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JOURNAL

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SH One Act Team: Front row: Isabelle Nussbaum, Renee Drummond, Emersyn Courtney, Adisen Fischer, Saylor Hutfles, Leila Frederick, Elle Falk, Destry Groth, Emily Tubbs, Avery Santo, Jocelyn Olberding, Maddy Dougherty. Back row: Alex Nelson, Hudsyn Hutfles, Haden Clow, Gavin Clow, Kyle Frederick, Patrick Froeschl, Parker Hoffman, Eli Geisendorf, Evan Bailey, Cole Schawang, Kyler Sipple, Tate Wilcox, Kayden Groth, Cooper Knobbe, Thomas Aitken. Not pictured: Connor Nelson and Alex Madsen.

The Falls City Sacred Heart One Act makes school history by being the first production to qualify for the State Play Production Competition

The Falls City Sacred Heart One Act Production of “Happy Daze” by William Gleason made school history Tuesday, November 28th at Shickley, by being the first production to qualify for the State Play Production Competition. Falls City Sacred Heart competed against teams from six other schools to win the D2-1 District Contest. This year a cast of seventeen actors and a crew of eleven along with directors, Stephanie Bippes and Pam Smith, met every Wednesday night (and any other night that

was free) to practice the production, learn lighting and sound, build sets and prepare costumes and make-up.

This year the team went to two competitions before Districts, the Fairbury Play Production Festival and Pioneer Conference Play Production. They also held a Dessert Theater on November 26th. The SH One Act team will be competing on December 6th at 3:00 at the Johnny Carson Theater in Norfolk against the winners of the other five D2 Districts.

Falls City Police Department receives grant for eCitations and eCrash equipment

The Falls City Police Department is receiving grant funding assistance for obtaining eCitations and eCrash equipment, according to Bill Kovarik, Administrator of the NDOT Highway Safety Office.

“This highway safety grant funding in the amount of \$11,492.24 will aid the Falls City Police Department in purchasing eCitation and eCrash equipment to better track citation and crash informa-

tion,” Kovarik said.

eCitation, or electronic ticketing, is a faster and more efficient way to generate reports and citations in the vehicle. The equipment captures driver’s license information by scanning the DL barcode and/or the bar codes from registrations or other forms, making it easier for officers to complete their reports.

Electronic ticketing speeds

up the process and reduces the number of illegible tickets.

The average time spent on an
(Continued on Page 5)

Roads and dispatching dominate commissioner meeting

The Richardson County Board of Equalization met before the County Commissioner Meeting on Wednesday, November 29. Roll call was answered by Commissioners Karas, Caverzagie and Sickel, Assessor Riggs, County Treasurer Amanda Bartek-Ramsey and Clerk Eickhoff.

A motion was made by Karas and seconded by Caverzagie to approve a motor vehicle tax exemption for the Falls City Ambulance Squad for a 2001 Chevy pickup.

A motion was made by Karas and seconded by Sickel to approve a real estate tax exemption for the Barada Global Methodist Church.

A motion was made by Caverzagie and seconded by Sickel to approve four tax list corrections (1448, 1449, 1450 and 1451).

The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 a.m.

At 9:00 a.m., Chairman Caverzagie called the Richardson County Board of Commissioners meeting to order.

The Board met with Highway Superintendent Steve Darveau, Jr., and discussed road and bridge maintenance around the County. The commissioners adopted Resolution 2023-2024-20 to authorize the Chairman to sign the certification of the County Highway Superintendent for the annual incentive payment. The certification states that Darveau had been the Highway Superintendent for the previous year.

“I think we have a pretty good guy,” said Sickel about Superintendent Darveau.

Darveau told the Board that he didn’t want to put too much gravel down in anticipation of forecasted snow in the area.

(Continued on Page 3)

Richardson County Sheriff’s Department makes five felony arrests in about 12 hours

Over a 12 hour period from November 27 into the morning hours of November 28, Richardson County Deputies made five felony drug arrests.

Deputies conducted a traffic stop in rural Richardson County where a search of the vehicle yielded suspected methamphetamine and drug paraphernalia.

Breanna Evans, Chelsey Reed, and Raul Gonzales were arrested for felony Possession of Methamphetamine as a result of the vehicle search.

About 12 hours later, Deputies executed a search warrant at 1803 Crook Street in Falls City, Nebraska. During the search, Deputies located suspected methamphetamine, pills, marijuana, and related drug paraphernalia.

Stephanie Vice and Christina Sipple were arrested for felony Possession of Methamphetamine, in addition to other misdemeanor and infraction charges.

All suspects are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Pick Five winning ticket sold at Kwik Shop

On Sunday, December 3, 2023, the numbers, 03, 10, 11, 17, 28 were chosen during the Nebraska Pick 5 drawing making someone who bought a ticket at Falls City’s Kwik Shop, \$200,000 richer.

At the time the paper went to print no name was given, but one thing’s for sure this holiday season just got much brighter for one family.



Presentation: L-R, presenter, Miranda Rieger, Rachel and David Rieger and their daughter Harley. Susan Rieger, Kadyn, Nathan and Jenny Strecker and Andy Dunn presented and read the history during the presentation. (Photo by Sandy Stalder)

Rieger Family named 2023 Aksarben Farm Family Award Recipient

Aksarben has been honoring our state’s agricultural heritage for nearly 130 years and began celebrating the dedication and perseverance of Nebraska farm families with Pioneer Family Farm awards in 1956. Since then, almost 10,000 families have been recognized statewide with either a Pioneer (100 years) or Heritage (150 years) Family Farm Award.

“Each year, we get to reflect on the commitment of these Nebraska farmers who work tirelessly to feed not just our nation but the world. The dedication these families have to Nebraska is truly in-

spiring, and celebrating these milestones is such an important legacy,” said Sandra Reding, Aksarben Foundation President.

This year, the Rieger Family Farm was recognized as a 2023 Heritage Farm Family – honoring 150 years.

George Henry Fischer II, son of Henry John and Amelia Fischer, was born in Arago, NE, in 1860. He moved to a 320-acre farm south of Arago in 1872 and attended Fischer School District #27 starting in 1873. In March of 1866, he married Alice Schmidt, daughter of George and Mary

(Continued on Page 8)

PRIZE-WINNING NEWSPAPER 2023

Nebraska Press Association

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A date that will live in infamy



By Major Anderson, RN

December 7, 1941 is a “date that will live in infamy” as stated by President Theodore Roosevelt in his famous speech after the events of the Pearl Harbor bombing. That event let to the United States involvement in World War II. President’s Roosevelt’s speech was a call to arms and a declaration of war against this act of aggression by a foreign nation. He never wanted us to forget what happened. President Roosevelt concluded his speech by saying “With confidence in our armed forces, with the unbounding determination of our people, we will gain the inevitable triumph – so help us God.”

Over eighty years later, President Roosevelt’s words still have impact and meaning. There will always be threats to our country, both foreign and domestic. There have always been those who have stood up to stand against these threats and defended their country. Those who have served risk their health and safety for the greater good. The men and women of the United States Armed Forces know that they may be called upon to give the ultimate sacrifice for their country.

We must never forget those who suffered as Prisoners of War and the unknown fates of those who are still Missing in Action. Once back on the home front after the tours of duty are done and enlistments are complete, the service member will become a veteran, although transitioning back to civilian life can be challenging for some.

Many veterans will carry with them some physical, mental, or emotional toll from their service. Whether it is hearing loss or PTSD, there are service connected injuries that need to be cared for. Some are very easy to spot, like a missing limb or a scar from shrapnel injury. Others are harder to see, such as survivor guilt, substance abuse, and chronic pain which can be hidden. According to a 2022 VA study the top five causes of death for veterans in order from greatest the least were accidents, suicide, cancer, cardiovascular disease, and homicide.

As health care workers, it is our duty to care for these service men and women. We need to make sure that their physical and emotional health is cared for. That they have access to the resources earned through their service to their country. If we all work together we can ensure that no one is left behind. Our goal should be that veteran health care is not ignored. As President Roosevelt said, we need to have confidence in our armed forces and the unbounding determination of the people of this country. Together we can all make sure that those who served will never be forgotten.

Major Anderson, RN is a nurse at the Brookings Health System in Brookings, South Dakota. Follow The Prairie Doc® at www.prairiedoc.org and on Facebook and instagram featuring On Call with the Prairie Doc® a medical Q&A show celebrating its 22nd season of health information based on science, built on trust, streaming live on Facebook most Thursdays at 7 p.m. central.

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U.S.P.S. 184-980
ISSN 1074-3480

1709 Stone St., Falls City, Neb. 68355
Phone (402) 245-2431
Fax (402) 245-4404

Combined with the Falls City Daily News
News Est. Jan. 1, 1875
Journal Est. Jan. 6, 1867
Falls City Journal, LLC Est. Sept. 1, 2017

Published Weekly on Wednesday
Except Memorial Day,
Independence Day, Labor Day,
Thanksgiving Day, Christmas,
New Year's or otherwise stated,
may be printed on a different
weekday

Member of the Nebraska Press
Association and, National
Newspaper Association.

Postmaster: Send address change
to: The Falls City Journal, 1709
Stone St. Falls City, NE 68355

Monday: 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM • Tuesday: 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM
Wednesday: 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM • Thursday: 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM
Friday: 8:30 AM to 1:00 PM

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PILLEN
WANTS ALL
HANDS ON
DECK

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

Governor Jim Pillen wants all state government employees at their desks in their assigned departments beginning next month.

He said the pandemic-era remote is over, although both empirical and anecdotal evidence nationwide show a workplace change that was pandemic caused has become the new normal. Oh, and never mind the fact that some state agencies have remote and telework policies that have been in place for 15 years. And, of course, not every department has the physical space available for more employees.

But those are just hard facts and nasty details. The governor is adamant about wanting bodies to be present so he can run government like a business. That was an old Pete Ricketts dream, but even he was realistic enough to realize that changing times call for changing best practices.

Not the new guy in the corner office when he's there. Let's remember that Pillen has chosen to live at his home in Columbus and get chauffeured to work by a State Patrol security detail. It's highly unlikely he'll have his feet under his desk 8 hours a day. Sauce for the goose, sauce for the gander.

His move caught the state employee union off guard. One would think he would have at least discussed the issue with union management. But, as we have learned since the election, that's not the Pillen way. As for him not being in the office, he'll say I have to serve the entire state.

Guess what governor, so do your state employees. In my humble opinion, they have done a great job of adjusting to the pandemic and making things work. Don't forget the folks in the different time zone out west who lose an hour trying to contact people at their desks in Lincoln.

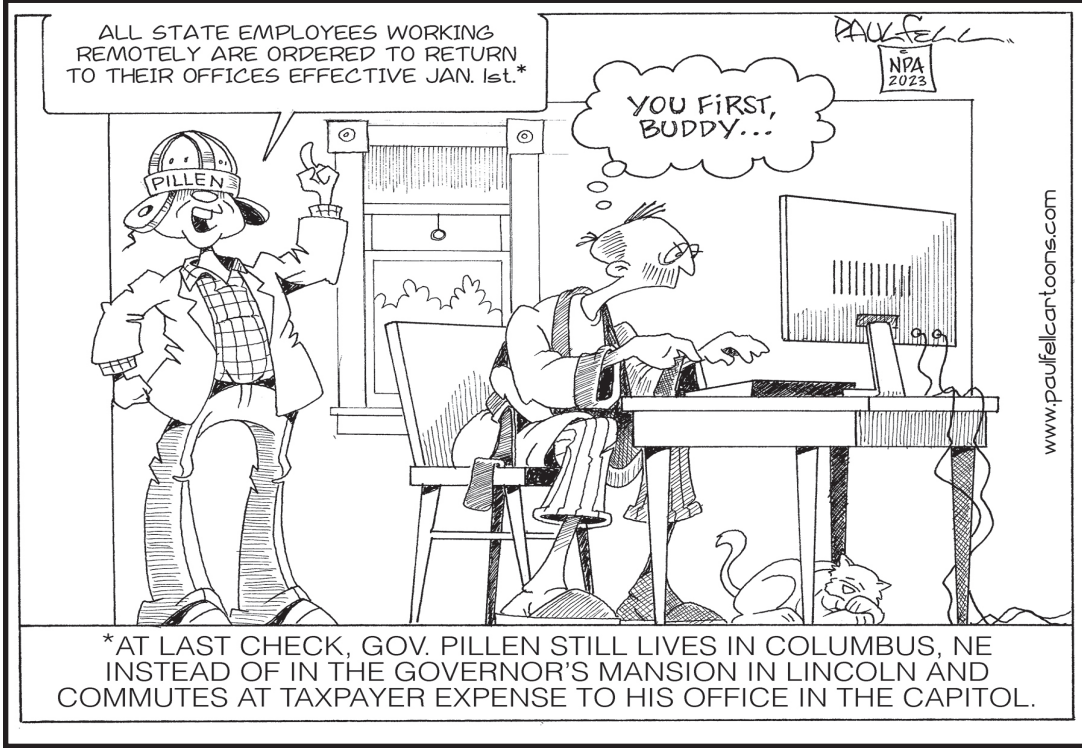
There has been considerable pushback from state employees, many of whom say they'll likely look for work in the private sector. Pillen writes that off as the cost of doing business. Wait until he sees the number of vacancies created. State government has about 2,500 vacancies now. More than 2,855 state employees who have been working in hybrid or remote settings.

Sen. Myron Dorn of Adams said at a recent forum that he had already heard from a Lincoln company that is excited about what Pillen's order could mean for the private sector, which has faced its own hiring challenges in Nebraska. Nebraska has an unemployment rate of 2.2 percent and there were 60,000 job openings this summer.

"They were kind of optimistic now because they have the possibility to grow their workforce," Dorn told the Lincoln Journal-Star. "Yes, in return ... we now maybe reduced our state workforce. Don't know. We'll see how the numbers play out."

The Nebraska Association of Public Employees has considered demanding an immediate bargaining period over the issue, said the group's executive director Justin Hubly. That could make things interesting.

Many disgruntled employ-



ees have been contacting Omaha Sen., Meghan Hunt, a vocal critic of Pillen. In general, their complaints center on concerns for their finances, mental health, family life and the state's ability to recruit and retain help. Many have also raised voiced concerns over the costs of commuting and parking — particularly in downtown Lincoln — that will accompany the return-to-office order.

A 2020 study by University of Nebraska-Lincoln economists showed that Nebraska is losing \$745 million a year when parents leave the workforce or move elsewhere because of a lack of childcare.

Some employees have told Hunt that they've already started to seek jobs in the private sector that will allow them to continue working from home, a trend that could exacerbate Nebraska's public workforce shortage.

"Everybody's got to make decisions in their best interest, so if there are public servants whose best interest is for them to do something where they can work from home — I believe I was elected to be governor to make sure that we have tremendous return for what everybody does, and the best way that happens is when you're at work face to face," Pillen said in a news release.

Consider this: The Department of Labor offered hybrid work setups specifically as an incentive to retain four unemployment insurance adjudicators: the Nebraska Department of Transportation employs more than 360 remote or hybrid workers, the Department of Revenue has 208 hybrid or remote employees; more than half of the state's remote or hybrid em-

ployees — 54% — work for the Department of Health and Human Services, which has had a telecommuting policy in place since 2008.

Some state agencies reduced their physical office space in recent years. The Department of Natural Resources has 72 hybrid employees and a telework policy in place for more than 15 years. They reduced physical workspace by 30% when the agency moved from the State Office Building to its Fallbrook facility in 2022. The Department of Administrative Services adopted its work-from-home policy

in 2021 to make room for the Department of Insurance move into a state space at a savings of \$500,000 per year. A 2021 memo to Ricketts from the State Building Division warned that the state "is nearing capacity in all of its major office buildings."

So, Governor, tell us again why this is such a good policy to adopt right now. Choose your battles wisely.

J.L. Schmidt has been covering Nebraska government and politics since 1979. He has been a registered Independent for 20 years.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD
THEME: Cats and Dogs

ACROSS

1. Baby powder

5. Hundredweight, acr.

8. Same as gauge

12. S squared, e.g.

13. Actor Wyle

14. Undergraduate's field of study

15. J. Edgar Hoover's man

16. Norse capital

17. Extremely angry

18. *Tweety chaser

20. Bob Ross' do

21. Not quite right

22. Hawaiian dish

23. Directed

26. Brought down

30. Deed

31. Rifle's backward move

34. Denim innovator

35. Like salad greens

37. Greek R

38. Read-only memory device

39. Western Samoan money

40. Oklahoma athlete

42. Tiny guitar

43. Relating to dreams

45. Like certain Debbie?

47. U.S. Marine Corps gift recipient

48. Gin mixer

50. Title for Turkish leader

52. *1929 Best Actor Oscar nominee

56. Lallygags

57. Medley

58. Pineapple producer

59. Suggestions

60. *Lassie's mark in Hollywood sidewalk

61. Arabian bigwig

62. Banana leftover

63. New York time

64. "Wanted!" state

DOWN

1. Labels with a name, on Facebook

2. Major or general employer

3. Same as #36 Down, archaically speaking

4. Painter's surface

5. Receipt listings

6. *Corgi's homeland

7. Marvel Comics hammer wielder

8. *Jon Arbuckle, Odie and ____

9. A bit cracked

10. Kind of move, 2 words

11. Bard's before

13. End of rugby match

14. *Cat sound

19. Manicurist's file

22. Neighbor of Ger.

23. *Nome, AK hero

24. Continental divide

25. Like old cracker

26. *Rhodesian Ridgeback's target

27. *Old episodes of Eddie Crane's TV show

28. Call forth

29. Two identical molecules put together

32. Rubber sandal

33. Exclamation of surprise

36. *Fido, in Latin

38. More then one crocus

40. *Canine command

41. Newspaper VIP

44. ____ beef

46. Meandered

48. Leaves at the alter, e.g.

49. Uniate church member

50. Of the highest quality

51. Open-mouthed astonishment

52. Thorny gift

53. Large book

54. Pelvic parts

55. Smart but awkward one

56. "A stiff upper ____"

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
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75 Years Ago, December 6, 1948 to December 12, 1948

Icy winds and snow swept through the midwest as the nation counted at least 14 deaths in weekend accidents attributed to the weather. Seven of the deceased were killed in midwest plane crashes.

Thieves who entered Bullock’s Market at 1301 Stone Street took a small amount of cash.

Jerry Zoucha, an outstanding female bowler from Falls City, won first place and a \$100 prize in the “Bowl-a-Do” women’s tourney at the Pla Land Alleys in Topeka.

Bill Farmer, captain of the Falls City football team, was named to the second-team end position on the all-state listings by Glenn Trump of the Lincoln Journal and Star.

One hundred ninety women gathered in Tiehen Gym for the annual wives’ dinner, held each year in conjunction with the Farmer-Merchant stag dinner.

Gerhardt Radio and Electric Company in Falls City advertised the ideal Christmas gift, a Maytag Chieftain washer for \$124.95.

City officials announced that two sled “runs” had been set, blocked off from motorists for use by the town’s youngsters. One of the areas was 15th Street from Chase to Towle, and the other was 9th Street from Wilson to Morton.

A purchase of the residence at 1920 Harlan St. from the estate of the late Mrs. Linda Gianini by Russell G. Dorr and Sam Philpot to serve as the new quarters for the Dorr-Philpot Funeral Home was revealed. The firm had been previously located at 15th and Stone Street.

John W. Falter, Falls City, received the original painting of Falls City’s Downtown Christmas scene from his nephew, John P. Falter. The painting, measuring 28 by 35 inches, could be viewed at the Falter Clothing Store.

Richard Ketter was elected Master of the Falls City Lodge No. 9, A.F. and A.M., succeeding Russell G. Dorr.

With a quota of \$1,200 set for the Falls City area in the Salvation Army’s drive, Ed Swann, an Omaha field representative, said that \$500 had been collected to date.

Nebraska City and Falls City’s applications for admission to the Mid-East Conference were not acted upon at a recent meeting. The chief drawback for both teams was the distance for teams to travel to either Nebraska City or Falls City. Current teams in the conference included Lincoln Northeast, Fairbury, Beatrice, Hastings and York.

A crowd of 675 people gathered at the High School to see the Junior Class play, “People are Talking.” Ralph Andrews, principal, said gross receipts were \$225.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Marsh of Salem celebrated their 57th wedding anniversary. The couple were married On December 9, 1891, at the home of Mr. Marsh’s aunt by Rev. J. B. Tuttle, pastor of the First Baptist Church in Clay Center, Kansas.

50 Years Ago, December 6, 1973 to December 12, 1973

Market analysts said fears of a significant recession sparked by the energy crisis were behind the plunging prices of the stock market. The Dow closed at 788.21, the lowest level since 1970. The Dow had fallen 198.75 points in six weeks, one of the largest drops in such a short time since the depression.

The First Baptist Church at 21st and Valley Avenue celebrated its 100th anniversary on December 9. The Rev. Rod Meyers was the pastor.

Dan Wright, Farmers Home Administration Supervisor, presented a check for \$605,000 to members of the board of directors of Rural Water District No. 1 at the FHA office to climax a three-year effort on the part of the board to provide water to rural users in the west end of the county. The loan by the FHA helped the board reach its goal of \$807,700 for the project’s total cost.

Instead of distributing Christmas baskets to those in need, the Falls City Elks Lodge hosted a Christmas party for all children under the age of ten. Edwin Stokes, Leading Knight, was the chairman in charge of the event.

Jeff Prosser scored 11 points and grabbed ten rebounds in Falls City’s 49-43 win over Syracuse to open the season.

A near-capacity crowd attended the annual Christmas Community Sing at Prichard Auditorium. Mrs. Virgil Hunzeker and Mrs. Kenneth Hunzeker were the chairpersons for the event.

Earl May store’s annual Christmas party was held at Breezy Hill, with manager Don Koso as host. Following the meal, the group went to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Koso, where movies taken on vacation trips were shown.

Bill Kerkow got the only first for the Southeast Consolidated Wrestling team when it competed in Bennington. Kevin Sopoci placed second at 119 pounds and Tracy Milke was fourth at 167.

Max Rathman, Administrator at Community Hospital, was elected president of the Chamber of Commerce at the board of director’s meeting at Hotel Stephenson.

The Falls City Amateur Radio Club elected officers at the annual meeting at Prichard Auditorium. LeRoy Auxier was voted president, Lonnie Goff was vice president, and Harvey Hinz was re-elected secretary and treasurer.

The J.C. Penney store employees and their spouses were entertained at a dinner party hosted by manager Ernest Comfort at the Falls City Country Club. The affair was attended by 47 guests.

The Webelos of Pack 391 met at Keith Richey’s home. Don Weddle was awarded his aquanaut, naturalist, athlete and sportsman badges.

25 Years Ago, December 6, 1998 to December 12, 1998

Richardson County Commissioner Gayle Swisegood was elected president of the Nebraska Association of County Officials during the organization’s 104th annual state convention.

City Administrator Dick Gist gave the oath of office to Keith Richey, Bill Vossen, Joe Wittwer, Marshall Maddox and Brad Albu at the City Council meeting.

Mr. and Mrs. Doug Sefried, Liberty, Mo, were the parents of a daughter born at Liberty Memorial Hospital. Rachel Elizabeth weighed 5 pounds, 13 ounces. Paternal grandparents included Mr. and Mrs. Jim Sefried.

Craig W. Martinosky was appointed an agent representing Farmers Insurance Group of Companies. The Farmers’ Agency was located inside the H&R Block building in Falls City.

The Humboldt boys basketball team fell to Diller-Odell 69-44 to kick off the 1998-99 season. Dustin Bents led the Cardinals with 17 rebounds, while Luke Moyer scored 11 points to pace the offense.

The Dawson-Verdon boys fell to Wetmore, KS., 44-73. Erick Martinez scored 13 points and J.J. Dean logged ten rebounds for the Jets.

Southeast Consolidated Students of the Month included Dustin Oliver, Randy Morton, Renee Hutton and Shannon Stemple.

Rodney P. Vandeberg, President and CEO of the First National Bank and Trust Co. in Falls City, was appointed a director on the State Chamber of Commerce board of directors.

Two adults and two juveniles were taken into custody by the Falls City Police regarding a burglary at the Bottle Shop at 26th and Harlan Street. Cigarettes, liquor and beer had been taken from the business.

Junior Brent Shubert scored 19 points and grabbed ten rebounds in the Mustangs’ 68-60 win over Fairfax.

Celeste Nolte had 20 points and nine rebounds in PSC’s 68-60 win over Dana College.

Don Gerdes of Falls City was pictured with a 22-pound carp he recently pulled from the Nemaha River south of Falls City.

Roads and dispatching dominate commissioner meeting

(Continued from Page 1)

“I know we have a couple of spots,” said Darveau. “Obviously, going to try to get to them, but we also can’t be throwing a bunch down and that was one of the reasons why I didn’t do anything last weekend, because everywhere I got out and checked I had anywhere between two to three (inches of snow). Well, when you’re leaving one to two inches and you have every piece of equipment out running down the road trying to take a skiff of snow off, it’s not economical for us.”

Darveau acknowledged some roads suffered from needing to be cleared, but there was little that could be done. Darveau drove the County and measured between two and a half and three inches of snow. Darveau said the County cleaned all the paved surfaces, but he didn’t feel it was the right time to send his employees out on the gravel roads.

“How do I expect guys to take an inch of snow off of three inches without taking a bunch of rock off that we’re already short on?”

Darveau told the commissioners that no one else around the area sent trucks out.

The Board also discussed with Darveau the possibility of grading the roads in the opposite direction. The matter will continue to be addressed in the future.

The Board discussed the possibility of striping the road to White Cloud. Darveau told the commissioners that the matter would need an engineering study to decide where double stripes, center lines and passing/no passing zones would be located.

“That road has never had any white lines or center lines, ever,” said Darveau.

“That’s up to you guys,” Darveau told the Board.

Sheriff Hardesty met with the Board and discussed the routine business within the Law Enforcement Center. Hardesty noted that during the “Click It or Ticket” campaign from November 22 to November 26, 187 traffic stops

resulted in 52 citations and nine arrests, with two being felons.

Sheriff Hardesty also met with acting Chief Jay Murphy from Beatrice to discuss the 911 service. Murphy asked for the County to give him a number that it would take to keep Richardson County under contract with the 911 center. The commissioners agreed to put it on the agenda and discuss it at a later meeting.

Hardesty told commissioners he favors bringing the dispatching back to Richardson County and having the Falls City Police Department dispatch 911. The Richardson County Sheriff’s Department received nearly 30 911 calls between 2022 and 23.

“Sooner or later, it won’t be affordable in Beatrice,” said Hardesty. “It’s going to have to come back. Why put off to tomorrow what you can do today.”

At 10:10 a.m., the Board recessed the regular meeting and entered into an executive session with legal counsel Jerry Pigsley to discuss litigation for the protection of the public interest. At 10:25, Karas made a motion to close the executive session and return to the regular meeting.

The claims were paid except for an Amazon bill for \$119.92, which the commissioners held for further review.

A motion was made by Karas and seconded by Sickel to approve a change order with Skyline Con-

struction Inc. for the Courthouse roof replacement. The change order will add \$16,710.45 to the project’s total cost. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Sickel and seconded by Caverzagie to approve a subdivision for Robert L. and Lana Georges to Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad located in S19, T1 and R17. The motion carried. A motion was made by Sickel and seconded by Karas to approve a subdivision for Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway located in S15, T1 and R16 and to adopt Resolution 2023-2024-19. Motion carried.

The commissioners also voted to adopt Resolution 2023-2024-21 to transfer funds from the Inheritance Tax Fund for \$250,000 to the General Fund.

A motion was made by Karas and seconded by Sickel to adjourn the meeting at 10:34 a.m.

Happy Birthday Help
Ron Eickhoff
celebrate his
80th birthday
December 9th

by sending a card to

Good Sam’s #106
1322 U St., Auburn,
NE 68305





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WE WILL BE CLOSED
Dec. 25th & Jan. 1st

Journal print, deadline and office holiday schedule

Christmas: The *Falls City Journal* will close early on Friday, December 22 and will be closed on Christmas Day and the next day, December 26th. The deadline will be Thursday, December 21 by 1:00 p.m.

New Year's: The *Falls City Journal* will close early on Friday, December 29 and will be closed on January 1. The deadline will be 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 28, 2023.

Please plan accordingly and have a safe and happy holiday. Thank you so much for your support throughout the year.

NDEE offers free nitrate sample kits for private drinking water wells

The Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy (NDEE) is offering free nitrate sample kits and lab analyses to private drinking water well owners across the state. These kits are only available for a limited time until Jan. 31, 2024.

Well owners who participate will receive their sample results, and NDEE will use the data from this sampling effort in a statewide nitrate study that the agency is currently conducting. The study will include nitrate sampling data from public water systems and from private drinking water well owners who agree to participate. Well owners’ identifying information will not be used in the study.

Nebraska’s private drinking water well owners can request a free nitrate sample kit, which comes with sampling instructions and pre-paid return postage, online on the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services website: <https://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/Lab-Price-List.aspx>. Those without access to the internet who need help requesting a free sample kit may call NDEE at 402-471-2186.

The state does not regularly conduct sampling in private drinking water wells because they are not regulated under the Safe Drinking Water Act. Public participation in this free sampling event

is key to ensuring the nitrate study accurately encompasses private drinking water wells in Nebraska.

NDEE has sent postcards to more than 29,000 registered domestic well owners in Nebraska inviting them to participate in this study. The free sample kits and lab analyses are offered to all Nebraskans with a private drinking water well – not just those who received a postcard or have a registered well.

Collecting the sample is easy. Allow the cold water tap to run for three minutes, then fill the plastic container provided in the sample kit, being careful not to overfill. More detailed instructions will be provided with the sample kit.

If a private well owner’s results are above 10 parts per million (ppm) of nitrate, they may be eligible for NDEE’s Reverse Osmosis (RO) Rebate Program to treat their water. This program offers up to \$4,000 in rebates to well owners whose wells are registered through the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources and whose wells sample above 10 ppm of nitrate.

Applications for the RO system rebates must be submitted by June 30, 2024. NDEE accepts and reviews RO rebate applications on a month-to-month basis. Learn more about the RO Rebate Program on NDEE’s website: <http://dee.ne.gov/Publications/pag-22-051>.

BUILDING PERMITS

Donnie Stice, 2016 Morton St., install new deck; \$2,000.00.	\$2,000.00.
Rylee and Jeremy Robinson, 2121 Crook St., install new carport; \$2,000.00.	Adam and Sarah Morris, 911 East 11th St., demo of basement; \$-
Charleen A. McGinnis, 612 West 25th St., replacing water line; \$1,000.00.	Ben Simpson, 2615 Schoenheit St., install air conditioner; \$2,000.00.
Don and Norma Thompson, 2401 Barada St., install sewer lateral;	Rick Lemerond, 1313 McLean St., demolition of house; \$-
	Marc Merz, 224 W. 17th st., build new storage building; \$12,000.00.

2024 Driver’s Education

FCPS is happy to announce that enrollment for 2023-2024 Driver’s Ed is now open!

Enrollment is open from now until December 13th and total cost of the course is \$200.

The ‘Classroom Portion’ is all online and must be completed before signing up for a ‘Drive Time’.

Students must have a valid permit number in order to enroll.

All details are included in the registration packet. Packets are available in the High School Office, the Middle School Office and the Sacred Heart Office.

FC POLICE DEPARTMENT ACCIDENT REPORTS

On November 23, 2023 according to police/accident reports

Jamie Wardrup of Falls City was backing up in the Casey’s parking lot. Wardrup struck a parked vehicle owned by Janece Wheeler of Falls City causing minor damage to both vehicles. The vehicle driven by Wardrup owned by Tammy Matchett of Springfield, MO suffered \$500 in damage; the Wheeler vehicle also suffered \$500 in damage.

SOCIETY

Shubert American Legion Auxiliary Unit 222

Submitted by Tana J Brown, Secretary

The Shubert American Legion Auxiliary Unit 222 met November 2023 at 7:00 pm at the Shubert American Legion building. President Dona Hall called the meeting to order. Chaplain Sharon Howard gave the opening prayer and then draped the charter in memory of Carolyn Palmer. The Pledge of Allegiance and the American Legion Auxiliary Preamble was recited. A poem ‘The Landing of the Pilgrims,’ was read in place of singing.

Eight members answered the roll call.

Secretary Tana Brown read the minutes of the Oct 10th meeting, and they were approved as read.

Treasurer Judy Schlosser shared the Treasurer’s report. Vicki Owings made a motion to approve. It was seconded by Elizabeth Ketner, and all were approved. Linda Patchen submitted bills. Sharon Howard motioned to pay these, and Vicki Owings seconded it. Motion carried. The Treasurer also reported that a \$25 memorial had been given to the Children and Youth fund.

Elizabeth Ketner motioned to send a memorial to the ALA Dept of Nebraska for the Victory Apartments in memory of deceased member Caroline Palmer. Vicki Owings seconded, and all approved. The secretary will send a card to the family.

Judy Schlosser gave an update on membership. The Unit has 80 paid to date.

Reports were shared on activities of the past month: Sharon Howard had taken cookies, fruit etc. to Jerry Nelson, our Veteran of the Year. County Government Day went very well. It was so nice to see Legion member Richardson County Commander Keri Wilhelm leading the day along with Mary Eickhoff, the County Auxiliary President. There was a report on the HTRS Veterans Day program. Vicki Ozenbaugh was the spe-

cial speaker. Tana Brown shared that Music Teacher Michael Coffey gave her pictures drawn by the children to pass out to the Veterans or put in cards being sent. President Dona thanked those who had participated in the trash pickup.

In Communication, a thank you was read from NWIHCS Lincoln Division for the children’s supplies that were donated by the Unit. A thank you was read from the Shirley Vice family and from Emily Vitosh, one of the girls the Unit sponsored for Girls State. President Dona shared the District Round-up letter, which included applications for the Emergency Fund and the Tray favor calendar. She also has copies of the scholarship forms for this year. There are now only three at the department level.

Linda Patchen sent Veterans Day cards to Legion members.

The Christmas Tour of Homes will be held on December 3rd from 4 to 6 pm. It will include a bake and craft sale at the Shu-

bert Community Building with Santa present. Children will have the opportunity to make Christmas decorations to take home with them.

In new business, it was discussed and decided to postpone doing something for Education Week at this time. Christmas cards will be sent to Legion members and active military. Care packages were discussed for those overseas. Judy Schlosser reported 17 Veterans in Falls City Nursing and Rehab, seven in Falls City Care Center and one in Jonesbrook. Judy has a few signs left and she will be sure Jerry Nelson has one.

The Unit will hold a community luncheon at the Shubert Legion Building on Tuesday, December 5th.

The next unit meeting will be December 12, 2023, at 7 pm.

Chaplain Sharon Howard gave the closing prayer.

President Dona Hall declared the meeting adjourned.

FALLS CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT CALLS AND STATS

November 22 to November 23, 2023 calls: no information received.

November 23 to November 24, 2023 calls: one investigation, two accidents, one theft, three ambulance/EMS, one 911 call, one citation for invalid registration, one citation for fictitious display of plates, one citation for no operators license, two warnings for improper/defective vehicle lighting, two warnings for speeding.

November 24 to November 25, 2023 calls: one check welfare, one information only, three referred to another agency, one motorist assist, two ambulance/EMS, one HHS intake/referral, three miscellaneous, one traffic/driving complaint, one 911 call.

November 25 to November 26, 2023 calls: one motorist assist, one suspicious subject or vehicle, three information only, one animal call, four burn permits, one investigation, three referred to another agency, two ambulance/EMS, one traffic/driving complaint, four 911 calls, one warning for animal at large.

November 26 to November 27, 2023 calls: one information only, one 911 hang up/misdial, three ambulance/EMS, one suspicious subject or vehicle, one trespassing, one referred to another agency, two animal calls, three 911 calls.

November 27 to November 28, 2023 calls: no information received.

November 28 to November 29, 2023 calls: no information received.

Celebrating gratitude and community spirit in District 1

By Senator Julie Slama

As we embrace the spirit of Thanksgiving, it is a great time to celebrate and honor the extraordinary members of Southeast Nebraska who have made substantial contributions to our community. Not only are the stories of commitment and service motivational, but they also serve as a testament to the strength of Nebraska.

Leslie McIntosh, an outstanding teacher at Syracuse-Dunbar-Avoca Middle School, has earned the Milken Educator Award. Her innovative teaching approaches and successful projects, such as the “Summer Blast” program, demonstrate her dedication to improving student learning and community participation. I am thankful for teachers like Leslie, whose passion and creative teaching significantly improve students’ lives and build our community, exemplifying the true spirit of educational excellence.

In the world of sports, we bid farewell to Rick Janssen, an NSAA referee who retired after a distinguished 47-year career. Rick’s last game represented the end of a journey distinguished by fairness, sportsmanship, and genuine passion for the game. His long-standing commitment to refereeing has left a long-lasting imprint on the Nebraska sports community. A special thank you to Rick Janssen for his decades of dedication in sports officiating, which has left a legacy of fairness

and enthusiasm that will be remembered for years to come.

I also want to recognize K9 Officer Mack’s retirement and the work of his handler, Sgt. Christopher Richardson, from the Nebraska City Police Department. Mack is leaving around five years of valuable service and is well-known for his remarkable talents in drug detection and tracking. Sgt. Richardson’s and Mack’s relationship is a touching example of loyalty and teamwork. I am thankful for K9 Officer Mack and Sgt. Christopher Richardson for their unwavering dedication to keeping our community safe, and I wish Mack a happy and restful retirement.

As the holiday season approaches, so does the legislative session. In the coming weeks, I will begin a series highlighting the legislative process. This will shed light on how laws are crafted and passed, and the critical roles we play in shaping the future laws of our state. In the meantime, we wish everyone a happy and healthy holiday season!

As always, I welcome your input on issues important to you. Follow along on my Facebook and Twitter pages, both entitled “Senator Julie Slama” for more updates, or contact me directly at Senator Julie Slama, District 1 State Capitol, PO Box 94604, Lincoln NE 68509-4604; telephone: 402-471-2733; email: jslama@leg.ne.gov.

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SOCIETY

Parish Circle

The Parish Circle met Monday evening, November 20, at Bethel Global Methodist Church with eight members present. Plans were made for 2024, and Personal Dignity Kits to be sent to Midwest Mission were assembled. The next meeting will be held December 18, at the home of Deb Harris.

Stella Community Church Circle

Submitted by Elizabeth S. Ketner, secretary
The Stella Community Church Circle met in the church’s basement on Tuesday, Nov 14, 2023. Co-president Vicki Beilke opened the meeting with Pastor John States giving an invocation. Then she read a devotion by Helen Steiner Rice titled “Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God”. Everyone sang “Only Trust Him”. Roll call was answered by 11 people with a verse on trust. Secretary Elizabeth Ketner read the minutes of the October 24, 2023, meeting. They were approved as read. Donna Monnette gave the treasurer’s report. Former resident Karen Brown had donated many items, including gift cards, for both the garage sale and the shoe box project. A card was to be signed by everyone for her.

There were no bills.
Old business- Most of the items that were unsold at the garage sale were either taken to the Humboldt thrift store or would be taken there later. There were 25 filled shoe boxes taken to the Auburn Christian Church for Operation Christmas Child.
Cathy Donhoe has ordered poinsettias for delivery after Thanksgiving.
It was reported that SENCA has not chosen a Christmas family yet. Circle may go ahead and pick one without going through SENCA.
The list of cookie plate recipients was discussed. Last year over 15 fruit or cookie plates were given out. There were some minor changes this year. It was decided to order the fruit from Nider’s in Humboldt, and gift boxes will be used rather than plates.

There was a discussion on the proposed carpeting. Dot Kelsay made a motion to have the foyer and upper steps to the landing done by Chaney’s- Carolyn Brede-meier seconded the motion. All voted Aye. The color committee is Mrs. Kelsay and Mrs. Donahoe. They will encourage Chaney’s to have it finished by early January. It would be good to have the basement re-carpeted also, but that would be in the next year, with the help of the church council. Circle may contemplate another garage sale.

New business- October was Pastor Appreciation Month and the States had thanked Circle for gifts received.

Plans are made to decorate the church for Christmas by Dec 3rd.

A suggested reverse Advent calendar was circulated. Several are interested in donating the food items listed on the calendar to SENCA by the first of January.

The basement steps were discussed. Mrs. Beilke would like to paint them, and it was mentioned that it would be a good idea to make them non-skid by adding some sand.

The meeting was adjourned. Mrs. States had the lesson on Esther. Refreshments were served by Mrs. Beilke and Chris Joy. The next meeting will be on December 12 with the program by the Circle officers. Everyone will fill boxes with cookies and/or fruit for distribution around the community.

Falls City PD receives grant for eCitations and eCrash equipment

(Continued from Page 1)
eCitation is reduced to four to five minutes. On top of improving operational efficiency, citations can be sent immediately from the squad car to the courthouse.

The eCitation system also improves officers’ safety getting them off the dangerous side of the road much quicker. Less time on the side of the road means more time spent on patrol for your community. It also reduces the need for grant writing.

eCrash can help by bringing simplicity and efficiency to the handling of crash reports by automating the reporting process and providing a highly secure, electronic data management resource that helps agencies deliver faster crash report data while advancing traffic safety and the quality of life for the people they protect and serve.

The eCrash system provides full-scale consistency and fewer interpretation errors in crash data. It eliminates redundant data entry, improves timeliness of data and includes crash location functionality and crash diagram support.

Nebraska has once again qualified for Federal Racial Profiling funds. The NDOT Highway Safety Office has utilized this funding to aid local area law enforcement, which will improve tracking citation and crash data.

“This funding and the ongoing persistence of law enforcement personnel continues to impact injury and fatality crashes,” Kovarik said.

MAKING IT RIGHT

It was erroneously reported in last weeks’ Journal in the Falls City Council story on page one that Ed O’Grady had retired from the Falls City Airport Authority.

It should have stated O’Grady resigned his position on the Airport Authority. Sorry for the confusion.



Sacred Heart Student Council representatives Makinley Scholl and Lexi Brewer check in fellow representative and donor Leila Frederick at the Red Cross Blood Drive on Monday.

Red Cross Blood Drive is a success

Sacred Heart Student Council hosted the American Red Cross Blood Drive on Monday, November 27th at Prichard Auditorium from 12:00 – 6:00 p.m. The drive was a success obtaining 103 units. It is the generosity of the donors and community that makes these events a success. Sacred Heart Student Council would like to recognize Falls City Mercantile and Jack’s Processing for the donation of lunch meat and slicing for the canteen, our students for the donations of bread and cookies and our community for their donation of time and sacrifice.

Thank you to the following donors and to those who were unable to give at this drive: Jeff Barker, Mary Barker, Mackenzie Beavers, James Beer, Kent Bieker, Paul Blankenau, June Bowers, Becky Brewer, Gary Brown, Tracy Burns, Audra Cave, Monty Coleman, Judy Crawford, Roger Crofford, Mary Darveau, Gracie Deckinger, Tami DiGiacomo, Danitra Dill, Madison Dougherty, Mara Dungan, Elle Falk, Sarah Feighner, Odis Fields, Janis Fischer, Leila Frederick, Noala Fritz, Phil Froeschl, Matthew Goff, Doug Goltz, Kimberly Griffiths, Cathrene Gutshall, Sharon Harmon, Gary Hays, Alijah Hernandez, Amber Hernandez, Krystal Holmes, Ruth Huppert, Charles James, Jennifer James, Richard James, Jon Keithley, Jonathon Keithley, Sharan Kerl, Jared Kirkendall, Linda Kirkendall, Lee Kurpqueweit, Roger Lampe, Mary J. Weinert, James Litherland, Richard Little, Liz Luna, Mary Martineau, Abby Merz, Amanda Merz, Beth Meyer, Lois Miller, Adam Morris, Grace Morris, Steven O’Grady, Amy Olberding, Teresa Olberding, Julie Phroper, Kelsey Prichard, Miranda Raithel, Carla Rhodd, Patricia Rieschick, Fr. Ben Ryneanson, Luke Santo, Judie Sayer, Neal Schatz, Brandon Schawang, Cole Schawang, Dan Schawang, Judy Schlosser, Chad Scholl, Janelle Scholl, Crystal Scrivens, Christy Sells, Debra Shefferd, Abby Shubert, Paula Strasheim, Norma Thompson, Janet Toomsen, Crystal Tracy, Paige Vitosh, Traci Waggoner, Andrea Wamsley, Mary J. Wessel, Leon Wissman and Susan Wissman.

Aldrich Annual Short Story Contest expanded with new poetry contest

To honor Nebraska author Bess Streeter Aldrich and recognize outstanding writing, the Bess Streeter Aldrich Foundation announces the addition of a Poetry Contest to join its 2024 Short Story Contest, which is celebrating its 22nd year.

The competitive writing opportunities were expanded when the Aldrich Foundation learned more about Mrs. Aldrich’s poetry writing efforts. Contest participants (grade 3 to adult) are encouraged to generate a poem written in the wholesome spirit of Bess Streeter Aldrich while utilizing a theme honoring Nebraska, small town living, family relationships, and/or children and their antics. Participants are limited to one entry. Poems can be up to 26 lines, and they DO NOT have to rhyme. The form and style can be any the poet chooses to best express the theme, such as acrostic, sonnet, sestina,

etc. Poetic devices such as figurative language and imagery should be used. For more details, see the scoring rubric located at www.bessstreeteraldrich.org.

Short story authors are encouraged to generate a fictional short story that is written in the wholesome spirit displayed by Bess Streeter Aldrich in her works while incorporating a theme that focuses on Nebraska’s economy, history, cultural diversity, and/or geography (past, present, and/or future). Story length should be 1,000-2,000 words (there is no minimum word requirement for the Intermediate category). A list of books by the author which entrants can read to become familiar with Mrs. Aldrich’s work is also available on the Foundation’s website. Exceptional examples include Mrs. Aldrich’s best-selling novel A Lantern in Her Hand, Mother Mason (the fea-

tured book celebrating its 100th birthday in 2024), or a collection of short stories. No essays, please.

Prizes for both contests will be awarded at an annual event, which will be held on Sunday, June 9. Adults are provided cash prizes of 1st place, \$100; 2nd place, \$50; 3rd place, \$25. High School (grades 9-12), Middle School (grades 6-8), and Intermediate School (grades 3-5) awards include 1st place, \$50; 2nd place, \$25; and 3rd place, \$15. Prize money has been partially provided by the Syracuse Library Foundation.

Any individual who submits a short story or poem may participate in a free tour during 2024. The spring exhibit entitled “Poetry in Motion” will honor Mrs. Aldrich and other poets in an engaging manner. Aldrich House guides will be able to confirm participation upon arrival at the Aldrich House. Family members of the Bess Streeter Aldrich Foundation board are not eligible.

The due date for both submissions is April 15, 2024. A submission link and a complete list of rules can be found at bessstreeteraldrich.org. Questions about the contests or an alternative paper submission can be directed to Kurk Shrader, Executive Director (email aldrichfoundation@gmail.com or call 402-994-3855). Publicity for this event is funded in part by Cass County Tourism, visitcasscounty.com.

NOTICE TO ALL RICHARDSON COUNTY RESIDENTS

The Richardson County Assessor’s Office is notifying all Richardson County Residents that have built or are planning on building on their property, have torn down any buildings, or if the conditions of buildings have changed to please report it to the Assessor’s Office.

The reporting period to make adjustments to the following year property tax is between January 1st and March 15th.

If you have any questions please contact the Richardson County Assessor at (402)245-4012.

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As a Family Nurse Practitioner and a Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner, Cassie is ready to start scheduling appointments.

Cassie’s Schedule
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Tuesday (Telehealth) and
Wednesday: 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

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Lady Irish take care of Jets

The Class D2 second-ranked Irish began the season right where it left off last spring as they improved to 1-0 with a 36-20 win over Sterling on Friday night at the RAC. The Lady Irish used a 12-3 second quarter to pull away for the win.

Sterling gave the Irish all they could handle out of the gate as SH held on for an 8-6 lead after the first eight minutes. The Irish defense picked things up in the second quarter and took a 20-9 lead into intermission. SH put a little more distance between them and the Jets in the third, outscoring the visitors 10-6 to take a 30-15 lead into the final period.

Both teams struggled in the fourth to put points on the board, but the Irish outlasted the Jets for the win.

Sacred Heart struggled from the floor, making just 12/56 shot attempts for 21%. The Irish finished 0/8 from beyond the arc, but like most Luke Santo-coached teams, the Irish capitalized on freebies at the foul line, making 12/13 free throw attempts. The Irish defense held Sterling to 31% shooting and forced a whopping 34 turnovers while committing only 15 of their own. The Irish outrebounded the

Jets 31-22, including a 17 to 3 edge on the offensive glass.

Junior Jentry Lechtenberg had a stellar night, scoring 17 points on 6/14 shooting. Lechtenberg was a perfect 5/5 at the foul line, secured nine rebounds, had two blocked shots and finished with seven steals. Lechtenberg fueled Sacred Heart's big second quarter, scoring nine of the team's 12 points. Senior Makinley Scholl added eight points and ten rebounds for the Irish.

Lauren Harms had ten points to lead Sterling.

Scoring for SH: Scholl 8, Santo 6, Tisdell 2, Witt 1, Lechtenberg 17, Jones 2.

Scoring for Sterling: Truscott 3, Waters 2, Lafferty 5, Harms 10.

The Irish JV won a two-period game on Friday night, 20-5. Leading scorers for the Irish were Dorothy Crouse with eight and Hallie Jones with four points.

The Lady Irish traveled to Lourdes Central on Tuesday and will host Exeter-Milligan/Friend on Friday, December 8, 2023. Sacred Heart will host Lewiston on the following Tuesday, December 12.

Irish open season with a bang

Sacred Heart, the preseason No. 8 ranked team in Class D-2, took care of business Friday night against the Sterling Jets at the Roh Activity Center. Last season, SH opened the season with a 31-point win over the Jets; Friday night wasn't much different. The stingy Irish defense was on display early as they outscored Sterling 13-0 in the first period and 17-2 in the second to stake a 30-2 halftime lead. The squads played evenly in the third quarter, with Sacred Heart holding firm with a 40-11 lead heading into the final eight minutes. The Irish doubled up Sterling down the stretch 18-9 to put the game on ice with a definitive 58-20 win.

The game was won on the defensive end of the court as the Coach Doug Goltz-led Irish forced Sterling into 32 turnovers, while committing only 11. The Irish controlled almost every stat line throughout the contest. They held a 38%-25% field goal edge, a 34-21 rebounding advantage and a 23-5 lead in steals.

Senior Jack Stice led the Irish offense with 14 points, making 6/13 shot attempts. Stice added three steals and two assists. Fellow senior Joe Simon added 12 points, six coming in the final period, a whopping 18 rebounds, four blocked shots and three steals. The last Irish athlete to reach double

figures in the scoring column was James Froeschl. Froeschl scored four first-quarter points on the way to a ten-point effort on 5/8 shooting. Froeschl added five rebounds, two assists and a team-best six steals. SH started a pair of sophomores at the guard position, and both proved up to the challenge. Cole Taft and Brenden Lemerond combined for 14 points, seven steals and only three turnovers. Coach Goltz cleared the bench and got 11 players into the action on Friday. Brody Horstman led the Jets with ten points.

Scoring for Sacred Heart: Taft 7, Stice 14, Lemerond 7, Simon 12, Froeschl 10, Clow 5, Knobbe 3.

Scoring for Sterling: Horstman 10, Uher 2, Wambold 6, Vollman 2.

In a three-quarter JV contest, the Irish defeated Sterling 33-20. Kyler Sipple led SH with eight points on 3/9 shooting and Lemerond went 2/3 from beyond the arc for six. Horstman led Sterling with six points on 2/13 shooting.

The 1-0 Irish will host Exeter-Milligan/Friend on Friday, December 8 and Lewiston on Tuesday, December 12. EMF was the No. 10 ranked team in the Class C-2 preseason polls. On Saturday, EMF fell to Class D-2 No. 4 rated Osceola, 55-64.

Titans drop opener to Griffins

The HTRS Titans fell to Diller-Odell by six on Friday night at HTRS High School, 44-50. The win moved the Griffins to 2-0, while the Titans dropped to 0-1. Junior Brogan Dunlap led HTRS on Friday night with a team-high 12 points and five assists. Dunlap went 5/12 from the floor and made 1/2 foul shots. Alex Koziol added nine points, six boards and three steals. Hunter Bohling led the team with eight rebounds, adding four assists and eight points.

The Titans finished the game making 19 of 53 field goal attempts, in-

cluding 4/18 from behind the three-point line. HTRS had chances to win the game but made just 2/15 free throw attempts. As a team, HTRS finished with 26 rebounds, 16 assists, 11 steals and 16 turnovers.

Scoring for HTRS: Bohling 8, Dunlap 12, Vaughan 6, Koziol 9, McClarnen 7, Jurack 2.

On Saturday, HTRS traveled to Weeping Water High School to take on the Indians. The contest was tight throughout, but once the final buzzer had sounded, the Titans found themselves on the wrong end of a 33-36 contest.

Weeping Water led 7-6 after one period and 16-13 at the half. The Indians extended their lead to 30-26 by the end of the third and held on for the three-point win, 36-33.

Dunlap led HTRS with 14 points on 6/22 shooting. Hunter Bohling added eight points and a team-best nine rebounds. Alex Koziol had four assists and Brennan Vaughan added seven steals. The Titans went 2/17 from beyond the arc and finished the game with only 12 turnovers.

Scoring for HTRS: Bohling 8, Dunlap 14, Vaughan 6, McClarnen 3, Koch 2.

The 0-2 Titans hosted Lewiston on Tuesday, will play at Lourdes Central on Friday and will host Freeman on Tuesday, December 12 at HTRS High School.

Lady Titans can't keep pace with Griffins

The HTRS Lady Titans dropped the 2023-24 opener with its 16th consecutive season-opening loss to Diller-Odell. The Griffins overpowered HTRS in the first and fourth quarters, pulling away for the 71-45 win. Diller-Odell got out of the gate quickly, taking a 16-9 lead after the first eight minutes of action. The Lady Titans fought back in the second stanza, outscoring the Griffins 18-17 to cut the gap to 27-33 at the half.

The game remained tight in the third, with Diller-Odell building its lead to seven, 40-47 with one quarter remaining. Unfortunately for HTRS, the Griffins caught fire in the fourth, outscoring the Lady Titans 24-5 down the stretch to pull away for the 26-point win.

The Lady Titans shot 28% from the field, secured 35 rebounds, seven assists, nine steals, and turned the ball over 19 times.

Avery Dierberger led HTRS with 13 points, while Elie Bstandig added 11 points, 14 rebounds and two steals. Myleigh Weers led Diller-Odell with 31 points.

Scoring for HTRS : Bstandig 11, Glathar 4, Dierberger 13, Bowen 6, McNealy 11.

Scoring for Diller-Odell: Duis 8, Beekman 2, Rosebaugh 2, Hajek 10, Vilda 12,

Titans hit the mats at Conestoga

The HTRS Titan wrestlers traveled to Conestoga on Saturday and placed 13th with eight points. The Titans had just one wrestler compete at Conestoga, with Drayven Lamb finishing 2-2 and scoring eight points in the 190-pound division.

Lamb received a bye in round one, before falling to Wobken of Logan View by fall at :35. In the consolation round, Lamb defeated Buggi of Palmyra by fall at :46 and pinned DeCora of Winnebago in just twenty-three seconds. In the consolation semi-finals, Lamb was pinned by Brandt of Syracuse at the :27 mark.

HTRS will be on the mats again on Saturday, December 16, for the Johnson County Central Invitational.

Strein 3, Weers 31, Hennerberg 3.

On Saturday, the Lady Titans fell to 0-2 with a 23-33 loss at Weeping Water. The game was tight early, with the Indians leading 6-5 after one and 12-9 at intermission. The third quarter proved to be the difference maker, with Weeping Water outscoring HTRS 11-2 in the third to make it 23-11 heading into the final eight minutes. HTRS outscored Weeping Water in the fourth, but it wasn't enough as the Titans fell by ten, 23-33.

HTRS shot 23% from the field from two-point range, making 8/35 shots and went 2/10 from behind the three-point line. The Lady Titans finished with 38 rebounds, six assists and six steals but turned the ball over 19 times in the loss.

Elie Bstandig was the high scorer for the Titans, sinking 4/13 shots for nine points. Bstandig ripped down 15 rebounds and added two blocks. Laramie Glathar added 12 rebounds, while Hannah Koziol and Lillian Bowen each had two steals.

Scoring for HTRS: Bstandig 9, Glathar 4, Dierberger 3, Bowen 4, McNealy 3.

Scoring for Weeping Water: Brack 6, Miller 15, Cave 3, McAdams 9.

The 0-2 Titans hosted 0-1 Lewiston on Tuesday and played at Lourdes Central on Friday. The Lady Titans will host the Freeman Falcons on Tues., Dec. 12.

Tigers earn postseason awards

The ECNC Conference released its end-of-the-year awards, with many Tiger athletes making the list.

Making the All-Conference list in cross country were sophomores Tallan Zimmerman and Ryker McCullough. Zimmerman placed third at the ECNC Conference Meet and McCullough finished fifth.

Senior Ashleigh Kirkendall made the second team in volleyball, and Gabi Young earned an honorable mention. Kirkendall finished her senior season with 487 assists, 280 digs and 25 blocks. Young, a freshman, collected 41 ace serves, 416 digs and 512 serves received.

The football team had seven players earn all-conference/all-district. Making the first team were seniors Zane Ebel and Wyatt Olberding. Ebel finished the season with 69 tackles, including nine for losses and one sack. Olberding added 45 tackles, four for losses, and registered two interceptions on defense, and he caught 28 passes for 400 yards and five touchdowns on offense.

The honorable mention list included Kadyn Streckler, Kaleb Zulkoski, Daniel Hollens, Blakely Sells and Gavin Bauer.

Streckler finished with a team-best 35 catches for

466 yards and five scores. Zulkoski led the team with 78 total stops, 42 unassisted. He added one sack, two fumble recoveries, and five broken-up passes. Hollens missed half of the year due to injury but finished with 61 yards rushing while adding 17 tackles on defense. Sells rushed for 469 yards and six TDs on 71 carries and completed 91/178 pass attempts for 1,180 yards, 12 TDs and 11 INTs. Bauer ended the year as the team's third-leading receiver, catching 17 passes for 214 yards and two touchdowns.

FC also had a pair of first teamers on the softball team and three honorable mentions. Emilou Schulenberg and Jordan Wilcox made the first team and Brylee Liberty, Ava Armbruster and Izzy Armbruster were selected for honorable mention.

Schulenberg led the team with a .518 batting average with 29 hits, nine doubles, 12 RBI and 23 runs scored. Wilcox was close behind with a .446 average, getting 25 hits, seven doubles, and a team-high 23 RBI.

Liberty batted .405 with 17 base hits and ten RBI, Ava hit .373 with 19 hits, seven RBI and 22 runs scored and Izzy batted .313 with 15 hits, two doubles and 11 RBI.

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Foreign companies are deeply involved in Nebraska farmland – but not how you think

By *Destiny Herbers*
Flatwater Free Press

On sweltering summer days Mike Zakrzewski’s cows neatly line themselves up by the hundreds in their pastures. They shift as the sun crosses the sky, following a narrow line of cool shade cast by their steel pasture-mates.

In 2016, 200 wind turbines started to spin across Holt County, some of them right in the middle of Zakrzewski’s fields.

“We farm and we graze right up to the turbine bases,” he says.

Zakrzewski is one of the farmers who signed easement contracts for the Grande Prairie Wind Farm, a massive 50,000-acre project tied to foreign ownership of Nebraska farmland – though not in the way you might expect.

For starters, that 50,000-acre project doesn’t use anywhere near that much ground, Zakrzewski said. Each wind turbine occupies roughly a 100-foot diameter, meaning that combined with access roads, the Grand Prairie Wind Farm actually uses closer to 125 acres.

And the project is actually owned by a very famous, very local name: Berkshire Hathaway Energy. Grande Prairie, as required by federal law, reported that a foreign entity – in this case likely a foreign investor – had an interest in the project.

Which is how Italy came to be listed as having a foreign interest of 50,000 acres of Nebraska farmland in an oft-cited – and oft-misunderstood – representation of how much land foreign countries or companies control here.

Countries like China and Canada do have deep connections to modern Nebraska agriculture. Canadian companies are heavily invested in wind energy. A state-owned Chinese company owns Syngenta, the massive seed company, and a different Chinese company owns Smithfield Foods, a meat processing behemoth.

But that involvement in Nebraska agriculture rarely extends to actual foreign ownership of ag land, according to a Flatwater Free Press analysis of data gathered by a University of Nebraska-Lincoln College of Journalism and Mass Communications data journalism class.

In fact, most foreign ownership of ag land has long been barred by law in Nebraska, though 795,000 acres of farmland were registered as having “foreign interest” in 2021.

“I think sometimes the perception of the public and sometimes the way it’s reported by the press is people

see that number and say, ‘Oh, my gosh, foreigners own 700,000 acres!’” said Rick Leonard, researcher for the Nebraska Legislature Agriculture Committee.

Very few of the interests reported are true ownership interests, Leonard said. Most are leases or – in the case of the wind development – easements, where the holder of that interest doesn’t own the land. The farmer still owns it.

“We’re all still farming and grazing that 50,000 acres, right up to the turbines and we share the access roads,” Zakrzewski said. “We’re using that land. It’s not tied up during the contract whatsoever.”

Nebraska’s foreign owners. In Flatwater Free Press’s analysis of the top 100 buyers of the past five years, only one foreign buyer appears: Blackshirt Feeders LP, a cattle feedlot in Dundy County partially owned by Canadian citizens.

Multinational companies headquartered in the U.S. also appear in both the top 100 lists for value and acres. Meta, the company that owns Facebook, is No. 4 in money spent after buying both ag and commercial land under the name Raven Northbrook. Google has bought land under the name Westwood Solutions. So has shipping giant ULINE under the name Duck Creek Ranch.

Several farming corporations on the top buyer lists also have operations in other countries.

But no corporations or individuals from China, or any country other than Canada, appeared among the top buyers in recent ag land sales data.

“It’s probably not the crisis of land ownership that sometimes the public perceives,” Leonard said, “but that doesn’t mean there couldn’t be other issues with foreign entities acquiring lesser than title interests.”

In Nebraska, most foreign interests in agriculture come in the form of easements and leases instead of direct land ownership.

Canada and Italy together make up about 93% of the total acres under foreign interest in Nebraska. The vast majority of those Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosures Act (AFIDA) filings are renewable energy projects located in Holt, Antelope and Banner counties.

“Many of these companies do have foreign roots,” said John Snow, a renewable energy project lawyer who practices in Nebraska. “Solar and wind have been a bigger part of those economies for some time, so they’ve gained some

expertise and then they come here to develop.”

Other companies, like the German-owned Monsanto, the Chinese-owned Syngenta Seeds and the Japanese-owned Kawasaki, own farmland around their production and manufacturing plants, as is allowed by Nebraska law that makes an exception for manufacturing and industrial uses.

Individual landowners from other countries and estates also hold some of Nebraska’s foreign interests.

In total, less than 2% of Nebraska’s land in acres has any reported foreign interest, in full ownership or leases.

Researchers consider AFIDA to be the best data source available for tracking foreign interest in ag land. But it doesn’t differentiate between types of interests.

“We have seen a pretty sharp increase in the number of acres in Nebraska on which people have come under the AFIDA disclosure reporting requirements – a very sharp increase,” Leonard said.

That increase is potentially misleading, because large scale leases for the development of wind farms account for almost all of the newly reported acres.

Nebraska’s Laws so Far

Nebraska is one of the few states that ban people who aren’t U.S. citizens from owning farmland, or leasing it for longer than five years, said Dave Aiken, a University of Nebraska-Lincoln agricultural law professor.

And Nebraska has banned foreign ownership since 1889, tied to a once-infamous name in the Midwest and Great Plains: William Scully.

Scully, an Irish citizen, began buying up giant plots of Midwest farmland, including in Nebraska, in the 1850s. He then leased the land, becoming one of the first foreign landlords in the state.

Scully became a U.S. citizen in 1900, only six years before he died. Citizenship was his response to states like Nebraska passing laws, many targeting him, that sought to limit or ban foreign ownership of farmland.

Nebraska’s longtime ban is far from airtight. There are exceptions, including for oil and gas companies, railroads, land purchased for manufacturing or industrial uses, and notably, land within 3 miles of a city or village, Aiken said.

The laws also lack specific enforcement mechanisms or penalties for holding land illegally.

“My concern is that (reports of foreign ownership) simply get filed, and no one is really designated to look

Rieger Family named 2023 Aksarben Farm Family Award Recipient

(Continued from Page 1)

Schmidt. In 1892, George and Alice purchased 160 acres from his father and built a house near the schoolhouse. They and their son Elmer moved into their new home in 1893. Elmer attended the Fischer school, high school, and business college in Falls City. They sold 40 acres of the farm, but Elmer returned to farm with his dad.

In 1916, Elmer married Christine America Sickel, daughter of Charles and Bessie Sickel, at her parents’ home. They built a new home close to Elmer’s parents and lived there throughout their married life. Elmer passed away in 1963, while George passed away in 1940 and Alice in 1949.

Elmer and Christine had a daughter named Minta Carol, born in 1922. She attended Fischer School, Falls City High School, and Ag College in Lincoln. On April 12, 1942, she married Earl Leonard Rieger. After living in Omaha for a year, they returned to the farm. In 1946, they moved into the George Fischer home with their children Leonard (1945), Sharon (1946), Carolee (1951) and Catherine (1951). All of them attended Fischer School and Falls City High School. The original school was a log cabin.

Leonard Rieger married Susan Dunn in

1969, and in 1975, they moved into the Elmer Fischer house. They had two children, David and Jennifer. Four generations have lived on the farm. This past May, Leonard unexpectedly passed away, leaving Susan on the farm and in the 107-year-old home they shared.

David and his wife Rachel are living in Mound City, MO, with their 12 children. Jennifer and her husband, Nathan Strecker, live with their two children in Falls City. Susan and Leonard have nine great-grandchildren. Leonard’s sister, Sharon Comer, resides in Omaha, and his other sister, Cathy Palmer, and her husband, Frank, live in Falls City. Carolee’s passed in 1986.

The Fischer School District # 27 was disbanded in 1975, with Earl and Minta Carol Rieger purchasing the land and schoolhouse. It was remodeled as a home for Mrs. Elmer Fischer. The schoolhouse was later bought by Kenny Thiltges and moved next door to his farm, where it’s used as a business for Bluff Valley Farm.

In 1971, a large dam was built, and the family enjoyed many years of hunting and fishing. In 1950, the barn burned down, but it was rebuilt soon after that. The barn and original farm home are scheduled to be torn down in 2024.

at it closer to see whether or not it’s something that should be questioned or challenged,” said State Sen. Steve Halloran, Republican of Hastings.

What about China?

In September, the Nebraska Legislature held a hearing to address concerns about foreign land ownership – concerns partly driven by the firestorm after a Chinese company bought North Dakota farmland near Grand Forks Air Force Base.

“We have ... more and more concern being expressed by private citizens all across the country about foreign ownership of U.S. real estate,” Halloran said.

Halloran, chair of the Ag Committee, said he hopes the interim study will inspire bills to update Nebraska’s laws in the next legislative session.

One of the committee’s driving concerns is the potential for foreign entities to acquire existing agribusinesses, Leonard said, like Chinese firm WH Group’s 2013 purchase of Smithfield Foods.

No Smithfield-owned properties in Nebraska have reported foreign influence through AFIDA.

In Nebraska, only one plot of ag land has reported Chinese interest: Syngenta Seeds owns 19 acres in Hamilton County, where it operates a seed corn facility. There’s also a 77-acre parcel in Douglas County reported as being owned by two people from Hong Kong, purchased in 2006.

ChemChina, a state-owned chemical company on the Department of Defense’s list of Chinese military companies, paid billions to acquire Syngenta Seeds, formerly a Swiss company, in 2017.

Across the country, about 384,000 acres have Chinese interest, including leases, which is less than 1% of total foreign-held acres, according to the USDA’s 2021 Foreign Holdings of U.S. Agricultural Land report.

Combining the parcels owned by Syngenta and the individuals from Hong Kong, Nebraska’s Chinese-affiliated land is only 0.005% of the national total.

When the wind farm comes to town

Letting Grande Prairie Wind Farm onto his property during the two-year construction phase for the project was chaotic, Zakrzewski said.

Now, the farmer occasionally waves to the technicians as they come and go. His cows continue with their lives as normal.

The wind project built new county roads to support its construction, and tax revenue from the project partially funded the construction of a

new high school.

All told, Zakrzewski said the work brought more than 500 workers to O’Neill.

“It’s a ridiculous amount of money into our local economy and continues to and will for the 20-year span of the project,” Zakrzewski said.

In Nebraska, wind projects are uniquely taxed based on a turbine’s capacity to produce electricity, rather than an assessor’s valuation, said Snow, the lawyer who negotiates Nebraska wind farm contracts.

Nebraska’s wind projects are generating about \$17.6 million in local tax revenue across the state, said John Hansen, president of the Nebraska Farmers Union.

Before Grande Prairie Wind Farm started spinning, it had to file a plan with the Holt County board to eventually decommission the turbines and pay a bond for the future tear-down.

That means at the end of his contract with Berkshire Hathaway Energy and its Italian interest, Zakrzewski’s pastures will be returned to their original condition.

Flatwater Free Press reporter Yanqi Xu contributed to the data analysis tied to this story.

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Jean Draney

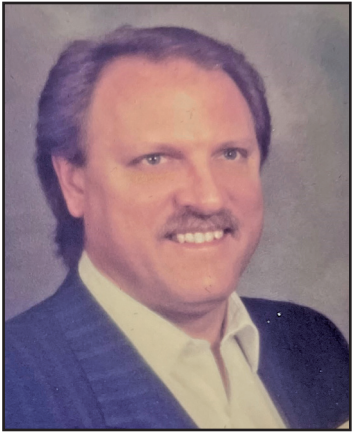
Jean Draney, 81, of Falls City, NE, passed away November 27, 2023 at Falls City. She was born January 12, 1942 at Falls City to Emmet and Lucille (Portrey) Draney. She married Larry Polanek and they were later divorced, she then married Helmet Shaffer and they were later divorced. Jean lived in various places over the years until moving back to Falls City in 1989 where she worked for Flairfold for six years and Sac & Fox Casino for many years, retiring in 2004. She was a member of Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church. Jean is survived by her daughters, Roxanne Melson and her husband Donald of Naperville, IL, Colleen Hoffman and her husband Richard of Indiana, Gina Polanek and

Cathy Polanek and her husband Lonnie Bahr both of Falls City, nine grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, brothers, Emmett Draney and Gary Portrey and a sister, Suzanne Shaw. A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Tuesday, December 5, 2023 at 11:00 AM at Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church with Father Jim Meysenberg as the presiding priest. Cremation followed and inurnment was held the next day at 2:00 PM at Falls City Catholic Cemetery. Open viewing and visitation took place on Monday from 9:00 AM until 7:00 PM. A Parish Rosary was recited one hour prior to service time at Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church.

Kelley Chic Anderson

Kelley Chic Anderson, 76, of Lincoln, Nebraska passed away on November 11, 2023, surrounded by family. He was born March 13, 1947 in Inglewood, California to Homer and Lucille (Kelley) Anderson. Kelley married Linda (Shafer) June 6, 1980 at Laguna Beach, CA. They made their home in Lincoln, NE. Kelley had a love for music that started in junior high when he was a band member of The Midnighters. He graduated Class of 1965 from Savanna High School in Anaheim, California. After graduation he performed as singer and guitar player for Him and the Others with a recorded song, Voodoo Blues. He couldn't imagine life without music. Sometime after, he started managing the Warehouse, a nightclub in Anaheim, CA. In 1974, Kelley moved his family to Falls City, NE where he was the manager of the Falls City Elks Club. He later moved to Lincoln, NE. and held several management positions in the restaurant industry, mentoring the young and making lasting friendships. Kelley and Linda owned and operated The

Roadhouse Bar and Grille in Lincoln from 2000 until they retired in 2013. They moved to Buckeye, Arizona and then later moved back to Lincoln to be with their family. Kelley had a big smile and sense of humor that brightened the room. He was always giving words of wisdom, whether it be from his Book of Anderson or a quote from a famous movie. He lived by his own words, "You're never too important to be nice to people." He is survived by his wife Linda of Lincoln, children: Shannon Anderson, Tiffany (Joe) Keithley, Joshua (Natalie) Anderson, Ryan (Holly) Rieschick and Lori Rieschick, Grandchildren: Hailey and Gabriel Lardizabal, Benjamin Dixon, Emerson, Tristan, Evan and Clayton Keithley, Maggy (Caleb) Nelson, Meg Rieschick, Macy (Jaxson) Balm, Great Grandchildren: Fletch Nelson, Jordy Nelson, Millie Schieffer, Baby Boy Dupuis due January 1. Kelley was preceded in death by his parents and brother Kevin Anderson. A Celebration of Life will be held in the afternoon on Sunday, January 14, 2024, from 12-4 at Rosie's Banquet Hall, Lincoln, NE.



Marie Diane (Fritz) Parsons

Marie Diane (Fritz) Parsons passed away Sunday, Nov. 26, at the Fred and Pamela Buffett Cancer Center in Omaha. She was 77 years old. Marie was born Feb. 17, 1946, the fifth of eight children of Edward Otto Fritz and Esther Marie (Biermann) Fritz. She spent an idyllic childhood at the family's farm just north of Verdon, Nebraska, where she learned to bake and do chores around the house and the farm. From an early age, Marie was an avid reader who could often be found in the "girls' room," curled up with a book in her hands. "I will definitely miss talking about which book we were each reading, and trading books back and forth," her daughter Catherine (Katie) Layton of Lincoln remembered. "I also always tell people to never watch 'Jeopardy' with Mom and think you can actually get an answer correct before her. She was a wealth of information."

Her mother's unexpected death in late 1961 forced Marie and her sister Martha to take on more family duties around the farmhouse. They helped their father raise their younger siblings — Lyle, Philip and Pamela — until Martha married and Marie graduated from Dawson-Verdon High School in 1964. She left for Lincoln that fall to attend the University of Nebraska. Marie attended the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, majoring in Elementary Education. For a time she lived with her oldest sister, Elaine Browne, and her family in Lincoln. Marie graduated from UNL in 1968. Marie's first job was teaching sixth graders in Racine, Wisconsin for the 1968-69 school year. By the end of that year, Marie's sister, Pam, remembers riding in Marie's Rambler back to Richardson County from Racine. Marie drove herself and Pam, with all Marie's earthly possessions — albums, books and other items — piled neatly in the car. Draped across the pile of albums was a wedding dress. Marie was engaged to marry Neal E. Parsons, a sergeant in the United States Army.

Marie married Neal on July 5, 1969 at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, six miles north of Falls City. Her wedding party received as a gift a charm bracelet with one charm on it. The charm read: "Neal and Marie 1969." The couple moved to Killeen, deep in the heart of Texas and next to Fort Hood (now Fort Cavazos), where Neal was stationed.

Within a year, the couple relocated to the Lincoln Air Park, where Marie taught for three years while Neal attended law school at the University of Nebraska. The Parsons left Lincoln in 1973, Neal with his J.D. and Marie with a master's degree in education. They welcomed the first of their four children to the family in August 1973 when Brent Parsons was born. Soon after, the young family moved to their home on Lane Street.

Five years later, as Marie was expecting her and Neal's second child, Marie took Brent to a scheduled doctor's appointment to discuss the coming baby, including the baby's name. Brent favored a character from his favorite television show, "Happy Days." "I wanted to call him 'Fonzie,'" Brent remembered. Brent didn't get his wish, but he did get a brother, Nathan, who was followed in relatively quick succession by sisters Catherine ("Katie") and Rebecca ("Becky"). The family's basement quickly became a play spot for all the Parsons children.

"She supported my love of jigsaw puzzles by giving up her space on the basement bar to serve as a full-time puzzle area," Brent remembered. Marie taught for 37 years in the Falls City Public Schools before retiring. She added another semester to that tenure when the district asked her back to fill an unexpected vacancy. She taught mainly at the Middle School — science, social studies and English.

She once took a trip with other teachers across Nebraska to learn more about Nebraska history. She worked in the same building as her brother, Louis Fritz of Verdon, and her sister-in-law Noala Fritz of Verdon before Noala moved to Falls City High School. "I know Marie loved to teach and wanted the students to share her love for history," Noala remembered. "My first year teaching Marie and I spent lunch together in the teachers lounge along with Cheryl Vice."

Those meetings helped result in Noala meeting, dating and eventually marrying Marie's younger brother Lyle. Marie was a member of:

- Delta Kappa Gamma, a sorority for female educators.
- The P.E.O. Sisterhood, an international women's organization.
- The Nebraska Association of Retired School Personnel.
- The Friends of the Library committee, which provided food and desserts for receptions at the library.
- Book Club at the library.
- The Dorcas Circle at St. Paul's.
- The Altar Guild at St. Paul's.
- The Calendar Girls monthly meeting group.

One of Marie's favorite activities was a weekly coffee date with two of her best friends, Mary Symonds and Lorna Simon.



She and Neal loved their travel over the last few years where they would go on cruises with two of their dear friends. They also loved entertaining family and friends at their house on the Lake of the Ozarks in Missouri. She was known around town for her cookies, pies and cakes. "All of my friends have her chocolate chip cookie recipe," daughter Becky wrote. But it was her peanut butter cookie recipe that helped Brent win his first 4-H purple ribbon. Later, Marie helped him with a fishing presentation. "'We' scrambled at the last minute to finish a presentation board of fishing lures before leaving town on vacation," Brent wrote. "Neither of us knew or cared about fishing, even a little bit."

Son Nathan remembers Marie always putting her family first. "When I had friends over, she always made sure they were well fed, usually with cookies," Nathan wrote. "She also made the best birthday cakes and would decorate them, however I asked, whether it was Boba Fett, Iron Man or the K.C. Royals." Over the last 15 years, Marie enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren. The youngest of those, Owen William Layton, celebrated his first birthday in mid-November with Marie and Neal in Lincoln. "I love how she loved us and her grandkids," Katie wrote. "My mom with Owen on her lap, reading him a book, will always be one of my favorite memories." Marie is survived by her husband, four children and seven grandchildren. They are: husband Neal E. Parsons, an attorney in Falls City; son Brent Parsons and his wife, Jill Parsons, of Lee's Summit, Missouri, and their children, Paige and Will; son Nathan Parsons and his wife, Michelle Sodoro, of Omaha, and their children, Pearl and Violet; daughter Catherine (Katie) Layton and her husband, Travis Layton, of Lincoln, and their son, Owen; and daughter Rebecca (Becky) Schwartz, and her husband, Maj. Adam Schwartz, of El Paso, Texas, and their children, Karsyn and Barrett. Other survivors include brothers Louis Fritz of Verdon and Philip Fritz of Verdon, and sisters Martha Owens of Elwood, and Pamela Fritz of Spencer, Louisiana, 15 nephews, 14 nieces, 18 grandnephews, and 15 grandnieces.

Marie was preceded in death by her parents, Edward and Esther Fritz; her siblings Eugene Fritz, Elaine (Fritz) Browne and Lyle Fritz; and a grandchild, Archie James Parsons. Her funeral was held on Friday, December 1, 2023 at 10:30 AM at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, six miles north of Falls City with Reverend Ken Humphrey officiating. Interment was in the church cemetery. The family received friends on Thursday from 7-8:00 PM at Dorr and Clark Funeral Home.

The family of Ruth Mullins would like to thank the over 90 family and friends that attended her Celebration of Life on November 20. We would also like to thank these family and friends who could not attend for keeping us in their thoughts and prayers.

A burial service will be held on Saturday, June 15, 2024 at the Maple Cemetery in Salem with a lunch afterwards. We hope to see many of you then.

Keith & Donna Mullins

SCHOOL MENU:



FALLS CITY SACRED HEART IRISH

Wednesday 6- Chicken Noodle, Soup, Peas, Peaches, Bread, Cinnamon Roll, Milk
Thursday 7- Taco Bowl, Cornbread, Corn, Pears, Frosted Graham, Milk
Friday 8- Pizza Quesadilla, Mixed Veggies, Applesauce, Cookie, Milk
Monday 11- Biscuits & Gravy, Egg Patty, Tri-Tater, Applesauce, Rice Krispy Treat, Milk
Tuesday 12- Crispito, Green Beans, Mandarin Oranges, Bread, Milk

FALLS CITY TIGER'S

Wednesday 6-
North & South School: Pizza, Lettuce Salad, Cherry Star Juice, Applesauce, Chocolate Pudding, Milk. **Middle School:** Pizza, Lettuce Salad, Mixed Fruit, Chocolate Pudding, Milk. **High School: Hot Lunch:** Pizza, Lettuce Salad, Fruit, Chocolate Pudding, Milk. **Combo Line:** Chicken Patty, Chips, Vegetable Bar, Fruit, Milk

Thursday 7-
North & South School: Cheeseburger, Sweet Potato Fries, Celery, Peaches, Milk. **Middle School:** Chicken Alfredo, peas & Carrots, Applesauce, French Bread, Milk. **High School: Hot Lunch:** Pulled Pork Sandwich, Baked Beans, Broccoli, Fruit, Milk. **Combo Line:** BBQ Wings, Seasoned Fries, Vegetable Bar, Fruit, Milk

Friday 8-
North & South School: Chicken Alfredo, Cooked Carrots, Broccoli, Pineapple, Breadstick, Milk. **Middle School:** Mrs. Brown Special: Cheeseburger, Sweet Potato Fries, Broccoli, Peaches, Milk. **High School: Hot Lunch:** Chicken Alfredo, Peas & Carrots, Fruit, French Bread, Milk. **Combo Line:** Burrito, Chips, Vegetable Bar, Fruit, Milk

Monday 11-
North & South School: Salisbury Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Corn, Mixed Fruit, Hot Roll, Milk. **Middle School:** Salisbury Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Broccoli, Pears, Hot Roll, Milk. **High School: Hot Lunch:** Country Fried Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Fruit, Hot Roll, Milk. **Combo Line:** Crisпитos, Curly Fries, Vegetable Bar, Fruit, Milk

Tuesday 12-
North & South School: Pancakes, Yogurt, Sausage Patty, Has Brown Patty, Wango Mango, Peaches, Milk. **Middle School:** Spaghetti, Peas & Carrots, Mixed Fruit, French Bread, Milk. **High School: Hot Lunch:** Chicken Flatbread, Au Gratin Potatoes, California Vegetables, Fruit, Milk. **Combo Line:** Pizza Slice, Chips, Vegetable Bar, Fruit, Milk

HUMBOLDT HTRS TITAN'S

Wednesday 6- Toasted Ham & Cheese Sandwich, Hot Vegetables, Fruit & Veggie Bar, Milk
Thursday 7- Chili Soup, Long Johns, Fruit & Veggie Bar, Carrots, Milk
Friday 8- Grilled Chicken/Bun, Mozzarella Cheese Sticks, Fruit & Vegetables Bar, Milk
Monday 11- Pizza Burgers, Hot Vegetables, Fruit & Veggie Bar, Milk
Tuesday 12- Chicken Fajita Wrap with all the Fixings, Lettuce, Fruit & Veggie Bar, Milk

What's on the Menu?

If you're a business & you'd like in this section, please call our office 402-245-2431.
If you're a customer and appreciate this section, PLEASE LET THE BUSINESSES KNOW!

THE BREAD BOWL

100 Oregon St., Hiawatha, KS
785-288-1480 • Delivery? NO
Lunch: Tue-Fri 10:30-1:30
Dinner: Wed 5-8

LUNCH SPECIALS
TUES: Philly Cheesesteak, Open-Faced Roast Beef, Southwest Grilled Turkey Sandwich
WED: Chicken Noodle Soup over Mashed Potatoes, Chicken Fried Chicken, Chicken Tenders and French Fries.
THUR: Meatloaf, Italian Grilled Cheese.
FRI: Cheeseburger with Fresh Fried Chips or Fries, Tenderloin with Fresh Fried Chips or Fries, Open-Faced Roast Beef, Broccoli Cheddar Cheese Soup in Bread Bowl.

DINNER SPECIALS
WEDNESDAY
Catfish/Grilled Chicken Breast
Chicken Alfredo/Lasagna
Loaded Baked Potato Soup in Bread Bowl

ELKS

1417 Stone St., Falls City, NE
402-245-3814 • Delivery? NO

Sunday Buffet
Open to Public 11-1:30
Fried chicken plus 2 meats, plenty of sides & desserts.

Monday: Open @ 5pm

Taco Tuesday
Open to Public 5-9pm

Wing Wednesday
5-9pm

SIX MILE CAFE

71380 639 Ave., Dawson, NE
402-855-9955 • Delivery? NO
Hours: M-F 10am-8pm

DAILY SPECIALS
MON: Chicken Fried Steak Sandwich with one side
TUES: Pulled Pork Sando
WED: Meatloaf with roll, side salad, veg, & Mashed Potatoes
THUR: Lasagna
FRI: LUNCH-Pollock or Catfish Fillets DINNER-@5pm Catfish Fillets or Prime Rib

**Pies & cheesecakes \$3.50*

ROGUE ST TACOS

715 Oregon St., Hiawatha, KS
785-740-2469 • Delivery? NO
Hours: 8am-2pm

**Drinks available on site \$1
Hot & Cold Brew in AM \$2-\$6

ALL TACOS \$5 Each:
-Nashville Hot Chicken Taco
-Pear & Pomegranate Taco
-Holiday Taco
-Cucumber Kimchi & Pork Taco
-Nach Taco
-Cubano Taco

TACO BOWL \$9.00
KID'S TACO \$4.50

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785-300-1720
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Dinner Hours: 5-8

PALMER CAFE

1021 F Street, Pawnee City, NE
402-852-2002 • Delivery? NO
Hours: 7am-2pm (Tues-Sun)
Closed on Mondays

SONIC

1305 Harlan St., Falls City, NE
402-245-3525 • Delivery? NO
Hours:
M-Th 7am-9pm, Fri 7am-9:30pm
Sat 8am-9:30pm, Sun 8am-8pm

NOVEMBER SPECIALS:

- New Blast Flavors:
Turtle Truffle Nut, Chocolate Chunk Brownie, Heath Candy
- Sonic Rechargers w/Red Bull:
Original Redbull, Sprite, Flavor-(Dragon Fruit, Twisted Lime or Blood Orange)
- Pickle Fries
- Garlic Butter Bacon Cheeseburger
- Hickory BBQ Cheeseburger

FIESTA BRAVA

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WEDNESDAY
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Barada Global Methodist Church
717 Rd./652 Blvd.
Worship Service 9:15 a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
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

Bethel Global Methodist Church
(70654 656 AVE) (1/2 mile N of Preston Corner)
Sunday: Worship, 11:00 a.m.; Sunday School, 10:00 a.m.; Wednesday Choir, 7:30 p.m.
Pastor Mike Hader
402-245-4584

Big Lake Baptist Church
(213 Lake Shore Drive)
Sunday: Fellowship breakfast, 8:45 a.m.; Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship Service, 10:30 a.m. Monday: Prayer and Share Monday, 8:30 a.m. Wednesday: Children's, Youth & Adult Bible Study, 7 p.m. We welcome you to all of our services.
Dick Lionberger, Intern pastor

Church of Christ
2701 Barada St.-245-5857
Sunday: Worship service, 10:30 a.m.; Bible study (classes for all ages), 9:30 a.m. Wednesday: Bible study for all ages, 6 p.m. "Preach the Word . . . for the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine." 2 Timothy 4:2-4.
Josh Maxwell, Preacher,
402-245-7148

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church LCMS (23rd & Barada)
402-245-3324
www.fallscitylcms.com
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 Third Thursday of every month: Lutheran Women's Missionary League, 2:00 p.m.
Kenneth Humphrey, Pastor

Corner Stone Baptist Church
(Independent & Fundamental)
N. Highway 73 to Prosser & Campbell PC, turn east (or right) Sunday: Sunday School Bible Hour, 9:30 a.m.; Worship Hours, 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.
Wednesday:Bible study and prayer time, 7 p.m. Lively Stone Kids Klub, (ages K-6 grade). We welcome you and your family to come worship the Lord with us.
Pastor Mike Dunleavy
402-245-2049 (home)
402-245-4245 (church)
http://www.csbc.vpweb.com

First Brethren Church
(1902 Lane St.)
Sunday: Worship Service, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday School, Nursery (or pre-school), Adult, 10:45 a.m.; Fellowship Hour, 6 p.m.
Don Shafer, Moderator
402-245-5209

First Christian Church Disciples of Christ
(1322 Stone Street)
Office Phone, 245-2398 or Parsonage, 245-2397
Sunday: Adult School, 9:30 am; Worship Service, 10:45am
http://www.facebook.com/fallscitycooperativeministry

First Church of Nazarene (1812 Wilson)
Sunday: Sunday School, 9:00-10:00 a.m.; morning worship, 10:00-11:00 a.m.
Rob Wheeler, Pastor
402-245-3755

First Presbyterian Church (PCUSA)
(20th & Harlan)
Sunday Worship: 11:00 a.m., Also online: YouTube
https://youtube.com/channel/UCQEAtHgT9I447TXaLIRS04g
Mondays: Diaper Closet, 4:00-6:00 pm. 2nd & 4th Wednesday: Mosaic Table 6:00-7:30 pm. Basement-Use East side door (Chairlift Accessible)
Richard Kent Martin, Pastor
402-245-2650

First United Methodist Church
(1700 Harlan St)
fumc@sentco.net
402-245-3281
Sunday: Worship Service, 11 a.m. Broadcast live on KTNC AM 11 and 107.1 FM. Adult Bible Study, 9:45 a.m., Lauri Beach, Pastor
Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors.

Good News Assembly of God
(600 Reavis St) 245-3977
Sunday: Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Worship, 10:40 a.m. Wednesday: Good News Kids, 6:30p.m. A variety of small group Bible studies are available for adults throughout the year. Listen to sermons online, www.mygncag.com
Tim Boatright, Pastor

Grace Bible Fellowship
(Highway 62, east of Stella)
Sunday: Sunday School, 9 a.m.; Church Service, 10:15 a.m.Web page:
www.gbfcchurch.com
Office: 402-883-2110
Dave Lockard, Pastor

Immaculate Conception (Rulo)
Sunday Confessions, 8 a.m.; Mass, 8:30 a.m.
Daily Mass schedule: Monday-Friday, 6:30 a.m.
Fr. Ben Rynearson, Pastor

Lighthouse Church of God
(2202 330th, White Cloud, KS) One quarter mile west of Iowa Tribal Com-plex
Sunday: Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Church Service, 10:30 a.m.
Rev. Charles J. Haney, Pastor
785-862-1107



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Prairie Union Baptist Church (Rural Shubert)
Sunday: Morning Worship 10:30 a.m., Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Please join us to worship the Lord. Communion is served the first Sunday of every month.
Dan Farley, Pastor

River of Hope Fellowship
27765 Hwy 159, PO Box 176
Forest City, MO 64451
Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m., Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. "In Christ There Is Always Hope."
Will Certain, Pastor
816-824-8566
Randy Seedorss, Pastor
816-507-7339

Shubert Christian Church
Sunday:Worship service, 9:30 a.m.; Fellowship time, 10:30 a.m.; Fellowship time, 10:45 a.m.
Rev. Dr. Dennis A. Fulbright, LTCPS

St. Anne's (Shubert)
Sunday Mass: First, third and fifth Sunday, 10:30 a.m.; second and fourth Sunday, 8:30 a.m.; confessions before Mass.
Fr. Kenneth F. Hoelsing, 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 Global 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
Mike Hader, Pastor

St. Paul's Lutheran Church LCMS
(6 miles North of Falls City)
402-245-4643
www.fallscitylcms.com
Sunday: Sunday School/Bible Study-9:30 am (Sept-May)
Divine Service-10:30 am with Holy Communion celebrated 2nd and 4th Sundays. Second Tuesday of the month:Dorcas Circle-7 pm First Wednesday of the month: LWML-9 am (August) then 2 pm (Sept-May)
Kenneth Humphrey, Pastor

St. Mary's (Dawson)
855-3595 or 245-4151
Weekend Mass: Saturday, 5:30 p.m.; first, third and fifth Sunday, 8:30 a.m.; second and fourth Sunday, 10:30 a.m. Daily Mass: Schedule varies, call rectory; confessions before Mass.
Fr. Kenneth F. Hoelsing, Pastor

St. Mary's (Arago)
Sunday: Confessions, 10:10 a.m.; Mass, 10:30 a.m.
Fr. Ben Rynearson, Pastor

Sts. Peter and Paul
(1820 Fulton)
Weekend Mass Times: Saturday, 5:00 p.m.; Sunday, 7 a.m. and 10 a.m. Daily Mass: Monday through Friday, 6:45 a.m. Services livestreamed daily on www.facebook.com/sppfc
Inquiry classes by appointment.
Sacrament of Penance: Saturday, 3:45-4:45p.m., or by appointment.
Fr. Jim Meysenburg, Pastor
402-245-3002

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church - ELCA
(20th and Towle Street)
402-245-3828
Sunday: 9a.m.-Sunday School (pre-school thru adult, during school year); 10a.m.-Worship; Wednesday: 6:30p.m.-Confirmation; 7:30p.m.-Choir Practice. Call for Youth, Bible Studies and Women's Group schedules. God's Work. Our Hands.

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 Global 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
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Kenneth Humphrey, Pastor

St. Thomas Episcopal Church (16th & Harlan)
www.stthomasfallscity.org
Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Worship, Holy Eucharist (coffee, tea and conversation follow worship) We invite you to worship with us at any of our services. We will pray for you, your friends and loved ones.

Stella Community Church
Sunday: Church service, with children's Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; adults Sunday School, 10:30 a.m.
John States, Pastor

The Four Mile Church (South of Humboldt)
Sunday: Church services, 9:00 a.m. A Reformed church endeavoring to teach and to practice Biblical principles of the Reformation.
Howard Blecha, Pastor

Riverside Fellowship
117 S 3rd St., Rulo, NE
Sunday Worship 9 a.m.
Fellowship & Sunday School Following Worship
David Showalter, Pastor

Valley Avenue Baptist Church 2023 Valley Ave.
Sunday: Sunday School, 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship Services, 10:45 a.m. Sunday Night Services: 6:00 p.m. Midweek: Wednesday Services, 7:00 p.m. Bible preaching, and a warm welcome. Building is handicap accessible.
Chad Berry, Pastor
Office phone: 245-3890
valleyavenue.org

Verdon Christian Church Disciples of Christ
(400 Walnut St.)
Sunday: Worship, Summer months: 7:00 p.m. Winter months: 6:00 p.m. Find us on Facebook @ VerdonChristianChurch
verdonchristianchurch@gmail.com
Rev. Daniel Spencer
Call or text: 402-801-0374

Zion United Church of Christ
(4 1/2 miles East of Falls City, 3 miles North and 1 1/2 miles East) 65763 709 Rd, Falls City Office: 245-2398
Sunday: Worship service, 9 a.m.; Communion, first Sunday of each month. First Wednesday of each month, Zion Women's Fellowship meeting
All are welcome to this friendly church in the country.
http://www.facebook.com/fallscitycooperativeministry



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Dr. Danelle Bauman-Cromer
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PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Richardson, Nebraska will meet weekly for a regular meeting on Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m., Room 202 in the Richardson County Courthouse for the purpose of conducting any and all county business that will come before the board. The agenda for the meetings are kept continuously current and are available for public inspection at the office of the Richardson County Clerk, Courthouse, Room 203, 1700 Stone Street, Falls City, NE during normal working hours. The agenda is closed 24 hours prior to the start of the meeting and is posted on the Commissioner's Meeting Room door, the 1st floor lobby and the lower level lobby of the Courthouse and also on the Richardson County website www.co.richardson.ne.us.

The Board of Equalization of the County of Richardson, Nebraska meet when times may necessitate for the purpose of conducting any and all business that requires the action of the County Board of Equalization. The agenda for the meetings are kept continuously current and are available for public inspection at the office of the Richardson County Clerk, Courthouse, Room 203, 1700 Stone Street, Falls City, NE during normal business hours. The agenda is closed 24 hours prior to the start of the meeting and is posted on the Commissioner's Meeting Room door, the 1st floor lobby and the lower level lobby of the Courthouse and also on the Richardson County

Mary L. Eickhoff
Richardson County Clerk
ZNEZ

NOTICE OF INFORMAL PROBATE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF RICHARDSON COUNTY, NEBRASKA

**Estate of James W. Crouch, Deceased
Estate No. PR23-57**
Notice is hereby given that on November 14, 2023, in the County Court of Richardson County, Nebraska, the Registrar issued a written statement of Informal Probate of the Will of said Deceased and that Rita Johansen whose address is 66082 703 Trail, Rulo, Nebraska 68431, has been appointed Personal Representative of this estate. Creditors of this estate must file their claims with this Court on or before January 22, 2024 or he forever barred.

Bethany K. Godemann
Clerk of the County Court
Richardson County Court
Courthouse
1700 Stone St. Rm 205
Falls City, NE 68355

Michael R. Dunn, #16825
Tracy A Burns, #25398
Halbert & Dunn, L.L.C.
111 East 17th Street
Post Office Box 44 7
Falls City, Nebraska 68355-0447
Phone: (402) 245-4486

22-29-6
ZNEZ

NOTICE In the County Court of Richardson County, Nebraska Estate of Danny R. Noll, Deceased Estate Number PR23-55

Notice is hereby given that a Petition for Formal Probate of Will, Determination of Heirs, and Appointment of Angie Wisdom as Personal Representative has been filed and is set for hearing in the County Court of Richardson County Nebraska, located at 1700 Stone Street, Falls City, Nebraska 68355, on December 18, 2023 at 11:15 a.m. or as soon thereafter as may be heard by the Court.

Angie Wisdom, Petitioner
913 McLean Street
Falls City, NE 68355

Dylan L. Handley (24152)
Handley Law Office
217 E 18th Street
Falls City, NE 68355
Phone: (402) 245-3088
Fax: (402) 245-2664
Email:
dylanlhandley@hotmail.com
Attorney for Petitioner

29-6-13
ZNEZ

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS City of Falls City, NE Street Improvements - 2023

City of Falls City will receive and accept Bids through QuestCDN.com via their electronic VirtuBid™ online bid service. A "public" virtual bid opening will be held December 19, 2023, at 2:00 pm utilizing a web conferencing application.

The Project consists of the following Work:
Approximately 1,440 SY of concrete pavement replacement, 746 TN of asphalt replacement, 903 TN of asphalt overlay, and all associated removals, milling, rim/valve adjustments, seeding, and blanketing.

Contract documents, specifications and plans are on www.questcdn.com for a fee of \$22.00 (non-refundable). If submitting a bid, a fee of \$42 (non-refundable) will be required. Once logged into the site, insert eBidDoc project number 8843149 (Falls City, Nebraska; Street Improvements - 2023).

The Issuing Office for the Bidding Documents is: Olsson, 601 P Street Suite 200, Lincoln, NE. Questions should be directed to Brian Schuele, Project Engineer, at bschuele@olsson.com.

There will be a pre-bid meeting held on Thursday, December 7th, 2:00 pm at the city office, 2307 Barada Street.

Bid security shall be furnished in accordance with the Instruction to Bidders. The check(s) or bond(s) shall be made payable to Owner as security that the bidder(s) to whom the award(s) are made will enter into contract to build the improvements bid upon and furnish the required bonds and insurance.

The Owner reserves the right to accept any bid which it deems most advantageous to the Owner, and to reject any or all bids submitted and to hold as many bids as it desires for consideration for a period of sixty days after the bids are open.

For all further requirements regarding bid submittal, qualifications, procedures, and contract award, refer to the Instructions to Bidders that are included in the Bidding Documents.

**This Advertisement is issued by:
Owner: City of Falls City, NE
By: Anthony Nussbaum**

29-6-13
ZNEZ

NOTICE OF COMPLAINT

Notice is hereby given through publication, after unsuccessful notice by certified mail, that AUSTYN BECK, organizer of CN Grey, LLC, owner of real property at Lots 5 and 6, Block 92, Original Town, City of Falls City, Richardson County, Nebraska; Lots 7, 8 and 9, Block 198, Original Town, City of Falls City, Richardson County, Nebraska and West 50 feet of Lots 9, 10, 11 and 12, Block 6, Gilligan's Addition, City of Falls City, Richardson County, Nebraska has had a lawsuit filed against him in the District Court of Richardson County Nebraska by the City of Falls City, Nebraska.

The object and prayer of said Complaint is for the abatement of nuisance condition which exist on the real estate as above-described, and if not abated by the defendant within 30 days following entry of an order herein that plaintiff be authorized to abate the nuisance by demolition of the buildings and return of the property to grade and that the cost of such abatement be a judgment herein against the defendant and a lien upon the real estate.

YOU have thirty (30) days from December 13, 2023 in which to enter your response to this Complaint or judgment will be entered against you.

GOVERN YOUR ACTIONS ACCORDINGLY.

City of Falls City, Nebraska
PLAINTIFF

By: Tracy A. Burns
Deputy City Attorney
Halbert & Dunn, LLC
111 E. 17th Street
Falls City, NE 68355

29-6-13
ZNEZ

LUSTGARTEN DUDZINSKI, LLC. 10404 Essex Court, Suite 100 Omaha, NE 68114 (402) 991-0771

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

The following described property, to-wit:

NORTH 10 FEET OF LOT 22, AND ALL OF LOTS 23 AND 24, BLOCK 189, ORIGINAL TOWN OF FALLS CITY, RICHARDSON COUNTY, NEBRASKA,

COMMONLY KNOWN AS 301 EAST 10TH STREET, FALLS CITY, NEBRASKA 68355

will be sold at public auction on January 23, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. to the highest bidder for cash. The auction will be held outside the District Court Courtroom, Richardson County Courthouse, 1700 Stone Street, Falls City, NE. 68355.

NEBRASKA ENERGY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, Plaintiff

By: /s/ Michael B. Lustgarten
Michael B. Lustgarten - #18602
LUSTGARTEN DUDZINSKI, LLC 10404 Essex Court, Suite 101 Omaha, NE 68114 (402)991-0771
mlustgarten@ldomahalaw.com
29-6-13-20-27
ZNEZ

NOTICE OF AMENDMENT AND RESTATEMENT OF ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

Pursuant to the provisions of the Nebraska Nonprofit Corporation Act, this Notice of Amendment and Restatement of the Articles of Incorporation of Bethel Global Methodist Church, formerly Bethel United Methodist Church, is submitted as follows:

1. The amendments revoke the original Articles of Incorporation and any amendments thereto, in their entirety, and substitute the Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation filed with the Nebraska Secretary of State on November 27, 2023.
2. The amendments further change the name of the corporation from "Bethel United Methodist Church" to "Bethel Global Methodist Church".
3. The date of the adoption of the Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation by the Board of Directors and the Members was November 19, 2023.

BETHEL GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH
formerly known as
BETHEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Dean Stevens, President
70225 656 Avenue
Falls City, Nebraska 68355

Its Attorneys:
Halbert & Dunn, L.L.C.
111 East 17th Street
Falls City, NE 68355
(402) 245-4486

6-13-20
ZNEZ

The Nemaha Natural Resources District Board of Directors will hold their regular meeting at 4:00 p.m. Thursday, December 14, 2023, at the NRD headquarters in Tecumseh, Nebraska. Committee meetings, if necessary, begin at 3:30 p.m. An agenda, which is being kept current at the office, 62161 Hwy 136, Tecumseh, NE 68450.

ZNEZ

NOTICE OF MEETING CITY OF HUMBOLDT, NEBRASKA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, a meeting of the City Council of the City of Humboldt, Nebraska will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 12, 2023, at the City Hall, 330 E. Square St., Humboldt, Nebraska which meeting will be open to the public. An Agenda for such meeting, kept continuously current, is available for public inspection at the office of the City Clerk.

ZNEZ

NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION All Things Accounted For LLC 64526 709 Trail Salem, NE 68433

Notice is hereby given that Brooke M. Lotter has formed a limited liability company under the Nebraska Uniform Limited Liability Company Act.

1. The name of this limited liability company is All Things Accounted For LLC.

2. The Initial Designated Office Address is 64526 709 Trail, Salem, NE 68433, and its Registered Agent is Brooke M. Lotter, 64526 709 Trail, Salem, NE 68433.

3. The limited liability company shall engage in any lawful business for which a limited liability company may be organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska. The period of duration of the Company is perpetual existence from the date the Certificate of Organization was filed with the Secretary of State on November 29, 2023. Affairs are to be managed by the Members authorized by the Certificate of Organization and the Operating Agreement.

Handley Law Office
Dylan L. Handley (24152)
217 E. 18th Street
Falls City, Nebraska 68355
Telephone: (402) 245-3088
Fax: (402) 245-2664
Email:
dylanlhandley@hotmail.com

6-13-20
ZNEZ

Public Meeting Notice Board of Education District #70

Notice is hereby given that a regular board meeting of the Board of Education of the Humboldt Table Rock Steinauer School District #70 will be held at 7:00 PM on Monday, December 11th, 2023 in the Music Room. The purpose of such meeting is to do regular business. A current agenda is available at the Superintendent's Office.

Scott Ogle
Board President
ZNEZ

Agenda for the Board of Education Meeting, 7:00 PM, Monday, December 11, 2023 at the Central Office at Falls City Middle School

The agenda sequence is provided as a courtesy. The board reserves the right to consider items in the sequence it deems appropriate. Therefore, we encourage patrons to attend the meeting from the beginning.

1.0 Business Items:
1.1 Roll Call, Open Meetings Act Notice, and Pledge of Allegiance
1.2 Approval of Absences
1.3 Verification of Advanced Publication
1.4 Approval of Agenda
1.5 Approval of Previous Minutes
1.6 Public Comment
1.7 Approval of Treasurer's Report
1.8 Approval of Claims

2.0 Informational Items/Reports:
2.1 Staff/Student/Organization Reports: 1) NSCAS State Assessment Results, Meghan Robeson; Special Education Update, Wendy Craig
2.2 Principal Reports:
2.3 Board President's Report:
2.4 Superintendent's Report:
2.4a Legislative & Organization Update
2.4b School Improvement & Strategic Plan Update
2.4c District Resources / Budget
2.4d Policy Governance
2.4e Building & Grounds Update
2.4f Superintendent Meetings
2.4g Board Member Meetings
2.4h Other
2.5 Board Committee Reports:

3.0 Old/New Action Items:
3.1 Final Reading on Policy Reviews and Revisions
3.2 Superintendent Contract
3.3 Other

4.0 Executive Session: Requested by member, approved by majority, as per statute

5.0 Adjournment and Next Meetings: The next regular monthly Board of Education meeting is scheduled for January 8, 2024 at 7:00 P.M. in the Central Office in Falls City Middle School. Regular and special meeting agendas are kept in the Office of the Superintendent. Board Committee meetings TBD.

ZNEZ

NOTICE

A total of 125 cases will be heard by the Board in December 2023. The following case(s) sentenced in Richardson County will be seen by the Board of Parole.

December 22, 2023 – 8:30 a.m.

Omaha Correctional Center,
Omaha, Nebraska
Barnett, Travis 215731
Forgery 1st Degree
Pos Cntrl Sub Except Marijuana
Tampering
Viol of Financial Trans Device

ROSALYN COTTON, CHAIR
NEBRASKA BOARD OF
PAROLE
ZNEZ

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

RICHARDSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS NOVEMBER 22, 2023 CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Richardson County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Caverzagie at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, November 22, 2023. Roll call was answered by Karas, Sickel and Caverzagie. The Invocation was given by Chairman Caverzagie and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Karas. Chairman Caverzagie announced that the open meeting laws have been posted at the entrance to the meeting room.

Motion was made by Sickel to approve the minutes of the November 15, 2023, meeting as presented. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Sickel to approve the agenda as posted. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. The agenda is posted at the Richardson County Courthouse in the First Floor Lobby, the Lower-Level Lobby and on the Commissioner's Meeting Room door on the 2nd Floor and on the Richardson County website www.co.richardson.ne.us.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Steve Darveau, Jr., Highway Superintendent updated the Board on the routine road and bridge maintenance being done this past week.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Sickel to recess the regular meeting agenda and go into an executive session at 9:20 a.m. with Highway Superintendent, Steve Darveau, Jr. and Samantha Scheitel, County Attorney, to discuss possible litigation and for the protection of the public interest. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Sickel to close the executive session at 9:35 a.m. and return to the regular meeting agenda. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER

Sheriff Hardesty updated the Board on the routine business within the Law Enforcement Center this past week.

Motion was made by Sickel to enter into an agreement with Animal Health Center, PC for short term boarding services for dogs and cats. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. (Resolution Book 27, Page 53)

COOPER NUCLEAR STATION

Representatives from the Nebraska Public Power District Cooper Nuclear Station requested to meet with the Board to make introductions and answer any questions the Board would have regarding the emergency preparedness off-site procedures and agreement. Those representatives were Kim Tanner and Josh Unruh.

SOUTHEAST NEBRASKA COMMUNITY ACTION COUNCIL

Katy Gildersleeve and Shannon McQueen, representatives from the Southeast Nebraska Community Action HeadStart program in Falls City presented to the Board the Annual report of the program.

CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER Courthouse Roof

A change order, #1, with Skyline Construction, Inc. for the Courthouse roof replacement was reviewed and will be considered at a later meeting.

Public Defender Policy Review Board Recommendation

A notice was published for the receipt of applications to serve as the Richardson County Public Defender on a contractual basis to be reviewed and considered by the Richardson County Public Defender Policy Review Board. The Policy Review Board submitted to the County Board of Commissioners their recommendation for this contract to be entered into with Nestor & Mercure Law Office of Tecumseh, NE. Their proposal is for \$108,000 for 2024, \$110,00 for 2025, \$112,000 for 2026, \$114,000 for 2027 and \$116,000 for 2028.

Motion was made by Sickel to draft a contract with Nestor & Mercure Law Office to serve as Public Defenders. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

Subdivision

The subdivisions presented were reviewed and will be considered after further details and information are submitted.

CLAIMS

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

CMC, serv	5000.00
Consolidated Management Co., serv	54.25
DAS State Accounting, serv.....	485.50
Falls City Journal, adv	228.37
Falls City Utilities, serv	80.00
Hy-Vee, supp	24.84
Kawres, supp	87.50
Kennedy, Kaytlyn, reimb	377.59
Koch's Auto Service, serv..	126.66
Lincoln National Life, life ins	1174.29
Medica, ins	46574.27
OPD Business Solutions, s upp	139.96
Quill, supp	141.89
Richardson County EMA Petty Cash, reimb	290.78
Richardson County Sheriff Petty Cash, reimb	649.57
True Value, supp	18.99
Unifirst, serv	72.55
Wolfe's Printing, supp	56.00
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$55,583.01

ROAD & BRIDGE FUND

Black Hills Energy, serv	65.81
CCS, Inc., serv	862.00
Diversified Drug Testing, serv	325.00
Farm & City Supply, supp ..	551.43
Farmer's Repair, supp	10955.87
Koch's Auto Service, supp	1475.70
Martin Marietta Materials, mmrock	22600.56
NPPD, serv	136.42
Norris Quarries, rock	5670.89
OPPD, serv	64.70
Operation & Expense Account, reimb	62.72
Rulo, Village of, serv	25.00
Safety-Kleen, supp	387.51
Sapp Bros., fuel	5799.14
Truck Center Companies, s upp	727.21
Unifirst, supp	40.41
TOTAL ROAD & BRIDGE FUND	\$49,750.37

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Karas to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 a.m. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. The Board will meet again on Wednesday, November 29, 2023, in the Commissioner's Meeting Room, Courthouse, Falls City. The agenda is kept current at the County Clerk's Office.

John Caverzagie, Chairman
Mary L. Eickhoff, County Clerk
ZNEZ

PUBLIC NOTICES & MINUTES

NIKKI@FCJOURNALNET

CHELSEI@FCJOURNAL.NET

PUBLIC NOTICE

VILLAGE OF RULO

**Village of Rulo
Board of Director's Meeting
Agenda
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER
8TH, 2023 at 6:00 pm**

Meeting called to order at 6:00pm by Board Chairperson, Becky Simmonds. Roll call – Present: Mandy Morehead, Regina Barber, Hannah Barber, Becky Simmonds and Clerk, Rachel Jean – Absent: one vacant board seat.

Motion made by M. Morehead to approve October meeting minutes. Motion seconded by H. Barber – Roll call – AYE: M. Morehead, H. Barber, R. Barber and B. Simmonds. Motion carried.

Per Neb. Statute 32-569, B. Simmonds moved to present candidate Kraig Coonce to fill the vacant board member seat. Roll Call – AYE: M. Morehead, R. Barber; NAY: H. Barber. No majority obtained. Vote continued with Ronnie Timothy. Roll call – AYE: H. Barber, R. Barber, M. Morehead – Majority vote obtained. R. Timothy then took the oath to fill the seat.

Shannon Homeyer attended to provide an update on the standing of the FEMA grant. Cold patch repair on Elm St has been completed along with the required bathroom updates. Discussion was had regarding the fish shack owned by Scott Barber. The city must decide what to do with building. After board discussion and citizen input, the board would like more information regarding lease options. No action taken.

Rachel Jean updated the board on the meter reading equipment. All equipment is in place and currently working. Training is scheduled with a rep from the meter company for training on the application we will use.

Board discussion and citizen input regarding ordinances. The Board scheduled a meeting for November 12, 2023 at 2PM to further discussion.

Various road issues were discussed. Areas to address first will be Martin Street, N 1st Street and correcting some drainage issues at the 8th St/Hwy 159 intersection. Estimate for work provided by Steve Johansen. M. Morehead made a motion to accept the bid provided. Motion seconded by H. Barber – Roll call – AYE: M. Morehead, H. Barber, R. Timothy, B. Simmonds – Abstained: R. Barber

The board opened one sealed bid for the old fire truck. Truck sold to Wes Hullman for \$1000. Motion to accept the bid made by M. Morehead and seconded R. Barber. Roll call – AYE: M. Morehead, R. Barber, H. Barber, R. Timothy, B. Simmonds. Motion carried.

R. Jean updated the Board on the status of the post office. The RFP approved last month was submitted to the real estate company representing USPS. The real estate company representative replied that his contact has changed at USPS and he's waiting to be connected to the new contact.

A quote was reviewed by the board for the rental of tables and chairs for the Soup Supper/Chili Cookoff and a request for change made. Motion made by H. Barber to approve the quote and request for change. Motion seconded by R. Barber – Roll call – AYE: H. Barber, R. Barber, R. Timothy, M. Morehead and B. Simmonds. Motion carried.

Board reviewed proposed job description for part-time maintenance employee. Ad will be placed in the Falls City Journal to advertise for the position.

R. Barber presented issues discussed with citizens regarding water pressure concerns. S. Johansen explained that installation of a pump is expensive presents conflict on determining where and who gets the benefit. R. Barber will reach out to Rieschick Drilling to see if she can get a quote.

The Board reviewed Drawdown #6 from SENDD for the CDBG grant. There are some concerns regarding some outstanding issues

dirt work and seeding issues. The Board would like more information regarding what was required to be completed under grant before approving. Item will be added to meeting agenda for further review on November 12, 2023.

The Board reviewed need for mobile data plan for the tablet for meter reading equipment. R. Jean explained it can be worked around not to have one at this time by using available WiFi at the Library. No action taken.

The Board reviewed a purchase request to approve a \$60 fee for setting up the tablet for the water meter reads. R. Barber made a motion to approve the request. Motion seconded by M. Morehead. Roll call – AYE: R. Barber, M. Morehead, R. Timothy, NAY: H. Barber. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed a purchase request from R. Barber for the purchase of 60 metal chairs with a storage rack for the auditorium. Motion made by H. Barber to approve the purchase and seconded by M. Morehead. Roll call – AYE: H. Barber, M. Morehead, R. Timothy, B. Simmonds – Abstained: R. Barber

M. Morehead updated the board on planning for the Community Christmas Tree and Winter Wonderland. The tree has been donated and some help will be needed for the setup with lighting at dusk on November 26, 2023. Winter Wonderland scheduled for December 9, 2023 with pictures with Santa at 6:30PM. M. Morehead is working with local businesses for donations.

The Board reviewed the Year-End Certification for the Street Superintendent under Resolution 2023-11-01. Motion made by M. Morehead to approve the Resolution and seconded by H. Barber. Roll call – AYE: M. Morehead, H. Barber, R. Timothy, B. Simmonds, R. Barber

Rick Lemerond reported that lawn mower was still at Merz Farm Equipment. The Board advised that it should be picked up and then we can place an ad for bids at a later date to sell it and to obtain estimates for a replacement.

Claims were reviewed and motion was made by M. Morehead to approve claims. Motion seconded by R. Barber. Roll call – AYE: M. Morehead, R. Barber, R. Timothy, H. Barber and B. Simmonds Motion carried.

GENERAL	
Home Lumber, supplies	\$54.47
OPPD, services	\$838.69
Hamilton Recycling, services.....	\$50.00
SNC, services.....	\$50.89
Farm & City, supplies	\$26.00
Steve Johansen (JDT), services.....	\$3700.00
Mandy Morehead, petty cash.....	\$300.00 for soup supper
Regina Barber, chairs	\$300.00
Payroll	\$2328.91

CEMETERY	
WBN Lawn Care, services.....	\$660.00

WATER	
FC Utilities, services.....	\$2629.55
NE Public Health Lab, services.....	\$267.00
Rachel Jean, reimb. for postage	\$132.00

R. Jean reported the gWorks conversion to the cloud portal has been a process. Statements went our later than expected and there are some issues to address. Still working on converting financial information.

K. Coonce reported no concerns with cemetery. Funding for next fiscal year is in place.

R. Jean reported October Keno has been received. No further discussion on use of funds at this time.

K. Coonce reported that the Fire Department could be eligible for a few grants to upgrade windows and for new radios and will keep the board updated as information is gathered.

Motion for adjournment made by H. Barber and seconded by M. Morehead. Roll call- AYE: H. Barber, M. Morehead, R. Barber. R. Timothy and B. Simmonds – Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 8:11pm.

ZNEZ

Classified Advertsing

Advertise Today! \$8.25 per column inch/box classifieds
Line Ads \$1.50 per line - Cards of Thanks .75¢ per line



To advertise with the Falls City Journal e-mail Chelsie at chelsie@fcjournal.net or call 402-245-2431. Advertising deadline is Friday BY NOON for the following week's paper.
The Falls City Journal • In Print & E-Edition • 402-245-2431 • www.fcjournal.net • No Late Submissions-Deadline Friday BY Noon.
The Falls City Journal assumes no responsibility for Employment Opportunity, earn-at-home or other similar ads which are placed in our paper by firms outside our trade area. This newspaper has neither the resources nor the time to investigate the reliability of such offers.

HELP WANTED

Looking to grow with a company, Vantec is that company.

Vantec, a custom plastic injection molding company located in Falls City, Nebraska is looking to fill Key Technical positions. The open positions include Setup Technician, Process Technician, and Maintenance Technician. If you have Mechanical or Electrical knowledge/experience, Vantec will train for these key positions. Vantec offers a competitive wage and benefits package and an opportunity to be part of a team that supports many industries.

Vantec requires either High School Diploma or GED.
If interested in applying for this position, go to:
Vantec Falls City
503 Business Parkway, Falls City NE 68355

48-51

Service Manager

Bruna Implement is a well-established Case IH farm equipment dealership that has over a 75- year history of providing the best products and service to our customers in Northern Kansas and Southern Nebraska.

Job Title: Service Manager
Status: Full-time
Location: Humboldt, NE

If you are interested, please visit our website at <https://www.brunaimplementco.com/> to apply or contact Brady Bruna at brady.b@brunaic.com or call **402-862-3251 for more information.**

47-50

JOB OPENING

Nemaha County Hospital has the following opening:
Registered Nurse: “Come collaborate with a multi-disciplinary team to provide quality care, analyze physical and emotional needs, improve the lives of others, and utilize a wide variety of nursing skills.” Full-time. 12-hour hour shifts, working every third weekend. Must have a current Nebraska RN license. \$10,000 sign-on bonus!

Apply online at <https://nemahacountyhospital.applicantpool.com/jobs/>
Call Codi Sailors 402-274-6121 with any questions.
EOE Employer/Disabled.

NEMAHA COUNTY HOSPITAL
2022 13th STREET - AUBURN, NE

48-49

Veterinary Inspector

The Nebraska Department of Agriculture has vacancies for contract Veterinary Inspector at the 3- State Stockyards Inc, located in Falls City, Nebraska. Interested veterinarians, licensed and accredited in Nebraska, should respond by telephone or mail no later than December 8th, 2023 to:

Animal and Plant Health Protection
PO Box 94787
Lincoln, NE 68521
(402) 471-6896

49

THE VILLAGE OF RULO IS LOOKING FOR A PART-TIME CITY MAINTENANCE EMPLOYEE.

15-25 hrs/week - \$14/hr. Snow Removal and some machinery experience preferred. Application and full job description available by contacting Village Clerk, Rachel Jean Phone: 407-949-1495 or Email: ruloclerk@outlook.com. Applications due December 11, 2023.

49

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!

CARD OF THANKS

I wish to thank everyone who remembered my 90th birthday. You all made it “Special” for me. I received cards from coast to coast. Thank you!!
Lee Ferguson
49P

FOR RENT

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

WANTED

AMERICAN WALNUT. Buying standing walnut timber, 25 or more. Call 816-232-6781 in St. Joseph for details.

WANTED

47-tf

**Career Position
CHR/SDPI Coordinator**

The Sac and Fox Nation has an immediate opening for a full time Director/Coordinator position (working four 10 hour days Monday – Thursday) with attractive benefits package offered. This position, officed in Reserve, KS will be responsible for directing the two separate but interrelated programs: Community Health Representative (CHR) and the Special Diabetes Program for Indians (SDPI). This supervisory position will provide high quality service to the members of the Sac and Fox Nation while meeting specific agency program requirements. Knowledge, supervisory skills, and abilities required include: Knowledge of principles and practices of project/program administration and financial management; ability to create, read, and amend budgets; ability to establish and maintain effective relationships with the general public, staff and officials, and outside agency personnel; proficient in computer use to include word processing and collecting/managing data using spreadsheets and databases. \$16 to \$22 per hour depending upon qualifications. This position requires a high school diploma or GED certificate and one (1) or more years of prior medical background experience and you must be able to attend required CHR training when necessary to fulfill the grant requirements. Must have a valid driver's license. Native preference does apply. Application form and a more complete job description can be picked up at the Sac and Fox Tribal Administrative Office, 305 North Main Street, Reserve, KS or requested via phone at (785)742-7471 Ext 2500 or via email julie.simmons@sacandfoxks.com . Submit application form, cover letter, and resume to employment@sacandfoxks.com or fax to (785) 742-3785 no later than 2 PM Thursday 01/04/2024.

49-50

**Truck Stop Assistant
Manager - Sac and Fox
Nation - Full Time Position**

The Sac and Fox Nation has an opening for a full time Truck Stop Assistant Manager with full BCBS & other attractive benefits offered. Officed at the Truck Stop 1324 US Hwy 75, Powhattan, KS, this position is responsible for the overall operation of the Truck Stop. Must be able to work days, nights, and weekends. This position requires six (6) months previous experience in a similar position that included supervisory responsibilities, inventory, ordering, reports and promoting superior customer relations. Must have a valid driver's license. Native American preference is given. Tentative pay range \$15 to \$18 per hour depending upon qualifications. For additional information call Theresa Armbruster 402-245-1236. Application and full job description available at the Sac and Fox Admin Office, 305 North Main St. Reserve, KS 68434 or (785)742-7471 Ext 2500 or julie.simmons@sacandfoxks.com . May submit application, resume, & cover letter by mail at the address above or in person or email to employment@sacandfoxks.com. Deadline to apply 12-28-2023 at 2pm.

48-49

Water Quality Coordinator

The Sac and Fox Nation has an immediate full time opening for a Water Quality Coordinator. The Coordinator is responsible for conducting surface water sampling, data assessment, research, developing and writing monitoring strategies, quality assurance project plans and grants. The applicant must have computer skills, ability to work outdoors and with community, a degree in Science or related field is preferred. Experience may be substituted. Must possess a valid driver's license. \$17 to \$20 per hour. Working four 10 hour days: 7:30 am to 5:30 pm, Monday - Thursday. May require travel and training. Indian preference does apply. Application and information available at the Sac and Fox Admin Office, 305 North Main St. Reserve, KS 68434 or (785)742-7471 Ext 2500 or julie.simmons@sacandfoxks.com . May submit in person or email to employment@sacandfoxks.com. Deadline to apply 12-28-2023 at 2pm.

48-49

A SUBSCRIPTION TO THE JOURNAL MAKES A GREAT GIFT

CHELSEI@FCJOURNAL.NET - ADVERTISING
NIKKI@FCJOURNAL.NET - STORIES
BRIAN@FCJOURNAL.NET - SPORTS



Kaitlyn Kirkendall sets a pick for sister Ashleigh Kirkendall on Friday night.

Rockets explode in second quarter to get past Lady Tigers

Everything was going great for the opening eight minutes of action on Friday night for the Lady Tigers. One minute into the game, Ashleigh Kirkendall found Emily Vitosh for an easy bucket and FC led 2-0. Seconds later, Delaney Godemann hit her first bucket of the season to give the Tigers a 4-0 advantage. With just over two minutes to play in the period, Godemann drilled a trey, extending the Tiger lead to 7-0. After a free throw by Ava Armbruster, Syracuse finally broke through with a three to make it 8-3. FC got one last bucket, a triple by Carlea Dunkhas, to give the Lady Tigers an 11-3 lead after the first quarter.

That was the highlight of the evening for FC. Syracuse outscored Falls City 17-2 in the second quarter to take a 13-20 lead at intermission. The Rockets canned back-to-back threes to open the period and with 3:40 to play in the half, sank 2-2 free throws to take its first lead of the game, 12-11. With just forty seconds remaining in the half, Kaitlyn Kirkendall scored on a nicely run pick and roll for Falls City's only points in the period.

FC's offense picked up the steam in the third quarter, scoring ten points; unfortunately, Syracuse scored 13 and added to their lead. With 4:30 to play in the third, Godemann canned her second three, this time from the left wing, to cut the lead to 17-

26. She hit another trey three minutes later, keeping it as a nine-point game. It was as close as the Lady Tigers would get.

Syracuse outscored FC 14-0 in the fourth to pull away for the win, 47-23. Falls City had a good first and third period, but the combined two points in the second and fourth quarter ultimately doomed FC in their season-opening contest.

FC shot 20% from the floor, making 7/35 field goal attempts. Meanwhile, the Rockets hit 17/38 shots for 45%. Syracuse dominated the paint, outscoring FC 22-4 and held a 38-19 rebounding advantage. Both teams had issues controlling the ball, with FC committing 20 turnovers while the Rockets finished with 21.

Godemann, a junior, led FC with 11 points, going 3/5 from beyond the arc. Ashleigh Kirkendall and Ava Armbruster each had three rebounds, while Isabelle Armbruster added three steals.

Scoring for FC: Dunkhas 3, A. Armbruster 1, Titus 2, A. Kirkendall 2, Vitosh 2, Godemann 11, K. Kirkendall 2.

Scoring for Syracuse: Sisco 10, Vestal 2, Sprague 5, Donovan 12, Meyer 14, Kirchoff 4.

The Lady Tigers will travel to Johnson-Brock on Friday, December 8, and Freeman on Saturday, December 9. FC will host Elmwood-Murdock on December 12.



Josh Brown takes a shot over the Rockets' Maxwell Parde in Falls City's season-opening loss.

Tigers can't keep pace with Rockets in season-opener

The Falls City Tiger boys' basketball team dropped the 2023-24 season-opener at Syracuse on Friday night, 66-39.

The season got off to a slow start offensively for FC as Syracuse raced to an 18-0 lead to open the game and FC could never recover. The first points of the year came with 1:20 on the clock in the first when sixth-man Alex McKim sliced his way to the hoop to make it 18-2, which is where the score ended after the initial eight minutes.

Two quick baskets out of the break made it 22-2 before McKim again ended the run with a drive to put the score at 22-4. A pull-up jumper by Keifer Adams at the 5:30 mark made it 24-6 and a trey by Paxton Armbruster made it 30-9 with 3:30 to play in the half. FC added four more points before intermission. Armbruster sank a pair of free throws, and a bucket by McKim made it 37-13 at the half.

Syracuse scored the first 12 points of the second

half to extend their lead to 49-13. With 3:10 on the clock, McKim again ended a Rocket run with a driving bucket to make it 49-15. A hoop by Adams and another triple by Armbruster made it 51-20, which is as close as FC would get. A 6-0 run in the final minute by Syracuse made it 57-20 after three periods.

The Tiger offense exploded for 19 points in the fourth but failed to make up much ground, falling by 27, 66-39. Adams had four points in the period, and freshman Jacoby Bangert sank a pair from beyond the arc to pace the Tigers in the final frame.

Falls City shot 43% from the floor, making 15/35 attempts. The Tigers made 7/16 shots from beyond the arc, finished with 21 rebounds and turned the ball over 20 times. Syracuse had a decided edge around the hoop, owning a 44-16 edge in points in the paint.

Paxton Armbruster went 3/6 from the field for ten points to lead FC. Keifer Adams was 4/6 for nine

points, and Alex McKim was 4/7 for eight. Josh Brown and Cayden Dunkhas each had four rebounds and two assists. Will Janssen led Syracuse with 23 points.

Scoring for Falls City: Armbruster 10, Adams 9, Bangert 6, Brown 3, Ogden 3, McKim 8.

Scoring for Syracuse: Janssen 23, Hestermann 3, Schroeder 5, Liesemeyer 2, Wemhoff 6, Parde 10, Gartner 2, Hobbs 2, Kelch 3, Vollertsen 10.

Falls City travels to Johnson on Friday to take on the No. 1 rated team in Class D-1, the Johnson-Brock Eagles. The Eagles defeated Lincoln Christian 69-46 to open the season. On Saturday, December 9, FC will travel to Adams to take on the Freeman Falcons. Freeman was the No. 6 team in the Class C-2 preseason rankings. The Tigers will be at home for the first time when they host Elmwood-Murdock on Tuesday, December 12. The Knights are the No. 9 ranked team in the Class D-1 preseason polls.



The Tiger wrestlers pose with their trophy from the tourney on Saturday at Omaha North.

Falls City earns crown at 78th Annual Vern Ekfelt Invitational

The Tiger wrestlers outscored Elkhorn North by eight points to win the 78 Annual Vern Ekfelt Invite at Omaha North. FC finished the day with 223, just ahead of second place Elkhorn North at 215.

In the process of winning the team championship on Saturday, Wyatt Olberding etched himself in the Tiger record books again, this time passing his father to become the all-time winningest wrestler in Falls City history. Olberding went 5-0 on Saturday and improved to 6-0 for the season while improving to 126-16 for his career. Olberding won all five matches by fall on Saturday, with none exceeding 1:41.

At 106, Bowdy Jones went 2-3 and placed sixth. At 113, Bailey Thimmes went 4-1 and scored 20 points with a second-place medal. Cade Caudle placed seventh at 120, finishing 1-4. Orion Cattrell picked up a third-place medal, finishing the day at 4-1. Kaleb Zulkoski also placed third, going 3-1 in the 138-pound division. At 144, Preston Buckminster went 2-3, scoring 5 points with a sixth-place finish. Robert Gilkerson destroyed the competition at 157, finishing 5-0 for the gold. At 165, Kadyne Strecker also went 5-0, scoring 26 points and winning the gold medal. Jayden Mirelez went 2-2 and earned a third-place medal at 175, and Zane Ebel won the silver at 190, going 4-1. Chase Simpson went 3-2 at 215 for third and at 285, Caleb Zimmerman went 3-2 and placed fifth.

The Falls City Tigers traveled to Syracuse Thursday night for a dual against the Rockets. The Rockets held on for a 44-29 win in the season-opening match.

The night began at 165 pounds, with Falls City senior Kadyne Strecker falling to top-ranked Cy Peterson by a MD 19-7. Last year, Peterson finished the season with a 44-4 mark. Next on the mat was Jayden Mirelez at 175. The sophomore fell to Kaleb Schultz by pin at the 4:00 mark. The first win of the season came at 190 as Zane Ebel made quick work of Brody Brandt, winning by fall at 2:17. FC got its second win of the night as Chase Simpson pinned Marcos Barron at 1:26 to put Falls City in front 12-10.

The Rockets then won four matches in a row, three by fall and one by forfeit. At 106, Bowdy Jones fell to Brock Goebel by fall at :58. After a forfeit at 113 pounds, Tristan Sisco defeated Bailey Thimmes by fall at 2:48. Next, at 126, Cade Caudle went down to

Colton Sprague by fall at :45. Orion Cattrell got FC back on track scoring a late near fall to get the 3-0 decision.

Next up at 138, Kaleb Zulkoski secured a 5-0 decision over Kaden Knake. A near fall and takedown in the first period gave Zulkoski all the points he needed for the win. At 144, Quenton Adams fell to Sam Waters by a 13-2 MD. FC ended the night on a roll. First, Wyatt Olberding scored a win by fall at the 1:54 mark in the 150-pound division and at 157, Robert Gilkerson won a technical fall 15-0 over Peyton DeMello.

In a pair of JV matches, Caden Collier of FC defeated Will Simon by a 14-12 decision and at 150, Noah McKenzie pinned Xavier Ebel in four seconds.

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