

Merry Christmas



The Falls City JOURNAL

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COMMUNITY EVENTS

Advertised in this weeks paper

TUES., DEC. 24

4:30PM: Communion & Candlelight Service at First Presbyterian Church.

6:30PM: Prairie Union Baptist Church Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

6:30PM: Shubert Christian Church Christmas Eve Service

FRI., JAN. 10

5:00PM: Jaycees DSA Ceremony Nomination form due date.

JOURNAL DEADLINES

December 31 paper:
Deadline Thursday, December 26 by 9:00PM.

January 8 paper:
Deadline Thursday, January 2 by 3:00PM. Via email.

JOURNAL OFFICE CLOSED

Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Years Eve, New Years Day, January 2 and January 3

For more information on the events listed above, look for the ad in this paper. To get in this Community Events column an ad must be placed in the paper. To place an ad in the Falls City Journal contact Nikki at nikki@fcjournal.net or 402-245-2431.



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Nebraska Press Association

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Public Notices and Minutes

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Steinman takes first in Local Art Competition

The Richardson County Arts and Humanities hosted the opening for the bi-annual artist competition on Friday, December 6th at 5:30 p.m. in the Stalder Gallery.

Twenty-eight works of art were entered by eleven different artists. Judge Connie Herbst of Sabetha, KS gave her remarks to those at the opening and awarded four placements and two honorable mentions. Herbst, who is a retired art instructor and holds a master's degree in art, also has a studio on Main Street in Sabetha and offers classes to people of all

(Please turn to Page 3)



Sheriff's Office hold successful Stuff the Cruiser event to benefit local children

The Richardson County Sheriff's Office held their annual Stuff the Cruiser Event in Humboldt and Falls City on Saturday, December 7.

This year's Annual The Stuff the Cruiser event brought in hundreds of gifts for Richardson County children this year. An anonymous donor provided bikes and helmets this year through the Richardson County Sheriff's Office for children, 18 in total.

The gifts provided through the Stuff the Cruiser event and through SENCA's Angel Tree program are used to fulfill local children's wish lists.

"Those at our Sheriff's Dept. have big hearts," said someone who helps in the effort.

Around 130 children and over 50 families in the Falls City area will be blessed by this event.

Donations include 50 gift cards from Cooper Nuclear, fifty cent pieces were provided to each child

from Frontier Bank, other donors include Falls City Care Center, Dorr and Clark, the Elks, Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, Falls City High School FCCLA, four area churches, and countless individuals who donated new toys, new clothes, food baskets and gift cards through the Angel Tree and Stuff the Cruiser Event.

Angel trees could be found at Farm & City and Family Fare. Stuff the Cruiser was held at the Dollar Store, HyVee Dollar Fresh, and Farm and City.

When picking up their gifts, recipients express over and over their gratitude to the many anonymous donors in the county who provided donations so they can put gifts under their Christmas tree this year.

Pictured above, Sheriff Rick Hardesty Jr. and Ashley Fischer, Dispatch Supervisor collect toys at Dollar Fresh.

Council authorizes contract with Ferris Engineering for 2025 SCADA and Relay Upgrade Project

The Falls City Council met on Monday, December 16, 2024, at City Hall for its regularly scheduled meeting. Councilpersons Buckminster and Fouraker were absent.

City Administrator Anthony Nussbaum noted several important items. Nussbaum noted that meetings with KMU regarding the Safety Program had begun. During the meetings, it was discussed to form a Safety Committee, which will be comprised of many city employees.

Nussbaum also informed the Council that Prichard Auditorium would begin operating its extended hours in January. The hours will run until 9:00 p.m. starting January 2.

According to Nussbaum, the Sewer Force Main project is just getting out of the environmental review.

"More than likely, it will probably be a late summer/fall construction project."

(Please turn to Page 3)

Journal holiday deadlines, print schedule and hours

The office of the Falls City Journal will be closed on Tuesday, December 24 and Wednesday, December 25. The deadline for the December 31, 2024, paper will be Thursday, December 26 by 9:00 p.m. via email to Nikki or Brian (see Page 2). The paper will be sent off early for print, so please plan accordingly.

The office will be closed on Tuesday, December 31, and remain closed through the week. The staff will be working from home and on the road, but will accept ads and information via email. The deadline for the January 8 paper will be Thursday, January 2 by 3:00 p.m. Some late ads may be accepted via email to Nikki or Brian if sent by Sunday morning. Please plan ahead.

The Journal office will operate on a "flex schedule," for the foreseeable future outside of holidays.

Sometimes the office may need to close if staff needs to be away for appointments, meetings or events or we step away for periods of time in the morning or afternoon and return later. Brian and Nikki are accessible most nights and weekends via email.

(Please turn to Page 6)

Nebraska Early Childhood Workforce Cadre makes an impact on local communities

The Buffett Early Childhood Institute at the University of Nebraska formed the Nebraska Early Childhood Workforce Leadership Cadre in 2021. The Cadre comprises 26 early childhood professionals from across Nebraska including Susan Johnson of Falls City and Sixpence. The group meets quarterly to discuss and share ideas about the future of Nebraska's early childhood workforce. Over the past three years, Cadre members have been designing and implementing "impact projects," which are initiatives intended to address early childhood needs in their communities. The projects are a culmination of members' ideas and what they have learned through the Cadre. Each member received \$1,000 for their project and could request additional funding if needed.

Susan Johnson, the director of the Sixpence home visiting and child care partnership at Falls City Public Schools, told Greta Morris of the Buffett Early Childhood Institute that while it was a little daunting to create a project proposal, she was determined to make an impact.

She told Morris "How can I make a difference that's going to be worthwhile and cost effective?" Knowing Falls City had a lot of families in need with 13 percent of residents living below the federal poverty line (according to the US Census Bureau) Johnson realized that diapers are a significant financial burden for families. A one-month supply of diapers costs \$80-100 per child.

Johnson saw an opportunity to improve children's health and alleviate the financial strain on families by creating a diaper closet. The diaper closet provides families with diapers, wipes, and other essential supplies twice a month.

"I just want to be able to increase the health of all the children, because we all know clean diapers are a health factor. I want to make families feel comfortable coming in here at whatever income bracket that they're at, because everybody has a hard time," Johnson told Morris.

Johnson hopes to collaborate with local businesses and organizations to sponsor diaper drives and fundraisers to support the diaper depot for years to come.

The impact projects developed by the Cadre members are specific to their communities. The first Cadre class will conclude in April 2025, but the members hope the positive impacts will be felt well beyond then.



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Editor's Note: Each year Bill Schock published this piece in the *Falls City Journal*. We intend to continue the tradition. Have a safe and happy holiday season.

THE CHRISTMAS STORY

From the Book of Luke, Chapter 2

AND it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed.

2 (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.)

3 And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

4 And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)

5 To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with Child.

6 And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

7 And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

8 And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

9 And, lo, the angel of the LORD came upon them, and the glory of the LORD shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

10 And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the LORD.

12 And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the Babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

14 Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

15 And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into Heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the LORD hath made known unto us.

16 And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger.

17 And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this Child.

18 And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

19 But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

20 And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

All things Nebraska Speaker of the Legislature offers plan to maintain valuable access for inspector generals

By Paul Hammel, Retired Senior Reporter for Nebraska Examiner

A wise, old soul once told me that “the story of government isn’t that what is said isn’t so, it’s that what is said isn’t said.”

That, over and over, has proven true in years of digging into stories and actions of state government.

State agencies and constitutional officers have a bevy of public information officers whose job is to promote what that agency or office does, and overall, make that agency look good. (“Put lipstick on the pig” is another old saying.)

All too often, when you peel away the layers of the bureaucratic onion, you find out that what’s being said isn’t completely the case.

Which brings us to the “inspector generals” offices created by the State Legislature to bird dog the functions of the child welfare system and state prisons.

Twelve years ago, the Office of Inspector General for Child Welfare was created because too many kids were being abused or were dying under state care, and questions were being raised about an experiment to privatize child welfare services – handing the work of overseeing kids in foster care and institutions to a profit-driven company instead of public employees.

The goal of the inspector general’s office was to provide an independent look at operations and incidents within that system and juvenile detention facilities, and offer recommendations.

Later, in 2015, the Legislature created the Inspector General for Corrections position to probe functions and malfunctions within the state prison system. It came after the prison system wrongly released several inmates via miscalculation of their sentences, and let go a mentally ill inmate, Nikko Jenkins, without sufficient rehabilitation work. Prisons were also grossly over-crowded and workers, due to a severe shortage of staff, were working hours and hours of overtime.

The two OIGs provided valuable insight to state lawmakers via annual reports about agency operations and via occasional special reports on incidents of death and serious injury. Those reports went well beyond the often rosy assessments from the agencies.

Let’s just say that the inspectors general often provide “the rest of the story.”

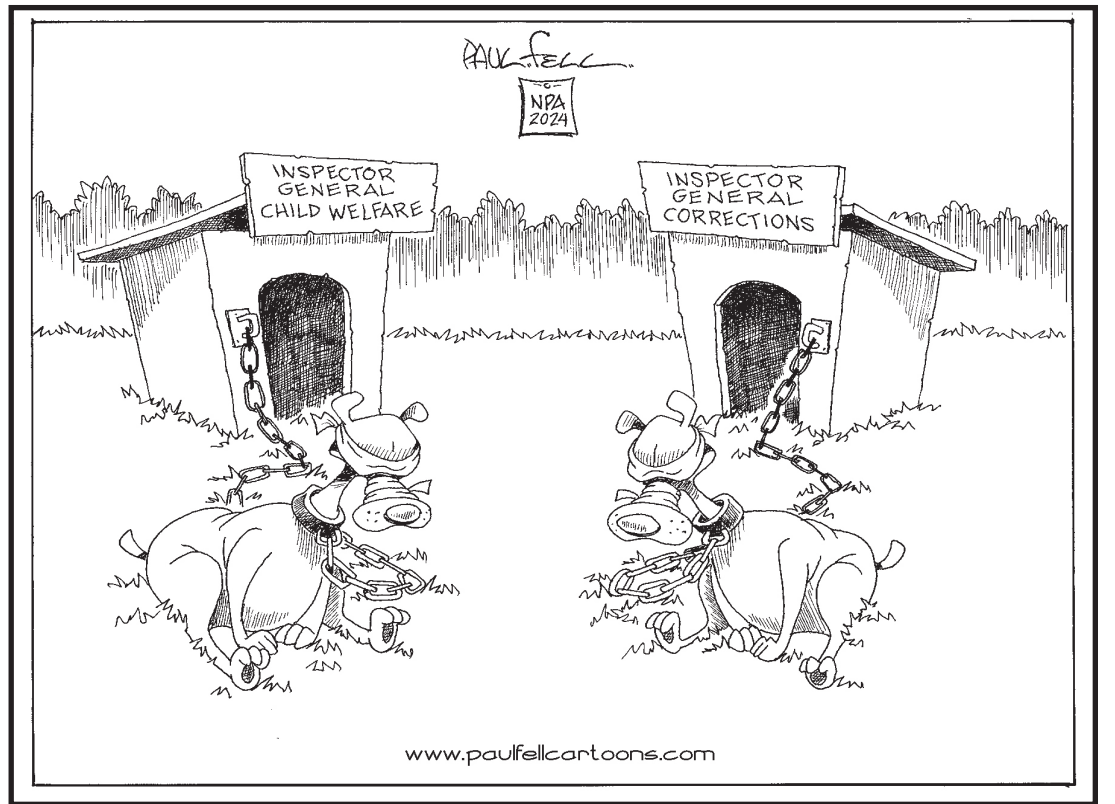
While the reports weren’t designed to embarrass or condemn the agencies, they sometimes laid bare malfunctions and negligence. They also offered helpful suggestions.

Fast forward to last year when Attorney General Mike Hilgers’ lawyers issued an advisory opinion that, in their view, the OIG offices violated the constitutional “separation of powers” between the legislative branch and the executive and judicial branches.

Immediately, the departments of Corrections and Health and Human Services cut off access to their facilities and their records even though the AG’s opinion didn’t have the force of law.

So if someone died in prison or a foster home, we were going to have to trust agency officials to explain what happened – a real “fox guarding the hen house” situation.

In February, however, state lawmakers and the governor’s office struck a deal to



restore some valuable access for the OIGs.

Earlier this month, the Speaker of the Legislature, Sen. John Arch, unveiled a plan to solidify that access by reorganizing the Legislature’s oversight offices.

One sticking point might be that the OIGs would no longer have automatic access to agency computer records. Under Arch’s plan, the OIGs would have to negotiate release of such records with the agency. They would have to provide such data “in an efficient and timely way” while preserving confidentiality and without being overly burdensome to the agency.

Reportedly, state agencies have been mostly cooperative with the two inspectors general in recent months, allowing them to continue their valuable work.

Let’s hope that continues, because another old saying about government is that the best way to prevent mismanagement or injustice is to “shine a light” on it, which is what the OIGs have done.

Paul Hammel has covered the Nebraska state government and the state for decades. He retired in April as senior contributor with the Nebraska Examiner. He was previously with the Omaha World-Herald, Lincoln Journal Star and Omaha Sun. A native of Ralston, Nebraska, he loves traveling and writing about the state.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

THEME: HAPPY HOLIDAYS

ACROSS

- F, unit of electrical capacity
- *Buche de Noël, e.g.
- What influencers do?
- Yemeni’s neighbor
- Another word for Tokyo
- Singer Ross of “Where Did Our Love Go” fame
- Laundry room fire hazard, pl.
- Much of it about nothing?
- Furnish with a fund
- *“A Bad Moms Christmas” actress Bell
- *Tiny Tim creator
- Tibetan ox
- Khrushchev’s domain
- *Goo on real Christmas tree
- Sketch
- *Poinsettia’s motherland
- “_____ Good Men”, movie
- Brussels’ org.
- Plant fungus
- Reluctant
- Klutzy
- *“It’s beginning to look _____ like...”
- Domains
- Bog down
- Oxen connector
- Under epidermis
- Mums’ mums
- Over, poetically
- Alleviate
- _____ Mahal
- *Tanne in “O Tannenbaum” (2 words)
- *It is feliz to Feliciano
- Radioshow host: “Hello, you’re _____”
- Knot-tying vow (2 words)
- Dispatch boat
- Carthage’s ancient neighbor
- *Egg _____
- Oil lamp dweller
- Fishing poles
- Bigheadedness
- Painter Degas

DOWN

- Lore people
- Mideast ruler
- Hindu princess
- Jittery
- Farthest from point of origin
- Ground beef description
- Like Lemmon and Matthau together
- Merchandise
- Swim’s alternative
- Dwyane, once of Miami Heat
- Any day now, to Shakespeare
- Swerves
- King’s order
- Increasing
- Philosophy ending
- Undo, as in strings
- Green side
- Before, in the olden days
- J.M. Barrie’s Pan
- “Howdy, _____!”
- Internal picture
- Meltable home
- Singer Sam of “Twistin’ the Night Away” fame
- Weasel’s aquatic cousin
- *“Last Christmas” band, with !
- Edible pod
- Busybody, in Yiddish
- Mountain range
- Certain fraternity house letters
- Cruel
- (E)le de la CitÈ river
- Tripped the light fantastic
- *Number of ghosts in “A Christmas Carol”
- *“He’s Just Not That _____ You”, movie
- Police’s surprise
- Habitual twitches
- Not happening (2 words)
- Minor bumper damage
- “Heat of the Moment” band
- Opposite of talker?
- *The Grinch’s Max

CROSSWORD														
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“SEZ-I” LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We always welcome and encourage letters to the editor “Sez-I’s.” All letters sent to the Falls City Journal must include the authors full name, address and phone number for verification.

We reserve the right to edit factual errors or not publish letters we believe to be in poor taste, libelous, advertisements or not deemed fit for publication. Form letters or spam will not be published.

Letters may be emailed to nikki@fcjournal.net or mailed to the Editor at 1709 Stone Street, Falls City, NE 68355.

From the Journal Files

By Brian McKim
75-50-25 Years Ago

75 Years Ago, December 25, 1949 to December 31, 1949

General Motors President Charles Wilson said he believed automobiles costing less than \$1,000 were a thing of the past.

Peru State hosted St. Benedict's College at Prichard Auditorium. The Ravens had beaten the Bobcats by seven earlier in the season. In the rematch, Peru State whipped the Ravens 95-50, setting a new scoring record. A crowd of 1,000 people attended the contest.

The Falls City Volunteer Firemen's Association members were busy selling tickets for the New Year's Eve Ball at Prichard Auditorium. The affair was always a big attraction and the only money-raising project of the year for the fire department. Fred Meinzer was the chairman of the dance committee, and William Dykes and Ralph Steinbrink were the other committee members.

Local bowlers traveled to St. Joseph for a Mixed Doubles Tournament. Finishing in the money were V.L. Marshall and D. Griffin. The duo placed fourth and won \$27. Jerry Zoucha and Fred Werner placed 32nd and won \$4; Bill Harkendorff and D. Griffin placed 37th and took home \$4.

Olivia De Haviland was named the winner for the second straight year of the New York Film Critics' Annual Award for Best Actress of the Year.

The Air Force's X-1 rocket plane flew 1,989 miles per hour, or nearly three times the speed of sound, according to the Los Angeles Times.

Owner M. C. Bullock announced that Bullock's Market, 1301 Stone Street, was closing for an indefinite period. The closing was prompted by a recent illness. His son Gene would reopen the store as a Maid-Rite sandwich shop.

Miss RoseAnne Darveau and Robert Nolte were united in marriage at SS. Peter and Paul Catholic Church by Rev Ralph Egan.

Hunting and fishing permits were rising to \$1.50, plus a 10-cent issuance fee. The year prior, the cost was \$1.00 plus the fee. The combination of a hunting and fishing permit was set at \$2.60 for 1950, plus the 10-cent fee.

Sixteen Falls City carpenters applied to the Carpenters Union, American Federations of Labor, for a charter for the local unit. The local unit would be known as Carpenters Local No. 1537 A.F.L. John Williams was the temporary chairman, and Marvin Jones was the temporary treasurer.

The National Safety Council estimated that traffic deaths would reach 31,000 by the time the New Year was rung in.

The federal government sought mild production control to reduce a record surplus and cut the next year's corn crop by 650,000,000 bushels.

Joan Crawford, the envy of a million females, admitted she spent most of her evenings at home with a good book—and not by choice. She stated she sat at home hoping somebody would call for a date, just like any old wallflower, and on plenty of nights, nobody did.

50 Years Ago, December 25, 1974 to December 31, 1974

The Watergate scandal, climaxing with Richard Nixon's resignation, was voted the top news story of 1974 by the Associated Press.

Falls City wrestlers of the week were Ken Meinzer and Carl Messner. Meinzer wrestled at 167 pounds, while Messner clocked in at 185.

Harold Sutter, a Falls City High School and Midland Lutheran College graduate took a position with the Falls City Federal Savings and Loan Association.

Mr. and Mrs. Subby Lombardo entertained the Fireside Inn employees and their husbands or wives at a social hour in their home.

Scott Massin, an assistant professor at the University of Northern Colorado at Greeley, was in Falls City for the holidays to spend time at his mother and grandparents' home.

Mrs. Kathrina Kruse, 103, of the Sunny Court Nursing Home, passed away. She had managed to live at home prior to May of 1972.

Beloved comedian Jack Benny passed away from pancreatic cancer at the age of 80.

State health department officials recommended that the Nemaha County Hospital be closed to visitors because of a local outbreak of intestinal flu.

Don Sailors sank a pair of free throws with thirty seconds remaining to push FC to a 53-51 win over Norris in the Doane Holiday Basketball Tournament in Crete. In the finals the next day, FC fell to Crete in the championship contest 52-73. Alan Koenig led Falls City with 15 points, while Martie Jones added 10.

Hank Stram, the only head coach the Kansas City Chiefs have ever had, was fired after KC finished the season 5-9.

A daughter weighing six pounds and 11 ounces was born at Community Hospital to Mr. and Mrs. Roger Kiekhaefer.

There were 28 fewer births in the 12-month period from December 1, 1973, to December 1, 1974, the largest decline in recent years.

J.O. Richmond was re-elected as Chief of the Falls City Volunteer Fire Department at a meeting held at the fire station.

Rural Fire Chief Dale Purvis announced that the Falls City Rural Fire Department had 31 rural fire runs, resulting in \$85,900 in losses.

25 Years Ago, December 25, 1999 to December 31, 1999

A Millennium Celebration was planned at Prichard Auditorium. Ken Kunce and the Chamber of Commerce Millennium Committee hoped for 1,000 people to show up for the free celebration. Subby Lombardo and friends were preparing a barbecued pork dinner with potato salad, green beans, coffee, cake and ice cream. A hypnotist was hired, a magician and an Elvis impersonator would close the night. The grand finale would be a half-hour fireworks display.

The Falls City Volunteer Ambulance Squad, originally organized in 1974, celebrated its 25th anniversary. The squad, which had 26 members, was hoping to increase membership as it was stretched thin.

Ben Hullman, Andy Armbruster and Hilari Johansen were included on the Northwest Missouri State University Academic Honor Roll.

The Falls City Care Center honored Sherry Prater as the 1999 Employee of the Year. This was the second time Mrs. Prater received the honor.

A three-pointer at the buzzer by Jim Langan gave the Falls City basketball team its third consecutive win, this time a 60-58 victory over Rock Port. It was the first three-game winning streak since the 1995-96 season.

Five Tiger Cubs visited the Falls City Fire Station. The group included Colby Mooney, Cole Bridges, Zech Bragg, Ryan Bauman and Matthew Gilsdorf.

Tiger Woods was named the Associated Press Male Athlete of the Year, beating out cyclist Lance Armstrong.

Leon Sailors, the manager of Kwik Shop, was notified that his store won the grand prize in the 1999 Pepsi-Cola/Frito Lay Store Incentive Program. For the win, Sailors was awarded an all-expenses paid trip to the Fiesta Bowl in Arizona to watch the Huskers play Tennessee.

Irish basketball star Josh Rhodd had a career night against Tecumseh, ending the game with 16 points, 13 assists and 11 rebounds, as Sacred Heart won the contest 66-49.

Steven J. Darveau graduated from the University of Nebraska-Omaha with a degree in Criminal justice.

Al Hamilton, a longtime Humboldt pharmacist, sold his pharmacy to Pamida Pharmacy in Falls City. The prescription files of the two pharmacies were merged into the Pamida Pharmacy. Mr. Hamilton and pharmacy technician Janet Moyer were joining the Pamida team on January 17.

Council authorizes contract with Ferris Engineering for 2025 SCADA and Relay Upgrade Project

(Continued from Page 1)

tion time frame, if we get lucky, maybe something in the spring," said Nussbaum.

The Phase Two Sewer Project, which is funded through the Public Works Infrastructure Grant, is beginning the environmental process.

"That one is going to be a little bit easier," stated Nussbaum. "It's more of a maintenance of the lines rather than cutting open a new line."

The City will also reapply for the CCCFF Grant. The application will be for a downtown Outdoor Amphitheater Park at 1506 Stone Street.

Nussbaum stated that officials had met with NDED (Nebraska Department of Economic Development) to discuss the LB977 Grant.

"Hopefully, lock up that \$15 million that's sitting there, and it can't be potentially reallocated that way," said Nussbaum.

The Council approved three requests by the Falls City Jaycees for special designated liquor licenses at Prichard Auditorium on January 11, February 15 and April 26, 2025.

The Board also approved a parking restriction on the eastbound section near the intersection of Fulton and East 19th Street at Sacred Heart from the corner to the first utility pole. A sign will be installed on the utility pole to restrict parking from there to the corner.

The Council also authorized the execution of an agreement with Ferris Engineering for \$40,000 for an electrical SCADA and Relay upgrade. The \$40,000 is for the engineering and putting the plans together.

"Ultimately, it's technology down at

the power plant that provides the operators with supervision of the electrical infrastructure and generators," said Public Works Director Trevor Campbell.

Campbell noted it's a similar project to the one the City carried out with the water system.

"This monitors real time," stated Campbell. "It charts trends so you can go back and figure out where your faults were and use it to help troubleshoot ultimately. It gives your supervisors or control operators a lot more access to the operation of their system and being able to real-time monitor."

Campbell also noted to the Council that Falls City has executed a five-year agreement to sell 10 megawatts of capacity for \$2.5 million.

"That's revenue we've just been sitting on," said Campbell. "That's value we've been sitting on and value we can capitalize on and reinvest that money in that facility down there."

A resolution adopting Addendum No. 3 to the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with Richardson County for a joint aerial project was passed. The contract is for six years and costs the City \$4,596.80 per year.

The Council authorized the execution of a confidentiality agreement with Evergy Kansas Central, Inc., regarding capacity, energy management and energy products.

The Board also authorized the execution of a mutual non-disclosure agreement with Ess Tech, Inc. for the purpose of a possible resilient and reliable energy project.

With no further items on the agenda, the meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

Commissioners to hold Tuesday meetings next few weeks

The regular meeting of the Richardson County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Caverzagie at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, December 17, 2024. Roll call was answered by Sickel and Caverzagie. Commissioner Karas was absent.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the Board of Equalization meeting from the December 4, 2024 meeting and the December 11, 2024, as presented, the motion carried.

A motion was also made to approve the minutes of the Quarterly Safety Committee meeting from December 11, 2024 as presented, the motion carried.

The monthly operating statement for November, 2024 was reviewed.

A motion was made and approved to adopt Resolution 2024-2025-21 to approve the transfer of funds from the ARPA Fund to the amount of \$70,848.34 as per budget document FY24-25 which will assist in the expense of the Courthouse roof replacement project. (Resolution Book 28, Page 20).

It was approved to allow the payment of all claims that were submitted during the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:16 a.m. Due to the observance of Christmas on Wednesday, December 25, the Board will meet again on Tuesday, December 24, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioner's Meeting Room, Courthouse, Falls City. The agenda is kept current at the County Clerk's Office.

Steinman takes first in Local Art Competition

(Continued from Page 1)

ages.

Receiving first and fourth place was Patricia Steinman, second place went to Cheryl "Tootie" Ebel, third place went to Corey Hayes, and honorable mentions to Christina Wertenberger and Madison Littrel. The works are on display in the Stalder Gallery located inside the Falls City Library and Arts Center through January 11th. Patron may view the works during regular library hours: M-T-W 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Th 9:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m., F 9:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m., and S 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Several artists have work for sale in the gallery. Inquires can be made at the library desk or to curator, Christina Wertenberger.

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“Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus”

Editor's Note: In Sept. 1897, an eight-year-old girl in New York City named Virginia O'Hanlon wrote a letter to the editor of The New York Sun asking, "Is there a Santa Claus?" An editorial writer of the Sun Staff, wrote a response which has now become a classic, often printed in newspapers across the country this time of year. A few years ago a *Journal* subscriber and friend, Scott, requested it be printed each year around Christmas. After some research we found that the first time the letter appeared in a Falls City paper was in 1909 and for several years after that it appeared in the pages of many Richardson County papers including the *Journal* each Christmas.

We are happy to share it with you each Holiday season.
DEAR EDITOR:

I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says, 'If you see it in THE SUN it's so.' Please tell me the truth; is there a Santa Claus?

VIRGINIA O'HANLON,
115 WEST NINETY-FIFTH STREET.

Virginia,
VIRGINIA, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, VIRGINIA, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus. It would be as dreary as if there were no VIRGINIAS. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You may tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, VIRGINIA, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus! Thank God! he lives, and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay, ten times ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 1336 held a free throw contest for boys and girls ages 9-14 at the Roh Activity Center on Sunday, December 8, 2024. Pictured are the winners with their plaques. Back Row: Gavin Shubert, Ryder Hullman, JT Stice, and Bailey Lemerond. Front Row: Carter Kopf, Gavin Walmsley, Olivia Santo, Bryn Taft, and Sutton Schulenberg. These boys and girls will advance to the district contest to be determined at a later date.

SOCIETY

HUMBOLDT CHAPTER #234 ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

By Donna Monnette, Secretary

Humboldt Chapter #234 Order of the Eastern Star members enjoyed a Christmas luncheon at the Chaotic Coffee on Thursday, December 5, 2024 at 12:30 p.m. Later at 2:00 p.m. they moved to The Meeting Place for their stated meeting. Twelve members were present as Worthy Matron Nancy Nemechek presided in the East. After singing a Christmas song they all pledged Allegiance to the American flag.

The regular order of business followed with the Secretary reading the minutes of the previous meeting's minutes which were approved.

The Treasurer gave the balance in the general fund. Communications read included the results of legislation presented at the 51st General Assembly of General Grand Chapter OES on October 28-31, 2024.

In the Nebraska OES News, announcement was made from General Grand Chapter of OES that our primary and permanent charity of OES Service dogs for 2021-2024 raised over \$1,400,000.

A Norwegian Cruise Line Trip is planned for Nebraska OES members for August 29-September 5, 2025. A \$250 deposit is due upon reservation with final payment due on April 15. Bookings may be made with Gloria Guern or Janelle Wood of the Elli Travel Group.

Greetings were received from the Service and Therapy Dog Committee in Nebraska. They will be selling dog neck pillows and flannel lap robes, collars and leashes to raise money for their project. There are presently four service dogs living with OES members and two

more in training in Nebraska OES families.

Steve Barchus of the Nebraska Masonic Home Foundation in Plattsmouth thanked the chapter for our monetary Thanksgiving gift.

Ron Giesselmann thanked the chapter for our monetary Thanksgiving and 4-H Program gifts to the Fremont Masonic-Eastern Star Home for Children in Fremont.

Our Chapter will be sending \$5 each Christmas to the 28 children residing there.

Bills were presented for our annual Grand Chapter dues and the Service Dog project. Debbi Dunn moved to allow the bills. Motion seconded and carried.

The Landmarks were read by all the members. There being no further business, chapter closed with prayer and singing of a Christmas hymn.

Installation of new officers will be held at the January 2 meeting.

Members enjoyed Christmas cookies during the social hour.

ACCIDENTS


On November 18, 2024 according to Falls City Police Department accident reports, a vehicle owned by Jason Vasquez of Holt, MO with a car dolly trailer was parked on the south side of East 17th Street facing east. When Walter Palmer of Falls City was traveling east on East 17th Street and struck the Vasquez vehicle that was parked, then drove away from the scene. The car dolly that was damaged has an estimated value of \$1,000; the Palmer vehicle had an estimated \$500 in damage.

On November 22, 2024 according to Falls City Police Department accident reports, Tristan Romines of Falls City advised he was backing out of driveway when he hit parked vehicle owned by Lindsay Blair of Lincoln, NE. An estimated \$100 in damage was done to the Romines vehicle; an estimated \$2,500 in damage was done to the Blair vehicle.

On November 16, 2024 according to Falls City Police Department accident reports Jeffrey Trotter of Plattsmouth, NE was traveling eastbound at 19th and Chase Street in an F-250 when he proceeded past a stop sign and into the intersection to continue eastward. A second vehicle drive by Pamela Kunc of Falls City was traveling northbound on Chase Street in a Mercury Mulan at the same intersection and time. The front of the Kunc vehicle collided with the passenger side front and rear door area. The steering wheel airbag of the Kunc vehicle did deploy and the front was significantly damaged as it went partially under the side of the Trotter vehicle which sustained damage to the doors and running board step. The Kunc vehicle was towed from the scene. Trotter was driven from the scene. The Trotter vehicle had a small flatbed bumper pull trailer attached at the time of the collision which was hauling a Polaris Ranger UTV. Trotter advised he did not see any damage to the UTV. A citation was issued to Trotter for careless driving. The Kunc vehicle was totaled.

Little Lambs Christian Preschool Christmas program

Students from Little Lambs Christian Preschool recently presented their Christmas Nativity Play/Program, "Jesus - God's Greatest Gift," at Christ Lutheran Church. Preschoolers performing were: Grace Cromer, Milo Erickson, Faith Frederick, Rozalynn Keithley, Lincoln Koso, Emberlynn Kuker, Hawkins Lippold, Spencer Lippold, Arie Montgomery, Fischer Rieschick, Gwen Seeba, Finley Simpson, Case Wilhelm, Charlie Wilhelm and Clara Williams. John von Behren delivered the Christmas Message.



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January 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 HAPPY NEW YEAR	2 BOTOX LEVI GRIMM, APRN ORTHOPEDICS ADAM STREIT, DO NEUROLOGY ABRA WOOLARD, APRN	3	4
5	6 SURGERY AARON BROWN, MD WOUND CLINIC SUSAN LUEGER, APRN	7	8 SURGERY AARON BROWN, MD DERMATOLOGY TIFFANY ENGELKEN, APRN	9 BOTOX LEVI GRIMM, APRN ORTHOPEDICS ADAM STREIT, DO MICHAEL MCCOY, MD CARDIOLOGY KEVIN BERND, DO NUCLEAR STRESS TESTS	10 ENT JASON LEPSE, MD OB/GYN JAMESINA DICKSON, MD	11
12	13 SURGERY DENIS JIMENEZ, MD WOUND CLINIC SUSAN LUEGER, APRN CARDIOLOGY SWAPNA MAMIDIPALLY, MD OPHTHALMOLOGY SURGERY WILLIAM BURR, MD	14 PAIN MANAGEMENT KARL HAAKE, MD UROLOGY KRIS CARLSON, MD	15 SURGERY DENIS JIMENEZ, MD DERMATOLOGY TIFFANY ENGELKEN, APRN	16 ORTHOPEDICS ADAM STREIT, DO BOTOX LEVI GRIMM, APRN NEUROLOGY ABRA WOOLARD, APRN DIZZINESS & BALANCE GARY MCKNIGHT, AUD	17 ONCOLOGY ROBIN MCKAY, APRN CARDIOLOGY TONYA STALLBAUMER, MD NEPHROLOGY HALEY WINGERTSON, APRN	18
19	20 SURGERY DENIS JIMENEZ, MD WOUND CLINIC SUSAN LUEGER, APRN NEPHROLOGY KEELYN ERICSON, MD	21 PAIN MANAGEMENT KARL HAAKE, MD UROLOGY KRIS CARLSON, MD DIABETES SUPPORT GROUP @3	22 PULMONOLOGY MICHELLE WARREN, APRN DERMATOLOGY TIFFANY ENGELKEN, APRN SURGERY DENIS JIMENEZ, MD	23 CARDIOLOGY HISHAM HAKEEM, MD ORTHOPEDICS ADAM STREIT, DO MICHAEL MCCOY, MD BOTOX LEVI GRIMM, APRN NUCLEAR STRESS TESTS	24 UROLOGY BRAD RUPP, MD	25
26	27 SURGERY AARON BROWN, MD WOUND CLINIC SUSAN LUEGER, APRN OPHTHALMOLOGY SURGERY WILLIAM BURR, MD ONCOLOGY MANIDHAR LEKKALA, MD	28 ENDOCRINOLOGY KELLI BRADBURY, APRN UROLOGY KRIS CARLSON, MD PAIN MANAGEMENT KARL HAAKE, MD	29 DERMATOLOGY TIFFANY ENGELKEN, APRN SURGERY AARON BROWN, MD	30 CARDIOLOGY THOMAS DOYLE, MD BOTOX LEVI GRIMM, APRN ORTHOPEDICS ADAM STREIT, DO	31 NEPHROLOGY LAKSHMI DUVVUR, MD	

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2 TRACTS - 160 +/- DRYLAND ACRES
FRIDAY, JANUARY 10, 2025 • 11 A.M.

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Online bidding opens Friday, Jan. 3 at 10 a.m. to Friday, Jan. 10 at the completion of the auction.
TRACT 1: 80 ± ACRES DRYLAND • LEGAL: W 1/2 NW 32-14-6 (CHAPMAN TWP)
TRACT 2: 80± ACRES (DRYLAND) • LEGAL: E 1/2 NW 32-14-6 (CHAPMAN TWP)
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NDEE accepting applications for ONE RED Irrigation Engine Program

The Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy (NDEE) announces the opening of the 2024-2025 ONE RED Irrigation Engine Program. Applications are now being accepted for rebates to assist farmers with the replacement of agricultural irrigation pump diesel engines with all-electric equipment. Applications must be submitted to NDEE by Jan. 16, 2025, to be considered.

To be eligible, applicants must have owned the diesel engine for two years and operated it for at least 250 hours each of those years. The diesel engine may be replaced with an electric motor to power a surface pump or by connecting an existing submersible pump directly to the electric grid. The replaced diesel engine must be scrapped to ensure that its exhaust emissions are completely eliminated. Applicants may submit one application for one engine replacement.

NDEE will reimburse 60% of the cost of the electrical equipment, installation, and required electric utility costs up to a maximum rebate of \$23,000. No reimbursements will be made for any expenses incurred before the recipient has signed a project agreement with the Department.

NDEE began offering irrigation engine rebates in 2017 using grants from EPA's Clean Diesel (DERA) State Program. Beginning this year, the program is one of eight initiatives that are part of the Department's ONE RED (Opportunity for Nebraska: Reducing Emissions and Decarbonization) Program, which is funded by a separate five-year EPA grant. NDEE has funding for an estimated 250 irrigation engine replacements by 2029 and anticipates funding at least 50 irrigation engine rebates in this year's program.

Information, instructions, and application materials are available on the ONE RED Irrigation Engine Program web page: <http://dee.ne.gov/publications/nsf/pages/17-016>.

For more information on the ONE RED program and its initiatives, visit: <http://dee.ne.gov/ndeeprog.nsf/onweb/prg-implementation>.

FROM THE JOURNAL ARCHIVES



From the Journal Archives: The Courthouse, resplendent in its Christmas decorations, makes an impressive centerpiece for the downtown area during the Yule season. Although the remainder of the Christmas decorations will not be lighted until the week before Christmas because of the energy situation, the courthouse sparkles every night. *December 5, 1974.*

FCPS Superintendent's District Update

By Tim Heckenlively

The Falls City Public Schools held its regular monthly board meeting on Monday, December 9, 2024. Here are the highlights of the meeting.

Falls City Public Schools Achieves 'Great' Designation in 2024 Nebraska State Accountability Report— Falls City Public Schools (FCPS) has earned a Great designation in the 2024 Nebraska Department of Education's AQuESTT (Accountability for a Quality Education System, Today and Tomorrow) evaluation, highlighting the district's commitment to academic excellence and student success. The annual report, which evaluates school districts across Nebraska, assigns classifications based on key performance indicators, including student proficiency, growth, graduation rates, and college readiness.

Key Highlights from the 2024 Report:

- **Academic Proficiency:** Proficiency rates for students in grades 3-8 showed strong performance: 53 percent in English Language Arts, 57 percent in Math, and 75 percent in Science - a 6-point improvement in Science from the previous year.
- **College Enrollment:** The percentage of Falls City High School students pursuing post-secondary education rose from 63.79 percent in 2022-2023 to 67.92 percent in 2023-2024.
- **Graduation Rate:** FCPS achieved a 96.49 percent graduation rate, surpassing the state average by 8 percentage points.

• **Chronic Absenteeism:** FCPS reduced its chronic absenteeism rate from 17.6 percent to 15.0 percent, outperforming the statewide average of 21.19 percent.

In addition to the district's Great designation, individual schools within the district also received favorable ratings. Falls City High School earned a Great designation, while the middle school, South School, and North School each received a Good designation.

FCPS also celebrated an important achievement in its federal performance ratings. The district received no federal designations for 2024, demonstrating progress in equitable student outcomes and performance across all subgroups.

Commitment to Continuous Improvement - While celebrating these accomplishments, FCPS remains focused on enhancing instructional practices to support all students. The district uses data-driven strategies, including formative and NSCAS assessments, to monitor student progress and tailor instruction. Initiatives such as the On To College program continue to support college readiness, and ongoing efforts to strengthen core subjects like English Language Arts, Math, and Science ensure rigorous academic preparation.

"These achievements reflect the hard work and dedication of our students, staff, and community," Tim Heckenlively, FCPS Superintendent. "We are proud of our progress, but we remain

focused on ensuring that every student is prepared for success beyond graduation, whether in higher education or the workforce."

Strategic Plan Update 2024-2025 Regarding School District Master Planning - BVH Architecture is nearing completion of the heat mapping exercise for the district's master planning process. As part of this, they will be distributing a staff survey. The survey consists of three sections to evaluate each building based on key criteria, helping to score the current facility conditions. The survey is also designed to gather qualitative feedback, focusing on issues related to teaching and learning and facility design. These steps will provide critical insights as we move forward with the district's strategic master planning efforts.

The District 56 Board of Education acted on several items before concluding the regular meeting.

1. Accepted the Resignation of Emily Osterhaus, effective the end of the 2024-2025 contract year (3 years as Middle School and Elementary Art Teacher).

2. Amended the Superintendent Contract effective through June 30, 2027.

The next regular monthly Board of Education meeting is scheduled for January 13, 2025 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, Tim Heckenlively.



Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus came to Stella Saturday morning. It was a little rainy so they met children and adults in the Stella Fire Hall. Nezyrn Santana of Stella pictured above greets Santa with a wish list. The event is sponsored by the Stella Research Club and the Village of Stella.

JAYCEES DSA CEREMONY NOMINATION FORM

We invite community members to nominate an outstanding member of our community who best represents one of the following categories. Please include a letter explaining his or her qualifications for the award and return by 5pm on January 10, 2025.

Send your nominations to: Falls City Jaycees, PO Box 202, Falls City, NE 68355 or email fallscityareajaycees@gmail.com

I would like to nominate (print full name): _____

Nominee's Profession: _____

Nominee's Phone: _____

- For the following award:**
- Distinguished Service (person between the ages of 21 and 41 who gives the most deserving service to family, church, community, or nation)
 - Outstanding Educator (professional educator who excels in guiding the growth and development of our youth, career progress, and community service)
 - Outstanding Community Leader (person of any age who is a strong and vital force in volunteering their time and works to improve their family, church, community, or state)
 - Boss of the Year (employer who has given admirable service to his or her workplace, community, or nation)
 - Robert J. Chab Community Service (person who has shown excellent community service as a frontline employee such as ambulance squad members, firemen, law enforcement officers and nurses)
 - Good Neighbor (person who consistently puts other person's well-being, interests, and needs above their own without being asked or expecting rewards of any kind for their efforts)

Nominator's Name: _____

Nominator's Phone: _____

Award winners will be honored with a plaque during the Jaycee's Annual DSA Banquet to be held on February 1st, 2025 at Elks.

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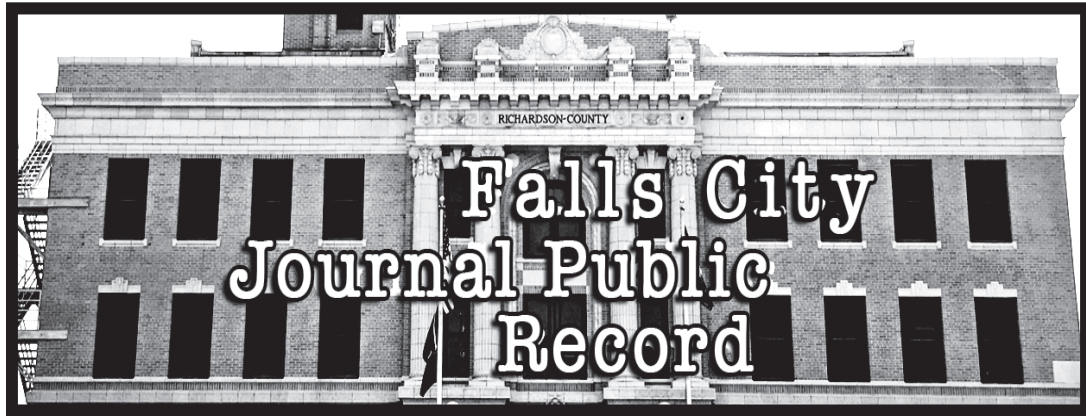
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Falls City JOURNAL



(Editor's Note - dismissal without prejudice means the government did not waive its right to litigate the matter in a subsequent action).

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

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

The *Falls City Journal* publishes the Public Record as part of its obligation to inform readers about the business of public institutions and to serve as a keeper of the local historical record. The information contained in this list is processed from an electronic copy of the official record, which is submitted by the Richardson County Courthouse

DISTRICT COURT

Rose M. Thomas, count one, violate protection order/prior P.O. conv, amended to violate protection order, plead guilty, found guilty. Sentence includes jail for term of 140 days, credit for 79 days served; count two, amended to dropped/dismissed.

Jessica M. Scheele, possess controlled subs, amended to attempt of a class 4 felony, plead no contest, found guilty. Sentence includes probation enrollment fee of \$30, drug testing fee of \$90, probation fee-regular \$450; count two, tamper with physical evidence, amended to attempt of a class 4 felony, plead no contest, found guilty and sentenced to 18 months probation; count three, amended to dropped/dismissed; count four, amended to dropped/dismissed; count five, amended to dropped/dismissed.

Isaac A. Welling, count one, amended to dropped/dismissed; count two, amended to dropped/dismissed; count three, sexual assault-w/o consent-3rd degree, plead not guilty, found guilty; count four, assault-cause bodily injury, plead not guilty, found guilty. Pretrial scheduled for January 7, 2025.

Irving E. Anzora, count one, possess controlled subs, plead not guilty. Entry of plea scheduled for January 7, 2025.

COUNTY COURT

Jacob S. Feldkamp, count one, DV assault-3rd/threat/menacing manner, plead not guilty; count two, DV assault-3rd/threat/menacing manner, plead not guilty; count three, commit child abuse negligently/no injury, plead not guilty. Pretrial scheduled for January 22, 2025.

Jarred L. Foster, count one, theft-shoplifting \$0-500, plead not guilty. Entry of plea scheduled for January 8, 2025.

Camie R. Vaughn, count one, theft-shoplifting \$0-500, plead not guilty. Pretrial scheduled for January 6, 2025.

Chasity E. Davis, count one, speeding 6-10 mph municipal school, plead not guilty. Pretrial scheduled for January 15, 2025.

Amber I. Sutton, count one, amended to dropped/dismissed; count two, amended to dropped/dismissed; count three, nuisance; dogs as a nuisance, plead guilty, found guilty and fined \$25; count four, nuisance; dogs as a nuisance, plead guilty, found guilty and fined \$25.

Burton J. Studie, count one, resist arrest-1st, plead not guilty. Pretrial scheduled for January 22, 2025.

Dannyel A. Salazar, count one, nonresident violate rev/impd order MDS 2, plead guilty, found guilty. Sentence includes fine of \$150, bond forfeiture of \$176, probation to the court for three months; count two, no proof of insurance, plead guilty, found guilty. Sentence includes fine of \$75 and probation for term of three months.; count three, no valid registration, plead guilty, found guilty and fined \$25 and probation for term of three months; count four, unlawful/fict display of plate/renew tab, plead guilty, found guilty and fined \$25 and probation for term of three months; count five, acts declared unlawful-license/driving, plead guilty, found guilty and fined \$50 and probation for term of three months; count six, expired in-transit decal, plead guilty, found guilty and fined \$25 and probation for term of three months.

Jason M. Brownell, count one, drive during revocation/impound-1st, plead no contest, found guilty and fined \$200, bond forfeiture of \$77.50, license revoked for term of one year.

Robert D. Moyer, count one, criminal trespass-1st degree, plead not guilty; count two, possess marijuana 1 oz or less, plead not guilty; count three, possess or use drug paraphernalia, plead not guilty. Pretrial scheduled for January 27, 2025.

Damian C. Rowland, count one, amended to dropped/dismissed; count two, amended to count dropped/dismissed; count three, cruelly mistreat animal-1st, plead no contest, found guilty; count four, minor in possession-ages 19/20, plead no contest, found guilty. Sentencing scheduled for February 10, 2025.

Aaron M. Greene, count one, drive during revocation/impound, plead guilty, found guilty and fined \$200, license revoked for one year; count two, speeding 6-10 mph, plead guilty, found guilty and fined \$25.

Hayden J. Fairchild, count one, speeding 21-35 mph, plead not guilty; count two, no motorcycle operator's license, plead

not guilty; count three, possess marijuana 1 oz or less, plead not guilty. Pretrial scheduled for January 27, 2025.

Jesse M. Guerra, count one, no valid registration, plead guilty, found guilty and fined \$25; count two, nonresident violate susp/rev order, plead guilty, found guilty and fined \$100.

Caleb A. Bruckner, count one, no brake lights/turn signals, plead guilty, found guilty and fined \$25; count two, nonresident violate susp/rev order, plead guilty, found guilty and fined \$100; count three, possess or use drug paraphernalia, plead guilty, found guilty and fined \$100.

CITATIONS

Nafys Garner of Killeen, TX, count one, speeding 11-15 mph, plead guilty, found guilty and fined \$75 and court costs. (Holliday)

Kevin Ortiz of Omaha, count one, speeding 11-15 mph, plead guilty, found guilty and fined \$75 and court costs. (Aitken)

Kelli Armstrong of Fort Calhoun, count one, speeding 36 mph, plead guilty, found guilty and fined \$300 and court costs. (Holliday)

Jon Howard of Pawnee City, count one, no valid registration, plead guilty, found guilty and fined \$25 and court costs. (Jones)

Brenda Scholl of Falls City, count one, speeding 11-15 mph municipal school, plead guilty, found guilty and fined \$150 and court costs. (Ramirez)

Denis Cruz Orellana of Fort Worth, TX, count one, no valid registration, plead guilty, found guilty and fined \$25; count two, no brake lights/turn signals, plead guilty, found guilty and fined \$25 and court costs. (Novak)

Christopher Vanboskirk of Omaha, count one, speeding 16-20 municipal school, plead guilty, found guilty and fined \$250 and court costs. (Ramirez)

Carter Brehm of Papil-

Area athletes receive accolades

Several local athletes earned postseason awards recently. In Class C-1 volleyball, the Falls City Tigers Bella Johansen, Gabi Young, Kaitlyn Kirkendall and Paige Young earned All-State Honorable Mention. In Class D-2, Jentry Lechtenberg, Daycee Witt from Sacred Heart, and Lillian Bowen from HTRS earned All-State Honorable Mention.

Orion Catrell, Blakely Sells, Derek Helmick and Isaac Frederick were named All-District and First-Team ECNC for the Tiger football team. Gavin Bauer, Tegan Alexander, and Preston Buckminster were also All-District and Honorable Mention All-Conference.

In Class D-2 football, the District 1 teams were announced. First-team offense nods went to Hunter Bohling (HTRS), Brogan Dunlap (HTRS) and Evan Bailey (SH). The first team defense included Rob Froeschl (SH), Tate Wilcox (SH), Elijah Canonico (SH) and Hunter Bohling (HTRS). The second team offense included Cole Taft (SH), Toby Baxter (SH) and Jacob Davis (HTRS).

Second-team defense recognition went to Emmett Glathar (HTRS), Brogan Dunlap (HTRS) and Trayce Stutheit (SH).

Honorable mention included Kyler Sipple (SH), Cooper Knobbe (SH), Brenden Lemerond (SH), Kameon Dettmann (HTRS), Axton Wamsley (HTRS) and Jacob Davis (HTRS).

Earning spots on the Pioneer Conference first-team offense were Evan Bailey (SH) and Hunter Bohling (HTRS). First-team defense recognition went to Rob Froeschl (SH), Bohling (HTRS) and Tate Wilcox (SH).

Second-team defense selections included Evan Bailey (SH), Emmett Glathar (HTRS) and Wilcox (SH).

Honorable mentions included Brogan Dunlap (HTRS) and Elijah Canonico (SH).

Earning All-State Honorable Mention in Class C-1 for Falls City were Isaac Frederick, Derek Helmick and Blakely Sells. In Class D-2, for Sacred Heart, Rob Froeschl, Tate Wilcox and Evan Bailey received Honorable Mention, while Hunter Bohling at HTRS was named Honorable Mention.

Journal holiday deadlines, print schedule and hours

(Continued from Page 1)

Please see page two for email addresses for staff. The dropbox in our entryway will be monitored closely for any advertising, subscriptions and information you wish to place in the paper. Please feel free to place things there for us to pick-up when we return to the office. We appreciate your understanding at this time and hope to return to regular hours in the future.

lion, count one, speeding 16-20 mph, plead guilty, found guilty and fined \$125 and court costs. (Holliday)

Anthony Ndiolo of Homestead, FL, count one, no valid registration, plead guilty, found guilty and fined \$25; count two, no proof of ownership, plead guilty, found guilty and fined \$50 and court costs. (Novak)

Anthony Uitts of Falls City, count one, speeding 11-15 mph, plead guilty, found guilty and fined \$75 and court costs. (Ramirez)

Arthur Sheltrown of

Fairview, KS, count one, drive on shoulder of highway, plead guilty, found guilty and fined \$25 and court costs. (Jones)

Matilde Rodriguez of Omaha, count one, no valid registration, plead guilty, found guilty and fined \$25; count two, no operator's license, plead guilty, found guilty and fined \$75 and court costs. (Franks)

Alysia Schawang of Falls City, count one, speeding 6-10 mph municipal school, plead guilty, found guilty and fined \$50 and court costs. (Ramirez)

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Tate Wilcox and Kameon Dettman battle for a rebound at the end of the first quarter.

Irish get past HTRS, set sights on holiday tournament

The Irish boys hosted the Tri County Trojans Tuesday night at the RAC. The Trojans defeated Sacred Heart 61-44 to earn their second win of the season. The first period was close on Tuesday, with Tri County holding a three-point lead, 13-10. The Trojans pulled away in the second quarter, outscoring SH 25-8 to take a 38-18 lead into the break. Tri County added to their advantage after halftime, pushing their lead to 52-28 with eight minutes to play. The Irish narrowed the gap in the fourth, outscoring Tri County 16-9 to make the final 61-44.

Sacred Heart struggled from the floor, making 16/54 (30%) of their shot attempts, including a 5/29 effort from deep. SH was efficient from the foul line, hitting 7/8 and fought hard under the rim, getting outrebounded 30-33.

Bo Fletcher led the Irish with 17 points on 5/15 shooting. Cole Taft hit for 10 points on 4/12 shooting while adding four rebounds and three assists. The usual sharpshooting Brenden Lemerond struggled from the field, going 1/10 for two points while dishing out three assists. Senior Tate Wilcox scored just two points but led the

Irish with nine rebounds. Scoring for SH: Taft 10, Fletcher 17, Lemerond 2, Clow 3, Baxter 8, Wilcox 2, Nelson 2.

Scoring for T-C: Siems 28, Kapke 7, Strein 6, Holsing 2, Smidt 4, T. Kapke 14.

Sacred Heart defeated Tri County in two periods of JV action 20-14. Hayden Clow scored eight, Toby Baxter scored seven, and Kyler Sipple scored five for the Irish.

Friday night, the HTRS Titans came to town. The matchup featured longtime Irish coach Doug Goltz versus first-year coach Jamie Stice. Stice, a former Irish athlete, is also a nephew of Coach Goltz.

Lemerond opened the scoring with a triple from the corner to make it 3-0 with just over a minute gone by. Brennen Vaughan hit a driving bucket to cut the advantage to 3-2 seconds later, but Sacred Heart's Taft hit 2/3 from the charity stripe to make it 5-2. HTRS tied the game on an Emmett Glathar three and took the lead when Brogan Dunlap hit a driving bucket. A pull-up jumper by Lemerond tied the game at seven at the end of the first.

The second quarter was back and forth until Bo Fletcher hit a three to put the Irish in front 14-11. Sacred Heart built an eight-point lead when Taft sank a trey to make it 21-13 with 4:54 to go in the half. Buckets by Glathar and Dunlap made it a four-point game and two free throws by Hunter Bohling made it 21-19 with just under two minutes to go. A late bucket by Cooper Knobbe put SH in front 25-21 at intermission.

Sacred Heart grew their lead to six, but another bucket by Glathar made it 29-25. The Irish answered again with four straight, but a Vaughan triple cut the lead to 33-28 with 3:05 to play in the period. With the Irish holding on to a five-point lead, Taft hit his second trifecta, making it 38-30 with just over two minutes remaining. Late buckets by Glathar and Dunlap kept the game tight, ending the period with SH leading 38-34.

The final eight minutes began in the Titan's favor as Kameon Dettmann hit a shot at the 6:30 mark to tie the contest at 39. Thirty seconds later, Dunlap got an offensive board and follow up to put HTRS in front 41-40. SH then went on a 16-4 run to end the game, pulling away late for the 56-45 win. Fletcher added six points in the final six minutes to help SH to the 11-point win.

The win was the second of the year for Sacred Heart, while HTRS dropped to 3-2.

HTRS hosted Southern on Saturday and will play in the Weeping Water Holiday Tourney on December 27th and 28th. The Titans will play Johnson-Brock in the opening round on Friday at 4:00 p.m. in the reserve gym. Meanwhile, Sacred Heart will play in the Sportsmen's Club Holiday Tournament in Adams on Saturday, December 28th and Monday, December 30th. Sacred Heart will play McCool Junction in the opening round on Saturday at 2:00 p.m. in the south gym. The championship is on Monday at 6:30 p.m. in the north gym, while the consolation contest is at 6:30 p.m. in the south gym.



Avery Santo is pressured by No. 22 Lillian Bowen and No. 25 PJ Howe.

After loss to Trojans, Lady Irish rebound for win versus Titans

The Lady Irish hosted Tri County on Tuesday night and tasted defeat for the first time in the 2024-25 campaign, falling to the Trojans 49-51.

Sacred Heart got four first-quarter points from Jentry Lechtenberg and Hallie Jones, leading 11-9 after one period. Jones added three more in the second quarter, but SH surrendered the lead 18-22 at the half. The teams came out firing in the third, with each team scoring 17, but the Lady Irish still trailed by four with eight minutes remaining. Daycee Witt caught fire in the third, sinking three from beyond the arc.

The Irish outscored Tri County 14-12 in the fourth, but it wasn't enough as they fell by two, 49-51. Witt sank her fourth three of the half in the fourth and Lechtenberg added seven, but it wasn't enough to overcome the Trojans.

Sacred Heart shot 16/56 (29%) from the floor, while Tri County made 16/51 shot attempts. The Irish shot 12/23 from the foul line, while the Trojans shot 12/20. SH had a 43/33 rebound edge but committed 21 turnovers while forcing 16.

Lechtenberg let SH with 19 points on 7/17 shooting. Jentry added 14 rebounds, three blocks and three steals. Witt added 12 points, all from beyond the arc, and five rebounds.

front 7-4, but a three from Witt evened the contest at seven. Lechtenberg then went coast to coast for a layup to put SH back in the lead 9-7. Consecutive threes by Santo and Alise Reschke put the Irish in front 15-9. Hoops by Lechtenberg and Witt made it 19-9, but a late offensive rebound and bucket by Glathar cut the lead to eight at the end of the quarter.

Sacred Heart opened the second quarter on an 8-1 run to make it 27-12 at the period's halfway point. A three by Bowen with 3:10 to go in the half was the first field goal of the quarter by HTRS, cutting the lead to 27-15. The Irish scored the final three points of the half, all at the foul line, and doubled up the Titans 30-15 at the break.

Santo opened the third with a triple, but Bowen answered at the other end with a long ball of her own. A long three by Witt

gave SH its largest lead of the game at 38-18, but again Bowen answered with a three of her own, but it wasn't enough as SH grew their lead to 44-21 at the end of three.

It was all Sacred Heart down the stretch as they outscored HTRS 13-6 in the final eight minutes to pull away for the 30-point win, 57-27.

The Irish hosted St. Joseph LeBlond on Saturday at the Roh Activity Center. The Lady Irish will then turn their attention to the Sportsmen's Club Tourney at Freeman High School on Saturday, December 28 and Monday, December 30. The Irish will begin the tourney against McCool Junction on Saturday at 3:30 p.m. in the south gym. The championship contest will be on Monday, December 30, at 5:00 p.m. in the north gym, while the consolation contest will be at 5:00 p.m. on Monday in the south gym.

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MAKING IT RIGHT

There was an error in the Winter Sports Preview in last week's edition. The Falls City girls' basketball schedule was from 2023. The correct schedule is listed below. Also, on the Sacred Heart girls' schedule, January 11, 2024, at the Steve Vertin Classic should be a boy's game only. We apologize for the error.

Falls City Tiger Girls Basketball 24/25
12/27-@ Weeping Water Holiday Tourney
12/28-@ Weeping Water Holiday Tourney
1/2-@ Southeast Nebraska Shootout at Auburn
1/7-@ Nebraska City
1/10-@ Lourdes Central
1/11-vs Mead
1/13-1/18-@ East Atchison Tourney (Fairfax)
1/25-vs Johnson County Central
1/28-vs Auburn
1/31 -@Weeping Water
2/3-2/8-@ ECNC Tourney
2/11-vs Diller-Odell
2/13-@ HTRS
2/21-@Fairbury

50th Wedding Anniversary

John & Rita Seeba wedded fifty years ago on December 14, 1974 in Syracuse, NE. Throughout their marriage they have loved and honored each other, raised three children, and shared laughter and good times with their cherished family and friends. They now enjoy the pleasure of retirement and the good fortune of being grandparents to eight wonderful grandchildren.

Please honor their celebration by sending congratulations and your best wishes to 64999 706 Rd., Falls City, NE 68355.

With love, your family

Richardson County Area Churches

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.blogspot.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 Blue Valley Behavior Health Inc., 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.c

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
Pastor, Grant Speece
402-980-5960 cell

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., Facebook Live & Youtube Live
Mondays: Diaper Closet, 4:00-6:00 pm. 2nd & 4th Wednesday: Mosaic Table 6:00-7:15 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.mygnag.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

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.
Bob Heusman, Pastor

Riverside Fellowship

117 S 3rd St., Rulo, NE
Sunday Worship 9 am
Fellowship, Sunday School, & Adult Bible Study 10 am
Following Worship
David Showalter, 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

NorthRidge Falls City

(1820 Morton St.)
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Non-Denominational, Bible-based Contemporary worship Sunday: Sunday School, 9:00 a.m.; Worship Services, 10:00 a.m.
(402) 245-2167
www.northridgenetwork.org/falls-city

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 Seedors, 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. 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. Anthony Bedient, 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/spfpfc
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.
Joanna Kathol, 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. Thomas Episcopal Church

(16th & Harlan)
www.stthomasfalls.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

Valley Avenue Baptist Church

2023 Valley Ave.
Sunday: Sunday School, 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship Services, 10:30 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. All are welcome to this friendly church in the country.
http://www.facebook.com/fallscitycooperativeministry
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Overdose deaths decline, fentanyl threat looms

Tis' the season for holiday travel and family gatherings and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Omaha Division is encouraging communities across the Midwest to make the most of this time together by continuing conversations on the consequences of drug experimentation and dangers of fentanyl.

For the first time since 2018, the United States has seen a decrease in drug overdose deaths and poisonings, with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention noting a 14.5 percent decrease in deaths between June 2023 and June 2024. More than 107,000 people lost their lives to a drug overdose in 2023, with nearly 70 percent of those deaths attributed to opioids such as fentanyl.

"While we are grateful to see a decline in the number of lives lost, we know that this holiday season, there are more than 107,000 families missing their loved one because of the tragic consequences brought about by fentanyl," DEA Omaha Division Special Agent in Charge Steven T. Bell said. "Engage with your family and friends on a conversation about the dangers of fake pills and the risk of experimentation. Let's help ensure that next year's holiday gathering brings everyone together again safe and sound."

The latest DEA laboratory testing, announced earlier this fall, indicates that 5 out of 10 pills tested contain a potentially deadly dose of fentanyl. This is down from 7 out of 10 pills in 2023 and 6 out of 10 pills in 2022. Two milligrams of fentanyl is considered a lethal dose. For perspective, one gram of fentanyl, equivalent in size to a sugar packet, has the potential to kill up to 500 people.

For more information on fentanyl and other drugs currently seen across the Midwest, visit dea.gov or GetSmartAboutDrugs.gov.

Lady Titans give their all at Freeman

On Tuesday night, the HTRS Lady Titans dropped a heartbreaker in Adams, falling to the undefeated Freeman Falcons, 52-54. The contest was tight throughout, with Freeman leading 11-9 after one period and 28-22 at the break. However, HTRS stormed out of the locker room and outscored Freeman 15-9 in the third to knot the contest at 37-37 with eight minutes to play. The Falcons did just enough down the stretch to hold on for the two-point win and move to 5-0. The hard-luck loss dropped HTRS to 1-4. Three of the four Titan losses have come by a combined ten points. The Lady Titans fell to Weeping Water by three points, Lourdes Central by five and Freeman by two.

Guard Lillian Bowen continued her tremendous junior campaign with a team-high 26 points on 10/21 shooting, going 5/12 from beyond the arc. Fellow junior Elie Bstandig also dominated, finishing with 17 points, 23 rebounds, three assists and three blocks. Bstandig has recorded a double/double in four of the five contests, averaging 17 points and 15 rebounds per game this year. Kenadi McClarnen had five assists, and Bowen led the team with three steals.

As a team, HTRS went 21/63 from the floor, grabbed 49 rebounds, dished out 15 assists and turned the ball over 15 times.

Scoring for HTRS

Bstandig 17, Glathar 6, Bredemeier 3, Bowen 26.

The Lady Titans will play in the Weeping Water Holiday Tournament on Friday, December 27, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. vs. Parkview. The winner will play at 4:00 p.m. on December 28; the loser will play at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 28.

For Friday night's game versus Sacred Heart, see the Irish story.

Tiger grapplers travel to Platteview

The Falls City wrestlers competed in the 2024 Platteview Varsity Invite on Friday, December 20. Robert Gilkerson finished his day at 3-1 and placed third at 157 pounds. Gilkerson fell to Kaleb Griffith of Mount Michael Benedictine in the semifinals by a tech fall, 19-2. He rebounded to defeat Sykes of Raymond Central by a 5-0 decision and then won a 7-0 decision over Gage Friesen of High Plains Community in the third-place match. At 120, Bailey Thimmes went 3-2 to place fourth. In the third-place match, Thimmes lost a tech fall (18-2) to Dominic Olson of Wavery. At 175, Blakely Sells went 3-2 and earned a fourth-place finish. In the third-place match, Sells was pinned by J.C. Sievers of Lincoln North Star at 4:26. At 126, Cade Caudle went 0-2; at 165, Mason Collier finished 1-2;

at 190, Ashton Martin ended his day at 0-2; at 215, Chase Simpson went 1-2 and at 285, Caleb Zimmerman went 2-2.

The JV team also competed on Friday at Platteview. Dayton Snethen went 2-1 and placed second at 106 pounds. In the finals, Snethen lost by fall to Caden Caudill of Syracuse at :30. At 113, Wyatt Coonce went 0-2. At 132, Kaleb Kaiser finished 4-2 and placed fourth. Zane Elms went 0-2 at 138. Caden Collier finished 1-2 at 150 and Ryker Jones was perfect at 157, finishing 4-0 for first place. Jones pinned Jace Alban of Omaha Buena Vista in the finals at 4:41 for the win. Jayden Mirezlez went 1-2 at 190.

The Tigers wrestled at Auburn on Saturday morning and will be at Auburn for a double dual on January 7.



Rebecca Butrick

Rebecca A. (Foster) Butrick, 89, Becky as she was known by everyone, began her heavenly life on December 11, 2024.

Becky was born March 8, 1935, one of ten children born to the late Roscoe and Zollie (Kerns) Foster, in Falls City, Nebraska.

She attended country schools until she was in junior high and high school in Falls City.

On August 23, 1953, she married to the love of her life Donald R. Butrick. To this union five children were born: William, Zollie, Cynthia, Larry, and Peggy. They raised their family in White Cloud Robinson area before moving to Hiawatha to make their home in later years.

She has worked at the Brown County Infirmary, Belmont Casket Company in Falls City, Wilde Tool Company in Hiawatha, and Hammersmith Manufacturing in Horton.

Becky loved to cook, bake, growing flowers, watching wild birds and listening to them sing. She enjoyed sitting on the deck and loved her grandchildren and great-grandchildren 'to the moon and back.'

Survivors include her children: Larry Butrick (Christie), William Butrick (Joyce), and Peggy Hanesworth (Larry); 10 grandchildren, 32 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

Becky was preceded in death by her parents, husband Don, April 5, 2018, daughters Zollie, and Cynthia; grandson Dyllon, great-grandson Brock; and all nine of her siblings.

Memorial services are planned for 10:30 December 28, 2024 at Valley Avenue Baptist Church, 2023 Valley Avenue, Falls City, with Pastor Chad Berry officiating. Inurnment will follow at Olive Branch Cemetery, White Cloud with Tony French officiating.

Memorial contributions are suggested to the Becky Butrick Memorial Fund sent in care of Chapel Oaks Funeral Home, 124 S 7th St., Hiawatha, KS 66434.

Friends may sign the register book December 23 or 27 at the funeral home.

www.chapeloaksfuneralhome.com

www.fcjournal.net
Check online for late obituaries that didn't make the print edition

Lady Tigers are looking for breakthrough win

The Lady Tigers' rough stretch continued on Tuesday night when they faced the Elmwood-Murdock Knights. The Knights lost their first two contests of the season, but after Tuesday, they have won four straight and improved to 4-2 with the 67-20 win over Falls City. After defeating Boys Town on December 7, Falls City has lost three straight. Those three losses came to teams with a combined 12-3 record.

This season, turnovers and scoring have been issues for the Lady Tigers. FC is averaging 19.6 points per contest and the offense has turned the ball over 116 times in five games. On Tuesday, both issues reared their heads again. FC committed 28 turnovers and scored 20 points, while the Knights finished with 10 turnovers and 67 points.

Elmwood-Murdock led throughout, holding a 21-8 lead after one period, 40-11 at halftime and 53-17 with eight minutes to play.

The Lady Tigers shot 30% from the field, making 7/23 shot attempts. The Knights took full advantage of the Tiger's miscues, scoring 38 points off the FC turnovers. Elmwood-Murdock also had a 38-0 advantage with points in the paint.

Izzy Armbruster led FC with seven points on 2/9 shooting while adding three steals and two blocked shots. Delaney Godemann went 3/11 for five points. Brooklyn Mans scored 19 points, had six assists and five steals for the Lady Knights.

Scoring for FC: Ewers 2, Titus 3, Armbruster 7, Godemann 5, Kirkendall 3.

Scoring for Knights: Zierott 3, Hanes 10, Backemeyer 9, Mans 19, Haertel 6, Goudie 8, Fleischman 6, Justus 4, Hohman 2.

On Friday night, Falls City (1-4) played at Palmyra (2-3). FC was looking to end a three-game skid, while the Panthers had lost two of three. The Lady Tigers dropped the contest 26-53, falling to 1-5 for the year. Stats were not available before the *Journal* went to print.

The Lady Tigers will look to get on track after Christmas when they travel to Weeping Water for the 2024 Holiday Tournament. FC will play Conestoga in the "B" division on Friday, December 27, 2024, at 2:30 p.m. in the main gym. The championship will be on Saturday, December 28, at 4:00 p.m. in the main gym, and the third-place contest will be on Saturday at 1:00 p.m. in the reserve gym.

Tigers come close, still searching for first win

The Falls City Tiger basketball team fell to 0-5 for the season after dropping a 33-63 decision at Elmwood-Murdock on Tuesday night. FC trailed 3-4 with four and a half minutes to play in the first; then, the Knights finished the period on an 8-2 run to make it 12-5 at the end of the first period.

Elmwood-Murdock continued to pull away in the second period, outscoring FC 22-9 to make it 34-14 at the break. FC played a tight second half, but it wasn't enough. They were outscored 29-

19 in the final 16 minutes, falling by 30 to the host school. With the win, Elmwood-Murdock improved to 2-2.

The Tigers shot 23% (11-48) from the floor, while the Knights hit 51% (24/47) of their attempts. The Tigers were out rebounded 39-25 and turned the ball over 14 times.

Keifer Adams led FC with 15 points, including a 3/6 effort from beyond the arc. Eric Heinzelman led FC with six rebounds, while Elijah Leyden pulled down five. Brock Caudle, Leyden

and Jacoby Bangert each had two steals on the defensive end of the floor. Aidan Schmidt led Elmwood-Murdock with 20 points and 12 rebounds.

Scoring for Falls City: Q. Adams 8, K. Adams 15, Bangert 6, Jackson 2, Heinzelman 2. Scoring for Elmwood-Murdock: Fletcher 6, Mills 3, Wagner 4, Schmidt 20, Coleman 11, Jones 4, Towle 15.

The Tigers played at Palmyra on Friday night, hoping to end their five-game skid. The Tigers looked the part early, leading 12-10 after the first period and 23-15 at intermission. The game soured quickly in the third as the Panthers outscored FC 18-6 in the period to take a 33-29 lead into the final eight minutes. Unfortunately, FC ran out of steam down the stretch, getting outscored 22-10 in the fourth, falling 55-39. The Panthers improved to 2-4 with the win, while FC dropped to 0-6. Stats were not available by the *Journal's* deadline.

Falls City will look for momentum when they travel to Weeping Water High School after Christmas for the 2024 Holiday Basketball Tournament. The Tigers will play Raymond Central (0-5) on Friday at 5:30 p.m. in the main gym. The championship game will be at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, December 28, 2024, while the consolation game will be at 2:30 p.m. in the reserve gym.

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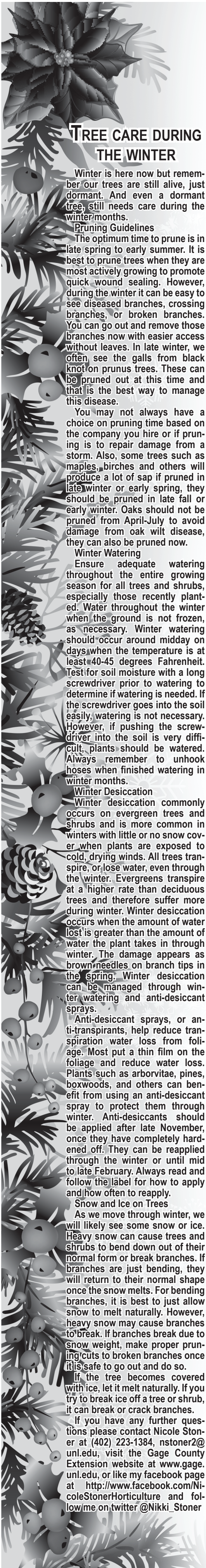
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TREE CARE DURING THE WINTER

Winter is here now but remember our trees are still alive, just dormant. And even a dormant tree still needs care during the winter months.

Pruning Guidelines

The optimum time to prune is in late spring to early summer. It is best to prune trees when they are most actively growing to promote quick wound sealing. However, during the winter it can be easy to see diseased branches, crossing branches, or broken branches. You can go out and remove those branches now with easier access without leaves. In late winter, we often see the galls from black knot on prunus trees. These can be pruned out at this time and that is the best way to manage this disease.

You may not always have a choice on pruning time based on the company you hire or if pruning is to repair damage from a storm. Also, some trees such as maples, birches and others will produce a lot of sap if pruned in late winter or early spring, they should be pruned in late fall or early winter. Oaks should not be pruned from April-July to avoid damage from oak wilt disease, they can also be pruned now.

Winter Watering

Ensure adequate watering throughout the entire growing season for all trees and shrubs, especially those recently planted. Water throughout the winter when the ground is not frozen, as necessary. Winter watering should occur around midday on days when the temperature is at least 40-45 degrees Fahrenheit. Test for soil moisture with a long screwdriver prior to watering to determine if watering is needed. If the screwdriver goes into the soil easily, watering is not necessary. However, if pushing the screwdriver into the soil is very difficult, plants should be watered. Always remember to unhook hoses when finished watering in winter months.

Winter Desiccation

Winter desiccation commonly occurs on evergreen trees and shrubs and is more common in winters with little or no snow cover when plants are exposed to cold, drying winds. All trees transpire, or lose water, even through the winter. Evergreens transpire at a higher rate than deciduous trees and therefore suffer more during winter. Winter desiccation occurs when the amount of water lost is greater than the amount of water the plant takes in through winter. The damage appears as brown needles on branch tips in the spring. Winter desiccation can be managed through winter watering and anti-desiccant sprays.

Anti-desiccant sprays, or anti-transpirants, help reduce transpiration water loss from foliage. Most put a thin film on the foliage and reduce water loss. Plants such as arborvitae, pines, boxwoods, and others can benefit from using an anti-desiccant spray to protect them through winter. Anti-desiccants should be applied after late November, once they have completely hardened off. They can be reapplied through the winter or until mid to late February. Always read and follow the label for how to apply and how often to reapply.

Snow and Ice on Trees

As we move through winter, we will likely see some snow or ice. Heavy snow can cause trees and shrubs to bend down out of their normal form or break branches. If branches are just bending, they will return to their normal shape once the snow melts. For bending branches, it is best to just allow snow to melt naturally. However, heavy snow may cause branches to break. If branches break due to snow weight, make proper pruning cuts to broken branches once it is safe to go out and do so.

If the tree becomes covered with ice, let it melt naturally. If you try to break ice off a tree or shrub, it can break or crack branches.

If you have any further questions please contact Nicole Stoner at (402) 223-1384, nstoner2@unl.edu, visit the Gage County Extension website at www.gage.unl.edu, or like my facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/NicoleStonerHorticulture> and follow me on twitter @Nikki_Stoner



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The 2005 Falls City South School Elementary Third Grade Class writes Christmas Poems for the *Journal*

Nancy Merz 3C Third Grade Class at South School Elementary had Christmas Poems published in the paper. Here are a few.

Christmas Night

By Trent DeBusk

On one Christmas night,
I saw such a sight.
As I gazed up towards the sky,
I could hardly believe my eyes.
But who could it be...
But the only one I could see.
A man dressed in red, landing on my roof,
With eight little tiny rain deer hoofs.
Then next to my surprise,
down the chimney he came with
a bag full of goodies for you
and me.
Merry Christmas

What Christmas Is All About

By Jordy Stoller

Christmas is a special time
My favorite time of year,
To be with friends and family
And wish them Christmas cheer.
A time to remember loved ones
That we care so much about,
A time to open presents
And give out a big SHOUT!
Christmas is a time to play
Maybe have a snow ball fight,
Gather with our family
And go caroling at night
No matter how busy we get
This hectic Christmas season
Remember Jesus was born for us
It is the most important reason.

Every Year as Traditions Go

By Maygan Ramsey

Every year as traditions go,
They get in their cars at the first sign of snow.
And head to the farms at the edge of town,
To cut the Family Christmas tree down.
Everyone should bring a treasure,
So our giant friend can measure.
The love for him that our hearts hold,
The feelings that we've never told.

Rudolph

By Jack Hartman

Rudolph has a bright nose.
He flies when it snows.
He is a little reindeer.
He fears nothing.
He can fly around the earth.
He was little at birth.
He has a shiney red nose
Do reindeer throw snow?
No!

The Poem of Jesus

By Elizabeth Oliver

Over the stable in Bethlam
The star was shining bright.
Mary and Joseph rode a
donkey one cold December night.
Then came baby Jesus
wrapped in swaddling
clothes.
They placed him in the manger
Now God everyone knows.

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CITY OF FALLS CITY CLAIMS

(Continued from Page 11)

Table with 2 columns: Expense/Item and Amount. Includes items like Infrastructure, Legal Expense, Advertising, etc.

PROJECT ACCOUNT SUMMARY

Table with 2 columns: PROJECT ACCOUNT KEY PAYMENT AMOUNT and Amount. Includes items like None, 180-05-53-52300, etc.

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Richardson, Nebraska will meet on December 17, December 24 and December 31 for the regular weekly meetings at 9:00 a.m., Room 202 in the Richardson County Courthouse...

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...

Mary L. Eickhoff Richardson County Clerk ZNEZ 11-18-24-31

NOTICE IN THE COUNTY COURT OF RICHARDSON COUNTY, NEBRASKA

Estate of Gregory Wassmuth, Deceased Estate No. PR 24-32 Notice is given that on December 16, 2024, in the County Court of Richardson County, Nebraska...

Bethany K. Godemann Clerk Magistrate County Court of Richardson County 1700 Stone Street, Room 205 Falls City, NE 68355

Allen Fankhauser, # 11239 Fankhauser, Nelsen, Weits, Ziskey, & Merwin PC 713 Fourth Street-Box 126 Humboldt, NE 68376 402.862.2321

NOTICE

In the County Court of Richardson County, Nebraska. In the Matter of the Estate of Walter M. Fritz, Deceased. Case No. PR24-51

Notice is hereby given that on November 27, 2024, in the County Court of Richardson County, Nebraska, Michael Fritz, whose address is 1103 Kickapoo St., Hiawatha, KS 66434, was informally appointed by the Registrar as Personal Representative of the above-entitled intestate Estate.

Creditors of this Estate must file their claims with this Court on or before February 11, 2025 or be forever barred.

Bethany K. Godemann Clerk Magistrate County Court of Richardson County 1700 Stone Street, Room 205 Falls City, NE 68355

WEAVER & MERZ Douglas E. Merz, No. 12807 1719 Stone Street P.O. Box 569 Falls City, NE 68355 (402) 245-3015

NOTICE OF FORMAL HEARING FOR COMPLETE SETTLEMENT IN THE COUNTY COURT OF RICHARDSON COUNTY, NEBRASKA

Estate of Keith Gerweck, Deceased. Estate No. PR24-4 Notice is hereby given that the Personal Representative has filed a final account and report of her administration, a Formal Closing Petition for Complete Settlement, Determination of Personal Representative's fee and attorney's fee and expenses which has been set for hearing in the County Court of Richardson County, 1 700 Stone Street, Room #205, Falls City, Nebraska, on January 13, 2025 at 2:30 p.m.

Bethany K. Godemann Clerk Magistrate County Court of Richardson County 1700 Stone Street, Room 205 Falls City, NE 68355

Michael R. Dunn, #16825 Tracy A. Burns, #25398 Halbert, Dunn & Burns, LLC 111 East 17th Street Post Office Box 447 Falls City, Nebraska 68355-0447 Phone: (402) 245-4486

24-31-8 ZNEZ

CERTIFICATE OF ORGANIZATION LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Name of the limited liability company: Coupe LLC. Street and mailing address of the initial designated office: 720 E 21st St., Falls City, NE 68355. Name of the initial agent for service of process: Logan James Coupe. Street, mailing address and post office box (if any) of the initial agent for service of process: 720 E 21st St., Falls City, NE 68355.

Effective date if other than the date filed 12/11/24.

/s/ Logan James Coupe Name of Organizer

11-18-24 ZNEZ

CITY COUNCIL

DECEMBER 2, 2024

A meeting of the City Council of the City of Falls City, Nebraska, was held in said City on the 2nd day of December 2024, at 6:00 o'clock P.M. Council met in regular session. Mayor Harkendorff called the meeting to order and Clerk Nussbaum recorded the minutes of the meeting. On roll call the following Council persons were present: Buckminster, Ferguson, Fouraker, Holle, Leyden, Rhodd, Absent: Ractliffe, Wisdom. Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by posting in three public places, a designated method for giving notice as shown by the Certificate of Posting Notice attached to these minutes. Notice of this meeting was given to the mayor and all persons of the Council and a copy of their acknowledgment of receipt of notice and the agenda is attached to the minutes. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice and in the notice to the Mayor and Council of this meeting. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public. Mayor Harkendorff publicly stated to all in attendance that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available for review and indicated the location of such copy posted in the room where the meeting was being held.

AGENDA

A motion was made by Council person Leyden and seconded by Council person Ferguson to approve the Agenda for December 2, 2024. Roll was called on this motion and the Council persons voted as follows: "YEA" Buckminster, Ferguson, Fouraker, Kaster, F. Killingsworth, K. Killingsworth, Leyden, Ruiz. "NAY" None. "ABSENT" None. Motion carried.

ELECTION - PRESIDENT OF THE CITY COUNCIL - DERRICK LEYDEN

Mayor Harkendorff asked if there were any nominations for the position of President of the City Council. Council person Ferguson nominated Council person Leyden. Council person Leyden accepted the nomination. Mayor Harkendorff asked if there were any more nominations.

A motion was made by Council person Ferguson and seconded by F. Killingsworth to cease nominations. Roll was called on this motion and the Council persons voted as follows: "YEA" Buckminster, Ferguson, Fouraker, Kaster, F. Killingsworth, K. Killingsworth, Leyden, Ruiz. "NAY" None. "ABSENT" None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Council person Buckminster and seconded by Ferguson to approve Leyden as President of the City Council effective December 2, 2024. Roll was called on this motion and the Council persons voted as follows: "YEA" Buckminster, Ferguson, Fouraker, Kaster, F. Killingsworth, K. Killingsworth, Leyden, Ruiz. "NAY" None. "ABSENT" None. Motion carried.

ELECTION - ACTING PRESIDENT OF THE CITY COUNCIL - JOE BUCKMINSTER

Mayor Harkendorff asked if there were any nominations for the position of Acting President of the City Council. Council person Leyden nominated Council person Buckminster. Council person Buckminster accepted the nomination. Mayor Harkendorff asked if there were any more nominations.

A motion was made by Council person Leyden and seconded by Ferguson to cease nominations. Roll was called on this motion and the Council persons voted as follows: "YEA" Buckminster, Ferguson, Fouraker, Kaster, F. Killingsworth, K. Killingsworth, Leyden, Ruiz. "NAY" None. "ABSENT" None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Council person F. Killingsworth and seconded by Leyden to approve Buckminster as Acting President of the City Council effective December 2, 2024. Roll was called on this motion and the Council persons voted as follows: "YEA" Buckminster, Ferguson, Fouraker, Kaster, F. Killingsworth, K. Killingsworth, Leyden, Ruiz. "NAY" None. "ABSENT" None. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENT OF THE MAYOR, COUNCIL PRESIDENT AND CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GROWTH ENTERPRISES, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A motion was made by Council person Ferguson and seconded by Council person Buckminster to approve the appointment of the Mayor, Council President and City Administrator to the Economic Development Growth Enterprises, Inc. Board of Directors. Roll was called on this motion and the Council persons voted as follows: "YEA" Buckminster, Ferguson, Fouraker, Kaster, F. Killingsworth, K. Killingsworth, Leyden, Ruiz. "NAY" None. "ABSENT" None. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENT - ANTHONY NUSSBAUM OF CITY CLERK/TREASURER/ADMINISTRATOR

A motion was made by Council person Leyden and seconded by Council person F. Killingsworth to approve the appointment of Anthony Nussbaum as City Clerk/Treasurer/Administrator as recommended by Mayor Harkendorff. Roll was called on this motion and the Council persons voted as follows: "YEA" Buckminster, Ferguson, Fouraker, Kaster, F. Killingsworth, K. Killingsworth, Leyden, Ruiz. "NAY" None. "ABSENT" None. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENT - JAMESON

BAKER - CHIEF OF POLICE

A motion was made by Council person Ferguson and seconded by Council person Leyden to approve the appointment of Jameson Baker as Chief of Police as recommended by Mayor Harkendorff. Roll was called on this motion and the Council persons voted as follows: "YEA" Buckminster, Ferguson, Fouraker, Kaster, F. Killingsworth, K. Killingsworth, Leyden, Ruiz. "NAY" None. "ABSENT" None. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENT - BLAKE BUCKMINSTER - BUILDING INSPECTOR

A motion was made by Council person F. Killingsworth and seconded by Council person Buckminster to approve the appointment of Blake Buckminster as Building Inspector as recommended by Mayor Harkendorff. Roll was called on this motion and the Council persons voted as follows: "YEA" Buckminster, Ferguson, Fouraker, Kaster, F. Killingsworth, K. Killingsworth, Leyden, Ruiz. "NAY" None. "ABSENT" None. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENT - MICHAEL DUNN AS CITY ATTORNEY AND TRACY BURNS AS DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY FROM HALBERT, DUNN & BURNS, LLC AS RECOMMENDED BY MAYOR HARKENDORFF

A motion was made by Council person Ferguson and seconded by Council person Fouraker to approve the appointment of Michael Dunn as City Attorney and Tracy Burns as Deputy City Attorney from Halbert, Dunn & Burns, LLC as recommended by Mayor Harkendorff. Roll was called on this motion and the Council persons voted as follows: "YEA" Buckminster, Ferguson, Fouraker, Kaster, F. Killingsworth, K. Killingsworth, Leyden, Ruiz. "NAY" None. "ABSENT" None. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENT - FALLS CITY FIRE CHIEF - MATT BEER, JON MCQUEEN AS FIRST ASSISTANT CHIEF - AND TIM DANIELS AS SECOND ASSISTANT CHIEF AS RECOMMENDED BY THE FALLS CITY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

A motion was made by Council person Fouraker and seconded by Council person F. Killingsworth to approve the appointment of Fire Chief Matt Beer, First Assistant Chief Jon McQueen and Second Assistant Chief Tim Daniels. Roll was called on this motion and the Council persons voted as follows: "YEA" Buckminster, Ferguson, Fouraker, Kaster, F. Killingsworth, K. Killingsworth, Leyden, Ruiz. "NAY" None. "ABSENT" None. Motion carried.

RESCHEDULING OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETINGS CONFLICTING WITH CALENDAR YEAR 2025 CITY HOLIDAYS

A motion was made by Council person Leyden and seconded by Council person Ferguson to revise the regular meeting Council dates of Monday, January 20, 2025, to Tuesday, January 21, 2025; Monday, February 17, 2025, to Tuesday, February 18, 2025; Monday, September 1, 2025, to Wednesday, September 3, 2025. Roll was called on this motion and the Council persons voted as follows: "YEA" Buckminster, Ferguson, Fouraker, Kaster, F. Killingsworth, K. Killingsworth, Leyden, Ruiz. "NAY" None. "ABSENT" None. Motion carried.

REVIEW OF THE FREQUENCY OF PAY CYCLES FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS OF THE CITY COUNCIL AND BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS/SARA RUIZ - COUNCIL PERSON

A motion was made by Council person Ferguson and seconded by Council person Buckminster to process Council and BOPW pay cycles to Monthly. Roll was called on this motion and the Council persons voted as follows: "YEA" Buckminster, Ferguson, Fouraker, Kaster, F. Killingsworth, K. Killingsworth, Leyden, Ruiz. "NAY" None. "ABSENT" None. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2025-2030 ONE & SIX YEAR STREET IMPROVEMENT PLAN AS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS/TREVOR CAMPBELL - PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

A motion was made by Council person Buckminster and seconded by Council person Leyden to amend the plan by moving Project M-282-86 from the six year projects to the one year projects. Roll was called on this motion and the Council persons voted as follows: "YEA" Buckminster, Ferguson, Fouraker, Kaster, F. Killingsworth, K. Killingsworth, Leyden, Ruiz. "NAY" None. "ABSENT" None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Council person Buckminster and seconded by Council person F. Killingsworth to amend the plan by moving Project M-282-67 from the one year

projects to the six year projects. Roll was called on this motion and the Council persons voted as follows: "YEA" Buckminster, Ferguson, Fouraker, Kaster, F. Killingsworth, K. Killingsworth, Leyden, Ruiz. "NAY" None. "ABSENT" None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Council person Leyden and seconded by Council person K. Killingsworth to adopt the 2025-2030 One & Six Year Street Improvement Plan as amended. Roll was called on this motion and the Council persons voted as follows: "YEA" Buckminster, Ferguson, Fouraker, Kaster, F. Killingsworth, K. Killingsworth, Leyden, Ruiz. "NAY" None. "ABSENT" None. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION FOR EXECUTION OF THE YEAR END CERTIFICATION OF CITY STREET SUPERINTENDENT FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2024 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS/TREVOR CAMPBELL - PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

A motion was made by Council person Buckminster and seconded by Council person Leyden to adopt the resolution as presented. Roll was called on this motion and the Council persons voted as follows: "YEA" Buckminster, Ferguson, Fouraker, Kaster, F. Killingsworth, K. Killingsworth, Leyden, Ruiz. "NAY" None. "ABSENT" None. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENT OF JUSTIN STARK, CLASS A SUPERINTENDENT'S LICENSE S-1534 & ENGINEER'S LICENSE E-13167, AS THE CITY STREET SUPERINTENDENT FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2025 BY MUNICIPAL CONTRACT AS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS/TREVOR CAMPBELL - PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

A motion was made by Council person Ferguson and seconded by Council person Leyden to appoint Justin Stark, Class A Superintendent's License S-1534 & Engineer's License E-13167, as the City Street Superintendent for Calendar Year 2025 by municipal contract. Roll was called on this motion and the Council persons voted as follows: "YEA" Buckminster, Ferguson, Fouraker, Kaster, F. Killingsworth, K. Killingsworth, Leyden, Ruiz. "NAY" None. "ABSENT" None. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENT OF MILLER & ASSOCIATES AS SPECIAL ENGINEER FOR WATER & WASTEWATER PROJECTS FOR CALENDAR YEARS 2025, 2026 & 2027 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS/TREVOR CAMPBELL - PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

A motion was made by Council person Buckminster and seconded by Council person Ferguson to appoint Miller & Associates as the Special Engineer for Water & Wastewater Projects for Calendar Years 2025, 2026 & 2027. Roll was called on this motion and the Council persons voted as follows: "YEA" Buckminster, Ferguson, Fouraker, Kaster, F. Killingsworth, K. Killingsworth, Leyden, Ruiz. "NAY" None. "ABSENT" None. Motion carried.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 6:45 pm

I, the undersigned, City Clerk for the City of Falls City, Nebraska, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of proceedings had and done by Mayor Harkendorff and Council on December 2, 2024; that all of the subjects included in the foregoing proceedings were contained in the agenda for the meeting, kept continually current and available for public inspection at the office of the City Clerk; that such agenda items were sufficiently descriptive to give the public reasonable notice of the matters to be considered at the meeting; that such subjects were contained in said agenda for at least twenty-four hours prior to said meeting; that at least one copy of all reproducible material discussed at the meeting was available at the meeting for examination and copying by persons of the public; that the said minutes from which the foregoing proceedings have been extracted were in written form and available for public inspection within ten working days and prior to the next convened meeting of said body; that all news media requesting notification concerning meetings of said body were provided advance notification of the time and place of said meeting and the subjects to be discussed at said meeting; and that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available and accessible to persons of the public, posted during such meeting in the room in which such meeting was held

Anthony Nussbaum, City Clerk Mark Harkendorff, Mayor ZNEZ

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.

4-11-18-24-31 ZNEZ

CHECK HOLIDAY DEADLINES

VILLAGE OF SHUBERT

Regular Monthly Meeting December 2, 2024 Shubert Library

The Village Board of Shubert, NE held the monthly board meeting on December 2, 2024 in the Shubert Library. Chairman Donna Lockard opened the regular meeting at 7:00 PM with the following board members present: Gary Hays, Tom Borrego, Linda Patchen and Will Surman. Clerk was present to record the meeting. Chairman announced the posting of the Open Meetings Law. Chairman asked for any additions or deletions to the agenda, hearing none. No Visitors. Chairman moved on to regular business. There was a motion and second (Patchen/Borrego) to approve the November 4, 2024 regular meeting minutes. Roll call vote was all "Aye." Motion carried. There was a motion and second (Hays/Lockard) to approve the account balance sheets and monthly claims with the addition of one claim. Roll call vote was all "Aye." Motion carried. Retirement of board member Will Surman. Thank you for your service to the Village of Shubert. Donna Lockard and Tom Borrego have been reelected. One board vacancy. Notice will be posted. If interested, come to the next board meeting January 6, 2025. Board Reorganization: Motion and Second (Patchen/Hays) for Donna Lockard to remain as Chairman. Roll call vote was all "Aye." Lockard abstained from vote. Motion carried. Motion and Second (Patchen/Lockard) for Gary Hays to remain as Pro-Temp Chairman. Roll call vote was all "Aye." Borrego "Nay". Motion carried. Motion and Second (Patchen/Hays) to approve the following assignments. Roll call vote was all "Aye." Motion carried.

Water & Wastewater Operators (Tracy Milke, Aaron Davis) Clerk & Treasurer (Jennifer Buchner) Water Commissioner (Gary Hays) Streets (Tom Borrego) Buildings & Park (Linda Patchen) Wood & Brush Pile () Fire Chief (Cody Tasler) Attorney (Mike Dunn) Street Superintendent & Engineer (Evan Wickersham, JEO Consulting Group) Budget Advisor/ Village Accountant (Jamie Aue) Bonded Plumber & Electrician (Davis PHE) Licensed Kennel (Animal Health Center) Richardson County Sheriff for law enforcement as needed.

General: First reading of trash price increase. Motion and Second (Patchen/Lockard) to increase trash fee by \$3.00. Roll call vote was all "Aye." Motion carried. Hays gave updates on the utility grant review process. Water & Sewer: Board reviewed Tracy's report. Wood & Brush pile: None. Buildings and Park: Community Building: Board discussed plans and current projects. Park: Bathrooms have been closed for the winter. Library is open every other Saturday morning. Check window for hours. Motion and Second (Lockard/Hays) to purchase air conditioner for the library. Roll call vote was all "Aye." Patchen "Nay" Motion carried. Streets: Potholes and street repairs were discussed. Motion and Second (Hays/Patchen) to pass resolution 2024-06 Year end certification of city street Superintendent (Evan Wickersham - JEO) Roll call vote was all "Aye." Motion carried.

The next regular board meeting will be Monday, January 6, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the Shubert Library. With no further business: Motion and Second (Patchen/Hays) to adjourn meeting at 7:48 p.m. Roll call vote was all "Aye." Motion carried.

Jennifer Buchner Village Clerk

Table with 3 columns: NAME, MEMO, AMOUNT. Lists various items and their costs, including insurance, payroll, utilities, and community building expenses.

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HELP WANTED

Join Our Growing Mental Health Practice!

We are a new, thriving mental health office seeking Therapists (Full-Time or Part-Time) and an APRN to join our team.

Exciting Opportunity: Be part of a supportive environment with exceptional growth potential.

Flexible Scheduling: Full-time and part-time positions available to fit your needs.

Take the next step in your career with us! Call 402-327-0017 today to learn more.

Career Position General Transit 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 General Transit Program and supporting the CHR transportation needs.

This supervisory position will direct a team of 1 to 2 others to provide high quality service to the members of the Sac and Fox Nation & the general public 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.

This position requires a high school diploma or GED certificate and a valid driver's license.

Submit the application form, cover letter, and resume, outlining your skills, back-ground, and interest in the position to employment@sacandfoxks.com or submit a paper copy of the application form, cover letter, and resume, to Tammy Epple, 305 N. Main, Reserve, KS 66434 or fax to (785) 742-3785 no later than 2 PM Thursday 01/9/2025.

SABETHA COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

Help Wanted

is accepting applications for the following positions:

REGISTERED NURSE-DAY SHIFT

Full-Time or Part-Time hours working 5am-5pm with every 3rd weekend required. Responsible for total patient care within assigned nursing unit.

DAY WEEKEND WARRIOR NURSE

Full-time position (36 hours/week) working weekends plus 1 other shift a week. Weekends are considered Saturday and Sunday. May request every 4th weekend off, however 3 shifts per week still must be worked. Shifts are 5am to 5pm. Responsible for total patient care within assigned nursing unit. Weekend Differential \$3.00/hr. Weekend Warrior differential for Saturdays and Sundays only \$6.00/hr-RN or \$4.00/hr-LPN.

NURSE-NIGHT SHIFT

Full-Time or Part-Time hours working 5pm-5am with every 3rd weekend required. Responsible for total patient care within assigned nursing unit. Night Shift differential now \$8.00/hr for RN or \$5.00/hr for LPN.

NIGHT WEEKEND WARRIOR NURSE

Full-Time position (36 hours/week) working weekends plus 1 other shift a week. Weekends are considered Saturday and Sunday. May request every 4th weekend off, however 3 shifts per week still must be worked. Shifts are 5pm to 5am. Responsible for total patient care within assigned nursing unit. Night shift differential \$8.00/hr-RN \$5.00/hr-LPN. Weekend differential \$3.00/hr. Weekend Warrior differential for Saturdays and Sundays only \$6.00/hr-RN or \$4.00/hr-LPN

MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIST

Full-Time position working 40 hours per week with every 4th weekend required. On-Call approximately 6 nights per month. Must have an MLT or MT degree. Responsible for collecting, preparing, analyzing and interpreting lab specimens.

An excellent base salary is offered for these positions, which includes PTO and pension plan. If interested in these opportunities visit the hospital's website at www.sabethahospital.com or call Julie Holthaus, Human Resource Director at 785-284-1584.



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WANTED

AMERICAN WALNUT. Buying standing walnut timber, 25 or more. Call 816-232-6781 in St. Joseph for details. 47-tf

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The Falls City Journal assumes no responsibility for employment opportunity, earn at home, rental, sale or other similar advertisements which are placed in our paper. This newspaper has neither the resources nor the time to investigate the reliability of such offers or sales.

HELP WANTED

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Currently accepting applications for:

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Excellent opportunity for individuals who take pride in their work and are willing to accept responsibility. No experience necessary, we are willing to train individuals with a good work record. We offer competitive wages, excellent fringe benefits including group health & life insurance, monthly bonus, 401k and deferred profit sharing.

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Southeast NE Community Action Partnership, Inc. (SENCA) is currently seeking low-income applicants in Pawnee, Johnson, Nemaha, Richardson, Otoe, Cass, and Sarpy Counties for weatherization services on their homes. Such services may include attic, wall, and foundation insulation, door or window replacements, refrigerator replacement, pipe wrap, LED light bulbs, carbon dioxide or smoke detectors, general air sealing and HVAC repairs or replacements. To qualify for free weatherization services, your household income must be at the 200% of the poverty level. If you receive either Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Aid to Dependent Children (ADC), Supplemental Security income (SSI), or have received Utility Assistance from HHS in the past year, you will qualify automatically. Household of one's gross income is \$30,120 and for each member in that household it increases by \$10,760.

For more information or applications, go to www.senca.org. You can also call or email Gin Christiansen, Weatherization Director at 402-862-2411 x110 or email at gchristiansen@senca.org.

JOB OPENINGS

The Nemaha County Hospital, Auburn, Nebraska has the following open positions: Full-time Medical Technologist: 10 p.m. to 6:30 a.m. and "on-call" as needed. Technologists perform various clinical laboratory tests to obtain data for use in diagnosis and treatment of diseases, perform general phlebotomy and arterial blood specimen collection, and other duties. Requires Bachelor of Science in Medical Technology or a closely related field and current AMT or ASCP Certification. Full Time Radiology Technologist: cross-trained in CT. The position is overnight, Monday- Thursday, working 10-hour shifts with a weekend call rotation every 3-4 weeks. Applicants must have ARRT, a Nebraska License, and be BLS Certified. Registered Nurse: "Come collaborate with a multidisciplinary 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, CHRO at (402) 274-6121 with any questions. EOE Employer/Vet/Disabled



Falls City Public Schools is seeking a full-time Sixpence Home Visiting Specialist to begin immediately.

Qualifications for the position include a bachelor's degree or higher in one of the following areas: Early Childhood Education, Early Childhood Special Education, Child Development, Human Services, Nursing, Social Work, Sociology, or Psychology. To apply for this position, please visit our application website at: http://www.fctigers.org/vnews/display.v/ART/500b4ac222d16.

In addition to the application form, all candidates are asked to submit (a) letter of application (b) a resume, (c) unofficial/official copies of all undergraduate and graduate transcripts, (d) a copy of his/her certificate (if available), and (e) three letters of recommendation written within the past two years.

Contact Information: Mr. Tim Heckenlively, Falls City Public Schools, 1415 Morton Street, Falls City, Ne 68355 Phone: 402-245-2825 - Fax: 402-245-2022 http://www.fctigers.org Falls City Public Schools is an EEO employer

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Happy Holidays

from these local businesses

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FALLS CITY REALTY PC

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"Happy Holidays!"

CSNC

Southeast Nebraska COMMUNICATIONS
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Falls City, NE 68355
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Falls City, NE 68355
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Brown's SHOE FIT CO.

FALLS CITY
1615 Stone St.

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"Happy Holidays"

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402-245-2722

1512 Stone St.
Falls City, NE
402-245-5202

H&R BLOCK

Dorr & Clark Funeral Home

2303 Harlan St.
Falls City, NE 68355
402-245-2424

Falls City Family Practice P.C.

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Have a safe & memorable Christmas & New Year!
From the staff of the Falls City Journal

