

Guthrie Center **TIMES**

FREE!

JUNE 2026

Mailed to all addresses in
Guthrie Center, Adair and
Casey and on newsstands.

FAMILY, FLAGS AND FIREWORKS

**LEARN HOW AREA
RESIDENTS CELEBRATE
THE FOURTH OF JULY**

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**SMALL-ENGINE EXPERT
STILL RUNNING AFTER
MORE THAN SIX DECADES**

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**VIEW UNIQUE ITEMS
FROM MORE THAN 150
YEARS IN ADAIR ROOM**

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**ONE-PAN TURKEY SAUSAGE
AND VEGETABLES MAKES
DINNERS EASY**

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Yale 4th of July CELEBRATION!

FRIDAY JULY 3RD

Chalk the Block • 5PM-7PM

North end of Main Street

Chalk available for kids of all ages to chalk the block

Ice Cream Truck - Swoops 'N Scoops • 5PM-7PM

Corner of Main Street and Hill Street

Street Dance and Beer Garden • 7PM-11PM

Music by RUKKUS. Hosted by Micky's

Main Street



SATURDAY JULY 4TH

Fun Run/Walk • 8 AM | Registration 7:15-7:45 7/4

Start/Finish on Main Street by Yale Fire Station

\$25 Registration Fee

Camping 4 girls/TTT Omelet Breakfast • 8-10AM

Serving made to order omelets and muffins

Community Building

Vendor Market • 9 AM-2PM

Corner of Main and North Street

Parade Starts at 11AM | Registration 9-10:30AM

at the school campus

Horse Show • 12 PM Concessions available

Yale Saddle Club

Yale Community Club Lunch

Following the parade in the Yale Community Building

Kickball Tournament and Dunk Tank • 12PM-3PM

Hosted by the Panorama Junior Class

Concessions available. *Baseball Field*

BINGO • 1:30-3:30PM Hosted by Yale Community Club

Yale Community Building

Kid Zone • 12:30PM-5PM

Kids game, bubbles station, arts and crafts, coloring contest, kids pedal pull. *Main Street*

Family Zone • 1PM- Dusk

Games to entertain the whole family. 4 square in the air, bags games, giant connect four, giant Jenga and bucket golf. *School Campus*

3v3 Basketball Tournament • 2PM

There will be a sign up fee and different age brackets, watch for more details. *Historic Round Gym*

Talent Show • 5PM *Stage at the school campus*

Picnic Games After the talent show

3 legged races, potato sack races, egg and spoon races, tug-of-war. *School campus*

Pie Auction/Contest and

Tournament Winners/Raffle Drawing

After Picnic Games. Pies will be on display at community building throughout the day Announcement of contest and tournament winners from the day. *Stage at the school campus*

Live Music by Kile Jackson • 7PM

Stage at the school campus

Fireworks Show • Dusk

Kickback with your family and enjoy the fireworks show at the ball field or on the school campus lot. *Baseball field*

YOU CAN FIND ALL OF THE FOLLOWING FOOD VENDORS THROUGHOUT THE EVENT!

Camping 4 girls/TTT Breakfast • Coffee Truck - Cup of Joe *Main Street* • Mickey's *Main Street* • Deardorff Highland Cattle Food Truck *Main Street*
Yale Saddle Club concessions *Yale Horse Arena* • Junior Class concessions- *Ballfield* • Ice Cream Truck - Swoops 'N Scoops *Main Street* • Ice Cream Truck TBD *School Campus* (evening)

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Raffle Tickets available for purchase at the Community Building.



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Handicap Parking on North Side of Bank. Not responsible for Accidents. Kybos and/or Rest Rooms are available at Fire Hall, School House, Ball Field and Bike Trail Park. Check out www.yaleiowa.com for information about the Yale Community Club activities, City of Yale and businesses.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Raffle Tickets will be on sale at nearby businesses leading up to the 4th of July event. We will also have them for sale in Yale on the 3rd of July and throughout the day on the 4th.

We will be selling Yale, Iowa t-shirts. Shirts will be available through T&K design as pre-sale but we will also have some on hand the day of the 4th. All proceeds will go towards next year's 4th of July event.

Photo op - there will be an American Flag backdrop available for a photo op at the school campus throughout the day. Take your photo and tag our Facebook page!

Any changes or additions to the schedule will be updated on our Facebook page, Annual Yale 4th of July Celebration. Be sure to check our page for additional information on events including vendor information, schedule changes, raffle prizes, and weather updates.

The school campus will only be used for parking for the parade line up. All vehicles will need to be immediately moved from the campus following the parade and you will need to find other places to park during the day including during the Fireworks show. We will be using this space as a place for families to spend the day and a place to enjoy the fireworks show from your lawn chairs or spread out on a blanket.

For more information, updates and weather, follow us on Facebook:
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ON THE COVER: Family, flags and fireworks. Getty images



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2026 July/August Summer Library Programs



DATE/TIME	PROGRAM	LOCATION
July 6 th 3pm-4pm	The Beeman	Stuart Public Library
July 8 th 3:30pm-4:30pm	The Beeman	Bayard Public Library
July 14 th 10am-11am	The Beeman	Menlo Public Library
July 23 rd 2pm-3pm	The Beeman	Panora Public Library
August 3 rd 10am-11am	From Wax to Crayon	Stuart Library Program
August 5 th 2pm-3pm	From Wax to Crayon	Panora Public Library
August 11 th 10am-11am	From Wax to Crayon	Menlo Public Library

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VOTE EARLY, VOTE ONCE, VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITES

I have learned over the years that people truly love to know who and what is considered “the best.” That is why we search online, scroll through reviews and ask friends for recommendations. The problem? Online ratings can be manipulated by scammers, fake reviews and companies that specialize in polishing reputations. So how do you find out what local residents really think? That’s where our Best of Guthrie County poll comes in.

We are excited to launch the third edition of this community competition, giving Guthrie County residents another opportunity to recognize the people, places, businesses and events that make this county special.

As I have stated before, one point deserves repeating: The winners are not chosen by us. They are chosen by you. The results reflect the votes of our readers,

not the opinions of our staff. That distinction occasionally gets lost in the discussion, but it is an important one.

While the poll will continue to evolve in future years, this year’s version follows a familiar format. You will find 89 categories ranging from serious to spirited. Best pizza. Best pastor. Best park. Best whatever-you-think-deserves-the-title. You can vote in a single category or tackle all 89 if you are feeling ambitious.

We have been promoting the poll through our publications, emails, social media channels and more to encourage participation from every corner of Guthrie County. The more people who vote, the



Shane Goodman

more meaningful the results become.

Last year, 642 votes were cast. That was an incredible showing and a strong increase from 471 the year prior. So far this year, we are at 650, a new record — And the poll is still open.

Voting is simple. Spend 30 seconds voting in one category or settle in with a cup of coffee and complete all 89. The choice is yours. Just remember that once you submit your ballot, it is final. Much like Election Day, there are no do-overs.

And before anyone gets any bright ideas, yes, we monitor for duplicate voting. We catch the cheaters, and those votes are removed. So save yourself the trouble and don’t try to vote multiple times.

If you are ready to participate, scan the QR code or click the banner at www.gctimesnews.com, review the rules and

cast your votes. Then share the poll with your family, friends, neighbors, co-workers and anyone else with a connection to Guthrie County.

Thank you in advance for taking part. More importantly, thank you for helping recognize the people and places that make Guthrie County a great place to live, work and visit.

As always, I thank you for reading— and voting! ■

Shane Goodman
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FAMILY, FLAGS AND FIREWORKS

Learn how area residents celebrate the Fourth of July.

BY RICH WICKS

Guthrie Center Times

Long ago, our nation's forefathers signed the Declaration of Independence, indicating that we were no longer part of Great Britain and would become our own nation. Because of that, we are now free to celebrate in many ways including eating grilled meat, getting sunburned, watching a parade and letting off fireworks.

In reality, the Fourth of July means much more than that. It is a day to celebrate our freedoms and how they were obtained. This year's celebrations look to be bigger than ever, to honor America turning 250 years old.

OLD GLORY

The U.S. flag is the iconic symbol of our country, and there are rules as to how the flag can be displayed and disposed of. Although most people learn these rules during elementary school, America's 250th anniversary is an appropriate time for a refresher.

If displayed outdoors, the U.S. flag is to be flown from sunup to sundown only. The exception is that, if properly illuminated, the flag may be displayed after dark, as well. The flag should be taken down during severe weather unless it is a weatherproof flag.

Other rules for the U.S. flag include:

The flag should never touch the ground.

The flag must always be displayed "right side up." The exception is that displaying the U.S. flag upside-down can be used as a distress signal.

The flag is never to be marked up with additional designs or wording, nor marred in any way.

The flag is not to be worn as clothing.

To properly dispose of a worn-out U.S. flag, it can be taken to a drop-box inside Guthrie Center City Hall. Other options are to contact a local American Legion, VFW or Boy Scout group. Worn out flags may also be burned if done so respectfully and if the flag is completely burned.

Most likely, the largest U.S. flag in Guthrie County is the image painted on the side



A large U.S. flag painted on the water tower welcomes all to Guthrie Center.

of Guthrie Center's water tower. Locals likely noticed the sandblasting and repainting that occurred earlier this year.

Although the newly painted U.S. flag looks fresh and ready for America's 250th birthday and RAGBRAI's July 20 visit to Guthrie Center, Guthrie Center City Administrator Kris Arrasmith said the timing was a lucky coincidence.

"It was time for us to renew our contract with the company that services the water tower," Arrasmith said. "Last year, it was determined that it was in need of full-on sandblasting both inside and out, some repairs, and then a full paint job. That is a requirement by the state when you provide public water. So, it was due."

The large flag design has been a Guthrie Center landmark for years.

"2001 is when the tower went into service. It is a 1.75-million-gallon tank," Arra-

smith said. "The flag on the side of it has always been there since 2007 or 2008 when the first cycle of repainting happened."

CAMPING

One traditional Fourth of July activity that remains popular in the county is camping. This year, with the Fourth of July falling on a Saturday, camping numbers may be even higher.

Park Manager Reaghan Oakleaf of Springbrook State Park shared information regarding camping over the holiday weekend.

As of press time, many electric and non-electric camping sites were still available for those interested in camping at the park. To check availability and possibly make a reservation for a campsite or facility, go to the website of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources for campground reser-

vations, which is www.iowastateparks.reserveamerica.com.

"I know we did fill up for Memorial Day, so it's pretty possible that we'll at least end up filling our electric sites for the Fourth, but maybe not the non-electric," Oakleaf said.

Oakleaf was asked if the park staff puts on any special events for the Fourth. She also shared what is allowed regarding fireworks in the park.

"Traditionally, no, we haven't put on special events for holiday weekends. I would like to in the future, but for right now, no," she said. "We do not allow any fireworks in the state park. What we do typically allow are the little sparklers for the kids, and smoke bombs and those little snap things. I know now that they make adult snappers, but those are not allowed."

Oakleaf also encourages potential camp-



Camping at Springbrook State Park is a popular Fourth of July activity.

ers to complete the reservation before pulling into a campsite, because she has seen situations in which a family pulls into an empty site, begins setting up while making a reservation, and then discovers the site is already reserved by someone else. The family then must undo everything they just set up and move to an available spot, if any remain.

"I always advise people to make any reservations prior to entering the park, because internet service is hard to connect with in many areas of the park," Oakleaf said.

FIREWORKS

One of the central parts of the Fourth of July are fireworks. Professional fireworks shows will be held at several locations in the area again this year. As usual, the largest and most well-attended area fireworks display will be at dusk on July 4 in Yale.

The annual "Fire in the Sky" fireworks show will again be put on by the Lake Panorama Association and the Joe Schering family on Shady Beach. This marks the 30th year of this annual favorite. The show will begin around 9:45 p.m. on July 4.

There are several other fireworks shows in the area. The Shootout Saloon in Dexter will hold a fireworks display on July 3 at dusk. Pattee Park in Perry will hold a fireworks show at dusk on July 4. The Aquatic Center in Coon Rapids is the site of a fireworks show on July 4. On July 5, there will be a free fireworks show at Beacon Field in Greenfield.

For those who get a bang out of personal fireworks, it is important to be aware of state and local laws regarding use. For decades, almost all personal fireworks were illegal in Iowa, other than sparklers, "snakes" and "poppers." But in 2017, Iowa law changed to allow a variety of bottle



The American flags wave in the wind at Union Cemetery in Guthrie Center. Numerous rules are in place on how to properly display U.S. flags.

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GUTHRIE CENTER TIMES ARCHIVE PHOTO

Fireworks are a central part of the celebration of the Fourth of July, and many area communities offer displays around the holiday.

rockets, firecrackers and spark fountains, among other options. Then, Iowa Senate File 303 was signed into law by Gov. Kim Reynolds in 2025. The law prevents counties or cities from passing any rules more restrictive than the state law regarding use of consumer fireworks on July 3, July 4 or Dec. 31.

The 2025 law allows the use of consumer fireworks on private property, with the owner's consent, by adults during the hours of 9 a.m. through 10 p.m. from June 1 through July 8 and Dec. 10 through Jan. 3. Those ending times are extended to 11 p.m. on July 4 and to 12:30 a.m. on Jan. 1.

Arrasmith noted that Guthrie Center does not have any specific ordinances regarding fireworks.

"We are in line with what the state decides," she said. She added that the only professional fireworks shows in Guthrie Center have generally been during the Guthrie County Fair.

The use of consumer fireworks and professional fireworks is expected to be at record levels this summer to mark the 250th anniversary milestone. With that in mind, here are some rules and helpful hints regarding fireworks. Coincidentally, most violations of the state code regarding fire-

works may result in a simple misdemeanor and stipulate a fine of no less than \$250.

If you are 18 or older, you are allowed to possess and use consumer fireworks on the dates listed prior and during the timeframes listed. Consumer fireworks refers to those first-class and second-class fireworks that can be bought by the public without a permit. It is the user's responsibility to know and follow any fireworks laws or ordinances for the area in which you reside.

Additionally, some commonsense rules apply, even if they do not show up in state or local law. Many pets, especially dogs, can be very disturbed by fireworks. Users are encouraged to avoid disturbing pets or other animals.

Another commonsense rule is that fireworks, by their very nature, sometimes fly off in various directions, so users are encouraged to clean up debris left behind after any fireworks are used.

Fireworks can easily start a fire during dry and/or windy conditions, so check for wildfire warning conditions or burn bans. And finally, fireworks safety is fostered when users are sober adults. Injuries can and do happen, so please take the laws and the risks seriously. ■

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COMMUNITY

CLARKS HONORED WITH YARD OF THE MONTH



Special to Guthrie Center Times

Curtis and Angie Clark at 105 North 12th St. in Guthrie Center are the winner of \$100 in chamber bucks from the Guthrie Center Lions Club and the Guth-

rie Center Chamber of Commerce for the Yard of the Month contest for May. These two organizations have teamed up to award citizens who maintain and take pride in their yard with this monthly contest. ■

COMMUNITY

STRUCTURE FIRE AT GUTHRIE COUNTY SECONDARY ROADS FACILITY

Special to the Times Vedette

At approximately 7:45 p.m., on Tuesday, June 2, Guthrie Center firefighters responded to a structure fire at the Guthrie County Secondary Roads facility at 2211 215th Road in Guthrie Center.

The cause of the fire and full extent of damage to the facilities and equipment is currently unknown. No injuries were reported. County officials are working to

evaluate the impact on Secondary Roads operations and will provide additional information as it becomes available.

“We are grateful for the quick response of Guthrie Center Fire, Guthrie County Sheriff’s Office, Adair and Guthrie County EMA and Panora EMS,” Guthrie County Engineer Josh Sebern said. “Now, our immediate focus is assessing the damage so we can determine next steps.” ■

SPEED LIMIT TO INCREASE IN IOWA JULY 1

Special to Guthrie Center Times

The speed limit on most two-lane highways in Iowa will increase from 55 mph to 60 mph, effective July 1, thanks to legislation signed by Gov. Reynolds.

Currently, there are estimated to be more than 5,000 speed limit signs on high-

ways throughout Iowa indicating the current speed limit of 55 mph. Roughly one-third of those are the responsibility of the Iowa Department of Transportation, with the remaining two-thirds being county signs. The legislation allows for placement of temporary overlays on the current signage to indicate the new 60 mph. ■



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"Michael"



"Fuze"



"Apex"



"The Devil Wears Prada 2"

BY MICHAEL C. WOODY
Guthrie Center Times

"MICHAEL"

With a title like that, how am I not going to be intrigued? It was a fabulous look at the early career of Michael and his brothers in the Jackson 5. It shows his overbearing father who saw the talent in his sons early and did his best to develop their talents and showmanship, sometimes in demanding ways. As Michael aged, he began to steal the spotlight from his older brothers. By the end of the film, he is a single act and embarking on the career we remember him having. The film does an excellent job focusing on his music career and not the creepiness that haunted his life. The film ends early in his solo career, but I've read that we have to at least one sequel coming, if not two. The sequels will certainly be dark and controversial, so enjoy this look at the



early career of this wonderful performer.
GRADE: A-

"FUZE"

This film, which was touted as being from the director of "Hell or High Water" and written by Taylor Sheridan, was quietly released and did a little business. Those two pieces of information are enough for me to drive across town to see it. What I found was an intense film with almost non-stop action. The action and story are so elaborate that it was sometimes difficult to follow. The dialogue was also difficult at times, and I wished for subtitles. The story is set in Afghanistan and is full of too many flashbacks. If you love action films and don't care so much about the story, this might be perfect for you.

GRADE: B-



"APEX"

This Netflix film stars Charlize Theron,

Taron Edgerton and Eric Bana. We get an action-packed look at a female mountain climber who is dealing with a recent tragedy in Norway but travels to Australia to continue on her travels and hopefully get over her loss. All was going great when a well-intentioned young man turns out to be a not very well-intentioned man. This leads to a cat and mouse chase full of impossible stunts as she tries to escape. The whole time I was watching this, I felt like I had seen this story before and remembered it being more engaging. At the end of the day, it was a waste of great talent.

GRADE: C-



"THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA 2"

Without getting into whole lot of details that would ruin the movie for most people, I can tell you that the title of the film is just the start of a total lack of creativity. The first movie was smart, sassy and entertaining, but this sequel

produced more yawns than smiles for me. At the end of the year, this will be one of the biggest disappointments and wastes of an outstanding cast.

GRADE: C-



"ANIMAL FARM"

I vaguely remember seeing the animated version of this when I was much younger. It didn't make much of an impression on me then, and this new version didn't make much of an impression on me today. The story is familiar, and it does mirror our society today, as it did in the earlier version. This is a tough one to adapt, as you need to instill human tendencies and bad habits into farm animals to successfully make your point. I was more bored than intrigued by this newest version.

GRADE: B-





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CONGRATULATIONS






"Animal Farm"



"The Sheep Detectives"



"Obsession"



"In the Grey"

"THE SHEEP DETECTIVES"

The trailer for this film made it look fun and maybe one of those quirky comedies which would unexpectedly amuse and entertain you. The film is about a murder, and a group of sheep decide they need to solve this case. This might have been a unique and possibly interesting movie, but I found it to be slow and not nearly as funny as it thought that it was. A missed opportunity. **GRADE: C-**



lent, too stupid and there are too many of them — sometimes three or more per month. With little else to review, I took a chance on "Obsession." In the movie, a distracted young man pines for a beautiful co-worker and finally gets a date with her. To assure that the date goes well, he stops in a store and buys a device that will grant him one wish: for his coworker to love him more than anyone else in the world. The film presents this relationship as horrific, and he cannot escape it. In a nutshell, this film has a fresh but worrying storyline and more than its share of "look away" mo-



ments. It was so, so creepy. With great caution, I give it a grade most horror films never achieve. **GRADE: B+**

"IN THE GREY"

If you see the poster for this movie, it proudly states that it is a Guy Ritchie film. Let me translate that for you: scantily clad women, usually with deadly martial arts skills, plus really handsome men who can also handle guns like they have used them since birth. Ritchie has made a bunch of movies that all seem to be the same with slight moderations to the story. A few of



them — "The Covenant," "Snatch" and "Sherlock Holmes" — have been entertaining. Recently, what would typically be a cause for excitement turns into a boring chase film that comes nowhere close to charming, funny or entertaining. Ritchie still gets great actors to help him, but even that didn't keep me from repeatedly checking my watch.

GRADE: C ■

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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SUPERVISORS APPOINT ABEL TO FILL GUTHRIE COUNTY ATTORNEY VACANCY

BY RICH WICKS
Guthrie Center Times

MAY 19

During the regular meeting of the Guthrie County Board of Supervisors, County Attorney Dana Minteer's resignation was discussed. The letter of resignation states an effective date of May 31. County Auditor Dani Fink explained that the supervisors may appoint someone to fill the vacancy.

Supervisor Mike Dickson suggested waiting until results of the June 2 primary election are known before the supervisors appoint someone. Fink said if the supervisors appoint someone, it must be done within 40 days, or the matter goes to a special election.

"With the election in June, I would just like to see the results of that," Dickson said. "We could do it the ninth."

Supervisor Brian Johnson made a motion to appoint someone to fill the va-

cancy during the next meeting of the supervisors on May 26. The motion passed on a 4-1 vote with Dickson opposed.

Health Services Director Jotham Arber discussed Adair County Shared Services.

"Adair County, their public health director has left, so their public health currently is housed underneath their hospital," Arber said. "The hospital approached us and asked if we would be willing to come in and do a similar agreement to what we have with Audubon County to take over their public health responsibilities and cover them for those things."

Arber gave a written proposal on this issue for the supervisors to review for future discussion.

On behalf of the All-Iowa Republican Women organization, Heather Boustead asked the supervisors to consider approving a request for the group to use the courthouse grounds on June 19 for a

reading of the Declaration of Independence. Boustead explained that no tables or chairs would be set up, and the group would do the reading at approximately 11 a.m. on the June 19 before moving on to the next county, as the group plans to read in six counties that day. The supervisors approved the request.

A public hearing was held regarding the proposed Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget amendment. No written or spoken comments were received, so the hearing was closed.

The supervisors then approved Resolution 26-34 to adopt the budget amendment as proposed.

As part of the consent agenda, a fireworks permit was approved for Rita Schering, July 4 at dusk.

MAY 26

The matter of Guthrie County Attorney Dana Minteer's resignation was discussed. County Auditor Dani Fink

shared what she learned in Iowa code about the timing of the county's plans to appoint someone to fill the vacancy. She read aloud a portion of Iowa code that applies in this situation.

"The board may make an appointment to fill a vacancy after the notice is published or after the vacancy occurs, whichever is later," Fink said. "So, since the vacancy doesn't actually occur until May 31, you can't appoint yet."

With the supervisors' decision to cancel the June 2 regular meeting (due to the Primary Election), Fink's recommendation was to schedule a filling of the County Attorney vacancy on June 9. No action was taken at this time.

Information Technology Administrator Brian Hoffman provided an update on happenings in the IT department.

"We have 251 users now in our database, our active directory. Probably a little more than half of those are actually employees," Hoffman said. "And then



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some of the other half are accounts that we need just to make everything come together. There are 71 groups as well.”

County Engineer Josh Sebern performed the bid opening for Bridge Replacement Project L-CA226-73-39, which is near Bays Branch. The only bid received was from Murphy Construction, for \$175,407.11. Sebern said he will go through the bid to check the math and will bring a recommendation to the next meeting of the supervisors.

As part of the consent agenda, a fire-works permit was approved for Joe Chaloupka.

Supervisor Maggie Armstrong noted that postcards have been mailed out to inform residents impacted by the road project on Wagon Road (County Road P-28).

The June 2 regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors was canceled due to the Primary Election on that date.

JUNE 2

The supervisors did not meet due to the Primary election.

JUNE 9

The supervisors unanimously voted to appoint Charles Abel to fill the vacancy created by Dana Minter's resignation from the role of County Attorney.

County Auditor Dani Fink also read the unofficial results of last week's Primary election.

“On Election Day, we had a total of 1,693 people vote at the polls. We had 410 absentee ballots that were accepted for counting, so we had a total of 2,103 people who voted,” Fink said.

No changes were noted from the unofficial results. The supervisors approved the canvas of the results, which are now considered official.

Health Services Director Jotham Arber discussed a proposed Health Services Agency Vehicle Use policy, which he explained would help standardize the expectation for all employees and the nine vehicles used by the department. The supervisors approved the policy as proposed.

The supervisors approved two recommendations from County Engineer Josh Sebern. The first was the awarding of the contract to Murphy Contracting for the bridge replacement project L-CA226-73-39. The second was to award the contract to Genco Construction for the culvert replacement project on 150th Street.

The supervisors discussed the planning for RAGBRAI, including designating the courthouse as an option to be used in case of dangerous weather so that all bicyclists would have shelter

available. EMS and law enforcement personnel will have the ability to open the courthouse as needed during RAGBRAI.

The supervisors also discussed whether or not to have the courthouse open for business on July 20, due to the influx of thousands of bicyclists and others. The consensus was to remain open as usual on that date.

Supervisor Maggie Armstrong shared information on the community survey being rolled out by the EMS Advisory Council to gauge county residents' opinions about EMS services. She said the

survey will be roughly 20 questions. She noted that when the survey is opened, communication will be made through a variety of means to inform citizens of the availability of the survey.

“That will be on our county website and will be pushed out. I encourage everybody to take the survey. It's easy; it takes about 10 minutes,” Armstrong said.

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

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CITY GOVERNMENT NEWS

NUMBERS ON RAGBRAI, GARAGE SALES, CITYWIDE CLEANUP PROVIDED TO GUTHRIE CENTER CITY COUNCIL

BY RICH WICKS
Guthrie Center Times

MAY 25

The May 25 regular meeting of the Guthrie Center City Council was canceled due to the Memorial Day holiday, and due to a very light agenda, the meeting was not rescheduled.

JUNE 8

During the June 8 regular meeting, City Administrator Kris Arrasmith reported on the planning for RAGBRAI and vendor participation.

"So far we have, between our local food participants and regular food vendors, we have mapped about 40-some," she said.

Arrasmith noted the committee did a good job assuring a wide variety of food vendors will be on hand.

"They had over 100 applications from food trucks, so they narrowed it down," Arrasmith said.

Arrasmith also reported on plans for citywide garage sales and citywide clean-

up.

"For the garage sales, we have 13 signed up so far," she said. "For the cleanup, we have 46 so far."

The council discussed concerns related to the apartment building at 303 Prairie St. An inspector was brought in to make recommendations on what needs to be done at the property. At this time, no structural problems with the building were noted. The main concern has been the need for cleanup and decluttering.

Councilmember Ian Steensen shared his concern that some citizens park with vehicles blocking sidewalks. The consensus was to ask the Sheriff's department officers to address any such situations seen.

Building/Fence permits were approved for 901 Grand St. (M. Reinhart, garage), 204 S. Fifth St. (A. Scroggins, four season porch), and 602 N. 12th St. (T. Masters, portable shed).

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the city council is set for June 22 at 6:30 p.m. The public is welcome. ■

COMMUNITY

TEN SQUARED MEN FOR GUTHRIE COUNTY PRESENT \$21,450 CHECK TO GUTHRIE COUNTY SWIM TEAM

Special to Guthrie Center Times

\$480,100.

Ten Squared Men for Guthrie County presented their first 2026 check to the Guthrie County Swim Team. The check totaled \$21,450. This is the 11th year the Ten Squared Men organization has been in place in Guthrie County. Every penny that is donated goes to the selected entity that is chosen at each of their meetings. This donation will bring the grand total given to Guthrie County entities to

Ten Squared Men meets three times a year and currently has more than 210 members. If you would like to join, send an email to b.monaghan@gcsbank.com and you can be added to the list.

The group will meet again in late July. An exact date will be posted in the near future. If you have a project, organization or entity of any kind, reach out to a Ten Squared Member and get the name on our list for selection. ■

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Economic Vitality

- Community & Business Promotion
- BOOMs Tracker data collected and entered
- Business Resources
- Business Visits
- Strategic Plan & Goals Set

Organization

- Main Street Iowa Partnership Visit
- Received Main Street America Accreditation
- Received Midwest Partnership Award
- Received Challenge Grant
- Represented MSGC and Guthrie Center at:
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 - Main Street Iowa Fall & Spring Workshops
 - Rural Iowa Summit
 - Iowa Area Development Group Meeting
 - Iowa Tourism



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EDUCATION

GUTHRIE CENTER SCHOOL BOARD DISCUSSES FRONT STEPS AND PARKING LOT

BY RICH WICKS

Guthrie Center Times

During the May 20 joint meeting of the Adair-Casey and Guthrie Center school boards, discussion was held regarding the progress on the front steps to the high school. The steps are done, and permanent railings will soon be installed.

The board also discussed the main parking lot in front of the high school. It was noted that numerous fender-benders have occurred in the lot, possibly because there are simply too many parking spots, which leaves little room to maneuver. The board discussed the possibility of creating a one-way flow of vehicles through the lot but opted instead to simply widen the middle two rows of parking spots. Although a few parking spots will be eliminated, plenty of parking is generally available in the "senior parking lot" on the east side of the school.

A public hearing was held regarding the Instructional Support Program. Superintendent Josh Rasmussen explained.

"This is not an increase. This is a continuation," he said.

No written nor spoken feedback was heard on the topic, so the hearing was promptly closed. Later, during the regular board meeting, the Guthrie Center board voted to continue participation in the Instructional Support Program.

During the Principal Reports portion of the meeting, the boards heard from Principal Cody Matthewson. He told of the success in getting the video board working as planned for the home conference track meet.

Matthewson reported proudly on the recent performances of the school play, and the state track qualifiers for ACGC.

"A lot of different diverse backgrounds and a lot of different diverse participants

and a lot of things going well in education from the fine arts all the way to athletics," Matthewson said,

Principal Ed Den Beste reported on Adair-Casey Elementary and Junior High.

"We had track and field day today. Great day. We had many businesses in Adair and Casey that donated, so we actually fed all of the kids, parents and teachers a nice lunch, and it was really well received," he said.

Principal Tandem Eischeid reported on Guthrie Center Elementary.

"We had our Art Extravaganza just last week. We had over 180 individuals come and attend that. It was very well received," he said.

Eischeid also talked about the upcoming staining of the playground equipment May 27 and new playground equipment being made.

"Craig Franzen is still working hard. We now have a truck and a picnic table on our preschool playground," Eischeid said.

Rasmussen handed out certificates of appreciation to all the school board members, in recognition of School Board Appreciation Month. He also gave a legislative update on matters that may impact schools.

In the Consent Items portion of the meeting, approval was given regarding the resignations of paraprofessionals Lorna Bailey, Cassie Glade and Mei Riordan, as well as Bethany McCool (Marketing). Contract recommendations were approved for Jay Rhoten (bus driver), Vickie Richter and Shirley Chesnut (summer custodians).

The next regular meeting — a joint meeting of the Adair-Casey and Guthrie Center school boards — was set for Wednesday, June 17, at 7 p.m. at ACGC Junior High. The public is welcome at all of the boards' meetings other than special closed meetings as allowed by law. ■

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HEALTH

GCH PARTICIPATES IN EXTREME HEAT DRILL

BY RICH WICKS
Guthrie Center Times

During the May 28 meeting of the Guthrie County Hospital Board of Trustees, Clinical Safety and Quality Coordinator Danielle Lauzon shared information about a recently completed "drill."

"We participated in an exercise with Public Health, longterm care and Emergency Management about a month ago. It was for extreme heat," Lauzon said. "We identified some areas for improvement. It was a good exercise."

Lauzon also talked about an upcoming drill.

"June 10 we are going to participate in a big exercise with Adair County Hospital, EMS, Public Health, long-term care and the law enforcement. It's going to be at the school. It's going to be an active threat," Lauzon said. "It will start at 12:30 p.m. and go until about 6:30 p.m."

Chief Human Resources Officer Mary Anderson provided a report on hiring and staffing. She noted that employee retention rate is now 89.2%. She also noted a recent achievement.

"Thanks to our great increase on our employee engagement survey score, we have been named a 'Top Workplace.' It's sponsored by The Des Moines Register," Anderson said. "We scored well enough in six categories to be given that award."

Chief Operations Officer Travis Martin reported on the construction progress at the hospital.

"Tuesday of next week (June 2), we'll start work on some storm sewer, and that will reduce 12th Street to a single lane," he said. "So, they'll be working in the east half of that, and there will only be passage on the west half."

The next regular meeting of the trustees is set for Thursday, June 25 at 4 p.m. The public is welcome. ■

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ACGC's No. 5 Camdyn Coffman leads off against Ogden on June 1. PHOTO BY MARK RENO



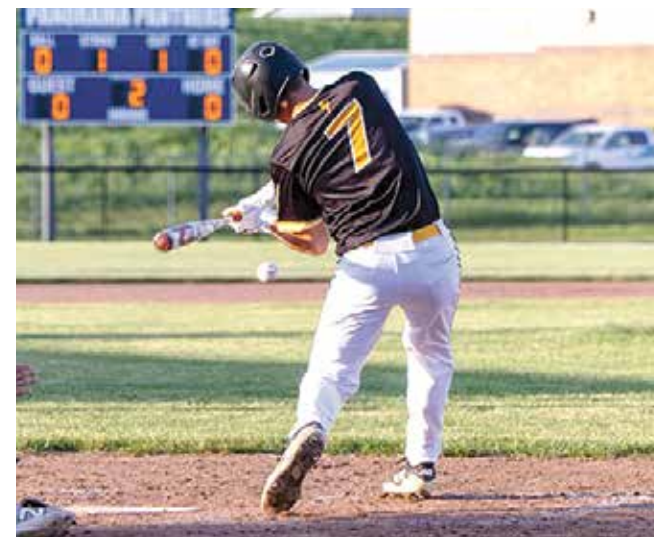
ACGC's No. 1 Tessa Slaybaugh squares one up against Ar-We-Va on June 5. PHOTO BY MARK RENO



ACGC's William Skram keeps an eye on the batter against Panorama on May 27. PHOTO BY BETTY COOPER



ACGC's No. 23 Megan Underwood squares one up against Panorama on May 22. PHOTO BY BETTY COOPER



ACGC's No. 7 Cal Clark led the Chargers going 3/3 in their game against Ogden on June 1. PHOTO BY BETTY COOPER

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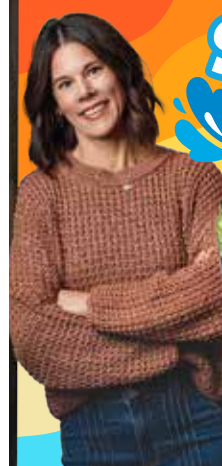
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Preston Kent placed 12th in the 3,200-meter run at the 1A IHSAA state track and field championships on Thursday, May 21. PHOTO BY MARK RENO



ACGC's Brexton Schneider placed eighth as part of the sprint medley relay at the IHSAA 1A state track and field championships. PHOTO BY MARK RENO



ACGC's #23 Megan Underwood winds up to pitch against Panorama on May 29. PHOTO BY BETTY COOPER



ACGC's No. 35 Colton Clark on the mound pitching against Panorama on May 26. PHOTO BY BETTY COOPER



Cadence Petersen placed eighth in the 400-meter hurdles at the 1A IHSAA state track and field championships on, Friday, May 22. PHOTO BY MARK RENO

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SMALL-ENGINE EXPERT STILL RUNNING AFTER MORE THAN SIX DECADES

Wilbur Bates continues serving customers with fast repairs, low prices and a passion for the work.

BY RICH WICKS
Guthrie Center Times

After doing the same type of work for more than 60 years, a considerable amount of expertise builds up. But for Wilbur Bates of Guthrie Center, the years have not dulled his enjoyment of the work. He recently took a few minutes to tell his story.

"I started in 1959, March 3, up on top of the hill here, right beside where the café is now," Bates said. "From 1959 to 1969, we were at Midway Oil, and we had small engines there. In 1969, we got so darn busy because we were the only ones doing it in Guthrie County, so we turned it over to Keith Brubaker at NAPA. We got too busy with the automotive part of it."

Over the years, Bates has seen a gradual decline in the number of shops working on small engines. But he continues repairing golf carts, mowers, tillers, power washers, leaf blowers, snow blowers and almost any type of small gasoline engine.

"Now, a lot of these shops are drying up. A lot of them don't want to do small engines anymore, partly because electric is coming in, and partly because it's tough to find trained help," Bates said. "So this year, I have a lot of customers coming from Audubon and south of Stuart, Perry, Wauke. I just had a log-splitter come in yesterday from northeast Iowa."

Despite changes in technology and business, Bates continues to run his shop the way he has for decades, providing prompt service to get customers and their equipment back up and running. He has no computerized scheduling system. Bates pointed to a bulletin board in the garage where a variety of sticky notes are posted.

"I don't book ahead on anything. I just have a wall there with tickets," Bates said. "I don't like to have anything here over three days. I try to get them out in a day



Like the engines he repairs, Wilbur Bates just keeps on going.

and a half."

Bates himself has needed some maintenance over the years, and he has handled that with the same work ethic he brings to his business. In 2008, he was diagnosed with cancer. Then another obstacle arose, but he found a way to manage it.

"I had COPD so bad in 2013, I could hardly talk, and they wanted to put me on oxygen," he said. "I refused it, and in six months I figured out my own program. Ever since then, I've been running 5K runs with my grandkids. That keeps my lungs open."

Bates' can-do attitude has served him well, and he shows no signs of slowing down.

"It's a joy to be able to do it, because I've had cancer three times," Bates said. "With the good Lord's help, I always get by it and everything's fine."

Before moving back to Guthrie Center, Bates operated his business just north of Panorama. While there, he also sold automotive tires in addition to working on small engines. The proximity to Lake Panorama led to some of Bates' most memorable stories, when lake residents ended up with lawn mowers submerged underwater.

"We've had a few lawn mowers go in the lake, and they don't swim well," Bates said, adding how he was up to the challenge of flushing out such engines so the mowers could be back up and running

promptly.

For Bates, winter offers a brief slowdown in his schedule. He has a pool table in his garage, allowing him to play a game with willing customers as time permits. But once warmer weather arrives, he stays busy.

According to Bates, the types of equipment he most commonly works on are mowers, tillers and golf carts. Therefore, his busiest season begins each spring, when many machines are brought in for repairs ahead of the warmer months. Throughout the summer, additional machines arrive because of equipment breakdowns. But Bates does not complain about his workload. He takes it all



Wilbur Bates' workshop is in his garage, behind his home.

in stride and enjoys staying active. Somehow, he also finds time to grow flowers and vegetables.

"I enjoy it. I enjoy the people coming in and out. In the spring and summer, I belong to the triple seven club," Bates said. "Seven in the morning until seven every night, and seven days a week."

The Bates business model focuses on prompt service, low prices and free pick-up and delivery. The shop is located in the garage behind his home at 602 State St. in Guthrie Center. The phone number is 641-757-1243. ■



Wilbur Bates uses a low-tech but highly effective scheduling system.



A 1963 newspaper ad shows Wilbur Bates and his father, Don Bates.

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MARY J. BARNETT LIBRARY NEWS

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BY KAREN KELLY

Special to Guthrie Center Times

The most exciting text message I received recently was from my daughter-in-law showing my 1-month-old granddaughter with her new copy of "The Little Engine That Could," which is the first book in the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. This is exciting news for two reasons. First, the Dolly Parton Imagination Library is one of the greatest programs ever, and second, the availability of books to children is a huge predictor of reading success.

HONORING DOLLY PARTON'S FATHER

For those who are not familiar with the Imagination Library, this program was started and funded by Dolly Parton as a way to honor her father, whom she describes as a bright man who felt his inability to read stunted his success. Parton, through her Dollywood Foundation, began this program, which provided each child born in Sevier County, Tennessee, the opportunity to register for the Imagination Library. This means that each month that child would receive a package in the mail addressed to her or him containing an age-appropriate, hard-cover book.

This program was so successful that Tennessee has adopted and funded the program statewide. Because of its popularity and success, the program is also available not only in all 50 states, but internationally as well. In Audubon, Carroll, Greene and Guthrie Counties, this program is funded by Partnerships 4 Families; any preschool child residing in these counties can register

and receive a monthly book until they start kindergarten at absolutely no cost to the family. Sign-up can be done online at the Imagination Library website, <https://imaginationlibrary.com>, or by stopping into the MJB Library for sign-up assistance.

This program does many things to promote early literacy. While researching how to prevent summer reading slide, the availability of books was one of the most important ways to prevent losing reading gains over the summer. For that reason, Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is a gift that keeps on giving since it provides the beginnings of a child's personal library. MJB Library is proud to partner with Partnerships 4 Families to promote the availability in our area.

SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Because accessibility to books is so vital to reading readiness and promoting literacy with older students, the MJB Library is excited to be hosting the Summer Reading Program (SRP) for June. We are encouraging parents to sign up their kids to attend our almost daily SRP events, in hopes to inspire their children to keep a reading log and turn it in for a chance to win prizes.

BIKES FOR BOOKS

In addition to the SRP, the library is partnering with the Masonic Lodge Orange Lodge No. 123 to offer Bikes for Books. The Masonic Lodge will donate a bicycle to be awarded at the beginning of August. Students pre-K through sixth grade who submit a reading log will earn one drawing ticket for each book read between June 1 and July 31.

SUMMER READING PROGRAMS, EDUCATIONAL WEBSITES AND ONLINE EXPERIENCES

To help the children in your life avoid losing the average 20% of school-year gains in reading over the summer, there are other opportunities to promote literacy through the summer. Barnes and Noble, Half Price Books, Chuck E. Cheese and Pizza Hut all offer summer reading incentive programs. Stop by the library to see our list of summer reading programs in the youth area.

Additionally, families can use the MJB Library website to access a number of educational websites and online experiences to provide kids with fun educational activities. Check out other websites like the American Library Association, Reading is Fundamental, Reading Rockets and Scholastic to find activities and book lists.

Remember, the library provides reading materials, audiobooks, puzzles, books and games for checkout. Monday through Saturday, the library is open to provide children a safe space to read, play and learn.

FREE ADMISSION TO EDUCATIONAL AND FUN PLACES

Library card holders who are 18 or older are able to use their library card for free admission to educational and fun places, using the Iowa Adventure Pass. One of those venues, the Blank Park Zoo, is a resource close to home, providing exhibits of more than 800 creatures as well as many daily programs to allow children to participate and learn.

The Science Center of Iowa is another venue that provides exhibits, experiments and attractions for all ages that participates



At LEGO Mania Day, the summer reading challenge was to create 3D images of flowers or plants.

in the Iowa Adventure Pass. The newest venue included in the adventure pass is the Museum of Danish America in Elk Horn; this museum offers free admission to up to four individuals per day. Considered the best place to learn about Scandinavian contributions to Iowa, its mission is to celebrate "Danish roots and American dreams." In addition to the permanent exhibits, the outdoor fitness equipment and the recreational trail, visitors find the Thomas Dambo Trolls hidden close by the museum.

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR YOUTH, ADULTS AND FAMILIES

Check the library website and bulletin board for upcoming events for youth, adults and families. This week, Anne Riordan with the Guthrie County DNR will present a program at 1 p.m. on Thursday, June 11. Story Hour begins at 10 a.m. on Friday, June 12, and will feature stories and a craft about dinosaurs. On Monday, June 15, at 4 p.m., youth of all ages are invited to join the fun at Creation Stations, where a variety of creative activities will be available. ■

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Guthrie Center ASK TIMES



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

Q: HOW CAN I VOLUNTEER FOR RAGBRAI WHEN IT COMES THROUGH GUTHRIE CENTER?

A: With RAGBRAI's July 20 visit to Guthrie Center nearing, the community is encouraging citizens to help. The Guthrie Center RAGBRAI website (www.guthriecenterragbrai.com) is the best place to see any opportunities and/or updates. According to organizer Jen Policky, the greatest needs currently are for hosts and volunteers. Many riders are still looking for a place to sleep in or near Guthrie Center on Monday night, July 20. Local citizens willing to host riders can sign up on the website to allow riders to camp in your yard or in your home. Depending on how many you can comfortably accommodate, you will then be matched with a rider group so that the host and riders can communicate beforehand.

Policky also noted that many volunteers are needed, in a wide variety of roles.

"Whatever your interests or abilities are," she says "Guthrie Center RAGBRAI has a way for you to help."

Volunteers will be needed in the beer garden, at the information center, and at the campgrounds. Volunteers are also needed the day before (July 19) and the morning after (July 21) for set-up and cleanup.

Policky said that up to 12 shuttle busses will be running that day, taking riders to and from various church dinners and other events in town. Another way to volunteer is to be an "information source" on a shuttle bus, to answer questions from riders so the bus driver can concentrate on driving.

To sign up as a host and/or volunteer, or simply to see what is going on with Guthrie Center RAGBRAI, go to www.guthriecenterragbrai.com, then click on Community.

Q: DO VOTERS HAVE TO SHOW ID AT THE POLLS? AND IF SO, WHAT ABOUT VOTERS WHO DON'T HAVE AN ID?

A: According to the Iowa Secretary of State, Iowa voters are required to show an Iowa driver's license or non-operator ID,

U.S. passport, U.S. military ID or veteran's ID, tribal ID/document or Iowa voter ID card at the polls before they vote. A voter without one of the listed forms of ID may have the voter's identity attested to by another registered voter in the precinct or may prove identity and residence using Election Day Registration documents. Voters without the necessary ID or an attester will be offered a provisional ballot and can provide ID up until the time of the county canvass of votes (Monday after election day for Primary and General Elections).

Any registered voter who does not have a valid driver's license or non-operator's ID issued by the Iowa Department of Transportation will be issued a Voter ID Card for free, automatically, in the mail. This also applies to anyone who registers to vote in the future. Upon receipt of the Voter ID Card, it should be immediately signed. Obtaining the Voter ID Card does not require any further documentation or action by the voter; voters simply need to be registered to vote in the county where they live. Any voter may request an Iowa Voter ID Card by contacting their County Auditor's office.

Q: I HEARD THAT THE 20 SQUARED MEN'S GROUP OF GUTHRIE COUNTY HAS NOW DONATED NEARLY \$500,000 TO LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS AND CAUSES. IS THAT CORRECT? IF SO, THAT IS TRULY AMAZING.

A: It is correct, and it is amazing. The Ten Squared Men for Guthrie County group presented its first 2026 check to the Guthrie County Swim Team. The check totaled \$21,450. This is the 11th year the Ten Squared Men organization has been in place in Guthrie County. Every penny that is donated goes to the selected entity that is chosen at each of their meetings. This donation will bring the grand total given to Guthrie County entities to \$480,100. Ten Squared Men meets three times a year and currently has more than 210 members. If you would like to join, send an email to b.monaghan@gcsbank.com and you can be added to the list. ■

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ADAIR ROOM CELEBRATES A RICH PAST

Unique items from more than 150 years

BY RICH WICKS

Guthrie Center Times

Small-town pride runs deep in this part of the country. Annie Brincks of Adair oversees a collection of items that reflects that pride in the town where she lives and works. But it is not just her collection. It belongs to the entire community and is housed in a separate room at the Adair Public Library.

As library director, Brincks said the Adair Room has existed longer than she has worked in the building. During her tenure, however, she has seen scores of residents visit to enjoy the history, education and nostalgia the room offers.

"I've worked here since 2015. I left in 2021 to take a different job, then came back in 2023," Brincks said.

Some of the materials are what one might expect to find in a library, including local history books, church cookbooks, high school yearbooks and scrapbooks documenting Adair through the years.

Other items, however, may come as a surprise. The collection includes high school letter jackets and sweaters, vintage photographs of Adair pioneers, novelty items distributed by local businesses over the decades, videos of notable Adair events and many other memorabilia items.

"People can check out the yearbooks. There are some old VHS tapes of different events. Local author books are back there, too," Brincks said. "The thing people are most interested in is the class pictures."

Most anyone from the area could certainly find photos and information about parents, grandparents or even great-grandparents in the room. For example, two large portraits donated by Nadine Arnold Petersen depict her great-uncle and great-aunt, Franklin D. Arnold and Laura Arnold. The couple were among the first settlers in Adair in 1869. Their son, Charles, was the first baby born in Adair.

The high school yearbooks chronicle the early years of education in the area, from Adair High School to Adair-Casey and later ACGC. Yearbooks in the collection date back at least to 1925 and continue through the present day.

One shelf includes numerous church cookbooks and other items from local churches, both past and present.



Annie Brincks welcomes all to browse the Adair Room.

"There's a church that closed a few years ago, and one of the members brought in some things from there to donate," Brincks said.

Not all of the town's history reflects positive events. The Adair Room also includes information about many of the more difficult moments in Adair's past, includ-

ing news reports and photographs documenting tornado damage and other severe storms in the area.

One of Adair's most notable historical events was the first train robbery in the West, carried out by the Jesse James-Younger gang in 1873. The Adair Room includes books, photographs and information about

the event and the aftermath.

Brincks said the Adair Room is available whenever the library is open and is entering its busiest season.

"In the summers, especially, we'll get road trip people that stop in and spend quite a bit of time just looking through, because they're interested in history," she said. ■



An Adair letter jacket and sweatshirts from Adair events.



VHS tapes from various events in Adair's history.



A newspaper report on the state runner-up boys basketball team in 1979.

POLL NOW OPEN!



WHO WILL BE VOTED THE BEST IN GUTHRIE COUNTY?

We all have our favorite local people, places and things. And now it's time to share your choices and honor those who deserve the recognition.

POLL CLOSING JULY 1, 2026.

See rules and vote at <https://gctimesnews.com/best-of-2026>



Make your voice heard and cast your votes in the 2026 BEST OF GUTHRIE COUNTY poll. This contest is being hosted by Big Green Umbrella Media and the results will publish in the September issues of Lake Panorama Times, Panora Times and Guthrie Center Times.

FOOD & DRINK:

- Place for Pizza
- Spot for Dessert
- Spot for Breakfast
- Lunch Spot
- Dinner Spot
- Ice Cream Place
- Bar
- Coffee Shop
- Mexican Restaurant
- Happy Hour
- Bartender or Server (Name a person)
- Wine Selection
- Place to Buy Meat
- Coldest Beer
- Caterer
- Food Truck

AUTOMOTIVE:

- Car Wash
- Auto Service Center
- Auto Parts Store
- Vehicle Detailing Business

COMMUNITY:

- Pastor (Name a person)
- Teacher (Name a person)
- Coach (Name a person)
- Church
- Daycare
- Library
- Chamber of Commerce
- School
- Park
- Community Festival
- Camping Spot
- Place to Hold an Event
- Elected Official
- Employer
- Customer Service (overall)
- Local Artist (Name a person)
- Nonprofit
- Volunteer (Name a person)
- Unsung Hero (Name a person)

SHOPPING:

- Boutique
- Retail Store
- Place to Purchase Gifts for Her
- Pharmacy
- Grocery Store
- Nursery or Garden Center
- Hardware Store
- Florist
- Farmers Market
- Farmers Market Vendor

ENTERTAINMENT:

- First Date Spot
- Parent/Child Date Spot
- Place to Take Mom & Dad
- Place to Take Kids or Grandkids
- Place for a Field Trip
- Bowling Alley
- Golf Course
- Local Band or Musician
- Place to Take Your Dog

HEALTH/BEAUTY:

- Hair Salon
- Doctor (Name a person)
- Nurse (Name a person)
- Dentist (Name a person)
- Chiropractor (Name a person)
- Eye Doctor (Name a person)
- Veterinarian (Name a person)
- Health Club/Gym
- Dance Studio
- Massage Therapist (Name a person)
- Esthetician (Name a person)

OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICES:

- Bank
- Photographer
- Barge Service
- Realtor (Name a person)
- Place for Guests to Stay
- Landscaping Company
- CPA (Name a person)
- Insurance Agent (Name a person)
- Senior Living Facility
- Home Builder
- Home Improvement Contractor
- Plumber (business)
- Electrician (business)
- HVAC Company
- Lawn Care Business
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OBITUARY

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EDWARD SIMONS

1940-2026

Edward Simons, 85, of Adair, formerly of Stuart, passed away on Tuesday, June 2, 2026. Visitation was held from 10-11 a.m. on Friday, June 12, at All Saints Catholic Church in Stuart. Funeral Mass began at 11 a.m. at All Saints Catholic Church in Stuart. Burial was at Calvary Cemetery

in Stuart. Memorial contributions may be made to the family. Online condolences may be left at www.johnsonfamilyfuneralhome.com.

Ed was born on Oct. 24, 1940, to Edward and Mary Catherine (Scharfenkamp) Simons in Carroll. Shortly after, the family moved to the Stuart area. He attended St. Mary's Catholic School until high school, and he graduated from Stuart High School with the class of 1958. After graduation, he attended barber school in Des Moines and made his career barbering in Stuart for more than 30 years. After retiring from the barber shop, he owned and operated a liquor store in Stuart. He also worked at Schildberg Construction.

On Aug. 20, 1966, he was united in marriage to Mary Lee Barnes at All Saints Catholic Church in Stuart. To this union, three children were born: Tracy, Jacqueline and Scott. The

family made their home in Stuart. Mary Lee passed away on Oct. 17, 2000. He later married his wife, Margaret in 2003, and the couple made their home in Des Moines before moving back to Stuart and lastly Adair.

Ed never knew a stranger and would frequent many events in Stuart.

He cherished the time he was able to spend with his family and friends.

Ed was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Mary Lee Simons; sons-in-law, Patrick McCorkel and David Jones; and nine siblings.

He leaves behind his children: Tracy Jones, Jacqueline McCorkel and Scott Simons; grandchildren: Amber Simons, Courtney Jones, Cassandra Jones, Tyler (Victoria) McCorkel and Dannielle (Chase) Dress; great-grandchildren: Oliver, Henry, Maisie and Payton; wife, Margaret Simons; brothers, Gene (Mary) Simons and Leroy (Joann) Simons; and a host of extended family and friends who will miss him dearly. ■



All obituaries also publish at
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OBITUARY

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DAVID MERRILL STOLP

1940-2026

David Merrill Stolp, 86, passed away on June 4, 2026, at The Bridges in Ankeny. He was born on May 9, 1940, the son of Merrill and Geraldine (Richman) Stolp in Rochester, Minnesota.

When he was 5, David's family moved to Jackson, Minnesota, after his father returned from World War II. As a young man, David (Dave) was active in Boy Scouts where he earned the Eagle Scout award. He enjoyed playing football

and basketball in high school and was a member of DeMolay. He graduated from Jackson High School in 1958. After completing his freshman year at Iowa State University, Dave enrolled at the University of Minnesota.

In 1960, Dave married Janet Nielsen, also from Jackson. After Dave graduated in 1961 with a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Minnesota, he and Jan moved to Jackson where he worked for his father at the Jackson Millwork Company. They raised their four sons in Jackson.

Dave's professional career was in the millwork and building materials industry in Minnesota, Iowa and Nebraska. In addition to Jackson Millwork, he worked for Rodman Industries, Moehl Millwork and Millard Lumber. Dave was president of Moehl Millwork and president of the Millwork Division of Millard Lumber. He was a member of Hoo-Hoo, an international fraternal order of lumbermen.

In 1976, Dave and his family left their hometown of Jackson and moved to West Des Moines, where he

worked at Moehl Millwork.

Dave was an active committee member in the Boy Scout troop that his sons attended and enjoyed watching his sons compete in sporting events.

When Dave accepted the position at Millard Lumber, he and Jan moved to Omaha, Nebraska. While living there, they converted their one-story ranch home into a stately two-story home. The Omaha World Herald published a feature article on their renovation.

In 2002, Dave and Jan retired and moved into their custom-built lake-front home on Lake Panorama in Panora. As with all of the places they lived, Dave and Jan enjoyed entertaining family, friends and neighbors, creating many happy memories.

After Jan's death in 2016 as a result of Alzheimer's, Dave moved to Guthrie Center. In 2023 he moved to the Mill Pond retirement community in Ankeny.

For leisure activities throughout his life, Dave enjoyed doing home improvement projects, reading (Westerns and history were favorite subjects) and playing golf.

He served as president of the Jackson Golf Club. He was also active in the Republican party where he served in various volunteer positions in Minnesota, Nebraska and Iowa at the county, congressional district and state levels.

Dave became a Mason in 1964 and was a member of the Masonic Lodge 121 in Panora.

Raised as a Presbyterian in Jackson, Dave was a practicing Christian throughout his life. He was a member of Our Saviors Lutheran Church in Jackson where he was married. He attended worship services at Lutheran or Methodist

churches in West Des Moines, Omaha, Panora, Guthrie Center and Ankeny.

Those left to cherish David's memory include his sons, Greg (Laurie Kusek) Stolp, Tim (Heidi) Stolp, Jon Stolp and Steve (Maura Theisen-Stolp) Stolp; grandchildren, Kathryn (David Hayman) Stolp, Megan (Ben) Steinheimer, Dylan (Sydney Mock) Stolp, Hannah (Theo) Harris, Samantha Stolp and Jack Stolp; great-grandchildren, Noah Steinheimer, Hayes Harris and Jude Hayman; brother, Rich (Holly) Stolp; and many other loving relatives and special friends.

David was preceded in

death by his wife, Janet (Nielsen) Stolp; parents, Merrill and Geraldine (Richman) Stolp; brother, Gary, and sister-in-law, Phyllis (Maguire) Stolp; and daughter-in-law, Lori (Mortenson) Stolp.

No services are planned at this time. Interment will be at the Sunset Memorial Cemetery in Jackson, Minnesota, at a later date.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the Alzheimer's Association (www.alz.org) in memory of Dave and Jan.

Condolences may be expressed at: www.HamiltonsFuneralHome.com. ■

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2007 21' LOWE SUNCRUISER BIMINI 214 PONTOON BOAT

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It is with many emotions that I am writing to let you know of my decision to retire from my position at Cyclone Pest Management effective June 6th.

After serving you for the past 10 years, I have decided that it is time for me to step away and hand the reins over to **Jamie**. I am grateful for not only the trust, but the relationships built as well, over many years of service.

Be aware that I have taken great care in ensuring that I would have someone more than capable of taking over my responsibilities. I have the utmost confidence in Jamie's ability to continue providing you with high-level service.

Starting June 1st, you may direct all calls and questions her way!

It has been a pleasure being your bug guy. - Dale



Panora, IA

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50 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie Center Times, June 16, 1976

NON-OBSOLETE WINDMILL. Although windmills are scarce around the countryside, they're commonplace in high school softball circles. Pictured here delivering from a windmill wind-up is Tigerette pitcher Vicki Sloss who, despite control problems, picked up her sixth win at Scranton Monday.

40 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie Center Times, June 18, 1986

WATERMELON TIME. The weather during Casey's Fun Fest Saturday was just fine for watermelon eating, and Philip (left) and Brian Kading dig in during a lull in activities. They are the sons of Mr. and Mrs. David Kading of Casey.

30 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie Center Times, June 5, 1996

64 YEARS AT GC ELEMENTARY. Two longtime Guthrie Center instructors were recognized for their service at the elementary school. Rosemary Glassell, left, and Charlotte Morgan are retiring. Miss Morgan has been elementary music instructor since 1961 after previously teaching three years at Anita. Mrs. Glassell began in the Guthrie Center school system in 1967 and helped establish the special education program. She also taught one year at Durant.

20 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie Center Times, June 28, 2006

WHERE'S FLOPPY? Ventriloquist Duane Ellett and his dog Floppy were a huge hit for the younger crowd during the 1981 Quasquicentennial celebration. "The Floppy Show," which aired on WHO-TV, gave youngsters a chance to tell a joke or riddle to Floppy, and if you were really lucky, you got to "beep" his nose. "The Floppy Show" also showed old cartoons during the 15-minute noon-hour show.

10 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie Center Times, June 8, 2016

GUTHRIE COUNTY FAIR RETIREES RECOGNIZED. Guthrie County Fair President Grant Sheeder (center) presents plaques to Estel Sharon (left, a longtime groundskeeper and maintenance person for the fairgrounds, and Betty Whitehead, a longtime superintendent of the Art Hall, to recognize their years of service with the fair as they retire. Sharon was involved with the fair for more than 10 years, and Whitehead for more than 30 years. Other recent fair retirees who have been recognized or are soon to be recognized include Bob Brummer (more than 10 years), Lance Hansen (more than 20 years), Jim Laughery (more than 25 years), C.W. Thomas (more than 25 years) and Roger Tallman (more than 30 years).

5 YEARS AGO



Guthrie County Times Vedette, June 17, 2021

ACT OF KINDNESS. Meredith Arganbright, left, presents 15 Summer Activity Bags to Rhonda Huggins of New Opportunities Family Development Center in Guthrie Center. The US Sunbeams 4-H Club was the winner of a "Random Acts of Kindness" drawing in the amount of \$257.50 from one of the member's aunt's workplace. The club used the money to "pay it forward" with the 15 Summer Activity Bags. ■

CASEY PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWS

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Special to Guthrie Center Times

Casey Public Library's Summer Reading Challenge has begun and runs through the end of July. This year's theme is Celebrating America's 250th, and kids will be eligible to win their own tablet. There are three age groups: 0-9 (who are invited to Story Hour every other Wednesday at 2:20 p.m. beginning June 23), 10-13 and 14-18. Call or email the Casey Public Library to get signed up and receive a reading challenge form. Not only does the library offer activities for children, but for adults as well. Judi Zimmerline will be at the library every other Wednesday in the afternoon hosting a craft.

Grace Tiggs of Guthrie County Farm Bureau will present two agriculture-themed programs as part of the library's summer activities. On June 17, at

3:30 p.m., youth can participate in an Agriculture Jeopardy game featuring questions about Iowa agriculture, agricultural history, crops, livestock, and the role agriculture plays in everyday life. On July 22, participants will work together in an Agriculture History Escape Room, using clues to solve challenges about Iowa's agricultural heritage.

Both programs are designed to provide a fun, hands-on way for youth to learn about agriculture through games, teamwork and interactive activities.

Casey Fun Days will be here before we know it, and the library has a few activities. On Saturday, July 18, The Science Center of Iowa will host an interesting program that kids will love. The library is also having a Wacky Cake Decorating Contest. ■



Making Fourth of July pine cone arrangements during Craft Time with Judi Zimmerline.

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June 20	Bountiful Baskets
June 24	City Wide Clean Up Day
June 25	AC/GC Booster Club Golf Tournament
June 27	Friends of the Library Golf Tournament GC Farmer's Market
July 4	Bountiful Baskets

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RECIPE

ONE-PAN TURKEY SAUSAGE AND VEGETABLES MAKES DINNERS EASY

BY JOLENE GOODMAN
Guthrie Center Times

Every home cook needs a reliable sheet pan meal in its recipe collection, and this one has become a favorite in our family. It checks all the boxes: nutritious, flavorful, easy to prepare and quick enough for a busy weeknight. Best of all, everything cooks together on a single pan, making cleanup almost as simple as the preparation.

The inspiration for this recipe came from my daughter, Sara, who has a talent for creating meals that are both practical, delicious and nutritious. By combining turkey sausage with colorful vegetables like sweet potatoes, broccoli, yellow peppers and red onion, she created a meal packed with flavor, texture and wholesome ingredients. Served over rice, it becomes a hearty dinner that satisfies everyone at the table.

One of the reasons we make this recipe so often is that it is perfect for meal planning. We typically double the ingredients and roast everything on two sheet pans so we have plenty of leftovers for lunches throughout the week. The flavors hold up beautifully, and it reheats well, making it a convenient option for busy days.

Whether you are feeding a family or preparing meals ahead of time, this simple sheet pan dinner is sure to earn a regular spot in your recipe rotation. ■

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



Jolene Goodman

TURKEY SAUSAGE RING SHEET PAN DINNER WITH RICE

Ingredients:

- 1 turkey sausage ring (12-14 ounces), sliced into ½-inch rounds
- 1 large sweet potato, peeled and cut into half inch cubes
- 1 large head broccoli, cut into florets
- 1 yellow bell pepper, cut into half inch pieces
- 1 red onion, cut into wedges
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 teaspoon smoked paprika

- ½ teaspoon dried Italian seasoning
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ¼ teaspoon black pepper

For the rice:

- 1 cup uncooked rice
- 2 cups chicken broth

Directions:

- Preheat oven to 425 F. Cook rice according to package directions using broth or water. On a large sheet pan, combine sweet potato, broccoli, yellow pepper, red onion and turkey sausage slices. Drizzle with olive oil and sprinkle with garlic powder, smoked paprika, Ital-



- ian seasoning, salt and pepper. Toss well to coat. Spread ingredients into a single layer. Roast for 30-35 minutes, stirring once halfway through, until the sweet potatoes are tender and the vegetables are lightly caramelized.
- Serve the sausage and vegetables over warm rice.

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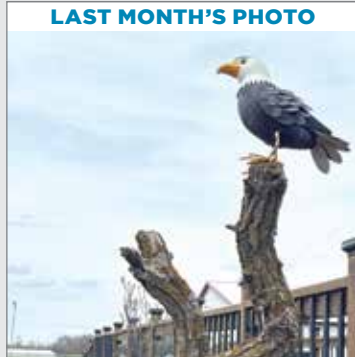
WHERE IS IT?



The answer for the location of the photo of the eagle statue in last month's contest is the Guthrie County Fairgrounds campground. There were no correct answers. Have a guess on where this month's photographed image is at? Have a photo to submit for future issues? Send to shane@gctimesnews.com. ■



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