

Panora TIMES

FEBRUARY 2024

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LOVE LESSONS

**ADVICE FROM LOCAL COUPLES
WHO HAVE BEEN SWEETHEARTS
FOR MORE THAN 50 YEARS**

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HELPING OTHERS**

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SAUSAGE AND BACON CHILI**

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FROM THE COVER:

Doyle and Jeri Jean Motsick, together for life. Photo by Rich Wicks



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MEMORABLE MARRIAGES AND MAGIC NUMBERS

I remember working at a gas station in my high school years and talking with a customer who said he was in town for his five-year class reunion. I recall thinking how I could not even begin to relate to what life would be like five years after graduating from high school. That seemed like an eternity, at least to this 15-year-old. Then graduation came and went. And so did my five-year class reunion. And my 10-year. And 15. And 20. And 25. And 30. And 35. Somewhere along the line, I got old.

I also recall reading my hometown newspaper and seeing photos of couples who were celebrating their 50th wedding anniversaries. Those people seemed ancient. Well, Jolene and I have now been married nearly 29 years, so we are more

than half-way there, and I look forward to the second half of the journey.

In the meantime, much can be learned from those who have been married for 50 years or more. When I was in my 20s, a man who had been married that long told me to “give your sweetheart a kiss and tell her you love her every day.” Another said to remember to “forgive and forget.” And yet another very honest man told me, “Hearing loss isn’t all that bad.”

Malcolm Gladwell wrote in his best-selling book, “Outliers,” that “10,000 hours is the magic number of great-



Shane Goodman

ness.” He says, in order to be an expert at anything, you need to first put in 10,000 hours doing it. The older I get, the more this seems to hold true. As those of you who are married know, marriage also takes work... and time... and understanding. Those things are not learned overnight.

Every marriage is different, as are each of those who choose to tie the knot, but there are some underlying principles that seem to carry through with couples who have made it work. In this month’s feature story, we share the stories of these folks who have made their marriages memorable for 50 years or more.

I was back in my hometown recently, and I stopped by that old gas station. It changed names a few times over the

years, but some things still looked the same. I told the young clerk behind the counter that I used to work there 40 years ago. He looked at me with that same look I gave the guy going to his class reunion. Someday, he, too, might understand.


Thanks for reading. ■

Shane


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LOVE LESSONS

Advice from local couples who have been sweethearts for more than 50 years.

BY RICH WICKS
Panora Times

Author Fawn Weaver is quoted as saying, "A great marriage isn't something that just happens; it's something that must be created."

February is traditionally the month of love. In this month's cover story, we feature three stories on local couples who have worked to create marriages that have stood the test of time. These couples have endured challenges and celebrated victories together, and they've done it all through love.

MARSHALL AND LINDA BURGESS

Lifelong Panora residents Marshall and Linda Burgess shared their lifetime love story.

"We went all through school together. We knew each other since kindergarten," Marshall said. "We were what you would call high school sweethearts and went together from about the time we were sophomores and both graduated from Panora-Linden. We were the second class to graduate from there.

"I guess when I knew I really wanted to marry her was when I got separated from her when I was in the service. The old saying, 'Absence makes the heart grow fonder' is pretty true," said Marshall. "I went up to Bemidji, Minnesota, to college my first year out of high school and played football up there. Then, around Christmas time, I went and joined the Air Force. I went through basic training and school, and then we decided to get married about halfway through that. I came home on a leave, and we got married, and we went back to Biloxi, Mississippi. We got married in July of 1965."

Linda recalled that the absence gave her a chance to gain perspective.

"It does give you time to think about it and search your heart," she said.

Marshall recalled his unusual method of popping the question.

"I actually wrote her a letter and asked her to marry me," Marshall said. "And she wrote me back and said she would."

Marshall worked for the Iowa Air National Guard for 21 years.

"That job took me all over the world," he said. "Luckily, I never had to be gone for a year. I think maybe 45 days was the

longest I was ever gone. You realize how much you miss your wife and can't wait to get back home."

The military threw another challenge at the couple, as Marshall was unable to come home for the date they planned for their wedding. The ceremony was pushed back a week, even though invitations and announcements had already been sent out with the original date.

The young couple spent time living in Biloxi and later in New Jersey for three years. Those settings exposed them to a world much wider than they had known in Guthrie County. They had time to make new friends and to grow closer as a couple.

Linda recalled a special opportunity that came along due to Marshall being in the military.

"Right before he got out of the Air National Guard, they had a deployment to Hawaii," she said. "Many of the wives took that trip, and that was a trip of a lifetime for me. It was like that honeymoon that we didn't get to have."

Over the years, their family has grown.

"We have two grown daughters, Julie and Heather," said Linda.

She added that they now have three grown grandchildren, Alex, Emma and Avery. So far, Marshall and Linda don't have any great-grandchildren.

"But we're still hoping," Linda said.

"We both now are retired, but not retired," said Linda. "I have the antique shop uptown, and Marshall has a home repair business that we continue to work part-time.

"We love the community and the people in it. It really is a blessing to live in a small town and have people care about you. And the glue that holds everything together is the Lord in our life. When we both got born again, He's been the one that kept us together and prosperous."

Linda shared her advice to young couples considering marriage.

"This is the key," said Linda. "When you take vows, that's a covenant. For better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, till death do you part. It comes back to honoring those vows."

GARY AND NORMA LOUK

Yale residents Gary and Norma Louk shared memories of their lifetime to-



Marshall and Linda Burgess today.

gether.

"On March 4, we'll have been married 64 years," said Gary.

Both Norma and Gary said they feel fortunate to have been married this long, because they know most couples don't get the chance to be together for that duration.

Recalling how they met in 1958, Gary said he and a friend from Jefferson were "roaming around" and came to this area, where he met Norma.

"I asked her if she'd like to go out, and she said yes," Gary said. "She was a senior in high school, and I was working at an elevator up in Jefferson."

Although the couple dated for two years before getting married, it didn't take that long for Norma to realize she had found her "keeper."

"I knew right away," she said.

Throughout their marriage, dancing has been a favorite activity for the couple. Years ago, they went to local dances nearly every chance they got. Another favorite pastime was taking the family to spend long weekends at the lake.



Linda and Marshall Burgess on their wedding day.

After working as a hired hand, then farming and working at the elevator, Gary opened up a business.





Gary and Norma Louk are approaching their 64th anniversary.

“Another guy and I were kind of motorcycle nuts, so I ran a Yamaha motorcycle shop from about 1966 to 1984 right here in Yale,” said Gary.

Norma worked at a few jobs over the years but said she enjoyed working at the grocery store most of all, since she got to interact with so many local people.

Gary developed a hobby as a motorcycle hill climb competitor, so the couple spent time going to those events. Eventually, the aging process and various motorcycle-related injuries convinced Gary to spend less time riding motorcycles and more time at the lake. They also raised a family. Gary and Norma now have four kids, seven grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

Norma now has a medical condition that requires dialysis on a daily basis. Gary has learned the process so he can keep his wife at home while providing the care she needs. Their daughter, Debbie, also lives with the couple, and she helps out managing the household.

Gary and Norma don’t have any specific secret to making their marriage last.

“You’ve just gotta love each other,” said Norma.

DOYLE AND JERI JEAN MOTSICK

Doyle and Jeri Jean met when they both were attending school in Panorama, but they can’t put a definite date on when they first became aware of each other.

“We went clear through grade school and high school together, one year apart,” said Doyle.



Norma and Gary Louk about the time of their 30th anniversary.

“It was a small enough school that everybody knew everybody,” Jeri Jean said. “We started dating the summer before his senior year and before my junior year.”

After dating for about three years, the couple married with the ceremony at Panorama Church of the Brethren.

“We were married Aug. 16, 1964,” Doyle said. “And nobody lets me forget that, but it’s probably the greatest thing that’s happened to me.”

The couple remembered a humorous incident from their wedding.

“They didn’t throw rice; they threw shelled corn,” Doyle said.

“And it hurt a little bit,” added Jeri Jean.

Doyle proudly shared that he and his wife farmed for 59 years. He explained that, in the earlier years, they had livestock, but as the years went by, they gradually focused on growing grain.

“I helped. I worked the ground ahead of the planter, and then I helped with the harvest in the fall,” said Jeri Jean.

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Doyle and Jeri Jean Motsick show a blanket with images of their family.

The Motsicks also grew their family during those years.

"We have three daughters," Jeri Jean said. "And, by the way, they all graduated from Iowa State, and then they married guys who graduated from Iowa State. We've got five grandchildren. And now we have our first great-grandchild. She's 3 months old."

Although farming is a difficult lifestyle, the Motsicks are proud and glad to have spent their lives in that occupation and in this area.

"I don't know of anywhere I'd rather live than where we do," said Doyle. "This has satisfied all of our needs."

Because farming is a labor-intensive occupation, the Motsicks stayed busy but also found time to occasionally get away.

"We don't do a lot of traveling, but we did have several trips through the western states, the Rocky Mountains and out that way," said Doyle. "We did have one Alaskan cruise that we really enjoyed."

Doyle had a part-time job with a CPA firm for about 20 years.

"That fit into the time of year when there wasn't as much to do on the farm, through tax season," he said.

"I had some part-time jobs but not until our youngest daughter was almost through high school," Jeri Jean said.

The Motsicks are proud of the crops they grew over their decades of farming but are even more proud of the family they've raised. They are nostalgic about the family values that a farming community helps to instill.

"We knew all of our neighbors, and we probably even knew the name of their dog," Doyle said. "We cherish those memories."



Doyle and Jeri Jean Motsick are still hand in hand.

"Everybody got married younger back then," Jeri Jean said. "As I look back now, wow, we were just kids."

The Motsicks have managed to make it work and stay together through decades of changes. They have advice for young couples beginning a life together.

"They need to enter into the marriage as a compromise, because, inevitably, there are going to be things that come up," said Doyle. "And if you're not willing to work out a compromise with your partner, you're not going to be happy. And if you're not happy, the relationship is not going to be successful."

Looking back, the couple voices no regrets.

"It wasn't always a walk in the park, but we worked through it and did whatever we needed to make it work. We've lived in this community all of our lives," Doyle said. "We were each raised on a farm, so we knew if we chose that occupation what it was going to require. I've never regretted it, and I don't think Jeri Jean has either. It's been a wonderful life." ■

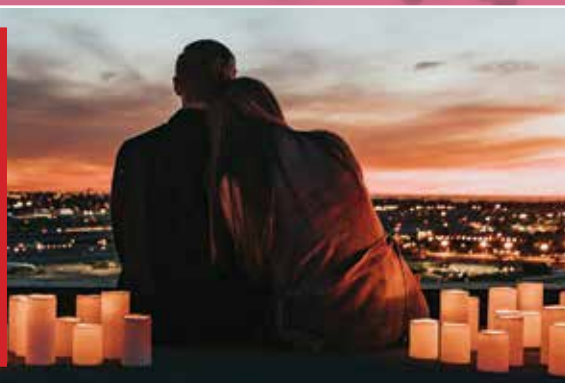
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GIRLS. BEES. POOR THINGS. AND A MISSING APOSTLE.

BY MICHAEL C. WOODY
Panora Times

So, how were your holidays? See any good movies? Me neither! I am somewhat joking on that one, but I was not blown away by much that I saw. We tend to expect high-impact movies during the holiday season. This one came up short. Meanwhile, we trudge forward into 2024, eagerly awaiting “Dune Part 2” on March 1. If you didn’t see the original, you only have a short time to catch up. Watch it on the biggest television in your house, and you will be blown away. Alright, let’s catch up.

“MEAN GIRLS”
(in theaters)
I loved the original movie and was looking forward to what I thought was an

update. I was wrong. It is a film version of the award-winning Broadway play. So you know the story, but every once in a while they stop to break into song and dance. It is still a lot of fun, just not quite as much as I was hoping for.

Grade: B

“THE BEEKEEPER”
(in theaters)
I like Jason Statham, but the man makes some stupid action movies. That being said, he does make a good one every once in a while. Based on the box office draw, I’m not alone in saying that “The Beekeeper” is one of his better, maybe his best? He is retired military and minding his own business in the back of a rented barn. His business is honey and keeping a few beehives. When a scam caller takes all of the money from



“MEAN GIRLS”

the old woman he rents from, Statham is on the trail immediately and, let me tell you, he is unhappy. No one is going to stop him from catching these idiots. From there we get lots of punches, kicks, gunshots and a kitchen sink. It is



“THE BEEKEEPER”

non-stop action with a flimsy story but enough to keep you entertained. The action is great, the bad guys are really slimy, and you will relish the butt-kicking you get to watch. The box office has been brisk, so this will likely not be the

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"I.S.S."

last time we see this beekeeper.

Grade: B-

"I.S.S."

The International Space Station is the setting for this movie that tells the story of an American crew that joins the Russians at the Space Station for a joint venture. When huge trouble on Earth strikes, both teams are told to take over the station. An action film in a tight situation in space always proves to be fun. It is not a great film, but it has enough moments for me to mildly recommend it.

Grade: C+

"POOR THINGS"

This film is by director Yorgos Lan-



"POOR THINGS"

thimos, who gave us "The Lobster" and "The Killing of a Sacred Deer," two movies I reluctantly suffered through. His new film, "Poor Things," has received the same type of praise as those earlier films, and I will respectfully disagree. The cast includes Willem Dafoe, Mark Ruffalo and a brilliant (and Oscar-nominated) Emma Stone in a film that defies description — and that's not a good thing. It is dark and disturbing but also tries to be funny. Let's just agree to disagree.

Grade: D-

"SOCIETY OF THE SNOW"

You can find this one on Netflix. It's a remake of the true and harrowing story of a plane full of rugby players who



"SOCIETY OF THE SNOW"

crash in the Andes mountains. There was a movie titled "Alive" years ago that tackled this same story but not nearly as well. Both movies are good, but this one ramps it up yet tempers itself in certain areas that are controversial. This is well made and enthralling, to say the least.

Grade: A-

"THE BOOK OF CLARENCE"

My Catholic education failed to clue me in on this missing Apostle who has quite a bit to do and quite a bit to say. It is a thought-provoking and well-produced film that will challenge you and might even start some very interesting conversations.

Grade: B+



"THE BOOK OF CLARENCE"

Have a great February and, God willing, I'll be back next month with my thoughts on new movies and that little annual celebration called The Oscars. Now, pass the popcorn. ■

Michael C. Woody has been reviewing movies on radio and television since 1986 and can be heard talking movies every Wednesday afternoon at 2:30 p.m. on KXn0 106.3 with Keith Murphy and Andy Fales. You can also follow him on Twitter @MrMovieDSM. He and his wife, Susan, are residents of Guthrie County.



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LAUREEN MILLS

1954-2024

Laureen (Laurie) Beth

Hansen was born Jan. 9, 1954, at Fitzsimmons Army Hospital in Aurora, Colorado, to Harvey Dean Hansen and Sydna Alberta (Petty) Hansen. She grew up on a farm southeast of Perry. She spent an idyllic childhood playing with her brother, Brian, and her cousins, reading and riding horses.

Laurie graduated from Perry High School in 1972 and from Iowa State University in Food and Nutrition – Dietetics in 1976. She was a clinical dietitian at Iowa Lutheran Hospital, then Mercy Hospital Medical Center, becoming a certified NSP while there. She finished out her career at Iowa Heart Center in the Lipid Clinic.

In 1977, Richard Lee Mills

and Laurie were married at Trinity Lutheran Church in Perry. To this marriage was born Mark Lee Mills in 1983, Katherine Anne Mills in 1989, and Scott Richard Mills in 1991. Richard and Laurie spent their lives farming and raising cattle on their farm northwest of Redfield. Laurie never lost her passion for flower and vegetable gardening, traveling and riding horses. Her love of nature and all things that God created has been passed down to her children and her grandchildren. Laurie found new passions with her grandchildren like riding the Gator through the farm and pastures, picking up walnuts for Brian's squirrels, feeding bread to the cows, reading books, planting and picking

flowers, and teaching God's Word. Most of all, her greatest passion was serving and loving others. She was a longtime member of Faith Lutheran Church in Adel.

Laurie was preceded in death by great-grandparents, Jerry and Kate Fredrichsen; grandparents, Carl and Emelia Hansen, and William and Sydna Petty; parents, Harvey and Alberta Hansen; and husband, Richard. She is survived by her children, Mark (Sarah), Katherine (Alan) Kent, and Scott (Taylor); grandchildren, Tate, Reese and Chloe Mills, Lily, Owen and Cole Kent, and Parker and Baker Mills; brother, Brian Hansen (Cindy); and many nieces, nephews, cousins, great-nieces, great-nephews

and friends.

Laurie died on Feb. 1, 2024, surrounded by her children holding her hands. She fought a long, hard battle with ovarian cancer but ultimately won that battle and joined Jesus in Heaven.

Visitation was Friday, Feb. 9, 2024, at Faith Lutheran Church in Adel. Funeral service was Saturday, Feb. 10, 2024, at Faith Lutheran Church. Burial followed in the West Linn Cemetery. Online condolences may be expressed to the family at www.caldwellparrish.com. Memorial contributions may be directed to the family and will be split between Laurie's favorite local charities, Faith Lutheran Church, ovarian cancer research, and ataxia research, unless specified. ■

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OBITUARIES

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JANET BAKER

1963-2024

Janet Kay Baker, 60, daughter of Norman "Red" and Caryl (Anderson) Morrell, was born Dec. 13, 1963, in Perry. She passed away Saturday, Feb. 10, 2024, at her home near Linden.

Janet attended Panorama-Linden schools. Following high school, she was employed at Sunny Fresh Foods in Panorama and then Midland Tile in Redfield. In 2003, she went to work at United Brick and Tile in Adel. On May 13, 2005, she married Doug Baker in Adel. Following working

for United Brick and Tile, she went to work for the United States Postal Service at the mail center in Clive. She retired from there in 2022.

Janet enjoyed mushroom hunting, canning, gardening, visiting the casinos, shopping and taking care of her family.

Janet is survived by her husband, Doug Baker of Linden; daughter, Amber Baker of Redfield; sons, Scot Baker of Adel, Trevor Baker of Redfield, J.R. (Ashley) Putney of Linden, and Chad Putney of Oakland, California; eight grandchildren, Nikki Baker, Sadie Spooner, Dylan Baker, Devyn Baker, Timothy Putney, Lydia Baker, Heimie and Monte Todd; siblings, Cathy Morrell of Guthrie Center, Karen Barney of Utah, Thomas Morrell of Des Moines, and Susan Morrell of Guthrie Center. She was preceded in death by her parents and her brothers, Jim Morrell and Michael Morrell.

Funeral services were Wednesday, Feb. 14, 2024, at the Twigg Funeral Home, Panorama. Burial was in West Linn Cemetery, near Linden. Visitation was Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2024, from 5-7 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials may be left to the discretion of the family. ■



LOU ANN HUGGINS

1939-2024

Lou Ann Huggins, 84, daughter of Roy and Muree (Miller) Ahrens, was born Dec. 24, 1939, in Sac City. She passed away Monday, Jan. 15, 2024, at the New Homestead in Guthrie Center.

Lou Ann graduated from Osceola High School in 1958. On May 31, 1958, she married Donald Huggins in Osceola. They made their home for a short time in Osceola. They then lived in several communities around Panorama until 1977, when they moved to Missouri. Lou

Ann worked as a CNA for many years before retiring in 1989. In 1990, they moved to Panorama, and, on April 1, 1991, they opened up Don's Bait & Tackle Shop and operated this for the next 11 years.

Lou Ann enjoyed being with her family, especially her grandchildren, working with the public at the bait shop, doing puzzle books, going on Branson trips in the summer and watching the Kansas City Chiefs football and St. Louis Cardinals baseball games.

Lou Ann is survived by her daughter, Kim Huggins of Panorama; sons, Steve Huggins of Forsyth, Missouri, and Jeff (Linda) Huggins of Guthrie Center; 13 grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren; daughter-in-

law, Cindy Huggins; sister, Kay (Dennis) Chaney of Osceola; and sisters-in-law, Marilyn Ahrens, Wanda Chase, Joanne Huggins, and Sandra Huggins; along with many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Donald; sons, Kelly and Kevin; granddaughters, Emily Mae and Taylor; great-granddaughter, London Ann; and brothers, Don and his wife Doris, and Pete.

Funeral services were at 11 a.m., Monday, Jan. 22, 2024, at the Twigg Funeral Home, Panorama. Burial was in the West Linn Cemetery, near Linden. Visitation was one hour prior to the services at the funeral home.

Memorials may be left to the family. ■



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CONTESTS

BEST OF GUTHRIE COUNTY POLL LAUNCHED

Best pizza. Best pastor. Best park. And 79 other categories. Those are the basis of the Best of Guthrie County poll that was recently launched by Big Green Umbrella Media, the publisher of Panorama Times.

"Many central Iowans are familiar with the Best of Des Moines poll that readers of CITYVIEW magazine have participated in for more than a quarter of a century," said Shane Goodman, editor and publisher of CITYVIEW and the president of Big Green Umbrella Media. "CITYVIEW's Best of Des Moines certificates are proudly displayed in stores, restaurants, bars and offices, and the recognition provides an incredibly positive impact for the people, places, businesses and events that are deemed the winners."

The CITYVIEW Best of Des Moines poll consisted of 271 questions with a whopping 22,969 votes — the most ever in the history of the poll.

"I have learned a lot in administering this poll and the related event that we have now hosted for 16 years," said Goodman, who also serves as the editor and publisher of Panorama Times.

A few years ago, Goodman implemented a similar effort with his 14 Iowa Living magazines called Residents' Choice polls.

"The bottom line is that people want to know who local residents feel are the 'best' in a variety of categories," Goodman said. "It is a fun competition."

Goodman noted that whenever they do these types of reader polls, he stresses that the results are not his opinions or opinions of his staff but are the results of the votes from readers.

"That is a very important distinction," he said.

With readers' polls working in Des Moines and in the suburbs and nearby communities, Goodman decided to launch a similar effort in Guthrie County with the Best of Guthrie County poll.

"This is our inaugural effort, and the poll will certainly change in future

years," Goodman said.

Readers simply fill in the blanks in one category or all 82. The poll is being promoted in the company's publications, emails, social media and mailers to encourage widespread participation.

"I hope everyone takes the time to vote and to also share the link with their family, neighbors, co-workers and anyone in Guthrie County and encourage them to do the same," he said.

The poll results will show if any readers try to beat the system and vote multiple times.

"We catch the cheaters who try to vote more than once and throw those votes out, so don't even try," Goodman said.

Goodman says they make voting "incredibly easy."

"You can choose to vote in just one category, or you can vote in all 82," he said. "But, just like the political elections, once you submit your choices, you can't go back."

The poll rules and the link to vote can be found at www.gctimesnews.com/best-of.



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Sheri joins the Lakeside Village team with over 25 years of experience in customer service roles, continuing her longtime passion for making genuine connections and serving others. In her personal life, she enjoys traveling, exploring smalltown shops, spending time with friends and family, walking, biking, and swimming. Her favorite hobby is decorating and her long term goal is to start her own boutique one day. Sheri and her husband Duane, an electrician who also farms, have been married for 29 years. They have three children: Andrew (27) works on the family farm, Karli (24) is in nursing school, and Mitchell (22) has his own agricultural drone business.

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ELECTIONS

ARGANBRIGHT SEEKS REELECTION AS GUTHRIE COUNTY SHERIFF

BY RICH WICKS
Panora Times

Sheriff Marty Arganbright announced he is running for a fifth term as sheriff. He is seeking the 2024 Democratic nomination for the office of Guthrie County Sheriff in the June 4, 2024, primary election.

Arganbright graduated from Panora in 1981 and became sheriff in 2008 after serving as chief of police for the city of Panora.

"I still teach the DARE program. I've been teaching it for 25 years," he said.

Arganbright mentioned some of the new programs and accomplishments during his years as sheriff.

"We've done a lot of things since 2008," Arganbright said. "We grew our staff to eight deputies. I started the work on the new jail 10 years ago, and now we're using the jail for our inmates and we're also housing inmates from outside the county, and that makes great revenue."

Arganbright seeks grants, when possible, to save taxpayer money.

"When I became sheriff, I restarted the deputy reserve program," said Arganbright. "They help when needed. I've added more dispatchers to accommodate 911 calls and regular traffic. We adopted a 28E agreement with Guth-

rie Center; they couldn't keep a police department. We got top-of-the-line equipment to protect our deputies and citizens."

Arganbright said he also restarted the K9 program.

"We have two dogs, and it's all funded through donations," he said.

Arganbright says one of the biggest issues in the county is drugs.

"I want to continue what we've been doing and stay on top of the drug problem," he said. "That's one of my biggest goals."

When he's off-duty, Arganbright stays active in the community.

"I belong to Ten Squared Men and the Guthrie County Cattlemen's Association," said Arganbright. "I've been active in Saint Cecelia's and Saint Mary's Church my whole life. I live on a farm and have cattle."

Overall, Arganbright has a simple philosophy of service.

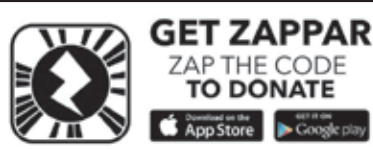
"I try to treat everyone the same — the way that I would want to be treated," he said. ■



Marty Arganbright



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COUNTY GOVERNMENT NEWS

GUTHRIE COUNTY SUPERVISORS EXPRESS FRUSTRATIONS ABOUT EMS PLANNING

Question unexpected repair costs to the new Law Enforcement Center

BY RICH WICKS
Panora Times

The Jan. 23 meeting of the Guthrie County Board of Supervisors included discussion of unexpected repair costs to two areas in the new Law Enforcement Center (LEC). Facilities Director Brandon Thompson explained the situations and said it appears that the elevator repair is not covered under warranty. “I guess I would like to get clarification on the service agreement and why this doesn’t qualify under the warranty that we have,” Supervisor Mike Dickson said.

Dickson suggested having the county attorney draft a letter to send to Schindler Elevator. Supervisor Maggie Armstrong agreed that there needs to be an explanation of what happened to create the situation in which repairs are needed and why the cost wouldn’t be covered by Schindler.

Thompson explained that the showers in the LEC are allowing water to leak out due to the design of the shower stalls. He said he would check to see if a repair can be made.

MIDWEST PARTNERSHIP FUNDING

The supervisors met in regular ses-

sion on Jan. 30. Jotham Arber provided a summary of the budgetary numbers for Public Health, Environmental Health, and the Transfer Station.

Brenda Dudley addressed the supervisors, giving an annual update on services provided by Midwest Partnership, an economic development corporation serving Adair and Guthrie counties. She asked the supervisors to consider providing annual funding of \$35,127, which she said is the same amount the county contributed the previous year.

“In the two county area (Guthrie and Adair), surprisingly, we’ve had 20 new businesses start this last year. That just amazes me. I can’t take credit for any of them, but a couple of them I have helped with financing, revolving loan funds. I led them to Region 12,” said Dudley.

The supervisors also heard budgetary summaries from the County Attorney and Secondary Roads departments. The supervisors approved a liquor license renewal request from The Links. The 2024 County Substance Abuse Prevention semi-annual report was also approved.

EMS SERVICES

The supervisors met again on Thursday, Feb. 1 for a Fiscal Year 2025 budget work session. The main topic of discussion was the ongoing efforts to reach an agreement regarding EMS services in the county. Supervisor Mike Dickson summarized the efforts so far, as the cities and county have not been able to

compromise on an overall plan.

“Another subcommittee formed. I happened to be on that, and a few of us on the (advisory) council met with the city council representatives,” he said. “Out of that, I don’t know if there is the opportunity to still come together or not. So then I put together three different options. Well, just two, really. The third option is just for the county to have their own. And at the meeting the other night, those options were taken off the table.”

Asked to summarize the first two options, Dickson said the first would involve a countywide tax, if approved, and the county would then contract with the two entities in the county that currently provide EMS services (Stuart and Panora). A coordinator would be hired to oversee the countywide services.

The second option, as described by Dickson, would be “combined forces.” “Everybody can keep their own identities but working together, sharing employees if we need to,” Dickson said.

Supervisor Steve Smith shared his opinion that compromises need to be sought so that each entity can get their concerns addressed.

“I’m trying to figure out why this has so many lines drawn in the sand, and we can’t cross over and get it so that we can move forward. It just stays in the same place,” Smith said. “It just feels clunky. It feels that it’s taking forever to do something that I don’t think should take this long.”

Smith said he feels that rather than

just a yes or no response, there needs to be work on tweaking proposed options as needed to find something workable.

“You don’t have five years to get this right, or six months to get this right. Get it right,” Smith said.

Dickson asked for clear direction of which general option the supervisors prefer. Supervisor Brian Johnson asked for more time to consider that. No board decision was made at this time.

During the Feb. 6 meeting of the supervisors, the main topics of discussion were the ongoing efforts and challenges to find a countywide EMS services plan. Guthrie County Health Director Jotham Arber shared the status of proposals and negotiations.

“The only way to push forward here is to get a proposal and then to start working on it,” Arber said. “We’ve gone around about, and we’ve done all kinds of things... It’s going to take a collaborative effort.”

Supervisor Johnson voiced a concern about the timeline. He said if there is anything that will need to be on the ballots in the November election, the process needs to start moving soon.

“I would propose we set up a smaller committee,” said Johnson. “We have some really talented people in this county. If we get the right people at the table — and it being five or seven at the max — we can try to put together a proposal to work with the cities to move forward. Because, otherwise, I don’t see any way that we can be successful at the ballot box. It’s getting awful late.”

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PANORA TIMES

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Supervisor Mike Dickson voiced a concern that a smaller committee might be perceived as not having representation from all interested areas and organizations. No formal action was taken on the issue at this time.

OTHER NEWS

Brian Hoffman provided an update on the Information Technology (IT) department. He discussed the option of paying for a five-year license extension on both the Verkada door and Verkada panic system that were recently installed. The cost of these extensions would be \$2,217 and \$2,060. After discussion, the supervisors voted unanimously to purchase the extended licensing.

Jotham Arber provided a budgetary review of the expected revenues and expenses for the Transfer Station budget.

The supervisors unanimously voted to appoint Brenda Dudley to the Enterprise Board.

The supervisors met on Feb. 13 in regular session. County Engineer Josh Sebern and County Health Director Jotham Arber provided updates on their departments.

Arber said flu shots will continue to be available through April.


“We did deploy 27 AEDs (artificial external defibrillators) throughout the county,” said Arber. “We’re going to be deploying another 12.”


AEDs devices are portable electronic devices that automatically diagnose life-threatening cardiac arrhythmias of ventricular fibrillation and pulseless ventricular tachycardia and are able to treat them through defibrillation, which is the application of electricity that stops the arrhythmia, allowing the heart to re-establish an effective rhythm.


Arber mentioned that he is seeking appropriate places for an AED in the Bayard and Adair-Casey areas.

In reviewing the minutes of the supervisors’ most recent meeting, Supervisor Maggie Armstrong asked for clarification about which group will develop parameters for the proposed countywide EMS services. The board agreed that the EMS committee will develop such parameters, and the board of supervisors will then discuss it and consider it for possible approval.

The supervisors meet in regular session each Tuesday at 9 a.m. The public is welcome. Attendees may participate in person or by calling 323-792-6123 and inputting conference ID 547029216#. ■









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CITY GOVERNMENT NEWS

PANORA CITY COUNCIL DISCUSSES POTENTIAL EMS AGREEMENT CHANGES

BY RICH WICKS

Panora Times

The Panora City Council met in regular session on Jan. 22. Brenda Dudley provided the council an annual update on services provided by Midwest Partnership, an economic development corporation serving Adair and Guthrie counties.

Resolution 24-02 was discussed. It proposed to accept the resignation of Mickell Gerth from the Panora Library Board and to appoint Alli Halsey to fill that vacancy.

"We have a wonderful board, and a little bit of turnover," Mayor Curt Thornberry said.

The council voted unanimously to approve the resolution as described.

The council discussed Resolution 24-01 regarding a purchase agreement with New Way Ford for the purchase of a pickup truck for the fire department. The council voted to approve the resolution as submitted.

There was discussion about Resolution 24-03, levying sidewalk assessment for parcel 0001317700.

"This is for the Chambers' residence on Clay Street," City Administrator Lisa Grossman said. "It was a voluntary assessment. They asked that the work be done by the City when needed." The resolution was approved unanimously.

An Electric Budget Committee meeting was scheduled to begin immediately after the city council meeting.

FEB. 12 MEETING

During the regular meeting of the council on Feb. 12, one of the main topics was the agreement between Panora EMS and the city of Audubon.

The council had a discussion about the Audubon Ambulance and Health Care Transportation Services Agreement. Through this agreement, Panora EMS helps

Audubon by transporting patients when able. The trips often involve transporting a patient from Audubon to Omaha, although sometimes the patient is going to a different destination, such as Des Moines.

"It's been about 15 months since we started with Audubon, and we are having trouble maintaining staff for that," Panora EMS Director John DeLavernge said.

DeLavernge said it appears that Panora EMS staff are less likely to pick up shifts because they do not like to go to Audubon. He added that, on average, the Audubon trips create a roughly four-hour timespan in which Panora EMS may be unable to adequately respond to local needs.

DeLavernge suggested to alter the agreement so that when a call came in from Audubon requesting transportation, Panora EMS would check for availability of two staff members to meet the request, and then Audubon would be promptly told whether or not Panora could respond.

The city council did not take formal action on the issue at this time, but Mayor Thornberry asked DeLavernge to reach out to Paul Topliff, CEO of the hospital in Audubon, and discuss the issue, present the proposal, and see if other options could be considered.

Susanne Gerlach of Public Financial Management, Inc. provided the council an update on the city's finances.

City Administrator Lisa Grossman went over the proposed FY25 budget numbers with the highlight being a proposal to lower the tax levy by \$0.33 from \$17.38 to \$17.05, which she said would be the lowest rate in more than eight years.

The next regular meeting of the city council will be Feb. 26. Interested persons may attend in person or electronically by visiting the website <https://meet.goto.com/cityof-panora> or by phone 1-312-757-3121 (Access Code 295-099-701, Audio PIN 220#). ■

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ELECTIONS

HARMANN ANNOUNCES
CANDIDACY FOR GUTHRIE
COUNTY SHERIFF

Special to Panora Times

Matt Harmann of rural Panora announced he will seek the 2024 Republican nomination for the office of Guthrie County Sheriff in the June 4, 2024, primary election.

Harmann has served as a Guthrie County deputy since 2018 and as the Panora Volunteer Fire Chief since 2006. He is a 2018 graduate of the police academy and currently serves as one of the Guthrie County Sheriff Department's two K9 officers.

Harmann has been active in a variety of community endeavors, including volunteer service with Guthrie County Fair Board and as an Advanced EMT with Panora EMS. He is a small business owner with more than 20 years of experience in managing budgets, projects and personnel. He enjoys farming and raising cattle in his spare time.

"I'm proud to call Guthrie County my home," he said. "I have made public service an important part of my life because I believe we must all do our part to ensure Guthrie County enjoys reliable public safety, fire protection and EMS services."

Harmann says his business background is also a highlight of his campaign.

"As the owner of Harmann Excavating, I understand the importance of managing a budget closely," he said. "As a business owner, I must balance the needs of my business, my employees and my customers. These same skills are essential to being an effective sheriff."

Harmann encourages voters to reach out to him with any questions or concerns.

"My time in public service has allowed me to meet a large number of people in Guthrie County," he said. "For those who I haven't yet met, I look forward to connecting with you as part of my campaign and appreciate your consideration for this important office."

Harmann is currently the only declared candidate for the Republican nomination for Guthrie County Sheriff. ■



Matt Harmann

EDUCATION

PANORAMA SCHOOL DISTRICT
AWARDS PARKING LOT BID

Plan to add an e-Sports coaching position

BY RICH WICKS
Panora Times

On Feb. 12, the Panorama School Board held a regular meeting, in addition to a public hearing regarding the planned north parking lot project.

A total of 17 bids were received. After consideration, the board voted to accept the lowest bid of \$535.997, which was from Jordison Construction of Urbandale. Su-

perintendent Kasey Huebner pointed out that the winning bid was \$240,000 less than the estimated cost.

In other Panorama news, Huebner said, "We added an E-Sports coaching position, which will begin building this program. We hope to field a team for the next school year."

The board heard from Mr. Hameister and several high school students who discussed FFA current projects.

The next regular meeting of the Panorama board will be Monday, March 11 at 6:30 p.m. At that time, there will be a public hearing on the proposed school calendar for the upcoming school year. ■

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MALLORY QUICK | SPECIAL TO PANORA TIMES
Braylon Dawes gets the higher jump against Ogden and scores for the Panthers on Feb. 6.



BETTY COOPER | SPECIAL TO PANORA TIMES
Wrestlers Cayden Van Meer and Joel Cooper at the State Wrestling tournament.



MALLORY QUICK | SPECIAL TO PANORA TIMES
Jaidyn Sellers gets control of the ball against Woodward Granger.



BETTY COOPER | SPECIAL TO PANORA TIMES
Joel Cooper was the district champion and qualified for the state wrestling tournament.



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Betty Cooper | Special to Panora Times
Blake Schwartz works for the fall at the Charger Invite on Jan. 27.



Betty Cooper | Special to Panora Times
Cayden Van Meerwas runner-up at the district tournament and qualified for the state wrestling tournament.



Mallory Quick | Special to Panora Times
Lindy Nelson gets the short jumper for the Panthers against Martensdale St. Marys on Jan. 29.



Mallory Quick | Special to Panora Times
Maddox Hammerstrom goes to the hoop and scores for the Panthers against Martensdale St. Marys on Jan. 29.

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A photograph of the storefront of Leonard Automotive, LLC. A red sports car is parked in front of the building. The building has a blue awning with the company name.

FUNERAL HOME BUSINESS GUIDED BY HELPING OTHERS

Twiggs seek to lighten the burdens of people when they are at their weakest and provide the support they need.

BY SUSAN THOMPSON

Panora Times

The family-owned Twigg Funeral Home, with locations in Guthrie Center and Panora, began in August 2000. That's when Doug and Kathy Twigg purchased the Beidelman Funeral Home.

Doug Twigg graduated from the Wisconsin Institute of Mortuary Science in 1969 and received his funeral director license in October 1970. He worked for funeral homes in Estherville, Clarksville, Keokuk and Waterloo, then spent 16 years managing Bruce's Funeral Home in Fort Dodge before purchasing the Beidelman Funeral Home.

Soon, their oldest son, Curtis, joined the business. Doug and Kathy lived at the Guthrie Center funeral home, while Curtis, his wife, Becky, and their two daughters moved into the funeral home in Panora.

"During high school, I didn't really know what I wanted to do," Curtis says. "But during my senior year, I started thinking the funeral business might be something I would be interested in. I started washing cars, vacuuming and cleaning at the funeral home Dad managed in Fort Dodge. Eventually, Dad bought me a suit, and I started helping with funerals."

After high school, Twigg started taking courses in a pre-mortuary science program at Iowa Central Community College in Fort Dodge. He and Becky married in August of 1991. In 1992, they moved to Houston, where he enrolled in the Commonwealth Institute of Funeral Service for a year-long program.

The couple returned to Iowa in 1993, and Twigg served an internship at McLaren's Funeral Home in West Des Moines.

"After a year, I received my funeral director's license and stayed at McLaren's for another year before we returned to Fort Dodge, and I started working for my

dad in September of 1995," he says.

The formation of the Twigg Funeral Home was something both Curtis and his father wanted.

"We were tired of working for a corporation and wanted to run our own funeral homes the way we thought they should be run," Curtis says. "Our goal has always been to lighten the burdens of people when they are at their weakest and give them the support they need."

"I chose this business because I wanted to help people during the worst time of their lives with a death of a loved one," Curtis says. "I enjoy helping people in general. Now being in small communities in and around Panora and Guthrie Center, we know the people we are serving and appreciate the opportunity to help them."

In October 2010, Doug and Kathy's other son, Craig, joined the family business and made his home at the Guthrie Center funeral home. He graduated from the mortuary science program at San Antonio College in 2005 and worked in funeral homes in Waterloo, Dallas, Texas, and San Diego, California, before moving to Guthrie Center. Doug retired two years later and passed away in June 2019.

Curtis Twigg is president of the business with Craig as vice president. Their mother, Kathy, helps with visitations, funerals, answering phones and delivering death notices to area stores. Becky has been involved since the business began, but Curtis says, in the early years, her main job was raising the couple's two daughters.

"Now that they are grown, she decided she wanted to help us out more with visitations, services and wherever needed," he says.

The Twigg Funeral Home website (www.twiggfuneralhome.com) includes recent obituaries plus a wealth of information on funeral service options and advance planning.



The family-owned Twigg Funeral Home has been in business since August 2000. This is the Panora location; there also is a funeral home in Guthrie Center. Curtis Twigg oversees the Panora location, and his brother, Craig, manages the Guthrie Center location.

"People sometimes don't think about how pre-planning one's own services will help their children or other survivors make arrangements after they pass away," Twigg says. "The best thing to do is tell someone what type of services you would want. Any information will help the survivors."

"Whether it be a burial, cremation, memorial, celebration of life, visitation, graveside service and more, that's what we are here for, to help with guidance into whatever services the family wants," he says.

Twigg says the number of people who choose cremation is growing.

"I've been licensed for 30 years, and cremation has gained in popularity, perhaps for financial reasons or the person just wanted something simple," he says. "Most families still choose to have some sort of service, either a visitation, memorial service or celebration of life. We can either arrange to bury the cremains in

the cemetery, or families can take the cremains home."

Twigg recommends people write down vital statistical information for themselves or for loved ones who may not have done any preplanning.

"We use that information for the death certificate and also for the obituary," he says. "I've had some people write their own obituary before they die. People who want to pre-plan also can call us and we can help them go through everything."

Services can be paid for in advance, as part of the pre-planning process.

"We place the money in an irrevocable burial trust at the local bank, and it stays in that account until that person passes away," Twigg says. "Another option is if the person has life insurance, they can make the funeral home the beneficiary, or we can assign a portion of that policy to pay for their services."

Being involved in their communities is



Shown left to right are members of the Twigg family, including Curtis and Becky Twigg; their daughters, Mathison and Morgan; Kathy Twigg and Craig Twigg.

important to the Twigg family members. Curtis is a volunteer firefighter with the Panora Fire Department.

"I joined in 2005, and I'm currently the president and one of the assistant fire chiefs," he says. "If I hadn't chosen to be a funeral director, I would be a paid firefighter somewhere. It's another way I'm helping people, and that's what I enjoy doing."

Curtis also is a member of the Panora Lions Club and the Panora Masonic Lodge. Craig is a member of the Guthrie

Center Lions Club and the Guthrie Center Fire Department.

Does Twigg think preplanning might make a good 2024 New Year's resolution?

"I feel the most important thing is to tell your family what you want if something happens to you," he says. "I've had many families tell me they have no clue what type of services their loved one wanted. People don't like to talk about death, but, unfortunately, it's something that's going to happen to all of us." ■

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GUTHRIE COUNTY SHERIFF

SHERIFF'S OFFICE RECEIVES \$22,250 IN JANUARY

Special to Panora Times

According to jail reports from the Guthrie County Sheriff's Office, the Guthrie County Jail processed 33 out-of-county inmates through the facility during the month of January. The jail was able to in-

voice for prisoners as follows:

Greene County Sheriff's Office, 6 inmates, 92 days, \$5,520

Polk County Sheriff's Office, 25 inmates, 221 days, \$13,260

Webster County Sheriff's Office, 2 inmates, 62 days, \$3,720 ■

SNOWMOBILERS CALLED ON TO HELP

BY RICH WICKS

Panora Times

Guthrie County Sheriff Marty Arganbright has posted an open letter to residents asking for anyone willing to be added to a call list to be used in cases of snow emergencies. Names added to the Volunteer Snowmobile Rescue and Response Team will be contacted on an as-needed basis to perform such duties as "responding to a roadway that is not navigable to help rescue stranded motorists, transport-

ing a deputy or EMS paramedic to a scene, help escort/detour emergency vehicles during transport, and more."

The letter further stated, "We are seeking volunteers throughout Guthrie County, but preferably located at or near state Highways 4, 44, 141, and White Pole Road."

Sheriff Arganbright stressed that this team will be unpaid volunteers.

Interested persons are asked to email Deputy Blake Michelsen (b.michelsen@gcso.gov) or send a message on the Guthrie County Sheriff's Office Facebook page. ■

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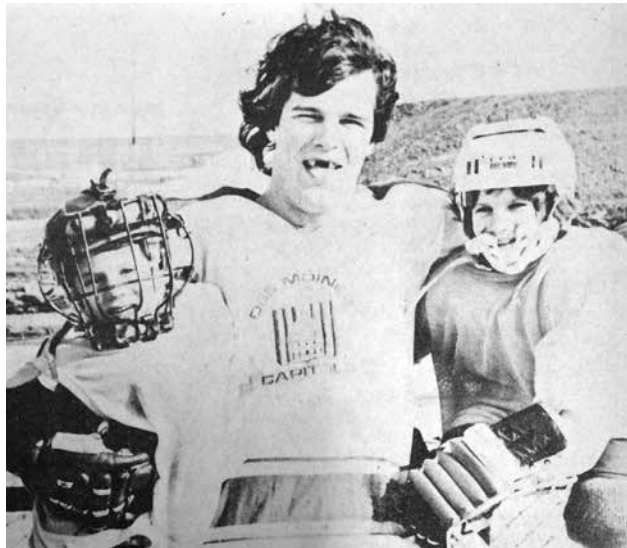
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50 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie County Vedette, Feb. 4, 1974

FUTURE STARS: Toothless Keith Kokkola of the Des Moines Capitols poses with two junior players who accompanied the International Hockey League team to Lake Panorama ice last Wednesday for a hockey exhibition. Soft ice prevented players from displaying their wares. With Kokkola are miniature goalie Chuck Chelada and Steve Hammer.

40 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie County Vedette, Feb. 23, 1984

P-L FFA OFFICERS: Seated, Mike Donahey, vice-president; Kent Downing, president; Lisa Clouse, secretary. Back row, Boyd Burnham, reporter; Jim Henderson, sentinel; and Matt Knapp, treasurer.

30 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie County Vedette, Feb. 3, 1994

METER MAN: Kip Janvrin, Panora native and one of the top decathletes in the world, presents a \$500 check to his father, Panorama High School boys track coach and athletic director Ken Janvrin, to kick off the fundraising effort for a new 400-meter all-weather surface track in Panora. The check represents the purchase of two meters. The Panorama Meter Club will hold a benefit and dance Saturday evening at The Port restaurant from 7:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. to raise money for the proposed improvement.

20 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie County Vedette, Feb. 5, 2004

SNOWMOBILING? Dakota, left, and Dalton Michaelson found a mountain of snow in downtown Panora ideal for playing with their remote-controlled vehicle.

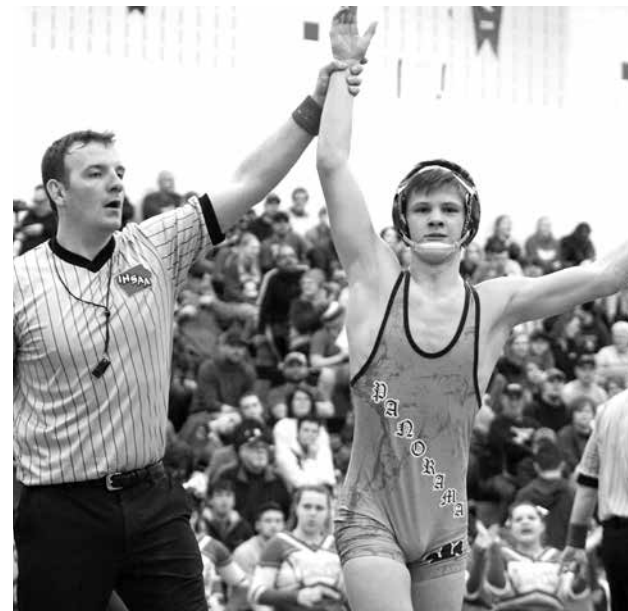
10 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie County Vedette, Feb. 27, 2014

WINTER OLYMPICS: Joyce and Scott Calmer are pictured at an ice hockey game at the Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia. They won the trip to the Olympics through the use of a VISA card.

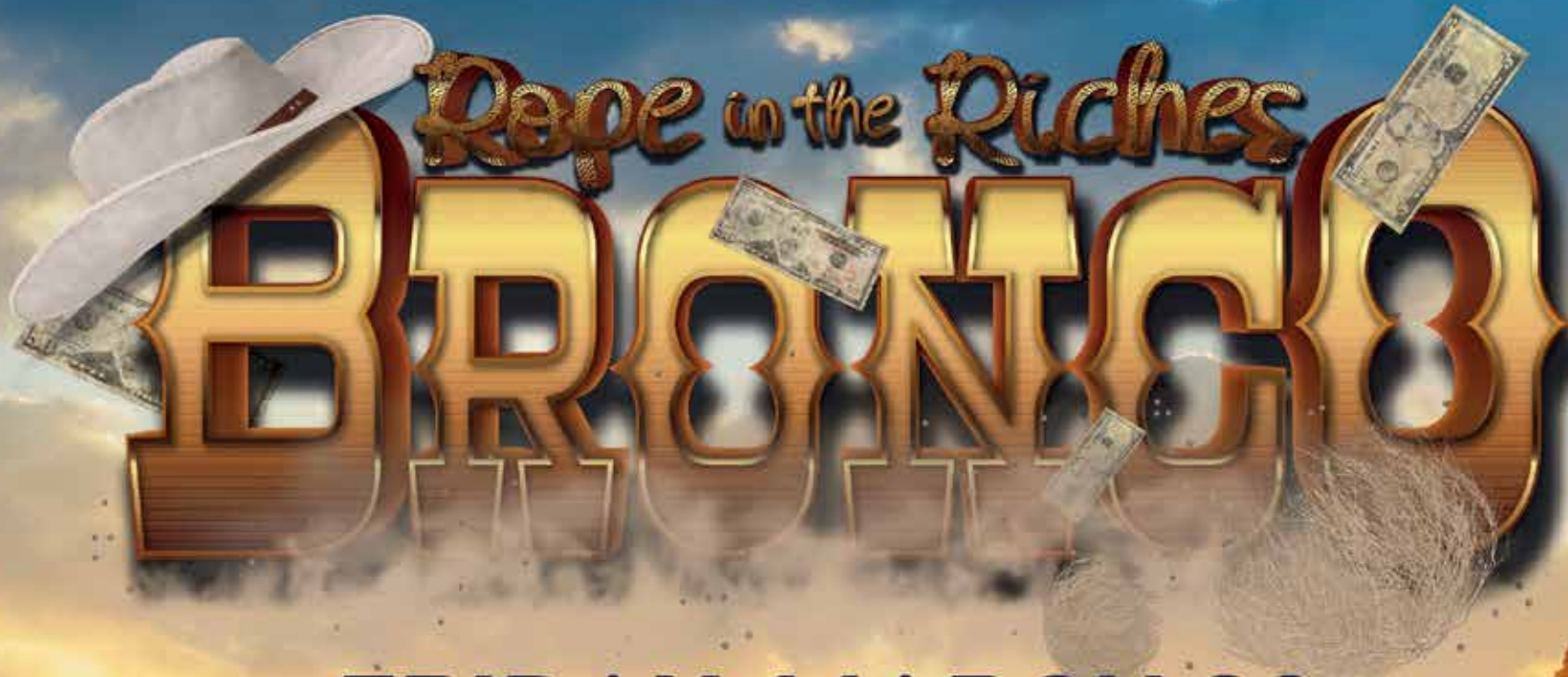
5 YEARS AGO



From the Guthrie County Times Vedette, Feb. 14, 2019

STATE BOUND: Panorama's Wyatt Appleseth raises his arms in triumph after securing his second straight state tournament appearance Saturday, Feb. 9 in Truro. ■





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WHAT'S IN YOUR GARAGE?

CAMPBELLS ENJOY THE CLASSICS

The passion started with a 1932 Ford Model B pickup.

BY RICH WICKS

Panora Times

Tom Campbell has caught the classic car bug, and he's not looking for a cure. He explained the origins of his "affliction."

"It started out with my father-in-law, who had a 1932 Ford Model B pickup, and my wife, Ellen, always kept telling him that eventually she'd like to have it. She ended up with it, and she wanted to keep everything original on it," Campbell said. "We went to the Good Guys car show in Des Moines, and on the way back she said, 'We can't keep it stock.'"

Since then, various changes have been made to the car, but he's managed to keep the overall outside appearance looking

original.

Campbell said that a few years later, at a car show in Des Moines, Ellen saw a 1941 De Soto and wanted it. After buying it, Campbell discovered a coincidence.

"Actually, it was from the Bagley area," he said.

Some of the vehicles that Campbell has obtained were bought for sentimental reasons.

"When we were going together in high school, I had a 1964 Fairlane, and I always told her if I could find one, I was going to buy it," Campbell said. "A buddy of mine found one on the internet up in Rapid City, South Dakota. I ended up buying it over the phone, sight unseen."

Currently, Campbell has a truck that he brought "back home."

"I got a 1955 Ford pickup that I'm doing right now. The reason I got it was, there were some parts on it that belonged to my brother-in-law and my father before he passed away. I wanted to keep it in the family, if I could."

Campbell and his wife enjoy going to



Ellen and Tom Campbell enjoy their time at car shows.

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Tom Campbell's classic pickup rolls down the road.

car shows when time allows, and he's won several awards along the way. He admits that, because he drives his classic cars, they are not 100% pristine, but he said minor imperfections will happen even if a car is always stored in a garage, so he plans to continue driving his cars to the shows where they are displayed.

Campbell enjoys working on his vehicles but understands that he cannot do the entire restoration process himself.

"As far as motor and transmission, I can do that. A lot of the body work, and definitely painting, I farm out," he said.

Campbell enjoys bringing a classic car up to the level that it's ready for car shows, but he doesn't have any particular vehicle that he is currently seeking.

"There isn't anything special that sticks out," he said.

Although the cars are what attract most everyone to the car shows, Campbell's favorite part is socializing with friends — old and new — at the events. For now, at



Tom Campbell holds a trophy he was awarded at a car show.

least, he and Ellen plan to continue this hobby that brings them, and others, so much enjoyment. ■

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RECIPE

WARM UP WITH THIS SMOKY GERMAN POTATO, SAUSAGE AND BACON CHILI

BY JOLENE GOODMAN
Panora Times

There is nothing like a hot bowl of chili to warm you up during these cold winter months. I know I enjoy it, and my family does, too. If you are ready to introduce your taste buds to a new and zesty option, check out this recipe that is packed with comforting ingredients and smoky spices. How can you go wrong with potato salad, sausage and bacon? ■



Jolene Goodman

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

SMOKY GERMAN POTATO, SAUSAGE AND BACON CHILI

Recipe courtesy of “Dad with a Pan” on behalf of READ

Prep time: 20 minutes

Cook time: 40 minutes

Servings: 8

- 4 strips thick bacon, cut into cubes
- 1 pound smoked sausage, sliced into 1-inch segments
- 1 small onion, diced
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 4 tablespoons chili powder
- 1 tablespoon ground coriander
- 1 tablespoon ground cumin
- 1 teaspoon ground cayenne pepper
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- 2 Fresno peppers, diced
- 1 can READ German Potato Salad, drained
- 1 cup beef broth

- 1 can (14 1/2 ounces) diced tomatoes, drained
- salt, to taste
- pepper, to taste

Directions

In large saucepan over medium heat, cook bacon until crispy. Remove and set aside, leaving about 2 tablespoons drippings in saucepan.

Add smoked sausage and cook until browned.

Once sausage is cooked, add diced onion and minced garlic, cooking until onion is translucent.

Drain excess fat then stir in chili powder, coriander, cumin, cayenne pepper, oregano and Fresno peppers until well mixed.

Add drained diced tomatoes, German potato salad and cooked bacon to saucepan.

Add beef broth and stir to combine.



Season with salt and pepper, to taste.

Bring mixture to simmer and let cook about 30 minutes, stirring occasionally, until flavors are melded.

Substitution: Jalapenos can be used for Fresno peppers. ■



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Garret Armstrong is a real estate broker licensed in the state of Iowa. He is also a member of the National Association of Realtors and the Iowa Real Estate Board. He has been in the real estate business for over 10 years and has a proven track record of helping clients buy and sell land. He is currently looking for new clients to help them with their real estate needs. Contact him today at 641.757.9156 or garret.armstrong@whitetailproperties.com.

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PANORA TIMES

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Panora ASK TIMES

Submit your questions to
shane@dmcityview.com.

Q: WHEN WILL THE GRAVEL LOT AT PANORAMA HIGH SCHOOL BE PAVED ?

A: The Panorama School Board reviewed 17 bids for the job at its Feb. 12 meeting. The board voted to accept the bid from Jordison Construction of Urbandale. The plan is to have the project completed prior to classes beginning in the fall.

Q: I READ THAT PANORAMA SCHOOLS ARE STARTING AN E-SPORTS TEAM? WHAT IS THAT?

A: E-sports is short for electronic sports, which is competitive video gaming. E-sports often take the form of organized, multiplayer video game competitions, individually or as teams.

Multiplayer competitions were part of video game culture but became popular with the growth of online streaming media platforms YouTube and Twitch. This created a surge in participation. Superintendent Kasey Huebner says this is becoming more popular at the high school level, and Panorama will be adding an E-sports coaching position and hoping to field a team for the next school year.

Q: HOW MANY CANADA GEESE ARE AT LAKE PANORAMA?

A: According to Iowa Department of Natural Resources officer Jeremy King, Lake Panorama will house, during the peak of the migration in the winter, close to 20,000 geese in the area. He also

stated that Canada geese typically migrate following the snow line. So, in a late-starting winter, the geese stay up north longer and vice versa.

Q: I READ A SIGN IN A WINDOW ON NORTH FIRST STREET IN PANORA ACROSS FROM THE LIBRARY THAT A NEW BUSINESS WAS OPENING IN MARCH. WHAT IS IT?

A: The business is called Old Soul Millennial or "OSM." It will sell items ranging from vintage to modern and used to new for the entire family. Owner Brandi Rockwell has been operating her business out of her home and, in the past, from the Panora Mercantile building.

Q: I SAW A DELINQUENT WATER BILL NOTICE ON THE DOOR TO THE OLD HOUSE OF BEE BUILDING AT 101 E. MAIN ST. IN PANORA. WHAT'S UP WITH THAT BUILDING?

A: On Jan. 31, employees of the City of Panora shut off the water supply to the building, which is now owned by Ravina Homes, LLC of Des Moines. According to the workers, the water line inside the building had frozen, so the decision was made to shut the water off completely. The "Delinquent Water Bill Notice" was posted on the front door of the building, dated Jan. 29, but has now been removed. Panora City Administrator Lisa Grossman was contacted for additional information but said the city is not at liberty to publicly provide further detail. ■

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JAMAICA Jamaica Union Church 409 Van Nest St., Jamaica Sunday School: 9 a.m. Sunday Service: 10 a.m.	Saint Cecilia Catholic Church 220 N. First St., Panorama www.st-mary-patrick-cecilia.com 641-747-3843 Catholic Mass: Sunday 8:15; Wednesday and Thursday 8 a.m. Confession: Sunday – 7:30 a.m., Wednesday and Thursday – 7:45 a.m. Adoration: Tuesday 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.	Calvary Chapel Of The Raccoon River Valley 604 E. Main St., Panorama www.calvaryraccoon.com 641-755-4268 Sunday service: 10 a.m.	Lighthouse Assembly of God Church 400 S.E. Third St., Panorama www.panoralighthouseassemblyofgod.com 641-755-3060 Sunday School: 9 a.m., Sunday Service: 10 a.m. Wednesday: Children/Youth 7 p.m.
LINDEN Linden United Methodist Church 106 N. Evans St., Linden 641-439-2458	Saint Thomas Lutheran Church 2106 Highway 4, Panorama http://panoralutheran.com 641-755-2051 Sunday School /Adult Bible Study: 9 a.m. Sunday Service: 10:30 a.m. Bible Study: Tuesday – 11 a.m.	Faith Bible Church 2096 Highway 4, Panorama www.fbcpanora.com 641-755-3034 Sunday Service: 9 am Wednesday Bible Study: 6:30 p.m.	Lutheran Church of Hope 5405 Chimra Road, Panorama 515-222-1520
PANORA Church Of The Brethren 2946 200th Road, Panorama 641-755-3800 Sunday School: 8:45 a.m. Sunday Service: 9:45 a.m.		First Christian Church 102 E. Church St., Panorama www.panorafcc.org 641-755-2227	YALE Yale Church of Christ 304 Lincoln, Yale church-of-christ.org 641-439-2300 ■

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WHERE IS IT?

Be the first to respond with the correct answer to the location of this photo and receive a certificate for a free coffee at Crafty's Coffee and Gifts in Panama.



LAST MONTH'S PHOTO



The answer to last month's photo is the architecture on the peak of the porch on the house at 201 S.E. Eighth St. in Panama, which is owned by Tim and Lisa Randall. Have a guess on where the object in this month's photo is? Have one to submit for future issues? Send to shane@dmcityview.com. ■



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Dr. Bissing of Iowa Heart Center meets with patients locally each month at our Specialty Clinic.

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BUSINESS NEWS

MATTHIES HIRED AS PANORA CHAMBER COORDINATOR

Special to Panora Times

The Panora Chamber of Commerce announced the hiring of Erica Matthies to fill the role of Chamber Coordinator.

"I run Lakeside Massage and Bodyworks, and Restore Wellness Studio, on the east end of town," Matthies said. "I had taken some business administration classes prior to going to massage school. Then I had recently had to take some time off from my full-time massaging due to a work-out injury. I had already been taking classes in the last three years regarding marketing and design. So, when I was forced to doing less hands-on work, I transitioned over to doing more marketing work."

Matthies has prior experience in events and promotion.

"I also worked for a small private school in Des Moines, in their business office, and worked a lot of event coordination there," she said. "I'm excited to use those skills and put them to the test here in Panora."

The Matthies family moved to Panora nearly four years ago, and she's eager to take on the new role with the chamber.

"My husband, John, works for SiteOne Landscape Supply out of Des Moines, and I have two twin daughters, Knox and Lenox, and they go to preschool here in Panora," she said. ■



Erica Matthies

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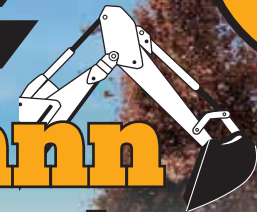
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Second Row: Emmarae Ellis, Isabelle Rouse, Shay Lemke, Will Kading, Xander Harwood, Hunter Mohr

Third Row: Angel Martinez, Hali Klingenberg, Casey Young, Chase Slaybaugh, Weston Hambleton, Bryce Betts

Fourth Row: Ava Sneller, Lucy Knutter, Irelyn Wirt, Gracie Hodges, Caydence Boals, Camdyn Richter, Brexton Schneider, Carter Dinkla

Fifth Row: Laurin Davis, Nora Langgaard, Montana Douglas, Carter Railsback, Garrett Lemke, Colt Douglas, Ty Ganzer

Sixth Row: Lilly Rochholz, Piper Downing, Meranda Gruber, Rylee Robson, Lilah Heinz, Allison Drake, Calleigh Wolfe

Not Pictured: Presley Buttler, Nate Chance, Tyler Kintz, Tegan Slaybaugh, Ty Thomas, Cole Van Meter, Jack Sheeder, Collin Stringham, Carter Richter, Stella Largent



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10² Women on a Mission

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AUGUST 27 | 5:30 p.m. at Twin Vines
NOVEMBER 19 | 5:30 p.m. at TBD

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BEEF ROYALTY



SPECIAL TO LAKE PANORAMA TIMES

2023 Beef Queen Hayden Coffman, 2024 Beef Queen Shay Lemke, 2024 Beef Princess Paige Van Meter and 2023 Beef Princess Reagan Carney.

BY RICH WICKS
Panora Times

On Jan. 27, a packed house estimated in excess of 200 people was on hand at the Guthrie County Fairgrounds for the annual Guthrie County Cattlemen's Banquet.

One of the highlights of the banquet is

the annual crowning of Guthrie County's Beef Queen and Beef Princess. 2023 Beef Queen Hayden Coffman and 2023 Beef Princess Reagan Carney told of their appreciation for the opportunity to serve in their roles for the past year. They then passed their crowns on to 2024 Beef Queen Shay Lemke and 2024 Beef Princess Paige Van Meter. ■

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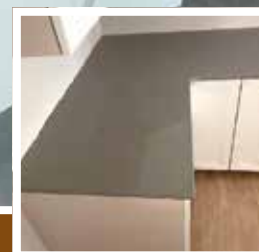
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