

CARROLL TIMES HERALD

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COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Dean Schettler seeks third term as District 2 Supervisor for Carroll County

By SARAH STORTZ
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Eight years ago, Dean Schettler of Breda decided to go for the open District 2 position, ultimately winning a seat for the Carroll County Board of Supervisors.

"I felt that I was qualified to do this," Schettler said. "I had been told that I am good at this and I like it."

In the upcoming election, Schettler will run again for the position, facing Republican challenger Mike Andersen, who also lives in Breda.



Dean Schettler

Before joining the Board of Supervisors, Schettler said he previously served on the board for Breda Telephone Corporation — also known as Western Iowa Networks — for over 20 years.

While making decisions during meetings, Schettler said being prepared and knowing how to deal with each situation is very important.

"When you make a decision, you have to support that decision, that's probably key," Schettler said. "If you're not prepared, it's difficult to support it."

A few decisions on budgeting have come down to 4-1, with Schettler saying he was the one opposing vote. Since being elected, Schettler said he's never regretted a decision he's made as a supervisor.

"I just think that maybe I just didn't see things the way the rest of the board saw them, but

SCHETTLER, PAGE 9

POLITICS

Local candidates promote themselves during public forum hosted by Carroll Chamber of Commerce

Times Herald staff

On Wednesday, local candidates sat side-by-side at the Carroll High School auditorium for a public forum hosted by the Carroll Chamber of Commerce.

Throughout the night, candidates introduced themselves and discussed their vision for their desired position.

Before contested candidates answered questions, four uncontested candidates spoke about their campaign, which includes Carroll County Board of Supervisor Stephanie Hausman, Carroll County Treasurer Lisa Wagner, Carroll County Attorney John Werden and State Representative Brian Best.

Residents can vote on election day, which will be on Tuesday, Nov. 8.

Carroll County Recorder

Ashten Wittrock, the Republican incumbent, said she was born and raised in Carroll County, working for the county for over 11 years.

Wittrock said one of her proudest accomplishments was updating the software used in the Recorder's office, saying it brought better efficiency and better integration among offices.

"I am the strongest candidate to continue in this position because of my background

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EDUCATION



LARRY DEVINE | TIMES HERALD

Tammie McKenzie prepares to ride as grand marshal in the Carroll High School homecoming parade on Friday, Oct. 7. McKenzie recently retired after serving nine years as the school's principal and was previously an art teacher and assistant principal.

CHS homecoming honors retired principal Tammie McKenzie

By LARRY DEVINE | l.devine@carrollspaper.com

In her nine years as Carroll High School principal, Tammie McKenzie really did open doors to learning and bright futures for thousands of young people. "I started every day that I could — most days — by first going around the school and unlocking all of the classroom doors and turning on the lights. When teachers come in with their hands full, it is nice not to have to fumble around for your keys," McKenzie says.

"I would then move to standing at the front door welcoming our students and wishing for them to have a great day."

That routine was just a start for days filled with a myriad of responsibilities, as she arrived at school well before the first classes and many days didn't leave till late at night.

McKenzie retired after last school year, closing the book on a more-than-30-year education career, capped by four years of teaching art and then 17 years in administration at Carroll High School.

Honoring her dedication to the school, she rode as grand marshal in CHS's homecoming parade on Friday, Oct. 7, and was featured speaker at the pep rally and king-and-queen coronation the night before.

For McKenzie, Tiger school spirit comes naturally. It's in her blood from the four years she attended CHS.

McKenzie, a daughter of the late Gerald and Charlotte Eisens, started ninth grade at CHS moving here with older sister Jan and younger brother Andy, from her hometown in Morrison, Illinois, when General Electric transferred her dad to its new Carroll plant.

She rose to become a key player in Carroll Community School

District education years after she had been a key player on CHS basketball and volleyball teams, back when the school was located in the current Adams Elementary building before moving to its current site in 1989.

McKenzie says of her family's move from Illinois, "I was so excited to come to Carroll for many reasons, but especially due to the fact that they were starting a girls basketball team. We were 6-on-6 (McKenzie played in forward court), and I was fortunate enough to play varsity all four years on a very successful team."

Not only sports kept her busy, but she also worked at Hardee's restaurant.

After graduation in 1977, she joined her sister, Jan, at Cornell College in Mount Vernon, Iowa, and came home to work summers at Crouse Cartage and GE to pay school expenses.

At Cornell, she received a bachelor of special studies degree in art education and coaching certification in 1981.

McKenzie says she owes her interest in art education to her high school art teacher, Mary Lewman-Stork.

"I learned so much from her and took those learnings on to college," she says. "... She was an outstanding teacher, and I am so thankful that I got to take

classes from her."

McKenzie returned to CHS full time in 2001 after making a number of career stops: teacher and coach at Guthrie Center from 1981-82 and Tipton High School from 1982-92; new employees' trainer at American Home Shield and physical-therapy assistant at St. Anthony Regional Hospital in Carroll; fourth- through sixth-grade art teacher at St. Lawrence from 1996 to '98; and substitute art teacher at CHS from 1999 to 2001.

Then in 2001 CHS art teacher Norval Nissen, who knew McKenzie from her substitute teaching and artwork in the community, informed her about a full-time position opening at the school.

McKenzie landed the position, working with Nissen from 2001 to 2005.

"Throughout my years as an art instructor at CHS, the students of CHS created some fabulous work, and it is weird, but I can remember those pieces of work, where they sat in the classroom when they created them and so much more," McKenzie says. "It was an incredibly fulfilling and fun career."

"All students deserve access to the rich education and understanding that the arts disciplines provide, regardless of their background, talents or abilities. In an increasingly technological environment overloaded with sensory data, the ability to perceive, interpret, understand, and evaluate such stimuli is critical. To fairly prepare our students for this very challenging future, we must teach them to be creative, innovative thinkers. The arts provide opportunities for this to happen."

McKenzie says of making the switch from the classroom to administration, "Part of my nature

has always been to continue to learn and try new things."

So in 2005 she began a cohort in educational leadership, which met on weekends in Denison.

"This presented a perfect opportunity to continue to teach full time and learn about that facet of education while earning my master's," she says.

During the 2005 school year she left the art classroom to serve as CHS dean of students. She was awarded the title assistant principal in 2007 after receiving her master's degree. She succeeded Trent Grundmeyer as principal in 2013.

"The background I brought into that position from being a student and teacher lent itself to understanding the dynamics of both of those areas yet also increased my awareness of the importance of community partnerships in making our school successful and supported," she says.

"It really was a unique situation, being a teacher, an assistant principal and then the principal. The teachers were colleagues of mine, and I knew firsthand what their days were like and what they needed in order to be supported and be able to do what was best for our students. I think my experiences in our community and my background in art also lent itself well to administration. When you think about the creative approach to education as in art, it helps you to understand that everyone is different and unique and not only has a great deal to contribute, but you need them to complete the full picture."

"Just like our students, every teacher and staff member has unique gifts to bring to the table."

MCKENZIE, PAGE 4

WILL IT BE A NIGHT OF TRICKS OR A NIGHT OF TREATS? VISIT CHAMBER MEMBER BUSINESSES OCTOBER 20TH TO FIND OUT!

Moonlight Madness SALE
ONE DAY ONLY 5-8 PM
Thursday, October 20th

Carroll Chamber of Commerce

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