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Merry Christmas!
Section inside

Some things never change, like:
"Christmas comes but once a year but
when it comes it brings good cheer."

Falls City
JOURNAL



Vol. 147 - No. 51

Falls City, Nebraska

Friday, December 21, 2012

FC Jaycees DSA Award nominations

The Falls City Area Jaycees are seeking nominations to honor those who have shown outstanding leadership in and around the community in 2012.

Page 3 of today's Journal includes a large nomination ballot to be used for nominations of persons to be recognized at the Monday, Jan. 21, Jaycees' Distinguished Service Awards Banquet to be held at the Elks Club.

Nomination forms may also be picked up at State Farm Insurance Office, 2002 Stone St.

The Jaycees urge everyone to take some time to submit the names of those you feel are deserving of the appropriate awards. The Jaycees take great pride in recognizing those who excel in making the community a better place to live.

The public's input is essential in making the awards ceremony a success.

Following is a clarification of the specifics regarding the Distinguished Service Awards program:

— Anyone is eligible for nomination, as noted in each category (see nomination ballot).

— Nominees in each category are judged using a scoring and voting system with the winners receiving the best overall scores and/or votes.

— Families and friends of the winners will be notified the week before the banquet to make plans for the winners to be there.

When making your nomination

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75¢



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Christmas Tree!

Last pine tree harvested, Christmas memory made at Ye Ole Pine Patch

By Bill Schock

The Ye Ole Pine Patch at Rulo has had its last roundup.

After 43 years of giving it his tender loving care, Bruce Walker, with some prodding from "The Boss," his wife Mary, has decided the time had come to throw in the towel. So this is the last year for Ye Ole Pine Patch.

The losers will be the many, many families in the three-state area who have relied on Bruce to furnish the shapely pine tree to make Christmas-time come alive in their homes and to put oceans of sparkle in their kids' eyes.

Asked how he ever got so wound up with pine trees and their Christmas tradition, Bruce, whose life work was 36 years in the Soil Conservation Service, said "it was something different to do in my spare time and maybe to make a little extra money." Plus, a friend in Wymore was doing the same thing and could offer a few tricks of the trade.

Mary, always quick on the draw with some humor, interjected with, "It was for us to get rich. Look around here."

Getting started, Bruce bought some vacant lots in Rulo in 1969 and planted about 300 pine trees—by hand, with help from Rulo kids.

"You have to know what you're doing when you plant so it took plenty of overseeing. I kept yelling at the kids, 'Keep the green side up! Keep the green side up!'"

Judging from the results, they did. Assisting at the Pine Patch gave Rulo kids some spending money, Bruce added with considerable satisfaction.

While he was working for SCS he spent lots of Saturdays and Sunday afternoons nursing his pines along and presto, six years later they were ready to add Christmas warmth to homes.

Bruce advertised Ye Ole Pine Patch in area newspapers with the invitation to "Come and pick out your Christmas tree."

They came by families and more often than not their kids, armed with Bruce's bow saw and instructive hands-on from the treemaster, cut down the tree they had picked out. Oodles of cameras clicked as photos were taken for family albums.

The tradition has been handed down and Bruce



Photo by Jason Schock

After 43 years of making Christmas time come alive for so many local families, Bruce Walker has let the sun set on Ye Ole Pine Patch in Rulo.

recalls any number who came as young persons then bringing their grandkids to select their tree.

For many years he planted around 500 trees a year but he has phased that out the past five years or so.

"I told him to quit planting so we would have some time to enjoy re-

(Please turn to Page 12)

Main Street parking dominates meeting

Concerns about a parking time limit, narrow intersections and unloading deliveries were expressed when Mayor Tim Hersh and the City Council met in regular session Monday, Dec. 17.

The Main Street Falls City project, while aesthetically a hit, has, according to the mayor, council members and retailers, created challenges. And passing an ordinance to limit downtown parking to a two-hour limit, would be a step in the wrong direction, council members were told.

Mary Whitehouse, who owns and operates

three businesses in the 1600 block of Stone and has apartments for rent in the downtown area, said more input should have been sought from retailers before the actual revitalization construction began. Those with businesses on Stone Street "feel we should have a say" because the construction "affects our livelihood," Whitehouse said. She was complimentary of new Chamber/Main Street Executive Director Eric Barr, who, in his brief time on the job, has tried to improve communication.

Whitehouse said most of the negative feelings are the result of "not having a say. We've

invested lots of money (in businesses)," she said, and that should entitle retailers to offer input. Whitehouse argued that a parking time limit could and should be "self-policed" and not require an ordinance and Falls City Police enforcement.

City Clerk/Treasurer Gary Jorn said that is exactly the direction that has been discussed at a number of Chamber/Main Street and committee meetings; that a parking time limit not be enforced by ordinance, but through education, self-policing and in a spirit of cooperation. Jorn stressed, however, the importance of park-

(Please turn to Page 12)



Thank Goodness For Wake Up Calls

GRAND WEAVER HOTEL
18TH & STONE STREET, FALLS CITY, NE 402-245-2448



FC Jaycees DSA Awards

(Continued from Page 1)

tions, it is strongly recommended that you include a resume or letter of recommendation that fully describes your nominee's accomplishments specifically in 2011, as well as past activities.

Also, add reasons why you feel he or she is deserving of winning that particular award.

Every year the Jaycees host the annual DSA Banquet with the primary purpose to recognize that the community of Falls City is blessed to have many wonderful individuals who make a real difference in people's lives.

This banquet is our chance, as a community, to reflect on these gifts and celebrate volunteerism.

DSA nominations are due by Thursday, Jan. 10. Please send them to:

DSA Nominations
c/o Falls City Area Jaycees
P.O. Box 202
Falls City, NE 68355

Nominations may also be delivered in a sealed envelope to the State Farm Insurance Office, 2002 Stone St.



Fascination with Lincoln sparked by movie, election

Capitol View
By J.L. Schmidt
Statehouse Correspondent
Nebraska Press Association

A current popular movie and a recent election have folks talking about their fascination with America's 16th President, Abraham Lincoln.

In Nebraska, the state's capital city bears his name. A statue on the west steps of the State Capitol seems to beckon Nebraskans from the west to visit their seat of government. Likewise, a statue on the east steps of Lincoln's City Hall beckons the majority of the city's population who live east of that building.

I went to Lincoln Heights grade school in Scottsbluff. There was also a Lincoln Elementary in nearby Gering. My wife grew up in Lincoln County.

The Lincoln Highway dissects the state, closely parallel to Interstate Highway 80. It was Henry Bourne Joy, then President of Packard Motor Company, who convinced Congress to name the hard surface road from New York to California after his favorite president. Lincoln had worked as an attorney who helped Joy's father, railroad magnate James Joy, in his push to connect large parts of America by the iron rail.

Honest Abe served the country at a time of controversy and unrest as slavery led to Civil War. He died at the hands of an assassin while enjoying a night at the theater with his wife. It was during these struggles that some of his best-remembered sayings were recorded.

As shared by my late friend Nebraska Attorney General Robert Spire during a minor hiccup in the doings of state government, Spire quoted what Lincoln said when confronted about who was right in the Civil War. "My concern is not whether God is on our side; my greatest concern is to be on God's side, for God is always right."

Lincoln, whose face appears on the humblest and most prolific of United States currency, the penny, said in defense of his sincerity and his own looks: "If I were two-faced, would I be wearing this one?" He noted later that "The Lord prefers common-looking people. That is

why he made so many of them."

Interesting that the recent elections have sparked talk of the secession that Lincoln confronted during his presidency. What did Lincoln say in addition to the oft quoted "a house divided against itself cannot stand"? He said, "We are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies. Though passion may have strained, it must not break our bonds of affection. The mystic chords of memory will swell when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature."

Lincoln even had a warning

for future generations of politicians that seems fitting today: "You cannot escape the responsibility of tomorrow by evading it today." And for the rest of us, this reminder: "If you once forfeit the confidence of your fellow citizens, you can never regain their respect and esteem. It is true that you may fool all of the people some of the time; you can even fool some of the people all of the time; but you can't fool all of the people all of the time."

Thank You President Lincoln!

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

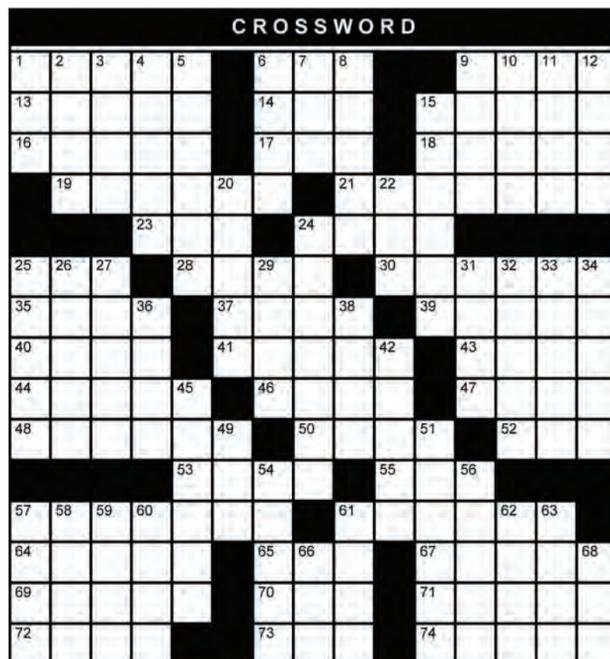
THEME: World Leaders

ACROSS

- 1. Like children's book character Nancy
- 6. Grade A item on grocery list
- 9. Spill the beans
- 13. Greeting from Don Ho
- 14. ___ chi
- 15. *Location of Mohammed Morsi's presidential palace
- 16. It lacks appropriate punctuation
- 17. Wood-shaping tool
- 18. It often fell in old cartoons
- 19. *One of EU leaders
- 21. *Anti-apartheid leader
- 23. Moray ___
- 24. I, to a Greek
- 25. Where messages are given
- 28. Letter opener
- 30. Pincer insect
- 35. Animal mitts
- 37. Doofus
- 39. Narcotics lawman
- 40. Please do not delay
- 41. Ringworm
- 43. Shore extension
- 44. Quiet gesture
- 46. Enameled metalware
- 47. Seat locator
- 48. Type of lightweight cotton
- 50. Reduced Instruction Set Computer
- 52. Austin Powers, e.g.
- 53. Not naughty
- 55. Bur or white ___
- 57. Scope
- 61. Ligament injury
- 64. *George W's is in Crawford, TX
- 65. Back of a boat
- 67. *He's president again
- 69. Lemur from Madagascar
- 70. Public health promoting org.
- 71. NBA venue
- 72. ___ on scene
- 73. Be mistaken
- 74. Smallest detectable sensation

DOWN

- 1. ___ cry
- 2. Reunion attendee
- 3. "___ the wiser"
- 4. House duty
- 5. Pulled with a jerk
- 6. And others, for short
- 7. Cowboy's boot prod
- 8. Its name is not known
- 9. Paul McCartney's "___ on the Run"
- 10. In real-time
- 11. Seed cover
- 12. Western cord necktie
- 15. Promised Land
- 20. *Obama, President-___, e.g.
- 22. Chowed down
- 24. Pig iron predecessor
- 25. Accompanies seizure
- 26. Turkish bigwig
- 27. Nobel Prize, e.g.
- 29. Came or climbed down
- 31. What Eminem does
- 32. Court orders, e.g.
- 33. Freeze over
- 34. *Perestroika leader, nickname
- 36. Tim Duncan, e.g.
- 38. Where things are made to order
- 42. Famous fabulist
- 45. *Mohandas or Indira
- 49. Canine command
- 51. ___ tunnel
- 54. Irritate by rubbing
- 56. Resin-producing tree
- 57. Hat part
- 58. Feminine of raja
- 59. "___ of the earth"
- 60. Used for measuring land
- 61. *Eisenhower was a five-___ general
- 62. Big-ticket ___
- 63. Supreme Court count
- 66. *Famous for New Deal
- 68. Old-fashioned form of Anna



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(1) Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies included on PS Form 3541	(1)	0	0
	(2) Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies included on PS Form 3541	0	0
	(3) Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail)	0	0
	(4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)	30	30
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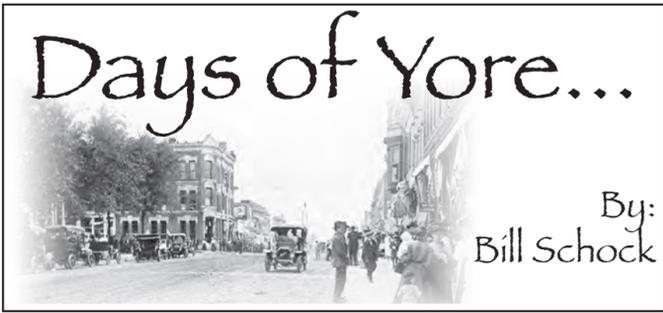
I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

PS Form 3526, August 2012 (Page 2 of 3)

Ribbon Cutting

A Falls City Chamber of Commerce ribbon cutting and open house will be held for "The Studio Salon," 1613 Stone St., at 10 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 10.

Sharon Adams is owner/operator of The Studio.



50 Years Ago
(Dec. 24-29, 1962)

County Commissioners set the salaries of county officials at \$4,350, a raise of \$200.

Seaman Larry Milburn, FC, was in the Navy at Long Beach, CA.

Steve Sperry, FC, a second year cadet at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, home on Christmas leave, was the Rotary Club's Father-Son dinner speaker, telling about life at the Academy.

The stork report: Daughter Dec. 24 to Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Dettmann, Verdon; son Dec. 28 to Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Bentley, FC; daughter Dec. 28 to Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Morris, Stella.

Here's one I betcha didn't miss: At the Oil it was Jackie Gleason, Anthony Quinn and Mickey Rooney in "Requiem for a Heavyweight." The Rivoli was showing Debbie Reynolds and Tony Randall in "The Dating Game."

Simon Lantzy, Lincoln, joined the Wiltse & Wiltse law firm.

Ten FCHS basketball players and their coaches, Bob Henderson and Ray Graves, took in the semi-finals of the Big Eight tourney in Kansas City.

Zinn's Barber Shop advertised that haircuts were still \$1.25.

Operating the Smart Set Beauty Salon were Bill Gilkerson and Byron Gerlt.

Tom Carey, ex-FC, was coaching a Lincoln Pius X and taking graduate work at the university.

Mark Harkendorff, a 5th grader at North School, won a \$200 go-kart in a Brown's Shoe Fit contest entered by 57 kids.

An item from the United Press:
London—The Civil Service Clerical Union urged that ashtrays in the national assistance welfare board office be anchored securely to desks. The union spokesman said that almost every year about 70 angry welfare applicants hurled ashtrays at assistance clerks.

25 Years Ago

RC, the 18-month old Normandy steer which was the family pet of the Robert Eickhoff family, Verdon, was bought by a company which supplied rodeo stock. The firm planned to fit RC into a clown act at rodeos.

Robert Aitken joined Rodger Merz CPA and the firm name was changed to Merz & Aitken.

Gina Scheitel served 19 points as Jim Hill's women's volleyball team defeated an Auburn team in three sets.

Bessie Shubert, 84, was honored for 11 years of dedicated service at Ketter Manor.

Earl Moeller was elected president of the Rotary Club and Clyde McKinney was vice president.

Angie Helmick, Sacred Heart, was the Journal's Athlete of the Week.

Jack & Jill Food Center deli would make you a Poorboy sandwich for \$1.39.

The stork report: Son Dec. 27 to Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Smith, FC; daughter Dec. 29 to Mr. and Mrs. Ted Godemann, Lincoln.

The VFW post hosted a free post-Christmas dinner at The Oasis for 90 senior citizens. Jim Prater and Ron Young did the cooking and the VFW Auxiliary did the serving.

At the Southside Inn bar drinks were 60 cents.

Tom and Mary Whitehouse placed 165 luminaries to add to the beautiful Mini-Park decorations.

15 Years Ago

Stephen B. Miles, ex-FC, Tucson, AZ, wrote a feature story for the Journal on the once-famous Miles Ranch (dating from 1852), thousands of acres southwest of Dawson. It had served as a stage coach stop and was one of the first large scale livestock and grain operations. At the time of the death of S. B. Miles, who became a banker, in 1898, in 1997 values, the Miles fortune would have a value of \$45 or \$50 million.

The Journal's Athletes of the Week were Julie Froeschl, Sacred Heart, and Nathan Hinrichs, FCHS.

Oris C Hatch, 96, vocational ag teacher at FCHS for 38 years, passed away.

A son was born on Dec. 25 to Mr. and Mrs. Gary Frederick, FC.

Aaron Hill and Jennifer Santo, FC, were on the fall honor roll at Benedictine College, Atchison, KS.

Santa's House, on 17th Street south of the Courthouse, all dressed up in red and white, had been given a big facelift by volunteers headed by Deb Baker with the sandblasting and painting by Tyler Bek. Lots of kids, like 250, were stopping to reveal their gift lists to Santa and to pick up some treats.

Jones awarded Courthouse bid

The Richardson County Commissioners, meeting in regular session Tuesday, opened sealed bids for the replacement of the water chiller on the Courthouse air conditioner.

Bids were received from Midlands Mechanical, Inc., Lincoln for \$136,630, Jones Air Conditioning of Falls City for \$94,588 and Mechanical Systems, Inc., Omaha, for \$158,400.

Board members Dave Sickel, Bill Ely and Jim Davidson voted to accept the bids for review purposes.

After reviewing the bids with the engineer, the Commissioners voted unanimously to accept the bid from Jones Air Conditioning.

During their weekly meeting with Highway Supt. Scott Huppert, the board voted to enter into a revised interlocal agreement with the City of Humboldt for the repairs, maintenance and construction of certain bridges and roads. The board members also discussed plans to replace the collapsed bridge northwest of Humboldt. Engineering plans will be developed by Speece-Lewis Engineers.

A quarterly Safety Committee meeting was held. Huppert reported plans to place the fuel tanks in a contained area outside the County Shop, and that crews are ready for winter storms. Road crews will continue to remove snow and ice from the Courthouse walks. Huppert said a few radio communications problems continue to be encountered.

Matt Cromer from the Road and Bridge Dept. said the tire truck needs to be replaced as several problems, including the transmission, are being experienced. Tammie Beckner, Courthouse maintenance, reported that ice melt has been ordered for the Courthouse sidewalks.

Sheriff Randy Houser noted that some new electrical outlets have been installed in the 3rd floor Sheriff's Office. Improvements that could be made to the jail cells to keep inmates from doing minor damages to the facility were discussed. Houser said radio communications continue to be a problem, and also brought to the attention of the group the recent school shootings in Connecticut. The Sheriff's Dept. officers and FCPD officers are unable to communicate with their out-of-car/handheld radios.

In other developments, the Commissioners:

—Met with County Attorney Bob Meyer to review the current 4-County Mentoring Program funded by a Juvenile Services grant through the Nebraska Crime Commission. A letter was received from Heartland Big Brothers Big Sisters regarding the lack of capacity to continue to coordinate all of the activities that the NE Crime Commission requires with the grand funding. This would include the development of the comprehensive juvenile services plan for the next three years. They will continue to serve the counties through the end of the current contract period of June 30, 2013, and will continue to monitor and supervise the matches that are in place at that time with no additional expense.

The board moved to approve and enter into an agreement with Johnson, Nemaha and Pawnee counties and People United for Families, Inc., a Nebraska nonprofit corporation, to implement a four-county juvenile service plan.

—Received a proposed agreement with EDGE for continued funding for fiscal year 2012-13. The agreement will be considered at the next meeting.

—Received correspondence from the Nebraska State Auditor regarding the audit for the fiscal year end June 30, 2013, which that office has determined is necessary. The maximum fee shall not exceed \$25,000 and the Auditor's office will only charge for actual work hours and actual expenses incurred.

—Received notice that Kinderhook Dawson Production Co., Inc., has made application with the Nebraska Oil & Gas Conservation Commission requesting authorization of a Class II-D Injection Well, with the hearing set for Jan. 22, 2013, at Sidney.

—Moved to approve nominee Robert White to the Richardson County Extension Board, effective Jan. 1, 2013.

Sez 'I'

A note from Marlen

Former Falls City resident, Marlen Luff, now of Caldwell, ID, (but still a strong supporter of Falls City) sent me the following e-mail, which, I felt, should be shared with the citizens of Falls City.

Marlen writes — "Consolidated Grain & Barge Co. (CGB) is a division of ITOCHU INTERNATIONAL of JAPAN. ITOCHU is the owner of MULTIQUIP, INC . . . and, of course, that is where I ended my career (at MULTIQUIP) . . . as Director of Health, Safety and Environment . . . retiring in 2010. I was fortunate enough to be able to visit the world headquarters of ITOCHU in Tokyo . . . and what a deal that was. Anyway, it's a great world-wide company and a great global citizen."

Marlen also stated, "CGB will be great for Falls City."

Thank you for sharing this info with us, Marlen, and for your continued love and support of Falls City!

Respectfully,
Rod Vandenberg

TODAY IN HISTORY
On this day in 1969, Vince Lombardi, with the Washington Redskins, coached his last football game.

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"Hotel Transylvania"
Rated PG
7 PM ONLY & 3 PM SUNDAY

"Red Dawn"
Rated PG-13
9 PM ONLY ALL WEEK
Starting Tues. Dec. 25th Christmas Day

"Parental Guidance"
Rated PG
7 PM ONLY

HELD OVER
"The Hobbit"
Rated PG-13
7 PM ONLY

JAYCEES DSA BANQUET NOMINATION FORM

Please take a few moments to nominate that outstanding someone you know that best represents one of the following categories, then ATTACH A LETTER explaining his or her qualifications for the award before January 10, 2013. Please do not nominate the same person for more than one award. Send your nominations today to: DSA NOMINATIONS C/O FALLS CITY AREA JAYCEES, P.O. BOX 202, FALLS CITY, NE 68355.

I would like to nominate _____
(print full name)

- For the following award
- Distinguished Service Award
 - Outstanding Educator Award
 - Outstanding Community Leader Award
 - Boss of the Year Award
 - Robert J. Chab Community Service Award
 - Good Neighbor Award

Home Address _____ City _____

Home Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Occupation or Profession _____

Company Name _____

Business Address _____ City _____

Business Phone _____ Fax _____

Marital Status (Spouse's Name) _____ Age _____

Children (Name & Ages) _____

It is our suggestion that you present the following information in a letter to relay why this individual should be honored for the respective award:

1. Schools attended (degrees, academic honors, etc...)
2. Civic, fraternal, religious organizations and affiliations.
3. Describe career of the nominee, including some background and the scope of the nominee's work or activity.
4. Describe the nominee's exceptional achievements or contributions in the nominee's chosen field, organization, and/or community.
5. List honors and awards received which evaluate the nominee's achievements.
6. Include any other pertinent information which you feel would support your candidate and why you, the nominator, believe that your nominee should be selected.

Nominator's Name _____

Address _____ City _____

Phone No. _____ Fax _____ E-Mail _____

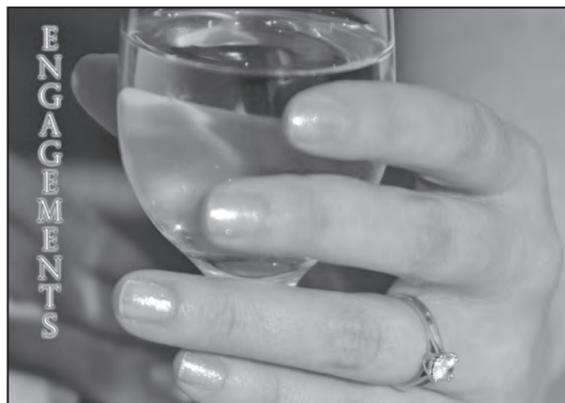
Signature of Nominator _____

All entries must be received no later than Thursday, January 10th, 2013

***Would you like your name put in a drawing for \$50 in Chamber bucks as a thank you for writing a nomination letter? Check one of the following:**

- Yes! I would like my name to be put in a drawing for \$50 in Chamber Bucks!
- No, thank you. I would like my name to remain anonymous.

Nomination Deadline: Thursday, Jan. 10, 2013



Young-Gothier wedding New Year's Eve

Dave and Kathy Young, Falls City, announce the engagement of their daughter, Laura Elizabeth, to Beau James Gothier, son of Dan and Marcella Gothier, of Hartington.

Laura, a 2004 graduate of Falls City High School, is currently a second-year doctoral student at the University of Kentucky in Lexington, where she also teaches courses in Organizational and Interpersonal Communication. She received her Bachelor's Degree from Nebraska Wesleyan University, Lincoln, in 2008 and her Master's Degree from DePaul University, Chicago, in 2010. Her

doctoral studies are expected to be completed in May 2014.

Beau, a 2005 graduate of Hartington Public High School, currently teaches business and technology classes, primarily in web design and video production, at Bryan Station High School in Lexington, KY. In addition, Beau is also the assistant golf coach and the Director of the Student Technology Leadership Program. He received his Bachelor's Degree from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 2009.

The wedding ceremonies will be held Dec. 31, 2012 in Falls City. The couple plans to reside in Lexington for a few more years before returning to the Midwest.

Society

Missionary Circle

The Christ Lutheran Missionary Circle hosted a pre-Christmas dinner Thursday evening, Dec. 13, at the church. Hostesses for the event were the officers, Elaine Schwartz, Ruth Groothuis, Carolyn Zentner and Ruth Rannebeck.

A potluck dinner was served to 23 members, husbands and guests at 6:30 p.m. The tables were appointed with greenery, lighted angels and white tapers. Snowflake ornaments were table favors.

The president, Elaine Schwartz, led the common table prayer prior to the dinner. After the meal Mrs. Schwartz welcomed the guests and introduced the program. Joann Baldwin gave a reading, "Annie and Willie's Prayer." David von Behren played a violin solo, "Gesu Bam Bino," accompanied by Glenda von Behren. David played the piano accompaniment for his vocal arrangement of the Kenny Rogers hit, "Oh Sweet Little Jesus Boy."

Marjorie Eames, Christian Life chairman, read "The Bible/The Greatest Book" and ended her devotions with a poem prayer, "My Bible and I." She distributed a tiny Bible to each guest. Marcia Schwartz read the Christmas Story interspersed with Christmas scripture and group singing of Christmas hymns accompanied by Glenda and David von Behren on the piano and violin respectively. The program concluded with requests for Christmas hymns and carols.

The next meeting will be Jan. 17 at 7:30 p.m. at the church. Alice Eickhoff will be hostess and Marcia Schwartz the program leader.

Make a difference

(StatePoint) Better than any toy, trinket or fruit basket, what if you could give a gift that would actually make a profound difference in someone's life?

The holidays are the perfect time to reach out to the less fortunate. Here are a few ways you can help this holiday season:

Work at a Soup Kitchen

Many people have made it a yearly tradition to volunteer at a soup kitchen during the holidays. You can help the homeless and hungry get a hot meal and give them the small gift of a full stomach. Contact your local soup kitchen to see how you can help. If you don't have time to volunteer, consider donating non-perishable goods, as many soup kitchens have a food pantry as well.

Help a Family

A gift from the mall is nice, but donating to a philanthropic organization on behalf of a loved one is a much more meaningful way to celebrate the holidays.

There are an estimated 40 million people around the world who have been uprooted from their homes by war and disaster. They live in limbo, struggle to survive and have no place to call home. By purchasing a "Rescue Gift" to honor friends and family in lieu of store-bought presents, you'll be contributing to critical supplies and services for vulnerable families.

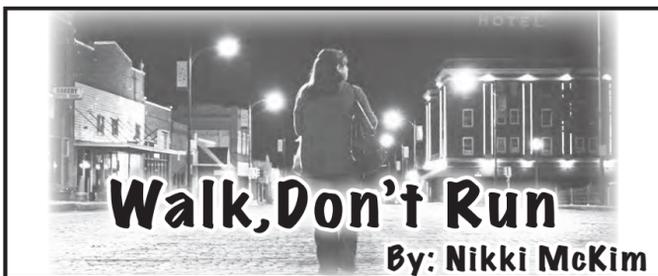
The International Rescue Committee's Rescue Gifts offer a wide variety of gifts at various price points. For example, you can opt to help fund a year of school for girls in Afghanistan, contribute to gardening tools and seeds to help families in need grow food, or help train Burmese refugees, to deliver basic health care. In so doing, both you and your recipient gain a true sense of the kind of work your gift is supporting.

For more information or to give Rescue Gifts visit www.Rescue.org/gifts

Donate Toys

Unfortunately, there are countless children out there whose families can't afford a gift-filled holiday that many of us take for granted. By donating unwrapped toys and books to charity, your generosity will undoubtedly brighten up a child's season.

As you enjoy the holidays, take the time to help out someone less fortunate. Just a small bit can go a long way.



Each year around Christmas I sit with Brian & Alex, and share my favorite Christmas memories. Every year they pretend to hear it all for the first time and be interested. We all have those special childhood Christmas memories that we yearn to live again. I am lucky enough to have many Christmas memories to think about each year. I think of the year Aunt Mayree served us the most amazing Christmas breakfast (pancakes the size of your head!) on her beautiful red dishes that now sit waiting for Christmas in my new home. I think of Grandma Judy's house and the smell of her home cooking that hit you as you walked in the door. I think of how my sister and I would lie under the tree staring up into the lights for hours, or the year we got those huge sleds. But, most of all I think of that little trailer house in Belton, Texas.

Christmas always brings up the happiest of memories. While I now have many new Christmas traditions with my little family, my favorite Christmas tradition is, was, and always will be driving the 12 or more hours south to Texas. It was always the same. The night we left we would open our stockings, which usually contained things for our long night of travel. One such stocking stuffer was the soundtrack to Footloose on cassette tape, which I loved at the time. My parents would load up our old car and we would hit the road. We drove through the night. 9 times out of 10 I was sick the entire way down and back. I was THAT kid who got carsick by simply looking at the car. It really must have driven my parents insane! Even sick as a dog I never remember hating or dreading our long trips. I remember how quiet it was. How peaceful it was as I leaned my forehead on the cool window watching the lights flash by as we sailed our way to one of the happiest places on earth. In Kansas you hit the toll road, which indicated the actual start of your adventure, in northern Oklahoma you looked for the Christmas Village full of lights right along I-35. The next thing you waited for was the "upside down truck" because once you were past that you knew that you were really on your way. South of Oklahoma City, you waited with baited breath for the Texas State Line. Crossing the Red River and you could feel everything shift. At this point we could have sang "Over the river and through Fort Worth to grandmother's house we go" but, I am sure 9 hours in, our parents may have tossed us out on the side of the road if we had. Excitement built, as we knew we were in the same state as Grandma and Grandpa Alexander.

On down the road you start hitting city, after city, after city. Grand view, West, Waco, and finally Temple. Home of the first Sonic I ever encountered, where my grandpa would let me get the #1 and not the little hamburger because I was a big girl. Home of the Scott and White Hospital, and the V.A. Hospital where grandma worked. A bit further on down the road...just past the Color Tile and that car dealership you veer around the slight curve and there it was! "THE OVERPASS". Across that and down the road you pulled into their neighborhood, just past the pool where I learned to swim and dive, past the "A" frame house I thought was so cool and you were finally there! Once you get out of the car the first thing you notice is that Texas smells different than Nebraska and it wasn't as cold. Running as fast as your tiny legs could go you made it to the door and into the little trailer that seemed larger than life. Two wiener dogs, and one Spunky dog greeted you with kisses. The Christmas tree sat at the back of the house just through the living room, in front of two large windows. From that moment on the days passed with lots of laughter and playing. MTV blared through the house when Grandma wasn't at work. Diet Pepsi and Milk were the drinks of choice, and we could do anything we wanted. My Grandpa Alexander would fill the entire house with his loud, infectious laughter. Grandma would say and do things that always kept us giggling. They called me Nikki-Tic and I loved it. My mom called her parents Mama and Daddy, something I never thought twice of until I got older. Up here, your parents are mom and dad. In the south, its mama and daddy, and I love that.

We would visit the mall that housed the two-story carousel. It was the most famous attraction in Texas to Cori and I. Everything really was bigger in Texas. Christmas morning was magical in every single way. There were gifts EVERYWHERE. For some strange reason, Santa was always much more generous when we were in Texas. I was convinced that Santa liked us better when we were in the south. As an adult, now that I really think about it, how in the world did our parents get all of those toys, our suitcases, and us girls back to Nebraska in one car?

It was all just so good. I barely remember anything else we did while there, or the drive home. But, I remember Grandpa's voice and laugh, the smell of the house, Grandma's goofiness and being in almost a euphoric state of happiness.

Some of my happiest Christmas memories live there. Grandpa passed away the summer before my 15th birthday. And now, Alex and my niece Lucy both have some of his mannerisms. Whether it's the way Alex points, sits with his legs crossed, or speaks, or the way Lucy stands with her hands on her back, it brings a smile and dozens of memories rushing back. Grandma Charlotte moved to Minnesota after years of working here at Community Medical Center and we don't get to see her as often as we would like. As an adult I long for those days. I long for the adventure of the drive, the laughter and most of all my grandpa. My grandparents moved to Nebraska when I was about ten years old. The trips slowed down, and then trickled off. No more excitement in seeing the larger than life "Welcome To Texas, The Lone Star State" sign, no more fire ants, and no more two-story carousel. I didn't spend every single Christmas of my childhood in the trailer house in Belton, but the years I did were pretty great.

These days, Alex gets to travel on Christmas but it's between houses for a total of maybe 80 miles. I know he gets giddy when we head to my in-law's home for gifts, "A Christmas Story" and delicious cinnamon rolls, and again when we head to Granny and Papa's for more gifts, Harmon family shenanigans at their craziest and Oyster stuffing, and finally when we head to my mom's for the third and final Christmas of the day, filled with gifts, stories and my mom, who is just like her dad in every way and brings a little piece of grandpa Alexander to my little Alexander every day.

When I think of the magic I had of traveling through the night, on a big adventure my heart flutters. I treasure those memories. Every Holiday season a piece of my heart lies deep in Texas, and I think it always will.

What are your best Christmas memories? This Tuesday, share them with your children & grandchildren. Or you can send me a letter or e-mail (nikkifcjourn@sentco.net), I would love to read what makes someone else's Christmas memories so special.

Many Blessings to all of you and your families, and Merry Christmas, I hope Santa brings you everything you hope for and more.

Christmas Eve
Worship
Mon., Dec. 24, 7pm
Candlelight Worship
~ Holy Communion ~
St. Paul's Lutheran
20th & Towle St.
Everyone
Welcome!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
A Card Shower
is being held for
former Falls City
Resident
Clara Magor
who is celebrating her
90th Birthday on
December 29th
Cards may be sent to:
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Martell, NE 68404

**STILL CENTERFIELD
SHUBERT NE
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OPEN CHRISTMAS DAY 3P.M. TO CLOSE

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY!
MONDAY, DEC., 31ST
"CROSSFIRE", PARTY FAVORS & MORE!

ATTENTION!!

Falls City Sanitation Service Customers

There will be **NO TUESDAY SERVICE**

ON CHRISTMAS DAY, DEC. 25, 2012

OR ON NEW YEAR'S DAY, JAN. 1, 2013

ALL MONDAY & TUESDAY ROUTES DURING THE WEEK OF CHRISTMAS WILL BE RAN ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 24TH.

ALL MONDAY & TUESDAY ROUTES DURING THE WEEK OF NEW YEAR'S WILL BE RAN ON MONDAY, DEC. 31ST.

All other routes will run as normal through out the week.

**We Wish Each of Our Customers
A Happy Holiday Season!**

For our customers convenience, a drop box for paying bills is provided to the left of our office door at 1503 Lane St.

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1503 Lane St.

245-4929

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"Lead me back to
Bethlehem"

**Prairie Union
Baptist Church**

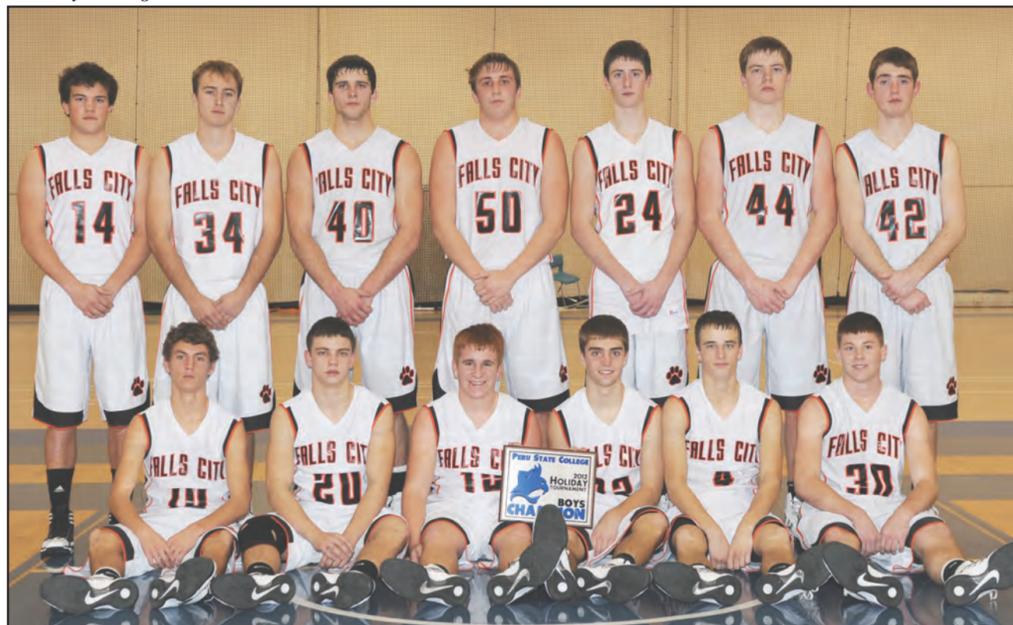
Rural Shubert

Mon., Dec. 24

6:30 P.M.



Photos by Jim Langan



2012 SE Nebraska Holiday Tournament Champs Both Falls City High's basketball teams captured tournament championships Tuesday night at Peru State College. (TOP) Back row, left to right: Head Coach Max Milam, Allyson Scholl, Brooke Scheitel, Madison Olberding, Sydney Armbruster, Bailey Vrtiska, Asst. Coach Kim Vrtiska and Asst. Coach, Julie Frederick; front row, from left: Claire Poppe, Tressa Chandler and Elizabeth Eickhoff. (BOTTOM) Back row, left to right: Brandt Vice, Zach Jordening, Cord Huettner, Wade Witt, Jack Hartman, Reese Hogue and Mitchell Campbell; front row, from left: Cody Schawang, Tyler DiGiacomo, Weston Witt, Mitchell Harling, Jordy Stoller and Brenden Heckenlively.

Tiger teams sweep Peru State holiday tournament

By Jim Langan

Christmas came early, again, for the Falls City High basketball programs who each claimed tournament titles Tuesday night on the campus of Peru State College, which, for the fourth consecutive year was the site of the Southeast Nebraska Holiday Basketball Tournament.

It was also the fourth consecutive year for the Tiger teams in the tournament championship game, where they have now won three each.

The Lady Tigers defeated Nebraska City Lourdes, 38-30, Tuesday night and were 30-22 winners over Auburn Monday.

Neither Auburn or Lourdes had an answer inside for Tiger senior Tressa Chandler, who was 6-of-11 from the floor Tuesday night and added seven rebounds to go along with her 12 points. Monday, Chandler finished with 14 points on 7-of-10 shooting and pulled down

10 rebounds.

Senior Claire Poppe recorded eight points, seven assists and seven boards in the championship game; sophomore Sydney Armbruster added eight points and four rebounds; and junior Madison Olberding grabbed seven rebounds.

Vrtiska had a season-high 10 points in the win over Auburn and also added four steals.

The Lady Tigers, who are now 5-3 on the season, are off until Dec. 27 when they travel to St. Joseph, MO, for the annual Bishop LeBlond Holiday Tournament.

Falls City will face LeBlond's JV team at 10:30 a.m. Thursday in the first round.

The Tiger boys overcame some ugly stretches in Peru and improved 8-0 for the first time under head coach Don Hogue.

Falls City defeated Johnson-Brock 40-21 in Tuesday's championship game, despite being held

scoreless in the first quarter.

"We were just making some tough passes into our post guys early in the game and they were getting deflections, but we weren't too concerned about not getting a bucket in the first because they weren't getting any good looks either," Hogue said.

The Tigers responded by outscoring the Eagles 16-4 and 8-0 in the second and third quarters, respectively. Also, FC's defensive effort nearly resulted in more forced turnovers, 22, than J-B's shots attempted, 23.

Cord Huettner was the only player in double figures Tuesday night with 12 points. The senior was 4-of-10 shooting, 2-for-2 from the 3-point line and also led FC with six boards. Sophomore Jordy Stoller ignited the second-quarter run with six of his eight points coming in that period.

FC defeated Auburn 62-45 in Monday's opening round.

Auburn led 21-18 after the first quarter and trailed by only two points, 42-40, heading into the fourth.

FC finished the final eight minutes on a 20-5 run to pull away though.

Stoller finished with a game-high 14 points, including 2-for-2 from behind the arc. Stoller also handed out three assists and three steals. Huettner added 12 points; junior Mitchell Harling scored 10 and led FC with four assists; and senior Wade Witt led the Tigers with seven boards.

Like the girls, the Tiger boys will be off for the holiday break until Dec. 27 when they travel to the LeBlond Tournament.

The Tigers face St. Joe Christian at noon Thursday in the first round.



Last Thursday's edition of the *Omaha World Herald* featured an article about 1,000-yard rushers this fall in Nebraska high school football.

According to the story, Bobby Mills, a Grand Island native and Nebraska high school sports enthusiast has compiled the list since 1975 and reported that a total of 96 players rushed for 1,000 yards or more this fall.

Millard North quarterback Isaac Aakre claimed the crown of state rushing champion, edging out James Kruger of Norris by just two yards. Aakre, who is just a junior rushed for 2,295 yards in 12 games, while Kruger finished his senior year with 2,293 yards in 13 games.

Three Falls City prep stars reached that 1,000-yard plateau this season. Tiger senior Cord Huettner (1,481) and Irish seniors Lane Barnhill (1,517) and Lane Scheitel (1,044) all earned their way on to the list. It is also just the second time ever three players have made the list from our community. The other was Sacred Heart's 1992 backfield of Chris Carpenter, Chris Darnell and Nate Froeschl, who all eclipsed 1,000 and combined for 3,567 yards. Carpenter and Froeschl also made the list in '93 and '94, as did the backfield of Jeff Schawang and Steve Simon in 1989.

Barnhill and Scheitel were one of the most dynamic backfields in the state and helped lead Sacred Heart to the Class D2 State Semifinals for the first time since 2003. Sacred Heart was just one of six schools in the state to feature a pair of 1000-yard rushers. The other schools were Millard North, Fort Calhoun, Norfolk Lutheran Northeast, Loup City and Hastings St. Cecilia.

Digging a little deeper, Scheitel was just 25 passing yards shy of being the only player in the state to rush and pass for 1,000 yards.

It's scary to think what Barnhill and Scheitel could have done had they played four quarters the whole season. Video game numbers come to mind, but that's a topic that's been debated since the Irish became dominant in the late '80s.

Huettner rushed for 1,481 yards this fall and became the Tigers all-time leading rusher with 2,403 yards, surpassing Dan Werner, who rushed for 2,191 yards in 2005-06, and was just 17 yards shy of breaking Cameron McNabb's single-season total of 1,497 yards in 1990. Huettner helped lead a resurgent Tiger football team back to the playoffs and they were well on their way to recording the school's first playoff victory before Huettner suffered a back injury at the end of the first quarter of Falls City's crushing 28-22 loss to visiting Boys Town.

With three players on the list, I decided to see how that would stack up against other communities around the state and I'm happy to report that Falls City fared well. Of the 12 towns on the list with multiple schools laying claim to members of the "1000-yard Club," Falls City tied for third with Norfolk, behind Lincoln and Omaha. Omaha (as expected) was tops with seven players and Lincoln (not a shocker here either) was second with five. Tied for fourth were David City, Hartington and Hastings with a pair of 1,000-yard rushers and finally, with one each, were the cities of Columbus, Fremont, Grand Island, Kearney and Wahoo.

Pretty impressive for the communities of Falls City, David City, Hartington and Wahoo – combined population of 13,248 – to be represented eight times on the list, considering each of the other communities are one of the 10-most populated cities in Nebraska.

Hats off to these young men for quite an accomplishment. They are model representatives of their schools, their teams, their coaches and the city of Falls City.

One last thing, since you've finished reading this, find someone and give him or her a "high five." The Mayans were wrong!

Happy Holidays, sports fans!

Still a HOT ROD at 50!

Love,
Louise, Fred & Bob

Mark Your Calendars Falls City Elks Club Don't Miss Events All Events Open to the Public

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22ND: UGLY CHRISTMAS SWEATER PARTY
8PM, JB ACOUSTIC 9PM-CLOSE. FUN PRIZE FOR THE SWEATER THAT HURTS THE MOST EYES.

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY MONDAY, DECEMBER 31ST
CHASING DAYLIGHT REUNION BAND PLAYS FROM 9:00 PM-CLOSE
THE KITCHEN WILL BE OPEN FOR YOU TO ENJOY A NEW YEAR'S EVE MEAL. 10 OUNCE NEW YORK STRIP FOR \$14.99

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FALLS CITY MIDDLE SCHOOL

MEAL OF THE MONTH, SATURDAY, JANUARY 19TH
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SUNDAY CHICKEN BUFFET - EVERY SUNDAY 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

FRIDAY NIGHT KITCHEN SPECIALS
DEC 21ST - CHICKEN PARMESAN WITH TOMATO SAUCE & PASTA
DEC 28TH - NEW YORK STRIP DINNER W. LOADED BAKED POTATOES
JAN 4TH - GRILLED TILAPIA WITH ROASTED RED POTATOES
JAN 11TH - HAMBURGER STEAK WITH MUSHROOM GRAVY
JAN 18TH - GRILLED CHICKEN BREAST OVER ALFREDO SAUCE & FETTUCCINE
JAN 25TH - BREADED PORK TENDERLOIN WITH MASHED POTATOES & COUNTRY GRAVY



Barnhill



Haralabidis



Scheitel

Local All-State selections

The *Omaha World Herald* and *Lincoln Journal Star* recently released their All-State/Super-State selections in football and volleyball.

The World Herald named Falls City High senior Cord Huettner to the All-C1 defense as a linebacker. Huettner finished the season with 95 tackles (38 solo), three tackles-for-loss, one interception, a forced fumble and a fumble recovery for the 6-3 Tigers.

Huettner was named to the All-C1 offense in the Journal Star. Huettner rushed for 1,418 yards and 20 touchdowns on 173 carries this season and finished as the Tigers all-time leading rusher with 2,403 yards. Huettner also passed for 281 yards and four scores.

FC Sacred Heart senior Lane Barnhill was named to the All-D2 offense as a running back by the OWH. Barnhill finished the season with 1,517 yards and 31 rushing touchdowns on 142 carries. Barnhill also caught 11 passes for 127 yards and two touchdowns for the 11-1 state semifinalist Irish. Barnhill was the second player ever for FCSH to finish with over 1,500 yards in season (Nate O'Grady, 1,588 in 1999) and topped Nate Froeschl's per-carry average of 11.5 yards with a 12.7 ypc average in 2012.

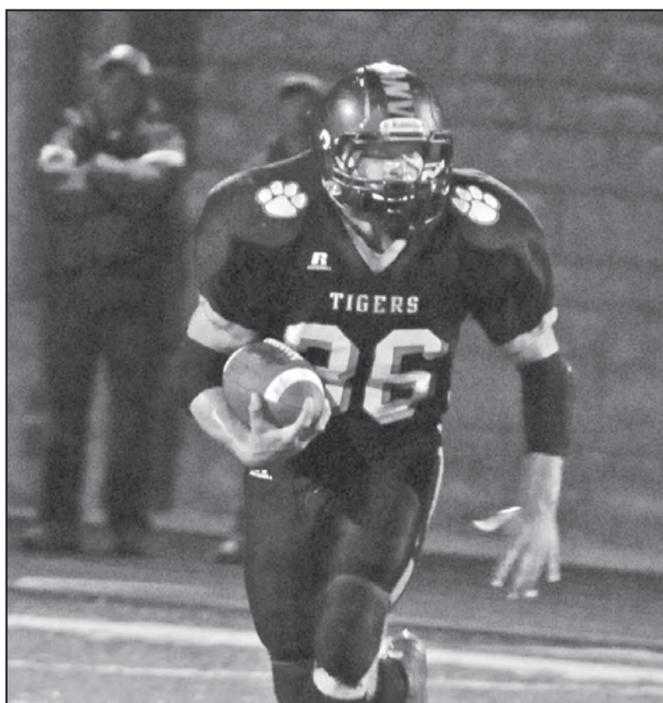
The Irish were well represented on the All-D2 team in the LJS with Barnhill (RB), fellow senior Lane Scheitel (LB) and junior Yianni Haralabidis (K) being named. Scheitel finished the year with 99 tackles (32 solo), three fumble recoveries and nine tackles-for-loss from his middle linebacker spot, while also leading the Irish offense from the quarterback position where he rushed for 21 touchdowns, 1,044 yards and passed for another 975 yards and 17 touchdowns. Haralabidis converted 61-of-70 extra points and his only field goal attempt of the season en route to scoring 64 points for the Irish. He also averaged nearly 48 yards per kickoff, including 54 touchbacks.

Honorable mention was given to senior Wade Witt (OWH, LJS) and junior Mitchell Harling (OWH) of Falls City High, as well as senior Clay Finck (OWH, LJS), Jarod Fiegenger (OWH, LJS), junior Yianni Haralabidis (OWH), junior Brandon Schawang (OWH, LJS) and junior Brody Chandler (OWH, LJS) of FC Sacred Heart.

VOLLEYBALL

Falls City High sophomores Baylee Vrtiska and Maygan Ramsey, and senior Bethany Lampe were given honorable mention from the OWH. Sacred Heart senior Janey Malcom (OWH), junior Ashli Jordan (OWH, LJS), sophomore Elizabeth Magdanz (OWH, LJS) and freshman Maggie Goltz (OWH, LJS) were given honorable mention. Named honorable mention at Humboldt-TR-S were seniors Josie Morehead (OWH, LJS) and Paulina Smith (OWH) and junior Courtney Allen (OWH).

On this day in 1997, Barry Sanders of the Detroit Lions became just the third NFL player (O.J. Simpson, Eric Dickerson) to rush for 2,000 yards in a single season.



Huettner

Irish boys, girls too much for visiting Mound City

FC Sacred Heart improved to 6-1 with another lopsided victory Tuesday night at Prichard Auditorium.

FCSH shot better than 64 percent from the floor en route to a 67-17 victory over visiting Mound City.

Since suffering their only loss of the season, the Irish have won four-straight games by an average of 40 points per contest.

The Irish were well balanced offensively Tuesday with three players in double figures – Brady Cromer (14), Jarod Fiegenger (10) and Clay Finck (10) – and five others added at least five points. Junior Colin Niemeyer added eight points; junior Matt Goltz scored seven and led FCSH with eight rebounds; senior Lane Barnhill scored six and recorded two steals and three assists; senior Thomas Froeschl chipped in five points; and junior Chaz Dunn tallied five points, three steals, six boards and had a season-high eight assists.

Sacred Heart travels to Elmwood-Murdock (4-2) tonight and will face a tough Knights team led by seniors Jordan Steffen and Brandon Luetchens. Steffen led the team with 11.5 ppg last season and Luetchens averaged nearly eight points and seven rebounds per game on an E-M team that finished 17-7 a year ago.

The Lady Irish used a triangle-and-two defense on Mound City's Haylee Clifton and Alex Phillips for the final three quarters to defeat the previously undefeated Lady Panthers 52-43.

It was the fifth-straight win for FC Sacred Heart and probably their best game played to date, due in large part to a kinder rim.

"We're getting better," Irish head coach Luke Santo said. "We're finally starting to get some shots to fall."

The Lady Irish converted 21-of-42 field goals, including 3-for-5 from the behind the 3-point line.

Santo used the triangle-and-two defense on MC's Haylee Clifton and Alex Phillips after the two combined for all 12 of the Panthers points in the first quarter.

Santo used a combination of Ashli Jordan, Elizabeth Magdanz and Kelsi Fouraker to pester the duo and it worked, but the two still

combined to score 37 of MC's 43 points.

Abby Magdanz led FCSH with 16 points, while Jordan grabbed six rebounds and handed out five assists to go along with her 14 points. Maggie Goltz had a near double-double with nine points and 11 boards; Emma Schock finished with eight points and seven rebounds; and Elizabeth Magdanz dished out a team and game-high eight assists.

The Lady Irish travel to Elmwood-Murdock (4-2) tonight.

Girls Scoring vs. Mound City

FCSH - Jordan, 14; A. Magdanz, 16; Schock, 8; E. Magdanz, 3; Fouraker, 2; Goltz, 9.

MC - Eaton, 4; Clifton, 19; Phillips, 18; Ashford, 2.

Boys Scoring vs. Mound City

FCSH - Niemeyer, 8; Dunn, 5; Froeschl, 5; Finck, 10; Goltz, 7; Barnhill, 6; Fiegenger, 10; Cromer, 14; Strasheim, 2.

MC - Marrs, 5; Johnson, 2; Sanders, 3; Da. Honea, 3; Loucks, 2; Wilson, 2; Newcomb, 2.

Six Tigers medal at Auburn Invite

Falls City High's wrestling team finished third at last Saturday's Auburn Invitational and six of the eight Tiger grapplers placed in the top three of their respective weight classes.

Junior Chase Thompson went 3-0 and finished in first place at 185; senior Dylan Ackerman (195) and freshman Morgen Valentine, who was ranked No. 6 in class B at 120 pounds in the latest *Omaha World Herald* rankings, both finished second; seniors Jesse Butrick (126) and Wade Maddox (160), and sophomore heavyweight Jeremy Zimmerman all finished in third place.

As promised, here are the individual match results for FCHS from the Auburn Invitational:

120 - Valentine: pinned (3:19) J. Peterson (ranked fifth in class 3A Iowa by OWH) of Council Bluffs Abraham Lincoln; lost decision, 6-0, to J. Garner of Bellevue West (ranked fifth in class A by OWH). **126** - Butrick (2-1): pinned (0:58) L. Sullivan of Norris; pinned D. Clark of Auburn; lost by pinfall (3:40) to A. Tucci (ranked sixth in class A by OWH); won decision, 14-7, over R. French of Council Bluffs AL. **132** - Blake Black: lost by pinfall to Auburn's D. Grovers; pinned (3:22) R. Rosa of Omaha Roncalli; lost by pinfall (1:41) to C. Krause of Norris. Justin Ernst: lost by pinfall (2:17) to D. Shearer of Auburn; lost by pinfall (3:17) to J. Lang of Thayer Central. **160** - Maddox: pinned (1:25) R. Peters of Council Bluffs AL; lost decision, 6-4, to D. Anderson of Norris; won decision, 7-0, over A. Holliday of Fairbury. **185** - Thompson: pinned (1:41) D. Dwinell of Norris; pinned (0:57) G. Parson of Omaha Roncalli; won decision, 9-0, over T. Dasher (ranked fifth in class 3A Iowa by OWH) of Council Bluffs AL. **195** - Ackerman: lost by pinfall (2:42) to A. Estrata (ranked second in class A by OWH). **HWT** - Zimmerman: lost by pinfall (1:38) to J. Highwater (ranked sixth in class 3A Iowa by OWH) of Council Bluffs AL; pinned (2:51) J. Liesemeyer of Norris; pinned (1:04) D. Kramer of Auburn.

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Beat holiday blues

Many people find the holidays a delightful, upbeat time of year. But for others, the holidays—that time between Thanksgiving and New Year's—can be a lonely, stressful time of year.

Feelings of sadness, low energy and wistfulness can be hard to cope with, particularly if you've lost a family member or friend at this time of year. Or feelings of loneliness may be present if some of your family members will be away and won't make it home for the holidays this year.

If you are feeling empty or sad during the holidays while everyone around you seems to be having fun, you can make practical changes that allow you to feel less stressed and more relaxed.

First, it is important to recognize stressors that may lead to feeling blue and overstressed. Try to work on reducing these stressors throughout the year so the holidays will be more joyful.

Next, recognize that you can choose a new way of thinking that reduces holiday stress and sadness.

Keep in mind that unrealistic perceptions and expectations are part of every holiday season. Some people feel so stressed and anxious at this time of year they want to be left alone. But you can work on having a new attitude of looking forward to joining in the festivities of the season.

Managing daily stress

If you have battled anxiety, stress and low energy during the holidays, you are probably looking for a respite from a variety of stressors that can make life miserable.

Think of stress this way. Stress is crucial if you are in a crisis. Stress is a natural and important biological "fight or flight" response. The body is designed for short bursts of activity, but the ongoing nature of daily stress often means that the system is left 'on' to respond. **Seven tips to make your holidays more meaningful** Use these tips to make this holiday season the best it can be—a season of less stress and more meaning for you and your family.

1. Take care of yourself by eating right. People tend to skip meals, eat on the run, and eat more sugar during the holidays. Manage stress by managing your health.
2. Give yourself permission to feel a mix of emotions during the holidays. Most people feel an ebb and flow of emotions throughout the year but often more so during holidays because it is a season that evokes memories of the past.
3. It is okay to spend time taking care of yourself. When you do, you'll be more apt to relax and enjoy the season. People have different levels of needs so pay attention to your own unique circumstances.
4. Give yourself permission to have more control in your life. You don't have to say 'yes' to every holiday invitation or request.
5. Time management is very important for reducing stress. For example, let some of your children or grandchildren prepare holiday meals, bake cookies or help decorate the house.
6. Share responsibilities. Ask for help. Delegate holiday tasks so you're not overstressed with deadlines.
7. Don't have unrealistic expectations about what you can and can't do during the holidays. Give yourself credit for what you can do and recognize you're not super human. When you do, you'll have a more enjoyable holiday season.

Happy New Year everyone!

Newspaper Fun!

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It's a great time for new beginnings.



Happy New Year! 2013

Yawn...I'm so worn out!

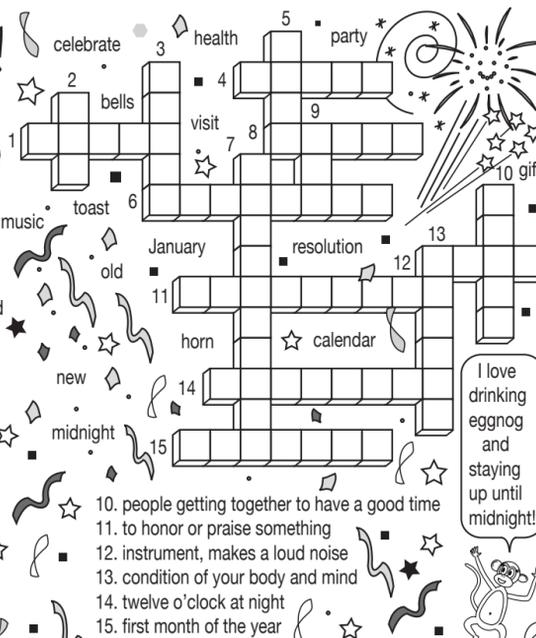
New Year's Day is a wonderful time. This first day of January and of the new year is a time to remember the past, celebrate, and hope for a happy, healthy future.

In our country, some people have parties or attend church services at midnight. Others go to Times Square in New York City to listen to music, enjoy the crowds and wait for the magical stroke of midnight.

In other countries people exchange gifts or open their homes to neighbors or visitors. Many people honor parents or relatives and try to pay all their debts so they will not owe anything at the start of the new year.

I'm full of energy and ready for the new year!

New Year's Day is a time to think back – and ahead!



celebrate 3 **health** 5 **party** *

2 **bells** 4 **visit** 7 8 9

1 **toast** 6 **January** **resolution** 12

11 **old** **horn** **calendar**

14 **new** **midnight** 15

10. people getting together to have a good time

11. to honor or praise something

12. instrument, makes a loud noise

13. condition of your body and mind

14. twelve o'clock at night

15. first month of the year

I love drinking eggnog and staying up until midnight!

List 2 things that you will remember about 2012!

1. _____

2. _____

Now list 2 things you think will be important in 2013.

1. _____

2. _____

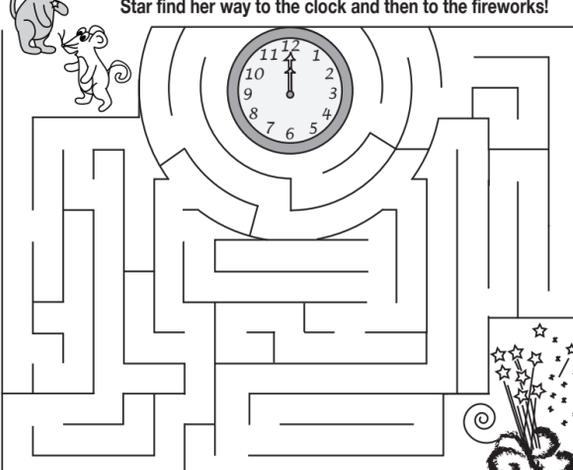
Read the clues to fill in the crossword:

1. hollow, metal objects that ring when struck
2. beginning, for the first time
3. pleasing sounds made by voices or instruments
4. to call on or stay with someone
5. present, something given
6. chart of the months, weeks and days of the year
7. a promise or decision
8. to raise glasses to drink in honor of a person or thing
9. worn out, time gone by

Free Puzzles

Print out our new puzzles: **A New Year!, Santa Claus, Holiday Decorating Fun, and December ABC** crossword. Make sure you print out the newest reading log and certificate set: www.readingclubfun.com

Midnight Fun! It's New Year's Eve! Help Star find her way to the clock and then to the fireworks!



New Year's Search Study the puzzle above. Then find and circle the words around it in the puzzle below!

P	S	J	D	M	C	U	V	T	I	S	I	V	L	M	A	B	T	U
B	I	C	X	L	E	U	M	O	J	C	W	S	F	D	S	F	M	C
E	F	R	N	I	E	S	T	A	N	U	I	W	O	X	I	B	W	A
J	I	E	W	Y	B	Z	R	S	T	F	Y	H	E	G	M	E	C	X
N	E	S	N	T	Y	D	E	T	U	U	L	J	A	N	U	A	R	Y
U	T	O	N	B	Y	P	N	T	U	B	K	U	I	I	P	U	T	E
C	A	L	E	N	D	A	R	N	J	D	Y	U	T	S	N	B	I	U
H	N	U	I	D	L	R	L	S	L	L	E	B	I	N	U	T	H	E
T	R	T	K	I	L	T	F	E	A	A	U	Y	F	T	N	I	T	E
R	T	I	L	D	I	Y	R	H	B	N	I	C	O	G	C	A	L	O
G	I	O	W	L	H	Y	I	S	T	F	I	P	U	E	R	Y	A	T
H	O	N	R	O	H	I	R	N	D	S	L	I	E	B	I	W	E	N
U	N	R	T	G	Y	H	K	D	U	Y	N	O	E	M	D	E	H	O
J	T	H	G	I	N	D	I	M	I	N	O	L	U	X	O	I	E	G
N	K	I	E	I	U	H	Y	T	D	E	E	T	H	N	Y	U	E	X
N	U	Y	G	V	F	R	E	D	S	C	N	I	E	S	U	Y	T	O

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PUBLIC NOTICE

**NOTICE OF HEARING
MOTOR VEHICLE
TAX EXEMPTIONS**

Notice is hereby given that on the 2nd day of January, 2013, at 8:45 a.m. the Richardson County Board of Equalization will hold a hearing to consider applications from the following organizations seeking tax exemption on motor vehicles:

Christ Church of Falls City, T.L.C Ministries of Falls City, Community Medical Center, Sacred Heart Schools, Falls City Volunteer Ambulance Squad, Boy Scout Troop #387 and Cub Scout Pack #387, First Christian Church of Falls City and Good News Assembly of God Church.

The recommendations of the Richardson County Treasurer are available at the Office of the County Treasurer located in the Courthouse, Falls City, Nebraska.

David D. Sickel, Chairman
Richardson County
Board of Commissioners

Mary L. Eickhoff
Richardson County Clerk
21

County Board

**RICHARDSON COUNTY
BOARD OF EQUALIZATION
DECEMBER 11, 2012
CALL TO ORDER**

At 8:45 a.m. on Tuesday, December 11, 2012, Chairman Sickel called to order a meeting of the Richardson County Board of Equalization. Those present were Commissioners Ely, Davidson and Sickel; Assessor, Pam Vice and Clerk, Mary L Eickhoff. Chairman Sickel announced that the open meeting laws have been posted at the entrance to the meeting room. ZNEZ

Motion was made by Ely to approve the agenda as posted. Motion seconded by Davidson. ROLL CALL VOTE: Ely-aye, Davidson-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion carried. The agenda is posted at the Richardson County Courthouse on the First Floor Lobby, the Commissioner's Meeting Room and the Third Floor of the Sheriff's Office.

**APPROVAL OF BOARD NOTICE
OF VALUE CHANGE**

Motion was made by Davidson to approve one tax list correction as presented by Assessor Vice. Motion seconded by Ely. ROLL CALL VOTE: Ely-aye, Davidson-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Ely to close the Board of Equalization at 8:49 a.m. Motion seconded by Sickel. ROLL CALL VOTE: Ely-aye, Davidson-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion carried.

David D. Sickel, Chairman
Mary L. Eickhoff, County Clerk

**RICHARDSON COUNTY BOARD
OF COMMISSIONERS
DECEMBER 11, 2012
CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Richardson County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Sickel at 9:00 a.m. on Tues ay, December 11, 2012. Roll call was answered by Ely, Davidson and Sickel. The Invocation was given by Chairman Sickel and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice-Chairman Ely. Chairman Sickel announced that the open meeting laws have been posted at the entrance to the meeting room.

Motion was made by Davidson to approve the minutes of the December 4, 2012, meeting as read. Motion seconded by Ely. ROLL CALL VOTE: Ely-aye, Davidson-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Ely to approve the agenda as posted. Motion seconded by Davidson. ROLL CALL VOTE: Ely-aye, Davidson-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion carried. The agenda is posted at the Richardson County Courthouse on the First Floor Lobby, the Commissioner's Meeting Room, the Third Floor of the Sheriff's Office and on the Richardson County website www.co.richardson.ne.us

**SCOTT HUPPERT,
HIGHWAY SUPT.**

Scott Huppert, Highway Superintendent, updated the Board on the routine road and bridge maintenance. Eleven machines will be placed on the programming offered by Nebraska Machinery Co. for equipment maintenance. New fuel pumps will be installed next week.

Motion was made by Ely to award the bid for road department tires as follows: Harmon's OK Tire, Falls City--4 trailer tires \$732.00; Cross Dillon Tire, Lincoln--6 grader tires \$5,970.00; Koch's Auto Service, Dawson--10 all position tires \$2,790.00. Motion seconded by Davidson. ROLL CALL VOTE: Ely-aye, Davidson-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Sickel to award the bid for steel materials to Husker Steel, Columbus--Items 1-2 for \$43,638.00; to Oden Enterprises for Items 3-8 for \$9,625.10. Motion seconded by Ely. ROLL CALL VOTE: Ely-aye, Davidson-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Davidson to approve the NE Local Public Agency Contract and Bond with Dobson Brothers Construction Co. of Lincoln for Preston North & South PLH3615(8). Motion seconded by Ely. ROLL CALL

VOTE: Ely-aye, Davidson-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion carried. (Resolution Book 20, Page 20) This project should be started around May 20, 2013.

**AUSTIN DUERFELDT,
COUNTY TREASURER**

Motion was made by Davidson to grant approval to the State of Nebraska Auditor of Public Accounts to perform a six-month audit of the County Treasurer's Office. Motion seconded by Ely. ROLL CALL VOTE: Ely-aye, Davidson-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion carried.

**DOUG MERZ,
DEPUTY COUNTY ATTORNEY**

An agreement with Ag Partners and Nationwide Agribusiness for settlement of bridge collapse NW of Humboldt on April 10, 2012 was presented to the Board by Deputy County Attorney, Doug Merz.

Motion was made by Sickel to enter into a "Release In Full of All Claims" with Ag Partners Cooperative, Inc. for damages and collapse of a bridge NW of Humboldt on April 10, 2012 upon receipt of settlement amount of \$525,000.00. Motion seconded by Davidson. ROLL CALL VOTE: Ely-nay, Davidson-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion carried.

**JIM GERWECK,
EMA DIRECTOR AND
SHERIFF HOUSER**

The Board requested that Jim Gerweck, EMA Director and Sheriff Houser meet with them to discuss the radio communications of the County. Sheriff Houser also presented to the Board a quote from Midwest Radio Communications for relocating the radio repeater, new antenna system, other items necessary for this project and APCO coordination the price of \$7,400.00. This project should improve radio communications for the Sheriff's Department.

Conclusion of this meeting, the antenna will be switched at the Humboldt location of the Sheriff's Office to determine if this improves the communication before further action is taken.

The Sheriff also requested the use of EMA equipment when requested for incidents of an emergency nature and/or when inclement weather makes investigations difficult. Mr. Gerweck responded that if the equipment is needed that he be contacted and the EMA Department will deliver the equipment to the scene of incident/emergency. Sheriff Houser stated that he was not satisfied with the response that the EMA Director would deliver equipment when requested and that the Sheriff's Department is capable of getting the equipment and hauling to an incident scene when needed. The plan will be for the Sheriff to contact the EMA Director when equipment is needed.

**OTHER BUSINESS/
CORRESPONDENCE
Resolution 2012-2013-24
Subdivision**

Motion was made by Sickel to approve a subdivision for Joan M. Bruhn and Billy Ray Bruhn located in S10, T2, R15 and to adopt Resolution 2012-2013-24. Motion seconded by Ely. ROLL CALL VOTE: Ely-aye, Davidson-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion carried. (Resolution Book 23, Page 21)

Agreement with EDGE for funding
An agreement with EDGE for continued funding for FY2012-2013 was presented to the Board for consideration. Review of the agreement will be requested from legal counsel and considered at a later meeting.

**FC Chamber of Commerce
correspondence**

A letter was received from the Falls City Chamber of Commerce regarding their intentions to recommend to the Falls City City Council at their December 17th meeting that all of Stone Street between 14th and 19th, 17th from Stone to Harlan and 18th from Stone to Harlan be designated as two hour parking zones.

**Lindsay Chichester,
Extension Educator**

Lindsay Chichester, presented the name of Robert White as the nominee the Richardson County Extension Board approved at their meeting on December 10, 2012 and would request that the County Board approve this nominee to the Richardson County Extension Board effective January 1, 2013. Mr. White will fill the vacancy of the position filled by Vicky Yoessel whose term of the past six years has expired.

Other

A check was received from NPPD for the annual matching funding for the Richardson County Emergency Management Agency in the amount of \$60,174.05.

The Board recessed for lunch at 11:30 a.m.

CLAIMS

Motion was made by Ely to allow the payment of all claims that were submitted today. Motion seconded by Davidson. ROLL CALL VOTE: Ely-aye, Davidson-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion carried.

(The claims listed below are available for public inspection at the office of the County Clerk during regular business hours.)

GENERAL FUND

Carol Bierman, serv59.19
Boucher Law Firm, fee78.00
Joseph Buckminster, serv770.00
Clerk of Dist Court Petty Cash, reimb45.00
Creighton Med Lab, serv258.53
Eric Crook, serv935.00
Des Moines Stamp Mfg Co., supp76.50
Austin Duerfeldt, reimb407.25
Election Systems & Software, serv54.89
Faar Consulting, LLC, fee ...4,286.27
FC Journal, adv300.49
FC Mercantile, supp331.68
Halbert, Dunn & Halbert,

fee1,505.00
Humboldt Standard, adv904.20
Microfilm Imaging Systems, serv75.00
Midtown Service Center, serv...15.00
MIPS, serv154.70
NE Assoc of Co. Officials, dues1,316.82
Nat'l Assoc of Counties, dues.400.00
NE Auditor of Public Accounts, audit21,467.49
NE State Fire Marshal, fee.....120.00
Pawnee Auto Body, serv75.00
Pitney Bowes, postage300.00
Pro Printing & Graphics, supp...39.21
Ram Exterminators, serv45.00
Richardson County Court, costs.....1,387.50
Diane Sefried, serv45.31
Jacqueline A. Smith, reimb ..1,027.12
SE NE Communications, serv1,320.67
Sunmart, supp3,940.05
US Cellular, serv481.53
UNL Cooperative Ext. Serv., salary match3,223.44
Weaver & Merz, fee936.68
Windstream, serv110.19
Wolfes, supp633.30
Total General Fund\$47,126.01

ROAD AND BRIDGE FUND

Eggers Bros., supp1,025.32
FC Auto Supply, supp246.99
FC Journal, adv36.90
FC Utility Dept., serv289.27
Farm & City Supply, supp315.09
Farmers Repair & Machine Shop, serv315.59
Harding & Shultz, fee1,135.14
Harmons OK Tire, supp116.00
Home Lumber Co., supp20.65
Inland Truck Parts, supp297.40
Lawson Products, supp162.79
Mr. Automotive, parts1,031.03
NPPD, serv50.43
NE State Fire Marshal, fee.....240.00
NE Truck & Equip Co., Inc., supp281.80
Norris Quarries, rock153.15
Oden Enterprises, steel.....24,276.00
Village of Rulo, serv21.00
Village of Salem, serv21.00
Smith Auto, supp28.00
SE NE Communications, serv.160.03
Ultra-Chem, Inc., supp221.56
Wicks Sterling Trucks, Inc., supp74.72
Windstream, supp51.74
Total Road/Bridge Fund...\$30,571.60

**ROAD/BRIDGE CONSTR HWY
ALLOC FUND**

Mainelli Wagner & Assoc., fee.....552.50
Total Road/Bridge Constr. Hwy Fund.....\$552.50

GENERAL ASSISTANCE FUND

FC Pharmacy, presc27.70
Total General Assistance Fund\$27.70

INHERITANCE TAX FUND

Grafix Shoppe, serv476.54
Total Inheritance Tax Fund...\$476.54

**JUVENILE SERVICES
GRANT FUND**

Heartland Big Brothers Big Sisters, serv6,261.00
Total Juvenile Services Grant Fund\$6,261.00

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Sickel to adjourn the meeting at 2:26 p.m. Motion seconded by Sickel. ROLL CALL VOTE: Ely-aye, Davidson-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion carried. The Board will meet again on Tuesday, December 18, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioner's Meeting Room, Courthouse, Falls City. The agenda is kept current at the County Clerk's Office.

David D. Sickel, Chairman
Mary L. Eickhoff, County Clerk

Village of Rulo

**Village of Rulo
Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting Minutes
November 12, 2012
7:00 PM Rulo, Library**

Glen Kelley, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present, Glen Kelley, James Counce, Norman Thompson, Kevin Barber, Gerald Barber and Jan Price / Village Clerk. Guests: Kraig Counce, and Wayne Alexander.

Minutes: James Counce made a motion to accept the minutes of October 2012, seconded by Norman Thompson. Voting, James Counce, Kevin Barber, Gerald Barber, Norman Thompson, and Glen Kelley, yea.

Claims: Janice Price, Village Clerk/treasurer, read through the claims. Norman Thompson made motion to approve the claims. Seconded by Kevin Barber. Voting: Glen Kelley, James Counce Norman Thompson, and Kevin Barber: James Counce yea with the exception of his and Kraig's paychecks. Yea. ZNEZ

Treasurer's Reports: Motion made to approve the treasurer's report with the exception of one bill to Johansen Drilling for \$500.00. This bill was to be paid by the state of Nebraska. Glen Kelly will talk to the foreman about this by Kevin Barber, Seconded James Counce, voting Kevin Barber, James Counce, Gerald Barber and Norman Thompson: Yea.

OLD BUSINESS

Street repair: The board discussed different alternatives for the fuel barrels, it was decided to purchase two new fuel barrels with pumps and put them in the city truck. There are street signs that need replaced. They also decided that there need to be signs on 5th street where the tube has been replaced. James Counce will make a list and get them ordered. Norman Thompson reported that OPPD put up orange cones on Roulea Street; but has not yet fixed the wire. Jan Price is to call OPPD and see when they are going to fix it. Water Department: Jan Price gave the report. The Village is required to purchase a tester for the water tower. There are 3 tier water pits that need to be dug up and redone for easier access. Library: No report Cemetery: Glen Kelley re-

ceived one bid for the trees in the Cemetery for \$3000.00. The board rejected the bid stating that James Counce could cut down two of the trees, but would need to get bids on the biggest one. Jan Price will rerun the add and contact out of state tree trimmers since they don't get the Falls City Journal. Fire Department: The board discussed a possible grant to replace the fire doors, Jan Price will contact SENDD and see if they have anything the Village could apply for to get the doors fixed, along with a roof and insulation. James Counce brought up that one of the fire trucks did not pass inspection and needs to be taken out of service. The board discussed that Tim Koelzer had fixed the problems, however Mr. Koelzer was not at the meeting to confirm this. No decision was made at this time to take the truck out of service until they know if the repairs have been made. Auditorium: Jan Price reported that the Insurance company said a rope across the stage would be enough, it was discussed on how to attach one to go all the way across the front of the stage.

New Business

The board voted on Jan Price's raise proposal Norman Thompson agreed to half of the proposed amount, Kevin Barber, James Counce and Gerald Barber voted to approve the proposed amount of \$325.00 for the water and \$775.00 for the City Clerk. The raise was approved 3 to 1.

James Counce brought up the finishing mower that Gerald Barber purchased from the village in July of this year, stating it was illegal for a board member to purchase anything from the village. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

Jan Price stated that Santa will be coming to the Rulo Library on Friday, December 14th at 6:00 p.m.

Claims

SE NE Telephone \$49.59, FC Utilities \$2,679.04, OPPD \$737.90, Wolfe's Printing \$152.44, Reischick Drilling \$527.27, Sapp Brothers \$61.01, Farm and City \$37.98, Foley Industries \$25.64, HeetCo \$223.50, Orschelins \$1,014.96, Kraig Counce \$101.89, James Counce \$101.89, Sandy Oswald \$92.35, Shirley Dupree \$92.35, Janice Price \$917.88 Stanley Suedmeier \$215.87.

Adjourn

Motion was made Norman Thompson, seconded by Gerald Barber. Voting Norman Thompson, Glen Kelley, Kevin Barber and Gerald Barber yea.

Jan Price/ Village Clerk/ Secretary

School Board #70

**Humboldt Table Rock Steinauer
Public Schools
Board of Education, District #70
Regular Meeting on Dec. 10, 2012
7:00 PM in the 2nd Floor Math
Room in Humboldt**

A regular meeting of the Humboldt Table Rock Steinauer Public Schools Board of Education, District #70 was held on December 10, 2012 at 7:00 PM in the 2nd Floor Math Room in Humboldt. The meeting was advertised in The Humboldt Standard, The Falls City Journal and The Pawnee Republican. A copy of the agenda was kept in the Superintendent's office prior to the meeting.

Board President Steve Schardt called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Board members in attendance by roll call were: DeAnn Glathar, Scott Ogle, Neal Kanel, Joe Standerford, Ben Steffen, Allen Fankhauser, Jeremy Leech, and Sandy Stalder. Also in attendance were Superintendent Clinton Kimbrough, Principals Lisa Othmer and Kari Cover and Board Recorder Kellie Workman.

President Schardt welcomed several guests to the meeting. Correspondence: Thank you from the Kanel family.

Motion by Kanel, seconded by Stalder to approve the agenda. Motion carried 9-0.

Motion by Leech, seconded by Kanel to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on November 12, 2012. Motion carried 9-0.

Motion by Kanel, seconded by Steffen to approve bills for payment for a total of \$525,899.04 for general and payroll funds, \$70,026.10 for the QCUP fund and \$77,532.50 for the bond fund. Motion carried 9-0.

Motion by Leech, seconded by Steffen to approve the treasurer, activity and lunch fund reports. Motion carried 9-0.

Patron Comment: none.

Discussion items: Stalder asked who assigns groups to work the concession stand; she was referred to the Athletic Director.

Principals Othmer and Cover had a power point presentation explaining AYP and student assessments.

Action Items: Following a parent request to waive HTRS' graduation requirements, there was a motion by Fankhauser, seconded by Steffen to allow Miss Dunn to proceed on the course to complete the work (BOE will waive the 8 semester rule if she finishes her credits). Motion carried 9-0.

Comments were heard from two patrons concerning the Fitness Center/Booster Club.

Motion by Steffen, seconded by Ogle to approve the clarification revision to board policy 6008. Motion carried 5-4; Kanel, Leech, Ogle, Stalder, Steffen-aye; Fankhauser, Glathar, Schardt, Standerford-nay.

Motion by Kanel, seconded by Ogle to accept the resignation of cook, Trisha Clow. Motion carried 9-0.

The Board of Education adopted and commenced the policy (in the negotiated agreement) moving the certified staff to the \$1100 deductible for

insurance premiums effective January 1, 2013.

Short discussion on teacher negotiations.

Motion by Ogle, seconded by Glathar to go into executive session for personnel at 8:17 PM. Motion carried 8-1; Standerford-nay. Motion by Kanel, seconded by Ogle to come out of executive session at 8:50 PM. Motion carried 9-0.

Administrator Reports: Principal Cover's report mentioned RTI implementation, DARE graduation was November 26th for the sixth graders; HTRS is hosting the Middle School Robotics Competition and the Middle School Science Fair was held on December 10th. Principal Othmer reported on several forms of testing, staff development for RTI and an update on the school improvement team. Superintendent Kimbrough explained that there is money in the QCUP fund to pay down the principal on the boiler bond; Board Members Ben Steffen, Joe Standerford, DeAnn Glathar, Jeremy Leech and Allen Fankhauser were honored with plaques and thanked for serving on the HTRS BOE.

Motion by Glathar, seconded by Stalder to adjourn at 9:02 PM. Motion carried 9-0.

The next regular meeting of the HTRS Board of Education will be January 14, 2013 at 7:00 PM in the 2nd Floor Math Room at the Humboldt site.

Respectfully submitted,
Kellie Workman, Board Recorder

CLAIMS

AmSan..... 1,084.31
Apple Computer Inc..... 1,672.20
Awards Unlimited Inc 153.90
Barone Security Systems 420.00
Beatrice Mechanical Service 3,325.10
Bern Seed, Inc 152.37
Best Printing..... 964.31
Binder Brothers..... 462.71
Black Hills Energy 2,213.37
Blecha's 66 Service..... 3,364.77
ByteSpeed, LLC..... 165.00
CDW-G 914.04
Cardmember Service..... 3,752.85
Darnell Glass Co 43.69
Den's Country Meats 6,981.63
Distributed Website Corp..... 560.00
Ebco Subscription Serv 1,105.99
Eggers Bros Inc..... 298.65
Esu #4..... 35,088.70
Esu #6..... 336.94
Falls City Journal 81.29
Falls City Sanitation..... 326.70
Farmers Union Coop Supply .. 188.75
Fastenal 62.76
Fremont Industries, Inc. 409.50
General Office Checking Acct. 636.18
H & H Auto Parts 46.53
HTRS Activity Fund 1,362.00
HTRS Activity Fund 11,544.90
HTRS Payroll Acct 405,624.98
Harding & Shultz, PC, LLO 88.13
Harris Computer Systems 377.75
Heavy Duty Bus Parts, Inc..... 191.81
Humboldt Auto, Inc. 1,005.49
Humboldt Electric &
Appliance 1,203.56
Humboldt Implement Co. 127.93
Humboldt Standard 155.25
J W Pepper & Son Inc..... 285.99
Joy Wilcock..... 1,354.59
Konica Minolta 2,446.61
Librarian's Choice..... 57.87
Librarian's Choice..... 57.88
Mark's Plumbing Parts..... 374.71
Marvin Blecha..... 108.99
Mary Malcolm 3,202.00
Mary's Appliance 139.00
Mary's Appliance..... 229.00
Matheson-Linweld..... 35.80
Maxim Healthcare Services 375.00
McNealy Construction Inc. . 1,068.00
NASB Nebraska Association of School Boards..... 1,080.00
NCSA - Nebraska Council of School Admin..... 771.00
NPPD 3,185.10
Nebraska ESU Coop Purchasing..... 400.00
Noha Vice..... 2,192.80
OMAHA TRUCK CENTER... 286.72
Okeefe Elevator Co., Inc..... 247.19
Orlin Kuhlmann 525.00
PRTS, LLC..... 3,604.75
Phillips Plumbing, Hardware ... 97.78
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R & D Grocery 100.39
Read Naturally 2,183.52
Ricoh USA, Inc..... 1,840.39
Schendel Pest Control 33.00
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Scholastic Inc 178.75
Seneca Sanitation 100.00
Shiffler..... 4,321.93
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Superior Text..... 1,168.95
Time Warner Cable 119.90
UNL Extension, Richardson County..... 1,378.16
Unite Private Networks, LLC 1,818.15
Verizon 614.12
Wentz Heating & AC 304.00
Water Conditioning of Seneca 326.65
Windstream Nebraska 2,047.65
Windstream Nebraska 395.74



Obituaries

Doris A. Waggoner

Doris A. Waggoner, 87, of White Cloud, KS, died Tuesday, Dec. 18, 2012, at the Hiawatha Community Hospital.

Doris was born July 11, 1925, at White Cloud, the daughter of William Roy and Florence McAllister Collins. She had lived in White Cloud nearly all of her life. She attended White Cloud schools and graduated from White Cloud High School. Doris was a homemaker, dedicated and working to raise her family. In later years, she drove a school bus for the Highland School District, and worked at the senior citizen meal site in White Cloud a few years.

She was a member of the ladies auxiliary to American Legion Post #154 of White Cloud for over 60 years. She enjoyed squirrel hunting with her husband, fishing and visiting the casino.

She married Henry Eugene "Bean" Waggoner on Dec. 23, 1944, in Hiawatha. He died July 6, 1974. Doris was also preceded

in death by her parents, a son, Richard, and nine brothers and sisters.

Survivors include three sons, Michael Waggoner, White Cloud, Charles (Nancy) Waggoner, Sedalia, MO, and John (Mary Ann) Waggoner, rural Falls City; two daughters, Jeanie (Jerry) Idol, St. Joseph, MO, and Patricia (Larry) Lentz, White Cloud; a sister, Edith Williams of Texas; 13 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

It was Doris' wish to be cremated with no services to be held. A time of fellowship with a meal is planned for noon Saturday, Dec. 22, at the White Cloud American Legion building.

Memorial contributions are suggested to the Olive Branch Cemetery and may be sent in care of the Chapel Oaks Funeral Home, 124 S. 7th Street, Hiawatha, KS 66434.

A special message may be sent to the family at www.chapeloaksfuneralhome.com

Vance E. Leininger



Vance Elmore Leininger, 96, died Thursday, Dec. 13, 2012, at The Living Community, St. Joseph, MO.

He was born Feb. 2, 1916, in Gordon, NE, the son of George Samuel and Ethel (Burns) Leininger. Shortly after Vance's birth, the family relocated to Fullerton, near the family homestead in rural Sherman County.

Vance attended Fullerton High School and excelled in music, football and all of his classes. In 1937, he earned his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in music at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, where he belonged to Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity. He taught public school music in Stanton, IA.

On Dec. 25, 1938, he married Mary Lucille Davison of Falls City.

While the music director of the Stanton Public Schools, Vance also studied for a Master of Fine Arts degree at the Northwestern University School of Music in Evanston, IL. They subsequently moved to Shenandoah, IA, where he taught high school Latin and English, as well as music.

From 1942 to 1946, Vance served in the U.S. Navy as a Chief Petty Officer, teaching radio electronics for the Radio Materiel School at the Naval Research Laboratory, Washington, D.C. After his military service, the family moved back to Nebraska and he earned a Bachelor of Laws degree at UNL in 1948. He joined the law firm of Walter and Albert in Columbus, where his 40-year practice consisted of wills, estates, business contracts, real estate and public power litigation. He was a member of the American College of Probate Counsel, the American Trial Lawyers Association and president of the Platte County Bar Association. According to one of his law firm partners, he was a "lawyer's lawyer whom one could turn to for help with especially difficult legal problems." In the 1970s, Vance was under consideration as a candidate for justice of the Nebraska Supreme Court, but decided to continue as senior partner of his law firm.

He was president of the Columbus School Board in 1960 when the new Columbus Senior High School opened. He belonged to Rotary, Elks and Masonic Lodge No. 323. The Leininger family belonged to the Federated Church in Columbus. In 1987 Vance and Mary moved to St. Joseph, where they joined the First Presbyterian Church, St. Joseph Country Club, Moila Club and the Benton Club. He was also on the Performing Arts Association Board.

Vance is survived by his wife and three sons, Kurt of Malvern, PA, Joel of Chapel Hill, NC, and Ralph of Dayton, OH, four grandsons and a niece and nephew. He was preceded in death by his parents and three brothers, Harold, Donald and Forrest.

Care was provided by Meierhoffer Funeral Home & Crematory, St. Joseph. Donations may be sent to First Presbyterian Church in St. Joseph.

Evelyn Ruth Rokey

Evelyn Ruth Rokey, 84, of Sabetha, KS, died Sunday, Dec. 16, 2012, at a Sabetha nursing home.

She was born near Humboldt on March 22, 1928, the daughter of Clifford and Catherine (Pendergast) Halbert. Evelyn attended and graduated from Honey Creek High School in 1946. She then attended St. Anthony's Murdock School of Nursing in Sabetha. After that school closed, she attended St. Mary's in Salina and completed nursing school in Wichita.

She went to work at the Sabetha Clinic in 1950 and then worked for several hospitals, including the Seneca Hospital and Sabetha Hospital, and at the Brown County Infirmary. Evelyn also worked for Dr. Mali in Sabetha. In 1975, she started working at the Fountain Villa Nursing Home in Sabetha and retired as director of nursing in 1990.

Evelyn married Eldon William Rokey on April 14, 1949. She was a member of the Congregational church and later the NorthRidge Church, serving as a Sunday school teacher. She was a seamstress and enjoyed cook-

ing and baking. Her greatest joy was being a mother and grandmother.

Mrs. Rokey is survived by her husband, Eldon, of the home, three sons, Kyle (Lisa) Rokey, Des Moines, IA, Scott (Theresa) Rokey, Baileyville, KS, and Paige Rokey, Sabetha, two daughters, Lisa Lyons, Sabetha, and Lori (Mike) Robinson, Fayetteville, AR, three sisters, Mary Kimmel, McClouth, KS, Louella Shafer, Hiawatha, and Linda Buchholz, Sabetha, 10 grandchildren, a great-grandbaby and a surrogate granddaughter.

She was preceded in death by her parents, two brothers, Charles Halbert and Paul Halbert, and a sister, Norma Riddle.

Funeral services were held Thursday, Dec. 20, at the NorthRidge Church in Sabetha. Interment was in the Sabetha Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Evelyn Rokey Memorial Nursing Scholarship and sent in care of the Popkess Mortuary, 823 Virginia, Sabetha, KS 66534. Online condolences may be left for the family at www.popkessmortuaries.com

Melvin Herr

Melvin Herr, 92, of Humboldt, passed away Saturday, Dec. 15, 2012, at the Colonial Acres Nursing Home in Humboldt.

He was born Sept. 18, 1920 in Humboldt.

Funeral Services will be held at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 29, 2012, at the United Methodist Church in Humboldt, with Pastor Jaclyn Hoy officiating.

Visitation will be from 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 28, 2012, at the Wherry Mortuary in Humboldt. Family will greet friends from 6-8 p.m. at the mortuary. Interment will be at the Humboldt Cemetery.

Memorials may be given to the United Methodist Church or family's choice. Online condolences may be sent to www.wherrymortuary.com

Dean Edward Reese

Dean Edward Reese, 87, formerly of rural White Cloud, KS, died Wednesday, Dec. 19, 2012, at the Hiawatha Community Hospital.

Dean was born at White Cloud on Jan. 24, 1925, the son of Edward (E.H.) and Marie Meier Reese and was a life-long area resident. He grew up on a farm near White Cloud and attended the Shore Country School #30 prior to graduating from White Cloud High School. Dean later graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree from Kansas State University at Manhattan, where he was active with the FarmHouse Fraternity. He returned to farm and raise livestock on the family farm west of White Cloud, until retiring and moving to Hiawatha.

Mr. Reese was dedicated to his community and to promoting agriculture. He spent six weeks in Kazakhstan to help privatize agriculture. He also spent eight weeks in Albania to help privatize agriculture there, as well. Both visits were in cooperation with the VOCA (Volunteer Overseas Cooperative Assistance) Agency.

Dean was very active in his community through the years, serving on various boards and committees. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church of Hiawatha. He served on the Corporative Finance Commission in Washington, D.C., for eight years. Dean also served on the Rural Electric Co-Op Board, at the local, state and national levels for over 30 years, serving as president at the local level with the Brown-Atchison Board for 17 years. He was president at the Kansas Electric Cooperative for three years and helped establish the Brown County 4-H Foundation, where he was first a member, then a leader of 4-H for many years. Dean also served on the Hiawatha Hospital Board, where he was president for a time.

He married Gretchen Lessel at Falls City on Feb. 5, 1955. She survives.

Also surviving are their children, James "Ed" Reese of



Overland Park, KS, and Nancy (Pat) Dillon of St. Joseph, MO, a brother, Donald Reese of Denton, TX and four grandchildren, Patrick and Erin Dillon and Keegan and Katie Reese.

Dean was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Charles.

A celebration of Dean's life is planned for 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 22, at the First United Methodist Church in Hiawatha. Interment will follow at the Pleasant Hill Cemetery, in the Zion Community, northeast of Hiawatha.

Memorial contributions are suggested to Brown County 4-H Development Program and may be sent in care of the Chapel Oaks Funeral Home, 124 S. 7th St., Hiawatha, KS 66434.

Visitation is Friday, with the family meeting friends from 6-8 p.m.

Special messages may be sent to the family at www.chapeloaksfuneralhome.com

Suggest reducing period for in-person early voting to 25 days

Secretary of State John Gale has received the findings and recommendation issued in connection with a voting complaint filed with his office under the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) of 2002.

In that document the hearing officer, Robert Kinsey Jr., suggested reducing the period for in-person early voting from the current 35 days to 25 days. In his written statement Kinsey said, "A shortening of the time period for in-person early voting furthers Nebraska's commitment to promoting voter accessibility for all individuals and provides adequate opportunity to vote early in-person."

Kinsey, who is an attorney with the law firm of Kinsey Rowe Becker & Kistler, was appointed by the Secretary of State to oversee the hearing, which was held at the State Capitol on Nov. 16, 2012.

The initial complaint was filed in October 2012 by Mrs. Fatos Floyd, a Lincoln resident who is also visually impaired. She said she was unable to vote during the first week of October at the Lancaster County Election Commission office due to the unavailability of the AutoMARK machine. That piece of equipment allows those with visual impairment and other disabilities to cast their ballot privately and without assistance. Floyd was able to cast her vote at a later date.

Reviewing the recommendation Sec. Gale called it a thoughtful and well-reasoned approach. "One of the issues that our office noted during the hearing was the difficulty in having the ballots certified for each county, getting those ballots printed and having the AutoMARK machines coded all in time for early voting to start on Oct. 1."

Coding of the AutoMARK machine was completed at the Lancaster County Election Commission office on Oct. 9.

Gale said, "We will be looking at the timing of those deadlines and seeking a remedy through the Legislature during the upcoming session."

FCPS staff come together for food pantry

Teachers and Staff at Falls City Public Schools got into the holiday spirit on Friday, Nov. 14.

For a donation of two or

three food items, teachers and staff could don a holiday sweater as a fund raiser for the local food pantry. Fourteen boxes of food items were delivered to the SENCA office on Friday afternoon. The \$700 JEANS (Join Educators And ENjoy Serving) donations for December also went to the food pantry.

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Public Record

Country Court

Christopher W. Ivey, Falls City, criminal mischief-less than \$200; continued to Jan. 7 for pretrial.

William Runkles, FC, aiding and abetting a class 4 felony; continued to Jan. 9 for preliminary hearing.

Christopher W. Donahoo, FC, forgery-2nd degree-over \$300/under \$1,000; continued to Jan. 9 for preliminary hearing.

James Lunsford, FC, count one, no proof of insurance; count two, no valid registration; count three, unlawful/fictitious display of plates; plead guilty to all charges, found guilty of charges of two and three; continued to Jan. 28 for sentencing.

Amber L. Frenzel, FC, count one, forgery-2nd degree-\$300 or less, plead no contest, fined \$60; count two, dismissed with prejudice; to pay costs of \$49.

Zabulon M. Genovese, reckless driving-1st offense, plead not guilty; continued to Jan. 7 for pretrial.

Trevor J. Payne, FC, possess K2 or marijuana one ounce or less, fined \$300, to serve one day in Richardson County Jail, plus costs of \$49.

Elmer L. Barker Jr., FC, count one, assault-3rd degree (felony), amended to assault-3rd degree (misd.); count two, terroristic threats (felony), amended to

criminal mischief-less than \$200 (misd.); plead no contest to both counts; continued to Jan. 23 for sentencing.

Casey J. Martineau, FC, count one, deliver/intent to deliver controlled substance-sched. 1, 2; count two, possess controlled substance; continued to Jan. 9 for preliminary hearing.

Russell L. Heineman, FC, DUI-.15+, amended to willful reckless driving-1st offense, plead no contest; count two, operate ATV on controlled access highway, dismissed with prejudice; continued to Feb. 6 for sentencing.

Alicia Holstein, Sabetha, Kan., burglary, amended to criminal trespass-1st degree, plead no contest; continued to Feb. 6 for sentencing.

Heidi E. Kaster, FC, drive under suspension/before reinstated, fined \$75, plus costs of \$49.

District Court

State vs. Jon M. Larson, arraignment hearing held, second offense sex offender registration violation, plead not guilty; jury trial set for Feb. 20.

State vs. Ryan C. Bennett, arraigned on two counts of 1st degree forgery, class III felonies, plead not guilty; jury trial set for Feb. 20.

Jessica L. Kish, Stella, filed for dissolution of marriage to Derek L. Kish, Auburn.

State vs. Kelley M. Barker, arraigned on charge of possession of a controlled substance,

class IV felony, plead not guilty; jury trial set for Feb. 20.

Civil Court

Judgment entered in favor of Credit Management Services and against Ruth Gossett, Stella, in the amount of \$5,855.90, pre-judgment interest of \$1,958.13, costs of \$95.93.

Judgment entered in favor of Credit Management Services and against Kevin Gallup, FC, in the amount of \$240.59, pre-judgment interest of \$10.23, fees of \$29.06, costs of \$69.45, with post-judgment interest to accrue at 2.137 percent.

Judgment entered in favor of Credit Management Services and against David Lyons, FC, in the amount of \$18.17, fees of \$10.00, costs of \$37.14, with post-judgment interest to accrue at 2.137 percent.

Judgment entered in favor of State Farm, Fire and Casualty and against Kevin L. J. Craig, FC, in the amount of \$7,002.08, costs of \$63.50, with post-judgment interest to accrue at 2.137 percent.

Judgment entered in favor of Midland Funding LLC and against Angela Folsom, FC, in the amount of \$1,428.26, pre-judgment interest of \$84.76, costs of \$63.50, with post-judgment interest to accrue at 2.137 percent.

Judgment entered in favor of Sharon Clovis, FC, and against Kelley Barker, FC, in the amount of \$900.00, costs of \$50.50, with post-judgment interest to accrue at 2.137 percent.

County Court Waivers (Court costs not included)

Janice E. Price, fail to obey train crossing sign, fined \$100. April Rath, speeding (11-15), fined \$75.

Andrew D. Timothy, speeding (6-10), fined \$25.

Micah A. Carter, speeding (11-15), fined \$75.

Anna E. Curry, speeding (16-20), fined \$125.

Michael E. Konecne, exceed width limits, fined \$35.

Ben B. Bugg, speeding (11-15), fined \$75.



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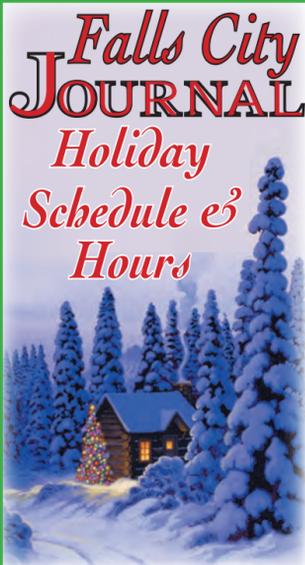
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FRIDAY, DEC. 28TH

Deadline Wed., Dec. 26th by 3:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 4TH

Deadline Wed., Jan. 2nd by 3:30 p.m.

We will resume normal printing on Tuesday, January 8th

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Bridal Registry — The unconventional but so useful wedding gifts! Whether the couple is registered here or not, we are glad to help you find the perfect gift. We, of course, have gift certificates and we gift wrap! Farm & City, Ace Hardware. 59-tf

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49-tf

HELP WANTED

DIRECTOR OF NURSING

Looking for dynamic/compassionate RN with a solid combination in clinical/organizational/interpersonal skills to oversee delivery of care/services to our residents. Focus on quality care with respect, dignity, kindness. Requires active RN license, exp in long term care, progressive mgmt exp.

Falls City Healthcare Community,
2800 Towle St Falls City, NE 68355

Apply in person or fax letter/resume to: Valerie 402-245-2592 or call 402-245-5252 or email hrdept@lantisnet.com EOE

50-51

IN HOME HEALTH CARE AND HOSPICE HAS AN IMMEDIATE OPENING FOR AN R.N.

This position can be part-time or full-time. As a home health nurse, you will enjoy your independence, flexible schedule, and one on one time with each of your patients.

If you are interested you may pick up an application at In Home Health Care, 116 W 19th, Falls City. 51-52

A career that's anything but ordinary.

If you thrive in a place where teamwork makes it all happen, we've got the perfect place for you. Pizza Hut is hiring right now for the following team positions:

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If you've got the energy and enthusiasm to work hard with a great team, and meet our high standards, you've got to check this out.

- Great starting money with merit increases.
- Flexible work hours.
- Free meals and uniforms.
- Medical benefits and paid vacations. *
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If any of these positions sound like the right job for you, apply right now online at:

www.jobsatpizzahut.com
or visit the Pizza Hut

* Position requirements apply.

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51-52

SOUTHEAST NEBRASKA COMMUNITY ACTION COUNCIL, INC. (SENCA) WEATHERIZATION DEPARTMENT IS SEEKING APPLICANTS FOR CREW MEMBERS. The primary responsibility for these positions consists of applying Weatherization measures to homes within SENCA's service area. These measures include replacing doors and windows, crawling into small crawl spaces & attics, blowing insulation and other measures necessary to increase the energy efficiency of the homes. Applicants should possess a demonstrated knowledge of construction fundamentals. Must be at least 19 years of age and have a valid driver's license with acceptable driving record. These positions are full-time 40 hours a week and will be based in Humboldt. SENCA offers a competitive benefit package. Complete job description and applications are available online at www.senca.org, or for more information contact Brandi Holley at 402-862-2411 ext. 104. Position will remain open until filled. This position is 100% federally funded. EOE

51-52

SOUTHEASTNEBRASKACOMMUNITYACTIONCOUNCIL IS NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THE POSITION OF FAMILY SERVICE ADVOCATE for our Head Start program located in Falls City. Position is full time, 40 hours per week, and will run with the school year approximately nine months out of the year. Primary responsibilities will be to recruit Head Start children, and coordinate delivery of services to the children and families. Minimum qualifications include: high school diploma or equivalent, ability to submit timely accurate reports, basic computer skills, experience working in the human services field is highly desirable. SENCA offers a competitive benefit package. To view a complete job description or obtain an application go to www.senca.org or contact Brandi Holley at (402) 862-2411 extension 104. Position will remain open until filled. This position is 80% federally funded. EOE 51-52

FOR RENT SERVICES

Pack Rat Storage, Units Available. 402-245-7236. 24-TF

Marilyn Capps RTRP Tax Preparation, 402-245-5413 at 516 E 13th St. capps@senco.net, Evening and weekend appointments a specialty. 48-tf

Save a Pet From the Richardson County Humane Society

Older neutered male Terrier mix is available for adoption at the Humane Society Shelter, please call 402-245-2779. Adopt a virtual pet from us, great way to help an animal without ownership, call us for details, 402-2779 We woot you a Meowy Christmas and a hoppy New Year!

Sponsored by the Humane Society, 245-2779.

FOR SALE

Falls City Honey for sale. Great for Christmas baskets, \$6 a lb. 402-245-7217. 49-52P

Hometown Furniture in Hiawatha is closed for remodeling. Re-Opening Soon! 42-tf

The village of Rulo has two, 300 gallon fuel barrels on stands up for bid, They are located next to fire house in Rulo. Please send sealed bids to: Village of Rulo 414 W. Martin St. Rulo, Ne 68431. 51

NEBRASKA STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED NETWORK

BANKRUPTCY: FREE initial consultation. Fast relief from creditors. Low rates. Statewide filing. No office appointment necessary. Call Steffens Law Office, 308-872-8327. steffensbankruptcy.com. We are a debt relief agency, which helps people file bankruptcy under the bankruptcy code.

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COUNTY ASSESSOR: Buffalo County, Nebraska, is accepting applications for the position of County Assessor. Buffalo County, EOE/AA. Please find additional information at www.buffalocounty.ne.gov <<http://www.buffalocounty.ne.gov>>

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Grayson Hayes, middle, was the FCMS Champion of the National Geographic Bee, held Dec. 10. He will now take a written exam to try and qualify at the state level next spring. State winners then go to the national finals for a chance at scholarships worth \$25,000, \$15,000 and \$10,000. Placing second at the FCMS contest were Jordyn Bomar, right, and Elle Findlay, left.

Grayson Hayes knows his geography

Each year thousands of schools in the United States participate in the National Geographic Bee using materials prepared by the National Geographic Society. The contest is designed to encourage teachers to include geography in their classrooms, spark student interest in the subject, and increase public awareness about geography. Schools with students in grades four through eight are eligible for this entertaining and challenging test of geographic knowledge.

Falls City Middle School participated in the program for the first time this year. A preliminary written qualifying test was given to all Middle School Social Studies students to find the top students to participate in the school bee and determine a school champion.

The FCMS Bee was held Dec. 10, 2012 with 21 sixth, seventh and eighth grade students in the final school competition round. Those competing in the school-level Bee were: Josie Crofford,

Peyton Campbell, Sydney Brewer, Ryan Chab, Grayson Hayes, Zach Petry, Emma Gill, Carter Hunzeker, Elle Findley, Tayten O'Brien, Cheyenne Dovel, Ransom Campbell, Austin Cochran, Jordyn Bomar, Aaron Kurpgeweit, Jacob Craig, Shane Campbell, Noah Milam, Layla Licon, Parker Thompson and Emma Beckner

The top three winners were: Grayson Hayes placed first, Jordyn Bomar placed second, and Elle Findley placed third.

Jack Munford will administer the written qualifying state test to school champion Grayson Hayes. In early March he will be notified by mail if Grayson qualified to represent FCMS at the state level. The top 100 students (selected based on qualifying test scores) qualify to represent their schools and compete at the state level.

State qualifiers compete in an oral competition at the state level, which is usually held in late March or early April. State winners are invited to National Geo-

graphic headquarters in late May to compete in the national finals for scholarships in the amount of U.S. \$25,000, \$15,000 and \$10,000.

Main Street parking

(Please turn to Page 12)

ing stalls to businesses. If a stall in the vicinity of a business is occupied all day, virtually everyday, that business will lose customers, using as an example the pizza restaurant at 117 E. 17th. Parking is limited in that area anyway, and if stalls are taken by non-customers, that business suffers. He said more communication is needed with retailers and the Richardson County Commissioners (Courthouse parking).

Two-hour parking was incorporated into the plan that was developed in 2010.

"I do like a lot of the downtown" facelift, Mrs. Whitehouse said later in the meeting. But as the construction process continues, she addressed some of the "issues" that are of concern, including the narrow intersections (created by bump-outs; 22 feet), problems for delivery drivers who have trouble negotiating alleys and must find alternative ways to deliver their cargo. Additional diagonal parking in some areas prohibits large trucks from turning into and out of the alleys, she said.

The conversion from one-way to two-way traffic has been "the biggest complaint from my customers," Mrs. Whitehouse said, adding that she hopes that move "will be reconsidered." In fact, all of the problems she mentioned could be rectified, she said.

"Start looking at (the project) as we retailers do," Mrs. Whitehouse suggested.

Jorn pointed out that many retailers have come to the City seeking parking limits to accommodate their customers. He said the Main Street planning process was long and many opportunities were provided for public input. And Tony Brunette, speaking on behalf of Main Street Falls City, said the idea has always been to boost local businesses. Finding people to serve on Main Street and Chamber committees is difficult, Brunette said. He also noted that input is a lot more beneficial before rather than after a project is completed.

"We need your input and your help," Brunette said.

He, too, complimented Barr, who has "done a great job."

The agenda item that spurred the discussion involved two-hour parking. The council members voted to "table" the issue.

Monday's meeting lasted over an hour and involved a number of



Photo by Jason Schuck

"I've always liked to reach out to people, and to see kids or even their dads thrilling themselves cutting down their own Christmas trees is a great feeling," Bruce, shown here helping Chloe Schock harvest her family's Christmas tree, said. "Lots and lots of good memories."

Christmas Tree!

(Continued from Page 1)

irement," Mary said.

One of the toughest jobs connected with the Ye Ole Pine Patch has been the shaping of the trees in June and July's heat.

"That is critical to the tree's symmetry and the trimming has to be done at the right time," Bruce noted. He uses a long, razor sharp knife for the exhaustive job. "As the years have gone by it's become harder and harder to do," he commented. He has had helpers to ease the workload.

Trees are spoken for as the Christmas spirit begins ascending right after Thanksgiving, Mary commented, and business always picks up when the weather turns colder and especially if there is some snow falling.

Asked if their own kids ever helped with the work at the Pine Patch, Bruce said they did when they were small but as they got older they preferred working at part-time, paying jobs. However, for several years when son Stephen lived in Lincoln he took 50 or so trees to sell there and earned many regular customers in doing so.

Mary said her part of the 43-year project — besides taking phone calls from prospective customers — consisted of "putting up with him when he came home from Rulo tired and cranky." Bruce didn't deny it.

The most popular pines average around six to seven feet and they sell for \$5 a foot. The trees that have become too big to serve as Christmas trees are sold to wreath makers.

The sales have been averaging about 300 a year and Bruce, as of early this month, had around 200 pines tagged for this year's rush.

His favorites are Scotch pines, but pine wilt has sealed their fate so the offerings now are white pines and cannan firs.

How does he look back on those 43 years at the Pine Patch?

"It's been hard work but a good sideline and I've enjoyed it. I've always liked to reach out to people, and to see kids or even their dads thrilling themselves cutting down their own Christmas trees is a great feeling," he said. "Lots and lots of good memories."

"I feel like I've been bringing joy into a great many homes with my pine trees," Bruce remarked—with considerable feeling.

And that he has.

ALL OFFICES OF THE COURTHOUSE WILL BE CLOSED
Tuesday, December 25, 2012
in observance of Christmas
and Tuesday, January 1, 2013
in observance of New Year's Day.



HOLIDAY HOURS

CHRISTMAS EVE
 Mon., Dec. 24th - Closed at 1:00 P.M.

CHRISTMAS
 Tues., Dec. 25th - Closed

NEW YEAR'S EVE
 Mon., Dec. 31st - Closed at 3:00 P.M.

NEW YEAR'S DAY
 Tues., Jan. 1st - Closed



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