

# SUN COURIER

*Serving the communities of Gladbrook, Reinbeck and Garwin*

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## Prost! It's Becktoberfest time!

*Katie and the Honky Tonks to headline annual Reinbeck festival*

RUBY F. MCALLISTER | rbodeker@northtamatelegraph.com

REINBECK — If you're looking for a good local time on Saturday, Sept. 27, look no further than the annual street party in front Reinbeck's The Dig Inn — Becktoberfest is back and better than ever!

Now in its 14th year after first debuting in 2011 with the opening of the since-shuttered Broad Street Brewing before taking a couple years off, the 'bands, brats, bier' festival held in the 100 block of Broad Street has been sponsored since 2021 by Ben and Holly Robertson who opened The Dig Inn in the former brewery's footprint.

"Becktoberfest is just a really good time hanging out listening to music and drinking some great beer," Ben told the newspaper. "And the weather on September 27

BECKTOBERFEST | P5



## Fall Fest planned for Oct. 5 at Otter Creek Lake & Park

RUBY F. MCALLISTER | rbodeker@northtamatelegraph.com

OTTER CREEK LAKE & PARK — With Otter Creek Lake at last full following the restoration project that completed in 2023, Tama County Conservation is more than ready to welcome the public to its family-oriented Fall Fest on Sunday, Oct. 5, from 1-5 p.m.

"Our goal is to provide a fun, low-cost opportunity for the entire community to come enjoy some of what Tama County Conservation has to offer at Otter Creek Park," Conservation Director Curtis Behrens told the newspaper.

The annual event is set to feature a plethora of indoor and outdoor activities in and around both the nature center and the lake including hayrack rides to and from

FALL FEST | P2

## WEEKEND FORECAST:

**Saturday: CHANCE OF SHOWERS**  
High: 75 / Low: 56

**Sunday: CHANCE OF SHOWERS**  
High: 74 / Low: 61



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## 'We were welcomed here for a long time'

Salt Creek Wind II owner addresses opposition ahead of failed development vote



Sean Roberts, CEO of Nations Energy Solutions and the owner of Salt Creek Wind Phase II, pictured on Wednesday, Sept. 10, at his office in downtown Toledo.

RUBY F. BODEKER

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TOLEDO — This past Monday, the future of Salt Creek Wind Phase II — the second and final phase of the roughly \$418 million Salt Creek Wind Project in Tama County — was set to be decided by the Board of Supervisors as part of a development agreement with the project's owner. But while most county residents are familiar with Salt Creek Wind following years of headlines, grassroots oppositional organizing, political rhetoric, lawsuits, and local government action surrounding the project's development, very few are familiar with the project's owner, Florida resident Sean Roberts, CEO of Nations Energy Solutions.

Roberts acquired Salt Creek Wind from Wind Capital Group (an arm of the Irish renewable energy company NTR) roughly a decade ago. Last fall, he sold Salt Creek I to NextEra Energy Resources and is currently developing Salt Creek II. Both phases



A 'Freedom to Farm Wind' sign located along US 63 in the footprint of Salt Creek Wind Phase I.

were originally intended as one cohesive project but were split due to the need to hook into two different substations. Salt Creek Wind II is a 100 megawatt project located solely within the South Tama County Community School District's geographic boundaries. Upon completion, the project will include anywhere from 24 to 27 turbines, depending on which model is selected.

In anticipation of Monday's vote by the supervisors, Roberts along with Bob Bergstrom of Conifer Power Company and a small group of Salt Creek Wind leaseholders sat down with the newspaper on Wednesday, Sept. 10, in the project's Toledo office for a wide-ranging discussion. Bergstrom's company has been on the ground assisting with the development of Salt Creek Wind since the project was owned

by Wind Capital Group.

One of the first questions the newspaper asked Roberts was if he ever expected such fierce grassroots opposition to his project — opposition spearheaded by the local coalition Tama County Against Turbines (TCAT) which formed in 2022.

"No," Roberts succinctly responded as he sat near the corner of a large conference

WIND | P3

## Gladbrook-Reinbeck High School announces 2025 Homecoming Court



Gladbrook-Reinbeck's 2025 Homecoming Queen candidates include (front row, l-r) Janine Kollreider (honorary), Elly Sieh, Jayla Hemann, Leila Thesing, Olivia Riffey, Kennedy Brant, and Emelyne Le Strat (honorary). King candidates include (back row, l-r) Trevor Mathern, Thomas Keller, Wyatt Giesking, Kael Blohm, and Hudson Clark.

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REINBECK — Gladbrook-Reinbeck High School announced last week the 2025 Homecoming Court.

Queen candidates this year include Kennedy Brant,

Jayla Hemann, Olivia Riffey, Elly Sieh, and Leila Thesing. Honorary queen candidates are Janine Kollreider and Emelyne Le Strat.

King candidates include Kael Blohm, Hudson Clark, Wyatt Giesking, Thomas Keller, and Trevor Mathern.

The Homecoming King and Queen were crowned (after press time) on Wednesday, Sept. 17, as part of Homecoming Happenings at the high school which also included a pep rally and parent skit.

The undefeated Rebels

(3-0) are scheduled to take on GMG (0-3) in 8-player District 6 gridiron action tonight, Friday, Sept. 19, beginning at 7 p.m. at "The Pit" in Gladbrook.

The Homecoming Dance is scheduled for Saturday.