

CARROLL + BEYOND

COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Hausman running as District 4 incumbent

BY SARAH STORTZ
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Stephanie Hausman will be running as an incumbent candidate for the District 4 seat on the Carroll County Board of Supervisors.

Hausman will face Ken Pingrey, the Carroll County Sheriff, during the Republican primary election on June 2.

In 2018, Hausman was first elected as a county supervisor. Born and raised in Carroll County herself, Hausman returned home after moving away for college.

One day, someone asked Hausman if she ever thought about becoming a county supervisor. She admitted she wasn't sure what the role entailed at the time.

"I was like, 'Well, sure, let me look into it. I need to know a little bit more about the roles and responsibilities,' and I had a young kid at home and worked full time, so I had to look at their time commitment and things like that," Hausman said. "Lo and behold, it truly

interests me to give back to the community, and I figured I'd be a good fit."

Running her campaign, Hausman said she's always based it on three factors: faith, family and community.

"I have a wonderful family, really good faith, and I love this community, so I would never change that slogan, but knowing now what I didn't know then, I'm mind-blown on how intricate county government is," Hausman said.

As a county supervisor, Hausman said her first time navigating the budgeting season was a challenging time. However, she credits her fellow supervisors in helping her out.

Working as one board member, Hausman emphasized the importance of working with the other supervisors.

"You do have to collaborate and you do



Hausman

have to get along, whether you agree on the same things or not, and trust me, you don't want everybody to agree on every single thing," Hausman said. "You want to hear all those different opinions. You really want your government to be able to sit down at the table and discuss all the different options."

Over the years, Hausman said she's proud of remaining conservative from a tax payer standpoint and not taking a pay raise.

"I am a firm believer, as an elected official, you know what you were making when you took that office and I don't believe in substantial pay increases. I don't think that's fair to the taxpayers. I think we're taxed already enough," Hausman said. "And does it get challenging trying to provide all the services that everyone expects with the budget that we have? It's challenging. It's challenging every year, but we always come through."

Hausman also highlighted the supervisors lowering the tax levy this year.

"You're not seeing that from all taxing

authorities, you're seeing tax increases but from the county supervisors perspective, we did decrease our levy," Hausman said.

Working as a county supervisor is a commitment, Hausman said, but it's one she's never regretted over the past eight years.

"I know I've done a great job, in my opinion. I listen to what my constituents want. I feel like I have followed that for the last eight years, I hope they continue to support me," Hausman said. "Sometimes, it's okay to be the person at the table that says no. It's the county checkbook and I treat it like it's my checkbook. If I don't feel like money needs to be spent, then money doesn't need to be spent."

Hausman lives in rural Carroll County with her family, including her daughter, Emery, and her husband, Jess Hausman.

Outside of work in county government, Hausman is a businesswoman, operating local businesses such as Hausman Dozing, Carroll Cleaning Supply and Prep & Plate.

CAMPAIGN

Secretary of state candidate laments election law changes

BY LARRY DEVINE
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Ryan Peterman, Democratic candidate for Iowa secretary of state, says the right to vote is fundamental but recent changes in voting laws appear to be meant to limit participation by making voting more difficult and introducing scare tactics and confusion.

Peterman spoke before a small gathering at 1730 Tap House in Carroll Friday afternoon. He's the only Democrat running for secretary of state. Iowa's primary election is June 2, and the general election is Nov. 3. He is seeking to oust Republican Paul Pate, who's served in the office four terms — 1995-99 and from 2015 to present.

Peterman's campaign biography says he grew up in Bettendorf and served 10 years as a Navy helicopter pilot after graduating from the Naval Academy. He later returned

to work at the Naval Academy as an honor education officer. He also spent a year working as a legislative fellow for U.S. Sen. Jeanne Shaheen, D-New Hampshire. Working with Shaheen, he said at the Carroll event, he's seen the potential for good government when dedicated public servants are in office.

"Two values, honor and integrity are two things lacking in way too many of our public servants," he remarked.

Moving back to the Quad Cities, where he has family, Peterman, 35, said that since he's been away in the military, a lot has changed in Iowa, but not for the better. He pointed to economic struggles, declining access to health care, high cancer rates, "terrible" water quality, and public-education challenges.

Peterman said he decided to run for secretary of state because changes are needed, and those

begin at the ballot box.

The secretary of state, who's elected every four years, serves as the state commissioner of elections. Duties also include maintaining corporations' records, registering trademarks, commissioning notaries public and preserving original documents.

Gov. Kim Reynolds, a Republican, signed into law legislation making major election changes, including reducing the number of days for early voting and restricting absentee voting.

Peterman said the push for new election laws in Iowa and across the country are meant to introduce confusion and "scare folks off from showing up at the ballot box."

"At the end of the day, the right to vote is just that. It's a right," he said. "At the bare minimum it should be the responsibility of government, particularly the secretary of state to protect that right."



PHOTO BY LARRY DEVINE

Democratic Iowa secretary of state candidate Ryan Peterman speaks at campaign event at 1730 Tap House in Carroll.

He said voting is the fundamental way of choosing leaders who shape the future of the country and the state.

"Election security is important, but accessibility is also important," he added.

He acknowledged lawmakers are the ones who set election rules. "But I want to be an advocate for better election laws, make elec-

tions more accessible for folks," he said.

He added, "I don't think the role of secretary of state should be partisan. ... As secretary of state I would never try to shape an election in a way that benefited my desired outcome. My sole goal is to make sure that every Iowan has the opportunity to make sure their voice is heard."

COMMUNITY

New Hope Foundation hosting Quilt Auction on April 11

BY TIMES HERALD STAFF

New Hope invites the community to its biennial Quilt Auction on Saturday, April 11, at the Carrollton Centre in Carroll.

This cherished tradition stitches together generosity, craftsmanship and community impact. The 16th Biennial Charity Quilt Auction offers multiple ways to participate, making it easier than ever for supporters to get involved, whether in person or from home. The New Hope Charity Quilt Auction is not a typical fundraiser. Attendees and bidders go home with beautiful quilts and unique items, knowing they have made a positive impact on the individuals who call New Hope home. A selection of delectable desserts also will be auctioned and served to guests who attend the dinner.

Experience the Quilt Auction on Your Own Schedule

— Online silent auction opened March 28

Bid from anywhere through New Hope's online silent auction featuring quilts and a variety of unique items.

— Afternoon open house from 2 to 4 (freewill offering)

Community members are invited to preview the quilts, browse items, and enjoy a relaxed, come-and-go experience before the evening festivities.

— Evening auction full event (Doors open at 4:30 p.m.), \$30 per person, \$240 table of eight, enjoy a catered meal from Lidderdale Country Store and the live auction.

— Evening auction only admission (6:30 p.m.) | \$10 per person.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Bryan Baumhover is shown with New Hope Interim CEO Lacie Tedrow and his donation of the Blood Oath Bourbon Trilogy set.

Join the excitement of the live auction and bid in person on these one-of-a-kind items.

"The Quilt Auction is about more than quilts. It's about bringing our community together to support the individuals we serve," said Cindy Neil, New Hope director of development. "Whether you join us online, stop by the open house, or attend the live auction, you make an impact on the lives of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities."

Auction Sneak Peek

In addition to a wide selection of fine handmade quilts, the live auction includes unique specialty items, such as:

— Blood Oath Trilogy Bourbon

Boxed Whiskey set (valued at nearly \$2,000)

— Home deep cleaning services

— Golf for four at premier Iowa courses

— Signed jerseys from Hawkeye quarterback Mark Gronowski and the Hawkeye women's basketball team

— Catered pork chop dinner for 25 from Lidderdale Country Store

— Top shelf liquors, including Corazón Expresiones Tequila, Caribou Crossing Canadian Whisky, Colonel E.H. Taylor Bourbon, and a 2009 Cask-Aged Knob Creek Rye

— Four tickets to the 2026 Nebraska vs. Bowling Green football game

— VIP tickets to the Principal



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Russell and Deann Buddin show their donation of a music-themed quilt for the New Hope Quilt Auction. Russell's sister lived with New Hope for many years.



PHOTO BY LARRY DEVINE

Leann Baumhover (left) and Stacey Vonnahme, New Hope chief public relations officer, show a Kuemper T-shirt quilt Baumhover made specially for the 2026 New Hope Quilt Auction.

Charity Classic Golf Tournament And much more.

Still Accepting Donations

New Hope Village is accepting quilts and auction items from its community partners through noon Friday, April 3. Tickets for the 16th Biennial Charity Quilt Auction are still available. To reserve tickets, visit the website www.newhopevillage.org. You can also call or email Cindy Neil, director of develop-

ment, at (712) 794-0917 or support-NH@newhopevillage.org. Dinner tickets are limited.

Proceeds from the Charity Quilt Auction support New Hope's mission of providing quality services and opportunities for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Additional Quilt Auction information and item details can be found on New Hope's Facebook page.