

CARROLL TIMES HERALD

W E E K E N D E D I T I O N

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT



JACK MCCLELLAN | TIMES HERALD

Dick Wernimont pictured standing next to completed manifolds in his current shop before they are shipped to Jefferson to be painted.

City and Wernimonts working to reach solution in zoning conflict

By JACK MCCLELLAN
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The City of Carroll is currently grappling with its own zoning ordinances to allow Dick and Collin Wernimont to construct a 15,000-square-foot mixed-purpose shop on their land north of Carroll.

Part of the Wernimont's property, including the spot on which the shop would stand, is within a two-mile area outside Carroll, where the city governs the planning and zoning regulations as part of an agreement with Carroll County.

Because the manufacturing of parts for agricultural equipment does not fall into the agricultural uses approved by Carroll's comprehensive plan, the Wernimonts' building permit was denied.

Collin Wernimont said they first applied for a building

permit in October. He currently works out of Audubon to cut raw materials, then form steel plates with a press brake, before they are welded into a manifold in a shop located next to Dick Wernimont's residence.

After parts are assembled, they are shipped to Jefferson to be painted, then to Paton to be built into John Deere's DB Series Planters.

Dick Wernimont also welds in Carroll, and building the shop would allow them to consolidate their efforts into one location.

Collin Wernimont said a family friend working as an architect advised them to apply for spot rezoning, which would reclassify the parcel of land as an industrial zone, allowing for the Wernimonts to build the shop.

ZONING, PAGE 11

EDUCATION



LARRY DEVINE | TIMES HERALD

Kuemper sixth graders Ella Heithoff, Alexa Schreck, Cassie Lohrmann and Madelyn Kerkhoff created a vision board for their winning "A Knight in Black and White" theme idea.

Kuemper Ball to cheer theme contest winners

By LARRY DEVINE
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With the 39th annual Friends of Kuemper Ball just three weeks away, color Ella Heithoff, Madelyn Kerkhoff, Cassie Lohrmann and Alexa Schreck excited.

And make those colors black and white.

That's the combination featured in their idea that will make them celebrities at the Ball on Saturday, April 29, at the Kuemper Field House.

Heithoff, Kerkhoff, Lohrmann and Schreck, all friends in Kathy Berg's sixth grade homeroom at Kuemper Catholic School St. Lawrence Center, will step into the spotlight for submitting the entry chosen as this year's Ball theme — "A Knight in Black and White." This was

the first time the theme was turned into a contest open throughout Kuemper Catholic School System. Entries were welcome from classrooms, homerooms, groups of students, and individual students.

Heithoff, Kerkhoff, Lohrmann and Schreck said during a recent visit at St. Lawrence that coming up with their idea they were inspired by Kuemper's nearly 70-year history and seeing black-and-white photos of buildings, staff and students from the school's early days. Black and white would be a fitting way to celebrate, they thought. And they also liked the way "A Knight in Black and White" rolls off the tongue.

Little did the girls know that

BALL, PAGE 11

DINING

WASTED GRAIN TO OFFER UNIQUE BAR AND GRILL EXPERIENCE



TREVOR BABCOCK | TIMES HERALD

The owners Cory and Missy Handlos outside of the former Bloomers Bar and Grill, now Wasted Grain, ahead of the restaurant's opening. Back row from left to right: Josie Handlos, Cory Handlos, Missy Handlos, Skyler Handlos and Ethan Lengeling. Front row from left right: Pypers Handlos and Tatum Knowles.

By TREVOR BABCOCK | t.babcock@carrollspaper.com

Wasted Grain is bringing a new bar and grill experience to Carroll, offering an elevated atmosphere and menu while striving to be a second home for customers.

Owners Cory and Missy Handlos said they never had lifelong plans to own a restaurant, but saw a need for a place like Wasted Grain in Carroll, seizing the opportunity when Bloomers Bar and Grill came up for sale.

"It's a good opportunity and the community needs it," Cory Handlos said. "We think it's a good opportunity for everybody, for Carroll and the surrounding communities."

Wasted Grain is planning soft openings in the next few weeks, with an official opening date to be determined.

Purchasing the former Bloomers building located at 1235 Plaza Drive in Carroll back in February, owners say renovations couldn't have gone smoother. The space has been completely transformed and updated, with a new exterior, decor, furniture, floors, lighting, bar, bathrooms, a new and bigger kitchen, plus more.

Wasted Grain Manager Wendi Fagan says the new restaurant's mission isn't just about fulfilling a need in Carroll, but also to offer something you can't find anywhere else.

"Offering not just a place to go, but offering an experience," Fagan said.

She said the COVID-19 pandemic changed the way a lot of people live, including their dining habits, which is why Wasted Grain has to offer such a unique experience.

"I think people became so accustomed to staying in their houses and cooking themselves," Fagan said. "What we're trying to do is get those people back out, but yet not feel like they're leaving their home."

Wasted Grain will offer a menu with complete with American comfort food, offering items such as steaks and appetizers, shooting for elevated quality and taste.

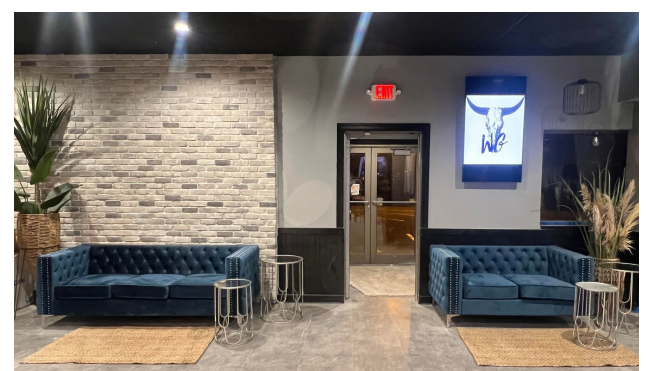
"It's not going to be your typical run of the mill, fried frozen appetizers," Fagan said. "The atmosphere alone just speaks for itself. On top of it, I think the menu is going to be kind of a surprise to people as far as what we can offer."

While the look is more sleek and modern, patrons are still welcome to grab a bite to eat in sweatpants,



CONTRIBUTED TO THE TIMES HERALD

A look at Wasted Grain's interior, which features places to relax and spots for children to hang out with activities.



CONTRIBUTED TO THE TIMES HERALD

A look at a lobby area inside Wasted Grain, featuring a fully remodeled interior.

with the atmosphere aiming to be casual, relaxing and family friendly.

"We want you to be able to come in and feel like you've been here a million times before, whether you have or not," Fagan said.

Owners say they aren't afraid to mix up the menu to cater to customers' wants, with plans to offer unique specials of food items not on the regular menu, hop-

ing customers continue to visit to try new things.

In addition to the full remodel, Wasted Grain will feature an outdoor patio complete with a fire pit and TV for outdoor dining. A walk-in cooler has also been added, opening up storage for ice cold silo mugs, keeping a staple of Bloomers' legacy alive.

BAR, PAGE 12

ST. ANTHONY

St. Anthony to host 'Billion Pill Pledge' press conference with Iowa Attorney General and Goldfinch Health COO

Special to the Times Herald

St. Anthony Regional Hospital will be joined by Iowa Attorney General Brenna Bird and Goldfinch Health COO John Greenwood on Tuesday, April 11

at 2 p.m.

During their visit with St. Anthony President and CEO Allen Anderson and St. Anthony Chief of Surgery Dr. Mark Abraham, they will address the opioid crisis in Iowa and introduce the Bil-

lion Pill Pledge, a first dose opioid prevention program designed to support patients through surgery and recovery by implementing and delivering advanced, opioid-minimizing surgery. Due to the initial Billion

Pill Pledge results, St. Anthony is excited about the impact the program can have on the community.

The meeting will be at St. Anthony Regional Hospital on the 4th Floor of the Surgery Center.