center on Feb. 15, 1977, to Thomas and Cindy (McCarty) Redfern. He was the youngest of three sons.

Growing up, T.J. enjoyed fishing, hunting and being just plain ornery. He graduated from Guthrie Center High School, where he participated in football, wrestling and swim team.

During his senior year, T.J. made his family proud and wrestled his way to the state tournament.

After graduation, T.J. worked in construction until he started trucking across the country, where he met several life-long friends. He did this until 2011 when he entered the insurance business.

By 2020, T.J. returned to his first passion — trucking. He took a leap of faith and bought his semi, becoming his own boss and a businessman.

In 2009, T.J. met his wife, Andrea, during a roping tournament at the Dallas County Fair in Adel. The

sparks flew, and they were married a few years later on Aug. 24, 2013. T.J.'s heart swelled when they welcomed their son, Kroy, into the world two years later. Two years after that, it swelled again when their younger son, Brylon, joined the family.

T.J. had the same love for his nieces and nephews. As each one joined the family, he welcomed them with open arms — hanging out with them in the "cave," teaching them to fish, taking them coyote hunting and horseback riding, competing in roping contests with them, cheering them on at sporting events, and teasing them endlessly with silly nicknames.

Many loved ones await T.J.'s arrival in heaven, including his father, Thomas Joseph Redfern, his grandparents, and several aunts, uncles, and cousins.

T.J. is survived by his wife, Andrea (Clark); sons, Kroy and Brylon; mother, Cindy; brother, Chad and his children, Delaney (Jeb), Dakota and Alexis; brother, Travis (Courtney) and his children, Mackenzie and Justin; father and mother-in-law, Paul and Sheryl Clark; brother-in-law, Travis (Christy) and his children Vada, Priya and Bodie; and brother-in-law, Dustin (Sarah), all of Guthrie Center. Many aunts, uncles, cousins and great friends also survive him.

T.J. joined his father, Tom, in heaven on Aug. 24, 2024, where they are likely fishing or playing cards. No matter what they are doing, they are laughing and happy. T.J. will be greatly missed by his family and friends who will remember his devotion to his loved ones, his fondness of music, and his great and unflinching sense of humor. ■

OBITUARIES

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THEODORE 'TED' K. HANSEN

1926-2024

Theodore "Ted" K. Hansen, 97, son of Vernon and Leta Hansen, was born Sept. 13, 1926, in Inglewood, California. He passed away peacefully Wednesday, Aug. 7, 2024, at the Guthrie County Hospital, Guthrie Center, surrounded by his loving family.

Ted graduated from Granger High School in 1945. He was then drafted into the United States Army during WWII. Following his honorable discharge, he married Norma Jean Kahler, and to this union, five children were born. They lived in Indianola while Ted went to Simpson College until his graduation. He then

went on to Iowa State University and Drake University and earned his master's degree in education. They moved to Granger, and in the mid 1950s, they moved to Guthrie Center, where Ted built their family home and they raised their children. Ted taught sciences at Guthrie Center High School from 1954 to 1962. He was the elementary principal from 1962 to 1988, when he retired. Ted also owned and operated Guthrie Center Plumbing and two laundromats during his time as principal. Ted also did custom woodworking for homes, and he made the cross that is in the sanctuary at the Methodist Church in Guthrie Center. He touched many lives in the Guthrie Center Community and Guthrie Center school system.

Ted enjoyed golfing, fishing, jewelry making, woodworking and supporting his children and grandchildren in their activities. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church, Guthrie Center, where he sang in the church choir. He was also a member of the Omar B. Shearer Legion Post No. 124, Lions Club, High Finance, and served on the New Homestead Board.

Ted's greatest joy was spending time with his family, especially happy

hour at his home on Friday nights. He will be missed dearly by many.

Ted is survived by his son, Gary Hansen of Iowa City; daughters, Kathy Horner of Des Moines, Cindy (Don) Slaybaugh of Guthrie Center, Tami (Bill) McCool of Waukee, and Sherry (Randy) Rhoades of Guthrie Center; 10 grandchildren, Kourtney (Jerome) McComb, Justin (Tabby) Slaybaugh, Amanda (Ryan) Steffensen, Nick (Beth) McCool, Mallory (Jesse) Cunningham, Zach (Whitney) McCool, Maleah (Gunner) Strauser, Chelsea (Billy) Baudler, Cerissa (Ben) Smith, and Keaton (Brey) Rhoades; and 24 great-grandchildren with one on the way. He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Norma, in 2020; son-in-law, Bill Horner; great-grandson, Will Cunningham; and sisters, Lucille and Loree.

Memorial services were 1 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 10, 2024, at the First United Methodist Church, Guthrie Center with visitation one hour prior to the services at the church. Burial was held immediately following the services at the Lincoln Cemetery, Granger.

Memorials may be left to the Guthrie Center Elementary School.

Twigg Funeral Home was entrusted with his services. ■

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THE MONTH IN ACGC SPORTS

CROSS COUNTRY PHOTOS BY MALLORY QUICK | SPECIAL TO GUTHRIE CENTER TIMES



THE ACGC GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY TEAM: Front row (left to right): Paige Van Meter, Jayla Hoover, Hannah Muller, Elizabeth Drake, Cadence Petersen and Brooklyn Schafer. Back row, (left to right): Coach Jacob Lacey, Coach Rick Blake, Emmarae Ellis, Adalyn Benson, Ava Campbell, Lillie Lauzon, Belle Fagan, Coach Kyle Fever and Coach Daniel Woods.



THE ACGC BOYS CROSS COUNTRY TEAM: Front row (left to right): Mozingo, Jonny Kading and Noah Kading. Back row (left to right): Noland, Tai Riordan, Gavin Sloss, Tate Fever, Brody Beeler, and Preston Kent.

FOOTBALL PHOTOS BY MARK REED | SPECIAL TO GUTHRIE CENTER TIMES



No. 3 Jathan South avoids the defender in a game against Earlham Sept. 6.



No. 34 Payton Policky breaks a tackle in a scrimmage against Des Moines Christian Aug. 23.



No. 5 Ryder Cline marches down the field against Ogden Aug. 30.

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(left to right): Stetson Ellis, Jameson Pfrang, Cameron [unclear]
(right to left): Coach Jacob Lacey, Coach Rick Blake, Ryne [unclear]
 Coach Kyle Fever and Coach Daniel Woods. **Not**



THE ACGC VOLLEYBALL TEAM: Front row (left to right): Brynnlee Seek, Keira Boals, Shyann Young, Kelsie Steensen, Ilana Baumart and Meranda Gruber. **Back row (left to right):** Coach Tara Largent, Megan Underwood, Savannah Akers, Nora Langgaard, Olivia Mahaffey, Becca Littler, Addison Laugherty, Stella Largent, Cam Richter, Shay Lemke, Coach Barb South and Coach Caley Vaughan.

VOLLEYBALL PHOTO BY CHLOE WILLIAMS | GUTHRIE CENTER TIMES



No. 4 Joe Crawford stiff-arms the Earlham defender Sept. 6.



No. 8 Brexton Schneider breaks it out wide against Ogden Aug. 30.



No. 9 Chase Slaybaugh holds for No. 23 kicker Oliver Wetzels against Ogden Aug. 30.

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DOWD DRUG: A TRUSTED NAME IN GUTHRIE CENTER

Julie Priestley says she's proud to continue providing the type of services and products that meet the needs of the local community.

BY RICH WICKS

Guthrie Center Times

The more things change, the more they stay the same. Dowd Drug was a longtime landmark in Guthrie Center more than 40 years ago. Yet, despite changes in ownership, the business name and the reputation for customer service have remained.

Decades ago, Jim Vandevanter of Guthrie Center started working at Dowd Drug. Eventually, in the early 1980s, Jim and Janice Vandevanter bought the business. Knowing that the name Dowd Drug was respected in the community, he kept that name.

The business name wasn't the only thing that remained. The Vandevanter family found that "if it ain't broke, don't fix it." So, they kept running the business as a small independent pharmacy, and that's still true today, although another ownership change has occurred.

Jim and Janice's daughter, Julie Priestley, now owns the store and serves as pharmacist. Priestley's sister, Jane Clausen, is also a pharmacist, and she runs Adel HealthMart Pharmacy. Both daughters bought the respective businesses in 2018, when their parents chose to retire.

Priestley says she's proud to continue providing the type of services and products that meet the needs of the local community. She strives to offer more than just pharmacy services.

"We have a full line of over-the-counter products, and we do flu shots, shingles shots, that sort of thing, too," Priestley said. "That's an important part of our business right now, as we head into that season."

Priestley and her staff of eight work to continue the small-town, independent pharmacy services that the Dowd name is



Julie Priestley serves customers with a smile at Dowd Drug.

known for in Guthrie County. And, despite industry changes and legislative restrictions, Priestley said there is no intention to change from that business plan.

When asked about services that some customers may not be aware of, Priestley mentioned three: medication packaging, immunizations, and medication synchronization. Medication packaging means the pharmacy can put medications in various packaging, such as "bubble packs," which make it easier for the customer to take medications as directed.

Priestley explained medication synchronization, which is also known as "med sync."

"We have a lot of people who use our

medication synchronization service, where you can get all of your medications filled once a month, or however often need be, so that they're only making one trip to the pharmacy. We're making a big push to get more people signed up for that," Priestley said. "It helps us out, to make sure people have refills when they need them, and to make sure we have inventory when we need it. And it helps the customer out by just making that one trip to pick up their prescriptions."

Besides medications and medical items, the store offers a variety of items in the front. Priestley listed off many of the types of items in stock.

"We have a gift section and a toy sec-

tion up front. Jewelry, décor, purses, food items," she said. "Things we offer that are good for our community to have so that people don't have to drive to Des Moines every time. And, of course, we have Hallmark cards here as well."

Priestley recalls that, in her childhood, she grew up immersed in the pharmacy lifestyle, so it just seemed natural that would be her career.

"There was a career day in third grade where kids could dress up as whatever they wanted to be," Priestley said. "I remember I wore a white lab coat, and I had a pill bottle with some M&M's in it. So, I guess ever since then, I realized that's what I wanted to do." ■

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WHAT'S IN YOUR GARAGE?

JIM AND GWEN OBERHOLTZ LOVE '57 CHEVYS

Jim says he has owned five '57s in his lifetime.

BY RICH WICKS
Guthrie Center Times

When people talk about classic cars, one of the most commonly admired models is the 1957 Chevrolet. It's one of the most iconic designs from the "American Graffiti" era, with the fins and unique shape that is so "50s." The car's interior includes the bench seating that was popular with the drive-in theater crowd back in the day. And, clearly, you can count Jim Oberholtz of Casey as one of those who really enjoys a 1957 Chevy. Jim and his wife, Gwen, recently agreed to show and tell the story of their appre-

ciation for that model.

"We've only had this one about two years," Jim said. "The one before that was about 22 years, and that was a '57 also. I ended up having a little trouble with it, and the guy that owned it before wanted it back, so I sold it back to him."

Regarding his current '57, Jim said it's not souped-up in any way.

"This is a '57 210. Nothing fancy, just a grocery getter," Jim said.

There's just something about a '57 Chevy that catches Jim's fancy.

"In my lifetime, I think I've had five '57s," Jim said. "When I was a kid growing up...I just kind of liked them."

Over the years, Jim has usually owned just one classic car at a time, and he drives them enough to keep them in good running order but seldom enough to avoid much wear and tear. In the win-



Jim and Gwen Oberholtz enjoy their 1957 Chevy 210.

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ter, he puts his '57 up on blocks.

"We'll hop in and go get ice cream or whatever," Jim said.

"We don't go too far," Gwen agreed.

Jim explained the unusual way that he came to own his current '57.

"My friend, Brian Rumble, goes to Arizona every winter for a month, and he knew I was looking for a '57 again. He found it. I didn't even go look at it. It had a lot of good pictures," Jim said.

Because he trusted Rumble's opinion, and because Rumble knew what Jim wanted, Jim ended up buying the car without seeing it first, but he hasn't been disappointed. Jim and Gwen enter the car in shows and events occasionally, and it has won some awards along the way. But Jim says talking with other car enthusiasts is the best part of any show. Most of the car events the couple attends are in the local area, such as Casey, Adair and Stuart. Regarding the Stuart Scoop the Loop event, Gwen said that's one of her favorites.

"They get a lot of cars, and they're all cool to me. It's a really good show," Gwen said.

Jim showed off a unique trophy made out of car parts that he won at a show with his '57.

"It's got part of a crankshaft and part of an automatic transmission," Jim said.



The interior of the 1957 Chevy includes the popular bench seating.

Although Jim formerly spent a little more time actually working on his cars, he isn't as active with that anymore. Nowadays, he mostly enjoys just driving and showing his car.

"I drive them until they quit," he said. "Then I go get another one." ■



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COMMUNITY

GUTHRIE CENTER FIRE DEPARTMENT RECEIVES \$25K GRANT FROM PRAIRIE MEADOWS



Derek Betts receives a check from Jacob Hedgecock and Samantha Kane of Prairie Meadows. Also pictured, back row, are Cory Campbell, Randy Sheeder, Cody Sheeder, Chuck Cleveland and C J Melton.

BY RICH WICKS
Guthrie Center Times

Prairie Meadows Community Betterment Grant. The money will be used to upgrade the communication system within the fire department with new handheld radios and radios in the trucks. ■

The Guthrie Center Fire Department applied for and received \$25,000 from the

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GUTHRIE COUNTY FAIR

SHYANN YOUNG CROWNED AS GUTHRIE COUNTY FAIR QUEEN

SPECIAL TO GUTHRIE CENTER TIMES



2023 Guthrie County Fair Queen Riley Gibson leads the applause for this year's fair queen Shyann Young.

BY RICH WICKS
Guthrie Center Times

On Sept. 1, the 2024 Guthrie County Fair Queen, Riley Gibson, passed the crown to her successor, as Shyann Young was announced as the 2025 Guthrie County Fair Queen.

Young is a 17-year-old senior at ACGC high school. She participates in volley-

ball, track, 4-H, concert band, marching band, jazz band, choir, large group speech, individual speech, art club, theater and student council. She has also been active in swing choir, FFA and FCCLA.

As part of her duties, Young will compete for the title of Iowa State Fair Queen in 2025. The other contestants were Addison Laughery and Kassidy Olson. ■



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PHOTOS BY MARK REIND AND SHANE GOODMAN



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MEMORIAL

BAIER MEMORIAL PLANNED AT ACGC STADIUM



This conceptual drawing shows what the completed memorial could look like.

BY RICH WICKS
Guthrie Center Times

ACGC Football Coach Cody Matthewson is leading an effort to create a memorial within ACGC stadium to honor Ron Baier. On social media, Matthewson shared details of the plan.

"On the west side of the stadium, inside the track, the project will entail a raised three-tiered flag bed with the top of the Jarmin Field stone on one side and a memorial for Ron Baier on the other. This will be privately funded with no expenses being paid from our schools. The goal is to raise \$10,000 for the project. We will be hosting a Military Appreciation Night and reveal of the memorial during a football

game this fall if all goes as planned," Matthewson said.

For anyone interested in pitching in toward the project, an account has been opened at Guthrie County State Bank titled "Ron Baier Memorial Fund."

Matthewson explained his personal reasons for wanting to create the tribute.

"Ron had a huge impact on me when I was first hired and showed me the right way to do things around the school," Matthewson said. "He set the expectation of pride. He cared for the field, and I hope I can make him proud with how it looks on Friday nights."

For more information, contact Matthewson at cmatthewson@acgcschools.org or 816-642-8817. ■

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EVENT

CASEY PARTY IN THE PARK SEPT. 22

Special to Guthrie Center Times

Party in the Park will be held Sunday, Sept. 22 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Casey to celebrate the Casey City Park Project. A free lunch will be provided by the Casey Service Club while it lasts. The kids will be entertained with inflatables, face-painting and free goodie bags. Bring your lawn chairs and beverages. (Alcohol is allowed; must be 21 years of age.)

The Casey Grant Committee will recognize park donors and contributors who made this project possible. Shop crafters and vendors and choose from lots of canned goods, jewelry, baked goods and crafts. Live music will be provided by Garrett and the Relics from 1-4 p.m.

Visit "CASEY IOWA: THIS IS MY HOMETOWN" Facebook page for detailed vendors and information. ■

CELEBRATION

FICKES CELEBRATES 90TH BIRTHDAY

Special to Guthrie Center Times

Donna Fickes is celebrating her 90th birthday on Sunday, Sept. 22 from 2-4 p.m.

at the Guthrie Center Christian Church Fellowship Hall, 105 N. Fourth St. Donna requests no gifts and says your presence is her present. ■

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50 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie Center Times, Sept. 19, 1974

ADAIR-CASEY ROYALTY: These 10 senior students have been nominated for the king and queen titles at the 1974 Adair-Casey homecoming Friday night. Queen candidates from left are Kathy Rochholz, Carol Sullins, Kim Anderson, Cindy Richter and Mary Ernst. King candidates are, from left, Brad Gilliland, Raleigh Rubenking, Doug Bassett, Bill Sorber and Kevin Petty. Photo by Charlie Davis.

30 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie Center Times, Sept. 7, 1994

TWO-TIME WINNER: Blake Benton, Guthrie Center, showed both the champion commercial gilt and champion market barrow.

10 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie Center Times, Sept. 17, 2014

Guthrie Center Fire Chief Doug Kent shows off the open air gear lockers at the new fire station.

40 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie Center Times, Sept. 5, 1984

THE NEW CHAMP: A black Angus exhibited by Michelle Bradford, Guthrie Center, was judged the grand champion market steer at the Guthrie County Fair. Bradford's critter, home raised, also was tops in the rate-of-gain contest. The steer was purchased for \$1 per pound (\$1,330) by the Guthrie County Beef Producers.

20 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie Center Times, Sept. 1, 2004

FULL TEAM: Guthrie Center will have its first full boys cross country team in a number of years. From left, Brady Langgaard, Eddie Brock, Neil Langgaard, Blair Rosenbeck, Cory Hall and Jeff Sangster.

5 YEARS AGO



Guthrie County Times Vedette, Sept. 5, 2019

BUILDING DAMAGED IN CRASH: Workers clear debris from where a dump truck plowed into the side of the old Guthrie Center Fire Department building about 9:30 a.m. Tuesday. Authorities estimate the building suffered \$50,000 in damage. ■

MARY J. BARNETT LIBRARY NEWS

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BY KAREN KELLY

Special to Guthrie Center Times

Former First Lady and librarian Laura Bush famously said, "I have found the most valuable thing in my wallet is my library card." Nothing could be more accurate from my perspective. Visit your library, get your library card, and so many resources are available to you at no charge.

September is Library Card Month. During the month of September, the American Library Association urges everyone to get their own library card from their local library.

You may be wondering why bother to get a library card. First, the library houses hundreds of books that are free for you to use. In addition to print books, we also have audiobooks, magazines and newspapers. The library has free wi-fi, tablets, computers and hot spots available to check out. We have DVDs, cake pans and board games to borrow.



In addition to the materials in our library, your library card allows you to access the Adventure Pass to get free admission to the Blank Park Zoo, the Des Moines Children's Museum and the Science Center of Iowa. With your library card, you can use the Libby app, which allows you to check

out electronic books and magazines as well as online audiobooks.

A library card not only allows you access to the materials at the Mary J. Barnett Memorial Library, but it also allows you to borrow materials from other libraries across the state.

How do you get a library card? Adults need to bring in their driver's license or other proof of residence. Children need to bring in a parent or guardian with a driver's license or proof of residence. It takes less than five minutes to fill out an application. After you finish, you have your own library card and all the benefits that go with it.

Celebrate Library Card Month by getting a card of your own. As Andrew Carnegie said, "A library outranks any other one thing a community can do to benefit its people. It is a never failing spring in the desert."

NEEDLE FELTING WORKSHOP

MJB will be hosting a workshop pre-

sented by Art on the Fly on Wednesday, Oct. 2. The workshop will be from 6:30-8 p.m. in the Taylor Meeting Room. The cost of the workshop will be \$25, and attendees will make two projects. Call the library to register.

STORYHOUR

September StoryHour will take place each Friday morning at 10 a.m. Stephanie from Lake Lumber will be our guest reader on Sept. 20, and she will share books about building. The theme of Sept. 27 will be fall.

REGULAR ADULT PROGRAMS

Cribbage will be each Monday morning from 9-11 a.m. On Wednesdays from 9-11 a.m., Bridge Club meets. Card making club meets on the third Thursday of each month. Everyone is welcome to join these activities. Cribbage and Bridge are free. Card making cost \$5 to cover the cost of materials used to make greeting cards. ■

Thank you so much to all of our wonderful patients for voting in the Best of the Guthrie County Poll.



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SPICY CHIPOTLE CHICKEN PASTA

BY JOLENE GOODMAN
Guthrie Center Times

Our family loves pasta. And, what's not to like? These warm, tasty dishes can vary with meat selections, no-meat options, vegetables galore, no veggies, sauce varieties, gooey cheese or no cheese, and the list goes on. They are typically easy to make and are affordable. When we were raising our daughters, I made a lot of pasta. There are a few recipes I know by heart, and they still get requested at family gatherings. Now, we live in a household of two, and pasta is no longer part of our weekly meal plan. It is missed. We have the good fortune that one daughter and her husband live close by, and both are good cooks. We love this, as they invite us to dinner often. I share one of their pasta dishes this

month. It has earned a top spot in our list of family favorites and is a perfect balance of creamy indulgence with crisp veggies and juicy chunks of chicken. It is colorful and nutritious, as well as delicious. I hope you enjoy it, too.

Do you have a family favorite recipe you'd like share with me? I'd love to see it. Email to Jolene@IowaLivingmagazines.com.

Happy cooking! ■

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



Jolene Goodman

SPICY CHIPOTLE CHICKEN PASTA

Ingredients

- 2 boneless, skinless chicken breast cut into 1-inch pieces
- 1 pound pasta (penne is recommended)
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1/4 teaspoon coarse ground black pepper
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1/4 cup honey
- 2 tablespoons chipotle pepper sauce from canned adobo peppers
- 1 red bell pepper, chopped
- 1 yellow bell pepper, chopped
- 1/2 yellow onion, minced
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 cups heavy cream
- 1 lb. fresh asparagus, small stock preferred

- 1 small bag of frozen peas - optional
- 6 oz. shredded parmesan cheese
- tortilla chip strips, optional

Directions

Boil water for pasta. Add asparagus (and peas, if using) to water and boil for 3 minutes or until crisp. Take out asparagus and rinse with cold water to stop cooking and leave in a colander. Set aside. Boil pasta according to package directions minus 2 minutes. Drain in same bowl as asparagus. Do not rinse. Mix chicken, lemon juice, salt and pepper. Set aside. Melt butter in a skillet over medium heat. Add pepper and onions. Cook 7-10 minutes. Add garlic and cook 1 minute. Remove all and set aside. Add oil to the pan and brown chicken on



medium/high. Add honey and stir, then add pepper mixture. Stir mix thoroughly before adding in adobo sauce, cream and parmesan cheese. Cook 3 minutes. Add pasta and asparagus. Stir thoroughly. Serve with extra parmesan cheese and tortilla strips if desired. ■

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www.umc.org/en/find-a-church/church?id=50556

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1107 Broad St., Adair
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<http://goodshepherdadair.com>

New Life Baptist Church
218 Audubon St., Adair, IA 50002
www.newlifeadair.org
Our messages:
www.newlifeadair.org/videos



Saint John Catholic Church

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<https://adairstjohn.org>



CASEY

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www.idwlcms.org/congregation.php?id=29



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Bowman Chapel United Methodist Church
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641-332-2408

First Christian Church
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641-332-2571
Christian.org



First United Methodist Church
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First Presbyterian Church
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641-322-2778
www.guthriecentersda.com



Immanuel Lutheran Church
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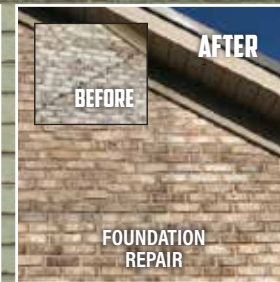
The answer for the location of last month's photo is a mural at Guthrie County Fairgrounds on the NRCS bathroom building. The first correct answer was from Joy Hasbrouck, who painted it several years ago. Have a guess on where this month's photographed image is? Have a photo to submit for future issues? Send to shane@gctimesnews.com. ■



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