

Highway 159 from Rulo to I-29 now open. See Page 5 for story.

FALLS CITY JOURNAL

Vol. 153 - No. 36

Thursday, September 10, 2020

COVID CASES RISING IN RICHARDSON COUNTY

The Southeast District Health Department (SEDHD) report a new total of 40 cases in Richardson County as of Friday, September 4, 2020. Last week Richardson County showed a total of 33. A new total was not readily available on Monday, September 7.

Nemaha County and Otoe County continued to see a massive jump in cases seeing totals of, 96 in Nemaha and 125 in Otoe. Compared to last weeks, 77 in Nemaha and 106 in Otoe.

According to the Southeast District Health Department COVID-19 Dashboard, 57.9 percent of cases by exposure are community; 33.1 percent are direct contact and 9.1 percent are travel.

Four point three percent of cases are hospitalized and 95.7 are not hospitalized.

Confirmed cases by age group are .07 percent in the 0-9 age group; 16.4 percent in the 10-19 age group; 24.8 percent in the 20-29 age group;

(Continued on Page 9)



PRESS BOX DEDICATION: L-R: Derik Lape, Breanna Lape with children Preston and Sadie, Jay Bechtold, Ryker Jones, Randy Sailors, Barb Sailors, Josie Riggs, Gale Dunkhas, Don Hogue, Jim Murphy, and Tim Heckenlively.

NEW TIGER PRESS BOX DEDICATED IN HONOR OF DR. LARRY STEDNITZ

Story and photo by Brian McKim
On Friday night, August 28, the Falls City Tigers hosted Platview at Jug Brown Stadium and had a chance to showcase its new press box at the season's first football game. The

fans were not only treated to the new addition, but they also saw the Tigers get a season-opening win, 28-18 over the Trojans.

The new press box was officially dedicated Friday night in honor of Dr. Larry Stednitz, who

was represented by the Barb and Randy Sailors family. After his death, the Stednitz family made a sizeable donation that helped to kick off fundraising for the new addition. Dr. Stednitz enjoyed discussing his high school

days with friends, so his family thought this would be a great way to honor him. In addition to the Stednitz donation, many individuals and organizations stepped up to help support the

(Continued on Page 3)

EMA DIRECTOR TO REGISTER FOR U.S. AWARDS MANAGEMENT

By: Charlie Radatz

During the Tue. September 1 meeting of the Richardson County Commissioners Emergency Management Agency Director, Brian Kirkendall presented to the Board documents to be signed by the Chairman regard-

ing the appointment of an entity administrator for Richardson County to manage Richardson County's registration record, its associated users and their roles with Richardson County, for the purpose of registering with the United States Government through the online System for Award Management (SAM). Brian Kirkendall, EMA Director, will serve as this administrator for Richardson County.

Extension Educator Kaytlyn Kennedy requested approval from the Board to hire a person to fill the position as the office assistant who will continue to have outside employment after hours. A motion was made by Chairman David Sichel to approve the hiring of Emily Nussbaum to the position of office assistant and to approve her outside employment. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Terry Frank and was approved by 2-0 vote as Commissioner Caverzagie was absent.

Sheriff Hardesty and Roland Merwin, Chief Deputy Sheriff, updated the Board on the Law Enforcement Center's routine business this past week. A motion was made by Commissioner Sichel to approve a purchase order for a fully equipped 2019 Ford Explorer and the motion was approved 2-0.

Sheriff Hardesty also informed the Board that the Nebraska Jail Standards would be conducting the State Jail Inspection on September 15, 2020. Sheriff Hardesty also presented the contract

(Continued on Page 3)



Men wear masks in 1918 (*History Nebraska*); Volleyball fans wear masks, 102 years later during the Tri-County/Sacred Heart game last week.

THE 1918 "FLU" PANDEMIC IN RICHARDSON CO., A LOOK AT THE VICTIMS AND HOW 1918 COMPARES TO COVID-19 IN 2020

By Nikki McKim

This article is the eighth and final in a series about the 1918 "Spanish Flu," epidemic that killed millions worldwide.

The second wave of the "Spanish Flu Pandemic" hit our area hard. Each day local papers listed names of those who perished from influenza caused by the flu. Some cases wiped out entire families, while others took young parents and older grand-

parents. Here are some of those lost during the second wave.

The Falls City News, Tuesday, October 29, 1918.

In the wake of the terrible epidemic passing through the county comes sadness and sorrow to many homes, often where least expected. In the past few days, the blow has fallen in several homes in our city, death taking a tribute among some of our most prominent families. The

heartaches are many and there is a general sadness among our people. We would comfort the sorrowing while we feel the call may come soon to our own. Anxiety and sympathy go hand in hand and the friend you comforted yesterday may share your sorrow today.

During the influenza epidemic in Falls City, Mr. and Mrs. J.W. Wing parted with two of their

(Continued on Page 4)

HAPPENING AFTER WE GO TO PRINT THIS WEEK
Falls City Council meeting to discuss city budget, on repairs to Harlan Street handicap ramps and repairs at Prichard Auditorium as well a downtown revitalization grant proposal.



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A SUCCESSFUL SESSION

By Governor Pete Ricketts

The Nebraska Legislature's "short session" went much longer than usual this year due to coronavirus. While the session didn't wrap up until August, it was worth the wait for Nebraskans. From property tax relief to career scholarships, several key priorities were achieved to help grow our state both now and for future generations.

Property Tax Relief: LB 1107 not only delivered significant property tax relief to Nebraskans, but it also reformed our business incentives and puts Nebraska in the running for a \$1 billion federal investment in the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC). LB 1107 is a big deal for our state. Through the programs in this bill, the state will deliver a total of \$650 million in annual property tax relief. This is more than a four-fold increase in direct property tax relief from the state since I took office.

Dismemberment Abortion Ban: Nebraska is a pro-life state, and in August the Legislature took an important step to strengthen our culture of life. Senators overwhelmingly approved LB 814, a bill that ends dismemberment abortion in Nebraska. LB 814 makes it a felony crime to perform a dismemberment abortion anywhere in Nebraska, punishable by up to two years in prison and/or a fine of \$10,000. Dismemberment abortion tears apart a living baby's body limb by limb. This horrific procedure has no place in a humane, civilized society. I commend Senator Suzanne Geist, and the bill's supporters in the Unicameral, for outlawing this barbaric practice in Nebraska.

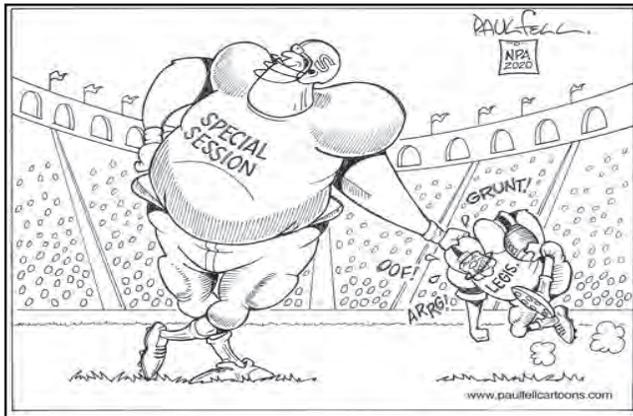
Veterans Tax Relief: LB 153 provided tax relief on military retirement pay. This moves us closer to our goal of becoming the most veteran-friendly state in the nation. Introduced by Senator Tom Brewer, and prioritized by Senator John Lowe, LB 153 moved through three rounds of voting without a single vote in opposition. That's a testament to the deep respect Nebraskans have for the women and men who serve in our military. LB 153 exempts 50 percent of military retirement benefit income from state income taxation. This is an important step in keeping us competitive with surrounding states that offer tax relief on military retirement pay. Veterans and military families are some of the most dedicated, loyal citizens—they are a great fit for our patriotic communities. We want more veterans to make their home here in the Good Life.

Flood & Pandemic Relief: We also entered the session with a number of budgetary needs. For instance, our state is still recovering from the historic floods that struck Nebraska in 2019. The Legislature appropriated over \$55 million to help the State meet our obligations to repair the damages. I'm happy to report that we're rebuilding bigger and better than before the floods. This week, I'll be in northern Nebraska to celebrate the reopening of the fully reconstructed bridge on Highway 12 that spans the Niobrara River. It has been one of the biggest rebuilds we've undertaken, and I applaud our team at Nebraska Department of Transportation for their work to complete it. Additionally, the Legislature approved \$83.6 million in coronavirus relief funding to support Nebraska's pandemic response.

Career Scholarships: Connecting the next generation of Nebraskans to great opportunities in our state is key to helping our kids make Nebraska their home. This year, the Legislature funded my proposal to invest in Nebraska Career Scholarships for students at our community colleges, state colleges, and university system. These scholarships will help to equip young Nebraskans to enter careers in fields with high-demand for new talent, such as engineering, healthcare, and IT. This adds to the pipeline we've been building to connect young Nebraskans with great-paying careers so that they can enjoy the Good Life. This pipeline starts in middle-school with the Developing Youth Talent Initiative, continues in high school career academies, and culminates in "earn-while-you-learn" apprenticeships in postsecondary education. Now, students will also have the opportunity to apply for a Career Scholarship as they prepare for to enter fields where our state has a workforce shortage.

Careers in Corrections: As a part of my budget recommendation, the Legislature also approved a one-of-a-kind workforce education partnership between the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services (NDCS) and Peru State College. The program will use an apprenticeship model to train students to take on key roles at the Tecumseh State Correctional Institution. The initiative is tailored to students interested in careers in criminal justice with a focus on corrections leadership, and it gives them on-the-job experience as part of their degree plan. It's exactly the kind of forward-thinking approach we need to prepare for our future workforce needs as well as to keep Nebraska's graduates here for their careers.

As you can see, we've made great progress in providing tax relief, protecting life, and delivering important flood relief—along with other critical priorities. If you have questions about the bills passed in the 2020 legislative session, or the adjustments to our 2020-2021 fiscal year budget, please email pete.ricketts@nebraska.gov or call 402-471-2244. Despite big challenges along the way, I'm thankful for everything Nebraska has accomplished so far in 2020. I'm confident that we'll finish the year strong as we continue to work to get Nebraska growing.



SOME URBAN LAWMAKERS WANT A SPECIAL SESSION

Capitol View
Nebraska Press Association
By: J.J. Schmidt

A group of urban state senators want a special session of the Legislature to discuss changing police powers and providing protection for workers threatened by the coronavirus and other related issues.

Can you say "snowball's chance?" Don't get me wrong; these are issues that need to be discussed. I'd suggest doing it in interim hearings, but those are just talk and I know the proponents of the session want action. But what exactly would that action look like? Defund police? Require packing plant employees to work in a bubble?

It's obvious that it's going to take a lot of discussion to come up with suitable action. There's going to have to be input from a diverse mix of people. It's NOT the fodder of a special session, which would have to be supported by 33 of the state's 49 senators.

Special sessions (the last one in Nebraska was nine years ago) are generally called by governors and focus on one specific topic. Aye, there's the rub. A governor who has balked at previous attempts to hold special sessions. An agenda that includes multiple topics.

Nine of the 11 senators calling for the special session are Democrats in an officially nonpartisan Legislature overwhelmingly dominated by Republicans (30), one is a Republican who often sides with his Democrat colleagues and one is an Independent. It is worth noting that the Republican Governor recently vetoed a number of Democratic-sponsored bills in the waning days of the session.

I know it's to be expected because that's politics. But it is becoming way too common in the nation's only one-house nonpartisan Legislature. I can't help but think that George W. Norris, the protagonist of Nebraska's Unicameral, wouldn't be happy.

If, by some miracle, 33 senators would agree to a special session, there would surely be legal challenges based on the subject matter multiplicity. The ensuing acrimony would be reminiscent of a nasty pandemic delayed regular session just ended last month. That session was one of the ugliest I have ever seen with a loss of civility and far too many personal attacks. At one point, Speaker of the Legislature Jim Scheer of Norfolk ended the legislative debate early and sent everyone home.

Democrat Sen. Machaela Cavanaugh of Omaha leads the call for the special session, arguing that her colleagues need to take action on police and criminal reform, COVID-19 issues pertaining to employment and housing, and ongoing racial challenges. Omaha colleague Sen. Megan Hunt said dealing with racial injustice and the impact of the coronavirus pandemic cannot wait.

In a news conference to announce the effort, Hunt said the Legislature has failed Nebraskans time and time again when faced with urgent issues of housing, unemployment, working conditions and systemic racism. Omaha Sen. Ernie Chambers said interests outside of America are watching and poised to interfere in the November election.

The senators said they were responding to requests from a coalition of racial and social justice organizations to return to Lincoln.

In addition to Cavanaugh, Chambers and Hunt, Lincoln Senators

Matt Hansen, Adam Morfeld and Patty Pansing Brooks join Omaha lawmakers Sara Howard, Rick Kolowski, John McCollister, Tony Vargas and Justin Wayne in seeking the session.

Secretary of State Bob Evnen will poll lawmakers. It will be informative to see what interest can be generated west of Lincoln. Sadly, but not surprisingly, I sense this call will be viewed as an urban problem. The pandemic might have impacted some constituents in greater Nebraska, but the intense racial and social justice impact is probably more concentrated in the big three, Douglas, Lancaster and Sarpy counties.

The American Civil Liberties Union of Nebraska and other groups such as Black Leaders Movement, Change Now of Lincoln, NAACP Lincoln Branch and the UNL Black Student Union are among the inter-

ested parties. In 2011, the Legislature was called into a special session to deal with the Keystone XL pipeline and related issues of eminent domain and landowner liability. In 2008, a special session was held to correct the scope of the safe-haven immunity law, which it had passed a few months earlier in regular session. Lawmakers have also had special sessions for budgetary issues and tax matters.

Let me repeat, I don't have a problem with a discussion of the issues and serious work being done to find solutions, but a special session of the cranky Legislature with pressure from special interest groups isn't the proper venue. J.J. Schmidt has been covering Nebraska government and politics since 1979. He has been a registered Independent for 20 years.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

THEME: FALL FUN

ACROSS

- 1. Domenikos Theotokopoulos, a.k.a. El
- 6. Org. striving to attain "the highest possible level of health" for all
- 9. Faculty member, for short
- 13. Rekindled
- 14. Western omelet ingredient
- 15. Trailblazer Daniel
- 16. Not a minor
- 17. Spad bud
- 18. Nonsense
- 19. "Colorful autumn attraction"
- 21. *Popular fall decor item, pl.
- 23. Leave speechless
- 24. Thailand money
- 25. Befry dweller
- 28. Dwarf buffalo
- 30. Eccentric one
- 35. 2nd word in fairytale?
- 37. Overnight lodgings
- 39. Marilyn Monroe's given name
- 40. Between a trot and a gallop
- 41. *Pressed beverage
- 42. Justice
- 44. Type of saltwater fish
- 46. Like a broken horse
- 47. Larger-than-life
- 48. Sound setup
- 50. "CliffsNotes," e.g.
- 52. Fifth note
- 53. Genueflecting joint
- 55. "I he drove out of sight..."
- 57. *Back to what?
- 60. * weather
- 64. Cell dweller
- 65. Tokyo, pre-1868
- 67. Out of the way
- 68. Be needy
- 69. Sticky stuff
- 70. Conical dwelling
- 71. Heidi's dweller
- 72. Asian capital
- 73. Move furtively

DOWN

- 1. Famous Steffi
- 2. Do over
- 3. Twelfth month of Jewish year
- 4. Locomotive hair
- 5. Canadian capital
- 6. Cry of glee
- 7. *Wagon "cushion"
- 8. Last letter, to Homer
- 9. Standard's partner
- 10. Crucifix
- 11. Change for a five
- 12. Funny Pochler's funny friend
- 15. Himalayan kingdom
- 20. Relating to genes
- 22. Unit of electrical resistance
- 24. Boo-boo wrap
- 25. *Next spring's flowers
- 26. To the left, on a boat
- 27. Safari hat
- 29. Fonzie: "Sit _____!"
- 31. Top of the Capitol
- 32. *Fall bounty
- 33. Prenatal test, for short
- 34. *Pumpkin garden
- 36. Not far
- 38. Big rig
- 42. Stitch again
- 45. Vietnam river
- 49. Lemmon's widow
- 51. *Celebrant's bagful
- 54. Lament for the dead
- 56. Artist's tripod
- 57. Exchange for money
- 58. Greek muse of history
- 59. Before Kong
- 60. Any time now
- 61. #70 Across, alt. sp.
- 62. Biblical paradise
- 63. Sink to high heaven
- 64. Broadband access overseer
- 66. Unidentified John

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From the Journal Files

By Charlie Radatz

50-25-15 Years Ago

50 Years Ago - Sept. 9, 1970, to Sept. 15, 1970
The District 56 Board of Education passed a resolution giving notice that beginning in 1971, the District would not dismiss school for the Richardson County Fair at Humboldt.

Movies at the Rivoli were "Young Billy Young," "Renfro Valley Barn Dance," and "Gaily, Gaily."

"Funny Girl" was playing at the Breezy Hill Drive-In.

The Tiger football team coached by Larry Munn dropped its home opener with Fairbury 14 to 8.

County families raising cucumbers for a Minnesota packing company received an average of \$1,072 for their efforts.

Work began installing a new 24-inch natural gas pipeline crossing the Missouri River bottom a quarter-mile south of the highway bridge.

The Humboldt Cardinals, coached by Ron White, lost their season opener at Wymore Southern 36-6.

Sacred Heart quarterback Bill Simon and Rich Witt passed for a combined 192 yards in a season-opening 25-6 victory over Southeast Consolidated.

O. William VonSeggern, formerly of Falls City, joined the law firm of Cunningham & Blackburn at Grand Island.

NPPD was sponsoring a mobile exhibit at the Richardson County Fair on nuclear energy and its practical application at its Cooper Nuclear Station.

Humboldt native Lynn C. Rexroth was promoted to District Manager of Northwestern Bell at Grand Island.

Dan Wright was the new supervisor of the FHA office in Falls City.

Janet Standerford, Humboldt, won a purple ribbon with her dairy demonstration at the Nebraska State Fair.

The Tiger cross country team of Ralph Arnold, Chuck Whitney, Ted Godemann, Bob Scribner, and Rex Stice took first place in a nine-team meet at the AppleJack Festival in Nebraska City.

For the first time, women took part in the annual Handicap Golf Tournament at Falls City Country Club.

Fire destroyed a 54 by 54-foot barn on the Myron Leech farm northwest of Humboldt.

Community Hospital announced it had a \$21,827 profit and E.R. "Dick" Baker was elected chairman during the hospital's board of directors' annual meeting.

25 Years Ago - Sept. 9, 1995, to Sept. 15, 1995

The Blue Valley Mental Health Center was celebrating 27 years of service to Falls City.

The County Board of Commissioners filed a claim with the State of Nebraska for \$875,307.72, the cost associated with the Rulo cult murder cases and a triple homicide at Humboldt.

Movies at River Twin Cinema were "The Amazing Panda Adventure" and "A Walk in the Clouds."

Southeast's Seth Reimers ran for 159 yards and three touchdowns, David Gossman ran back the opening kickoff for a touchdown, QB Wes Havenam completed a 60-yard touchdown for six, propelling the Mustangs to a 44-20 victory over Brownell-Talbot at Stella.

Falls City High running back Marc Martin rushed 15 times for 103 yards and the Tigers out-rushed their opponents 211-65 in a 22-15 victory over Fairbury.

The Southeast Volleyball team made quick work of Brownell-Talbot 15-4, 15-7 and then scored a 15-4, 15-8 victory over Rock Port.

The 45 point rule was invoked in the second quarter of their football game as Table Rock proved to be unfriendly 49-0 hosts to Dawson-Verdon.

Sacred Heart picked up its 79th consecutive football defeating May 50-0, a game in which everyone suited in green got to play.

The Falls City High Volleyball team finished fifth at the Fairbury Invitational, losing to David City and Tri-County and winning in straight sets 15-5, 15-5 against the tournament hosts.

Austin Alexander, 13, Humboldt took reserve champion honors at the State Fair with his Blue Old English Cockerel.

Sara Glathar, 16, was crowned Queen of the Richardson County Fair.

Bob Williamsen, who volunteered hundreds of hours as an emcee and organizer for the Richardson County Fair's Coronation Program, was honored as Richardson County Fair King.

Humboldt quarterback Quentin Bowen engineered a last-minute game-winning drive capped by a six-yard T.D. pass at the buzzer to give the Cardinals a 36-32 victory over Bern at Power Field.

The Falls City High Volleyball team lost matches to both Nodaway-Holt and Auburn despite winning the opening set of both contests.

The Southeast Mustangs whipped Rock Port 15-4, 15-8. In the second set, senior Cheryl Patchen served the final five points and Janelle Findlay had two spike aces.

Falls City's Rachel Hundley finished second and her cross country team took first place in the Invitational they hosted.

In their first-ever Pioneer Conference Volleyball match, Sacred Heart was defeated by Nebraska City Lourdes 15-8, 2-15, 8-15.

The Dawson-Verdon Jets beat the Humboldt Cardinals in straight sets, 15-10, 15-11. Seniors Mara Fritz, Suzie Eickhoff, and Sara Glathar were all 100 percent serving.

A Chamber Ribbon-Cutting ceremony was held at Gift Shop Creations owned by Kim Kruse.

15 Years Ago - Sept. 9, 2005, to Sept. 15, 2005

A semi-trailer truck filled with donated items was headed from Falls City to Lafayette, LA, to aid victims of Hurricane Katrina, an effort launched by Charlene Schuetz at the request of her daughters living there.

Lisa Glathar was leading at this point in balloting for Richardson County Fair Queen.

The D2 4th ranked Lady Irish and D1 top-ranked Lady Falcons of Daniel Freeman put on quite a show for fans at Adams with Freeman ultimately prevailing 15-25, 25-17, 25-23, 14-25, 19-17.

The Tiger softball fell to 3-6 on the season after a 10-1 loss to Class B No. 10 Fairbury.

Falls City's boys and girls cross country runners both finished 9th at the season-opening Tecumseh Invitational. Jessica Kelz medalled by placing 14th and Lee Hullman finished 30th.

Peru State College saw a 16 percent record-shattering growth in enrollment.

Community Medical Center and the Chamber hosted a Chamber Coffee to welcome new CMC CEO, Ryan Larsen.

A very quiet Falls City millionaire, Andrew "Andy" Derrick, who moved here from Hiawatha in the 1990s, bequeathed six million dollars on his death to the Mayo Clinic.

Falls City running back Dan Werner set a new school record rushing 317 yards in a 35-6 Tiger victory at Tecumseh. The previous record was 263 yards set by John Martin in 1998.

The HTRS Titan hurt themselves with errors in the kicking game and untimely penalties and fumbles, losing 27-12 at Omaha Brownell-Talbot.

Michael Oiberding ran for 153 yards and Raymond Gruber finished with 97 in a Sacred Heart home opener loss 30-28 to D1 No. 4 Friend.

Jessica Kelz (14th) and Lee Hullman (21st) were the girls and boys' leaders in a 5th place finish by the Tiger Cross Country team at the Fairbury Invitational.

The Sacred Heart volleyball team won the Southeast Consolidated Invitational. Cassie Metzner served up five aces and scored nine points and Jenny Koelzer was 14 of 15 hitting with eight kills as the Lady Irish defeated Lourdes 25-21, 26-24 in the Championship Game.

Stacey Huey had a 100-yard rushing game, but it wasn't enough as Southeast lost at Rising City 43-12.

EMA Director to register for U.S. Awards Mgmt.

(Continued from Page 1)
with Consolidated Correctional Food Service, a Consolidated Management Company division, which was reviewed by the County Attorney and has been signed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Frank to accept a bid for \$500.00, which was advertised on the social media sites within the County for the sale of the 2011 Ford Crown Vic. The motion seconded by Sichel and approved 2-0.

The Richardson County Safety Committee met for their quarterly meeting. Those present were Commissioners Frank and Sichel; Sheriff Hardesty and Chief Deputy Sheriff Roland Merwin; Tyler Cooper, Building Maintenance; Brian Kirkendall, EMA Director; Steve Darveau, Highway Superintendent; and Wyatt Martin, Road and Bridge Department. Absent were Commissioner Caverzagie and Tammie Beckner of Courthouse Maintenance.

Chairman Sichel asked the members if there were any safety concerns that should be addressed. The only comment that was brought up for review was within the Jail area where there is a safety concern regarding the shower area and it is being addressed so that correction can be made. Chairman Sichel declared the Safety Committee adjourned at 10:35 a.m. The next meeting will tentatively be scheduled for November 10, 2020.

Tyler Cooper, County Building Maintenance Technician, presented a letter from a contractor in the County that stated they were not interested in completing the job for the plumbing repairs within the Courthouse. The Board is still waiting on one additional quote and will review this matter further at its next meeting.

At 11:00 a.m. Chairman Sichel presented the proof of publication to hold a public hearing for any interested party to appear and

speak for or against the sale of all or part of said described real estate: South one half (S1/2) of Lot Number Two (2), Block Number Six (6), City of Humboldt, Richardson County, Nebraska for those. No one appeared at the hearing. Chairman Sichel declared the public hearing closed

at 11:10 a.m. Highway Superintendent Steve Darveau, Jr. was unable to meet with the Board at this scheduled time due to other commitments. Commissioners voted to adjourn after approving payment of all claims that were submitted before their meeting.

New Tiger Press Box dedicated in honor of Dr. Larry Stednitz

(Continued from Page 1)
the cause.

Stednitz, who graduated from Falls City High School in 1959, played fullback for the Tigers and was selected to take part in the very first Shrine Bowl. Stednitz went on to play football at Iowa University for two seasons before transferring to Midland College. While playing for Midland, Stednitz ranked in the top ten nationally in rushing and punting. After college, Stednitz played for the Omaha Mustangs and was even drafted by the Minnesota Vikings as a punter. Stednitz decided his ball-playing days were behind him and

pursued his doctorate in Human Behavior instead. Dr. Stednitz spent many years working with at-risk youth.

On top of the monetary donations received, a big thank also went out to Jim and Pat Murphy, Doug Cooper, and Brady Lotter for the construction of the new facility.

With the new press box and sound system in place, Jug Brown Stadium solidifies itself as a hidden jewel, tucked deep inside Southeast Nebraska. There is not a better place to watch high school football in the state.



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WEEKLY NEWS FROM JANET PALMTAG

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Candidate for Nebraska Legislature, District 1

SACRED DUTY TO VOTE

Our Founding Fathers in the Declaration of Independence pledged 'their Lives, their Fortunes, and their sacred Honor' for our Freedoms. Many of them gave all of this in the effort to establish our nation. Thomas Jefferson wrote, 'Governments are instituted and derive their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed.' Article I Section 4, enshrined the process of voting in the US Constitution. Since then, over a million Americans have given their lives on the battlefield in defense of our sacred right to Vote. We are forced to ask, what do we in the modern-day pledge in response to the great sacrifice made by those who have gone before us? What do we pledge to each other? And what do we pledge to future generations? At a minimum, we should pledge to vote.

All across our great planet, people are fighting for the right to Vote. In 20 countries around the world, citizens do not have the right to vote. Women have only recently been given the right to vote in Saudi Arabia and still in several places it's very difficult for women to vote due to high barriers and restrictions.

As a lifelong Christian and cradle Catholic, I'm mindful that Pope Francis has said, "Citizens cannot be indifferent to politics ... I have to do my best by participating in politics ... we all have to give something." Our own local Bishop James Conley has spoken about our moral obligation to vote. "We're called to be faithful citizens. May each of us work to build a just and free nation. And may we bring the principles of our faith to the public square, and to the voting booth."

It has been heartening in the challenges of 2020 to see Nebraska break historical records with voting turnout and yet there are some who have grown careless and don't exercise their duty to vote.

The same is true of our elected officials. We vote in order to elect representatives to make decisions for the betterment of our families and our communities. What do we say to elected officials who abuse this responsibility by not voting when they're on the job? What do we say to the City Council representative who doesn't vote on critical issues before the city? What do we say to a County Commissioner who doesn't bother to vote on issues before the County? Or what do we say to a State Senator who doesn't bother to cast a vote in Lincoln? And I'm not talking about missing one vote here or there, but what about an elected official who carelessly misses over 150 votes?!

As your State Senator, I will always do my best to do the primary thing you've elected me to do: VOTE!

To dialogue with me about this important issue or to learn more, visit my website at: www.PalmtagForNebraska.com.

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The 1918 "Flu" Pandemic in Richardson County; A look at the victims and how 1918 compares to COVID-19 in 2020

(Continued from Page 1)
children and a brother, Harvey Thompson and wife, with one of their little flock, which is a heavy toll.

Chas R. Goolsby, died at his parent's home northeast of Barada, December 17, 1918, from influenza. The deceased was 29 years old.

Rex Oliver, well known in this city, son of Prof. Oliver, formerly county superintendent, died at Goodman, MO, a victim of influenza. Announcement of his death was sent to Miss Blanche Kapp of this city. The deceased had many friends in this city who will be surprised and pained to learn of his untimely death.

Joe Miller, of Nebraska City said his grandfather Valentine Edward Miller died of influenza at the age of 31. He was a successful auctioneer of cattle and thoroughbred horses. He lived in Coming, Iowa and became ill in Sioux City. The doctor informed his wife he was over the worst of it, so she and her sister went by train to see him returning the same evening. The next morning they were informed of his passing. Joe's father, Ed Miller, formerly of Falls City was only three years old at the time.

Mrs. Anna S. Boyle, wife of Langdon E. Boyle, died following an attack of influenza. Wednesday afternoon Mrs. Boyle attended a social gathering and became ill.

Richard Mayo, 36, died Friday morning, January 10, 1919, at Reynolds Restorium from complications resulting from influenza. He was a native of Missouri. Mr. Mayo had been in Falls City for about two months having come to take employment at Colglaziers Grocery. Mr. Colglazier and other friends gave him the best care possible until his relatives arrived. They have the sympathy of the community in their bereavement.

Roy Arthur Lynch, 35, died at his home 1009 Barada St., Sunday, November 24, 1918, of influenza. He leaves a wife and three children who are bedfast with the same disease. Mr. Lynch was a farmer and came here from Liberty, Nebraska.

Alice Wolfe was born on September 16, 1891, and died at her home north of Stella on November 25, 1918, at 27 years old. Her marriage to Harry Curtis was nine years the 14th of this month. Two children were born to them, Roberta, age eight and John Clin-

ton, aged five. Mr. Curtis was taken sick with influenza on November 18. His wife and children then became sick. On Thursday, husband and wife alternated being up and down, giving medicine and waiting on the little family, and from then, Mr. Curtis continued to improve while his wife grew worse. Elder Sapp had known Mrs. Curtis as a girl before her marriage and through long years of acquaintance came to know she was a really noble character. She possesses many rare qualities of character, which endeared her to family, friends and neighbors. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her, but most of all in her home where she lived and loved and worked.

Funeral services for Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mitchell at their home in December 1918, afternoon and husband and wife were buried in one grave at Prairie Union. Mr. Mitchell was 27 years old, and Mrs. Mitchell was 25. They were married three years last June and lived on a farm of their own northeast of Shubert. Evelyn Margaret, five weeks old, survives.

Leo and Clara Vader died of influenza only one day apart, aged 37 and 35 years old, and a double funeral was held for them at Pocahontas, IA.

December 20, *Stella Press* - Ten Orphan Children: Earl Butler, a young married man, came to Stella nine years ago and taught in the country at Glen Rock while he made his home here. After a time, his wife died of consumption and then five motherless children were left in the care of Mr. Butler's parents of Barada. Influenza caused the death of Mr. Butler's husbands of two of Mr. Butler's sisters. Mr. Butler's parents have six children and ten grandchildren who have lost one parent.

It was a great shock when at 2:00 p.m. Friday, October 25, 1918, the death of Mrs. Sophia Stewart was announced. She had been ill since Saturday, but on Thursday, her recovery was deemed impossible. A specialist was called from Omaha, but nothing could be done. Pneumonia had taken too firm a hold and amid her grief-stricken family, she passed away. She was one of the happy circle of the Gehling sisters and a place is left in their hearts and home that cannot be filled. She always found time to be helpful to her friends and the needy and many homes were cheered by her

presence and helped by her charitable kindness. She could always be counted upon as a friend in need, a kind and wise counselor.

John Robert Wing was born in Falls City on June 27, 1914, and died on October 22, 1918. His little brother Jack Wing was born on January 22, 1916, and died October 26, 1918. Their little cousin Garvey Franklin Thompson was born December 28, 1916, and died on October 25, 1918. All died from pneumonia following influenza. These children were members of the Cradle Roll of the Brethren Church, where they will be greatly missed. They were laid to rest at Harris Cemetery near Barada.

February 6, 1919, Louis Parsons died at Sioux City, IA, and the remains were brought back to Richardson County and funeral and burial were held. He recently held a big farm sale near Verdon, expecting to go into the automobile business, and was on his way to an automobile school in St. Paul, where he was stricken with influenza and had to leave the train at Sioux City. Mr. Parsons was thirty-three years of age. He was married ten years ago to Miss Cora Douglas of Verdon and she had one son survive; also, the parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Parsons, of Verdon and four brothers and one sister.

Joe Umland received news that his nephew, Elmer V. Umland, was killed in action on November 1, 1918. His only sister, Mrs. Minnie Kasey of Falls City, died of influenza and each passed away without knowing of the other's demise.

December 26, 1918, Bryan Ahern passed away Tuesday at the home of his father, John Ahern, southeast of Shubert. He became ill about three weeks ago with a severe cold and went to his father's home to remain while recuperating. His brother, John Ahern, Jr., was seized with influenza and from him, Bryan contracted the disease. He died in ten days. The brother John is in serious condition, and other members of the family have been sick. Bryan Ahern was a farmer aged 27 years. His wife, who was formerly Miss Fay Dewald, of Falls City and a son, two years old, survive. Charles Goolsby and Earl Fuller, young farmers not living far from Stella, also died from influenza.

W.E. Brooks, aged 33 years, died at his home east of Falls City on Thursday, October 24,

1918, from influenza. His wife and three children survive him. Two children in the Brooks family who had influenza have recovered. Mr. Brooks had a brother, David Brooks, who died of influenza.

By January the worst of the 'flu' was over in Nebraska. Due to the large number of fatalities in the state, only small stones and numbers mark some of the graves as gravestone makers couldn't create larger monuments quickly enough to keep up. In some families who lost multiple members one marker was used due to lack of money.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, the "Spanish Flu" killed an estimated 50 million people worldwide, including an estimated 675,000 people in the United States. The pandemic lowered the average life expectancy in the United States by more than 12 years.

Certain U.S. cities invoked different isolation techniques in 1918, including school, church and theater closures and social distancing. Places like New Orleans and Philadelphia ordered social distancing measures to be shortened and had worse outcomes. Philadelphia hosted a parade that saw 200,000 people. Within three days, there wasn't an empty bed in any Philadelphia hospital. Within a week, the death toll had reached 4,500 people. The city was forced to shut down, but by then it was too late.

Whereas St. Louis and other cities chose to implement social isolation within two days of detecting active cases. The flu still spread through St. Louis, but with fewer cases and casualties than Philadelphia.

St. Louis chose to relax their ban six weeks into the epidemic resulting in a resurgence of the disease.

Since the pandemic of 1918, the world has seen three more additional epidemics, in 1957, 1968 and one as recent as 2009. These outbreaks were far less severe, with considerably lower mortality rates than the 1918 pandemic.

In 1957 the H2N2 pandemic and in 1968 the H3N2 pandemic each resulted in an estimated one million global deaths. The 2009 H1N1 outbreak occurred with fewer than 300,000 deaths in its first year.

In 1918 influenza vaccines and antibiotics had not been developed and mechanical ventilation wasn't available. Without these

medical interventions, doctors were not left with many medical treatment options other than supportive care.

During the H1N1 pandemic of 2009, the first vaccine didn't become available until 26 weeks after the decision to manufacture a vaccine. This resulted in most vaccinations in the U.S. occurring after the peak of the illness.

Much like today during the COVID-19 pandemic, doctors encouraged social distancing, but those measures were implemented late. Travel restrictions were impossible to implement due to the World War. The economy was impacted and following the 1918 pandemic, the United States suffered a recession, primarily due to the World War. No pandemic has had such a brutal impact as COVID-19 has had on our economy.

It's uncertain how long we will have to live with COVID-19; it's possible that we could see different waves of the virus much like they experienced with the 1918 "flu."

Local medical providers suggested referencing the CDC site for masks wearing.

The CDC says that masks are recommended as a barrier to help prevent respiratory droplets from traveling into the air and onto other people when the person wearing the mask coughs, sneezes, talks, or raises their voice. This is called source control. This recommendation is based on what is known about the role respiratory droplets play in the spread of the virus that causes COVID-19, paired with emerging evidence from clinical and laboratory studies showing that masks reduce the spray of droplets when worn over the nose and mouth. COVID-19 spreads mainly among people who are in close contact with one another (within about six feet), so the use of masks is particularly important in settings where people are close to each other or where social distancing isn't followed.

The CDC recommends all people wear a mask in public settings and when around people who don't live in your household, especially when other social distancing measures are challenging to maintain. COVID-19 can be spread by people who don't show symptoms and don't know they're infected. That's why it's so important for everyone to wear masks in public settings.

ATTENTION NEIGHBORS OF COOPER NUCLEAR STATION LIVING IN NEBRASKA

At Noon on Thursday, September 17th, Nebraska Public Power District, in conjunction with Nemaha and Richardson County Authorities, will perform a test of the Cooper Nuclear Station Alert and Notification System Sirens.

This test will consist of the sounding of sirens located in Nemaha and Richardson Counties, within the 10-mile radius of Cooper Nuclear Station. The sirens will sound approximately three and 1/2 minutes. No action by members of the public is required for this test.

If you should have any questions about this test, please call the Cooper Nuclear Station Emergency Preparedness Department at (402) 825-5421 for more information.



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Little Tarkio Creek Bridge (pictured above) and the Penny Slu Bridge have now completed construction and are open to traffic. (Photo by Nikki McKim)

Missouri bridges damaged in Spring 2019 flooding, now open to traffic

Spring flooding along the Missouri River in 2019 caused major damage to roads and bridges in Missouri and Nebraska as well as to the homes of residents in Rulo, Big Lake, Fortescue, and Craig, MO. Local drivers who often crossed into Missouri were having to find alternative routes.

Near record flood levels along the Missouri River closed U.S. 159 and U.S. 136 near Brownville. The roads were expected to be closed for over a year while

Missouri Department of Transportation crews went to work on several bridges on MO US Route 159.

The Little Tarkio Creek Bridge – just west of Fortescue was listed as a complete loss. The bridge needed a complete replacement by the contractor. After closing due to damage from flooding that began in March of 2019, the replacement of the Little Tarkio Creek Bridge on U.S. Route 159 between Route 111 (Lake Shore Drive) and Route P is now complete. Contractors from Emery

Sapp & Sons, Inc., working with the Missouri Department of Transportation, began work on the damaged bridge in early September 2019.

During the construction of the Little Tarkio Creek Bridge, a new overpass was also constructed over Interstate 29 and construction on the Holt County U.S. Route 159 bridge over Penny Slu, west of Route 111 near Fortescue, was also completed. Contractors from Boone Construction Co., working with the Missouri Department of Transportation, began a project to replace the bridge deck in mid-June and recently reopened the Penny Slu bridge.

All bridges have now been completed. After facing delays due to weather and continued flooding, crews were able to complete the bridge project.

Nebraska residents will no longer need to take a detour to get to I-29.

Falls City Library and Arts Center maintaining limited hours

The Library Board of the Falls City Library and Arts Center has recommended maintaining the limited hours of operation for the Library service window, Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to Friday p.m. and lobby hours of 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Starting Wednesday, September 9, four isolated public computers will be available for use for short intervals. Study room one will be available for meetings of two or three people. The

computer lab and restrooms will remain closed. No newspapers, programs, large meetings and no loitering will be allowed at this time. Children under the age of 12 must be accompanied by an adult or responsible care giver. The plan will be reassessed at the October meeting of the Board.

The Library staff will continue to wear masks and encourage visitors who wear masks for everyone's safety.

Emmalee Gerdes named to SCC Dean's List

Southeast Community College has named Emmalee Michelle Gerdes, Falls City, Practical Nursing to the Dean's List for the 2020 Summer Term that ended Aug. 5.

To be recognized on the Dean's List, a student must complete at least six hours for the term with a minimum grade-point average of 3.5. Classes with a grade of "P" (Pass) do not count toward the six-hour minimum.

Ralph Ramsey, 1801 Schoenheit St.; Gas water heater, \$500.00.

Gerry Frederick, 2318 McLean St.; Deck replacement, bathroom remodel, \$3,000.00.

Eric and Elisa Rottinghaus, 1820 Valley Ave.; Carport, \$4,000.00. Stanridge, 823 Chase St.; Awning, \$250.00.

Bradley Albu, 1815 Burton Dr.; Roof, \$16,400.00.

Dennis and Cheryl Hullman, 1416 Harlan Street; Metal Roof, \$35,500.00.

John Marin, 304 West 25th Street; Roof, \$13,400.00.

Linda Lenard, 1413 East 14th Street; Roof, \$8,600.00.

June Bowers, 2518 Barada Street, Roof, \$14,500.00.

BUILDING PERMITS

Sheala Woods, 924 Charles St.; roof, \$15,272.57.

Timothy Heckenlively, 2525 Highland Ave; Roof, \$15,420.96.

David Sailors, 1810 Valley Ave; Remove and replace patio, \$2,500.00.

James Keller, 1212 E 19th St.; Roof, \$22,500.00.

Daake Real Estate, 2204 Chase St.; Garage, \$5,000.00.

Cody Guthals, 1216 E 17th St.; Roof, \$20,878.47.

Derrick Leyden, 701 E 14th St.; Roof, \$23,592.00.

Derrick Leyden, 1217 Fulton St.; Roof, \$14,335.63.

Dave Williams, 1812 Burton Dr.; Roof, \$7,636.85.

ACCIDENTS

On August 21, 2020, according to police reports, Kristin Krohn, of Falls City was parked at the gas pumps facing north. Sheridan Hall, of Falls City was backing from a parking stall and hit the Krohn vehicle causing minor damage. Krohn asked for Hall's insurance. According to the accident report, Hall thought Krohn was kidding with him as they were laughing and he didn't feel any impact, so he thought it was a joke and left. An estimated \$200 in damage was done to the Krohn vehicle, no damage was done to the Hall vehicle. A citation is pending.

Falls City Native Kamden Sipple completes Missouri Military Academy Cadre Leadership training

On August 4, 2020, Kamden Sipple from Falls City, graduated from Missouri Military Academy's (MMA) Cadre Leadership Camp, which provides an intensive leadership training regimen that hones leadership and team building skills so cadets can effectively serve as leaders in the Missouri Military Academy 132nd Corps of Cadets.

"This group of leaders is more proactive than any group I've seen at MMA," said MMA Commandant Col. Grabowski. "They are already demonstrating great leadership skills as they help our new cadets get acclimated to MMA."

For their training exercises, cadets were divided into three groups for round robin-style training. They participated in multiple adventure-style training exercises on back campus using MMA's obstacle course and trails along the 288-acre campus. They also made heavy use of MMA's other outdoor amenities, including the rappel tower, Flanagan Paintball Field, Centennial Gymnasium and more.

Cadets also practiced drill formations, squad fire movement techniques, hand and arm signals and physical training. In a classroom setting, they reviewed leadership techniques, plus MMA customs, traditions and core values.

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(Editor's Note - dismissal without prejudice means the government did not waive its right to litigate the matter in a subsequent action). Fined \$50, plus Court costs of \$49.

(Editor's Note - dismissal with prejudice bars the government from prosecuting the accused later on the same charge).

Legend drug means drugs that are approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and that are required by federal or state law to be dispensed to the public only on prescription of a licensed physician or other licensed provider.

COUNTY COURT

James A. Scarberry, count one, criminal mischief-\$0-\$500, plead guilty, found guilty. Case continued to September 14, 2020, for sentencing.

Jefferson D. Pfohl, count one, dom asst-intl cause body injury/int, notice given-domestic violence, plead not guilty. Case continued to September 14, 2020 for hearing-scheduling conference.

Tearsreign Berberich, count one, theft-unlawful taking \$501-\$1,499, plead not guilty; count two, carry concealed weapon-first offense, amended to count dropped/dissmised. Case continued to September 14, 2020 for hearing.

Charles R. Olson III, count one, drive under susp/before reinstated-state, plead guilty, found guilty and fined \$125, probation for a term of 12 months, and

Sheriff fees of \$57.88.

Tyler J. Dixon, count one, criminal mischief, plead guilty, found guilty. Case continued to September 28, 2020 for sentencing.

Jacob Parker, count one, disturbing the peace, plead not guilty. Case continued to September 30, 2020 for trial.

Jeremy M. Hale, count one, dom asst-intl cause body injury/int, plead not guilty, notice given-domestic violence. Case continued to September 21, 2020 for pretrial.

Javier A. Ramirez, count one, possess marijuana one ounce or less-first offense, plead guilty, found guilty and fined \$300; count two, speeding 06-10, plead guilty, found guilty and fined \$25, and court costs of \$49.

D'yvonte O. Collins, count one, nonresident violate susp/rev order, plead guilty, found guilty; count two, speeding 36+, plead guilty, found guilty. Case continued to October 19, for sentencing.

Jefferson D. Pfohl, count one, violate protection order, plead not guilty; count two, violate protection order, plead not guilty; count three, violate protection order, plead not guilty; count four, violate protection order, plead not guilty; count five, violate protection order, plead not guilty; count six, violate protection order, plead not guilty. Case continued to September 14, 2020 for hearing-scheduling conference.

conference.

Cheyenne E. Farrell, count one, trespass-second degree/defy order to lea, plead not guilty. Case continued to October 19, 2020. Entry of plea-sentencing as warranted.

Sarah J. Lunsford, count one, leave accident-fail to furnish info, plead not guilty. Case continued to September 14, 2020 for entry of plea.

James A. Scarberry, count one, criminal mischief \$0-\$500, plead guilty, found guilty. Case continued to September 14, 2020 for sentencing.

Candace A. Chandler, count one, unauth. Use propelled vehicle-first, plead no contest, found guilty and fined \$100 and court costs of \$50.

Chaydyn S. Butler, count one, willful reckless driving-first offense, plead not guilty; count two, speeding 36+, plead not guilty. Case continued to September 14, 2020 for entry of plea.

Kelly R. Simpson, count one, drive under susp/before reinstated-state, plea is changed to guilty, found guilty. Case continued to September 16, 2020, for sentencing.

Lucas L. Vice, count one, dom asst-intl cause body injury/int., amended to disturbing the peace, plead no contest, found guilty-full presentence investigation ordered; count two, willful reckless driving-first offense, plead no contest, found guilty-full presentence investigation ordered. Case continued to October 19, 2020 for sentencing.

Lucas L. Vice, count one, violate protection order, plead guilty. Case continued to September 23, 2020 for pretrial.

Jeffrey K. Guilliams, count one, reckless driving, plead guilty, found guilty and fined \$500, probation ordered for a term of eight months; count two, fail to use turn signal, charge dismissed on the motion of the prosecutor with prejudice; count three, charge dismissed on the motion of the prosecutor with prejudice, and court costs of \$50 and drug testing fee of \$5.

Tara M. Tackett, count one, assault-third degree, plead not guilty; count two, resist arrest-first offense, plead not guilty. Case continued to September 16, 2020.

DISTRICT COURT

Kyle D. Scates, count one,

theft-shoplifting \$0-\$500/third/subs, plead not guilty. Case continued to September 22, 2020 for pretrial-further hearing.

Kyle D. Scates, count one, theft-unlawful taking, \$0-\$500/third/subs, plead not guilty; count two, theft-services \$0-\$500, plead not guilty; count three, criminal trespass-second degree, plead not guilty. Case continued to September 22, 2020 for entry of plea-entry of plea/drug court EOP.

Brian K. Mackey, count one, use deadly weapon to commit felony, plead not guilty; count two, use deadly weapon to commit felony, plead not guilty; count three, terroristic threats, plead not guilty; count four, terroristic threats, plead not guilty; count five, possess controlled substance, plead not guilty; count six, possess controlled substance, plead not guilty; count seven, assault-third degree, plead not guilty; count eight, dom asst-third degree, plead not guilty; count nine, commit child abuse negligently/no injury, plead not guilty; count ten, criminal mischief-\$501-\$1,499, plead not guilty; count eleven, willful reckless driving - first offense, plead not guilty; count twelve, drive under susp/before reinstated-st.,plead not guilty; count thirteen, possess or use drug paraphernalia, plead not guilty; count fourteen, possess or use drug paraphernalia, plead not guilty. Case continued to November 3, 2020 for pretrial-further hearing.

Joshua E. Murphy, count one, theft-unlawful taking \$5,000+, plead not guilty. Case continued for pretrial.

Kelly R. Simpson, count one, del/dsp/dst/man/pos except haz drug, plead not guilty; count two, count two, possess controlled substance, plead not guilty; count three, commit child abuse negligently/no injury, plead not guilty; count four, possess marijuana one ounce or less-first offense, plead not guilty; count five, possess or use drug paraphernalia, plead not guilty. Case continued to November 3, 2020 for pretrial-further hearing.

Mary V. Clancy, count one, del/dsp/dst/man/pos except haz drug, plead not guilty; count two, count two, possess controlled substance, plead not guilty; count three, possess money while violate 28-416 (1),

plead not guilty. Case continued to September 22, 2020 for pretrial-pretrial/drug court entry of plea.

RC SHERIFF'S OFFICE REPORT RETRIEVED FROM SOCIAL MEDIA

ALL SUSPECT'S ARE INNOCENT UNTIL PROVEN GUILTY.



On August 31, 2020, Richardson County Deputies arrested 30 year old Cara Cavaness of Falls City on a Richardson County Warrant for Failure to Pay Fines and Costs. Cavaness was booked into the Richardson County Jail.



On August 29, 2020, Richardson County Deputies arrested 25 year old Paige Gutzmer of Humboldt, for Driving under Suspension. Gutzmer was booked into the Richardson County Jail.



On August 30, 2020, Richardson County Deputies arrested 53 year old Billy J. Sams of Nebraska City, on a Fugitive from justice warrant out of Iowa. Sams was booked into the Richardson County Jail.



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Del Casteel breaks into the open against Nebraska Lutheran Friday afternoon.

Irish roll Knights

Story and photo by Brian McKim

The top-ranked Sacred Heart Irish football team made short work of the Knights from Nebraska Lutheran last Friday, September 4, at Jug Brown Stadium. The Irish owned the contest from the start, outgaining the Knights 304-128, including a 164-25 advantage on the ground.

After forcing a punt on the Knights first possession, it took the Irish nine seconds to get on the scoreboard. On the first offensive play, running back, Del Casteel took the handoff and romped 47 yards for the TD with 9:31 on the clock. SH failed to convert the PAT and led 6-0.

The Irish defense was back at it on the next possession, forcing a three and out. After a punt, the Irish scored again, this time from 22 yards out. Jakob Jordan ran an option left, running into the endzone untouched for the score with 8:56 remaining in the quarter. The PAT run by Evan Keithley made it 14-0.

Another three and out by the Irish defense set the Irish up with excellent field position again. This time QB Jordan found Jake Froeschl for a 27-yard TD strike down the left sideline for the score with 7:24 remaining. The conversion run by Jordan made it 22-0 after just four offensive plays.

The next time Nebraska Lutheran had the ball, they turned it over on downs at their 20-yard line, setting the Irish up with a very short field. After a holding call, Jordan found Jack Fiegenger on a screen pass, who split the defense, and scored from 30 yards out. The run by Casteel put the Irish ahead 30-0 with 5:28 still to play in the opening period.

On the next offensive possession, the Irish gave the ball to Casteel at the Knights eight-yard line, who ran a defender over at the goal line on the way to paydirt to make the score 36-0. A pass from Jordan to Fiegenger made it 38-0 with 3:10 still on the clock in the first. The Irish got one final score in the first quarter; again, Casteel crossed the goal line with the score, this time from six yards away. Again, Jordan found Fiegenger for the PAT, and SH was up 46-0 with 34 to go in the first.

The Irish ran 14 total offensive plays in the first 12:00 and scored 46 points.

In the second period, the Irish got on the board again, this time Evan Keithley ran it in from two yards out. Sam Dunn from Nicholas Keithley for the PAT, and SH led 54-0 with 8:32 to play in the half.

Just before the half, the Knights got on the scoreboard. A 38-yard pass to Trevor Hueske from Nate Helwig made it 54-6 at the half.

The Irish reserves tacked on two second-half scores. First, QB Sam Dunn scored on a 14-yard run with 8:32 to play in the third. The conversion pass from Dunn to N. Keithley made it 62-6. Then with 10:13 to play in the contest, Jack Stice hauled in a 66-yard TD pass from Dunn to make the final score 70-6.

Del Casteel led the ground game for SH with 73 yards and three scores on just four rushing attempts. Jordan added 47 yards on two tries and a score. Jordan also completed 3-5 pass attempts for 69 yards and two scores. Sam Dunn came in and completed 2-3 passes for 71 yards and a score. Stice had the one grab for 66 yards and a TD. Fiegenger had one catch for 30 yards and a score, and Jake Froeschl had one catch for 27 yards and a TD.

Casteel led the Irish defense, making six total stops, including two for losses. Fiegenger has five tackles, and Nicholas Keithley had three stops, including two sacks. Sam Dunn and Gavin Lechtenberg each added an interception for the Irish defense.

"This was one of those games where everyone got the opportunity to play," said Coach Doug Goltz. "Just about everything worked for our first-team guy's vs. Nebraska Lutheran."

The top-rated Irish team will host second-ranked BDS at Jug Brown Stadium on Friday, September 11. The Eagles are coming off a big 70-22 win over Johnson-Brock last Friday night. Kickoff is set for 7:00 p.m.

"This Friday will be a totally different game. BDS is a complete team. They have size, speed, and experience. Their moving down to D2 this year makes them a team to beat in our class. This game will show us where we are and what we need to do to improve. I am interested in seeing how we compete against an elite team, especially our new starters," said Goltz.



Carson Simon and Stephen Acton combine to make the tackle on the Raymond Central ball carrier on Friday night.

Tough breaks cost Tigers

Story and photo by Brian McKim

The Falls City Tiger football team hosted the Raymond Central Mustangs at Jug Brown Stadium on Friday, September 4. The two teams seemed tight to begin the contest, with seven total punts on the game's first seven possessions. FC came on strong late; however, it was too late, falling to Raymond Central 21-14.

"Yes, that was a tough game to lose," said Coach Darin Fritz. "I thought we kind of came out flat and didn't have the best focus at times."

Each team had trouble getting out of the gate, with both teams punting after just three offensive plays. The Tigers were held without a first down in the first twelve minutes of action.

After the Tigers fourth punt of the first half, the Mustangs took over on their 17-yard line. With the help of three consecutive plays of ten yards or more, Raymond Central drove 83 yards on the Tiger defense for the first score of the game with 6:23 to play in the half, taking a 7-0 lead.

On the following kickoff, Drake Butler set the Tigers up with excellent field position at their own 40-yard line. A significant 20-yard gain by Jace Hecklenively on third down helped to keep the drive alive for FC. On third and 19 from the Mustang 33-yard line, Carson Simon found Jayden Kreifels running down the right sideline for the game-tying score with 1:42 left in the half. The PAT kick by Lukas Aldana made it 7-7.

The following kickoff was returned by the Mustangs out to their 43-yard line to begin the drive. Three straight completions put the Mustangs back ahead 14-7 with :35 left on the clock, taking the wind out of the Tigers' sails as they headed into halftime.

The FC defense stepped up to begin the third quarter. After the Mustangs drove down the field, Falls City held on fourth down and ten yards to go, forcing a turnover on downs to open the second half. Much like the first quarter, the third period didn't produce much offense.

Each team began the final period with a turnover on downs, and then the game got exciting again. The Mustangs took over the next possession at their 43-yard line. After driving down the field, the Mustangs QB kept the ball on first and goal from the Tiger eight-yard line to give RC a 21-7 lead with 3:53 to play.

Not to be outdone, FC took the ball on the ensuing drive 61 yards for the score to again make it a one-possession game. On fourth down and two from the Mustang 24, Carson Simon kept the ball up the middle, running over a couple of defenders on the way to the endzone. The PAT kick made it 21-14 with 1:33 left on the clock.

After the score, the Tiger crowd

came alive when Jayden Kreifels recovered Aldana's inside kick, giving FC one last chance to tie the game. However, after a discussion, the referee's called a penalty on the Tigers for kick/catch interference, which negated the inside kick recovery. Raymond Central was then able to run out the clock and hold on for the 21-14 win over Falls City.

"Lots of things to work on this week, but we can get better, and I think we're gonna be a good football team this season," said Fritz. "One positive is I think defensively we're in the right spot a lot. We just have to make plays when we get there."

For the game, FC finished with

133 yards on the ground and 61 through the air. The Mustangs had 163 passing yards and added 185 yards rushing. Carson Simon was 5/10 throwing the ball for 61 yards and a score. Simon added 49 yards rushing and a TD on the ground. Leighton Vice had 16 rushes for 31 yards. Jayden Kreifels had two receptions for 43 yards and a score.

Defensively, Drake Butler had seven tackles, including a sack. Simon was in on ten stops, Vice added eight, and Jaden Nolte had seven tackles and a sack.

Falls City (1-1) will play at Malcolm (1-1) on Friday, September 11. Malcolm beat Fairbury in week one, 28-8, before falling to Yutan last week, 42-13.



Lainey Ebel gets a kill vs. Tri-County last week.

Lady Irish hitting on all cylinders

Story and photo by Brian McKim

The Falls City Sacred Heart Irish girls volleyball team had an exceptional week, going 4-0 to improve to 5-0 overall for the season. The week began with a trip to DeWitt for the Irish to take on the Tri County Trojans. The Lady Irish had little trouble taking down the

Trojans in straight sets, 25-9, 25-19 and 25-11.

In the opening set, Rachel Magdanz had two ace serves, while Dani Bippes, Emma Frederick, and Lauren Malone added one. Erison Vonderschmidt was a force at the net early on with seven first-set kills. Magdanz also was the top playmaker for SH with ten assists in the opening set.

In the second set, the Irish were again led by Vonderschmidt, who finished with three ace serves, five kills, and six digs. Lainey Ebel and Taylor Frederick each added four kills, and Magdanz had eight more assists.

In the evening's final set, Malone had two aces and seven digs, while Vonderschmidt added eight more kills to finish the night with 20. Magdanz chipped in nine more assists for a total of 27 for the evening.

The Irish also competed in the Weeping Water Invitational on Saturday, September 5. The Irish swept Yutan in the opening match, 25-14 and 25-13. In round two, SH downed Lourdes Central 25-19 and 25-20. In the championship match, the Irish made quick work of Wilber-Clatonia, winning 25-17 and 25-7 to finish the day with a perfect 6-0 sweep. (Stats for tourney were not submitted in time to make the paper)

The Irish hosted 6-0 Diller-Odell on Tuesday, September 8, and will play at Sidney, Iowa, on Thursday, September 10.

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COVID cases rising in Richardson County

(Continued from Page 1)

11 percent in the 30-39 age group; nine percent in the 40-49 age group; 19.1 percent in the 50-59 age group; 9.4 percent in the 60-69 age group; 5.3 percent in the 70-79 age group and 4.3 percent in the 80+ age group.

There have been 191 new cases in the last 30 days.

At the date ending August 29, 2020 there were 51 new cases.

All identified close contacts will be asked to self-quarantine. Individuals with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 should self-isolate to avoid transmitting the virus to others.

COVID-19 symptoms include cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fever, chills, muscle pain, sore throat, and new loss of taste or smell.

A possible concern for Nemaha County and surrounding areas is the refueling outage at Cooper Nuclear Station at Brownville.

Cooper Nuclear Station at Brownville will begin a refueling outage September 26, which is conducted every two

years and requires additional contract staffing to complete the work.

In preparation of this evolution, contract personnel will soon be arriving in Auburn for in-processing. Due to the ongoing pandemic, Nebraska Public Power District, in coordination with Auburn Family Health Clinic, hosted drive-thru testing for COVID-19 for all incoming contractor personnel during the last two weeks of August and will continue all of September 2020.

Testing will be conducted at the Sheridan Training Facility in Auburn, on the north end of the campus. This testing is for NPPD/CNS out-of-state support only, and care has been taken to reduce traffic congestion on 11th street as the station prepares for this project.

Local COVID-19 testing available every Wednesday from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. at Community Medical Center in Falls City. Pre-Register at Test-Nebraska.com

Testing is free through Test Nebraska.

Peru State College volleyball postponed for two weeks

The Bobcat volleyball team was ready to play this past weekend but will now be off for a couple of weeks.

Peru State was to have opened Saturday in a triangular with Northwestern (Iowa) and Dordt in Sioux Center, Iowa. The decision comes after contract tracing and cautionary procedures were enacted. There will be no make-up of these contests.

"This decision was made out of an abundance of caution for the health and safety for our student-athletes," stated the College's Athletic Director, Wayne Albury. "The team is adhering to the outlined guidelines in the Heart of America Athletic Conference (Heart) Promise."

In addition, the Bobcats were to have hosted Heart opponent Culver-Stockton (Mo.) on Labor Day and then to have had

their annual Bobcat Fall Classic on Sept. 11 and 12. A make-up date with Culver-Stockton has not been set with the Fall Classic being cancelled.

The 'Cats should be back in action on Friday, Sept. 18, when they face Mount Mercy in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, at 7 p.m. in Heart competition.

Peru State is following the advice of health professionals to best protect the health and safety of students, faculty and staff. Efforts to slow the virus include ongoing testing of the campus population, face coverings and social distancing.

A COVID-19 dashboard is hosted at www.peru.edu/coronavirus. Additional information about the College's response to COVID-19 is available there and in the Fight COVID-19 booklet.



Patricia Simmonds

Patricia Ann Simmonds, 69, of Falls City was born on October 17, 1950, in Falls City to Robert and Alma (Hey) Humm. "Patty," as she was known, was raised in Falls City and attended Sacred Heart School.

On June 3, 1969, Patty was united in marriage to Francis Simmonds in Hiawatha, Kansas. To this union, two children, Denise and Lance, were born. The couple later renewed their vows on their 10th anniversary at Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Falls City. Patty and Francis have lived and raised their family in Falls City all of their married life. Patty was a dedicated wife and loving mother. She was everyone's best friend.

Patty passed away on Saturday, August 15, 2020, at her home in Falls City, Nebraska.

She was preceded in death by her parents, sisters: Betty Whitten, Sister Mary Alma Humm, and Carol Marteny; brothers: Bob, John, Richard, and Fred Humm, and a stillborn daughter Alma Simmonds.

Patty is survived by her husband Francis Simmonds of Falls City, daughter Denise and son Lance Simmonds both of Bellevue, NE; sisters: Katherine Cox and husband Monte of Papillion, NE; Margie Cook and husband Larry of Plattsmouth, NE; Mary Wenz and husband Leon of Falls City, brothers: James Humm of Dawson, NE; Charles Humm of Lincoln, NE; and many nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

At Patty's request, there will be no visitation or viewing held.

A Private Family Inurnment will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 12, 2020, at the Steele Cemetery in Falls City, Nebraska.

Memorials contributions may be given to the family with a later designation to be made.

Condolences can be shared online at www.hallfuneral.net

Services entrusted to Hall Funeral Home-2403 Harlan Street-Falls City, Nebraska 68355 (402) 245-3131.

Martha Harring

Martha Beth Harring, one of three children of Mary and Pauline (Schultz) Harring, was born August 1, 1965, in Lincoln.

Martha grew up and attended school in Lincoln, graduating from Lincoln High in 1985.

Martha had previously been married, to which she was blessed with two sons: Thomas Root and Matthew Harring.

While she was able to work, Martha served as a Certified Nursing Assistant for several different care centers and nursing homes. She worked as a CNA for 18 years.

Martha was a collector of sorts, Ladybug and Elvis memorabilia being her favorites. She also enjoyed gardening and being outdoors, and loved making people laugh.

Martha was admitted to Good Samaritan Society in Auburn and it was there that she passed on Friday, August 28, 2020, just

27 days after her 55th birthday. She was preceded in death by her parents.

Those left to mourn her passing include her fiancé

David Troeger of Tecumseh; sons Thomas Root and fiancé Christa Pagnano of Dawson, Matthew Harring of Tecumseh; brothers Eric (Linda) Harring of North Carolina, Michael John Harring of North Carolina; special friends Fina O'Brien of Topeka, KS, Barbara Barnes

of Holdrege, Linda Schultz of Tecumseh; other relatives and friends.

A graveside memorial and committal service, officiated by Pastor Doug Delhay, was Friday, September 4, 2020 at St. Mark's Lutheran Cemetery near Verdon. Matthew Harring was honorary bearer.

Services were entrusted to Hemmingsen Funeral Home of Auburn.



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254 +/- Acres: Take a look at this gently rolling irrigated grass unit with Electric equipment and great access! The soils would grow some of the best crops in the area if so desired. Located Northeast of Page, NE. Listing Price: \$1,250,000

1,708 +/- Acres: Located in Blaine County, NE. Offering 11 Valley Center pivots with all Electric equipment. 5 of the Center pivots have access to effluent from a neighboring swine facility. Great opportunity to setup your satellite operation! Listing Price: \$4,900,000

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*** 2:00 pm: Sebastian Sings Sinatra**
 Originally hailing from Omaha, Sebastian Anzaldo, (son of Justice and the late Sebastian A. "Stubby" Anzaldo Jr) grew up in a musical family (his father a sax player and later a talent agent, his mother a singer).
 10:00 am: Classic Car and Tractor Show
 11:00 pm: Sidewalk Chalk Art Contest (All ages)
 6:15 pm: Awards Presentations and Opening Ceremonies
 6:30 pm: King and Queen Coronation
 * Free Acts On Stage - No Carnival Rides
 Ag Building and Livestock Exhibits Postponed to 2021

*** 8:00 pm: High Heel and Band**
 Featuring lead vocalist Lisa (Heim). Larsen, out of Omaha NE, she has a native to the Richardson County area and a graduate from Dawson-Verdon High School. Lisa is the daughter of the late Gene Heim (of Dawson) and Beverly Harris - Heim (of Humboldt, Iowa).
 Food Trucks and Vendors in the Park.
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 Please remember and respect social distancing

AREA CHURCHES

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
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(6 miles North)
402-245-4643
www.stpaulsfalls.org
Holy Communion celebrated the 2nd and 4th Sundays.
Sunday: Bible study, 9:15 a.m.; Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; worship service, 10:30 a.m.
Tuesday: Second Tuesday of the month, Dorcas Circle.
Wednesday: 9 a.m., Sew 'n Sew; Adult choir, 7:30 p.m.; First Wednesday of the month, LWML.
Wednesday Evening, 5:00 p.m. Midweek Class, 6:30 p.m. Confirmation at Christ Lutheran, September through April.
Dan Grifford, pastor

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church
(ELCA) 12 miles Northeast of Falls City (Williamsville)
Sunday: Worship 9:15 a.m., first, third and fifth Sundays with communion on the first Sunday. We worship on the second and fourth Sundays at Barada United Methodist Church in Barada, Nebraska. Fellowship and Sunday school following worship.
WELCA 1:30 first Monday Church Council, 7:30 p.m. on third Tuesdays
Pastor Mike Hader

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church - ELCA
(20th and Towle Streets)
402-245-3828
Sunday: 9 a.m., Sunday School (pre-school thru adult, during school year); 10 a.m., Worship; Communion on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of each month;
Wednesday: 9:30 a.m. Men's coffee; 6:30 p.m. Confirmation; 7:30 p.m. choir practice.
Saturday: 4:00 p.m. Communion Worship before the 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month.
Call for youth, Bible studies and women's group schedules.
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(Arango)
Sunday: Confessions, 10:10 a.m.; Mass, 10:30 a.m.
Fr. David Oldham, pastor

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Office: 883-2110
Pastor Dave Lockard

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Sixth Community Church
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Pastor John Stas

First United Methodist Church
(1700 Harlan Street)
fumc@sentco.net
402-245-3281
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Rev. Young Je Kim

First Presbyterian Church
(20th and Harlan)
Sunday: Worship, 10:45 a.m., Sunday School, 10:00 a.m. (during the school year) Fellowship and cookies 10:15 a.m. on second or third Sunday of the month.
Second Monday of month: Women's Circle, 7 p.m.
Every Monday of month: Prayer Shawl Group; 4:00 pm at the Church
Every Monday: Community Diaper Closet, 4-6PM in Basement-use east side door.
First Friday of each month: Group breakfast with speaker at 7:00 a.m.
Pastor Richard Kent Martin
402-245-2650
www.fpcfalls.org/

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LCMS
(23rd and Barada)
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www.stpaulsfalls.org
Holy Communion celebrated 2nd and 4th Sundays.
Sunday: Divine service, 9 a.m.; Sunday School, 10 a.m.
First Tuesday Care & Outreach - 6:30 PM. L.L. - 7:30 PM
Wednesday: Confirmation, 6:30 p.m. (after Ash Wednesday, 6 p.m.) 5 p.m. Midweek Third Thursday of every month: Lutheran Missionary League, 7:00 p.m.
Dan Grifford, pastor

First Brethren Church
(1902 Lane Street)
Sunday: Worship service, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday School, nursery (or pre-school), adult, 10:45 a.m.; Fellowship Hour, 6 p.m.
Wednesday: Bible study, 6:30 p.m.
Victor Haworth, pastor
245-5287
Don Shafer, moderator
245-5209

Good News Assembly of God
(600 Reavis Street)
402-245-3977
Sunday: Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; wor-ship, 10:40 a.m.
Wednesday: Good News Kids, 6:30 p.m.
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www.verdonchristianchurch.org
Rev. Daniel Spencer
Call or text: 402-801-0374

Shubert Christian Church
Sunday: Worship service, 9:30 a.m.; Fellowship time, 10:30 a.m.; Sunday School, 10:45 a.m.
Supply Pastor

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Sunday: Church services, 9:00 a.m.
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Howard Blecha, pastor

Barada United Methodist Church
717 Rd./652 Blvd.
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Services held in Barada on the 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month. Services held at St. Peter's ELCA on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month.
"...with God all things are possible." Matt. 19:26
Pastor Mike Hader
402-245-4584

Prairie Union Baptist Church
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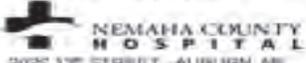
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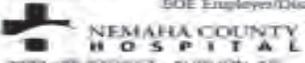
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RaeAnn Thompson goes for a block against Plattsmouth, Mon. night.

Tiger volleyball picks up first win

Story and photo by Brian McKim

The Falls City volleyball team had three matches last week, winning one and losing two. The week kicked off with the Tigers hosting the Plattsmouth Blue Devils for FC's first home game.

The Lady Tigers dropped a hard-fought first set against Plattsmouth 25-17 before falling in the final two sets 25-9 and 25-17.

Plattsmouth held the edge in kills in the three sets, leading FC 23-16. Sophomore RaeAnn Thompson led the Tigers' attack with six kills, while freshman Lexi Brewer added four. Makinley Scholl, Thompson, and Brewer all ace serves for FC. Scholl also led the team with 22 digs while fellow freshman Ashleigh Kirkendall was tops on the team with 11 assists.

On Thursday, September 3, Falls City traveled to Johnson County Central in Tecumseh for a triangular with the host school and the HTRS Titans. In the first game of the night, the Lady Tigers fell to the Titans in straight sets, 25-21 and 25-18.

Thompson again led the offensive attack, leading FC with four kills on just six attempts. Chase Nolte was right behind

with three kills, and sophomore Reece McNeely added two. Makinley Scholl had two ace serves, and she also led the squad with nine digs. Kirkendall added eight digs and Lexi Brewer finished with seven. Kirkendall handed out all of the assists, finishing with ten. Scholl also finished with a team-high 19 serves received.

In the second game of the evening, Falls City picked up its first win of the year, downing Johnson County Central in straight sets, 25-13 and 25-22. FC held a 25-13 advantage in attack kills as Reece McNeely and Thompson each had six to lead the lady Tigers. Chase Nolte added five, and senior Eryn Snetten finished with four. Kirkendall again led Falls City with four ace serves and a team-high 19 assists. Scholl was tops on the team with 13 digs and also led the way with 14 serves received while committing just one error.

The Lady Tigers now sit at 1-4, two weeks into the season. Falls City played Elmwood-Murdock on Tuesday and will play in a varsity triangular on Thursday, September 10, at Pawnee City against the Sterling Jets and the Pawnee City Indians.

Cross Country teams compete at Beatrice

Story and photos by Brian McKim

The Tiger boys and girls cross country teams ran at the 2020 Beatrice Invitational on Saturday morning, September 5. The girls finished fifth with 76 points, while the boys were fourth with 58 points.

The girls, competing without senior Brenna Leyden, had a top-15 finish from freshman Ava Armbruster. Armbruster navigated the 5,000-meter course at 23:57.99 for a 12th-place finish. Nia Crawford, a junior, wasn't far behind, finishing in 19th place at 25:25.41. Also running for the Lady Tigers were freshman Mikaela Hawley, 31st in 27:56.95, and junior Emmy Feek, who ran a 28:01.22 for 33rd.

Girls varsity scoring had Tri-County in first with 23 points, Beatrice in second with 27, Waverly was third with 47, Ralston was fourth with 57, and FC was fifth with 76.

The Tiger boys were again led by senior Eli Bottom, who just missed his second consecutive individual gold medal. Bottom was overtaken down the stretch by Tommy Lokken of Wilber and had to settle for a silver. Bottom's second-place time of 17:38.24 was just a second behind first place. Fellow senior Jared Hawley again ran a solid race, covering the course in 18:52.50 for sixth. Sophomore Joe Vrtiska ran a 22:42.36 for 28th, and freshman Alex McKim was 31st in 23:10.16. Junior Carson Bredemeier was close behind in 33rd in 23:10.90, and Bryson Butrick was 34th in 23:21.64. Senior Brock Hogue finished 37th in 23:35.80, senior Will Vitosh was 45th (26:18.49), and junior Pressler Bruxellas was 46th in 26:36.25. Kyle Daake, a sophomore, finished 55th for Falls City, running a 30:43.15.

Team scores for the boys went, Wilber, in first place with 26 points. Waverly was second with 30, Ralston was third with 50, Falls City was fourth with 58, Beatrice finished fifth with 75, and Syracuse was sixth with 95 points.

The middle school runners also competed on Saturday morning. Ryker McCullough finished third for FC in 9:06.12, and Tate Wilcox was tenth 9:42.84. Maddox McCullough was 20th in 10:22.34. Hayden Findlay ran a 12:32.50 for 62nd, Emmett Daake was 67th in 13:15.63, and Peyton Brown ran a 14:27.32 for 76th.

For the junior high girls, Miley Crawford was the top runner, finishing in 13th-place in 10:57.51, and Izzy Armbruster was 30th in 12:32.07.

The Tiger cross country team will run next on Thursday, September 10, in Fairbury. The following week, the Tigers will run in Hiawatha on Thursday, September 17.



First baseman Shaylee Mackey, trying to tag the runner during a steal.

Tigers softball falls to 3-7

Story by Brian McKim; photo by Lori Gottula

The Falls City softball squad had a game scheduled early in the week against Savannah, canceled due to a COVID-19 outbreak at the Savannah school. With the game being canceled, FC still had a busy week ahead of them.

On Thursday night, September 3, the Lady Tigers hosted Auburn and Freeman for a triangular. In the opening game against Freeman, offensive output was quiet early and came on late. The game was tied at zero heading into the sixth frame. Freeman then scored the first run of the contest and made it 3-0 by the time the inning was over. FC responded with one run in the bottom half of the frame but fell 3-1 in the night's opener. There were a total of just six hits in the contest, two by Falls City.

The Tigers had just one baserunner through three innings, a walk in the first by Sara Black. Maddie Jones reached on an error with two outs in the third, and Kacy Brewer was hit by a pitch, but a strikeout ended the threat.

In the sixth inning, Freeman used two singles, an error, two hits by pitches, a walk, and a wild pitch to plate the three runs. FC tried to rally in the bottom half of the inning. Elyse Poppe reached on an error, and Black singled for FC's first hit of the game. A double by Jones made it 3-1, but a strikeout and ground out stranded the tying runs on base.

Black singled, and Jones doubled for the lone hits of the night for FC. Brewer took the loss, tossing 5 2/3 innings, allowing three runs, none earned.

In the second game of the night, FC fell to the Auburn Bulldogs 13-2. What began as a close game quickly got out of control. The Bulldogs plated eight runs in the seventh inning to put the game out of reach.

Trailing 5-0 in the fifth, Courtney McClintock double to cen-

ter field. A sac fly by Poppe brought McClintock in to make it 5-1. In the seventh, Hannah Collier kicked off the inning with a base hit. Then, with two outs, Poppe doubled to score the runner and make it 13-2.

Brewer was 3-3 at the plate, and Poppe was 2-4 with two RBIs.

On Saturday, the Tigers played in the Auburn Invitational.

The Tigers reached the winner's bracket by taking down the Raymond Central Mustangs 4-3. FC out hit the Mustangs 12-3 in the contest.

The Mustangs scored all three of their runs in the first inning. FC slowly crept back into the game. First, getting one run back in the second inning. Thayer Armbruster began the inning with a walk, followed by consecutive singles by Christina Gilkerson and McClintock. A double play led to one run but ended FC's rally.

Then, in the third, FC drew even closer. A two-out home run by Brewer got FC within one run at 3-2. That is where the scored would stay until the bottom of the fifth. Poppe double to begin the final inning. A single by Black and ground out by Jones tied the game. A Brewer walk put the winning run on base, and Armbruster came through with a walk-off double to give FC the thrilling 4-3 win.

Black was 3-3 at the plate, Brewer was 1-2 with a walk and home run. Armbruster was 1-2 with a double and walk, and McClintock finished 2-2.

In the second round of the tournament, FC took on Auburn for the second time in three days. The Bulldogs jumped out to a 6-0 lead after one and a half innings as they cruised to the 9-3 win.

Trailing 6-0 in the second, FC scored its first run on an RBI single by Gilkerson. Then in the third, FC got two more runs on a pair of singles and an error. The Bulldogs scored three insurance runs in the fourth to secure the win.

Poppe was 1-2 with a walk, and Gilkerson was 1-2 with an RBI.

In the third-place game, FC ran into a tough Omaha Mercy team. FC fell behind 7-0 after three innings and eventually lost 11-0. The Tigers were out hit 20-3 in the contest.

The Tigers were retired in order the first three innings and got its first hits of the game on back to back singles by Black and Jones in the fourth inning. Armbruster led off the fifth with a base hit for the only other FC hit.

The Tigers played Weeping Water on Tuesday, September 8, and will host the Tiger Softball Tourney on Saturday, September 12, with eight teams coming to town. Falls City will take on Wilber-Clatonia at 9:00 a.m. at Hartman Field to begin the tournament.

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Jared Hawley ran to a sixth place finish at Beatrice on Saturday.



Nia Crawford finishes 19th in the girls 5K at Beatrice on Saturday.