



New Brush Fire Studio Owners



Brush Fire Studio is a great place for a birthday party, no matter your age! Call Bridget Weems to set up a date for your next event.

MARCIA HORA

Nathan and Bridget Weems of Stapleton are announcing the purchase of Brush Fire Studio from Lauren Leetch. The business transaction was finalized in September of 2024.

“Nathan was interested in the building and has always wanted to own it,” Bridget Weems said. “We will continue the paint your own pottery business that Lauren started in the building.”

There are no set hours at this time due to the family’s busy schedule. You may contact Bridget at 308-636-8272 for parties or group socializing.

The Weemses also own K-9 Kondos after purchasing the business from Joe Shown and moving it to their home on the west edge of Stapleton. Nathan is now working fulltime in the business.

Ethan, Avery, Sean and Micah help out making the dog dens and have a lawn mowing business in the summer. Ethan is cur-

rently taking electrical classes at Mid Plains Community College.

Brush Fire Studio is located in the historic Bank of Stapleton building located at the corner of Highway 92 and Main Street.

On May 9, 1912, the board of directors changed the name from Gandy Bank to the Bank of Stapleton and the place of business was relocated from Gandy to Stapleton. The location was moved on September 11, 1912 when the bank assets were moved to the Ed Salisbury building. The old Gandy Bank building was moved to Stapleton and made ready for business and occupied on November 17, 1912. Plans were approved and the contract let for the brick building at the corner of Main and 3rd Streets.

Frank Peterson continued to improve the Bank of Stapleton and his brother Victor, who died in service in 1919, is the

one for whom the American Legion Post is named. Peterson died in April of 1952 and the bank was purchased by Ed and Estelle Burnham that year.

The bank building also served as the senior citizen’s center for many years. After falling in disrepair it was purchased by Roy Licking of Thedford who took the necessary steps to shore up the structure by repairing the roof, cleaning up the basement, and refinishing the original maple flooring.

Lauren Leetch installed a kiln in the basement, air conditioning, did some work on the restroom and opened the paint your own pottery shop with a grand opening on October 8, 2021. The former bank vault serves as a perfect place for paint and supplies.

The Weems family invites everyone to stop in when they’re open and support their newest venture.

Golf Fundraiser

The Stapleton Golf Association’s annual steak dinner and raffle has been set for Saturday, February 8 at the Stapleton Community Center. A social hour will begin at 5:00 p.m. with a cash bar by Herbie’s Speakeasy. The meal will be served at 6:30 p.m. If you would like to donate silent auction items you may contact Chayton Crow at 308-530-8667, Scott Gaites at 308-636-8308 or Skip Hecox at 308-529-1861. All proceeds from the fundraiser will go towards course improvements at the Augusta Wind Golf Course.

This year’s gun raffle will be for a Ruger 9 mm FXR and a Ruger .17 HMR. Tickets are \$10.00 each or 12 for \$100.00.

The steak dinner is \$40.00 per person and tickets are available at the door. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Domestic dispute ends in arrest

MARCIA HORA

A domestic disturbance in the western part of McPherson County has led to the arrest of James Sheetz, 29, of Tryon.

The McPherson and Arthur County Sheriffs responded to a domestic disturbance Tuesday, January 14, at approximately 1:00 p.m. Everything seemed to be settled, but at 7:30 p.m. the disturbance again escalated to the point the fiancée fled the scene for her safety and a 911 call was in place. Both sheriffs again responded and the fiancée reported she was being trailed by a pickup. The suspect in the pickup was eastbound on Highway 92 between Arthur and Tryon. After spotting the McPherson County Sheriff’s emergency lights the suspect turned and fled in the opposite direction.

The McPherson County Sheriff attempted to stop the suspect and speeds of over 90 m.p.h. were reached. The Arthur County Sheriff was contacted to set up a spike strip and it was successfully deployed, at which time the suspect stopped his pickup and fled on foot near mile marker 197 on Highway 92.

The Nebraska State Patrol, Logan County Sheriff’s office and the Nebraska Brand Committee all responded to search for the suspect.

McPherson County Deputy Burch was contacted at 2:30 a.m. the next morning advising the suspect was back at his residence.

The suspect was identified as James Sheetz and Logan County Sheriff Sean Carson has taken over the investigation due to McPherson County Sheriff Bang having

ing a prior commitment as a class instructor.

All pertinent information has been sent to McPherson County Attorney Whitney Schroeder.

A warrant for the arrest of Sheetz was made and at 8:30 p.m. on January 15, Deputy Burch, Logan County Sheriff Carson and Arthur County Sheriff Turner met the family transporting Sheetz to the auto gate of the property. Sheetz was taken into custody after a brief struggle.

Sheetz was transported to the Lincoln County Jail and charges of operating a motor vehicle to avoid arrest, obstructing a police officer and domestic violence assault in the third degree have been filed.

Sheetz will appear in McPherson County Court at 11:00 a.m. on February 11.

Stapleton Community Blood Drive



COURTESY

Longtime donors Bill and Vera Jividen are pictured giving their 127th and 111th units.

The American Red Cross Bloodmobile came to Stapleton Tuesday, January 14, and set up in the Stapleton Community Center. Coordinator Bea Gaites said in spite of illness the bloodmobile came up just one short of meeting the goal.

Twenty-three units were collected including four Power Reds and 15 whole blood products.

Reaching milestones were Jay Peterson, two gallons; Anita Harwager, six gallons; Marietta Bierma, seven gallons; and Rich Burnside, five gallons.

Others donating were Heather Johnson, Amber Higgins, Vera Jividen, William Jividen, Amanda Weems, Jeana Hanna, Erin Frey, Bryan Higgins, Sandra Lanka, Justin Rahn, Caleb Burnside, Hannah Burnside, Klara Dailley, Erin Hynes, and Mickie Florea.

“Thank you to everyone who turned out to donate. We appreciate each one of you,” Bea Gaites said.

Calling All Babies

Our special Valentine’s Day section will be published Thursday, February 13. If you were born in 2024 you can be featured in this special section. Have your mom, dad, or grandparents send in your picture and information by email to creativeprinters@gpcom.net. They can also be dropped off at Creative Printers in Stapleton. This feature is open to all readers, wherever they live. The deadline is February 1.

Bronco Beef In Schools

The Bronco Beef in Schools has turned into a successful program. The committee reports on what has transpired since the program was implemented at Stapleton Public Schools more than six years ago.

Weather

DATE	HI	LO	MT
11	37	10	0
12	42	17	.02
13	29	5	0
14	40	6	0
15	36	15	0
16	50	15	0
17	55	23	0

Observations

Snow: 0.1” on January 12.
Wind: 33 mph at 2:25 p.m. on January 11; 30 mph at 5:47 a.m. on January 12; 26 mph at 3:50 p.m. on January 16; 36 mph at 12:23 p.m. on January 17.
Windchill: 5 degrees at 8:00 a.m. on January 12; -1 at 5:00 a.m. on January 13.

McPherson Co. News



- Over The Hills
- Graphic Files
- Blood Drive Report
- Poem
- “Memories Linger”
- Over The Hills

Public Notices

- Notice of Trade Name: Ranch Dust
- Notice of Trade Name: Brush Fire Studio
- McPherson County Dt. #90 Proceedings
- Logan County Commissioners Proceedings
- McPherson County Semi-Annual Report
- School District R-1 Proceedings
- Logan County Semi-Annual Report
- Village of Stapleton Proceedings

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