



Kicking off at the fair July 22-27, county residents can get involved in choosing one of the calendar guys to be featured over the next three weeks with the crowning during a January gala open to everyone.

By Jan Rahn

Managing Editor

Although crowning isn't scheduled until a gala in January, residents are going to have a ball up until then choosing "Mr. Perkins County."

A dozen males are being presented as candidates and calendar guys to raise support for the Perkins County Health Services Foundation, the hospital expansion/remodel project, and Perkins County.

The brainchild of PCHS Foundation Administrator Jody Snogren, this county-wide event will benefit everyone.

"I just can't say enough about these guys who not only stepped up to represent our county, but also the health services," said Snogren. "This fundraiser is about community pride, as well as having a great time while supporting what you believe in!"

Calendars featuring the candidates will become available during the Perkins County Fair.

Here are the candidates and the Highline towns they represent:

Elsie: Mike Perlinger, Glen Stanek, Terry Sis.

Madrid: Nick Ross, Dave Jantzen, Chet Harger.

Grant: Steve Loeffler, JJ Long, Derek Wilson.

Brandon/Venango: Glen Karst, Dave Schmitt, Steve Tucker.

They will make their presence known at community gatherings as the year winds down—the Perkins County Fair, the Homecoming game, the Chamber Christmas open house. Their photos, taken by Andi Lee of Alee Photography or Val Jantzen, will appear in the 2014 calendar. Publicity will appear in upcoming issues of the Grant Tribune-Sentinel, on Facebook, and on Clear Channel.

How It Works

Each candidate will promote Perkins County, the PCHS Foundation and the hospital expansion/remodel project. Each candidate will receive credit for every donation, gala event ticket sold, or calendar purchased in their name.

The candidate who raises the most money will be crowned Mr. Perkins County.

The new year will kick off with a gala to crown the winner and celebrate the fundraising effort.

The gala is set for Friday, Jan. 3, 2014 with dinner, dancing, a silent auction and the crowning at the Perkins County Fairgrounds.

Attendance to the gala event will be offered individually, as couples, or as whole tables for families, businesses, etc.

Tickets may be purchased at a later date.

Candidates Featured Each Week

Beginning this week, a group of four candidates will be featured weekly over the course of the next three weeks. Their photos and biographies will give county residents the opportunity to get acquainted with their background and to meet them at the upcoming events where they will greet the public.

MR. JANUARY

Steve Loeffler of Grant (top photo) is a farmer, rancher and in fuel/oil sales. He enjoys classic cars and pickups, reading and music.

Steve and his wife, Chris, have been married 30 years. Their son, Kevin, is married and lives in Omaha. Son, Craig, teaches in Kearney.

He is an active member of the Zion Lutheran Church in Grant.

Commenting on what he loves about Perkins County, Loeffler said, “I love the lasting friendships, people and churches that care, the smell of fresh cut alfalfa. Moving to Grant in 1975 was a great thing for me—I became a Plainsman and met my wife, Chris.”

MR. FEBRUARY

Derek Wilson of Grant is a feedlot owner/rancher who enjoys camping and spending time at the lake.

He and wife, Melissa, have four children, Ashley, Tyler, Sydney and Emily.

Derek is involved in the community through the Perkins County Youth Development Club, the Grant United Methodist Church and as a member of the fair board.

“It has always been home,” Wilson said about Perkins County. “I knew from the time I was a little kid that I would raise my family here.”

MR. MARCH

Dave Schmitt of Brandon is a farmer and crop/hail insurance rep.

Among his hobbies are fishing, Husker football, Rockies baseball, spending time with grandkids, woodworking, backpacking and camping.

He is married to Shelly and has two grown stepdaughters, Brandy and husband Moe; Jenni and husband Barry. The Schmitts have three grandchildren, Harlow, Blake and Dexter.

Dave is a member of the Perkins County Fair Board and an alternate on the Board of Adjustment.

“The county is full of great people who are easy to get along with,” he said. “Businesses go out of their way for customers. A few of our great assets are our hospital and medical system, as well as our fire departments.”

MR. APRIL

Nicholas Ross of Madrid is a parts store owner and mechanic who likes to hunt and fish, and enjoys sports and cars.

He and wife, Sandy, have been married 29 years. They have two daughters and two sons, Megan, Brittany, Tony and Vincent.

Nick is a member of Rotary, is a member of the Madrid Village Board, and belongs to Resurrection of Our Lord Catholic Church.

About Perkins County, Ross said, “Small towns are great places to raise families. People here are friendly, hardworking and have values—born and raised in Perkins County and proud of it!”





