

Guthrie Center TIMES

JANUARY 2025

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A GUTHRIE COUNTY WEDDING

**ONE COUPLE'S STORY ON
THE JOURNEY TOWARD
MARRIAGE**

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**SPRINGBROOK FAMILY
DENTISTRY AIMS FOR
COMPLETE PATIENT
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FOR THE NEW YEAR**

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In 2024, the Guthrie County Community Foundation awarded **MORE THAN \$210,000** to organizations and groups who serve Guthrie County residents.



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\$200,000+ is available to be awarded in Guthrie County for 2025

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Now's the time to submit grant applications for 2025 funds. Funding is available to 501(c)3 non-profit organizations and government entities that reside in Guthrie County or serve Guthrie County residents.

The deadline to apply is midnight, January 31, 2025.

Applications and more information about eligibility are available at GuthrieCountyCommunityFoundation.org



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ON THE COVER: Newlyweds Rylie Johnston and TJ Claussen outside the church at their wedding in 2023. Photo courtesy Jamaica Reed Photography

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A GUTHRIE COUNTY WEDDING MIGHT HAVE BEEN A BETTER CHOICE.

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

Jolene's parents, Dean and Lois Poth, lived full-time in Guthrie County at Lake Panorama at the time, but we never even considered a wedding here. 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 Panorama 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 for a while — 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 par-



Shane Goodman

ty 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 two-level 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 event, and after reading about beautiful Guthrie County wed-

ding 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.

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

Shane Goodman
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A GUTHRIE COUNTY WEDDING

One couple's story on the journey toward marriage.

BY RICH WICKS
Guthrie Center Times

In Guthrie County, as in most places, weddings are a big deal, as they should be. The details and organization can be seemingly endless, but the memories last forever. This month's cover story shares details of one local couple's wedding and the planning that was involved in their nuptials.

THE PROPOSAL

By 2022, Rylie Johnston and TJ Clausen had been dating for a few years and had enjoyed a visit to the High Trestle Bridge near Madrid. Since both loved the breathtaking view from that bridge, TJ decided it was a perfect place to pop a certain question. TJ tried to keep his plans a secret.

"We had been there prior, and I knew she wanted to go back and walk it again, and so I decided that was the time," TJ said.

However, Rylie began to suspect his motive.

"I kind of knew it was coming. He was really specific on picking a date in June to go back to the bridge, so I figured maybe he was going to propose to me," Rylie said.

Rylie's hunch was correct, and she said yes. The couple set a wedding date of Oct. 14, 2023, so they could make the arrangements for their special day.



Presenting Mr. and Mrs. Clausen.

THE VENUE

As the couple started the planning, they agreed they wanted to include family and fun. They also chose to have a mostly traditional wedding, with a few unique twists of their own.

Rylie is from Casey, while TJ is from Adair, so most of their friends and relatives live nearby. Because of this, they decided to get married at the Saints Center in Stuart.

Rylie recalled what appealed to her about the Saints Center.

"It's absolutely beautiful, and there's so much history behind it," she said. "It had a fire, but then it was rebuilt."

TJ also liked that venue.

"I always felt that being married in a church was how to do it right," TJ said. "And walking into it was just mind-blowing."

Rylie and TJ also agreed that they didn't want to have a "destination wedding" because that could create a hardship (of

time and/or money) for potential guests. The couple felt strongly that the wedding should be fun and stress-free for all involved.

USING FAMILY AND LOCAL VENDORS

As the young couple continued planning, they stuck to their main goals of keeping things simple (especially for guests) and using family and local vendors whenever possible.

"We wanted to support as many local businesses as possible, and a lot of our family is a part of the wedding industry," Rylie said. "My mom is the owner of Revel Salon and Boutique. Both she and my sister-in-law are hairstylists, and my husband's aunt, Jamaica Reed, is a photographer."

Rylie and TJ were careful to avoid burdening any relatives but found that those they asked were happy to be involved.

"For our flowers, we used Stuart Flow-

ers and Gifts," Rylie said. "That was pretty much right around the corner from the church. And we found most of our décor through places like Facebook Marketplace and Amazon."

For food, the couple chose local vendors to help make sure everyone would be well satisfied.

"Our main concern was that nobody left hungry," Rylie said. "We had a donut cake, with Krispy Kremes on the lower level and then traditional cake on the top level. We also used another vendor, Huess Creations, that did a lot of little pastries, key lime pie desserts and little strawberry tarts. And my mom and mother-in-law, for the reception, they did a huge meat and cheese board."

Other food vendors the couple used included Main Street Market and Jeanette Jorgensen.

THE DRESS

Regarding the wedding dress and bridesmaid dresses, Rylie explained that those



Hairstyling for the big day.



The newlyweds pose outside the church.

decisions happened out of the blue when she found something that just felt right.

“I wanted to do the traditional thing, to go wedding dress shopping with my mom and my soon-to-be mother-in-law, and others,” Rylie said. “But my mom and I were shopping at Dillard’s for engagement photo outfits, and we came across a wedding dress sales rack, and I saw a dress that I wanted to try on, so I did. And it was that moment when we both knew that was the dress.”

A similar thing occurred regarding selecting bridesmaid dresses.

“I was just scrolling on Pinterest and found the bridesmaid dresses I liked,” Rylie said.

For a bachelor party, Rylie and his groomsmen attended an Iowa Hawkeye

football game. Rylie recalled her bachelorette party was fun and relaxing.

“We spent one day at my maid of honor’s house, and then we spent the next day in Des Moines having brunch at the Americana Restaurant,” Rylie said.

INCLUDING THE PET

Although the couple does not yet have any children, TJ’s dog, Rocky, met Rylie as the couple dated, and he adjusted well.

“I got him prior to us dating, and he’s just latched on to her. He follows her around everywhere. My parents both say he’s not my dog anymore; he’s Rylie’s dog,” TJ said.

Since Rocky is a part of the family, he was included in some of the wedding photos, as well.

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ADVICE FOR OTHERS

Asked about any advice the couple would give to others planning a wedding, Rylie had a specific suggestion.

“Premarital counseling helped,” Rylie said. “Pastor Austin requested it, and it really helped us become stronger as a couple.”

The couple’s wedding was neither large nor small by usual standards.

“I think we sent out about 200 invitations, and about 150 people showed up,” TJ said.

THE UNEXPECTED

At weddings, despite careful planning, perfection is almost impossible to achieve. But it’s often those unexpected accidents that make the day fun and memorable. Rylie and TJ recalled two such examples from their wedding day.

One occurred when Rylie’s dress train was accidentally forgotten. However, that ended up being a “non-event.”

“It looked fine, and everybody said she looked great,” TJ said.

TJ described another unexpected glitch that resulted in a memorable and funny moment.

“Our minister unknowingly stole my



The wedding party supports the bride on Rylie and TJ’s big day.

sister’s bridesmaid speech,” TJ said. “As he was saying it, her jaw just dropped. So, when it was her turn, she said, ‘Well, since Pastor Austin unintentionally stole my speech, I’ll do something else.’”

A FAMILY HONEYMOON

The couple didn’t go on a traditional honeymoon but instead included family.

“We actually went on a big family vacation, with our in-laws, a year after our wedding,” Rylie said.

SMALL-TOWN LIFE

As the couple has settled into married life, living in Casey, they cherish small-town life among friends and family.

“I’m a licensed nail technician and massage therapist here in Casey, at Revel Salon Boutique and Revel Spa and Athleisure. The owner is my mom, and my sister-in-law works there, as well,” Rylie said.

TJ is looking to follow in his father’s foot-

steps jobwise.

“I currently work at Karl Chevrolet in Stuart,” TJ said. “I’m in the process of getting my EMT license to hopefully change careers,” TJ said. “My dad is actually a paramedic for Panora EMS.”

The couple enjoys time together going to see movies and trying new restaurants. They’ve also gone on day trips within Iowa, such as the Grotto of the Redemption and Maquoketa Caves.

When asked about any other advice they’d give, Rylie and TJ said communication is key to getting along as a couple and to planning a wedding.

“It doesn’t hurt to go small and support local places,” Rylie said. “Have fun with the process.”

“At least give yourself some time to process what you want for your day,” TJ said. “That made it less stressful. And if you have family members that want to pitch in, don’t push them away.” ■



The newlyweds on a trip together.



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GUTHRIE COUNTY WEDDING DATA AND THE PROCESS

Tristan Richard, Guthrie County Recorder, says the county processes and records applications for marriage licenses but does not specifically track how many of those couples actually got married, since there is no requirement to be married in the same county where an application is filed. In 2023, a total of 55 couples applied for a marriage license in Guthrie County, while 2024 saw 42 applications.

Richard also provided information on the legal process to become married in Iowa.

Persons who wish to marry in Iowa must first complete an Application for License of Marriage and have one witness. The application may be obtained in any county, and the marriage can take place anywhere in Iowa. Both parties must fill out their portion on the application, and new legal names may be adopted through marriage. Once the application is complete and the \$35 fee is paid, there is a three-day waiting period. After that, the ceremony may take place; there is no expiration date. After the ceremony, the

Certificate of Marriage must be signed by both parties, the officiant and two witnesses. The completed Certificate of Marriage must be returned to a county recorder to be filed with the State Vital Records office.

Richard said there is no formal registration of officiants in Iowa. A person is authorized to perform marriage ceremonies in Iowa if that person is: 1) An Iowa judge, magistrate, or associate judge serving on the Iowa supreme court, court of appeals, or district court; or 2) An individual ordained/designated as a leader of the person's religious faith, regardless of the state of residence. Ceremonies by proxy, telephone, internet, or other electronic means are not legal in Iowa. ■



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KRAVEN. MUFASA. ROHIRRIM. AND THE WORST MOVIE I HAVE EVER SEEN.



"Wicked"



"Bonhoeffer: Pastor. Spy. Assassin."



"Black Doves"



"Nightbitch"

BY MICHAEL C. WOODY
Guthrie Center Times

"WICKED"

By now many of you have probably seen "Wicked," but at last month's deadline, I made the choice to see "Gladiator 2" to review and hold "Wicked" for January. Both films are excellent, and I was surprised by that fact. My wife and I took the boys to New York City years ago and had the good fortune to see "Wicked" on Broadway as a family. Everyone loved it except me. So, back to the new movie. It is fabulous — long and fabulous. The music is great, the filming is masterful and the story seems to work better than when I saw the play. A word of warning, this nearly three-hour epic is only the first half. You'll get the second half in late November. Grade: A-



"BONHOEFFER: PASTOR. SPY. ASSASSIN."

This is another winner from the folks at Angel Studios who seem to be cranking out good quality faith-based movies monthly. This time, we get the incredible true story about a priest who is asked to join a plot to assassinate Hitler and save millions of Jews from genocide. I had never heard of this true event, and the movie tells its story well. Grade: B+



"BLACK DOVES"

Keira Knightly and Ben Whishaw star in this espionage-packed six-part series on Netflix set in London. Two assassins tearing up London to get the bad guys is a fun premise, and, for almost all episodes, it works. It might have been a great four-part series, but the



story and action seem to be stretched thin by episode six. Still, it's a fun watch. Grade: B-

"NIGHTBITCH"

Beware, Amy Adams is trying to re-establish her acting cred. A young mother and her son are all but left alone by a traveling husband. She doesn't fit in with the other moms in the neighborhood, so she takes a curious turn and starts to go feral. As crazy as that word sounds, the movie is even crazier, and, by the end, it is head-shaking silliness. This is one of the weirdest and worst movies I've seen this year. Grade: D



"Y2K"

This is easily the year's worst movie. In it, we go back to visit the night we went from 1999 to 2000 and all the craziness that night brought. Here we've got the

stereotypical high school fat kid and his best nerdy buddy making plans for the big night. That's all I'm going to tell you since it is one of the inanest films I've ever seen. I will now use this movie when anyone asks what the worst movie is I have ever seen. I sat there for 70 minutes, got up and left. I didn't bother anyone else since I was the only one in the theatre. Grade: F-



"KRAVEN THE HUNTER"

As a longtime Spider-Man fan, I was looking forward to this movie. My son, Tom, and I went opening weekend to a less-than-packed theater. Russell Crowe plays Kraven's father, a hard-driving parent intent on teaching his kids the life skills that will not only make them successful but also deadly. That's where the story runs out and it is turned over to action scene after action

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"Y2K"



"Kraven The Hunter"



"The Lord of the Rings: The War of the Rohirrim"



"Mufasa: The Lion King"

scene — all well done, in our opinion. Is "Kraven The Hunter" a great film? Far from it, but it is well-made and well-acted, and that's probably better than it had to be. Tom and I actually enjoyed it. Grade: B



"THE LORD OF THE RINGS: THE WAR OF THE ROHIRRIM"

I saw an early afternoon screening of this animated film, which is set nearly 200 years before "The Lord of The Rings" series. This time out, we get the story of a great king

being threatened by his brother, who desires his crown. The king's daughter is a great warrior, and the film tells the story of the fight for the crown and the impact this talented young woman has in helping her father keep his kingdom. While the film's animation is "Scooby-Doo" level, the story is strong and well told. Grade: A-



"MUFASA: THE LION KING"

I'm not sure we needed a live action version of the classic animated

film, but the folks at Disney didn't ask me. Technically, it is a sequel, and, from a technical standpoint, the movie is amazing. From a story-telling standpoint, it is confusing and difficult to follow. In the classic Disney way, plenty of action scenes distract from the confusing storylines and characters who seem shoved into scenes so everyone can reminisce fondly about the original film. I was more disappointed than excited about this sequel. Maybe my expectations were too



high. Grade: B

I hope everyone had a great holiday season. I'll be back next month with the great Bob Dylan bio-pic ("A Complete Unknown"), a steamy Nicole Kidman film ("Babygirl") and the remake of the classic horror film "Nosferatu." ■

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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ARMSTRONG ELECTED CHAIR OF GUTHRIE COUNTY SUPERVISORS

BY RICH WICKS
Guthrie Center Times

DEC. 17 – RIZ RESULTS

During the Guthrie County Board of Supervisors meeting on Dec. 17, County Auditor Dani Fink reported results of the recent Rural Improvement Zone (RIZ) election for Diamondhead Lake and Lake Panorama.

“For Diamondhead Lake, Andrew Sawyer won with 12 votes, and there were five write-in votes. A total of 21 voters turned out for Diamondhead. And then, for Lake Panorama, Larry Peterson won with 30 votes, and there were 30 voters,” Fink said.

The supervisors approved the results as presented.

Supervisor Maggie Armstrong showed a “walk-through” of the county’s new website. She pointed out the toolbar and links that are included.

“I don’t have an exact launch date yet,” Armstrong said, adding that feedback from department heads is requested by Friday, Dec. 20. She said training for department heads and elected officials will be scheduled.

The supervisors discussed scheduling of department head evaluations. The evaluations are to begin in January and will be held in closed session.

The consent agenda was approved, including a new hire payroll change for Steve Stringham as jailer at \$23 per hour. Josh Sebern, County Engineer, provided a department head report.

DEC. 23 – MENTAL HEALTH THERAPIST IN AN OFFICE IN STUART

During the Dec. 23 meeting, Health Service Director Jotham Arber updated the supervisors on plans to add a mental health therapist in an office in Stuart.

“We sent out those mental health budgets to the Board of Health, and they approved them. They wanted a few changes,” Arber said.

He explained that the plan is to hire a therapist to see patients in an office in Stuart but added that the owner/landlord is seeking a three-year lease rather than yearly with auto-renewal.

There was discussion that the proposed new clinic would not get paid if/when Medicaid or Medicare patients are “no shows” for appointments.

“I don’t think we want to over-extend ourselves,” Supervisor Mike Dickson said.

Arber said he will prepare budgets to bring to the supervisors. No formal action was taken at this time.

“I want to make sure that it’s sustainable, not just for right now or the next five years, but for 10, 15, 20 years,” Arber said.

The consent agenda was approved by a 3-2 vote, with Brian Johnson and Dickson voting against. The claims and payroll information had not been sent to the supervisors on Friday, Dec. 20, so there had been little time to review the information.

DEC. 31 – A FOUR-MINUTE MEETING

The supervisors’ final meeting of 2024 was very brief (roughly four minutes). Minutes from the Dec. 17 and Dec. 23 meetings were approved.

One agenda item was a notice of position change for Jeremy Bennett, who is changing from chief deputy sheriff to senior deputy.

Incoming Guthrie County Sheriff Matt Harmann will name his chief deputy sheriff.

JAN. 2 – ARMSTRONG ELECTED AS BOARD CHAIR

The main items addressed during the Jan. 2 meeting were annual appointments and committee assignments. Maggie Armstrong was voted in as board chair, and Steve Smith was voted as vice chair. Most of the remaining appointments were continuations of those appointed in 2024.

The mileage reimbursement rate was increased from 67 cents to 70 cents. The supervisors also approved the nine paid holidays for 2025 as in previous years.

The supervisors voted to keep the meeting schedule unchanged. The supervisors will meet regularly on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9 a.m. from January through March, then only Tuesdays at 9 a.m. for the remainder of the year.

JAN. 7 – SUPERVISORS QUESTION PAYROLL CHANGE NOTICES FOR COUNTY ATTORNEY DEPARTMENT

During the Jan. 7 meeting, the supervisors asked for more information regarding requested payroll change notices for Charles Abel and Casey Jones, both with the county attorney’s department. County Attorney Dana Minter explained the requests are related to additional workload caused by the departure of a staff member.



Maggie Armstrong

Supervisor Steve Smith said he’s unsure if the supervisors can/should weigh-in on such matters, when the department’s budget stays within approved parameters. Supervisor Maggie Armstrong said she’s requested an opinion on this from Mike Galloway (with the law firm of Ahlers and Cooney). The supervisors voted to table the two payroll change notices until the Thursday, Jan. 9 meeting.

Health Service Director Jotham Arber and the supervisors discussed the mental health budget for Fiscal Year 2024/2025.

County Engineer Josh Sebern updated the supervisors on a draft of the county’s dust control policy. He asked the supervisors to give formal approval of the policy by the end of next week, if possible.

The supervisors approved payroll change notices for four employees, as follows:

- Spencer Irwin (new hire for roads department) at \$28.80 per hour.
- Jeremy Bennett (sheriff department). Change from chief deputy to deputy. Pay change from \$86,593 to \$84,555 yearly.
- Todd Thorn (sheriff department). Change from deputy to chief deputy. Pay change from \$84,555 to \$86,593 yearly.
- Kelcee Hodzic (sheriff department). Change due to completing probationary period. Pay change from \$23 to \$23.85 hourly.

The public is welcome to attend any of the open meetings other than special closed sessions. 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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HEALTH

GCH ELECTS BOARD OFFICERS

BY RICH WICKS
Guthrie Center Times

The Guthrie County Hospital's Board of Trustees held a regular monthly meeting on Dec. 30. A public hearing was opened to discuss the proposed projects and hear public comments regarding Guthrie County Hospital's intent to file an application with the USDA Rural Development for financial assistance to finance a portion of capital improvement projects to include, without limitation, remodeling of, additions to, and expansion of facilities at 710 N. 12th St. No members of the public were in attendance.

The November financials were approved. As of November, the hospital remains ahead of budget for the fiscal year with a year-to-date operating loss of \$213,000 and a positive net income of \$1.2 million.

The 2025 board officers were elected: Mike Underwood, chair; Doug Kent, vice chair; Cheryl Marks, treasurer; and Dana Tews, secretary. Mary Sheeder was recognized for her 16 years of service on the board. Emily Donovan was elected in November of 2024 to replace Sheeder on the board effective January 2025.

The next regular meeting of the trustees is set for Thursday, Jan. 23 at 4 p.m. The public is welcome.

The public may attend in person or via remote technology. To attend via phone, call 1-469-208-1512 and when prompted, input code 915921694#

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EDUCATION



RICH WICKS | GUTHRIE CENTER TIMES

New Board President Blair Carney swears in Vice President Justin Crawford.

SCHOOL BOARDS HELD ANNUAL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETINGS DEC. 18

BY RICH WICKS
Guthrie Center Times

ADAIR-CASEY

The Dec. 18 regular meeting of the Adair-Casey school board included the board's annual organizational meeting, in which board leadership and committee assignments are decided, along with several annual designations. Blair Carney was voted as president of the board, with Justin Crawford to serve as vice president.

Pre-kindergarten through grade 8 principal, Ed Den Beste, gave a report on his area.

"An exciting thing, we had an hour of coding last week, starting with kindergarten and going up through sixth grade... kids had a lot of fun getting on computers, learning how to code, how to program different robots and things like that," Den Beste said. "A lot of good information, and kids really had a good time with that."

Den Beste also shared an update on a safety upgrade in the works.

"Mr. Rasmussen and I have been working on school safety. We've looked at door locks and things like that around the build-

ing, securing the doors in the junior high and elementary," Den Beste said.

The board approved the consent agenda items, including contract recommendations for Erin Dillon (junior high science teacher), Cade Suhr and Jacob Joliet (junior high track coaches), Leroy White (substitute bus driver) and Dave Farley (part-time custodian).

Superintendent Josh Rasmussen explained his recommendation for the board to approve a stipend to be paid to the person(s) serving as the "substitute teacher finder" when a staff member calls to report being unable to work. Rasmussen said the calls to find a substitute teacher usually happen outside of normal scheduled work hours. Rasmussen suggested a total stipend of around \$600 per semester for this work. The board approved this recommendation.

The board voted to keep the schedule of meetings the same as it has been (third Wednesday of each month starting at 7 p.m. with the location to alternate monthly between Adair-Casey Junior High and Guthrie Center High School). Most meetings will be held jointly with the Guthrie



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GUTHRIE CENTER

The Dec. 18 regular meeting of the Guthrie Center school board included the board's annual organizational meeting, in which board leadership and committee assignments are decided, along with several annual designations. Matt Van Meter will continue as president of the board, with Cara Underwood to serve as vice president.

High School Principal Brian Sauser gave a report on his area. He pointed out the trend regarding very few failing grades remains steady.

"At the high school, things are going really well," Sauser said. "Our F list at the high school continues to be in the single digits, and there are almost 500 As. For those that struggle, we've got a lot of interventions in place to help them."

Superintendent Josh Rasmussen gave an update on how the district's safety grant funds have or are being used.

"All of our phones have been installed. They work; we've got intercom," Rasmussen said. "Next steps, we are seeking approval to finish up some of our key fobs so we can monitor where people are coming in and out of the building."

Rasmussen explained that classroom door locks will allow anyone inside a class-

room to quickly lock the door as needed for safety. Later in the meeting, the board approved Rasmussen's recommendation for door lock upgrades to use the remaining grant funds.

Rasmussen shared praise for the service given by Paul Downing, who is resigning from his position as bus driver.

As part of the consent agenda, the board approved contract recommendations for Justin Slaybaugh and Ryan Cline as volunteer wrestling coaches.

Superintendent Josh Rasmussen explained his recommendation for the board to approve a stipend to be paid to the person(s) serving as the "substitute teacher finder" when a staff member calls to report being unable to work. Rasmussen said the calls to find a substitute teacher usually happen outside of normal scheduled work hours. Rasmussen suggested a total stipend of around \$600 per semester for this work. After some discussion, the board approved this recommendation.

The board voted to keep the schedule of meetings the same as it's been (third Wednesday of each month starting at 7 p.m. with the location to alternate monthly between Adair-Casey Junior High and Guthrie Center High School). Most meetings will be held jointly with the Adair-Casey School Board but may be held separately as needed. ■



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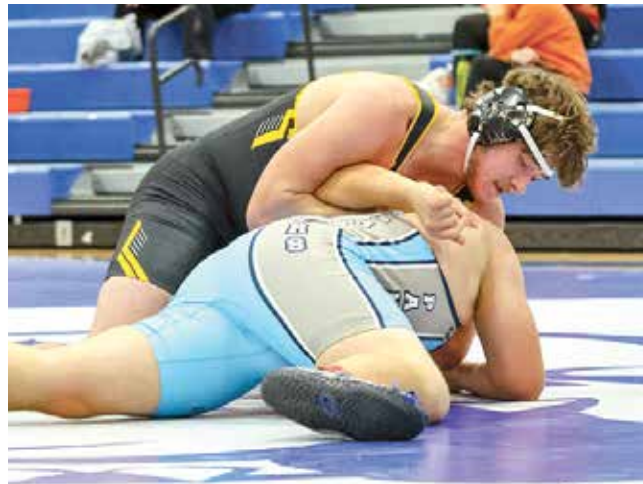
No. 34 Payton Policky keeps the ball alive during ACGC's win over AHSTW on Dec. 16



ACGC's Angel Martinez grapples with the Panorama wrestler at the Ogden quad meet on Dec. 19.



Cadence Petersen lifts her opponent during Panorama's home tournament on Jan. 7.



ACGC's Michael Fuller pins the Panorama wrestler at the Ogden quad meet on Dec. 19.



No. 21 Becca Littler avoids the trap against Panorama on Dec. 20.



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ACGC's No. 2 Jonny Kading during ACGC's 82-40 win on Friday, Dec. 20.



No. 10 Karli Kautzky welcomes the contact against Panorama on Dec. 20.



No. 14 Noah Kading drives to the basket in the Chargers' game against Panorama on Dec. 20. ■



No. 5 Meranda Gruber jumps to defend the pass against Panorama on Dec. 20.



Jeslyn Ortega sizes up her opponent during the Panorama Girls Varsity Tournament on Jan. 7.

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BUSINESS FEATURE

SPRINGBROOK FAMILY DENTISTRY AIMS FOR COMPLETE PATIENT SERVICE

**Dr. Daniel Nelson
says small-town life
is in his blood.**

BY RICH WICKS
Guthrie Center Times

As you walk into Springbrook Family Dentistry at 214 State St. in Guthrie Center, don't be surprised if you get very little conversation from the first staff member to greet you. That's because Ollie, the office dog, likes to greet everyone who comes in, but he's not much of a talker.

Luckily, Dr. Daniel Nelson, who owns and operates Springbrook Family Dentistry, was willing to talk about the business.

"I graduated dental school in 2018 and worked at a few offices at the same time

that I opened this office up in August of 2018," Nelson said. "I was able to buy this building and do a full remodel with all new equipment, and we started from scratch. It was a lot of time, money and effort, but I think it's been worth it."

Nelson explained that small-town life is in his blood.

"I graduated from Panorama High School, and I always wanted to come back to a small town. I like the community, the atmosphere and the type of people who are here," Nelson said. "I definitely like the peace and quiet."

Currently, the office is open Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays. But despite not being fulltime, Nelson aims for complete patient service.

"One of the things I pride myself on here is that I do almost everything in-house. Implants, dentures, partial dentures, orthodontics, braces. I do root canals and some pediatric dentistry," Nelson said. "Of course, if a case is too difficult, I have to refer it out."

Nelson believes in staying up to date with technology in dental care.

"I also have a 3-D printer here, so I'm able to print certain appliances for patients such as dentures, surgical guides and things like that," Nelson said. "I scan almost everything, which means no goopy molds. It's just a wand that basically takes a video, and then I use that to 3-D print things."

The business has a small but dedicated team.

"I have four employees — plus Ollie," Nelson said. "There's Anna, who mainly works up front, scheduling and checking



Springbrook Family Dentistry staff includes (front row): Ollie; (back row): Nam, Daniel, Kylee, Daffnie and Anna.

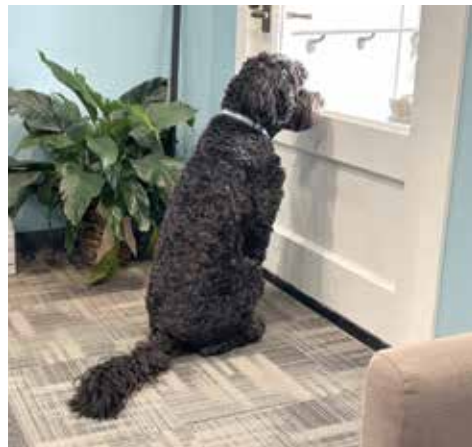
insurances. And I have two assistants right now. Daffnie is from Panora originally, and my other assistant, Kylee, is also from the area. She's actually going to dental hygiene school this fall to become a dental hygienist. And the hygienist that I have now is Nam. It's like a family."

Nelson mentioned two factors that make his practice special.

"One is our comfort dog, Ollie. He's a

Golden Doodle, so he's hypoallergenic, and he's a big lover. He doesn't really bark and just wants to be petted. He's a huge hit and helps people who have anxiety. We've had him here since 2020," Nelson said. "The other thing is keeping things in-house as much as possible so that people don't have to make trips to Des Moines or Omaha."

Asked about a favorite success story, Nel-



Ollie keeps an eye out for visitors to welcome.

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Springbrook Family Dentistry is located at 214 State St. in Guthrie Center.

son quickly recalled a patient who needed relief from a distressing situation.

“One of my favorites would be a patient that needed some pretty extensive work. I took out some bad teeth that were causing her pain,” he said. “I was able to implant dentures, and when we were done, she was crying because she was so happy. She gave us all hugs.”

In the foreseeable future, Nelson has no

plans to make big changes to his business. Instead, he intends to keep doing what has worked so far.

“I definitely plan to stay up to date, not only with the technology stuff, but with the routine stuff, too. To renew my license, they require 30 hours of continuing education every two years,” Nelson said. “I usually do 80 to 100 so we can keep providing the best care possible.” ■

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MARIAN CATHERINE MCQUAID

1941-2024

Marian McQuaid died peacefully on Dec. 23, 2024, at Halcyon House after a lengthy illness.

A Funeral Mass was held Saturday, Dec. 28, 2024, at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Richmond, Iowa, with

Fr. Bill Roush officiating. Interment was at the Calvary Cemetery in Benton County, Iowa. Memorials have been established for Hospice of Washington County or to St. James Catholic School for their lunch program. The Jones and Eden Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be sent for Marian's family at www.jonesfh.com.

Marian Catherine (Nolan) McQuaid was born to Emmett and Lorna (Cox) Nolan in Cedar Rapids on Sept. 5, 1941. Marian graduated from Regis High School and Mount Mercy College in Cedar Rapids. Marian married Paul "Corky" McQuaid. They later divorced. Marian worked as a special education teacher, and later, a special educational consultant for Heartland AEA.

Throughout her life, Marian was involved in volunteer activities. In 2017,

she was honored as Iowan of the Day at the Iowa State Fair for her involvement in bringing the Main Street program to Guthrie Center. She was also a founding member of the Guthrie Center Arts Council and was active in Friends of the Mary J. Barnett Library in Guthrie Center. Marian was a lifelong learner. She was especially proud of becoming a Master Gardener in her retirement.

Marian will be deeply missed by her daughter, Mary Catherine "Katie" Mitchell; son-in-law, Mark; grandchildren, Cecelia and Conagher Mitchell, of Riverside; and step-daughter, Julia McQuaid of Coralville. She was preceded in death by her parents.

The family would like to give their profound thanks to the staff at Halcyon House and Hospice for their devotion and commitment to caring for Marian in her last days. ■

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SHARON LOUISE SMITH

1942-2024

Sharon Louise Smith, age 82, of Panorama, and formerly of Bayard, passed away on Sunday, Dec. 29, 2024, at Panorama Specialty Care Center.

Sharon was born on Nov. 24, 1942, in Yale, and she was the daughter of Delbert and Dorothy (Bollerman) Deardorf. She grew up on her family's farm near Yale and graduated from Yale High School. Sharon was married to Darwin L. Smith

on April 7, 1963, in Guthrie County. She worked for several local businesses over the years. She loved her flowers, her rock garden, tending to her yard, her pets and traveling by motorcycle in her younger years.

Sharon is survived by a daughter, Shannon Anderson (John) of Guthrie Center; a son, Joel Smith (Mary) of Bayard; four grandchildren, Jordyn (Melanie), Justyn, Chase and Traci (Andrew); three great-granddaughters, Payton, Keeley and Ruby; two sisters, Nadine Allen (Ron) and Sharol Rhoades; a

brother, Bert Deardorf; and several nieces, nephews and other extended family members.

Sharon was preceded in death by her parents, Delbert and Dorothy Deardorf; a brother, Dale Deardorf; a sister, Pam Lynam; and a son, Darrin, in infancy.

According to Sharon's wishes, no services will be held.

The Dahn and Woodhouse Funeral Home in Coon Rapids assisted the family, and online condolences may be left for the family at www.dahnandwoodhouse.com. ■

Guthrie Center ASK TIMES



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

Q: WHY DOESN'T GUTHRIE COUNTY HOSPITAL OFFER CHILDBIRTH CARE? AND WHEN DID THAT SERVICE STOP?

A: We directed this question to Chris Stipe, CEO of Guthrie County Hospital, and he said most small rural hospitals discontinued obstetrical services for a number of reasons.

The difficulty and cost of recruiting and retaining OB/GYN physicians is a major reason, he said.

"Specialized staff, such as OB nurses and ultrasound technologists, have to be recruited and required to be on-call and available 24 hours per day," Stipe said. "Specialized OB equipment must be secured and maintained. Physicians, nurses and other staff must complete annual continuing education to keep up with evolving standards of care."

Stipe also noted how the low volume and the high cost associated with these programs can create unsustainable financial losses for many small hospitals.

"Also, obstetrics continues to generate more medical-legal issues for health care providers than any other specialty area," he said.

Guthrie County Hospital discontinued obstetric services in 1997/1998. However, they do offer pediatric care, including newborns, from their board-certified pediatrician, Dr. Silker.

Guthrie County Hospital also has a partnership with UnityPoint that allows low-risk, pregnant mothers to be cared for locally until they are 32-34 weeks. This program pairs a local nurse practitioner with a UnityPoint OB/GYN in Des Moines. They collaborate on the patient's care until care is eventually turned over to the OB/GYN.



Q: WHO CREATED THE WONDERFUL MURAL ON THE CORNER OF MAIN STREET AND THIRD STREET IN GUTHRIE CENTER?

A: The 9-foot by 11-foot mural was created by local artist Kelly Nielsen. It is visible to eastbound drivers and pedestrians.

Q: I REALLY ENJOYED THE VETERAN SALUTE PIECE YOU DID. I MEANT TO SEND IN A PHOTO OF MY GRANDFATHER, BUT I DIDN'T GET IT DONE ON TIME. CAN I STILL SEND IT IN, AND WILL YOU POST IT ONLINE?

A: Absolutely! You can submit the photo online at www.gctimesnews.com/ veterans or you can stop by our office at 104 Industrial Road, and we will scan the photo for you while you wait. We are continuing to post submissions on the website and will run them all in next year's edition, too. If you have any additional questions, reach out to Cheryl Castile at cheryl@gctimesnews.com or call our office at 641-332-2707. ■



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MARY J. BARNETT LIBRARY NEWS

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THE LIBRARY IS HERE TO HELP

BY KAREN KELLY

Special to Guthrie Center Times

After a couple of weeks disrupted by holiday breaks and winter weather, the library is back to normal hours and bringing some exciting programs to serve you in the new year. In the event that your New Year's resolutions require some resources, the library is here to help. We have books on topics related to better health, weight loss, time management, organization and hobbies. Did you get a new device for Christmas that you can't figure out? We offer tech assistance by appointment. We have cribbage and bridge groups, a card-making club, and a cookbook club. Starting this month, we will offer both an afternoon and an evening book club. If your resolution is to spend time relaxing, the library offers a peaceful refuge to read new magazines, work on the community puzzle, or find some new authors.

INTERESTING LIBRARY DATA

The new year is a fun time to reflect, so here is some interesting library data. In 2024, the library checked out 12,619 materials, which included books, audiobooks, computers, a telescope, DVDs, CDs, hotspots, CD and DVD players and a portable screen. We had 1,495 patrons — 145 of those were new patrons and 138 were renewed patrons. In 2024, the library saved its patrons \$580,495.

Our top five adult fiction books for the year were: 1. "The Women" by Kristin Hannah; 2. "The Teacher" by Frieda McFadden; 3. "Things We Never Got Over" by Lucy Score and "The Coworker" by Frieda McFadden; and 5. "Twisted Love" by Ana Huang.

The library's top five non-fiction titles were 1. "Fast Like a Girl: A Woman's Guide to Using the Healing Power of Fasting to Burn Fat, Boost Energy, and Balance Hormones" by Dr. Mindy Pelz; 2. "The Situation Room: the Inside Story of Presidents in Crisis" by George Stephanopoulos; 3. "Lillian's Legacy - Marriage and Murder in Rural Iowa a true story" by Guthrie Center native Carroll McKibbin; 4. "Oath and Honor: A Memoir and a Warning" by Liz Cheney; and 5. "What Really Happens in Vegas: True Stories of the People Who Make Vegas, Vegas" by James Patterson.

The top five juvenile fiction books include the following titles: 1. "Love from Bluey"; 2. "On the Job, Rumble & Crew (Step into Reading)"; 3. "Pop-Up Peekaboo! Disney Princesses"; 4. "The Smart Cookie"; and 5. "I Survived the Great Chicago Fire, 1871."

Favorite young adult titles included 1. "If Only I Had Told Her" by Laura Nolin; 2. "American Royals" by Katharine McGee; 3. "A Thousand Boy Kisses: a novel" by Tillie Cole; 4. "Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets" by J.K. Rowling; and 5. "A Court of Thorns and Roses" by Sarah J. Maas.

Our most checked-out DVDs are 1. "Yellowstone seasons 1-4"; 2. "Barbie"; 3. "Sound of Freedom"; 4. "Oppenheimer";

5. "Yellowstone Season 5." So if you find yourself wondering what to read or watch next, you might consider an option from these lists; 1,495 patrons can't be wrong.

TRIVIA NIGHT DETAILS

Save the date and round up your teams. Friends of the MJB Library are sponsoring their annual Trivia Night Fundraiser on Saturday, Feb. 8, at the Guthrie Center Activity Center. The cost will be \$35 per person. Teams may be up to eight persons. Dinner, which is catered by The Cabbage Rose, will begin at 6 p.m. with a trivia competition commencing at 7 p.m. Adult beverages will be available at a free will donation price. Teams can sign up and pay at the MJB Library.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

January is the perfect time to join Friends of the Library. This group's purpose is to support the library. Throughout the year, they run some fundraisers including the trivia night and the golf tournament to be able to financially support projects that the library is doing. Currently, Friends is helping to sponsor the Donor Tree Mural in the children's area that Kelly Nielsen is painting. The cost of membership is \$25 per year. The group meets on the first Monday of each month at 6:15 p.m. Call the library to join or come to the next Friends meeting on Monday, Feb. 3.

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

The Guthrie County/ ISU Extension will be presenting a STEM after-school workshop on Feb. 13, and the theme will



Local artist Kelly Nielsen works on the new mural in the children's area of the MJB Library.

be Color Creation.

COOKBOOK CLUB

Cookbook Club will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 16 to share food from "Half Baked Harvest Quick and Cozy" by Teighan Gerard. If you want to participate in the Cookbook Club, stop by the library to select a recipe from this month's cookbook. Prepare it and bring it to share with the group.

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The Family of **Betty (Wetzel) Thompson** would like to thank everybody for the prayers, messages, cards, flowers and memorial donations. A big thank you to Thomas Rest Haven and Hospice of the Midwest for their wonderful care.

We appreciate you thinking of us.

Brandon and Geri Thompson
Abby Thompson and River Smith
Devan, Dwayne, Brynlee, Hudson, Corden and Bristol Seck
Misean, Fidel, Elias, Ezekiel, Emmerich and Ezri Hernandez



This is the finished mural painted by Kelly Nielsen to update the donor tree in the children's area. The new mural was funded by generous patrons and a donation from the Friends of the Library. Stop by and look at it in person.

BOOK CLUBS

By popular demand, we are adding an evening book club in 2025. This group will meet on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 5 p.m. Our inaugural meeting will be Tuesday, Jan. 28 at 5 p.m. at the library. This will be a planning meeting to determine organizational details such

as a name for the group, the meeting format, and books to be read. We will also check out copies of the February book which will be "Part of Your World" by Abby Jimenez. If you would like to join us, please contact the library to sign up so we are sure to have enough copies of the book for everyone. ■

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50 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie Center Times, Jan. 1, 1975

CLEANING HOUSE: J. I. "Ike" Vandevanter cleans out his desk at the Guthrie County State Bank in preparation for his retirement the first of the year. Vandevanter is an original employee of the bank, which was founded in October 1931. He is vice president of the bank.

40 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie Center Times, Jan. 23, 1985

FIREMEN AT WORK: The annual Firemen's Banquet honored past and present firemen Thursday night and approximately 100 attended at St. Mary's Parish Center. But not all was fun and games as the games found deep concentration of our card players. From left: Gifford and Ruth Covault, Dick Jorgensen and Frank Mains.

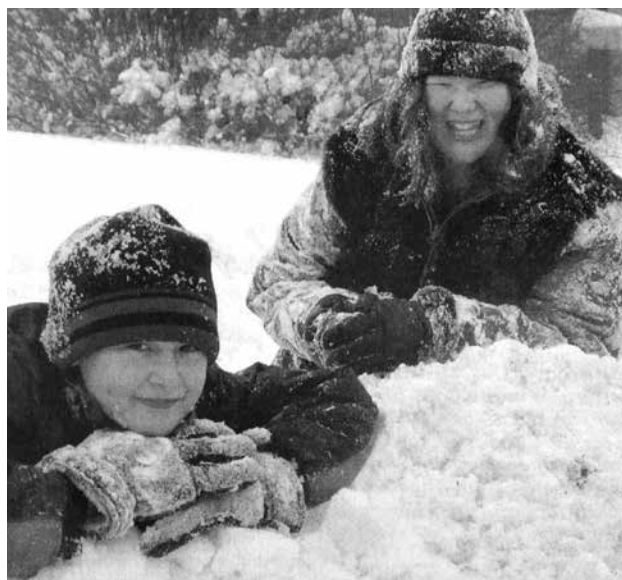
30 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie Center Times, Jan. 18, 1995

GEOGRAPHY BEE FINALISTS: Guthrie Center Geography Bee classroom finalists (grades 4-8) for the championship round are as follows: Front row, from left, Kristin Menning, Ashley Glade, Libby Benton, Ross Knobbe and Jordan Dinkla. Back row, Jill Millhollin, Andy Willenborg, Josh Grace, Travis Gilson and Seth Wells.

20 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie Center Times, Jan. 12, 2005

AIN'T IT GREAT?: Mishael and Christabel Bozonie of Guthrie Center nearly blended into their snowy environment after playing in front of their home last week. Snowfall in Guthrie Center totaled 14 inches Tuesday and Wednesday.

10 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie Center Times, Jan. 14, 2015

COLORS OF HOPE: Guthrie Center students (from left) Taylor Gruber, Jocelyn Wood, Abigail Thompson, Morgan Vaughan and Andi Pauley dressed colorfully for the Colors of Hope Basketball vs. Cancer event held at Guthrie Center High School on Friday, Jan. 9. The event raised \$2,809.04, which will go to the American Cancer Society/Relay For Life of Guthrie County.

5 YEARS AGO



Guthrie County Times Vedette, Jan. 16, 2020

A LOOK AT PROPOSED WEIGHT ROOM AT ACGC: On Tuesday, Dec. 31, the FFA club had a dodgeball game against Panora's FFA chapter. After the game, ACGC's FFA chapter provided pizza for members to eat. Next they had a meeting in the ACGC High School library. Here, they elected new officers. The officers are elected by the other FFA members. Pictured are new ACGC FFA officers Cara Caltrider, historian; Abby Hansen, secretary; EmmaKay McClain, vice-president; Emma Vogl, president; Michael Maas, treasurer; and Carter Schlichte, sentinel. ■

EVENT

MOON TO SPEAK AT MIDWEST PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL MEETING

Special to the Times Vedette

Midwest Partnership will be hosting its 2025 Annual Dinner on Jan. 30 at the Casey Community Building at 104 W. Sherman St. in Casey. Social reception begins at 6 p.m. with dinner by Café on the Hill at 6:30 p.m. and the program at 7 p.m. A cash bar will be provided.

The theme is "Sharing the Vision," and Ryan Moon from Greater Des Moines Partnership will be speaking on the vision for our region. Ryan serves as the Director of Government Relations and Public Policy for the Greater Des Moines Partnership. In this role, he leads engagement with local, state and federal officials and leads the Government Policy Council to develop and advocate for public policy that generates economic growth, business prosperity and talent development in Greater Des Moines. Ryan, a Casey native, resides in West Des Moines with his wife Haley and their kids, Holden and Reggie.

In addition, Kwik Star a new business in the region and Cardinal Glass who is celebrating their 50th year anniversary will also give presentations. A business update will be presented, as well as the Entrepreneurial Economic

Impact Award.

This dinner is an opportunity for area developers, business and community leaders to gather and celebrate the success of the region over the past year.

The cost of the annual dinner is \$32 per plate or \$180 for a table of six. RSVPs are requested by Jan. 24 to Brenda Dudley at (515) 523-1262 or info@midwestpartnership.com. Register online at www.midwestpartnership.com.

Midwest Partnership is a nonprofit organization that is committed to fostering economic growth and prosperity throughout the region. They work closely with communities, elected officials, and stakeholders to facilitate project collaboration. Their primary focus is on retaining, expanding, and attracting businesses to create jobs and improve the quality of life in Adair and Guthrie Counties.

Brenda Dudley is the Executive Director of Midwest Partnership, and Kayla Willms is the Administrative and Marketing Coordinator. ■



Ryan Moon

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WHAT'S IN YOUR GARAGE?

GTO IS FULL OF MEMORIES

Rod Rumelhart recalls two favorite stories involving the car.

BY RICH WICKS
Guthrie Center Times

Anything in life that takes hard work seems to be appreciated more, and that's certainly true of an old car that is parked in Rod Rumelhart's garage. He recently took time to tell the story.

"This was my first car. I worked and saved up for it," Rumelhart said. "I actually ended up buying it about six months before I turned 16, and that was in the fall of 1980. I paid \$1,350, and that was a lot of money to me, because I'd worked a long time for it. My dad owned a construction business, and I worked building houses and remodeling with him."

Rumelhart said he is the fourth owner of the car, so it needed some work when he got it, but he enjoyed the process of fixing it up.

"I bought it and put it in my grandmother's garage, and then I was able to work on it, put speakers in it and do things like that. It was a 1965 Pontiac GTO, four speed on the floor, a two-door coupe, hardtop," Rumelhart said. "Loyal Dorr owned it before me, and he owned the Conoco station down here. I believe he was the third owner."

The car turned out to be a good investment.

"I had never driven a stick-shift before, so I had to learn with that car, and I drove it through four years of high school and



Rod Rumelhart can't part with his first car.

four years of college. The GTO was one of those early muscle cars, and I had it in really nice condition. I even had it in a few parades," Rumelhart said. "I've kept it all these years. I just haven't been able to let it go, even though I've had plenty of people that have wanted to buy it."

Thinking back to his school years, Ru-

melhart recalled two favorite stories involving the car.

"There was a classmate of mine who had a really nice car, and he always wanted me to race him. There's a straightaway on School Street before you turn up to go to the high school, and nobody was on the road early one morning. He pulled up be-

side me, and we both laid into it. I'm not sure who won," Rumelhart said. "He made the corner to turn up to the high school, but I had to go on by and turn around in the gravel past the high school. When I tried turning around, I dropped the back wheels off the shoulder and got stuck. I backed it down in, and it was swampy

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Rod Rumelhart takes a work break to tell about his GTO.

down there — and then I was really stuck.”

Luckily, the young men found a solution to the problem, but Rumelhart paid a price, nonetheless.

“My buddy worked at Conoco and had access to the wrecker, so he went to get that. And by the time he was getting me pulled out, all the school busses were coming, and all the kids could see me in the ditch. They were just having a heyday with that. I got razzed about that for a long time,” Rumelhart said.

The other story was truly a once-in-a-lifetime oddity.

“When I was 16 or 17, I wanted to go turkey hunting, and I got permission from a farmer south of Panora. I was going hunting with my brother and a classmate of mine,” Rumelhart said. “We were driving down there and got to the farmer’s driveway, and we go past to turn around. As I’m pulling into the neighbor’s driveway, I heard something, and then I backed up.

I looked, and there sat my gas tank right in the driveway of that house — and there was a big tire mark where I had driven across it.”

Although this was clearly a big problem, it turned out OK.

“I called my dad, and he came out later. I ended up getting a new gas tank and new tank straps out of that deal,” Rumelhart said.

Today, the car sits in Rumelhart’s garage, but he hopes to someday restore it and drive it again.

“Everything is pretty original on it. It needs some work. There’s some rust, and the interior needs a lot of work,” Rumelhart said. “The car is the same age as me.”

Rumelhart recalled that the car had plenty of zip back in the day. Although he never really tried to see exactly how fast it could go, he said it was plenty fast.

“It would go well up to 110, anyway,” he said. ■

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A HEALTHY HUMMUS DIP

BY JOLENE GOODMAN
Guthrie Center Times

Eat healthy in the new year. It is a resolution I seem to make every year and recommit to throughout the year — time and time again. Bad habits are not so easy to break. As we learn more about the effects food additives, pesticides and processing have on our bodies, we should want to work toward choosing healthier food options. I keep trying, and I do have more healthy food choices in my diet today than I have in years past. I decided several years ago that, if I can implement one new healthy habit each year, I would be making progress. I still have much work to do, but I am now caffeine-free, I eat one “green” a day, I have fish or seafood two to four times per week, I don’t drink milk and

limit dairy, I eat less packaged snacks (working to eliminate this one completely) and I don’t eat pasta. In keeping with the healthy focus this month, I share a basic hummus recipe. I must confess that, up until recently, I had never even tasted hummus. Now, I am a big fan. In addition to tasting good and being easy to make, it is high in fiber and protein and low in saturated fat. Give it a try and let me know what you think. ■

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



Jolene Goodman

HUMMUS DIP

Ingredients

- 2 15-ounce cans of chickpeas
- 1/3 cup lemon juice
- 1/3 cup tahini
- 2 small garlic cloves
- 4 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- 1.5 teaspoons salt
- 4-6 tablespoons of cold water
- Dash of paprika
- Fresh parsley

Directions

In a food processor, combine tahini and lemon juice. Process for 1 minute. Scrape down sides and bottom, then process 30 seconds more. Add olive oil, garlic and 1 teaspoon salt with 2-3 tablespoons of water. Process 30 seconds, scrape sides and bottom, then process for another 30 seconds until well blended. Drain chickpeas. Add half chickpeas to mixture and process for 1 minute. Scrape



sides and bottom then add remaining chickpeas. Process until smooth and thick, approximately 1-2 minutes. Slowly add remaining water with the food processor turned on until you reach the desired consistency. Drizzle with more olive oil, sprinkle with paprika and add desired feta and diced pepper. Use dip with cut up carrots, cucumbers, peppers or crackers. ■

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WHERE IS IT?



The answer for the location of last month's photo is the yeti decoration at 308 South Seventh St. in Guthrie Center. Stephanie Davis was the first person with the correct answer. Have a guess on where this month's photographed image is (or was) at? Have a photo to submit for future issues? Send to shane@gctimesnews.com. ■



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EVENTS

LEGISLATIVE COFFEE DATES ANNOUNCED

Special to Guthrie Center Times

Dates for legislative coffees with Sen. Jesse Green and Rep. Carter Nordman have been announced. The Guthrie County Republicans coordinate this, but it is an open event to all who are interested. Coffee and rolls are provided by the host site (Panora Fiber and Guthrie County Farm Bureau). The events take place from 8-9

a.m. on the first Saturday of each February, March and April. Locations are as follows:

- **Feb. 1:** Panora Fiber, 114 E. Main St., Panora
- **March 1:** Guthrie County Farm Bureau, 203 N. Fourth St., Guthrie Center
- **April 5:** Guthrie County Farm Bureau, 203 N. Fourth St., Guthrie Center ■

ADAIR COUNTY CATTLEMEN'S 2025 BANQUET IS JAN. 18

Special to Guthrie Center Times

Mark your calendars for a night of celebration at the Adair County Cattle- men's 2025 Annual Banquet on Jan. 18

from 8-11 p.m. at the Adair County Fair- grounds. The evening will feature a prime rib dinner, an annual meeting, auctions and live entertainment by Red Dirt Ren- egade. ■

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