

Guthrie Center TIMES

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MAY 2025

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INSPIRING ART

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THEIR CREATIVE PASSIONS**

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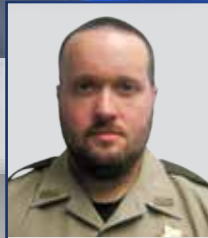
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A STUDENT OF ART

While in college, I took a few art classes along with my journalism and business courses. I felt like a bull in a china shop most of the time, but my art professors, Dennis Dykema and Mac Hornecker, worked with me patiently, as they were convinced there was an artist in me — somewhere.

My charcoal drawings were awful. My water colors were bland. My model line drawings were average. My air brushing was messy. My canvas abstract paintings showed promise, but not much.

How did I know all this? Because my professors told me.

Then we began a sculpture segment where we crafted head and shoulder busts of fellow classmates. “Goodman, we fi-

nally found something you are really good at,” Professor Dykema told me. I think it was a compliment.

I was not an art major, and I did not complete an art minor, either. I took art courses separate from my focus, as I felt they would help me with a career in the media. And they did.

There are the obvious art connections with publication and advertising design, as well as the use of type and photography to help tell stories. But the greater benefit, at least for me, was in under-



Shane Goodman

standing the value of time to improve whatever it is a person is working on — and that, regardless of where he or she is at with talent, is something everyone can improve on. Professors Dykema and Hornecker made it clear to their students that they would need to commit more hours to their art than they likely would to their other studies. Studio work was a serious commitment, but it was time I learned to truly enjoy and look forward to.

So am I a student of art? Maybe not in the truest sense, but I do know how those classes and those professors helped shape how I define work ethic, how I value criticism, and how I recognize that few things in life can be great without an investment of time and an ongoing desire to learn.

With that in mind, I am proud to be an artist. If you look deep inside yourself, you will find the same. In this month’s cover story, we share stories about some local artists and the impact their studies and their works have had on their friends, family, communities and themselves.

Thanks for reading. ■

Shane

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INSPIRING ART

Local artists share their creative passions.

BY RICH WICKS

Guthrie Center Times

"I don't know much about art, but I know what I like." - Author unknown

What is art? That is a tough question, because artists have found many varied ways to express themselves. Art comes in many forms. For example, it can be visual (paintings, drawings, photography, etc.), tactile (pottery, sculptures, etc.), auditory (music), or appeal to taste and/or scent (cooking, floral, etc.) and so on.

Defining art is challenging because it is often so personal. One answer could be that art is whatever allows a person to share an inner gift, thought or emotion.

Here are a few stories of local artists and the art they create.

KELLY NIELSEN

If you have spent any time in Guthrie County, you have seen Kelly Nielsen's art. She has created murals, paintings, signs and more that are displayed throughout the area, indoors and out. But that is only a small portion of the artistic legacy Nielsen has created through her pieces and through those she has taught about art.

Nielsen says she grew up in a family that was artistic, so she enjoyed art during her school years.

"I graduated from Guthrie Center. There weren't really any art schools to go to at the time, and, at that time, I was planning to be a veterinary technician, but that changed," she said. "So, I went to Briar Cliff University in Sioux City and studied art and journalism."



Kelly Nielsen painted these dogs with personality.



Kelly Nielsen stands next to her mural in Guthrie Center.

A couple of years later, Nielsen married and didn't finish college at the time. But when her kids were in fourth and sixth grades, she decided it was time to return to college.

"I went to Grand View and got my degree in art education," she said.

That led to a career teaching art at Guthrie Center for 25 years. Nielsen has enjoyed a variety of art, and that led to a frequent question from her students about what type of art she preferred.

"I love that question. When I was teaching, the kids would ask that, and I'd always say, 'It's the one I'm teaching right now,'" Nielsen said. "That allowed me to pour myself into that."

Although Nielsen has enjoyed many different types of artistic creation, she realizes some individuals struggle to find an artistic outlet that really clicks. She firmly believes that everyone can be



Kelly Nielsen's mural in Casey shows the city's history.

an artist.

"I always told the school kids, maybe you aren't great at drawing, but maybe photography is your thing, or maybe ceramics. We've just got to search until we find it," Nielsen said.

Nielsen enjoyed helping her students find their artistic path, and the same is true in her family. She shared that she is excited and proud to see her grandchildren showing interest and natural abil-

ity in art.

Although drawing and painting are Nielsen's most visible art forms around the county, she believes in a varied approach.

"I don't know that I really have a style. I haven't ever really focused on one thing. I love ceramics but haven't done that since I retired. I also do senior pictures and family shoots and photography of all kinds," Nielsen said. "I started





Kelly Nielsen paints a hay bale.

in the dark room at Grand View and taught dark room at the high school for a long time.”

One of Nielsen’s public art pieces is a large mural in Casey. She recalled working on that project.

“It was during harvest, so a lot of trucks were going past, which stirred up a lot of dust. But it was also nice because a lot of people stopped to watch what I was doing.

“That was a good one for me to really absorb myself into Casey. The people were so willing to share,” Nielsen said. “It’s 72 feet long by 9 feet tall, so that was my biggest project to date.”

Nielsen created the “angel wings” art in downtown Guthrie Center, in addition to other pieces. Some of the easily recognizable business signs in Guthrie Center are also examples of Nielsen’s work.

“I did the Vet Clinic and Guthrie County Quality Meats. I did a lot of the murals that are in the high school,” Nielsen said. “I’ve done a lot of sign work for semis and trailers. I’ve done the Community Building in Yale, and a lot of stuff at the fairgrounds.”

Nielsen said she enjoys hearing that her creations are enjoyed.

“Someone commented to me the other day, ‘It’s so neat to see little pieces of you all over town,’ ” she said.

DAVE AND JUDY LONG

Dave and Judy Long of Guthrie Center have found a way to express their artistic pursuits, show their spiritual values, and



Pottery is another artistic outlet for Kelly Nielsen.

enjoy a fun hobby, all while making a little money and connecting with people around the area.

Dave explained that, several years ago, because of a back injury, he was unable to continue working fulltime, so he was searching for a pastime and a way to earn some income. Dave shared how the venture came about.

“Back in 2018, we started trying to figure out what we could do, and this is what we came up with,” he said. “We started doing flags and laser-engraving.”

The couple now creates a variety of items and brings them to area vendor markets. They also have items displayed at Art on State in downtown Guthrie Center.

Most of the items the Longs make have patriotic or spiritual themes. Their most popular items are the wooden



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Judy and Dave Long show their art.



Many of the Longs' creations have a spiritual theme.



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planks engraved with Biblical verses. Another favorite is their wooden American flags.

Nowadays, there are variations on American flags, such as those with one blue stripe to support law enforcement, or other designs that support first responders, nurses or other professions. Judy explained that the couple doesn't generally have a stockpile of those specialty flags, but they are happy to take custom orders.

"We will make them if somebody asks," she said.

Most of the items the Longs create are appropriate for indoor or outdoor displaying, because Dave spray-seals the items to weatherproof them.

This time of year, as more farmers

markets and vendor markets are held, the couple is heading into their busy season, although they also see a surge in sales around the holidays. Most of the shows they attend are nearby.

"We try to stay within an hour of home. Some of them have been an hour and a half," Judy said.

Dave prefers to focus on production, and Judy handles most of the sales and dealing with customers. Judy shared that one of their popular items is given away completely free. The item is a small wooden cross with "Jesus Saves" laser-engraved onto it.

"I've made over 2,000 of those little crosses," Dave said.

The Longs are happy to share their creations, and they do not focus on



The Longs create a variety of items.

them as a serious business.

“Actually, we don’t really count the time,” Dave said.

For any of the laser-engraved items, a bit of technology skill is needed, and that is Judy’s task.

“She designs and writes every file, and I take it from there,” Dave said.

Other items the Longs create include beverage travel cups, lazy susans and cribbage boards.

Judy has enjoyed learning how to make new designs on the travel cups.

“There are some designs that look like wood. I’m trying to get a little better at that,” Judy said. “There are others with beach scenes or starlight, and I plan to start working on those.”

Judy also enjoys designing lazy susans with “barn quilt” designs.

In summarizing what the couple enjoys about their work, Dave said it is a creative way to share their faith.

“We feel strongly about it, and we try to get that message across with these,” he said.

“The most rewarding part is seeing people’s reactions,” Judy said.

SHERI HEILAND

Sheri Heiland of Guthrie Center has had a love of pottery ever since she first tried it. She explained she took to it naturally and knew almost immediately that pottery would be part of her life.

“My first turn on the wheel was in high school, and then I followed up in college. Then, I decided I would just take pottery classes and silversmithing classes and forget a college degree,” Heiland said. “And I never really did it professionally. I would take my stuff to art shows and sell it, but it was more of a hobby, more of a love of doing it.”

Heiland studied ceramics at Iowa State University and later at Central State University. She also was the apprentice of potter Karl Christianson.

Throughout her career as a potter, Heiland has enjoyed helping others to learn about the art she loves.

“I was the resident potter in the Cultural Center at the Iowa State Fair for 16 years,” Heiland said. “I would display my pottery and sell some of it, but I spent most of the day demonstrating. I would do three or four demonstrations per day and answer



Pottery by Sheri Heiland



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Sheri Heiland works on her pottery wheel.

people's questions. Little kids really enjoy it, and they get right up into your pottery. Sometimes, some of the pots had little fingerprints in them."

Heiland said she didn't mind the kids touching her pottery-in-process, because the enthusiasm meant the kids were showing interest.

"It was always fun because I would have kids watch one year and then come back another year, and they would be talking to their friends, telling some of the things I had taught them," she said.

For anyone thinking of trying pottery, Heiland has two pieces of advice.

"First, it's not as easy as it looks," she said.

Secondly, Heiland advises new potters to avoid a big initial investment.

"If you are going to try to do it at home, it can be relatively expensive, especially if you want your own kiln there," Heiland said. "You should always start with classes. You can find pottery classes just about anywhere. You don't want to make a big investment until you know you love it and are going to continue it."

In recent years, Heiland has been experimenting with alternative firing, which means different ways of heating and sealing the completed pieces.

"I really enjoy the alternative firing that I've been doing, like horsehair and other raku kinds of pottery. It's so quick and fast," Heiland said.

Raku is a Japanese method of firing pots



Each piece of Sheri Heiland's art is unique.

in which the hot pottery is plunged into combustible materials such as horsehair, newspaper or sawdust to create unique and often crackled designs.

Another method is called obvara.

"It's made up of yeast, sugar and water. You let it ferment for a while, then you dip the hot pot in that, and it makes a coating," Heiland said.

Heiland has previously displayed some of her pottery at Art on State in Guthrie Center, but she does not currently have any pieces shown there. She said the creation process is fun, but she also enjoys the social aspect of seeing and hearing reactions to her art.

"I've always enjoyed going to shows and talking to people and explaining what I do. That was the end result," Heiland said. "I like to make pottery that people use. Bowls and cups and things. I sell them at a lesser price point than some potters do. I just prefer to have people use them and enjoy them every day." ■

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RED, WHITE AND BLUE CRUISE UPCOMING

BY RICH WICKS
Guthrie Center Times

On Saturday, May 17, Guthrie County will again be rolling with activity during the annual Red, White and Blue Cruise, sponsored by American Legion Auxiliary Unit 124 (Guthrie Center). The event honors all veterans and active military personnel and welcomes side-by-sides, quads and other vehicles to join the fun. Riders will choose any route to visit some or all of the planned stops, which include Incredi-Bowl (Guthrie Center), Owl's Nest (Panora), Short's Place (Menlo), Casey Creamery and Tin Lizzie's Sports Bar (Casey) and Blue Goose Tavern (Adair).

The event will begin and end at the fairgrounds in Guthrie Center. Registration is from 8:30-9:45 a.m., with the ride beginning at 10 a.m. Registration costs \$25 per participant. There will also be optional raffles and a poker run. At 5 p.m., riders return to the fairgrounds for announcement of prize winners. Food will be available on-site from Triple B's Tenderloins.

All proceeds support veterans, active service members and causes within the community. Trailer parking, camping and shower house will be available on-site. Any questions or sponsorship requests can be directed to Robyn Van Zee, 402-740-9804, or Carrie Dideriksen, 641-740-513. ■

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LOCAL FILM REVIEWS

MURRAY. MINECRAFT. JESUS. EEPHUS.
AND A LITERAL BLOODBATH.



“The Chosen: Last Supper Part 1”

BY MICHAEL C. WOODY
Guthrie Center Times

April showers bring lots of new movies. Some are good; others, not so much. Here is the breakdown.

“THE CHOSEN:
LAST SUPPER PART 1”

This faith-based series has been tearing up the box-office reports since it started, and, in spite of the “Part 1,” I finally decided to step into the fray to see what this is all about. The first thing I noticed was the level of film-making. It was really well done and extremely elaborate. The cast was huge, and, for the most part, everyone did a good job. It was a long film and, at times, felt like a long film, but it was still well done, and the audience seemed enthused. **Grade: B+**



“THE FRIEND”

Bill Murray makes fleeting appearances in



“The Friend”

this movie that is really a Naomi Watts movie. Murray’s character is barely in the movie, but his presence is what drives it. He leaves a Great Dane to a friend (Watts), and we watch her navigate with that animal through the film. This is one of the best movies Murray has given us in 20 years. The interesting side note is that the dog in the film actually lives in the Des Moines area, and Murray himself was in town a few weeks ago at a screening of the film. **Grade: A-**



“A MINECRAFT MOVIE”

While I have heard of this video game, I had no idea as to what the film was about. That was true going into the film but also true as I was leaving. I can best describe it as a confusing mess. Jack Black stars in it, as does Jason Momoa. They go into a portal, where there are some of the weirdest things I’ve ever seen. This is clearly



“A Minecraft Movie”

not a movie made for a 67-year-old man. I sat confused for more than an hour and then politely excused myself from the theater. **Grade: D**

“EEPHUS”

Those of you who are not baseball fans should know that Eephus is a pitch that is thrown from the mound, but, instead of throwing at the plate, it is thrown high in the sky and it comes down over the plate, fooling everyone. We played with this pitch in Little League for years, as the kids (and parents) find it to be great fun. I went in to this movie cold, expecting maybe a documentary about the history of this unique pitch. What I got was a (too long) movie about a group of old men playing their last game together before their field is torn up and replaced by a major construction plan. **Grade: C**



“THE AMATEUR”

Rami Malek plays a government intelli-



“Eephus”



“The Amateur”

gence office analyst. When his wife goes overseas on a business trip and finds herself in the middle of a terrorist attack, she is killed. Malek’s character takes things into his own hands and goes overseas to track down and punish the people responsible. While not a great film, Malick is such an engaging actor that you find yourself drawn in and cheering for his revenge. **Grade: B+**



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"Adolescence"

"ADOLESCENCE"

This popular Netflix series is both heartbreaking and devastatingly sad. A young woman has been killed, and a classmate is suspected as the murderer. This is a powerful film that will tear your heart out and stomp on it. You will remember this series as one of the saddest you have ever seen. **Grade: B+**



"WARFARE"

Based on true events, we see a platoon of Navy Seals on a dangerous rescue mission in Iraq. It is about as intense and harrowing of a movie as a person can



"Warfare"

"SINNERS"

Writer/director Ryan Coogler has successfully worked with Michael B Jordan in several excellent movies including "Fruitvale Station," "Creed" and the "Black Panther" films. Those movies alone brought me to "Sinners" with high hopes. Those hopes were dashed. Jordan plays both twins who return to their small southern community to open a honkytonk bar. They are flush with cash and will do what they need to do to make their dream a reality.



"Sinners"

Admittedly, it is a great set-up. Unfortunately, at that point the movie turns into a horror film — a very intense and bloody horror film. Also at that point, I mentally checked out of the movie but stayed to watch it spin out of control and into a literal bloodbath. This is not what I was expecting and not what I wanted to see. **Grade: D**

"THE KING OF KINGS"

In an effort to cleanse myself from the "Sinners" experience, I saw "King of Kings," an animated film about the life and times of Jesus Christ based on a Mark Twain story. With major talent behind the microphone and unique



"The King of Kings"

animation, this is just what I wanted to see during the Easter season. What a great way to introduce kids to "the greatest story ever told." **Grade B+**

I'll be back next month with more reviews including "Accountant 2," "The Thunderbolts," "Lilo and Stitch," "The Last Rodeo" and a little film titled "Mission Impossible: The Final Reckoning." ■

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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Sebern and the supervisors also dis-

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cussed the Roads Department's five-year plan for road projects. Discussion centered around funding and the prioritizing of roads most in need of repair. No formal action was taken.

Supervisor Maggie Armstrong told of an upcoming planned visit from the Iowa State Association of Counties.

"It looks like they're looking for a point person, a potential timeframe and location," Armstrong said. "It looks like they'll take half a day, and talk with department heads, employees, officials, to talk about some of what ISAC has going on and to hear what our priorities are."

Armstrong will be the point person and will inform the supervisors as plans are made.

Steve Smith told of plans for upcoming emergency drills for county employees. The preliminary plan is to most likely close the courthouses offices for roughly a half-day for the drills. This issue will be on the agenda for the supervisors' next meeting, May 6, to determine scheduling.

MAY 6 - MORE BRIDGE WORK, LETTER OF SUPPORT

As part of the May 6 consent agenda, the supervisors approved payroll status changes for Jerri Christman and Alexi Steiner. Both have been part-time employees in Public Health and are moving to fulltime

status. As he had the prior week, County Engineer Josh Sebern addressed the supervisors regarding the Five-Year Construction Plan.

"We talked about three of them last week; this is the fourth, for the active projects that will be going on," Sebern said.

Sebern told of a bridge to be replaced near the intersection of Monteith Road and Tank Avenue.

"It's a bridge currently; we're going to replace it with a box culvert," Sebern said. "Estimating \$400,000."

The supervisors approved the funding agreement with Iowa DOT for the project.

Discussion was held regarding a request for the county to send a letter of support for some programs provided through New Opportunities.

"I did have a conversation with Chad, the New Opportunities executive director," Board Chair Maggie Armstrong said. "Funding has not yet been pulled, but perhaps there's writing on the wall. These programs are the partially federally funded programs."

Armstrong explained that New Opportunities is requesting each applicable county to send a letter of support in hopes of averting cuts to programs, including LI-HEAP, Head Start and Weatherization Assistance.

"We're talking about our low-income heating program, Head Start, some really fundamental programs that we have a ton of utilization in Guthrie County," Armstrong said.

Supervisor Brian Johnson voiced his position on the matter.

"I'm going to vote against this, and I want to make it very clear it's not that I don't support these programs, but we're reminded every day that this is what people voted for, and it seems a bit gratuitous to try to play both ends against each other, but I fully support these programs," Johnson said.

The supervisors voted 4-1 in favor of the letter of support.

Armstrong recommended the supervisors spend time at the next meeting prioritizing items for the 2025 Strategy & Project Plan.

"We can take some time to group things, what are some low-hanging fruit, what are some things that are going to take more time and effort," Armstrong said.

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

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The Guthrie Center City Council regularly meets on the second and fourth Mondays each month at 6:30 p.m. The public is welcome. ■

EDUCATION

ADAIR-CASEY SCHOOL BOARD TABLES THE AWARDING OF CONTRACT FOR ROOFING PROJECT

BY RICH WICKS
Guthrie Center Times

At the joint meeting of the Adair-Casey and Guthrie Center school boards on April 16, discussion was held regarding bids received for the Adair-Casey elementary building roof project. Six bids were received with the lowest bid being \$280,508 from McKinnis Roofing from Omaha.

Concern was expressed that the bid is considerably less than the other bids received, and that the McKinnis bid total is even below another bidder's listed expenses. Board members clarified that they are not required to accept the lowest bid but instead are to accept the "lowest responsible bid." There was also discussion of using in-state contractors when able. The bids are good for 60 days, beginning April 15.

After discussion, the board voted to table the awarding of a contract. The board will consult with legal counsel on the issue, and a special board meeting may be set to consider awarding a contract.

Superintendent Josh Rasmussen said it is possible the low bid is an indicator of an economic slowdown in which contractors have fewer projects. He said that could potentially save the district significant funds, which then could be put toward other projects.

Belle Fagan presented a summary of the senior trip to Washington, D.C. She and 30 other senior students recently completed an eight-day educational trip where they visited various landmarks and historical sites.

Principal Tandem Eischeid told of a

problem with a freezer over spring break.

"I have to give a huge shout-out to Guthrie Center Quality Meats. They loaned us a trailer...we moved all of our food in there for about three days until the freezer got fixed," Eischeid said. "I asked him how much, he said 'nothing.' "

Superintendent Josh Rasmussen updated the board about legislative matters.

"There is also a cell phone restriction that is coming to all schools," Rasmussen said. "Currently, the Department of Education will have some sample policies for us, which we will look over as an administrative team, and then we'll bring those policies to the board."

Curriculum Director Karla Mahaffey spoke regarding her recommendation for an elementary literacy curriculum. She said the districts aim for at least 80% proficiency of students.

"We're not there, and we need to get there," Mahaffey said.

Mahaffey explained the curriculum she recommends is called "Wit & Wisdom." No board action was taken at this time.

The Guthrie Center School Board approved the replacement of baseball bleachers. The new bleachers will have wheels so they can easily be moved and used at other locations, too.

Upcoming dates/events noted included a two-hour early out on April 18 and no school on Monday, April 21. There will also be two-hour early outs on April 30 and May 14 for Professional Development. Commencement is set for May 18.

The next regular board meeting will be Wednesday, May 21 at the ACGC High School media center at 7 p.m. The public is welcome. ■




2025 Summer Day Camp



Date/Time	Camp Theme (Grade Completed)	Cost	Date/Time	Camp Theme (Grade Completed)	Cost
June 5 th 9am-12pm	Up, Down, Spin Around K-3rd	\$20	July 17 th 9:30am-3:30pm	Clover Cookie Factory 4th-8th	\$25
June 12 th 9am-2pm	Science of BBQ 4th-8th	\$25	July 22 nd 9am-12pm	Growing in the Garden 4th-12th	\$25
June 19 th 9am-12pm	Fun with Bots K-3rd	\$20	July 24 th 9am-12pm	Art Explosion K-3rd	\$20
June 26 th 9am-2pm	Ag Everyday 4th-8th	\$20	July 29 th 1pm-4pm	Hour at the Fair K-3rd	\$20
July 10 th 9am-12pm	Kids in the Kitchen K-3rd	\$20	July 31 st 9am-2pm	Ricochet 6th-8th	\$25

****ALL Camps will be held at the Guthrie County Extension Office, unless noted otherwise ****

The fees for service will be used to off-set direct expenses and to support the 4-H Youth Development County Extension Program

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HEALTH

GUTHRIE COUNTY HOSPITAL RECEIVES \$20,000 FOR MEALS PROGRAM

BY RICH WICKS

Guthrie Center Times

During the April 24 meeting of the Guthrie County Hospital's Board of Trustees, a public hearing was held regarding the Fiscal Year 2026 County Budget. Chief Financial Officer Brandon Johnson shared budgetary data. Following the hearing, the trustees formally approved the budget.

Danielle Lauzon shared quality improvement data. She highlighted numbers from the recently completed third quarter of the fiscal year.

"We didn't have any falls in the third quarter, so that's exciting," Lauzon said.

Lauzon also reported on complaints received from patients. CEO Chris Stipe stressed that staff take appropriate action on all complaints, even if minor.

"All of these complaints get followed up on, by the manager, and, potentially, HR is involved," Stipe said.

Human Resources Director Mary Anderson reported on HR data.

"Our retention rate has gone up a little bit. It's at 82.6%; last month it was 81.9%.

Our engagement survey is in full swing," Anderson said.

Anderson also told of upcoming events.

"Hospital Week will be May 12-16, so we're going to have some activities that week and have some fun," she said.

Stipe shared an update on the hospital obtaining property for the expansion project.

"I did sign the sale agreement on the purchase of the house next door to the hospital, next to the helipad," Stipe said. "It will be another 30 days or so before we have possession."

Stipe also announced that the Ten Squared Men's group voted to give more than \$20,000 to the hospital to help fund the Meals on Wheels program. He voiced appreciation for the good the funds will do in the community. He added that the meals are delivered in both Guthrie Center and Panora.

Foundation Chair Dennis Flanery reported that the recent Handbags and Bingo fundraiser event was well attended and successful.

The next regular meeting of the trustees is set for May 22. The public is welcome. ■

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Q: WHAT ARE THE REGULAR HOURS AT THE GUTHRIE CENTER POOL?

A: The regular hours are noon to 5 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. daily. The Aquatic Complex is a 6,559-square-foot facility with two water slides, a zero-depth entry, a concession area, diving board and lounge chairs.

Q: HOW MUCH AREA DOES THE GUTHRIE CENTER FIRE DEPARTMENT COVER? AND HOW MANY FIREFIGHTERS ARE THERE?

A: The fire department provides fire protection to more than 255 square miles in Guthrie County in Guthrie Center and the surrounding townships. The roster currently consists of 25 members.

Q: DOES THE CITY REQUIRE RESIDENTS TO MOW THEIR LAWNS? WHAT HAPPENS IF THEY DON'T?

A: Chapter 52 of the Guthrie Center city code addresses mowing rules and regulations. According to the code, the city requires property owners and occupants "to maintain grass lawns at a uniform height within the boundaries of their property and on abutting street right-of-way in order to prevent unsightly, offensive or nuisance conditions."

Section 52.04 addresses uniform height specifications and states that grass, weeds or brush shall be

cut, mowed and maintained so as not to exceed the following height specifications:

1. Developed Residential Areas – not to exceed 8 inches
2. Undeveloped Residential Areas – not to exceed 8 inches
3. Business and Industrial Areas – not to exceed 6 inches
4. Agriculture Areas – not to exceed 15 inches

Grass, weeds, and brush that are allowed to grow in excess of the above specified limitations are deemed to be violations of this chapter. Any property within the city of Guthrie Center, whether vacated or non-vacated, is required to conform to these specifications. If the property owner fails to comply with this ordinance, the council or its appointee shall cause the property to be mowed. The fee for this service will be set by resolution and will be assessed against the property.

Q: DID CASEY FUN DAYS CHANGE FROM ITS REGULAR SCHEDULE? IF SO, WHEN IS IT THIS YEAR?

A: The annual Casey Fun Days has been rescheduled to July 18-19 this year to avoid conflicting with the Adair County Fair, which runs July 9-13. We will publish more details on Casey Fun Days soon.

Q: WHEN IS COMMENCEMENT FOR ACGC GRADUATES?

A: The graduation commencement ceremony for ACGC will be held on Sunday, May 18 at the high school beginning at 1 p.m. ■



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THEATER

ACGC PERFORMS ‘THE SOUND OF MUSIC’

Special to Guthrie Center Times

ACGC students offered three performances of the musical “The Sound of Music” at ACGC High School on Friday, April 25 and Saturday, April 26.



Rohnin Grasty as Captain Von Trapp, Carter Dinkla as Max Detweiler, and Shyann Young as Frau Schraeder, singing the song: “How Can Love Survive?”



Captain Von Trapp and Maria with the Von Trapp children. Left to right: Rohnin Grasty, Ava Campbell, Stetson Ellis, Ilana Baumert, Jude Fever, Lilly Policky, Millie Knutter, Stella Fever and Emmarae Ellis.



Full cast photo, including director Kelsey Dinkla, the orchestra pit, all actors, and the lighting crew.



Fraulein Maria singing “The Lonely Goatherd” with the Von Trapp children. Back row, left to right: Stetson Ellis as Friedrich Von Trapp, Jude Fever as Kurt Von Trapp, and Ilana Baumert as Louisa Von Trapp. Middle row, left to right: Millie Knutter as Marta Von Trapp, Stella Fever as Gretl Von Trapp, and Lilly Policky as Brigitta Von Trapp. Front row, kneeling, left to right: Emmarae Ellis as Fraulein Maria and Ava Campbell as Liesl Von Trapp.



Fraulein Maria singing “Do Re Mi” with the Von Trapp children. Standing (left to right): Ava Campbell as Liesl Von Trapp, Stetson Ellis as Friedrich Von Trapp, Lilly Policky as Brigitta Von Trapp, Millie Knutter as Marta Von Trapp, Jude Fever as Kurt Von Trapp, Ilana Baumert as Louisa Von Trapp. Seated (left to right): Stella Fever as Gretl Von Trapp, and Emmarae Ellis as Fraulein Maria.

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GUTHRIE CENTER TIMES

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The Von Trapp family singing at the festival. Back row, left to right: Emmarae Ellis, Jude Fever, Stetson Ellis, Ava Campbell, and Rohnin Grasty. Front row, left to right: Stella Fever, Lilly Policky, Millie Knutter and Ilana Baumert.



Natalie Dinkla, Allison Drake, Megan Underwood, Cadence Petersen (Natalie Dinkla playing the part of Sister Sophia), Allison Drake as Mother Abbess, Megan Underwood as Sister Margaretta, and Cadence Petersen as Sister Berthe.) In this scene they were singing "How Do You Solve a Problem Like Maria?"



The wedding scene from "The Sound of Music." Left to right: Stella Fever, Millie Knutter, Lilly Policky, Ilana Baumert, Ava Campbell, Emmarae Ellis, Rohnin Grasty, Stetson Ellis, Jude Fever, Megan Underwood, Natalie Dinkla, and Cadence Petersen.



Emmarae Ellis as Maria and Rohnin Grasty as Captain Von Trapp singing "An Ordinary Couple."



Ava Campbell as Liesl Von Trapp and Taytum Bates as Rolf Gruber singing "Sixteen Going on Seventeen"



Emmarae Ellis as Maria and Ava Campbell as Liesl Von Trapp singing "Sixteen Going on Seventeen (reprise)"



Rohnin Grasty as Captain Von Trapp and Emmarae Ellis as Maria dancing the landler. ■

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Noah Kading swings his iron at 5x80 Golf and Country Club.



Preston Kent won silver in the 3200-meter run at the Ram Relays on Monday, April 21.



Joe Crawford, pictured here, Brexton Schneider, Kade Sorensen and Eli Madsen competed at the Drake Relays on Saturday, April 26, in the 4x100-meter relay race.



ACGC's Tate Fever flies over the hurdle at the Kip Janvri Invitational on April 8.



ACGC's Mike Fuller won silver medals in the shot put and discus at the Gonzales/Parrish invitational on Thursday, May 1.



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Cadence Petersen placed first in the high jump, leaping 4-11, at the Ram Relays Monday, April 21.



Nora Langgaard rounds the corner at the Charger Relays on April 17.



ACGC's Cole Van Meter leads the pack of runners at the Charger Relays on April 17.



ACGC's Ava Campbell broke two meet records at the Bob Clark Relays: The 800-meter run record and the distance medley relay record with Nora Langgaard, Brooklyn Schafer and Cadence Petersen.



Sayer Bireline-Huss tees off at the 5x80 Golf and Country Club.

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BUTTLE CONSTRUCTION EVOLVES WITH THE TIMES

BY RICH WICKS
Guthrie Center Times

Rick Buttler, owner of Buttler Construction in Guthrie Center, is proud of his family’s long history in the business.

“Buttler Construction is the oldest family-owned business in the county,” Buttler said. “We’re actually one year older than the Guthrie County State Bank.”

The business was started in 1930 by Buttler’s grandfather, Kenneth Hugh Buttler, Sr. Later, Kenneth Hugh Buttler, Jr. took over the business.

Buttler enjoys telling the stories of the early days of Buttler Construction.

“I’ve got Grandpa’s hand-written ledgers of payroll in the 1930s,” Buttler said. “Grandpa started on coal with one truck. He was making some money when the war came along, and he wanted to get another truck, but at that time you had to go to the rationing board to get a new truck. The guy laughed at him, and my grandpa was never one to shy away from a challenge.”

According to the story, the rationing board representative was not receptive to the request for another truck.

“The guy said, ‘You may as well ask for half a dozen, because you’re not going to get them,’ ” Buttler said. “So, my grandpa asked for a half a dozen, and he got them. That pretty much got us into the real trucking business.”



The Buttler Construction office is at 203 S. Second St., Guthrie Center.

From there, the expansion continued. “Somewhere along the line, my grandpa bought a rock crusher, and that became our primary business — probably about 70% of what we did,” Buttler said. “We did Guthrie County, and even Dallas County for 42 years.”

Buttler said hauling lime for farm fields kept the crew busy through the winters when actual construction was slow. Other members of the family also worked for the company. “My grandpa had two brothers. Uncle

Pearl was pretty much the day-to-day foreman. My uncle Wayne was the mechanic for 50-some years,” Buttler said. “My dad went into the Navy, so we left around 1961, and then he retired in 1980. “In 1991, Grandpa died, and, after

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Rick Buttler enjoys the long history of his business in Guthrie Center.

that, the business was incorporated. My sister and I each had 25%, and my parents had 50%,” Buttler said. “I was in the Army at the time, and I retired from the Army in 1995. I’ve been here ever since.”

The 1990s saw a surge in business for Buttler Construction.

“The two best years this business ever had was 1993 and 1994, for a couple of reasons,” Buttler said. “First, the flood. And second, that’s about the time that the CRP program (Conservation Reserve Program) came into existence, and if you’ve got crop acres into CRP, you have to put lime on them.”

In 2001, Buttler bought out his parents’ interest in the company. At that time, Buttler Construction had 17 trucks. But changes in Buttler’s health and changes to the business were right around the corner.

When a massive snowfall caused the collapse of a roof, Buttler rebuilt on the spot and started renting out units for storage.

Then Buttler was diagnosed with throat cancer. Despite the setbacks, Buttler considers himself an optimist, and he looks back on previous challenges and sees the good that came from them.

“The farm crisis and my diagnosis of throat cancer are the two best things that ever happened to me,” Buttler said. “The farm crisis put me back in the Army, so now I get a nice Army pension

check and all my medical bills didn’t cost me a dime. And I went from 358 to 238 in weight because I had seven weeks of radiation.”

Nowadays, although Buttler still has a fleet of trucks, most sit unused. And whereas the business once employed around 25 workers, that number has dwindled. Nowadays, most of the requests for rock are individuals needing a truckload of gravel or similar small jobs.

“Basically, the world has caused this business to not be viable anymore. Right now, I’ve got one fulltime guy, and a couple of parttime guys and me.”

As the construction work has decreased, the storage unit business has grown.

“I’ve got 61 storage units, and it’s been good. I am full,” Buttler said. “If I can keep them full, it’s a good business.”

Looking back over his career and life, Buttler keeps a realistic attitude, knowing that challenges are inevitable.

“I had a person ask me to categorize where I started in life, and where I’m at now. That’s easy — tumbleweed,” he said. “I never planned on coming back to Iowa. I never planned on going back into the Army. I never planned on owning a construction business. I never planned on raising purebred cows since 1979. I sure didn’t plan on being in the storage business. Life throws curves, and I’ve been hit by a few pitches.” ■

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- Customer Service (overall)

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- Parent/Child Date Spot
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- Place to Take Kids or Grandkids
- Place for a Field Trip
- Bowling Alley
- Golf Course
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Emily and Steve Goodenough pause for a photo.

LOCAL COUPLE VOLUNTEERS IN NORTH CAROLINA

BY RICH WICKS
Guthrie Center Times

Local pastoral couple Steven and Emily Goodenough assisted in the Guthrie Center donations warehouse last year following the May 21 tornado that tore through Greenfield. Other workers included Jacque Wetzel under the leadership of Iowa-Missouri Conference Seventh Day Adventist Disaster Relief coordinators Brian and Amanda Schwering.

This year, the Goodenoughs chose to take their talents on the road. Steven and Emily drove to Statesville, North Carolina, to volunteer during the month of March. That donations warehouse opened shortly after Hurricane Helene inflicted damage to five states including severe damage to Asheville, North Carolina, where the water system was hit.

On their second weekend in North Carolina, the couple visited a distribution site at Upward Seventh Day Adventist Church in Flat Rock. During a period of two hours on a Sunday, about 75 households were served by the volunteer group run from the church basement. Translators were present



Denise Barnwell and Emily Goodenough get blankets to those in need.

for Spanish-only speakers. Denise Barnwell, leader of the site, expressed excitement at seeing needs being met and logistical problems being solved in unexpected ways.

While the work was taxing, Emily reports satisfaction at being blessed physically and mentally while helping donations reach those in need. Steven said he was gratified to support the hurricane recovery effort and to meet people from all over the country. ■



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LEHMAN AND HIS CHEVELLE REBOUND FROM SETBACKS

BY RICH WICKS
Guthrie Center Times

Often, the things we appreciate the most are the things for which we work the hardest or wait the longest. That is certainly true of Dennis Lehman and his 1970 Chevelle. Lehman and his car have been through a lot of challenges — together and separately.

“In 1968, my friend, Bob Tunink, and I decided to go into the service together. But the summer before we left, we decided to drive around, and we went to Nebraska, South Dakota, Wyoming and came back through Colorado and Missouri, and we came across a brand new Chevelle on a car transport. We both decided we wanted one when we got out of the service.”

The two each served in Vietnam, although not together.

“Halfway through my tour, I decided to order my 1970 Chevelle, and I wrote to Bob, but he wasn’t ready to order one yet,” Lehman said. “Through correspondence with my dad, we got it ordered.”

After waiting for his dream car while serving our country, Leman was eager to enjoy some fun times behind the wheel. But he had more waiting ahead of him.

“When I came back from Vietnam, I had bleeding ulcers in my stomach, and I spent four weeks in the hospital in San Francisco,” Lehman said. “Then I came home and got the car.”

Lehman was finally able to get his



Dennis Lehman drives his Chevelle in a local parade.

Chevelle out on the open road, and he did. But, a few years later, another roadblock arose.

“My house burned down, and the roof of the garage came down and smashed the car.”

The car sat for many years before Lehman was able to start the restoration process.

Despite the damage the car had sus-

tained, Lehman was able to salvage some important parts of it to use in his planned rebuild.

“I took the motor, the transmission and rear end out of the original car,” he said.

Eventually, and purely by chance, Lehman heard about someone who had recently passed away and who had owned a 1970 Chevelle that was being

restored. According to Lehman, the various parts of that car were lying around, and restoring it would be a major challenge. Because the owner’s family didn’t want to move the car and all its pieces to Colorado, Lehman was able to buy it at a reasonable price and found someone who agreed to rebuild and restore the car for him.

“In 2018, we started finding the parts,

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Dennis Lehman holds a second-place trophy his car won.

and then the body shop had it for a year, and then about another year later, it was done," Lehman said.

Although decades had passed since the car was drivable, the wait was worth it for Lehman.

"It's identical to what I had when I came back from Vietnam," Lehman said.

Although Lehman is pleased with his car, he is amazed at the increased costs compared to when he first bought his Chevelle.

"When I put tires and rims on it, that cost more than when I bought the whole car new," Lehman said. "The car cost \$3,950 brand new."

Now that he finally has his Chevelle running smoothly, Lehman enjoys letting others appreciate it as well.

"I've taken it to a lot of car shows and won a lot of trophies. I've had it in lots of parades, too," Lehman said. "It doesn't like to drive in parades. It wants to go faster."

Lehman has a busy schedule of car shows and parades planned this year.

"I've got one in Grimes, Stuart, Adair,

Casey, Anita, Greenfield, Winterset and Guthrie Center," Lehman said. "Shows and parades are 99% of the driving that the car gets."

Lehman proudly shared that his son plans to use the car in a wedding this fall.

Over the years, Lehman has stayed active but doesn't care to do some of the more challenging work on cars anymore.

"I'm a farmer and still farming today," Lehman said. "But I don't do any of the work on the car myself anymore. I'll be 75 this summer; I just don't climb underneath stuff anymore like I used to."

But, occasionally, Lehman will get out on the open road and see what his Chevelle can do.

"Last spring, we were driving it, and it was my nephew Anthony driving, and I was just about to say it was time to slow down, and we looked at the speedometer, and it was 120 and still climbing," Lehman said. "So, it will go as fast as you want it to go. When you step on the gas pedal, you'd better be hanging on, or it will put you in the back seat." ■

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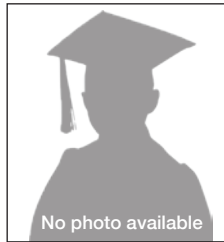
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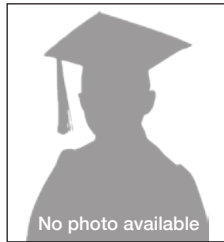
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**LELA ROSE
GLADE**
1929-2025

Lela Rose Glade, 95, daughter of Walter and Lena Hambleton, was born Dec. 1, 1929, in Guthrie County. She entered her heavenly home on Saturday April 19, 2025, at the New Homestead Care Facility, where she had resided since January of 2025.

She graduated from Guthrie County High School in 1947. She attended one semester at Simpson College and returned home to teach at

one-room school houses, including the Seely No. 5 country school. This was where her dad made sure he was farming with his Oliver 70 next to the school so he could stop to see and talk with her while recess occurred and he could eat his lunch.

Rose grew up in Guthrie County, enjoying life on the farm where they had apple trees, big gardens, pigs, chickens, cats, dogs and two work horses named "Mag" and "Cease." Tethered together, one relied on the other. The blind one was the strongest, and the other led them to do the work.

As a young girl, Rose said she went barefoot nearly all the time, stating, "I only wore shoes to school and to special occasions." She truly enjoyed sharing her love for animals such as cows, sheep and birds with her family, especially with her grandchildren.

Rose and Gene dated before he went off to war, later marrying in 1950, a little after Eugene's honorable discharge after serving two years in the

Army in the Pacific during WWII. In 1951, they were blessed with the arrival of baby Ronald Eugene (wife Becky). A bit later, Nita (in Texas) his adopted sister grew up in the family as well for a few memorable years. Then Randy (wife Dixie) was born, then Tom (wife Jan) and daughter Joanne (husband Jerry), then Dennis (wife Sandra), and then one more named Larry (wife Samantha). Now, there are several grandkids.

Rose and Gene rented farms near Guthrie, Yale and Panorama and created many fond memories. Farming became a way of life, and many stories ensued. While Dad was farming, Mom was by his side — or milking cows, or feeding pigs, or taking care of the chickens, ducks, the dog and lots and lots of cats. She did whatever needed done while caring for her family.

They enjoyed traveling to Hawaii, the Bahamas, New York and other places through Vigortone Feed sales awards promotions, the Mid-America Dairyman's

Association, Archer Oil and more. Mom went to Alaska with Grandma Lena once, and once Dad, Mom, Dennis and I (Larry) drove on a 14-day adventure across Canada to Alaska. And she went at least two more times with Dad driving up the Al-Can Highway with other family members. Yes! They enjoyed traveling across the U.S. with us kids as well. She also participated and enjoyed being with my dad as he promoted collecting, displaying and parading antique tractors.

Visiting and working at her parents' Goldmine Apple Orchard was always a wonderful family event. She helped all of us to retain great memories of the orchard as well. She loved her parents and siblings and always carried their fond memories as long as she lived on this earth.

In 1961, they moved to the farm where brother Randy and his wife, Dixie, currently reside. In addition to being a farm wife, and a mom to all us kids, at the age of 54 she graduated from

DMACC with her degree in nursing as an RN. Later, she became a surgical nurse and then took on the duties as infectious disease controller of the Guthrie County Hospital. She was always busy. Even as the children grew, she continued serving her community as a nurse, a mom and more. If you asked her if working at the hospital was hard work, she would jokingly say, "I work at the hospital to get away from the hard work at the farm." She even retired twice from the hospital because they had called her back for a few more years, until the age of 74.

Soon after that, our dad passed away, she moved to Panorama to a house that felt just like home. She had a love of art and music. Many of her children and grandchildren enjoyed visiting during the week to eat cookies and experience her great cooking. During the holidays, all enjoyed the loving atmosphere. If you went away hungry from her house, it was your fault!

At the age of 90, she said she didn't think she should drive anymore. She knew something was changing. COVID hit and created an obstacle that many had to maneuver through. It was hard on her and others. As her dementia progressed, we saw pieces of her thinking and abilities slip away. But, through the tremendous support of family members, relatives and friends, she was able to be cared for in her own home until January of 2025.

Due to illness, she was hospitalized and then placed in the New Homestead Care Facility where she resided until her death at the age of 95 on April 19, 2025. She will be missed but not forgotten. As a Christian, we will see her again, returning in the Triumph of our Lord. Amen!

She was preceded in death by husband, Eugene C. Glade; a great granddaughter, Capri Jill; parents, Walter and Lena Hambleton; brothers, Dan, Dar, John and Doug; and sisters, Neva, Hope and Mary. ■

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**KENNETH B.
'KEN' CROUSE**
1944-2025

Kenneth B. "Ken" Crouse, age 80, of Panorama, and formerly of Carroll, passed away on Sunday, May 4, 2025, at Thomas Rest Haven in Coon Rapids.

Funeral services were held at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, May 9, 2025, at the Dahn and Woodhouse Funeral Home in Carroll with Rev. Jeremy Poland officiating. Casket bearers were Todd Crouse, Jeff Pruitt, Joe

Suefurt, Steve Gawley, Bret Richards and Pat Holloway. Burial will be in the Carroll City Cemetery.

Visitation was held at the Dahn and Woodhouse Funeral Home in Carroll from 5-7 p.m. on Thursday evening. Additional visitation was held at the funeral home on Friday from 9:30-10:15 a.m. prior to the service.

Memorials are preferred to Tori's Angels or the American Truck Historical Society.

Funeral arrangements are under the direction of the Dahn and Woodhouse Funeral Home in Carroll, and online condolences may be left for the family at www.dahnandwoodhouse.com

Ken was born on Oct. 2, 1944, in Boone and was the son of Paul and Ruth (Smith) Crouse. He lived as a child in Denison, moving to Carroll when the family relocated the family business. Ken was a proud member of what was to become the

1962 graduating class of Carroll High School and continued with the Alumni Association.

Ken met Sharon Holloway through a mutual friend, and it was to be a "forever moment." They were united in marriage on Feb. 29, 1964. Ken had a lot of fun telling folks "he sure was lucky," as he only bought anniversary gifts every four years! They were blessed with two sons, Scott and Matthew

Ken spent nearly 50 years dedicating his life's work to Crouse Cartage Company. He took pride in helping prepare drivers for the truck rodeos both in Iowa and at national venues. He enjoyed being part of the Crouse bowling teams for several years.

Following his retirement, Ken didn't miss many "Wednesday Retiree Coffees." Ken spent many years as a member of the American Truck Historical Society where he helped establish and attend several chapter groups as a regional vice

president. He was very proud to have his own truck to drive to shows. For many years, Ken was a passionate follower of local dirt track racing, which led to an avid interest in NASCAR and some Indy races.

Ken is survived by his wife of 61 years, Shari Crouse of Panorama; sons, Scott Crouse (Laura) of Panorama and Matthew Crouse of Carroll; four grandchildren: Andrew Crouse (Alyssa), Toni Curry (Kyle), Matt Crouse and Shealor Crouse (Laci); two great grandsons, Emmitt Crouse and Marty Curry; sister Jean Watt (Monte); brother Jeff Crouse; sisters-in-law: Dixie Crouse, Rose Crouse, Pat Gawley (Steve), Sandi Richards (Kent) and Becky Muhs (Dean); brother-in-law Bill Holloway (Jan); nieces, nephews, other relatives and friend.

He is preceded in death by his parents; his mother-in-law and father-in-law, O.E. and Helen Holloway; and his brothers, George and Larry Crouse. ■

DOROTHY JEAN SLOSS

1923-2025

Dorothy Jean Sloss was born Oct. 26, 1923, to William and Bertha Sheeder Richey in Guthrie Center. Dorothy was the second of five children. Her siblings include Lillian, Jim, Joan and Donna.

Dorothy passed away peacefully at The New Homestead on April 13, 2025. She attended Guthrie Center High School and graduated in 1941. Dorothy taught country school for several years. She married Willard Sloss on Jan. 18, 1950. To this union, three children were born: Michael, Randy and Teresa. Willard and Dorothy divorced in 1988.

Dorothy worked at the county farm in the 1970s. She was a caregiver, providing for her family and friends. She cared for her parents until their deaths. Dorothy was very artistic. She loved

to paint, draw, sew, quilt and garden. The name Dorothy means "Gift of God." "A good name is more desirable than great riches," Proverbs 22:1. Dorothy loved to read and study, with the Bible being her favorite. She patiently waited for Jesus, her savior, to close her eyes and take her last breath.

She is survived by her children, Randy (Glenda) of Mount Juliet, Tennessee, and Teresa of Guthrie Center; her grandchildren, Brett Sloss of Mount Juliet, Tennessee, and Ashleigh Sloss of Old Hickory, Tennessee; her great grandson, Brayden Sloss of Old Hickory, Tennessee; and her sister, Joan (Harold) Rose of Colorado Springs, Colorado. She was preceded in death by her parents, William and Bertha Richey; her brother, Jim Richey; her sisters, Lillian Stevens and Donna Marchant; and a son, Michael Sloss. ■

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**JULIA ANN
MILLHOLLIN**
1927-2025

Julia Ann Millhollin,

97, daughter of Earl and Dessie Vandevanter, was born Dec. 12, 1927, in rural Guthrie County. She passed away Wednesday, May 7, 2025, at her home.

Julia graduated from Guthrie Center High School in 1945. She married Clark Millhollin on Jan. 28, 1946, at the Christian Church parsonage in Guthrie Center, which was next door to where she lived. They lived a short while in Guthrie Center, Greenfield, Knoxville and Menlo before moving to California where they lived for 43 years. They moved back to Iowa

in 1993 and made their home at Lake Panorama.

Julia is survived by her daughter, Deborah Berg of Florida; son, Mark (Jenny) Millhollin of California; nine grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband of 70 years, Clark; daughter, Patricia Mahler; four sisters; and a brother.

Cremation has taken place, and no services are planned. Twigg Funeral Home, Panora, is entrusted with her services. ■

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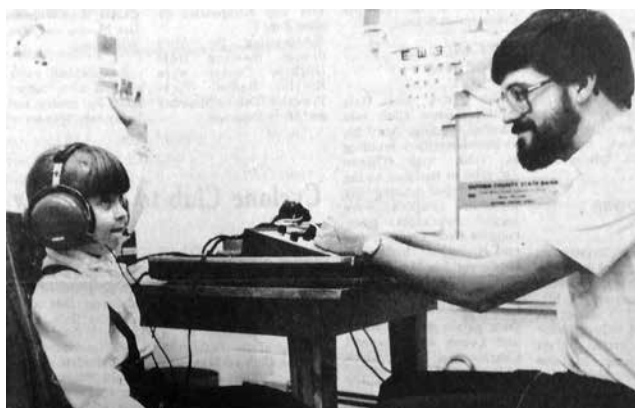
50 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie Center Times, May 14, 1975

GRADUATION NEARS. Students and area schools are making preparations for graduation exercises next week. At Guthrie Center, Dawn Lehman is one of 60 seniors. Dawn has worked at the Guthrie Center Newspapers this school year as a photographer and office assistant. Sod was laid at the new Guthrie Center High school Wednesday, dressing up the school for graduation activities.

40 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie Center Times, May 1, 1985

COMING THROUGH, LOUD AND CLEAR: Amanda Sheeder, daughter of the Lee Sheeders, signals to Heartland Area Education Agency audiologist Doug Olson that she hears the tone during a screening session at kindergarten round-up. The test was conducted to detect possible hearing impairments in the preschoolers.

30 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie Center Times, May 17, 1995

BAND AND VOCAL AWARDS: Three Guthrie Center High School students were recognized for their musical achievements during Music Awards Night in the GCHS commons Tuesday evening. Leslie Hansen and Kyle Chance each received the American Choral Director's Association award for outstanding vocal musicians. Chance also won the Arion award for outstanding instrumental musician. Abby Gonzales won the award for the most improved player in band. Pictured in the photo, from left, band instructor Dale Menning, Chance, Gonzales and Hansen.

20 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie Center Times, May 4, 2005

COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING SERVICE RECEIVES QUALITY IMPROVEMENT AWARD: Pictured, Kathy Hussey, R.N., Iowa Foundation for Medical Care; Janell Stringham, R.N. Nurse Administrator; Amy Badger, R.N., Clinical Nurse Supervisor; Sandy Eivins, R.N., staff nurse; Paula Sheeder, R.N., staff nurse; and Marcia Lewis, R.N., staff nurse.

10 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie Center Times, May 19, 2015

LONG JUMP: Adair-Casey's Emmitt Wheatly competes in the long jump competition at a Class 1A state-qualifying meet in Audubon on May 14.

5 YEARS AGO



Guthrie County Times Vedette, Feb. 27, 2020

INJURIES AVERTED IN SINGLE-VEHICLE ACCIDENT: A pickup driven by a Guthrie Center man did considerable damage after the driver suffered an apparent medical emergency due to diabetes and passed out. The accident report filed by the Guthrie County Sheriff's Office said Mark D. Rutherford, 39, was headed west on Highway 44 entering Guthrie Center last Tuesday about 3:30 p.m. The pickup crossed the center line to the south and hit two mailboxes, a street sign, a small tree, concrete wall and a utility pole and support, causing massive damage to poles and lines. Rutherford's 1999 Ford pickup was totaled. He was wearing a seat belt, and the accident report said he was uninjured. ■



MARY J. BARNETT LIBRARY NEWS

400 GRAND ST. IN GUTHRIE CENTER | 641-747-8110 | MJB LIB@GUTHRIECENTER.LIB.IA.US | WWW.GUTHRIECENTER.LIB.IA.US.

MORE THAN JUST BOOKS

BY KAREN KELLY

Special to Guthrie Center Times

Occasionally I hear people complaining of the inconvenience of small-town life, but I love living and working in a small town. In case I needed a reason, this week someone drew my attention to a Facebook Post that reminded me of the best part of being in a little town.

Grant Sheeder and Brett Rowley, owners of Guthrie County Quality Meats, saw a need and brainstormed a way to help. In discussing the value of our public libraries and the needs that they have, the pair decided 15% of bratwurst sales sold in store or online will be donated equally to the seven Guthrie County libraries, launching "Bratwursts for Books." The pair even has an option for people to make a Venmo donation if they don't like bratwurst.

When Gary Fox, owner of Fox Countertops, saw this, he generously agreed to match the Guthrie County Quality Meat's donation. Apparently, kindness and generosity are contagious because, according to the Guthrie County Quality Facebook page, they are seeing lots of positive comments on Facebook and receiving a lot of donations via Venmo.

When the folks at Local Liquor in Panora saw this on Facebook, this was their response, "Love what you guys

are doing at Guthrie County Quality Meats for the libraries! We want in on this, too, and will donate \$4 for every case of Busch Light we sell in the month of May! Cheers to the Guthrie County Libraries." Wow! Kindness really does create a snowball effect!

On behalf of Mary J. Barnett Memorial Library, I would just like to say thank you. What an amazingly helpful and generous fundraiser by these businesses. A shout out to all of you who are enjoying brats, brews or new countertops to support the libraries in the area.

We are so blessed to have such excellent community support. The MJB Library recognizes how fortunate we are to be in a community that values the library enough to make sure we are well-funded and well-utilized. Our Friends of the Library and Library Board are so generous with their time and resources. We appreciate the supervisors and city council who look out for our financial needs, as well as the many civic organizations that have donated grant money. Truly, without all this support, our library wouldn't be able to offer nearly as many programs and services.

Please know that, when the library director and board are making decisions about how to best allocate the money and resources given to us, they are deliberate and thoughtful about what they are doing. Librarians, it



Following story hour, the STEM table is a popular place for the preschool crowd to hang out and play.

seems, know how to pinch a penny so hard that Mr. Lincoln screams, but in doing so, they are using the money and resources they have to provide the most services to the greatest number of patrons.

We have a summer of great events and programs for patrons of all ages in the works. Watch our Facebook page and this column for details.

As we work on programs for our youth, we are in need of more LEGOs, Hot Wheels cars, and Hot Wheels tracks. As you are spring cleaning, the library would happily accept gently used Hot Wheels or LEGOs.

Judi Zimmerline will be facilitating a card making class from 9-11 a.m. on Thursday, May 15. The \$5 fee covers all supplies and materials required to create unique greeting cards.

Also on Thursday, May 15, at 6:30 p.m., Cookbook Club will meet, sample recipes and discuss the cookbook "Super Italian" by Giada DeLaurentiis. Members are encouraged to stop by the library to select a recipe which they will prepare and bring to share with the group.

Pulitzer Prize nominated author Enfys McMurphy will be speaking at the library on Saturday, May 17, at 11

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On April 30, our after school program, Creation Corner, was led by Judi Zimmerline. The youth in attendance made May baskets to take home and share with others.



Creation Corner participants were able to fill completed May baskets with candy and treats.



Barrett loves to build with LEGOs on the library's big LEGO table.

a.m. Join us as McMurtry chronicles the plane crash and its aftermath detailed in her book entitled "Disaster at 39,000 Feet: How Small Town America Came Together at a Time of Crisis."

Members of Reads Well With Others evening book club are encouraged to stop by the library to check out a copy of this month's selection, "My Travels with Mrs. Kennedy" by Clint Hill, who was the Secret Service agent

who guarded Jackie Kennedy Onassis during her time in the White House and many years following. Hill describes memories of being Kennedy Onassis's security detail who traveled extensively with the former first lady.

The book club will discuss this book on Tuesday, May 27 at 5 p.m.

Golfers are reminded to sign up for the Friends of the Library annual golf tournament, scheduled for Saturday, June 14, at the Guthrie Center Golf Course. Online registration is open at the library's web page.

The library has several STEM/STEAM activities on the calendar for May. Guthrie STEM Lab takes place on Wednesday, May 14 at 2 p.m., while Creation Corner will be held at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 28. Pre-registration is preferred to ensure adequate supplies for activities.

Story Hour is scheduled every Friday morning at 10 a.m. for preschoolers or all ages and their caretakers. This month, youngsters will learn about a variety of topics including cars on May 16, princesses on May 23, and dinosaurs on May 30.

Check the MJB Library website to see our calendar of events for our Summer Reading Program, scheduled throughout the month of June. Registration is open to sign up children of all ages who want to participate. Level Up at Your Library is the theme for this year's events. We offer diverse activities for all ages to participate. Sign up today. ■

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THE SCOTCHEROOS THAT BECAME A FAMILY TRADITION

BY JOLENE GOODMAN
Guthrie Center Times

“My mom’s Scotcheroos are the best!”

The first time I heard one of my daughters say that, I was deeply honored — and I still feel that way every time I hear it. They often tell me about other versions they have tried and always end with, “They were good, but yours are the best!”

In our family, Scotcheroos are a must-have at gatherings, reunions, road trips and just about any occasion. These sweet treats deliver a perfect combo: smooth peanut butter flavor, a satisfying crunch, and a thick, rich layer of butterscotch-chocolate topping that keeps everyone coming back for seconds. I am happy to share the secrets behind their success, but I first must give credit

where credit is due. My friend Tammy Even gifted me this recipe more than 30 years ago at my bridal shower. I still have the recipe book my friends gave me that day, and I use it often.

NOW, THE SECRETS:

- 1. Use Special K cereal** – it gives the perfect texture and structure. I know many recipes use crispy rice cereal, but trust me on this one. It is truly the ingredient that makes the difference.
- 2. Don’t skimp on the topping** – use one full bag each of semi-sweet chocolate chips and butterscotch chips.
- 3. Watch the syrup closely** – this step can make or break the batch. Don’t overcook or undercook it. Bring it just to a boil (for maybe a minute). The sugar crystals need to melt completely, or the syrup will turn gritty. But overcook it, and your Scotcheroos will be too

chewy.

Here’s a tip: Dip a spoon in the hot syrup, tap a little onto the counter, and taste it. If you can still feel sugar crystals, keep it on the stove a bit longer. The moment they are gone, pull it off the heat.

Give these a try and let me know what you think. Do you have recipe traditions you would like to share? Send them my way at jolene@iowalivingmagazines.com. Happy snacking! ■



Jolene Goodman

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

SCOTCHEROOS

- Ingredients**
- 6 cups Special K cereal
 - 1 cup white sugar
 - 1 cup corn syrup
 - 1.5 cups peanut butter
 - 2 teaspoons vanilla
 - 1 12-ounce package of semi-sweet chocolate chips
 - 1 12-ounce package of butterscotch chips

Directions

Let sugar and corn syrup come to a boil in saucepan on the stove. Do not let boil long, just until



sugar is not crystalized. Remove from stove. Add peanut butter and vanilla. Stir. Add cereal. Press into a 9-inch by 13-inch pan. Let cool. Melt all chips in a microwave-safe bowl in the microwave. Spread over bars. Allow topping to set before cutting and serving. Enjoy! ■



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WHERE IS IT?



The answer for the location of the photo in last month's contest is the bull statue at the Guthrie Livestock Auction at 407 S. Third 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 at? (It is an easy one, and someone has to beat Stephanie to the punch.) Have a photo to submit for future issues? Send to shane@gctimesnews.com. ■



LAST MONTH'S PHOTO



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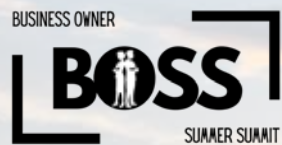
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