Wild horses keep draggin' me away

hose words open the chorus to "Wild Horses," a simple song co-written by Bill Shore and David Wills and recorded by Garth Brooks in 1990 on his second album, "No Fences." It is not one of his most popular songs, but it may have the strongest message.

I have it on CD, and many of you who were listening to Garth Brooks in the 1990s do, too. But, you don't have to appreciate country music to appreciate this song. It connects with all of us who are distracted by things that keep us away from what is truly important in our lives. Having said that, the song does, of course, touch on the country music mainstays: love, heartbreak, horses and a name-dropping of America's rodeo towns. More importantly, "Wild Horses" makes us

"And I'll lose more than I'm gonna win someday."

"Wild Horses" may appear to just be a song about a cowboy's struggle between his love of rodeo, his love of a woman and his numerous broken promises, but its scope is much wider, as we all deal with our own wild

For some of us, wild horses are our jobs, the aspect of our lives that so many of us deeply connect with and that we feel identi-

For others, wild horses are the golf courses or the shopping malls or the countless vacations we think we need.



Still others are dragged away by bars or casinos or drug peddlers — or all three. On maybe a lighter note, TVs, computers, video games and our cell phones also distract us.

> "Wild horses just stay wild, and her heart is all I break."

When I heard this song recently, it made me think about what drags me away from the things in my life that I should be giving more attention to. What promises I break. Where my focus needs to be.

"Wild horses keep draggin' me away."

As we celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday with our family, friends and those we want to be closest to, it seems to be the right time to also reflect on what continues to distract us and how we can best deal with it. Our wild horses won't go away, but we have the power to decide how to respond to them, which, hopefully, results in dedicating more of our time to what we know is truly important in our lives.

Shane Goodman is the publisher of CITYVIEW magazine in Des Moines and a native of Algona. His columns can be read at www.thedailyumbrella.com.

LETTER

Letter to the Editor:

Small towns are full of remarkable people and dedicated volunteers — and with that dedication sometimes comes strong emotions. Our town is no different. We are blessed with passionate residents and passionate volunteers, and it's important to remember that we ultimately share the same goal: to work together, support one another, and focus on the positive rather than assuming the worst.

Recently, a council meeting was held where an invitation had been extended to a board that was unable to attend. Although the absence was not intentional, the meeting minutes as reported in the newspaper suggested otherwise. Because the board could not be present to offer clarification, the situation appeared one-sided and may have led some to see this as a sign of unwillingness to cooperate. That is unfortunate, as everyone involved works hard for this community and cares deeply about its success.

Social media can be a useful tool when used wisely, but it can also create confusion or amplify misunderstandings. Direct communication — a phone call, a conversation, or even a walk across the street — is almost always the better path. We have all, at one time or another, fallen into the trap of not connecting directly. When that happens, miscommunication is often the result.

As we enter the holiday season, I encourage all to work together, to respectfully agree to disagree when needed, and to look forward rather than backward. Our communities thrive when we choose cooperation over conflict. We are all volunteers in the eyes of our neighbors, and we all have a role in shaping a strong foundation for the future.

Happy Holidays!

Sue Golwitzer Secretary, Wesley Public Library Board

Reflecting on 2025: Gratitude and growth at KRHC

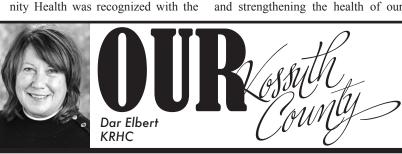
By Dar Elbert **KRHC**

s we approach the holiday season and the end of another year, I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude to the community. Your trust and support allow us to fulfill our mission of providing exceptional care and serving as your home for healthcare. Together, we've accomplished so much in 2025, and it's worth celebrating.

This year, we welcomed Kim Etherington, PA-C, to our clinic team. expanding access to acute care services for our patients. We also welcomed Emergency Medicine Nurse Practitioner Alex Farrell, strengthening our ability to provide timely, expert care in critical situations. In addition, we introduced Pain Management services with CRNA Jacob Miller, giving patients new options for comfort and quality of life.

Our commitment to excellence was recognized nationally when Commu-

vation and heart. As we look ahead to 2026, we remain focused on advancing services, supporting wellness, and strengthening the health of our



HHCAHPS Honors-Elite Status for Exceptional Patient Care, a testament to the compassionate care our team provides every day. These are just a few of the many positive changes and achievements that have shaped KRHC this year.

These milestones reflect more than growth-they represent our dedication to meeting your needs with innocommunity.

From all of us at KRHC, thank you for allowing us to be part of your lives. We wish you a joyful holiday season and a healthy, happy new year.

Dar Elbert is the CEO of Kossuth Regional Health Center

Susan B. Anthony gives lecture in Algona

150 YEARS AGO

Town and County. ----- Ground was broken yesterday for the new telegraph line to the depot. ----- The lecture by Miss Susan B. Anthony on Tuesday evening was very largely attended. ---- Our home musicians added much to the enjoyment of the audience at the lecture on Tuesday evening, by discoursing some very pleasant music

125 YEARS AGO

Arrangements are being perfected whereby the Elwell M. E. church will be moved to Titonka and utilized by the two congregations combined. The Elwell church is situated four or five miles southeast of town. It will be moved onto a lot one block south of the Presbyterian church, the site having been donated by the Western Town Lot Co.

100 Years Ago

The Whittemore Independents, a newly organized basket ball team, composed of former high school players, will meet the Rodman Independents on the Whittemore public school floor Friday evening of this

OUT OF THE **PAST** GENE MILLER

week. The boys in the team all gave a good account of themselves when they played on the high school team and they should develop into a fast aggregation. Turn out Friday night and see a classy game.

75 YEARS AGO

In a basketball game between Fenton and Lone Rock, last week, DeSart of Fenton got credit for scoring two points for Lone Rock . . . one of those freak incidents which can happen anytime, but don't too often.

50 YEARS AGO

It is only speculation, of course, but there has been discussion at top levels of the U.S. Postal Service of attempting to stem the deficit by halting Saturday deliveries and curtailing special delivery services. The postal service has accumulated a deficit the past

three years of \$2.9 billion, or \$7 million a day, or \$250,000 an hour.

25 YEARS AGO

The Whittemore Community Club is once again sponsoring a "Holiday Lighting Contest" for town and rural Whittemore. Appearing in this issue, and the December 14th and 21st issues of the Whittemore Independent will be the official ballot, which will allow you to vote for your top five lighting displays. Please - one ballot per person! Deadline for returning the ballots is Friday, December 22nd. Enjoy the holiday season! Drive around, look at the lights and vote! If you have gone to the effort of putting up lights and decorations, we urge you to turn them on! Voting is open to everyone. Ballots can be returned to Farmers State Bank, City Hall, Elberts Chevrolet, or The Whittemore Independent.

Gene Miller's Out of the Past is compiled from past editions of the Kossuth County Advance, the Algona Upper Des Moines, and their forerunners, and published as they were at the time. The column appears weekly in the Advance.

Throwback: So you wanna buy a car? I mean a fine used car

America is buying Studebakers

at an all-time record rate!



JUST a look at the streets and highways and you know a Studebaker buying wave is sweeping the country.

All America is thinking Studebaker, talking Studebaker, buying Studebaker as never before

Take a proud place of your own in this Studebaker success parade.

Get Studebaker style that sings and Studebaker savings that count in your new car.

STUDEBAKER'S REALLY ROLLING! 1949 IS A STUDEBAKER YEAR!

A new Studebaker in 1949, cost approximately \$1,400, though prices varied by model. In comparison, the average annual salary in 1949 was \$3,600.

If a classic car enthusiast wanted to buy a Studebaker today they could expect to pay around \$17,800 for a 1949 Studebaker 2R5 1/2 Ton in good condition with average spec. The highest selling price of a 1949 Studebaker 2R5 1/2 Ton at auction over the last three years was \$36,300.

From the Feb. 19, 1952, Algona Upper Des Moines newspaper.

Schultz Bros. operated from 1940 to 1985. Starting from a low, swampy site that nobody seemed to think would ever be worth much, to one of the most prosperouslooking and tidy business corners in this section of Iowa is, in a few words, the story of Schultz Bros, growth in 12 years here.

The first business unit established on the now completely built-up corner on South Phillips Street was a filling station erected by Alfred Schultz. (Today is home

The small building had to be placed on fill, because the site was strictly "lowlands." Alfred put a lot of work, and a lot of long hours into the operation of the station in those days — and he had a vision of building a business on a solid foundation: Start small — make it go — then add more as conditions permitted.

As the station prospered, and made friends and customers, Alfred decided to add a single garage unit. This was done, and in time an addition was erected. Meanwhile, sons Armin and Wesley had come into the picture to lend their help, and the business prospered. When both sons left for World War II, Alfred kept things going by hard work.

Following the war, the Schultz's were awarded the Studebaker dealership here, and that called for lots more work, and planning. Another addition was added to the building, for service work, and a special modern showroom was installed. Just this past year, still another addition to the building had to be made, for the purpose of housing new cars. The main building now occupies the full corner site.

While all this was going on, Alfred and the boys were improving the site in rear of the business buildings. First one modern home was put up, and then as family demands became larger for the sons, other homes were erected. Trees were planted, grass was sown, until today the "Schultz Bros. Corner" is not only an attractive and fully built-up business site, but gets a full share of comment for the handsome appearance it lends to Algona.

All sorts of modern equipment has meanwhile been inserted into the Schultz Bros business operation here. One of the best known is the Schultz wrecker truck, called "Jumbo". Since putting this piece of equipment into operation several years ago, the Schultz's have found that "Jumbo" has acquired for them true fame. "Jumbo" has seen action all over this part of Iowa.

Also at Schultz Bros are found such items of equipment as a new Hunter Wheel Balancer, and complete facilities for work on cars and trucks, with a complete staff of trained people to handle the work. But one thing Schultz Bros are as proud of as they are of the results they have obtained over the years on "Schultz Bros. Corner" is their Studebaker dealership. For proof of that, just talk to Alfred, Armin or Wesley - or for that matter, to any of the people on their staff.

ABOUT LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We encourage you to share your opinions on the issues of the day in a letter to the editor. Letters should center on a single topic. Please keep them to a reasonable length – 350 words or less is usually sufficient, but if it is a complicated matter, more words can be acceptable. We reserve the right to edit or refuse any materials submitted to the Advance for publication. Anonymous letters will not be published, and you should include your name, address, phone number and email with any submission. If you have questions, email us at news@algona.com or call 515-295-3535.

SCHULTZ BROS.

Algona



ACTIVE SENIORS

Yahnke Garage

Ledyard

WINTER ITEMS NEEDED

Active Seniors of Algona are collecting and distributing coats and winter items for those in need. Distribution began Nov. 3 and will continue throughout the winter season.

Donations of gently used coats, hats, gloves, scarves and other warm clothing are appreciated. Items can be donated or picked up at the Active Seniors of Algona Center on Main Street in Algona, Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Membership drive for new members

Starting Oct. 1, 2025 get Oct. Nov. and Dec. free with your 2026 membership cost of \$20 a year. Active Seniors of Algona 1306 N. Main St. Algona

> Reserve your meal by noon the day before. 515-295-7956

Thursday, December 4

Tuna melt sandwich, potato salad, vegetable and fruit 11 a.m. Exercises

6 p.m. Euchre

Friday, December 5 Chicken pot pie, breadstick,

vegetable and fruit 10 a.m. Bingo

Monday, December 8 BBQ chicken, potato, veg-

etable and fruit 10 a.m. Bingo

wich, vegetable and fruit

11 a.m. Exercises

1 p.m. Devotionals

Tuesday, December 9 Potato soup, half meat sand-

and fruit 10 a.m. Bingo

salad, fruit

fruit

1 p.m. 500 Cards

11 a.m. Exercises

1:15 Board meeting

Friday. December 12

Sloppy Joe, potato, vegetable

12 p.m. Potluck, bring your own table service, bring adopt a family items, vote for board members. Entertainment by Steve Lang.

Wednesday, December 10

Spaghetti, breadstick, lettuce

Thursday, December 11

Pork, stuffing, vegetable and