



Wilton-Durant Advocate News



Welcome Toss 'n Sauce to Wilton PAGE 2

September 5, 2024

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Ochiltree works her way to top 40 ranking

Iowa Restaurant Association honors Wilton businesswoman

By Tim Evans
AN Reporter

Never thinking she'd end up behind the counter, Brenda Ochiltree said one of the first places her future husband Lynn showed her when they met at a Founder's Day celebration in 2000 was the historic Candy Kitchen.

Even though the couple married in July 2001, they didn't get the opportunity to take ownership of the unique, historic business until 2015, when Gus and Thelma Nopoulos sold the business they started in June of 1910.

Today, Brenda and Lynn not only run the iconic Candy Kitchen, but various other businesses in the community including three Wilton Air B&B's. But it's the Candy Kitchen that earned Brenda accolades in August from the Iowa Restaurant Association, naming her among the "Top 40 Women to Watch in the Hospitality Industry."

She admits not knowing much about running a soda fountain/restaurant/candy store when she got

"Be sincere. Treat people as you would want to be treated and do it with a smile."



Behind the soda fountain, Brenda Ochiltree works up a flavored soda for a customer. She was recently named by the Iowa Restaurant Association as one of the Top 40 Women in the Hospitality Industry.

AN photo by Tim Evans

OCHILTREE, continued on page 2

Durant opens bidding for Jaycee/Dutton Park pickleball court

Engineer's estimate tops \$130K

By Tamara Browning
AN Reporter

The Durant City Council approved specifications and bidding documents for the construction of two courts for the racquet sport known as pickleball at Jaycee/Dutton Park.

The council voted to approve a resolution approving and confirming plans, specifications, form of contract and estimate of cost for the courts during its Aug. 26 meeting.

The estimated base bid prepared by Martin & Whitacre Surveyors & Engineers Inc. of \$133,355, includes a 4-inch hot mix asphalt pavement with 6-inch rock base for \$44,190. An alternate bid of \$68,830 includes a 5-inch plain cement concrete pavement on a 4-inch rock base

and a fence windscreen.

The City of Durant will receive bids for the project until 2 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 5, at Durant City Hall, 402 Sixth St., contract documents said. The council will consider bids at its meeting at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 12, at City Hall.

The work is to begin by May 1, 2025, and be completed by July 1, 2025, unless adjusted, contract documents said.

The city council approved during its regular meeting on Aug. 12 funding up to \$160,000 for construction of the pickleball courts.

The proposal discussed at the Aug. 12 meeting called for the removal and replacement of the tennis courts at the park. The north half of the surface would have fencing and paint for two pickleball courts, including netting between the two courts.

"The courts will run next to each other, going north and south. The south

end of the space will remain basketball/multipurpose space," the proposal said.

In the beginning, the city council committed \$50,000 towards the project, Deana Cavin, city operations officer/clerk, previously said.

Budget amendment

The council approved an amendment to the budget for fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, which is the first amendment to the 2025 budget.

The approval came after a budget hearing in which no one commented.

"I have not received any comments either way by mail or verbally about the budget amendment," Cavin said.

The amendment was needed because several projects in fiscal year 2024 were carried over into fiscal year 2025.

Hearing Sept. 9 on projects

The council set a public hearing for 6

p.m. Monday, Sept. 9, at City Hall on proposed plans, specifications, form of contract and estimate of cost for the Feldhahn swale, storm sewer and wetland project and for taking bids.

Deadline for receipt of bids for the project is at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 1, at City Hall. The council will consider bids at 6 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 14, at City Hall.

Lift station work

The council accepted the bid of \$6,980 from River Cities Engineering for "replacement of the failed Panelview Plus 7 at the Industrial Park Lift Station; installation of a thermostat controlled ventilation fan and louver in the Industrial Park Lift Station enclosure to remove heat and prevent future HMI failures."

Trick or treat

The council set trick-or-treating hours from 5 to 7 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 31.

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Celebrate the 65th anniversary for the Petersons. PAGE 5



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OCHILTREE: Shellsburg native drives businesses in Wilton

Continued from page 1

into the business, but the couple took the customer service skills they had in running the local funeral home, and implemented them from a different customer service aspect.

The Shellsburg native now puts in 50-plus hour weeks managing the business, from placing food and supply orders, to sweeping floors, merchandising, hiring, training, and even cleaning the couple's three Air B&B's, along with managing a small homemade candle business, Lor Len Candles, which you can also find at Candy Kitchen. On top of that, they're finding time to cheer on their WHS sophomore son, Christian, at football games.

"It's not an easy business," Brenda said of the seven-day-a-week restaurant, noting the place opens at 7 a.m. for the local coffee crowd and doesn't close until 7 p.m., although closing hours will change to 5 p.m. Oct. 1 for the fall and winter.

She says customer service is always at the forefront of the business, something she instills into the 10 part-time employees she personally trains, setting expectations and even asking for "ways we can do things more efficient and better."

Although the restaurant portion of the business has always been small, with mainly sandwiches made behind the counter right in front of customers, the big part of the Candy Kitchen's business is the soda fountain, where a customer can get anything from a banana split, shake or float to their favorite hand-made flavored soda.

"We have the best employees ever,"

said Brenda of her mainly teenage crew that she describes as "dedicated and respectful," while also calling them "good listeners."

The Ochiltrees know the importance of customer service and training. "I don't want any employee to feel like they don't know what they're doing," she said.

Brenda called being named among the top 40 an honor, and said it came as a surprise, although she was aware of the nomination.

In a bio written on the Iowa Restaurant Association Top 40 Women website, the organization quoted Brenda as saying, "Our mantra is good, better, best, never let it rest, till your good is better and your better is best. That is something that we teach all of our employees," smiles Brenda.

Prior to the Candy Kitchen, the couple owned the funeral home in Wilton where customer service meant helping grieving families. Her philosophy is unwavering.

"Be sincere. Treat people as you would want to be treated and do it with a smile."

She credits owning one of the oldest businesses (1910) and the oldest commercial building (1856) in Wilton to her husband, Lynn, a lifelong Wilton resident who loves history and has continued to grow a museum of local interest in the rear of the store.

Brenda says owning the Candy Kitchen "is a pretty big deal" and said the couple was fortunate to buy the business from the former owners. She is proud of the fact it's one business in Wilton that draws customers from all over the state, anxious to get a taste of history.



The Ochiltrees operate the Candy Kitchen, and other businesses in Wilton.

Contributed photo

Toss 'n' Sauce owners bring family in on Wilton pizza restaurant



Greeting customers at Toss 'n' Sauce are Darcy Morris, pizza chef Adam Port, and Darcy's daughter, Brianna.

AN photos by Tim Evans

By Tim Evans
AN Reporter

There's nothing like made-from-scratch pizza to Darcy Morris and her recent first business venture. Creating "Toss 'n' Sauce" off US Route 6 at 912 West Fifth Street on the west side of Wilton is fulfilling her dream.

"We wanted to work for ourselves instead of other people," said Morris, who bought the former Sicilian Pizza and has reworked the small restaurant into a family business that includes her three children, Seth, Brianna and Dayton, as well as her boyfriend, Adam Port.

Toss 'n' Sauce not only creates its own dough for three different types of pizzas; even the sauce is homemade while the toppings are fresh meats and vegetables. Sauces for pasta are also homemade and the dual sub sandwiches are also special, including Darcy's own meatball recipe. "We like to create our own recipes (especially for sauces)," Adam said.

Port brings the experience of creating pizzas from former employment at the Tipton Pizza Hut, and both Darcy and Adam previously worked at Tipton Locker before deciding to take on the business on May 5.

The pair say they'll take any suggestions, but they've already got quite a variety of pizza choices on their menu, from a Mac-N-Cheese pizza with bacon, The Philly, a steak pizza with green peppers, onions and mushrooms, to a BBQ Chicken pizza drizzled with barbeque sauce.

The newest addition to their 14-pizza menu is a breakfast pizza that features sausage gravy, eggs and bacon, but

Darcy says customers are welcome to customize their own pizza in thin crust, pan or stuffed crust versions, all created from scratch. There's even a fourth option of a "stacked pizza," which is almost like a pie, having a second layer of dough on top. "That's for hungry football fans," Adam remarked. There are also several choices of dessert pizzas, including three fruit varieties and a popular Smore's version.

Toss 'n' Sauce offers two appetizers including cheese sticks or six slices of Asiago tomatoes topped with cheese. There are also two salads on the menu, including two different sizes of a ham, chicken and bacon highlighted chef salad.

Customers can also choose from nine dual sub sandwich items or pasta, which includes seven dishes like manicotti to baked zita or a noodle-less seafood delight.

Darcy said the whole family has been pitching in to take on tasks at the restaurant, from making pizzas, serving customers, delivering food and other jobs to even promoting outside the store with special signage toted by 11-year-old Dalton.

The owner said she's learning more and more about promotions every day and is always willing to hear suggestions as she tries to grow the business, which she said, "has its good days and bad days."

Open from 11 a.m.-9 p.m. daily, except Tuesday, for lunch and evening meals with dine-in, carry-out or delivery options, the Bennett family is working hard to please their customers, all on the same page when it comes to providing customer satisfaction. "Everybody said it's difficult to work with family, but we all seem to get along pretty well," Darcy said, noting the business slogan: "Let our family feed your family."

Even the name came from family, Adam's sister Amanda creating the name in a brain storming session before they opened. "We grew to like the name and stuck with it," Darcy said.

To place an order, call 563-732-9396.



Adam Port tends the ovens.

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New ideas cooking for Oct. 19 Durant Fall Fest

Baking and chili contests welcome entries

By Tim Evans

AN Reporter

A day of food, fun, music and competition best describes the second annual Durant Fall Fest, set to take place Saturday, Oct. 19, at the Durant Community Center.

Seeking entries for two different food competitions, including a first-time fall bake-off and a second-year chili cook-off, the event will open its doors from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. for family activities before a more adult event runs from 5-10:30 p.m.

The brainstorm of Ashley and Marcus Octofi of Pit Crew Barbeque and Stephanie and Joe Fonts of Vixen Creations, the event hopes to bring the community together for a festival that just about anyone can get involved.

"Marcus and Joe were in our garage and said our town really needed an event that brought together the community, kinda like the polka festival used to do years ago," explained Ashley Octofi, noting profits will go directly to the volunteers of the Durant Ambulance Department. Last year's festival profits went toward the Durant Parks & Recreation for the new playground in Feldhahn Park.

Although there's free admission, organizers say they hope to make their money on entries to the pumpkin bake-off, which could include any kind of fall treat like pumpkin bars, pumpkin pies, pumpkin breads, cupcakes, cookies and

whatever local bakers can put together. There is a \$10 entry fee, and those attending will get an opportunity to taste test the treats for \$5, voting on their favorites.

The chili-cook-off also has a \$15 fee, plus a \$7 sampling fee that helps select the best people's choice dish. On top of that, Pit Crew BBQ will also be serving on the grounds.

But there's more to the free admission event than food, with morning activities including an arts and crafts show, face painting, cookie decorating and bounce house for youths, who can come in costume to collect candy from vendors. Free coffee and hot chocolate will also be available.

That evening, the Community Center turns into more of an adult format, with a DJ providing music, adult costume party (costumes are optional) and bags tournament, which also has a team entry fee. There will also be a 50/50 drawing and raffle baskets, all benefiting the fire department.

Ashley Octofi said the bake-off idea came to her because she "loved baking with my grandma in the fall. For me, this is a personal addition (to the festival) and who doesn't love baked goods?"

Baked good entries need to be delivered to the community center by 8 a.m., while chili crock-pots need to be in the kitchen by 10:45 a.m. Last year, a dozen cooks battled for top chili honors and there is a limit of 12 chili spots available. Sign up in advance for the chili cook-off by calling Marcus Octofi at 563-349-1715. "This is only our second year, but we



Organizers Ashley and Marcus Octofi as well as Stephanie and Joe Fonts pose with volunteers from last year's first Durant Fall Fest event. With more activities and contests, the Oct. 19 celebration hopes to grow this year.

Photo contributed

are starting to add more (activities) and hope to keep it growing," Ashley Octofi said. "We're very proud to be able to put this event on and we have some amazing sponsors." Included on that list are Country Financial - Brad Zaiser, In-

eichen Plumbing and Idle Hour.

She said there are a lot of volunteers, including high school silver cord members, who serve and help during the festival. Anyone with questions can call Ashley Octofi at 563-320-1168.

67th Timmerman reunion draws more than 60 from four states

The 67th annual Timmerman Reunion was held Aug. 11, 2024, at the New Liberty Fire Station with the Joe and Jennie Goethals family hosting. Fifty-six descendants and six guests enjoyed a potluck meal and social afternoon.

The oldest descendent present was Jean Martens and the youngest was one-year-old Everett Pilgrim.

There was one wedding: Jessica Kirk (daughter of Kim and Kerri Timmerman) and Nicholas Needham, July 5, 2024.

There were 11 new births: Linley Anne

Hemesath, Parents Hannah & Adam Hemesath, grandparents Suzanne & Mark Porth; Otto Klaus Harder, parents Katy & Don Harder, grandparents Dennis & Cheryl Timmerman; Brylee Kay Burmeister, parents Ali Burmeister & Joshua Koerperich, grandparents Kay and David Burmeister; Logan Faye Timmerman, parents Travis & Lauren Timmerman, grandparents Karl & Shelly Timmerman; Eldon Charles Gipson, parents Juston & Ronni Lowry Gipson, grandparents Jeff & Michele Gipson; Ashton William Hepker, parents Haley & Nicholas Hepker, grandparents Mary

D. Timmerman; Sophia Mousavi Caes, parents Benjamin Caes & Kiana Mousavi Caes, grandparents John & Jane Caes; Ruth Julia Neebel, parents Erin & Blake Neebel, grandparents Julianne & Dale Fischer; Heidi Jo Wagner; Arthur Jamison Sutton, parents Becca Shipler & Colton Sutton, grandparents Juanita Fischer & Rob Shipler; Nolan Joseph Reczek, parents Emily & Stephen Reczek, grandparents John & Kathy Welsh.

Iowa towns represented were Bennett,

Blue Grass, Bettendorf, Camanche, Cedar Rapids, Wilton, Marengo, Tipton, Nichols, Davenport, Dixon, Calamus, New Liberty, Morning Sun, Maysville, Charlotte, and Mt Pleasant. Also represented were Aurora, Ill., Edgewater, Colo., and Austin & Lubbock Texas.

The 2025 reunion will be hosted by the Leon And Alice Timmerman family on the second Sunday of August.



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POLICE REPORTS

Wilton

Aug. 25

- Traffic stop occurred 1100 block of Hwy 38 for equipment violation. The driver was given a verbal warning for the violation.
- Welfare check in the 100 block of W. 6th Street. Wilton EMS/AMB treated the patient and transported to local facility.
- Agency assist occurred at Hwy 927 and Taylor Avenue for a vehicle in the ditch.

Aug. 26

- Assisted Wilton Ambulance with a medical call in the 400 block of Prairie Street.
- Traffic stop occurred on Hwy 38 for a moving violation. The driver was given a verbal warning for the violation.
- Animal call in the 100 block of E. 6th Street.
- Medical call in the 1300 block of Nicolaus Dr. Wilton EMA/AMB responded and treated the patient.
- Vehicle inspection in the 100 block of E. 4th Street.
- City ordinance call in the 200 block of E. 5th Street.
- Assist agency in Durant.

Aug. 27

- Traffic stop occurred at E. 5th Street and Walnut Street for an equipment violation. The driver was given a verbal warning for the violation.
- Welfare check in the 800 block of W. 5th Street.
- Civil matter in the 700 block of W. 5th Street.
- Follow up call in the 300 block of W. 3rd Street.

Aug. 28

- Juvenile complaint in the 1000 block of Cypress Street. Handled by the School Resource Officer.
- Nuisance call in the 200 block of Cherry Street.
- Keep the peace at a property exchange standby in the 300 block of 5th Street.
- Motor vehicle crash report at W 5th Street/Oak Street, with a citation for failing to obey a stop sign.
- Traffic stop E. 5th Street and Walnut Street. The driver was given a verbal warning for the violation.

- Agency assist at Hwy 38 and Hwy 6 for a reckless driver.

Aug. 29

- Animal call in the 800 block of Seminary Street. Owners were located and their dogs were returned.
- Assisted the Wilton Ambulance with a call in Cedar County.
- Assisted a member of the public at the Police Department
- Responded to a residence in the 1200 block of Maurer Street to assist the Wilton Ambulance on a medical call.
- Foot patrol at the school.
- Nuisance call in the 400 block of E. 6th Street.
- Reckless driving at the school. The driver was given a verbal warning.
- Theft report from the school.
- Foot patrol at the school looking for missing property.

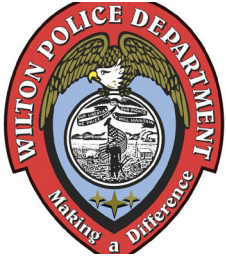
- A traffic stop occurred on Hwy 38 for an equipment violation. The driver was given a verbal warning for the violation.
- Report of suspicious activity in the 600 block of 5th Street.

Aug. 30

- Assisted the Wilton Ambulance with a medical call in the 500 block of E. 5th Street.
- Dispatched to a disturbance in the 600 block of W. 6th Street.
- Foot patrol at the football game.
- Report of possible extortion taken at the Police Department.
- Took a report in the 100 block of Vine Street.
- Assisted a motorist in the 600 block of 5th Street.

Aug. 31

- Civil dispute on Vine Street.
- Follow up occurred in the 100 block of 4th Street.
- Assisted a citizen in the 800 block of W 5th Street.
- Traffic stop occurred on Hwy 38 for a moving violation. The driver was given a verbal warning for the violation.
- Medical call at 272 Exit on I-80. Wilton EMS/AMB treated and transported the patient to local hospital facility.
- Dispatched to a call; civil dispute in reference to custody/visitation issues.
- Assisted agency in the 100 block of Spruce Street.



Durant

Aug. 18

- Traffic stop at 13th Ave/5th St. Ashley Wulf, Durant, was cited for driving under suspension and no insurance.
- Traffic stop 4th Ave/5th St.; warning for a traffic violation.

Aug. 19

- Nuisance/abatement in the 600 block of 14th Avenue; warning for mowing of grass/weeds.

Aug. 20

- Animal complaint in the 100 block of Norfolk Iron Drive. The dog owner retrieved their pet.
- Property exchange at Durant Police Dept. Handled by officer.
- Traffic stop in the 400 block of 7th Street; warning for a traffic violation.

Aug. 21

- Traffic stop at 14th Ave/8th Street; warning for a traffic violation.
- Fingerprinting for private employment at the Durant Police Station.
- Warrant Service in the 1200 block of 5th Street. Assisted the Davenport Police Dept. with the arrest of Tyler Copell, Davenport, who was transported to the Scott County Jail on the Davenport Police Dept. warrants.

Aug. 22

- Information given to Durant Police Dept. Handled by officer.
- Motor Vehicle Collision in the 1000 5th Street; driver exchange information was given.
- W. 1st Avenue/5th St debris on roadway; was referred to Durant Public Works

Aug. 23

- Durant residential alarm call.
- Nuisance/Abatement in the 600 block of 4th Street; referred to Durant City Hall.
- Traffic stop in the 200 block of 5th Avenue; warning for a traffic violation.
- Traffic stop on Hwy 6; warning for a traffic violation.
- Traffic stop near 4th Ave/5th Street; warning for a traffic violation.
- Traffic stop near 4th Ave/6th Street; warning for a traffic violation.
- Traffic stop in the 600 block of 5th Street; warning for a traffic violation.
- Traffic stop in the 1300 block of 5th Street; warning for a traffic violation.

Aug. 24

- Traffic stop near 10th Ave/5th Street; warning for a traffic violation.
- Traffic stop near 4th Ave/5th Street; warning for a traffic violation.
- Traffic stop in the 500 5th Street; warning for a traffic violation.
- Traffic stop near 5th Street/5th Avenue; warning for a traffic violation.
- Traffic stop in the 500 block of 5th Street; warning for a traffic violation.
- Traffic stop in the 1000 block of 5th Street. Aubrey Hale, Davenport, was charged with OWI (1st) and speeding.
- Verbal argument in the 1000 block of 4th Street; handled by Officer.
- Traffic stop near 4th Ave/5th Street; warning for a traffic violation.



Extension focuses on suicide prevention month

September is Suicide Prevention Awareness Month, a dedicated time to increase awareness about the prevalence of suicide, share information on how to prevent it, and provide support to those affected, says Morgan Newell, a human sciences specialist with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach.

"This month serves as a powerful reminder of the collective responsibility we all share in tackling this critical issue," said Newell, who specializes in

family wellbeing.

Suicide Prevention Awareness Month is a call to action for individuals, communities and organizations to come together and address the profound issue of suicide. In 2022, Iowa was ranked 16th for suicide mortality in the United States, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"With 590 suicide deaths in Iowa in 2022, we are higher than the national rate of suicides in every age bracket," Newell said.

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Petersons mark 65 years of marriage with family gathering

Keith and Deanna Peterson of Durant celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary with a family vacation in West Virginia.

Deanna Risen and Keith Peterson were married Sept. 12, 1959.

Keith retired from River Valley in Sunbury, and Deanna retired from Ron Alpen Ford, Durant.

They are the parents of Pamela (Mike) Schifeling, Greenwood, Ind., Peggy (Rob) Allman, Virginia Beach, Va., and Patrice (Jerry) Peterson Keys, Woodward.

They have five grandchildren, four

step-grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren and six step-great-grandchildren.

Alterations

Connie Finck,
Durant
563-340-5196

Oakdale Cemetery Association minutes from Aug. 8

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was held Thursday, Aug. 8, at 9 a.m. in the Wilton City Council room with the following present:

Trustees Tom Maurer, Mike Norton, Carla Thurston, Becky Hansen, and Terri Becker.

President Tom Maurer called the meeting to order.

A motion to approve the July 11 monthly meeting minutes was made by Terri Becker, seconded by Mike Norton, motion carried.

A motion to approve the treasurer's report as of July 31 was made by Mike Norton, seconded by Becky Hansen, motion carried.

Old Business:
The Davis bench has been cleaned. The solution from Heritage Monuments worked well on the bench.

Mike reported that Tim Ervin does

have a tool that will be used to bend the fence rods back in place.

Mike reported that Gorsuch has ordered the culvert and the work will be completed this fall.

Howard Tree Service was contacted about trimming additional trees on the south side of the cemetery.

New Business:

Tom reported that Keith Owens will be placing a bench instead of a headstone on his lot.

There is a cremation scheduled for Aug. 19 and Sept. 14.

Becky reported that the restoration work will be completed this year.

A motion to adjourn was made by Terri Becker, seconded by Mike Norton, motion carried.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, September 11, at 9 a.m. in the City Council room.

Becky Hansen, Secretary

Weekly crop report

The state experienced hot conditions and scattered rain this past week. Iowa farmers averaged 5.3 days suitable for fieldwork during the week ending Sept. 1, 2024, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service. Activities included preparing for the fall harvest and hay cutting.

Topsoil moisture condition rated 2 percent very short, 20 percent short, 76 percent adequate and 2 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture condition rated 3 percent very short, 19 percent short, 75 percent adequate and 3 percent surplus.

Corn in the dough stage or beyond reached 94 percent this week.

Sixty-one percent of the corn crop reached the dent stage, five days behind last year and one day behind the five-year average. Corn mature reached 10 percent, two days behind last year, but one day ahead of the five-year average. Corn condition rated 77 percent good to excellent.

Soybeans setting pods reached 95 percent. Soybeans coloring reached 18 percent, four days behind last year and two days behind the five-year average. Soybean dropping leaves began at 2 percent.

Soybean condition was 77 percent good to excellent.

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OBITUARIES

Julie Dolter

Julie A. Dolter, age 65, of Davenport, passed away on Tuesday, Aug. 27, 2024, at Senior Star in Davenport. Cremation rites have been accorded. A memorial gathering will be held from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m., Monday, Sept. 9, at Bentley Funeral Home, Durant. A memorial service will be held at 7 p.m. at the funeral home. Online condolences may be left at www.bentleyfuneral-home.com.

Julie was born on Sept. 5, 1958, the daughter of Leon and Dorothy (Stender) Dietz in Davenport. She graduated from Durant High School with the Class of 1976. After high school, she attended the American Institute of

Commerce in Davenport. In 1984, Julie married Richard Dolter, and although their paths eventually diverged, they shared many meaningful years together.

Julie's professional journey began at Servus Rubber in Rock Island, where she worked diligently for 30 years. Later, she transitioned into sales at Red Wing Boots in Davenport, before lending her expertise to Matt Sturdevant and Bob Taylor State Farm Insurance. She eventually retired in 2023 after a fulfilling



career at Amy Sabbag State Farm. Beyond her professional life, Julie was a dedicated member of AA in Davenport, where she served as treasurer. Her commitment to helping others was evident in all aspects of her life. Julie had a passion for reading, golfing, fishing, and spending time with her beloved dog, Bailey.

In her younger years, Julie was a talented athlete, playing basketball and softball. However, the true joy of her life was her son, Daren. Julie was a devoted mother who cherished every moment spent with Daren, proudly attending his events and supporting him in all his endeavors.

Julie will be dearly missed by her son, Daren (Emilie Antolik) Dolter of Davenport; her mother, Dorothy Dietz of Durant; one brother, Rod (Sherri) Dietz of Walcott; two sisters, Jill (Kelly) Proctor of Wilton, and Janelle (Terry Simoens) of Durant; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Julie was preceded in death by her father, Leon.

Custom obituary

Vernon Ehrecke

Vernon G. Ehrecke, 93, of Davenport, died peacefully on Sunday, Sept. 1, 2024, at the Clarissa C. Cook Hospice House in Bettendorf.

Funeral services and Mass of Christian Burial for Mr. Ehrecke will be celebrated at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 10, at St. Andrew's Catholic Church in Blue Grass. Burial will be in Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Davenport, with military honors. Visitation will be held at the church from 9:30 a.m. until the time of the Mass. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials be made to Clarissa C. Cook Hospice House or Mary's Angels at St. Andrew's Catholic Church. Halligan-McCabe-DeVries Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements.



Vernon George Ehrecke was born on Dec. 25, 1930, in Muscatine County, the youngest of seven sons born to William and Marie (Springmeier) Ehrecke. He graduated from St. Ambrose Academy in 1948 and proudly served our country in the Army during the Korean War. Vern was united in marriage to Marie Arlene Collins on May 23, 1953, at St. Peter's Catholic Church, Buffalo. They shared over 62 years of marriage before Marie passed on July 3, 2015.

Vern loved the land and farming. In 1963, he bought 55 acres in Blue Grass to pursue his love of farming. He eventually donated some of that land to build St. Andrew's Catholic Church. He truly believed in giving back to his community and looking out for others. To honor his contributions to the community, the VM Ehrecke Safety Trail

was recently named in his honor.

Vern worked for Farm Service from 1954 until 1963, when he went to work for Twin State Chemical Engineering until his retirement in 1994. He then went to work for his fun job at Gless Brothers Trucking. He greatly enjoyed his time there and looked forward to seeing his friends there every day. He stayed at Gless Brothers until 2012, when he left to take care of his wife in her final years.

He was an active parishioner at St. Andrew's Catholic Church and sat on the Board of Directors of Walcott Mutual Insurance from 1970 until 2012.

Those left to honor his memory are his children and their spouses: Kevin and Kari of Ames, Keith and Beth of Long Grove, Ralph and Linda of Bettendorf, and Rhonda and Leo of Ma-

homet, Ill.; grandchildren: Cory, Kacie (Adam), Paige (Steve), Ian (Amanda), Nicholas, Brandon (Natalie) and Ashton; a great-granddaughter, Kaylee; and many nieces and nephews.

In addition to his wife, Vern was preceded in death by his parents and brothers, Paul, Eugene, Warren, Harold, Kenneth, and William. May they rest in peace.

The Ehrecke family would like to thank the nurses, aides, and staff of Clarissa C. Cook Hospice House for all of the loving, compassionate care they shared with Vern. This is truly a remarkable place.

Online condolences may be expressed by visiting www.hmdfuneral-home.com.

Custom obituary

AN Obituaries: Families are invited and encouraged to ask the funeral home to submit a full, descriptive custom obituary for publication in the Wilton-Durant Advocate News at a cost as low as \$95. In lieu of a custom obituary, a Death Notice can be published at no cost.

You can also submit an obituary online: wdadvocateneews.com
email: adnews@netwtc.net

If you have questions, please contact us at 563-732-2029.

Worship Directory

Sponsored By: Bentley Funeral Homes, Ervin's Incorporated, WTC Communications, Wilton-Durant Advocate News



WILTON

First Presbyterian Church

213 W. 5th St., Wilton • fpcfowilton.org
Pastor Jennifer Jennings (563) 732-2258
email: fpcpastor@netwtc.net or fpcsec@netwtc.net
Sunday School 9 a.m.
Worship 10:15 a.m.
Sunday Book Study 5 p.m.
EVERY TUESDAY:
J.A.M. (K-8th) 5-6:45 p.m.
Confirmation 2nd & 4th Thursday 5-6:45 p.m.
Session meeting 3rd Wednesday of the month 5 p.m.
Fellowship (TACO) meal last Wednesday of the month 5:30 p.m.

Grace United Church of Christ

Pastor Patrick Slessor
www.graceuccwilton.org
10:30 a.m. Church Services

St. Mary's Catholic

701 E. 3rd, Wilton • (563) 732-2271
Deacon Dan Freeman
Parish Life Coordinator
email: freemand@diodav.org
<https://www.stmarywilton.org>
8:30 a.m. Sunday Mass
9:30 a.m. Sunday School

United Methodist

1401 Maurer St • (563) 732-2084
Website: www.UMCofWilton.org
email: UMCWilt@netwtc.net@gmail.com
Worship at 9:00 a.m. Sunday
Live Streamed on Facebook, and Vimeo

Wilton Baptist Church

203 East Railroad St., Wilton
Pastor Bob Danielson • (563) 732-2458
10 a.m. Worship

Peace United Methodist

1321 Hwy 38 Wilton. Pastor Cindy Axtell
8:45 a.m. Sunday Worship.

Sugar Creek Presbyterian

(563) 732-3199
1900 Rose Ave., Wilton
9:00 a.m. Sunday Worship

Zion Lutheran, Missouri Synod

1000 Maurer St., Wilton
Rev. Daniel Ognoskie • (563) 732-3651
9:00 a.m. Divine Service
Church services are available on Youtube
10:15 a.m. Bible Study/Sunday School

LIFEchurch

Rafael Crespo, Campus Pastor
315 W. Summit St., Wilton
Sunday Worship 10am
www.lifechurchnow.org/wilton
Kids programming 3mo. -6th grad Sunday 10 a.m.
Sunday Online Streaming:
www.lifechurchnow.org/stream
8:30am, 10am, 11:30am

DURANT

St. David's Anglican Church

801 5th St., Durant; Greg Graybill, Pastor
www.st-davids.org
9:30 Sunday Worship, followed by refreshments
3rd Sunday outreach service at Courtyard Estates in Walcott at 11:30 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study led by Pastor Greg Graybill
gregory.graybill@gmail.com. (509) 301-1760

St. Paul's Episcopal

206 6th Ave., Rev. Dr. Alice Haugen, Pastor
website: stpaulsdurant.org
9:00 a.m. Sunday Worship w/Eucharist
Healing service, 3rd Sunday

Gloria Dei Lutheran, ELCA

606 4th Ave., Durant • (563) 785-4936
Sunday Worship-9:00 a.m.
Sunday School 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month (during services)

AREA

Peace Church of Christ United, UCC

peacechurch7.godaddysites.com 414 Maple St., Bennett • (563) 893-2565
Secretary Hours: Mon., Tues., & Thurs 9-12:30
9 a.m. Worship every Sunday
All are welcome Watch our Facebook page

Sweetland Church, Muscatine

1709 Sweetland Rd (1 blk S. of Rt. 61)
Pastors Mary & Don Timmerman
(563) 320-0501, 9 a.m. Sunday Service
Children's Sunday School after Service
9 a.m. Mondays, adult study group
Wednesdays, adult study group-meal at 6 p.m. study & discussion at 6:30

Trinity United Church of Christ, Rural Moscow

• Pastor Jon M. Merritt
8 a.m. Sunday School 1st & 3rd Sundays
9:00 a.m. Worship every Sunday

Christian Life Church, Muscatine

2921 Hwy. 22 E., Muscatine
(563) 607-4788
10:00 A.M. Sunday School for all ages
11:00 A.M. Worship Service
(Pre-service prayer at 10:45 a.m.)

Zion Lutheran, ELCA, Atalissa

(563) 649-3343
10:30 a.m. Worship

Calvary Church of Walcott

100 E James St., Walcott
Pastor Mike Jones • 563-284-6213

9:00 a.m. Sunday School
10 a.m. Praise and Worship Service with Coffee Fellowship to follow

Cedar Valley Church, West Liberty Area

1791 155th St. (South of West Liberty on F70)
Pastor Mary • (563) 320-0501
5:30 p.m. Sundays - Free Dinner, Worship & Discussion at Living Faith Service
8:30-9:30 a.m. every other Saturday
Adult Confirmation Class
Church of Christ, Atalissa
Pastor Randall Payne • (563) 649-2220
9:00-9:45 a.m. Sunday School
10:00-11:00 a.m. Morning Worship Service

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Bennett

260 E. 4th St. • (563) 890-6619
Rev. Dr. Andrew Watkins
9:00 a.m. Worship Service, followed by Sunday School
Services also take place in Stanwood
313 Ash St. Hwy 30 Standwood
Check Facebook to see where services will be

Fruitland Baptist Church

5712 67th Ave. W. Muscatine, IA 52761
563-263-1855
Pastor John H. Brown
<http://fruitland.church/>
Sunday School: 9:30 AM
Sunday Morning Worship: 10:40 AM
Sunday Eve.: 6PM
Wed. Prayer & Bible Study: 7PM

Moscow Bible Fellowship

Fellowship meeting times: Bible Study, Praise & Children's Ministry
Sunday's 8:00am - 8:45am
Pastor Brown and his wife Kim
1146 Moscow Rd. Moscow, Iowa
563-571-2063 pastorjbrown59@gmail.com

OBITUARIES

Jimmie Hull

Jimmie L. Hull, age 76, of Moscow, passed away on Wednesday, Aug. 28, 2024, at his home. Visitation will be held from 5-7 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 5, at Bentley Funeral Home, Wilton. A funeral service will be held at 10 a.m., Friday, Sept. 6, at Bentley Funeral Home, Wilton. Memorial contributions may be made to Iowa City Hospice. Online condolences may be left at www.bentleyfuneralhome.com.

Jimmie was born in Iowa City on Aug. 12, 1948, to Clarence and Hazel (Wheeler) Hull. Jim spent his life dedicated to his family and his craft as a self-employed carpenter. On Oct. 17, 1970, he married the love of his life, Cindy S. Meier, with whom he shared many beautiful years.

Jim had a deep love for the outdoors, finding enjoyment in camping, fishing, and hunting. In his earlier years,



he was an avid bowler. However, what brought him the most joy was the time spent with his family. Jim's memory will live on in the hearts of those who knew and loved him.

Jim will be lovingly remembered by his wife of over 53 years, Cindy; and their sons, Tim (Dawn) Hull of Muscatine, and Jamie (Holly) Hull of Wilton; four grandchildren, Cody, Jackson, Courtney and Carter; sisters, Kandy Drollinger and Annie Hull, both of Iowa City; brothers, Ron Hull of Texas, Don Hull of Iowa City, and Joe Meier of

Muscatine.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his stepmother, Viola Hull; sister, Margaret Alcayde; and brother, Wayne Hull.

Custom obituary

Leon Steinhagen

Leon Allen Steinhagen, age 67, of New Liberty, passed away peacefully with family members by his side after a short illness on Aug. 28, 2024, at the University of Iowa Hospital. A celebration of life will be held at from 5-8 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 8, at the Durant American Legion. Memorials may be made to the Cedar County Conservation. Online condolences may be left at www.bentleyfuneralhome.com.

Leon was born on May 4, 1957, in Davenport, the son of Marvin "Jack" and Leona (Lafrenz) Steinhagen. He graduated from Durant High School with the Class of 1975.

Leon was well-known for his skill in repairing small engines, a craft he pursued for many years. His commitment to his community was evident through his active involvement in the Durant Jaycees and his leadership as the president of the Cedar County Conservation since 2022. Leon was a man of



many interests, including fishing, farming, and stock car racing. He also had a unique talent for custom knife making, a hobby that brought him great joy. Leon will be remembered for his contributions to his community and his many passions. His legacy will live on in the hearts of those who knew him.

He is survived by his special friend, Cindy Kuhn; three siblings, Anita Holst, Kathy (William) Stegen, and Marvin Steinhagen; a brother-in-law, Dennis (Deanna Timm) Weih; many nieces and nephews; many great and great-great nieces and nephews, as well as many friends.

He is preceded in death by his parents; sister, Edythe Weih; brother-in-law, Billy Holst; sister-in-law, Jo Steinhagen; nieces, Shannon Burkey, Angi Kempf and Tonya Stegen; and one nephew, Jim Geigle.

Custom obituary

Jill Akers

Jill Ann Akers, 75, of Wilton, passed away Monday, Sept. 2, 2024, at her home. A visitation will be held from 5-7 p.m., Friday, Sept. 6, at Wilton United Methodist Church. A funeral service will be held at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, Sept. 7, at the church. Burial will take place in Oakdale Cemetery, Wilton. Memorials may be made to Wilton Legion Auxiliary or the Wilton United Methodist Church. Online condolences may be left at www.bentleyfuneralhome.com.

Jill was born on Sept. 4, 1948, the daughter of Everett and Grace (Satterthwaite) Rife. She graduated from Wilton High School with the Class of 1966. She went on to attend Iowa State University, majoring in home economic education, and was a proud member of the Alpha Delta Pi Sorority. Jill furthered

her education by earning a master's degree in cooperative learning from Drake University. On Aug. 23, 1969, Jill married the love of her life, Joseph Akers. Together, they built a beautiful life centered around family, education, and community.

Jill had a passion for teaching and shared her knowledge with countless students over her 35-year career as a teacher at North Polk High School, Davenport West High School, and Davenport Central High School. Jill also worked at Grain Processing in Muscatine and supported her husband, Joe, in their ventures at Abner Bell's Restaurant in Storm Lake and The Legion Bar in Wilton.

Jill was a devoted member of the Wilton United Methodist Church, where she

served on various committees and was an active participant in their sewing circle. Jill's greatest love was her family. She cherished every moment spent with her loved ones, especially her grandchildren, whose sporting events she never missed. She was the heart of her family, always encouraging gatherings and fostering a sense of togetherness.

Jill will be lovingly remembered by her husband, Joe; two children, Dawn Yedlik and Chris (Jennifer) Akers; four grandchildren, Landon and Sydney Yedlik and Megumi and Joseph Akers; a brother, Jack (Sharon) Rife; a sister, Joy Combs; and several nieces and nephews.

Jill was preceded in death by her parents; and one sister-in-law, Peg Akers.

Custom obituary



Howard Skipton

Howard Ernest Skipton, age 74, formerly of Wilton, passed away Aug. 23, 2024, in Cebu, Philippines. Howard was born in July 14, 1950, to Ernest and Loraine (Jarr) Skipton. Howard married Amarita in 2007 in Cebu, Philippines. He will be missed by his wife, Amarita; two daughters, Angel and Laura; and son Luke; his brother, Dan (Cindy) Skipton; sisters Veva Much and Chris (Frank)

Lascelles. He is preceded in death by his parents Ernest and Loraine; brother Gary; brother-in-law John; and nephew Matt.

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The West Liberty Index and Wilton-Durant Advocate News are seeking freelance writers and photographers to help cover events in the area. We're looking for individuals interested in going to meetings and community events, or talking with area residents about what's going on in the community.

- Applicants should have a somewhat flexible schedule, including availability some nights and weekends.
- A positive, confident attitude, and a willingness to learn will help you succeed in this position.
- No experience necessary. Training and support opportunities are available.

If you enjoy talking with people and are interested in earning some extra money a few hours per week, we'd love to hear from you.

Wilton - Durant Advocate News **WEST LIBERTY INDEX**
Interested applicants should email a resume and samples of your work (if available) to egentz@northscottpress.com

2024 Iowa Barn tour features 11 round barns

A Scott County barn is among 11 round barns on this year's, Sept. 14-15 Iowa barn tour, which includes many barns styles in Scott, Cedar and Muscatine counties.

The Iowa Barn Foundation annual all-state tour features a record 92 barns across the state that will be available for visiting inside and out from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., both days. It's the largest barn tour in the nation, according to the foundation.

The tour includes three Muscatine, three Scott County and two Cedar County barns.

The fall tour highlights barns that have received a restoration grant from the foundation and those that have received an Award of Distinction or Preservation Award for restoration funded by the owner. Many of the owners will be on hand to share their memories and regard for the structures and answer your questions.

The Foundation is especially excited to have a record eleven round barns included in the tour this year. Of the approximately 200,000 barns built in the late 1800s and early 1900s, only 250 were round - including some octagonal and multi-sided.

There are a record eleven round barns on the fall tour this year, six of which are on the fall tour for the very first time this year. These barns feature some of the most amazing design and architecture you will find in any building in the state of Iowa.

The self-guided fall tour is free and open to the public, made possible by member donors. An online tour guide can be found on at iowabarnfoundation.org/barn-tours.

Member donors receive the foundation's spring and fall magazines in their mailboxes filled with barn photos and stories as well as a printed guide to our spring and fall barn tours. Learn more about membership at iowabarnfoundation.org/product/membership. Questions can be emailed to iowabarnfoundation@gmail.com.

As a volunteer-led non-profit, the Iowa Barn Foundation's goal is to maximize member donations to provide restoration grants to save the state's historic barns. Since being founded in 1997, the foundation has given out \$2.3 million dollars in grants to help save nearly 300 barns. Member donors receive our spring and fall magazines in their mailboxes filled with barn photos and stories as well as a printed guide to our spring and fall barn tours.

Round barns on the tour for the first time are:

Knoll Crest Farm - Nebergall Round Barn, 9478 145th Street, Davenport (Scott County) - The Nebergall family had the barn built in 1914 by Benton Steele, a prominent round barn builder from Kansas. The 56-foot diameter design has a two-pitched gambrel conical roof with cupola. The lower section is constructed of hollow clay with the upper section constructed of wood. The barn originally housed dairy cows and draft horses (Award of Distinction).

Johnson Round Barn, 1350 260th St, Waverly (Bremer County) - Round dairy barn built in 1913 from clay tile provided by Johnston Brothers Clay Works from Fort Dodge for the original owner, John H. Martin. It features a central clay tile silo. The farmhouse was built in 1916 of the same clay tile material.

Burr Round Barn, 30648 Garber Rd, Guttenburg (Clayton County) - Barn was originally built in the 1920s by Carl H. Ball and later restored by the current owner. The bank barn design allowed wagons of hay and grain to be pulled into the upper level, while the dairy cows could walk out the doors of the lower level (Preservation Award).

Clear View Farm Barn, 25515 Basswood Ave, Volga (Clayton County) - This 1910 14-sided bank barn is a one of a kind Iowa treasure that was restored by the owners in 2023-2024 with the assistance of Iowa Barn Foundation emergency and restoration grants. It is the only known 14-sided barn still standing in Iowa.



E. C. Schroeder Barn, 2738 130th Street, Wilton

Plymouth County Fair Round Barn, 500 4th Avenue NE, Le Mars (Plymouth County) - Built by H.A. Tonsfeldt for his Polled Hereford show cattle. The barn was gifted to the Plymouth County Fair, and the \$30,000 needed to move and restore the barn came from community fundraising and a match from the fair board. The barn was moved to its current home at the fairgrounds in September 1981.

Cramlet Round Barn, 11256 Route V64, Douds (Van Buren County) - A rare round barn designed and built by Loudon Machinery Company of Fairfield, a manufacturer with a nationwide market in farm equipment.

Other area barns on the tour:

Scott County

Frye Barn, 11150 New Liberty Rd, Maysville - From Exit 292 of I-80, go northwest on IA 130 towards Maysville. The Frye farms were settled in 1881. This dairy barn was built around 1921 by great grandfather William Frye, grandfather Arnold Frye and great uncle Alfred Frye. All siding is original. All stone and brick work was tuck-pointed in 1996. The farm was designated a Century Farm in 1981. The barn interior, including the hay mow, is essentially unchanged with the exception of window replacements in 1995.

Herb's Crib, 23553 200th Avenue, Davenport - Exit US 61 at Exit 127. Go east on LeClaire Road three miles. Then go south on 200th a half mile. Herbert Schneckloth, prominent Iowa farmer, whose family emigrated from Germany in 1854, built the landmark round crib in 1926. Work on the 50-feet in diameter structure was done with hand tools. The foundation was dug and poured by hand using a shovel and one-third of a bag of home mix at a time. Handmade forms were used to pour the concrete. The ventilation block tile and matching solid tile were brought from Adel by train and horse-drawn wagons.

Knoll Crest Farm - Nebergall Round Barn (New for 2024), 9478 145th Street, Davenport The lower section is constructed of hollow clay with the upper section constructed of wood. The barn originally housed dairy cows and draft horses (Award of Distinction).

Cedar County

Bickett-Rate Historical Preserve Barn, 600-225th Street, Tipton - Just off Cnty X40 (Green Road), Buchanan, south of Cnty F28, west of Tipton. The restoration of the barn was completed as of 08-26-20. This red painted barn near the unincorporated village of Buchanan, was built in 1922 near the historic Hannah Morse Fowler Hall House. From 1891-1995, the site operated as an agriculture co-op.

Schwieen Dairy and Cattle Barns, 1667 190th St., Clarence - From Clarence, go south on Cnty X64, then turn left (east) onto 190th Street. Cattle barn was built about 1900 using wooden pegs. It was damaged during a storm in June of 2014. It was repaired with a matching grant from the Iowa Barn Foundation. The current owners bought the farm in 1944 and use the barn for hay storage and cattle. The 36x80 feet dairy barn is an Award of Distinction recipient. It was moved to the farm from a location 5 and a half miles away in November 1979.

Muscatine County

Schroeder Barn, 2738 130th Street, Wilton - Take Exit 271 off I-80 and go south 5 miles on IA 38 to 130th Street. Go east for 1/4 mile. Built in the 1940s, this barn features a balcony haymow on both sides of the ground floor alleyway. Original hay trolley and track are still intact. South side of barn was never painted, so was left that way.

The Old Barn - Muscatine County Conservation (New for 2024), 3300 Cedar St, Muscatine - Located in Discovery Park just east of the Muscatine County Conservation office building, Turn off Highway 22 onto Houser Street, take a right on Harmony Lane, and follow to the end. 1926 Gothic-arched roof dairy barn designed by Loudon Manufacturing Company in Fairfield. The barn remains from the Muscatine County Poor Farm/County Home Farm. The barn has been restored to its original state with the addition of a metal roof, staircase, and an elevator for accessibility. The historic landmark is maintained by the Friends of the Old Barn non-profit organization. It is used to host events to educate on the richness of Muscatine County's agriculture history (Award of Distinction).



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13. Texas Tech at Washington State



FOOTBALL CONTEST!

\$65 WEEKLY CASH PRIZES!

1st \$30/ 2nd \$20/ 3rd \$15

1. This contest will appear in the Wilton-Durant Advocate News for consecutive weeks. Object is to predict the winners in the greatest number of 13 games that will be played each week. Games that are ties will not be judged.
2. Only official 2024 entry forms will be accepted. They are available free from the sponsors, or you may use the entry form from the paper. Entries submitted on photocopied or mechanically reproduced forms will be rejected. Entry forms from previous years will not be accepted. There is no purchase necessary to enter.
3. Game pairings are listed in the ads. Write your winning pick on the entry form. Only one team name is needed for each line. If your predictions are not on the proper line, they will be disqualified.
4. Mail or deliver your entry to the Wilton-Durant Advocate News, 410 Cedar Street, PO Box 40, Wilton, IA 52778. Entries must be postmarked by 4 p.m. Friday and received at our office no later than Saturday for Sunday judging. Entries may also be brought to our office before 4 p.m. Friday. The AN will not be responsible for delays in mailing. Late entries will not be accepted under any circumstances!
5. One entry per person per week. If you submit more than one entry under the same name, all such entries will be void. Anyone is eligible to enter except employees of the AN and their families.
6. The person picking the most games correctly wins a \$30 cash prize from the AN. Second best wins \$20 and third \$15. Ties are decided by a "Tiebreaker" which will appear in one of the ads. If there is still a tie, money will be pro-rated.
7. Winners will be announced in the AN each Thursday in a news story (please wait for the paper to come out!). Judge's decisions are final. Say "thanks" to our sponsors and enter today!

2024 FOOTBALL CONTEST ENTRY BLANK

Wilton-Durant
Advocate News

Drop off at the Wilton-Durant Advocate News Office, 410 Cedar, Wilton by 4:00 p.m. on Fridays. If mailed it must be postmarked no later than Friday and received in our office by Saturday.

Name: _____

Address: _____

1. _____ 8. _____

2. _____ 9. _____

3. _____ 10. _____

4. _____ 11. _____

5. _____ 12. _____

6. _____ 13. _____

7. _____ TIEBREAKER:

Durant Collision
563-785-6353

1303 5th Street,
Durant, IA
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Total Points in
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WILTON VOLLEYBALL

Beavers make perfect start with tournament win

Girls begin this season
5-0 after winning Easton
Valley tournamentBy Ryan Stonebraker
Advocate Sports Writer

The start of the 2024 season was a good one for the Wilton volleyball team as the Beavers won the annual Easton Valley Tournament last Saturday.

The victories gave the Beavers a record of 5-0 after the first week of matches.

The Beavers won at WaMac School Williamsburg to begin their season on Aug. 29.

The Beavers swept the Raiders 3-0 to start the season 1-0. The win was the third in a row over the Raiders, as Wilton beat Williamsburg in the 2022 and 2023 seasons.

The Beavers won the first set 25-18 to take a 1-0 match lead and extended their lead to 2-0 with a 25-12 second set win.

Wilton completed the sweep with a 25-20 third-set win.

Wilton had 102 attacks in the match and 27 kills. Kinsey Drake and Abren Bazal led with nine kills each, while Lilly Kraft had four, Leah Caffery had three, and Kaydence Boorn had two.

Caffery had 25 assists in guiding the Beavers offense and added nine digs.

On defense, the Beavers had three players lead with double-digit dig totals. Drake had 19, Bazal had 12, and Annie Holladay had 11.

As a team, Wilton served 72-for-73

with ten aces. Drake served 17-for-18 with four aces and Caffery was 16-for-16 with two aces to lead the way.

Bazal, Boorn, Kraft, and Holladay each were perfect in 39 combined serve attempts.

The Beavers moved up to Class 3A this season and appeared in the first rankings of the season by the Iowa Girls High School Athletic Union.

Wilton checked in at No. 15. The top-ranked team is Mount Vernon, followed by Davenport Assumption and Western Christian.

Two other RVC teams are ranked, with Mid-Prairie sixth and West Liberty eighth.

The Class 2A IGHSAU state rankings also are out for the preseason. The top-ranked teams are Denver, Eddyville-Blakesburg, and Dyersville-Beckman.

Other teams of note that are ranked in 2A are Dike-New Hartford sixth, Iowa City Regina tenth, West Burlington 11th, Lisbon 13th, and Grundy Center 14th.

Tournament dominance

At the Easton Valley Tournament last Saturday, Wilton went 4-0 to improve to a 5-0 overall record and a perfect 11-0 in sets played.

The Beavers beat Easton Valley 2-0, Bellevue 2-0 twice, and Edgewood-Colesburg 2-0.

Wilton beat Easton Valley by scores of 21-11 and 21-10. Wilton beat Bellevue the first time, 21-11 and 21-18. Wilton beat Ed-Co 21-9 and 21-18. The Beavers beat Bellevue again 21-16 and 21-15.

Against Easton Valley, Wilton had 21 kills off of 48 attacks. Kinsey Drake led with seven, while Abren Bazal and Ali Walker had five and four respectively.

Kaydence Boorn had three kills and Samantha Daufeldt and Lilly Kraft had one kill each.

Leah Caffery had 15 assists in the match. Drake led in digs with six while Caffery and Annie Holladay each had five digs.

Wilton served 35-for-36 with five aces. Caffery led 9-for-9 with four aces.

Against Bellevue the first time, Wilton had 24 kills in 55 attacks. Drake had nine kills in 18 attacks and Bazal had five kills.

Walker and Lilly Kraft each had three kills while Caffery and Boorn each had a pair of kills.

Caffery had 18 assists and Annie Holladay led in digs with eight.

Wilton served 34-for-39 with eight aces, led by Lilly Kraft, who was 11-for-11 with a pair of aces.

Against Edgewood-Colesburg, Wilton had 24 kills in the match from 51 attacks. Kinsey Drake had eight and Abren Bazal had six. Leah Caffery had 20 assists.

Wilton had 22 digs in the match, led by Drake with six and Annie Holladay with five.

Wilton served 32-for-33 with five aces in the match. Kaydence Boorn led the team, going 9-for-10 with three ace serves.

In the second match with Bellevue, Wilton had 26 kills in 52 attacks. Lilly Kraft and Kinsey Drake each had seven kills.

WILTON VARSITY
VOLLEYBALL

Seniors: Kaydence Boorn, Samantha Daufeldt, Kinsey Drake, Natalie Hartman, Amber Oien.

Junior: Lilly Kraft.

Sophomores: Abren Bazal, Leah Caffery, Annie Holladay, Lainey Shuger, Ali Walker.

Freshmen: None.

Abren Bazal and Leah Caffery each had three kills while Kaydence Boorn had two and Annie Holladay had one kill. Caffery had 19 assists.

Wilton served 41-for-42 with six aces in the match. Abren Bazal, Lilly Kraft, and Annie Holladay all were 8-for-8 in the match serving. Wilton had 38 digs led by Bazal and Kraft with nine each.

The Beavers will wait a while before their first home volleyball game. This week, they traveled to Wapello High School on Tuesday for an eight-team tournament.

Then, on Thursday, the Beavers will take on Regina Catholic in Iowa City. It has been a one-sided rivalry of late as Wilton has won 10 consecutive meetings against the Regals.

BEAVER FOOTBALL

Wilton wins battle of ranked teams in opener

1A No. 4 Beavers down
2A No. 8 Golden Hawks
in week oneBy Ryan Stonebraker
Advocate Sports Writer

The Wilton Beavers season opener was a match-up between two top-10 ranked football teams in two different classes.

The Beavers' foe last Friday for their season opener, Mid-Prairie, was ranked No. 8 in Class 2A according to the *Cedar Rapids Gazette*, while Wilton was ranked No. 4 in Class 1A.

In a tight game, the Beavers prevailed, winning 19-14 to start the season 1-0.

"We have a mutual respect between each of us. It was a good Week 1 game for both of us," said Wilton football coach Ryan Hetzler.

Going into this week, the Beavers have moved up to No. 2 in the Gazette poll and moved to No. 3 in the Radio Iowa football poll for Class 1A.

Other district foes are ranked that Wilton will have to play this year. Iowa City Regina is ranked No. 10 in the *Gazette* and No. 8 in the Radio Iowa and *Des Moines Register* polls.

Dyersville-Beckman is ranked No. 9 in the *Register* poll.

"We didn't bring it up. It was a great atmosphere though," Hetzler said. "We approached it as if we were playing a solid opponent in the first week. That keeps you focused in the preseason knowing that you have a tough foe. We did that and are moving to week two.

"Our schedule has improved. Some foes will have new coaches and some will have new players. West Liberty has some home run players with big play potential and then (new Comet head coach Jason) Dumont coaches them. We will have to be ready for another tough

WILTON VARSITY FOOTBALL

Seniors: Parker Carpenter, Blaine Carter Drake-Metzger, Dohrmann, Jordan Dusenberry, Austin Etzel, Aidan Grace, Sam Gray, Justin Geurink, Owen Hassell, Carter Hull, Drew Keith, Clay Ledger, Kale McQuillen, Owen Milder, Damian Pestle, Cade Souhrada, Trent Valet.

Juniors: Gabe Brisker, Draven Cole, Nick Drake-Metzger, Jaxson Drayfahl, Oliver Grunder, Hayden Hill, Jacob Mills, Gatlin Rogers, Kaiden Sivia.

Sophomores: Jackson Benton, Corban Burford, Gunner Edwards, Michael Elam, Noah Gray, Oliver Grings, Jackson Hoekstra, Francisco Honts, Keller Huthmacher, Brylin Kelly, Thatcher Murguia, Christian Ochiltree, Andrei Robles, Quincy Sawvell, Jerald Stranberg.

game."

Wilton scored the first points of the game, capitalizing on a Golden Hawk turnover in just under five minutes to take a 7-0 lead.

The Beavers got the football first and picked up a first down before having to punt. On the punt, the Golden Hawks returner fumbled and Wilton's Kale McQuillen recovered the ball at the 19.

Five plays later, Drew Keith found Gatlin Rogers in the endzone for a four-yard scoring pass.

The 7-0 lead held until the late part of the first quarter. Mid-Prairie scored on their second drive of the game on a 47-yard touchdown pass from Brady Weber to Hudson Ehrenfelt to tie the game at 7-7 with 2:47 left in the opening frame.

Mid-Prairie would score to take the lead in the late stages of the second

quarter on an Ehrenfelt one-yard touchdown run to set the score at 14-7 Golden Hawks with 3:12 left in the half.

That score would stand at halftime.

In the second half, the Beavers would score all of the points between the two teams.

Wilton cut the Golden Hawk lead to 14-13 in the third quarter. A quick strike drive that resulted in a 46-yard touchdown pass from Keith to Owen Hassell got the Beavers within one point.

The Beavers tried a two-point conversion but failed with 2:35 left in the third.

That score would stand until 5:50 left in the game. There, Keith threw his third touchdown pass of the game, this one to Cade Souhrada for 16 yards to give Wilton a 19-14 lead.

Wilton again went for the two-point conversion, but again, it failed.

Mid-Prairie would drive to the Beavers 19 on their next drive, but saw their drive stall with 1:10 left in the game.

The Golden Hawks had five more first downs than Wilton, 15 to 10, and the Beavers were just 2-for-9 on third down conversions in the game, but Mid-Prairie was penalized more than the Beavers.

The Golden Hawks ran more plays than Wilton as well and had the football twice as long in the game.

Wilton quarterback Drew Keith passed for 96 yards on 8-of-14 pass attempts with three touchdowns and no interceptions.

The Beavers rushed for 116 yards on 25 carries and averaged 4.6 yards per carry on the ground. Owen Hassell rushed 14 times for 53 yards.

Cade Souhrada led Wilton receivers with three receptions for 34 yards and a touchdown.

Gatlin Rogers and Hassell caught the other scoring passes of four and 46 yards.

Defensively, Wilton was led in tack-

les by Owen Milder with 10, Hayden Hill with 8, Damian Pestle with 6.5, and Blaine Dohrman with 5.

Carter Drake-Metzger and Pestle each recorded a sack, and Pestle led in tackles for loss with three. Kale McQuillen also had a fumble recovery in the game.

Mid-Prairie had 243 yards of total offense in the game and made the most of their yards through the air.

Senior quarterback Brady Weber passed for 195 yards on 15 completions with a touchdown.

The Beavers' defense held the Golden Hawks to 48 yards on 35 carries on the ground for a 1.4-yard average per carry. Hudson Ehrenfelt led the Golden Hawks in rushing with 35 yards on 16 carries and a touchdown.

Three Mid-Prairie receivers had four catches, led by Ehrenfelt who had 97 yards and a touchdown catch.

Defensively, Kaden Kos led Mid-Prairie in tackles with 9.5. No other Mid-Prairie defender had more than four tackles.

Hetzler said that he is confident that his team will improve this week as now the coaches have film on the team against someone other than a Wilton player across from them.

"Week one to week two is a time for growth. We can't be happy with where we are. If we are, we aren't in a good spot," he said.

The Beavers will play at West Liberty on Friday night. West Liberty comes into the game 0-1 after giving Iowa City Regina all they could handle in a 42-28 loss in their season opener.

The Comets have a new coach in former Regina coach Jason Dumont.

Wilton has won four of the last five meetings between the two schools going back to 2008, including a 46-0 win last year.

Wilton-Durant AN SPORTS

DURANT FOOTBALL

Lions rushing attack too much for Wildcats

Durant falls to Lisbon 30-0 in first game of 2024 season

By Ross Shinberg
Regional Sports Editor

The Durant football season kicked off on the road last Friday at Class A Lisbon, but ended in a 30-0 defeat.

The Lions, who made the second round of the playoffs a year ago, rode a fierce rushing attack to victory on their home field.

Totaling 242 yards on the ground, Lisbon averaged 5.5 yards per carry on 44 rushing attempts, which wore down Durant's defense as the game went on.

The Wildcats held steady in the first half, allowing just one field goal in the first quarter and one touchdown in the second quarter.

However, its offense sputtered all night and could not generate any explosive plays. Overall, Durant accumulated just 28 yards passing and 72 yards rushing on 21 carries (3.4 yards per carry).

Coach Joel Diederichs' team did win the turnover battle by recovering two fumbles compared to giving up just one. But it would not be enough as the Lions ran away with the game in the second half.

Lisbon put the ball in the endzone three times in the final 24 minutes to seal up its second shutout over Durant in as many seasons.

Each score came on the ground as senior running back Tiernan Boots scored three times after rushing 24 times for 161 yards. Additionally, senior Dakota Clark found paydirt once on 18 carries for 72 yards.

Clark, the team's quarterback, also completed nine of 17 passes for 83 yards.

On the Wildcats' side, the team relied once again on junior running back Tate McKinley. He rushed 10 times for 48 yards.

Under center, both senior Isaac Nielsen and freshman Cannon Davis threw six passes. Davis found the most success, going five for six with 24 yards.

Senior Joshua Peel caught three balls for 16 yards while senior Gus Thoma

hauled in two passes for eight yards.

On defense, senior Bryce Daufeldt paced the defense with nine tackles. Sophomore Gunner Klahn recorded seven, junior Reid Hollenback had 6.5, Nielsen had six and junior Colby Gast had five.

Peel and fellow senior Richard Flores each recovered fumbles for the road team on Friday.

The Wildcats will hope some home cooking brings inspired play this week as Durant hosts Columbus Catholic for this season's home opener. The Sailors are coming off of a 57-14 loss to Beckman Catholic last week.

In 2023, Columbus Catholic made the Class 1A state semifinals, losing to Grundy Center at the end of its nine-win season.

The Sailors scored 56 points in last year's matchup against the Wildcats, which was the most they scored in a single game all season. However, Durant's 22 points were the second most it scored in 2023 behind the 48 put up against North Cedar in the bonus week.

DURANT VARSITY FOOTBALL

Seniors: Gavin Broussard, Reed Clark, Bryce Daufeldt, Richard Flores, Mathew Jenkinson, Cohen Kilker, Isaac Nielsen, Joshua Peel, Gus Thoma.

Juniors: Charlie Anderson, Carter Behal, Clayton Dierickx, Christian Frantz, Colby Gast, Reid Hollenback, Tate McKinley, Brady Schult.

Sophomores: Maxwell Barker, Eli Diercks, Gunner Klahn, Ronnie Maiers, Kaleb Tappendorf, Logan Valenzuela, Aiden Weimerskirch.

Freshmen: Nathaniel Cramer, Cannon Davis, Owen DeLong, Dillon Johnston, Brady Mizer, Ayden Mullens, Landon Retherford, Louie Thoma, Boston Weimerskirch.

DURANT VOLLEYBALL

Wins and losses don't tell entire story

Wildcats make life difficult for ranked teams at Central Lee tournament

By Ross Shinberg
Regional Sports Editor

Under the new leadership of head coach Doug Darland, the Durant volleyball team began its 2024 campaign with a trip to Central Lee for the first action of the season.

There, the Wildcats made the semifinals of the event and went 1-3 overall last Saturday.

Durant scored its lone win over the host Hawks. Each set required extra points, but the Wildcats prevailed 22-20, 21-23, 16-14.

Led by the towering Toft sisters, both standing at six-feet-two-inches, the Wildcats present a formidable front-court again this year.

Against Central Lee, senior Katelynn Toft had seven kills and three blocks, while sophomore Allison Toft had 11 kills, seven digs and two blocks.

Five-foot-eleven-inch freshman Kendall Dierickx impressed greatly in her first high school volleyball action, tallying eight kills and four digs.

Senior Rilynn Buesing set up her teammates on offense by accumulating 23 of her team's 30 assists in this contest.

The momentum carried over into the next match where the Wildcats nearly knocked off Class 3A No. 6 Mid-Prairie — the team which eventually won this tournament.

The Golden Hawks needed a 15-7 third set to get past Durant as the Wildcats nearly scored its first victory in this rivalry since 2019.

Here, the Toft sisters had five kills each (plus one block apiece) while Dierickx had four kills. Buesing dished out 12 assists and three digs. Junior Paige Happ and senior Adison Daufeldt each

DURANT VARSITY VOLLEYBALL

Seniors: Rilynn Buesing, Lauren Callison, Adison Daufeldt, Leah Feuerbach, Grace Paustian, Katelynn Toft.

Juniors: Brooklyn Frantz, Kylee Hahn, Paige Happ, Ava Streeter, Kila Wink.

Sophomores: Isla Petersen, Allison Toft.

Freshmen: Kendall Dierickx, Peyton Schroeder.

also had three digs in this match.

In the final pool play match, the Wildcats lost to Class 2A No. 11 West Burlington in straight sets (21-15, 21-11).

Katelynn Toft (eight kills) and Allison Toft (four kills) led the way on offense while senior Leah Feuerbach paced the defense with five digs.

Then, in the semifinals, Durant took on the Burlington Grayhounds, but fell 25-20 and 25-16.

Katelynn Toft and Allison Toft combined for 11 kills while Buesing totaled 13 assists. Allison Toft had nine digs while Daufeldt and Happ each had five.

Durant hosted Bellevue on Tuesday for the conference play opener and will be back in tournament action this weekend.

Muscatine High School will host its annual invitational and the Wildcats have four matches on the schedule — Class 3A No. 8 West Liberty at 9 a.m., the host Muskies at 10 a.m., Burlington again at 12:30 p.m. and Williamsburg at 1:30 p.m.

Against these same four teams at the 2023 Muskie Invite Tournament, Durant scored straight set wins over West Liberty and Williamsburg. The Wildcats fell to Burlington in three sets and Muscatine in straight sets.

4A VOLLEYBALL RANKINGS

1. Cedar Rapids Xavier
2. Sioux City Bishop Heelan
3. North Scott
4. Carlisle
5. Charles City
6. Clear Creek-Amana
7. Lewis Central
8. Glenwood
9. Dallas Center-Grimes
10. Norwalk
11. Pella
12. Marion

3A VOLLEYBALL RANKINGS

1. Mount Vernon
2. Davenport Assumption
3. Western Christian
4. Dubuque Wahlert
5. Sioux City
6. Mid-Prairie
7. Center Point-Urbana
8. West Liberty
9. Cherokee
10. Kuemper Catholic
- ...
15. Wilton

2A VOLLEYBALL RANKINGS

1. Denver
2. Eddyville-Blakesburg-Fremont
3. Beckman Catholic
4. Wapsie Valley
5. South Hardin
6. Dike-New Hartford
7. Hinton
8. Aplington-Parkersburg
9. Boyden-Hull
10. Iowa City Regina
11. West Burlington
12. Hudson

1A VOLLEYBALL RANKINGS

1. Ankeny Christian
2. Holy Trinity Catholic
3. North Tama
4. Janesville
5. River Valley
6. Don Bosco
7. Newell-Fonda
8. Riverside
9. St. Ansgar
10. Gladbrook-Reinbeck
11. BCLUW
12. Stanton

2024 FALL SPORTS - WILTON



Wilton Football

Aug. 30	vs. Mid-Prairie	7:30 p.m.
Sept. 6	@ West Liberty	7:00 p.m.
Sept. 13	vs. Camanche	7:00 p.m.
Sept. 20	@ Beckman Catholic	7:00 p.m.
Sept. 27	vs. Durant	7:00 p.m.
Oct. 4	vs. Cascade	7:00 p.m.
Oct. 11	@ West Branch	7:00 p.m.
Oct. 18	@ Regina	7:00 p.m.

Wilton Football: Front Row L-R: Kale McQuillen, Owen Hassell, Cade Souhrada, Drew Keith, Owen Milder, Jordan Dusenberry, Carter Drake-Metzger, Carter Hull. 2nd Row: Sam Gray, Aidan Grace, Blaine Dohrmann, Damian Pestle, Parker Carpenter, Zack Etzel, Clay Ledger, Justin Geurink, Trent Valet. 3rd Row: Gabe Brisker, Hayden Hill, Jacob Mills, Kaiden Sivia, Oliver Grunder, Jaxson Drayfahl, Nick Drake-Metzger, Gatlin Rogers, Francisco Honts. 4th Row: Jerald Stranberg, Gunner Edwards, Noah Gray, Quincy Sawvell, Bryer Putman, Andrei Robles, Keller Huthmacher, Jackson Benton, Michael Elam. 5th Row: Thatcher Murguia, Jenner Hoekstra, Corban Burford, Oliver Grings, Christian Ochiltree, Brylin Ochiltree, Tate Hartman, Derek James. 6th Row: Troy McQuillen, Romann Derksen, Garrett Weaver, Gabe Allison, Landon Coss, Dean Harris, Drake Billhorn, Krue Maine, Caleb Burford. 7th Row: Parker Gerst, Collin Keith, Koy Smith, Nathan Hook, Declan Conklin, Hunter Jones. Coaches: John Brammeier, Luke Thompson, Shawn Kivi, Rick Janney, Ryan Hetzler, Jacob Dusenberry, Mike Dirksen, Zack Etzel, Collin McLean.



Wilton Volleyball

Aug. 29	@ Williamsburg	7:30 p.m.
Aug. 31	@ Easton Valley	9:00 a.m.
Sept. 3	@ Wapello	4:30 p.m.
Sept. 5	@ Regina	7:15 p.m.
Sept. 12	vs. Tipton	7:00 p.m.
Sept. 14	Home Tournament	9:00 a.m.
Sept. 17	vs. North Cedar	7:15 p.m.
Sept. 19	@ Mid-Prairie	7:00 p.m.
Sept. 21	@ Clinton	8:30 a.m.
Sept. 26	vs. Durant	7:00 p.m.
Oct. 3	vs. West Liberty	7:00 p.m.
Oct. 8	@ West Branch	7:00 p.m.
Oct. 12	@ Prairie High School	9:00 a.m.
Oct. 14	@ Tipton	4:00 p.m.
Oct. 17	@ Maquoketa	4:00 p.m.

Wilton Volleyball: Front Row L-R: Baylee Driscroll, Anisten Martin, Clara Schneider, Ally Valet, Madelyn Yohe, Eva Stark, Bailey Puffer, Averi Etzel, Isabella Cummings, and Sydnee Bliss. Middle Row: Taylor Cottrell, Natalie Bailey, Josslyn Holladay, Abigail Mills, Everly Huthmacher, Kennedy Tyler, Melany Fitzer, Lily Thompson, Kenzie Daufeldt, Kaci Owens, and Taley Langley. Back Row: Natalie Hartman, Amber Oien, Aliana Walker, Lilly Kraft, Kaydence Boorn, Anistan Holladay, Samantha Daufeldt, Kinsey Drake, Abren Bazal, Leah Caffery, and Lainey Shuger.



Wilton Cross Country

Sept. 5	@ Iowa City	4:45 p.m.
Sept. 10	@ Tipton	5:00 p.m.
Sept. 17	@ North English	4:30 p.m.
Sept. 19	@ Cascade Invitational	5:00 p.m.
Sept. 24	@ Mount Pleasant	4:30 p.m.
Sept. 30	@ North Cedar	4:15 p.m.
Oct. 7	@ Bellevue Invitational	5:00 p.m.
Oct. 10	@ DeWitt Invitational	4:00 p.m.
Oct. 15	RVC Meet @ Iowa City	4:30 p.m.



Wilton Cross Country: Front Row L-R: Audrey Cummings, Madison Kelley, Audra Coss. Back Row: Briggs Oien, Oaklan Jirak, Grayson Hartung, Liam Adlfinger.

Schedules via www.gobound.com and are subject to change.

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Iowa Libertarians try to get back on November ballot

Paul Pate and Brenna Bird cite procedural error for removing them

By Robin Opsahl
Iowa Capital Dispatch

Iowa's Libertarian candidates are seeking to delay the Secretary of State's certification of the election ballot until courts rule on their challenge to get back on the ballot.

Libertarian Party of Iowa congressional candidates in three Iowa districts — Nicholas Gluba in the 1st District, Marco Battaglia in the 3rd District and Charles Aldrich in the 4th District — were removed Aug. 28 from the ballot by the State Objection Panel in a 2-1 decision.

Iowa Secretary of State Paul Pate and Attorney General Brenna Bird, both Republicans, voted to remove the candidates, arguing that the state Libertarian Party had violated Iowa law by holding its precinct caucuses and county conventions on the same day, despite state law stating that delegates selected at caucuses do not officially begin their roles until the following day.

"It's not an ideal situation but the rules are the rules," Pate said at the meeting. "And I, as the commissioner of elections, don't get to make them up, I get to enforce them as they are."

Auditor Rob Sand, the sole Democrat to hold statewide elected office in Iowa, voted in favor of keeping Libertarians on the ballot, stating that the panel did not have standing to bring the complaint, as they did not participate in the Libertarian candidates' nominating process.

On Friday, the three Libertarian candidates filed petitions in district court asking for a judicial review the objections panel decision, in addition to a request for a temporary injunction ordering the pause of the Secretary of State's Office certifying ballots until their challenge has been resolved.

Aldrich and Gluba are being repre-

sented by Jules Cutler, a Clive lawyer and the chair of the Libertarian Party of Iowa, while Battaglia is being represented by his own lawyer.

"The decision to remove our candidates from the ballot is a direct attack on voter choice and the democratic process," Cutler said in a statement. "We are committed to fighting this decision in court to ensure that Iowans have the opportunity to vote for candidates who truly represent their values."

Libertarians — as well as Sand — have said that the panel decision was politically motivated, as the challenges were filed by Republicans and supported by the Republican members of the panel. On a Friday recording of "Iowa Press," Bird argued that her vote to remove the candidates was done in accordance with Iowa law.

"The law applies to all parties, all people and so it's not with regard to party whatsoever," Bird said. "But here, they

had held both caucuses and county conventions at the same time, which is not allowed. ... Just to be clear, everybody gets their day in court, so they can appeal the decision to the district court if they want to. But my position is, I'm not going to pick and choose which parts of the Iowa Code are going to apply, I'm going to uphold the law."



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IOWA BOOK REVIEW

Ruth Harkin memoir share Iowa reflections beyond politics

By Robert Leonard

When I pulled up to the Harkin home in Cumming to interview Ruth Harkin, a wave of nostalgia washed over me. It's where Iowa Sen. Tom Harkin grew up and it reminded me of the home of my long-gone aunt and uncle who lived down the gravel road from us in "Dog-patch," a semi-rural area between Des Moines and Johnston.

That's where I grew up in the 1950s and '60s. Long dormant summer memories of my sisters and cousins running, laughing, and playing games in the yard

Meet Ruth Harkin, 6 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 11, at the Iowa City Public Library, 123 S. Linn St. Hosted by Prairie Lights Bookstore, to be moderated by Robert Downer.

at family potlucks while the dozen or so women of my extended family worked in the kitchen and the men lounged in the shade outside flickered through my head.

I slammed the door of my truck and walked past flower beds and

up the steps to the house, where I could see Ruth's silhouette through the screen door. She welcomed me with a smile and we sat at the dining table and talked. It felt comfortable. Ruth is a welcoming and personable host, and at our ages, she's familiar — like a long-lost cousin.

I was there to interview Ruth about her new book, "When my Husband Ran for President and other Short Stories."

Born and raised in Minnesota, Ruth got her bachelor's degree in English from the University of Minnesota and her law degree from the Columbus School of Law. Ruth's sense of adventure emerges in her first chapter. One minute she's drinking beer with a girlfriend at a bar near the University of Minnesota, and the next thing we know she's near the DMZ in South Korea, the only woman at Camp Hovey where as a civilian she ran the service club for a brigade of 2,500 men. Let me say that again. The only woman with 2,500 men. That's unbelievable today. She writes she learned a lot about management in that job, particularly from the South Korean staff. I bet she did!

On leave in Tokyo in 1967, she meets a handsome young aviator from Iowa



Ruth and Tom Harkin with Drake President Marty Martin, left to right, cut the ribbon for the new Tom and Ruth Harkin Center on Drake's campus Aug. 20, 2022. (Photo by Huey Photography/Courtesy of the Harkin Center)

named Tom Harkin. How they met is straight out of a romantic comedy: Two young Midwesterners meet by chance half a world away from home at a festival at a Shinto shrine and cotton candy is involved! Reading that story I couldn't help but cast the 1967 movie in my mind — with Paul Newman playing Tom and Sandra Dee playing Ruth.

Ruth takes us by the hand as she and Tom build their careers. She was the first elected official in the family, serving as Story County Attorney from 1973-1979. The story of how that came about is rich with humor and serendipity. Ruth ran in part as a "sacrificial" candidate for an office she was told she couldn't win, yet did, becoming the first woman county attorney in Iowa history.

Ruth is a fine writer with a punchy style. Her wry wit is almost always

in play. Here's a paragraph from the chapter "Harkin's First Surgery," for example.

"Something new. Harkin, now 76, had never had surgery. His wife and sister-in-law promised to be on hand for the event. This was not a comfort to Harkin. Although competent and capable, these two cannot even spell the word 'sympathetic.'"

Ruth tells a story about husband Tom's obsessive and eccentric restaurant behavior. Harkin fusses over every detail; from the view from their table to the freshness of the asparagus and if the right kind of booze is behind the bar, driving waiters nuts. If he could have the ZIP code of origin of the pork chop on his plate that would be ideal. His obsession with the minutia of fine dining would put Martha Stewart to shame.

I'd have lunch with Ruth but I'd have to insist she leave Tom at home. If Ruth's story is even half true, I'd rather dine with a rambunctious, speedy 2-year-old too big for a high chair in an expensive five-star restaurant than with Tom. It's stories like this that illustrate both Ruth and Tom's humor, and their fondness for each other.

The Harkins love the Bahamas and spend considerable time there. I wish I had more room to share parts of those stories, but you'll just have to buy the book. Ruth notes that the island they spend time on has changed a lot over the years, and the quiet and remoteness are not the same as when they first started traveling to the island. Thoughtful retrospection is too rare these days — but not for Ruth. She writes,

"We were fortunate to have had the simple luxurious solitude that we enjoyed years ago. It may be gone forever, and we have contributed to this loss."

I loved the details of Tom's presidential campaign, especially where Ruth shares the decision-making processes, and how she juggled her career and family. While she was thinking about billable hours for work, she also had to help with the campaign and make sure everything at home went smoothly. Her description of her husband, a presidential candidate and U.S. senator, grilling daughter Amy's first date shows that family always came first, and that laughter was often involved.

There are some darker moments too. When Ruth describes her efforts to save Tom from drowning in icy waters I felt myself trying to help her throw him a line. And Ruth shares a story of a plane ride with Strom Thurmond from South

Carolina, the late, racist U.S. senator, that shows us that he was even a worse person than we thought.

Ruth writes with pride of the founding of the Tom and Ruth Harkin Center at Drake University. It opened in 2020, 30 years after the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

These are just a few stories from Ruth's illustrious life, and there are many more in the book. Along the way she also served as deputy counsel for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, worked for a Washington, D.C., lobbying firm, and in 1993 was appointed chair and CEO of the Overseas Private Investment Corp. by President Bill Clinton. She became a senior vice president for United Technologies, a director of ConocoPhillips, and a member of the Iowa Board of Regents.

At every step along the way, Ruth was a pioneer for women's rights. She did everything she could do to help other women while society resisted and continues to resist to this day. In 2018, she was inducted into the Iowa Women's Hall of Fame.

Ruth started to write this book for her family and friends. But it's a bigger book than that. It's an important memoir by a pathbreaking Iowa woman who never stepped away from a challenge and did her best to make a difference with her career, with her family, and by inspiring others. Gift the book to young people so our children and grandchildren know how far women have come, and that there is still far to go, especially as women's rights are increasingly under attack.

Thinking back to those summer Iowa potlucks of my youth with the kids playing in the yard and the women working in the kitchen while the men lounged in the shade, I wonder what those smart, hardworking women, my kin, could have achieved in a different time and place if there had been more women around like Ruth Harkin to help educate and inspire them to break society's chains.

I know some of those women, including my mom, wanted more. Much more. Like Ruth.

Robert Leonard is the author of the blog "Deep Midwest: Politics and Culture," on Substack. He has retired from his radio career, which included hosting a public affairs program for KNIA/KRLS radio in the south-central Iowa towns of Knoxville, Pella, and Indianola.

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DeWitt, Iowa 563.659.8185
PEOPLES COMPANY.COM

Clinton COUNTY, IA LAND AUCTION

TUESDAY, OCT. 8TH AT 10:00 AM
ALBERT R. SMITH TRUST
DEWITT COMMUNITY CENTER
512 12TH ST., DEWITT, IA

Listing #17809 offering 170.5 a. (to be surveyed) of productive Clinton County farmland to be sold at auction as 3 individual tracts. All tracts in Section 21 of DeWitt, Township, Clinton Co., Iowa.

Tract 1: 79 acres m/l (to be surveyed) - farm contains 78.5 est. crop acres with an avg. CSR2 of 86.8.

Tract 2: 71.5 acres m/l (to be surveyed) - farm contains 67.67 est. crop acres with an avg. CSR2 of 80.6.

Tract 3: 20 acres m/l (to be surveyed) - farm contains 19.21 est. crop acres with an avg. CSR2 of 70.9.

***Farm to be surveyed, all figures subject to change.**

ALAN MCNEIL - 563-321-1125 IA LIC S64136000
DOUGLAS YEGGE - 563-320-9900 IA LIC B14481000

PEOPLES COMPANY 563-659-8185
700 6th Ave., DeWitt, IA 52742
Peoplescompany.com

AUCTION

SUNDAY | September 8 | 10:00
Collectors Hall - 135 West Center St. - Cambridge IL

Francis Verbeck, Atkinson, IL., Plus Families from Clinton & Blue Grass, IA. & Geneseo, IL. | CARS, TRUCKS, TRACTORS, TRAILER, GOLF CARTS, TOOLS & MUCH, MUCH MORE!

2023 Ford F-150 4X4 Super Cab truck; 2014 Ford F-250 Super Duty 4X4 truck; 2011 Chevy Equinox LT 4 door car; 2016 Ford Escape 4 door car; 2004 Haulmark 8X12 Edge Low Cargo trailer; Yamaha 350 4 wheeler, Big Bear; Club Car golf carts; 1929 Ford A truck; 1929 Ford A Tudor; 1929 Ford 9N tractor; Gas Tractors: JD G Modified NF, JD 420 Utility w/side sickle mower, JD 60 w/WF, JD 730 NF 3pt.; Front weight set for JD 730; JD 50 NF, JD B NF, JD Mule tractor (used at Waterloo, IA. plant); JD items: 484 3btm. plow w/steel wheels, F-1145 front mower w/60" deck & 48" snow blower, #666 4-btm. Plow, 44 2-btm. trip plow, 614 1-btm. trip plow on rubber, 614 1-btm. plow w/steel wheels, 612 & 613 2-btm. trip plows w/steel wheels, 484 3btm. plow w/steel wheels; Satoh 650-G Utility tractor; New Holland/Ford LS-45 riding lawn mower; Wood SB74 3pt. snow blower; 3pt. Earthcavator scraper; Great selection of woodworking & shop tools; New Milwaukee 18 drawer stackable tool chest; MAC, MB 1700 16 drawer roll-around toolbox; MAC Tech-Series 18 drawer toolbox; MAC & Shop-On tools; Plus, much, much more.

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AUCTIONEERS: JASON STENZEL
JANA (STENZEL) GUINN
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WILTON/DURANT AREA ADS

Apartment for Rent
 FOR RENT: 2 BR apt. Stove, refrig., D.W., coin-op laundry in hall. \$600/month, \$600 deposit plus utilities. 563-506-5775 35-AN-TFN

Sporting Goods
 GOLDEN EAGLE compound bow. New cables. \$100. 563-210-3381. 36-AN-3xf

WEST LIBERTY AREA ADS

Cemetery Plots
 FOR SALE: Iowa City Memory Gardens, 4 (side by side) choice lots. Don't burden your children, choose your eternal resting spot now. \$250 each. 319-627-2239. 34-3xf

Employment
 WEST LIBERTY INDEX: Like to shoot pictures? Have good equipment? We will pay to to cover events for the

Events
 CRAFT SHOW: Friday, Sept. 20, 8-5 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 21, 8-5 p.m.,

West Liberty Index as a freelance photographer. Get your pictures in print. We're looking for someone who would go to an event and take good, creative people pictures. Send samples of your work to adnews@netwtc.net.

WEST LIBERTY INDEX: Can you write? Want to earn some extra money? Have you ever considered covering a meeting or writing a feature? The West Liberty Index needs you. Send any samples of your personal information to adnews@netwtc.net.

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Jackson County Fairgrounds, Maquoketa, IA

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September 28, 2024

Gate Opens at 9:00 am PULL STARTS AT NOON

ENTRY FEE - \$30 For Truck AND Driver

Adults \$20 • Kids 6-12 \$10 • 5 and under FREE

Prizes for Each Class: 1st Place = \$25 - case of spotted cow and a trophy
2nd Place = \$15 - twelve pack of spotted cow and a trophy
3rd Place = \$10 - six pack of spotted cow and a trophy

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115 W. 4th St., Wilton AND
1209 Washington St., Musc.

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1533 245th St, Letts--Multi-generational 5 BR, 6 BA home on 30 acres. It includes both a 3 BR 4 BA 2-story home with finished walk-out basement AND a 2 BR 2 BA no-step home.



3881 US-61, Blue Grass--7.69 Acres with a 4 bdrm, 2 bath remodeled brick home, 2 stall attached garage, 2 stall lawn mower shed, Finished 1,723 Sq. ft commercial building.



2600 180th St, Muscatine--Beautiful, wooded setting for this spacious open-living home on 6.38 acres. The main living area includes an open kitchen with rich Cherry cabinetry.



1514 330th St, Wilton--This cozy ranch home is located on 3.6 acres, with a private forest. It has 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms including a master suite.



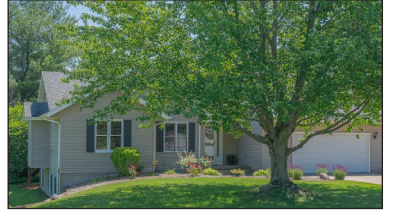
1399 190th St, Independence--Welcome to this stunning 2-bedroom brick home with a non-conforming bedroom in the finished basement, nestled on +/- 4.86 acres along the beautiful Wapsi River.



2722 W 34th St, Davenport--Freshened up w/all new interior paint, modern light fixtures & some new floor coverings. The main level of the home has a large family room w/gas fireplace.



1406 7th St, Durant--This beautiful four bedroom, four bath, two story is located in a quiet, friendly, established neighborhood with great countryside views right in your own backyard.



2471 Quail Run Rd, Muscatine--Come take a look at this 4 bedroom 3 bathroom home with finished lower level, screened porch and attached 2 stall garage.



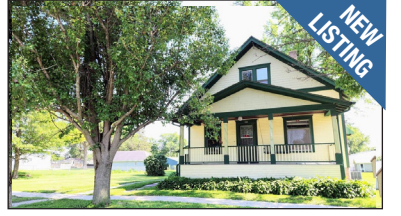
719 Pine St, Wilton--Built by Ken Grunder and Sons Construction: This 2 bedroom 3 bathroom home is sitting on a quiet corner lot location in Wilton.



808 6th St, Durant--Check out this 3 bedroom 2 bathroom home with all new roof, siding, gutters and downspouts, fresh interior paint and floor coverings.



309 6th St, Durant--This 2 bedroom 3 bathroom home comes complete with all appliances, formal dining room, partially finished lower level, 200 amp service.



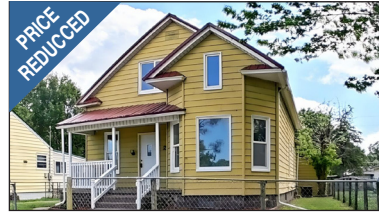
110 E 3rd St, Wilton--Restored this historic home to appear period correct on the main level w/all original hardwood flooring. Double Lot, PERFECT HOME FOR AN AIR BNB.



209 E 9th St, Tipton--Well preserved classic 2 story home that has been nicely updated with fresh paint, newer floor coverings, dining room has the original hardwood flooring.



1943 Zachary Ave, Montpelier--This 4 bedroom 1 bathroom home is being sold with 2 parcels of land totaling 2.92 acres. An additional 2.70 acres adjoining this property can be purchased.

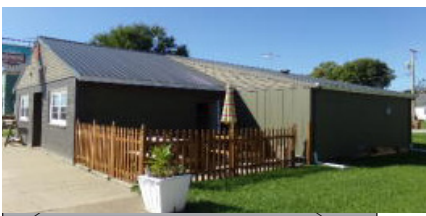


1914 Sterneman Blvd, Muscatine--ALL NEW from the drywall in! This 3 bedroom home has a very large living area, all new kitchen, bathrooms, floor coverings, fixtures and stainless steel appliances.



139 North St, Fruitland--2 bedroom 1 bath property in LM school district! Room for expansion. 2 car detached garage on premises.

COMMERCIAL AND INVESTMENT PROPERTIES!



116 Main St, Bennett--Great small town bar & grill with established clientele. Excellent opportunity for someone wanting to own their own business with a minimal investment!



112 Main St, Bennett--Steel building currently operating as Ol' Biggs bar & special events center. New concrete patio, which is covered. Concrete bar, 2 bathrooms, and stage.



1700 Park Ave Ste C, Muscatine--Successful Chinese Restaurant for sale! This is a turn key business selling all fixtures, cooking equipment, recipes, tables and owner's POS system.



1010 W 5th St, Wilton--High traffic location for this pre owned car dealership that could be used for many other uses. 6,200 Square feet parking lot that will hold over 50 cars.



309 & 311 Cedar St, Wilton--Established local turn key business on the main level of 2 separate buildings that include 3 apartments to offset expenses. Over 4,100 main level commercial square feet.



1951 Yellow Ave, Montpelier--Versatile commercial property with ENDLESS possibilities. 11,771 SF main building, with attached 2,904 SF gymnasium. All sitting on just over 8 acres!



502 Ayres Progress Dr, Wilton--Commercial/Industrial steel framed structure w/100x120 warehouse w/18' sidewalls & radiant heat, loading dock, overhead door, 2 electrical services.

**WE NEED
NEW
LISTINGS!
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of Our Agents**

LOTS & LAND

Lot 9 8th St., Durant--64' x 150' lot in the original part of town.

Wildlife Estates, Blue Grass--0.87 acres lots in subdivision close to Davenport.

Lot 2 Nicoulaus Dr., Wilton-- Commercial lot in a high-traffic location.

Lot 6 W. 3rd St., Wilton--Commercial lot in Wilton just off Highway 38.

W. Fulliam Ave./Cedar St. Parcels--9 acres in the city of Muscatine.

1903 Park Ave. Outlet, Muscatine--High-traffic commercial lot.

NextGen Lot 1, Muscatine--Commercial building lot with high traffic-count numbers.

158 Acres 170th St. Parcels, Letts--30 acres of timber & waterways and 128 acres of tillable farm land.

153 Acres Vail Ave., Durant--Farm ground available for 2025 crop season. 150 +/- tillable.

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