

Saying "I don't need newspapers; I get my news from the internet." is the same as saying "I don't need farmers; I get my food at the supermarket."

THE FALLS CITY JOURNAL

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COMMUNITY EVENTS

ADVERTISED IN THIS WEEKS PAPER

- October**
- 12** Elks Club 120 Yr. Celebration & Dedication Ceremony 4:30PM
 - 13** Courthouse Closed
 - 15** CMC Family Medicine Clinic Drive Thru Flu Shot Clinic 4-6PM
 - 20** CMC Family Medicine Clinic Flu Shot Walk In's welcome starting today, M-W-F from 8AM-Noon
 - 22** Cooper Nuclear Station will perform a test of the Alert and Notification System Sirens. Noon
 - 27** Land Auction at FC Elks Club 2:00PM
 - 28** Land Auction at FC Elks Club 10:00AM
 - 29** CMC Family Medicine Clinic Walk-In Flu Shot Clinic 4-6PM
- November**
- 14** Land Auction at FC Elks Club 10:30AM
-

To get in this Community events column, place an ad in the Falls City Journal by contacting Brian at brian@fcjournal.net or Nikki at nikki@fcjournal. Ads placed in the Journal are placed on our website calendar updated as ads come into the office.

- THESE GREAT PLACES ARE HIRING!**
- Magnolia Metal Corp.
 - Apostolic Sabetha
 - Sac and Fox Nation of Missouri in Kansas & Nebraska

WWW.FCJOURNAL.NET

CONTENTS

From the Journal Files.....	Page 3
Society/Students.....	Page 4
Public Record.....	Page 6
Sports.....	Pages 7, 8-12
Obituaries/Religious Direct..	Page 9
Restaurant/Retail.....	Page 10
Public Notices/Legals.....	Pages 11
Classified Ads.....	Pages 11

\$1.50



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Second victim comes forward to file charges against former officer



A former Falls City police officer has resigned from his Wahoo Police Department position and now faces criminal charges in two counties, according to prosecutors and court records.

A petition for a domestic abuse protection order was filed against 28-year-old Juan Ramirez Jr., according to court records.

After a criminal complaint charging strangulation, a Class IIA felony, third-degree domestic assault causing bodily injury, a Class I misdemeanor, first-degree sexual assault, a Class II felony was filed in Pawnee County, Ramirez was arrested.

On Sept. 23, a woman in Lancaster County reported to deputies a series of alleged abuses by Ramirez, according to an *(Please turn to Page 3)*



Exciting news regarding Mini Park

In case you've missed it, the Falls City Mini Park's recent renovations and additions are complete. The fourth mural has been hung on the wall, and the borders have been installed on the existing illustrations.

Funding is still being accepted to help cover the costs of the recent upgrades. All donations can be made to the Richardson Foundation for the benefit of the Mini Park.

Donations can be mailed to the Richardson Foundation, P.O. Box 161, Falls City, NE 68355, or dropped off to Kevin Malone at Frontier Bank in Falls City. All funds will be directly allocated towards the costs associated with the restoration and installation of the murals along with some updates to the park like getting electricity restored.

Kevin Malone, representing the Mini Park, recently had more exciting news to share regarding the property. Malone stated that Dorothy Towle has chosen to gift the park property to the City of Falls City.

The property will be donated through Southeast Nebraska Communications. The transfer of property will need the approval of the Council before it becomes official. It is hoped that the handing over of the tract of land can be completed by late November or early December.

Longtime local organization celebrating 120th year

Falls City Elks Lodge #963 is nearing a milestone. The fraternal organization will commemorate its 120th anniversary with a celebration on Sunday, October 12, 2025. The event will begin at 4:30 p.m. with a dedication ceremony of an Elk Statue and Courtyard of Flags at the south end of the parking lot. Following the dedication ceremony, a social hour and dinner will be held.

The Elks Lodge has long been a significant venue in Falls City, dating back to its establishment in the early 1900s. An article appeared in the February 17, 1905, *Falls City Daily News*, stating that an effort was underway to establish an Elks Lodge in the city. According to the snippet, the Elks organization was "of purely a social nature."

The paper was informed that the advocates were having trouble convincing the Grand Lodge that Falls City would be a good fit. "If the grand lodge officers doubt the ability of Falls City to perpetuate an Elks Lodge, a visit to our city and a knowledge of her capacity will at once disabuse their minds," read the paper.

After receiving a charter, the local group met its first milestone. The May 5, 1905, *Falls City News* stated that the local Elks had elected its first set of officers at a meeting at the Sphinx Club Rooms. Dr. Fred Keller was elected Exalter Ruler, Rev. H.B. Smith was named Esteemed Leading Knight, G.L. Hall was elected Esteemed Loyal Knight, R.C. James was named Esteemed Lecturing Knight, Ed May was named Secretary, J.C. Tanner was Treasurer, Herman Minnick was Tiler, D.M. Davies, J.W. Powell, and G.L. Windle were Trustees.

The *Falls City Journal* noted in the May 26, 1905, edition that the Lodge held its first installation, welcoming 34 members into the membership. The installation was held in Wahl's Hall. Deputy Exalted Ruler W.B. Taylor and the 14 members of the Omaha Lodge Team made the trip to Falls City for the installation.

The group chosen to lead the Lodge, "is a collection of officers that would do honors to any organization and will undoubtedly make the Elks in Falls City the popular lodge they should be," said the Journal story.

The Elks had "leased the entire upper floor of the Strong Building and the rooms were being fitted in the most modern style," *(Continued on Page 3)*

1926 Ad welcoming Elks to Falls City for the State Convention

Welcome Elks to the capitol of the world—Falls City. Look this town over thoroughly and you will agree with us in our declaration.

KRAMER'S
Groceries and Meats
1618 Stone Street Phone 76

Humboldt teen killed in Nemaha County, NE crash

A rural Humboldt teenager was killed Friday morning in a two-vehicle crash at the intersection of Highway 136 and 634 Avenue, according to a release from the Nemaha County Sheriff's Office.

The report said a 2002 Ford Explorer driven by 17-year-old Ren Avery was northbound on 634 Avenue crossing Highway 136 when it was struck by an eastbound 2015 Freightliner box truck driven by 30-year-old Yaumel Espinosa Gonzalez of Miami, Florida.

Avery was pronounced dead at the scene. Espinosa Gonzalez was not injured, the release said.

Nemaha County 911 first received a report around 6:42 a.m. of a truck that had gone off the road and caught fire. When first responders arrived, they discovered it was a two-vehicle crash.

Johnson Fire and Rescue, Auburn Fire and Rescue, the Nemaha County Sheriff's Office and the Nebraska State Patrol responded. The crash remains under investigation by the sheriff's office with assistance from the Nebraska State Patrol.



Embracing Local Journalism
for a Better Future

National Newspaper Week October 5-11, 2025

Our history in print

Celebrating National Newspaper Week


By Nikki McKim

Each October, National Newspaper Week celebrates the role community journalism plays in keeping people informed, connected and empowered. This year's theme, "Embracing Local Journalism for a Better Future," seems fitting.

For well over a century and a half the *Journal* has covered what's happening between the courthouse and cornfields, board meetings and ball games, births and farewells. Through every decade, the *Journal* has stood as the permanent record of who we are around Richardson County.

The work is never done, we strive to make sure every reader has access to the information that shapes their life. We're more than headlines, we are a public record that belongs to everyone reading this article at this very moment and even those who choose not to read us at all. We belong to everyone.

I love this paper with all my heart. I love the stress of finishing it to send to press on Monday morning, the smell of the fresh *Journal's* *(Continued on Page 2)*




HULLMAN'S FORD LINCOLN, INC.
1416 HARLAN ST.
402-245-4413

2025 FORD ESCAPE

All- Wheel Drive

Was \$35,240
-\$1,000 DISCOUNT
-\$5,000 REBATE
NOW ONLY \$29,240



Page 1



75 Years Ago, October 8, 1950 to October 14, 1950

A completely new women’s shoe department had been installed in Rudy’s Store at 1611 Stone Street. Ray Richardson of St. Joseph managed the business, and the stock was owned by Vern Thomas, also of St. Joseph.

A square dance was held in Dawson featuring Duryea’s Dixie Trio, who played all requests.

Two soldiers from Richardson County met on a bridge in Korea. The two included Pfc. Ralph Catlett and Pfc. Delman Shafer. Catlett, who was making a trip to Pusan with a military convoy, spotted Shafer, who was guarding the bridge. Neither of the two had known the other was in Korea.

Two men from Falls City were among 12 members of the clergy and 15 laypeople who received fourth-degree awards from the Knights of Columbus. The men honored were Rev. Irvin Weber and Peter Schawang.

The Board of County Commissioners agreed that the county would participate in the operation of a two-way police radio system if the city government also participated. Installation of the system in three cars and one central station would cost approximately \$3,000. It was recommended that the radios be installed in the vehicles of the sheriff, the deputy sheriff, and the city’s patrol car. The central station would be installed in the sheriff’s office with a remote-control attachment connected with the police station.

Two rural fire trucks made a run to the Wesley Carico farm, two miles northwest of Falls City, to extinguish a small blaze in a haystack. Only slight damage was reported. Russell Prater, Jesse Grush, Howard Grush and Carl Arnold responded to the call.

A hayrack ride for members of the Lions Club and their wives was held. Corda Wiemers furnished transportation with a wagon and tractor. A steak fry was also held with 100 in attendance.

Miss Leona Marlene Bachman and Raymond McKim, Jr., were united in marriage on Saturday, October 7, at 2:00 p.m. at the Methodist Church parsonage. Miss Louise Bachman was the bridesmaid, and Jim Noll acted as best man.

Flashing a ground attack that couldn’t be stopped, Falls City defeated Plattsmouth 26-12 on Friday the 13th. The Tigers ran for 410 yards on the ground and held the Blue Devils to 158 yards of offense.

Stella defeated Shubert 32-12 in six-man action. Alfred Skillet got the first score of the game for Stella on a one-yard run.

In Eastbourne, England, a hotel bartender confessed that he and a female friend had consumed 4,337 bottles of beer, 75 bottles of whisky, 49 bottles of gin, and 11 bottles of sherry over the last five years without paying for any of it. He was sentenced to two months in prison.

50 Years Ago, October 8-1975 to October 14, 1975

Lt. Col. Gordon Mohr, reportedly the first American wounded in World War II, was a speaker at the Bible Fellowship Church in Falls City.

OPPD announced it would charge customers for its use of costlier fuel during the recent shutdown of the Fort Calhoun nuclear station. The extra charge would be spread over six months.

Milt Harmon won the Richardson County Horseshoe Tournament held at City Park. Placing second was Alvin Strasil, and third went to Lloyd Bindle.

Tom Siefken, co-chairman of the Men’s Golf League, presented trophies to the championship team of Max Rathan, Ed Hartman, Marlin Armbruster, Ross Smith and Chuck Chaney.

Daniel Strecker, a Marine private, graduated from recruit training at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego.

The Falls City freshmen football team fell to Fairbury 42-12 at Jug Brown Stadium. Kevin Scheitel passed to Robbie Shields for the first TD, and Scheitel ran for the other score for FC.

Julie Wilhelm and Paul Heim were named queen and king at Humboldt, while Joni Hithath and Mark O’Banion were queen and king at Falls City.

Betty Frederick leased the Pony Creek Inn, located south of town, and was set to reopen the facility on October 13. Mrs. Frederick was also to continue operating the Crosstown Café.

Scott Kreifels and Mary Jo O’Grady were named Sacred Heart’s king and queen at the homecoming football contest against Nemaha Valley.

For Sale — 1964 Chevelle Malibu SS, good tires. \$300. Call 245-5181 after 6 p.m.

The faculty and students at Sacred Heart School gathered for the dedication of the Steven J. Kopetzky Memorial Tower. Father Dan Pohl, Father James O’Connor and Father Nicholas Baker carried out the blessing of the tower.

The True Value Bargain of the Month was a 4-Qt—economy Speed Cooker for \$8.99.

John Denver was voted Country Music’s Top Entertainer at the ninth annual Country Music Association Awards in Nashville.

25 Years Ago, October 8, 2000 to October 14, 2000

Nineteen members of the FC FFA Chapter participated in the District Land Judging Contest. The team of Ben Schott, Jake Rieger, Anthony Nussbaum, and Don Kafer placed first and qualified for the state competition.

John Huber and his 25-year-old grandson Ben Hall departed from the square in Humboldt at 6 a.m. and reached the Courthouse in Falls City six hours and 15 minutes later.

Dr. Duane Stehlik, Superintendent of Falls City Public Schools, announced his retirement at the end of the school year.

Jeremy Kearney had touchdown runs of 48, 36, 26, 26 and 43 yards as the Irish junior high defeated Lourdes 40-6. Brett McKim ran for a pair of two-point conversions.

The DV Jets fell to Lewiston 1-15 and 11-15. Erin Fritz and Cori Harmon each scored four points.

SunMart advertised 4lbs of bananas for \$1 and Banquet frozen dinners for 69 cents.

An open house was held at the Falls City Water Treatment Plant, south of Rulo, to showcase the plant’s \$1.8 million renovation.

“Bring it On” and “Urban Legends-Final Cuts” were showing at the Arrow Twin Theater in Hiawatha.

At Hullman’s Ford, you could choose from a 1999 Taurus or Sable starting at \$12,500, a 1999 Contour or Mystique starting at \$10,500, or a 1999 Mustang for \$14,750.

Shannon Stemple, a Southeast Consolidated senior, playing softball for Falls City, was named the *Falls City Journal* Athlete of the Week. Stemple earned 29 of Falls City’s 31 wins the past two years.

The Tiger volleyball team dropped a hard-fought match to the No. 9-ranked team in Class B. Beatrice snuck out of Falls City with a 15-10 and 15-12 win. Aliza Kottich set up her teammates with 16 assists, while Melissa Kopf was 14-of-15 serving with nine points.

Peter Beekman, a former Falls City attorney, submitted his name to be considered for an appointment as District Judge in the 4th Judicial District of Nebraska.

The Sacred Heart class of 1975 met at Lem’s Northvue Café to celebrate its 25-year

reunion. Class members determined that Ken Thiltges had changed the least, and Hank Prater had changed the most.

Members of Girl Scout Troop 176 distributed homemade bookmarks at the Lydia Bruun Library.

Nemaha Realty, Inc., advertised a 3-bedroom, 2 ½ bath home with a one-car garage and carport for \$53,000.

Longtime local organization celebrating 120th year

(Continued from Page 1)

according to the May 26, 1905, *Falls City Tribune*. “With its membership comprising many of our most prominent citizens and the well-selected material in sight, Falls City Lodge No. 963 should be a winner.” The Strong Building was located just north of the building occupied by the J.C. Penney store. The Strong Building was later destroyed in a fire; however, the Elks had already relocated by that point.

At the time Falls City gained its charter, there were 11 Elks Lodges present in Nebraska. The three newest charters belonged to Falls City (34 members), Alliance (46 members) and North Platte (54 members). Kearney was the next in line to gain acceptance in the organization. When recognized, Kearney would boast a charter membership of 104.

At the time that Falls City joined, the State of Nebraska had upwards of 2,500 Elk members. Omaha was the largest Lodge at the time with 650 members. Lincoln was next at 400, and Norfolk added 280.

The popularity of the Elks in Falls City skyrocketed, and by March 1921, the membership in Falls City had exceeded 600.

Falls City hosted the 14th annual State Association meetings on June 3 and 4, 1926, just 21 years after gaining membership. Joe C. Reavis was the Falls City Exalted Ruler, and Blaine L. Yoder was Secretary. The local newspapers were full of ads welcoming the Elk contingent to town.

In February of 1927, the Elks expanded, obtaining the Country Club, two miles west of town. The Elks assumed the \$400 debt of the club and agreed to maintain the golf course for a period of at least five years. Before deciding to sell to the Elks, the Country Club organization had been in existence for six years. On that February night, eighty Elk members were present for the vote, with 66 voting in favor of accepting the offer of the Country Club. The group thought it would be an added bonus for the Elks to offer golf to their members. The organization also planned to complete the partially built clubhouse, which had been begun years prior.

Flash forward five years. On Thursday, April 14, 1932, a meeting was held by the Elks to consider the sale of the Country Club to a golfers’ organization. It was reported on Friday, April 15, that the Falls City Country Club Association had purchased the lease, clubhouse and equipment of the club from the Elks. The

purchase price was \$200.

In 1961, the Elks moved to its present location at 1417 Stone Street. Fred Petersen was the Exalted Ruler that year. In November 2014, the Lodge embarked on an ambitious \$350,000 remodel project. During the project, the building was nearly entirely gutted, giving it a wide-open look. “Nothing like this has happened to our lodge in the last 50 years,” said Head Trustee Rob Gerweck at the “wall-breaking” ceremony.

Recently, issues with the parking lot have been addressed. Slowly, but surely, the entire parking lot will be upgraded, fixing a longtime issue.

The local Elks have long been essential to the community, but few have stuck out like Lowell Lewis.

Another milestone for the local lodge came on Friday, April 3, 2015, when the Falls City Elks installed Kristy Gerweck as its first female Exalted Ruler. The Elks first began accepting females into the membership in 1995. Kristy replaced outgoing E.R. Brian McKim. At the time of her installation, Kristy had been involved with the organization for over seven years.

In July of 1975, longtime director of the Elks Youth Program in Falls City, Lowell Lewis, became the first and only Falls City Elk to be elected to a national office. At the 111th Grand Lodge convention in Dallas, Mr. Lewis was elected Grand Inner Guard. At the time, Mr. Lewis was the Falls City Secretary, a past Exalted Ruler and a former State President of the Nebraska Elks Association. He also served as a District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler of Nebraska East.

The Falls City Elks have had numerous superb leaders and volunteers over the decades, but likely none as outstanding as Lewis.

Currently, Roger Lampe is the Exalted Ruler for the Falls City Elks. Lodge #963 has a membership of 558. Lampe is also presently serving as the 1st Vice President of the Nebraska Elks.

Over the course of 120 years, Falls City has produced six state presidents since becoming a Lodge. W.W. Jenne was the first to assume the role in 1922. Paul Zimmer was a State President in 1955, followed by William Heiser in 1962 and Lowell Lewis in 1971. In 1989, Edwin Stokes became State President and in 2013 Ben Hullman held the title. Lampe will become the seventh Falls City Elk to become State President during the State Meeting next spring.

Second victim comes forward to file charges against former officer

(Continued from Page 1)

arrest affidavit. She said Ramirez had beaten her over days, weeks and months, forced her into violent sexual encounters, strangled her, bit her and whipped her with belts and other objects. In her petition, she alleged Ramirez told her, “It’s not that bad. Next time it will be worse,” after she confronted him about bruises. The petition further alleged Ramirez made frequent derogatory comments about people of other races and claimed he would stop and search drivers based solely on appearance.

The new charges came after similar charges were filed in Pawnee County. The victim came forward after learning Ramirez had been jailed in the Pawnee case.

Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice records show Ramirez’s law enforcement certification was the subject of a revocation case in early 2024. At its January 19, 2024 meeting, the Commission dismissed the case, and no changes were made to his certification. In response

to a public records request, the Commission confirmed the dismissal but denied release of investigative records, citing Nebraska law that exempts law enforcement certification investigations from disclosure. Court filings also note that on Dec. 24, 2024, police were called to Ramirez’s residence for a domestic disturbance.

That victim later recanted the statement in January 2025

Ramirez’ has posted bail in Lancaster County but remains in custody in Pawnee County on a \$100,000 bond. Court records show he is scheduled to appear Oct. 20 and Nov. 6.

All charges remain allegations, and Ramirez has not been convicted.

COUNTRY JAMBOREE

This Friday @ 6:30 pm
Stanton Lake, Falls City
EVERYONE WELCOME!
Questions: 402-883-0289

Falls City Elks Lodge #963

120 YEAR CELEBRATION & DEDICATION CEREMONY OF ELK STATUE & COURTYARD OF FLAGS

Sunday, October 12

4:30PM: DEDICATION

SOUTH END OF PARKING LOT

5:00-6:00PM: SOCIAL HOUR

6:00PM: CELEBRATION DINNER

\$15/PERSON RSVP'S APPRECIATED, NOT MANDATORY, PULLED PORK, BAKED BEANS & COLESLAW

7:20PM: CHIEFS GAME

FROM THE JOURNAL ARCHIVES



We’re asking for your help in solving the mystery each week of our thousands of photos. If you know who, what, when or where is pictured, please email us at brian@fcjournal.net or nikki@fcjournal.net and look in an upcoming issue or our Facebook page for answers.

Nebraska corn growers deliver 700+ signatures to Congress, urging action on E-15, Trade and Farm Bill

The Nebraska Corn Growers Association (NeCGA) gathered more than 700 signatures during this year’s Husker Harvest Days in support of key legislative priorities for corn growers across the state. The signatures advocate for priorities that directly impact growers, including year-round, nationwide access to E-15 fuel, the implementation of vital trade agreements and updates to Farm bill provisions. Given the concerning economic situation our industry is in, NeCGA believes these are high priorities. NeCGA Director of Public Policy, Kaitlin Taylor, personally delivered the collected signatures to Nebraska’s congressional offices, reinforcing NeCGA’s ongoing advocacy for policy changes that support rural economies and corn growers. Taylor

was in Washington, D.C. as part of a larger advocacy fly-in and visited Nebraska’s congressional offices, United State Department of Agriculture staff and committee staffers. “The number of signatures we collected shows how united our growers are around these priorities,” said Jan tenBensel, farmer from Cambridge and NeCGA board member who was in Washington, D.C. “Farmers need action on E-15, trade and the Farm Bill, and they are making their voices heard.”

NeCGA continues to work closely with lawmakers to ensure the needs of Nebraska’s corn growers remain a priority. The Nebraska Corn Growers Association (NeCGA) is a grassroots commodity organization that works to advance Nebraska corn farmers through leadership, policy and education. NeCGA has more than 2,400 dues-paying members in Nebraska. NeCGA is affiliated with the National Corn Growers Association, which has more than 36,000 dues-paying members nationwide.

Paid Sick Time Law now effective

The Nebraska Healthy Families and Workplaces Act (paid sick time law) went into effect Wednesday, October 1, 2025. The new law requires businesses with 11 or more employees to provide their employees with paid sick time. Effective September 15, 2025, employers were required to provide written notice and postings regarding the new law. A model notice and poster have been provided at dol.nebraska.gov in both English and Spanish.

Starting October 1, 2025: Employees accrue paid sick time after 80 hours of employment and at a minimum of 1 hour paid sick time for every 30 hours worked. Employers may cap the leave at 40 hours or 56 hours per year, depending on employer size, or they may provide more leave than what the law requires. Small businesses are employers with 11 to 19 employees and must allow employees to accrue up to 40 hours of paid sick time per year. Employees with 20 or more employees must allow employees to accrue up to 56 hours of paid sick time per year. Employees may use paid

sick time, at their own request, free from retaliation, for themselves, a family member, or like family relationship, for mental or physical illness, preventative medical care, or for closure of school or childcare by order of public health emergency. More information is available at: dol.nebraska.gov/Labor-Standards dol.nebraska.gov/Labor-Standards/WorkerRights/PSTFAQs Paid Sick Leave Guidance Questions may be emailed to the Nebraska Department of Labor, Labor Standards Division at: NDOL.LaborStdtdsInquiries@nebraska.gov.

Sixpence Diaper Depot in need of donations

The Sixpence Diaper Depot in Falls City is asking for community help to stock needed supplies. Organizers said they have reached out to the local food bank for assistance but also want to give residents the opportunity to donate directly. Items most needed include: 3T/4T Pull Ups 6T/7T Pull Ups Size 7 diapers Diaper wipes OverNight Pull Ups size S/M OverNight Pull Ups size L Donations may be dropped off at the Six Pence office or SENCA. For more information, contact the program directly.

FCPD DEPT. ACCIDENT REPORTS

The Falls City Police Department investigated a two-vehicle accident in the parking lot of Falls City Medical Center on Sept. 18, 2025. The report states that Cynthia Tilton of Salem, Neb., was attempting to enter a parking stall when her vehicle struck a parked vehicle owned by Summer McGinnis of Falls City. McGinnis’ vehicle was parked to the south of the stall Tilton was entering. Damage was estimated at \$1,000 to the McGinnis vehicle and \$500 to the Tilton vehicle. No injuries were reported.

SOCIETY NEWS

Shubert American Legion Auxiliary Unit 222

By Tana J Brown Secretary The Shubert American Legion Auxiliary Unit 222 met September 9, 2025 at the home of Jana Wheeler. Co-president Vicki Beilke called the meeting to order and called for a moment of silence. Chaplain Lacey Noa offered the opening prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and 2 verses of “This Land is Your Land” was sung, and the ALA Preamble was recited. Roll call was answered by 12 members. Secretary Tana Brown read the minutes of the August 12, 2025 meeting. They stand approved as read. Treasurer Judy Schlosser shared the treasurer’s report. There were no bills presented. For Communications: Vicki Beilke mentioned her article that appeared in the paper promoting what the ALA does. Fall Round UP will be in Crab Orchard and the invitation was shared with those present. Committee Reports were given: Tana Brown reported that the Americanism Essay info has been received and in process of being disbursed. HTRS has approved the Unit to again take part in the Veterans Day program in November. Jana Wheeler reported that Carrie Hall agreed to be the chair of community service. For VA & R, Linda Patchen said she doesn’t need colors right now for the bags. Vicki Beilke shared that Christy Vice agreed to be a part of the Christmas tour of homes. Judy Schlosser showed the members a beautiful patriotic quilt that she made and Beth Vonderschmidt quilted. She offered to donate the quilt to be raffled to raise funds for the Unit. It was agreed to sell tickets for \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Jana Wheeler will sell at her booth during the Richardson County Fair in Humboldt. Judy will check if we can take tickets to the fall round-up. Members can also be contacted at any time to purchase tickets. The raffle will be promoted on face book. Tickets will be on sale until the EOY and the drawing will be live at our January 13, 2026 meeting. Amber Last and Tana Brown participated in the Cobblestone parade and several plan to participate in the Richardson County Fair parade on Saturday, September 13. Linda Hopper is having a moving sale on October 18. She inquired if the Unit would like to have a food stand. After discussion it was decided to proceed. Dona Hall will contact her. The next meeting will be held on October 14, 2025 at 6:30 at the home of Vicki Beilke. Lacey Noa gave the closing prayer Co-President Vicki Beilke declared the meeting adjourned.

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ATTENTION
NEIGHBORS OF
COOPER NUCLEAR STATION
LIVING IN NEBRASKA:

At Noon on Wednesday October 22nd, Nebraska Public Power District, in conjunction with Nemaha and Richardson County Authorities, will perform a test of the Cooper Nuclear Station Alert and Notification System Sirens.

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

If you have any questions about this test, please call the Cooper Nuclear Station Emergency Preparedness Department at (402) 825-5682 for more information.

Homecoming 2025 at Falls City Sacred Heart

Homecoming will be held the week of October 6-10 at Falls City Sacred Heart Catholic School.

The Student Council has planned a week full of activities based on the theme “Let’s Glow!” This includes dress-up days for the high school students starting with “Wake up and Glow” Monday: Wear pajamas with neon socks, slippers or glow accessories; “Glowing for the Win: Tuesday: Dress like a spirited fan or tailgater or rep your favorite team jersey; “Cowboy vs. Country Club Glow Up” Wednesday: Giddy up or Tee up – Choose your style; “Rhyming without Reason – Glow on!” Thursday: Team up with a friend or group of friends and dress as a silly rhyming pair. “Let’s Glow Neon Colors” Friday: 9th will wear green, 10th will wear yellow, 11th will wear orange, and 12th will wear pink. The K-8 students will join in the fun on Friday by wearing blue jeans and spirit shirts.

Wednesday evening the Student Council will host a community Taco Feed. The Pep Rally and Football Jersey Auction will take place in the RAC beginning at 6:30 p.m. After the pep rally, everyone is invited to stay for the football jersey auction and bid on their favorite football player’s jersey with the privilege of wearing the jersey to the Homecoming game and then returning the jersey to the player Friday night after the football game. The National Honor Society will sponsor the high school Homecoming Scavenger Hunt following the jersey auction.

The All-School Homecoming Mass will be celebrated at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, October 10, in remembrance of deceased Sacred Heart alumni.

Friday afternoon, the Student Council is hosting a hot dog picnic for high school students and staff followed by the high school class skits and games to held in Tiehen Gymnasium.

The Homecoming football game, featuring the Sacred Heart Irish vs. the Freeman Falcons will take place Friday evening at Jug Brown Stadium beginning at 7:00 p.m. The coronation of the Homecoming queen and king will be held following the football game. Candidates for Homecoming Queen are Brookelyn Bebermeyer, daughter of Ted and Joy Bebermeyer; Avery Santo, daughter of Luke and Jina Santo; and Daycee Witt, daughter of Amanda and Clayton Vonderschmidt and Monty and Nicole Witt. King candidates are Elijah Canonico, son of Melanie and Jake Rieger and the late Timothy Canonico; Brenden Lemerond, son of Brian and Jessie Lemerond; and Cole Taft, son of Troy and Angie Taft. Following the coronation, the Homecoming Dance will be held at Tiehen Gymnasium.

Young readers invited to write to favorite authors

Young readers in grades 4-12 are invited to write a personal letter to an author for the Nebraska Letters about Literature (LAL) contest, a state reading and writing promotion program. The letter can be to any author (living or dead) from any genre: fiction or nonfiction, contemporary or classic - explaining how that author’s work changed the student’s view of the world. Submissions must be completed online October 1 - December 31, 2025. Nebraska Letters About Literature is coordinated and sponsored by the Nebraska Center for the Book and the Nebraska Library Commission, with support from Lincoln City Libraries, Francie & Finch Bookshop, and Humanities Nebraska.

The Nebraska Center for the Book’s panel of judges will select a winner and an honorable mention per competition level (Level I for grades 4-6, Level II for grades 7-8, and Level III for grades 9-12) to be honored in a proclamation-signing ceremony at the state capitol during National Library Week in April 2026. Their winning letters will be placed in the Jane Pope Geske Heritage Room of Nebraska Authors at Bennett Martin Public Library in Lincoln. Nebraska winners and honorable mentions will receive state prizes.

Teachers, librarians, and parents can download the contest guidelines, free teaching materials, information on the online entry system, and past winning letters on the Nebraska Center for the Book website. An informational NCompass Live webinar aired on October 1st, discussing this year’s contest, the submission process, and judging

criteria, with a recorded session soon available. For more information contact Nebraska Center for the Book.

The Nebraska Center for the Book is housed at the Nebraska Library Commission and brings together the state’s readers, writers, booksellers, librarians, publishers, printers, educators, and scholars to build the community of the book, supporting programs to celebrate and stimulate public interest in books, reading, and the written word. The Nebraska Center for the Book is supported by the national Center for the Book in the Library of Congress and the Nebraska Library Commission.

As the state library agency, the Nebraska Library Commission is an advocate for the library and information needs of all Nebraskans. The mission of the Library Commission is statewide promotion, development, and coordination of library and information services, “bringing together people and information.”



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THE HUMANE SOCIETY



NHS and SNC partner to provide 360 food backpacks: The Falls City High School National Honor Society has partnered with SNC to support families in the community by sorting and filling backpacks with food. For six weeks, students volunteered their time to prepare 60 backpacks each week. In total, the project provided 360 bags of food for local residents. The effort is aimed at helping meet food needs in the area and ensuring that children and families have access to basic supplies. Students who helped with the project included, front row from left, Kyleigh Furnas, Carlea Dunkhas, Emmett Daake, Evie Rue, Kaydence Rego, Dayton Snethen and Bowdy Jones. Back row, Breean Eickhoff, Malori Kuker, Brock Niedfeldt and Gavin Bauer.

Verdon man injured in motorcycle crash

A Verdon man was seriously injured in a motorcycle crash Sept. 26 on Highway 8 near 646 Avenue, according to a Richardson County Sheriff’s Office report.

The report said Frank P. Pagnano, 56, was traveling west on a 2010 Harley-Davidson at about 6:39 p.m. when he got too close to the white line, struck the rumble strips and lost control. The motorcycle left the roadway, rolled and came to rest about 60 feet from the highway in ankle-deep water.

Pagnano was ejected and suffered serious injuries, the report said. Falls City EMS transported him to Community Medical Center in Falls City.

Humboldt woman injured in rollover crash

A Humboldt woman was injured Sept. 29 when her pickup rolled on 634 Avenue south of Highway 4, according to a Richardson County Sheriff’s Office report.

The report said Tiffany S. Phillips, 42, of Humboldt, was driving a 2016 Ford F-350 south when the vehicle began to lose control. It crossed the center of the gravel road, briefly touched the east edge, then veered back across the roadway and off the west side. The truck overturned, coming to rest on its driver’s side in the middle of the road.

Phillips was wearing a seat belt and was taken by Humboldt Rescue to Nemaha County Hospital in Auburn with suspected minor injuries, the report said.

The vehicle, owned by Trent Phillips of Humboldt, was totaled in the crash

Two-vehicle crash south of Rulo injures Humboldt woman

A Humboldt woman was injured Sept. 30 in a two-vehicle crash on 664 Avenue about two miles south of Rulo, according to a Richardson County Sheriff’s Office report.

The report said Kaylee Marie Jeralds, 20, was driving a 2024 Kia Forte south when her vehicle struck a trailer that was being backed into the roadway from a driveway. The impact sent Jeralds’ car into a ditch on the east side of the road, where it hit a guardrail and came to rest.

Jeralds was transported by Falls City EMS to Community Medical Center in Falls City with suspected minor injuries, the report said.

The other driver, identified as Kevin Scott Waggoner, 59, of Hiawatha, KS. was operating a 2011 Ford F250 owned by the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska. He was reportedly not injured.

FALLS CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT ACCIDENT REPORTS

The Falls City Police Department investigated a two-vehicle accident with airbag deployment at 7:38 a.m. Sept. 30 at the intersection of 13th and McLean streets. According to accident reports, a 2012 Buick Enclave driven by Desiree Adell Dawkins of Falls City was traveling south on McLean Street when it was struck by a 2017 GMC Yukon driven by Samantha Witt of Falls City. Witt was eastbound on 13th Street at the time of the collision.

The vehicles collided in the intersection in a front-to-side “T-bone” manner. Dawkins’ Enclave came to rest on the southwest corner of the intersection and Witt’s Yukon came to rest in the southeast corner. The Yukon had significant front-end damage with all airbags deployed, and the Enclave sustained heavy passenger-side damage with side curtain airbags deployed.

Falls City EMS evaluated occupants at the scene. Dawkins’ passenger complained of a minor forearm abrasion. Dawkins was accompanied by two juvenile passengers, and Witt had one juvenile passenger. No serious injuries were reported. Both vehicles were towed from the scene by Armbruster’s Towing. Damage to each vehicle was estimated at about \$10,000. The crash remains under investigation by the Falls City Police Department.

A 1994 Ford Taurus driven by Don Jorn of Verdon and a 2012 Ford F-250 driven by Michael R. Waggoner of White Cloud, Kansas collided at 11:25 a.m. Sept. 29 in the Farm & City Supply parking lot on East 26th Street, according to a Falls City Police Department crash report. The report states Waggoner was backing from a south-facing stall when his truck sideswiped the rear driver’s side of Jorn’s Taurus as Jorn exited toward East 26th Street. No injuries were reported. Damage was estimated at \$500 to the Taurus and \$50 to the F-250. No citations were issued.

THE RICHARDSON
COUNTY COURTHOUSE
WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY,
OCTOBER 13, 2025 IN
OBSERVANCE OF
COLUMBUS DAY

Community
Medical Center

Family Medicine Clinic
FLU SHOT CLINICS

Cost of Flu Shot: \$30 • High Dose: \$70
(High dose available for ages 65 & older)
Medicare will pay for the flu shot

Drive Thru
Flu Shot Clinic
Wed., October 15th
4:00-6:00 pm

Walk In
Flu Shot Clinic
Wed., October 29th
4:00-6:00 pm

Families with children under 10 years may be asked to come inside. Please wear a loose fitting, short sleeved shirt. Flu shots will be available to everyone. Please bring a copy of the front and back of your insurance card.

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Walk-In's also welcome M-W-F 8am-Noon starting October 20th

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Irish fly past Jets for the win

The Lady Irish split a pair of matches this past week. On Tuesday, Sacred Heart traveled to Adams to take on the Freeman Falcons. The Falcons entered the week as the eighth-ranked squad in Class C-2. Freeman controlled the first set on Tuesday, winning 25-10. However, Sacred Heart fought back to take set two, 25-22. Unfortunately, SH ran out of steam, falling 25-12 and 25-7 in the final two sets.

The Irish ended the contest with 28 kills on 102 swings, with 22 errors, for a .059 hitting percentage. Hallie Jones led the offensive attack with six kills, while Isabelle Nussbaum, Daycee Witt and Kemper Sipple all added five. Junior Dorothy Crouse was the defensive leader for SH with 16 digs, while Ryann Westengaard added 10. Witt was also the top playmaker for the Lady Irish, setting her teammates up 15 times for points. Freeman finished with a .274 hitting percentage, with 50 kills on 124 swings with 16 errors.

The Irish ended a four-game losing streak on Thursday when they swept the Jets in Sterling, 25-6, 25-6 and 25-7. The win improved Sacred Heart to 13-11, while Sterling remains winless at 0-16.

Thursday night, Sacred Heart finished with an impressive .312 hitting percentage. The Irish pounded out 23 kills on just 48 attempts. Meanwhile, Crouse served up seven aces and 15 points. Nussbaum finished as the team leader with nine digs, while Witt added nine assists.

The Irish hosted 13-5 Savannah on Tuesday and will host 10-3 Sidney on Thursday. The contest on Thursday will be the final home game of the season for the Lady Irish.

Titans secure season’s first win

The HTRS football squad held on for its first win on Friday night, defeating Cedar Bluffs 50-44. The win snapped a seven-game skid for HTRS, while Cedar Bluffs fell to 2-4 with the loss.

HTRS finished the contest with 90 yards through the air and 219 more on the ground as they moved to 1-5 for the year.

The Titan’s Kameon Dettmann completed 7/11 pass attempts for 90 yards and three touchdowns on Friday night at Cedar Bluffs High School. Meanwhile, Alex Dewberry had a monster game on the ground, carrying the ball just 11 times, but amassing 119 yards and one score. Dettmann added 94 and two scores on 20 carries, with a long of 37 yards.

Through the air, Jack Hilgenfeld snagged three passes for 20 yards and one score, while Dewberry added four catches for 69 yards and two touchdowns. Dewberry also added a 50-yard kickoff return for a score.

Defensively, Jake Davis had a team-best ten stops, Reed Shupp added nine and Dewberry finished with eight tackles. Davis and Axton Wamsley each had two tackles for losses. Dewberry and Hilgenfeld led the squad in takeaways with one fumble recovery each.

HTRS will look to make it two in a row when they host the 4-2 Weeping Water Indians on Friday, October 10, with kickoff at 7:00 p.m. Weeping Water got pounded by Lourdes Central Catholic last week, 55-6.

Early lead doesn’t hold up as Irish fall to Knights

One week after defeating HTRS for its first win of the season, Sacred Heart fell to Elmwood-Murdock 74-28 at Jug Brown Stadium on Friday night.

The Irish landed the first blow on Friday night. With just under two minutes gone in the game, Noah Howard secured a 21-yard pass from Irish QB Brenden Lemerond to put the Irish in front. The PAT run by Lemerond made it 8-0. Sacred Heart’s initial drive covered 55 yards and needed just five plays to reach paydirt.

The visitors responded, tying the contest three and a half minutes later. The Irish offense sputtered on the ensuing drive, punting after a three-and-out. The Knights Clayton Wagner fielded the punt at his 20-yard line and bolted for a 60-yard score. The PAT run put the visitors ahead for good at 16-8 with 5:18 on the clock in the first. A second straight three-and-out and an 18-yard punt set Elmwood-Murdock for its third score. The Knights needed just five snaps to cover nearly 50 yards, ending with a 12-yard run by Brody Marsh

to allow the visitors to take a 24-8 lead after the first quarter.

Fast forward to the eight-minute mark of the second quarter. Now trailing 8-38, Elijah Canonico stopped the bleeding with a five-yard touchdown run. The two-point conversion pass from Lem to Kyler Sipple cut the lead to 22 at 16-38.

It looked as though things were breaking the Irish’s way. The ensuing onside kick was recovered by the kicker, JJ Lancaster, at the Knight 38.

On the fourth play of the drive, Cole Taft hauled in a six-yard pass from Lemerond, cutting the Knight advantage to 16 at 22-38.

The Irish awoke a beast as Elmwood-Murdock proceeded to score the game’s following 36 points. With 4:42 to play in the game, SH trailed 22-74.

Trailing by 52 points, SH finally got back on the scoreboard with 1:12 remaining in the contest. Cash Witt ended a six-play, 53-yard drive with a two-yard TD run to make the final 28-74.

The Irish were out-gained 417 to 37 on the

ground but held a 215-104 advantage through the air.

Sacred Heart Stats

Rushing: Canonico 8-15, 1 TD; Clow 2- -1; Howard 4-10; Lemerond 10- -4; C. Witt 5-17, 1 TD.

Passing: Clow 3/3, 46; Lemerond 14/25, 169, 2 TDs, 1 Int.

Receiving: Canonico 2-32; Fletcher 2-39; Howard 2-50, 1 TD; Sipple 3-35; Taft 7-52, 1 TD; T. Witt 1-7.

Sipple led the defense with seven stops, while Canonico (five) and Baxter (4) helped out as well. Baxter had one tackle for loss.

The loss dropped Sacred Heart to 1-5, while Elmwood-Murdock improved to 5-1. The Irish will host the 1-5 Freeman Falcons on Friday night at Jug Brown Stadium for 2025 Homecoming. Freeman has dropped four straight games since defeating Tri County 30-22 in the second week of the season. The Falcons fell to Johnson-Brock 78-21 in action last week in Johnson.



Sacred Heart’s Kaylie Lewis (8) and Mia Lemerond (10) combine to make sure the ball gets over the net on Thursday evening at the Roh Activity Center. The Irish Junior High A team defeated HTRS 25-9 and 25-8, while the SH B team won 25-7 and 25-7.

Tigers hoping for a strong push as the season winds down

The Falls City Tiger volleyball team competed in the 2025 Thunderbird Invitational Volleyball tourney on Saturday, October 4, 2025.

The sixth-seeded Tigers opened the day against the third-seeded Lourdes Central Catholic Knights. The Tigers began the day with a three-set win, 25-21, 20-25 and 25-17. In round two, Falls City fell in straight sets to Thayer Central, 18-25 and 13-25. The Titans are currently the third-ranked team in Class C-2.

In the third match of the day, Falls City dropped a contest to Exeter-Milligan/Friend, 25-20 and 25-15. The win improved the Bobcats to 16-4, while the loss dropped Falls City to 9-11.

Against Thayer Central, FC hit -.023, finishing with 17 kills on 88 attempts with 19 errors. Tessa Gossman and Ashlyn Alexander each had four kills to lead FC. Hallie Young led the team with three aces and five points served. Gabi Young led the squad with 17 digs and Leah Goff was the top playmaker with nine assists.

In the contest against the Bobcats, Falls City finished with a .053 hitting percentage, ending the match with 11 kills on 57 attempts. Liv Buckminster was the offensive attack leader with four kills on 11 attempts, while Alexander had three kills on seven tries. Goff and Gossman each served four points to lead FC, while Carlea Dunkhas added a block. Gabi Young and Bella Johansen each had six digs, while Goff was the top playmaker for Falls City with six assists. The Bobcats finished the two sets with 34 kills on 72 attempts for a .292 hitting percentage.

The Tigers have dropped six of their last seven contests and hope to get back on track when they host the 13-7 Conestoga Cougars on Thursday evening. Conestoga had dropped three of its last five games.

Falls City will host a varsity invitational on Saturday, October 11, 2025.

The following week is the ECNC Tournament, with action beginning on Monday, October 13.

Titans looking to get back on track

The HTRS volleyball team hit a rough patch on Saturday, dropping all three contests at the 2025 Thunderbird Invite at JCC High School. The Lady Titans struggled against the competition, dropping all six sets.

In the opener, HTRS, the fifth seed, fell to Exeter-Milligan/Friend, the fourth seed, by scores of 13-25 and 19-25. The Centennial Broncos

will play Diller-Odell and Pawnee City in a triangular on Thursday, October 9, 2025, at Pawnee City High School.

Stats were not available in time for the paper.

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Tigers headed to districts in Wahoo

The Lady Tiger softball team’s regular season came to a close on Monday, September 29, when they made the jaunt to Syracuse to take on the Rockets. Falls City’s season has been filled with more downs than ups, but that wasn’t going to deter the Tigers on Monday evening.

Falls City battled, holding the lead through the first innings of action, before surrendering late and falling 9-15. Errors have proven costly all season long, and Monday was no different. Falls City committed seven errors in the 6 ½ inning contest, leading to six unearned runs, the exact difference in the final score. FC pounded out nine hits and drew five walks in the game, while Syracuse finished with 17 hits and one base on balls.

The first four Tiger batters of the game reached base. Addi Miller and Kaytlin Rhodd singled, while Taytum Maddox walked and Brylee Liberty reached on an error. The error led to the first run of the game for FC. A strikeout, a fielder’s choice and another strikeout ended the frame.

FC was back at it in the second. Jazzy Strecker began the inning with a single up the middle. A double by Kaydence Rego and a hit by pitch loaded the bases with no outs. A pickoff and strikeout hurt the Tigers’ efforts, but Rego scored on a passed ball to make it 2-0. Moments later, Liberty singled to right field, driving in Miller and Maddox to put FC in front 4-0. Next, Malori Kuker uncorked a two-run deep ball to light up the FC dugout with a 6-0 lead.

Syracuse slowly chipped away, scoring three runs in the third to cut the deficit in half to 6-3. Two additional runs in the fourth made it even closer at 6-5, and the Rockets took the lead for the first time in the fifth with four more runs to lead 9-6.

FC was unfazed by the Rockets’ scoring explosion. Rego opened the sixth by getting hit by a pitch, and Miller drew a walk. The next two batters popped out and grounded into a fielder’s choice to leave runners at first and second with two outs. Another RBI single by Liberty scored Miller and made it 7-9. Kuker followed by reaching on an error by the pitcher, allowing Rhodd to score to cut the lead to 8-9.

The bottom of the sixth didn’t go the Tigers’ way. Three straight errors by the Tiger defense made it 8-10. In all, FC committed four miscues in the inning as the home team pulled away for a 15-8 lead with only three outs remaining for FC.

Strecker reached on a one-out single to left. With two outs, Miller reached on a base hit, advancing Strecker to third. Maddox then reached on an error, allowing Strecker to score to make the final score 9-15.

Liberty led the Tigers with two hits and four RBI. Rego was 1-3 with a double, and Kuker went 1-4 with a home run and two RBI.

The 1-19 Tigers played at 17-8 Bishop Neumann in the first round of the Class C-2 subdistrict at Hackberry Fields in Wahoo on Monday, October 6, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. Neumann was ranked first in Class C as of September 25, 2025, according to the *Omaha World-Herald*.

Peru State announces 2025 Hall of Fame Class

The 2025 Peru State College Athletic Hall of Fame class has been announced, with four individuals, one team, and a group of early cross country teams set to be enshrined this fall.

Former men’s basketball standout Mike Harmon, former athletic trainer Cindy Plantenga Hoffman, Bobcat football star Ron Shaneyfelt, and the late baseball player Mark Williams will gain induction during ceremonies on campus Oct. 24-25.

The 1989 Bobcat football team, and men’s cross country teams from 1967, ’68, ’69, ’70 and ’71 will also gain induction.

The Peru State Hall of Fame was established in 1986. Selection is made by a volunteer committee of alumni and former student-athletes, coaches, and athletics administrators, noted its coordinator Ted L. Harshbarger of the PSC Foundation.

Harshbarger stated, “The Hall of Fame serves to honor individuals and teams who have made significant and lasting contributions to Peru State College while preserving their legacies and inspiring future generations.” Continuing, he added, “The current members represent the pinnacle of excellence and dedication, while new inductees reflect the ongoing evolution and achievement with the Bobcat athletic community.”

Open to Public
The Hall of Fame Banquet will be held on Friday evening, October 24. It is open to the public to attend. Registration can be completed at <https://bit.ly/PSCHOF> and is due Monday, October 13.

The individuals and teams will also be recognized at halftime of Peru State’s football game on Saturday, October 25, against Graceland. Game time is scheduled for 1 p.m.

Mike Harmon, Men’s Basketball: Mike Harmon was a standout on several powerhouse Bobcat men’s basketball teams in the early- to mid-1960s prior to his graduation in 1966. A native of Wood River, Ill., Harmon currently resides there.

Harmon remains the career rebounding leader in the Bobcat record books with 979. He remains in the school’s top 10 in career points scored (1,270) and his average of 14 rebounds per game remains the Bobcat standard. Harmon also has the single-game rebounding mark with 28.

Ironically, Harmon didn’t play high school basketball before joining the late Coach Jack McIntire’s Bobcat program in 1963. He led the Bobcats to the NAIA national tournament in the 1965-66 season, when he set school season records for rebounds and was an NAIA honorable mention All-American.

Harmon was an all-state college first teamer that season in both the *Omaha World-Herald* and *Lincoln Journal-Star*; he was all-state the previous year in the Omaha paper.

The Illinois Basketball Coaches Association inducted Harmon into its Hall of Fame in 2016, capping off more than 40 years in the coaching profession. His coaching career included stops at Central (now Grigsby) Junior High, Civic Memorial, and Roxana.

Cindy Plantenga Hoffman, Meritorious Service: After transferring to Peru State in the late 1970s after having taken courses in athletic and emergency training at Grand Valley State University in Michigan, the former Cindy Plantenga quickly found herself appointed head athletic trainer for Bobcat football.

The first female athletic trainer at the college, she held the position for three years while taking a full load of classes and teaching youth swimming and gymnastics prior to her graduation in 1982. But her service to Peru State

didn’t end there and continues to this day.

A native of Spring Lake, Mich., Hoffman met Bobcat baseball player Tim Hoffman, and they married in 1983. She then obtained her master’s degree from Northwest Missouri State University and returned to teach in the Peru State physical education department.

The Hoffmans have owned and operated Rixstine Recognition, a full-service awards company in Lincoln, since 1987. They both served on the Peru State College Foundation board of directors from 2011-2024 and have been generous supporters of various Peru State initiatives.

Ron Shaneyfelt, Football: An award-winning kicker on some of Peru State’s finest football teams – including the 1989 squad which will be inducted this fall, and the 1990 NAIA national championship team – Ron Shaneyfelt still holds many Bobcat kicking records.

In ’89 he led the NAIA in scoring, averaging 8.22 points per game. He set a single-game kick-scoring record with 15 points (two field goals, nine extra points) that season, and was a first-team NAIA All-American, all-conference and Nebraska small college all-state honoree.

The next season, during the undefeated Bobcat’s march to its only national football title, Shaneyfelt hit a school single-game record four field goals while again earning all-conference and All-American recognition.

He repeated those honors in the Bobcats’ nationally-ranked playoff team in 1991 before graduating the following spring.

A native of Omaha, Shaneyfelt still lives in Nebraska’s largest city.

Mark Williams, Baseball: Tough, focused, and dangerous as a pitcher, infielder and at the plate, Mark Williams was a four-year starter for the Bobcat baseball program and earned postseason honors each of his four seasons from 1983-86.

In 1984 he led Nebraska’s NAIA district with a .430 batting average and was undefeated as a pitcher with a 2.40 earned run average. He was also a GTE Academic All-American that season.

His senior campaign in 1986 saw him lead the team in doubles, triples, home runs, and fielding percentage, and he tied for the team lead in pitching victories. Williams earned NAIA all-district honors in each of his four seasons and held numerous career records at the time.

Williams then spent 27 years with the Nebraska State Patrol, eventually rising to the rank of captain. He spent several years heading the NSP’s training center in Grand Island. The Patrol annually awards its Mark Williams Core Values Award to a graduating cadet from its academy.

Williams, a native of Hastings, passed away in 2015 after battling cancer.

1967-71 Men’s Cross Country Teams: For years in the mid-late 1960s and early ’70s, Peru State was an NAIA men’s cross country powerhouse under a pair of PSC Hall of Fame coaches, Dr. James Pilkington and Jack McIntire.

The PSC Hall of Fame is inducting the 1967, ’68, ’69, ’70 and ’71 teams collectively. Pilkington led the ’67 and ’68 squads, paced by PSC Hall of Famer and four-time All-American Jack Weyers. Both squads won the NAIA District 11 title and finished seventh and eleventh nationally, respectively.

McIntire helmed the ’69, ’70 and ’71 teams. The first two continued as NAIA District 11 (Nebraska small colleges) champions and all three squads qualified for the national cross country championship meets.

Members of the teams from those years included Dick Zaparanick, Jim Watson, Tim Hendricks, Ron Jones, Dan Trout, Ray Uher, Jack Weyers, Van Allen, Jay Hagerman, Jerry Stukenholtz, Dick Warkins, Dave Hillman, Bob Beach, Tom Bernadt, Mike Cole, Calvin Smith, Duane Koukol, Don Monzingo, C Lang, Gayle Swisegood, Steve Welsh, Randy Hansen, Dave Harris, Dan Zimmerman, Bill Sell, Bud Steffen, Bruce Neeman, D Knoll, Ralph Arnold, and Dennis Brady.

1989 Football Team: The first Bobcat football team to qualify for the national NAIA playoffs, the 1989 Bobcats compiled an 8-2 record and set the stage for its 1990 run to the national title, both under head coach and PSC Hall of Famer Tom Shea.

The club rose to its highest national ranking at the time – sixth in the final poll – and defeated two other playoff-bound teams in Chadron State College and Missouri Valley College. The ‘Cats only regular-season loss came against another playoff qualifier, Nebraska Wesleyan. In its first NAIA playoff appearance, Peru State dropped a heartbreaking 30-27 game to Baker.

The ’89 Bobcats finished second in the nation in scoring (44.7 points per game) and fourth in total offense (490.3 yards per game).

Above all, the team established itself as one of the premier football programs in the NAIA and set the stage for its run to the title the following season.


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LEAGUE OF HUMAN DIGNITY



William (Bill) Jadwin



William (Bill) S. Jadwin, son of Billy John Jadwin and Bonnie Lou (Cummings) Jadwin-Hartley passed away October 4, 2025 after a long illness.

Mr. Jadwin was born November 11, 1953 in Atchison, KS. Shortly after his birth the family moved to Sabetha, Ks. Bill attended school in Sabetha until the family moved to Bangkok, Thailand in 1968 due to his father’s position as a foreign diplomat with the U.S. Department of State. Bill attended the International School of Bangkok until he graduated high school in 1971, after which he returned to the United States.

On May 20, 1973 he married Deborah Blanton of Hiawatha, KS. The couple had three children.

Although they divorced in 1992, Deborah and Bill remained very close friends.

Known affectionately to many of his friends as the “Red Bull” or simply as “The Bull” he had worked at Harmon Tire Company in Falls City, Ne. Also worked at Flair Fold in Hiawatha KS. Later worked at Prime Trucking Company in Springfield, MO.

Bill returned to Hiawatha in 2003 after suffering a major strokes which left him permanently disabled where he lived until his passing.

He is survived by a daughter Staci (Randy) Thaxton of Hiawatha, KS and two sons, Cory (Misty) Jadwin of Kansas City, MO and Christopher Jadwin and friend Elizabeth Dudley of San Diego.

Bill is also survived by 13 grandchildren, Samantha, Drew (Kylie), Parker, Caitlyn, Tyler, Chase, Brookelyn, Mike (Tonja), Susan, Trent and Blake. five great grandchildren, Natalie, Anakin, Lucas, Benson and Michael.

He is also survived by three brothers, Dennis Ray Jadwin of Universal City, TX. Bradley John Jadwin of La Mesa, CA. and Brett Lough Jadwin of Greenwood, NE.

Mr. Jadwin was proceeded in death by both his parents and an older brother Kelly Dean Jadwin of Lincoln, Ne

At Mr. Jadwin’s request there are no funeral plans.

Memorial contributions are suggested in his name and may be sent in care of the Chapel Oaks Funeral Home, 124 S 7th St, Hiawatha, KS 55434, who is assisting the family with arrangements.

Leave a message or note of remembrance at www.chapeloaksfuneralhome.com

Fire Prevention Week: Protect your family by practicing home fire escape plan, testing smoke alarms

During Fire Prevention Week (October 5-11), the American Red Cross of Nebraska reminds everyone of the dangers of home fires, which claim seven lives every day in the U.S. To help protect your household, test your smoke alarms each month and practice your escape plan until everyone can get out in less than two minutes.

“Home fires can occur any time, any place,” said Josh Murray, Regional Communications Director, Nebraska-Iowa Red Cross. “The sooner an alarm alerts you to a fire, the sooner you can get out. This is critical because fire experts say you may have less than two minutes to escape a burning home before it’s too late.”

Tips for creating your home fire escape plan and practicing your 2-minute drill:

- Everyone in your household should know two ways to escape from each room in your home.
- Smoke is dangerous. Get low and go!
- Decide where to meet once you get outside. Select a meeting spot at a safe distance away from your home, such as a neighbor’s home or landmark like a specific tree in your front yard, where everyone knows to meet.
- Get out and stay out. Never go back inside for people, pets or things.
- If a fire starts, you may have less than two minutes to get to safety. Time your fire drill and find out: what’s your escape time?
- While practicing your escape plan, teach children what a smoke alarm sounds like. Talk about fire safety and what to do in an emergency.

Smoke alarm safety:

- Place smoke alarms on each level of your home, including inside and outside bedrooms and sleeping areas.
- In addition to testing your alarms once a month, change the batteries at least once a year, if your model requires it.
- Also check the manufacturer’s date of your smoke alarms. If they’re 10 years or older, they need to be replaced because the sensor becomes less sensitive over time. Follow the manufacturer’s instructions.

Local Red Cross Disaster Action Team volunteers provide emotional support, financial assistance, and information to help families begin the process of recovery. Most of the 65,000 emergencies that the Red Cross responds to each year are home fires. So far this year alone, local Red Cross Disaster Action teams have responded to nearly 300 home fires, assisting 975 people in Nebraska.

For emergencies like home fires, our volunteers provide comfort during what can be the worst days of people’s lives. Learn how you can volunteer for our Disaster Action Team at redcross.org/DAT.

HOME FIRE CAMPAIGN SAVE LIVES Since October 2014, the Red Cross Home Fire Campaign, working with community partners, has saved at least 2,479 lives by educating families about fire safety, helping them create escape plans and installing free smoke alarms in high-risk areas across the country. To learn more about the campaign and how you can get involved, visit redcross.org/homefires.

County shop to get roof repaired

The Richardson County Board of Commissioners gathered on Wednesday, October 1, 2025, for their regularly scheduled meeting. Commissioners Campbell, Karas and Caverzagie answered the roll call.

Highway Superintendent Steve Darveau, Jr., presented the Board with plans for the headwall on the project northwest of Dawson on 637 Avenue. Darveau also advised the Commissioners that he had received quotes from Skyline and Lanter SPS for repairs on the roof at the shop in the County Yard. Darveau said the quote he received from Skyline totaled \$58,975, while the bid from Lanter SPS Roofing Systems in Hiawatha came in at \$18,100.

“He’ll come in and power wash it,” said Darveau referring to Lanter. “When he came in, he actually went up there and walked the roof and found some pin holes and sealed them right away. When they come back, they’ll power wash it and then they really inspect it and they seal it, then then come back over with their coating.”

Darveau continued, saying once the job is paid in full, the roof will carry a ten-year material and ten-year labor warranty. He also stated that all of the antennas would be removed from the roof before the project begins.

The Highway Superintendent also informed the Board members that the new loader had arrived and was being prepared for winter use. The unit was upgraded at no cost to the county, complete with all the extra lights that would typically need to be installed.

“Basically, all we have to do is put our work radio in it and we’re ready to go,” said Darveau.

Sheriff Rick Hardesty met with the Board, updating them on

business at the Law Enforcement Center. Hardesty stated that as of Wednesday morning, the jail was housing 18 inmates. The Sheriff also advised the Commissioners that his department had responded to an accident call on tribal land.

“So, we called the Iowa Tribe, and nobody answered,” said Hardesty. “There was an injury accident. A guy was backing out with a trailer; car hit it and hit the guard rail.”

Hardesty stated he spoke with a Conservation Officer at the site, advising him that the Sheriff Department had called dispatch several times without reaching anyone.

“We did go to it and took care of it,” said Hardesty. “Technically, the guy backing out should have received a ticket, but we’re on a reservation, we can’t write a ticket.”

Hardesty also said he was in the infant stages of discussing bringing a school resource officer back to HTRS. He advised the Board that a school can hire someone on its own, but that individuals cannot be armed. “Only law enforcement is authorized to carry firearms,” said Hardesty.

At 9:45, Commissioner Rick Karas made a motion to enter into a closed meeting with Sheriff Hardesty to review an incident. After the closed meeting, the Commissioners considered a resolution to approve County Attorney Samantha Scheitel to handle divorce cases.

The Board then entered into a second closed meeting with special legal counsel Jerry Pigsley to discuss pending litigation.

The Board held its quarterly jail inspection, claims were paid, and the meeting was adjourned.

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Don Shafer, Moderator – 402-245-5209

Good News Assembly of God (600 Reavis St.) Sunday School, 9:30am; Worship, 10:40am. Wednesday: Good News Kids, 6:30pm. www.mynag.com. *Tim Boatright, Pastor – 245-3977*

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church LCMS (23rd & Barada) Sunday: Divine Service, 9 AM Sunday School and Bible study, 10:15 AM (September-May). Communion every Sunday. fallscitylcms.blogspot.com
Rev. Ken Humphrey, Pastor- 402-245-3324

Corner Stone Baptist Church (N. Highway 73 Turn at Blue Valley Behavioral Health) Sunday School Bible Hour, 9:30am; Worship, 10:30am & 6:30pm. Wednesday: Bible Study & Prayer Time, 7pm; Lively Stone Kids Klub K-6. *Pastor Mike Dunleavy – 402-245-4245*

Valley Avenue Baptist Church (2023 Valley Ave.) Sunday School, 9:30am; Worship services, 10:30am; Evening, 6:00pm. Wednesday services, 7:00pm. *Pastor Chad Berry–245-3890* valleyavenue.org

Church Of Christ (2701 Barada St.) Worship, 10:30am; Bible Study (All Ages), 9:30am. Wednesday Bible Study, 6:00pm. *Josh Maxwell, Preacher – 402-245-7148*

First Church Of Nazarene (1812 Wilson) Sunday School, 9:00-10:00am; Worship, 10:00-11:00am.

First United Methodist Church (1700 Harlan St.) Worship, 10:30am (Also Broadcast KTNC 1230am / 107.1fm at 11:00am) fumc@sentco.net – 402-245-3281

First Christian Church Disciples Of Christ (1322 Stone St.) Sunday School, 9:30am; Worship, 10:45am facebook.com/fallscitycooperativeministry *Pastor Grant Speece – 402-980-5960*

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church ELCA (20th & Towle St.) Sunday School (Sept–May), 9am; Worship, 10am. Wednesday: Confirmation 6:30pm; Choir 7:30pm. *Joanna Kathol, Pastor – 402-245-3828*

St. Thomas Episcopal Church (16th & Harlan) Sunday Worship, 10:30am (Holy Eucharist)

Northridge (1820 Morton St.) Sunday School, 9am; Worship, 10am. www.northridgenetwork.org/Falls-City 402-245-2167

St. Paul's Lutheran Church LCMS. (6 Mi. North of Falls City on US 73) Sunday School and Bible study, 9:30 AM (September-May). Divine Service, 10:30 AM. Communion on 2nd, 4th, and 5th Sundays. fallscitylcms.blogspot.com
Rev. Ken Humphrey, Pastor - 402-245-4643

Sts. Peter and Paul (1820 Fulton) Weekend Mass Times: Sat., 5:00PM; Sun., 7AM & 10AM Daily Mass: Mon. thru Fri., 6:45AM Services livestreamed daily on www.facebook.com/sppfc Inquiry classes by appt. Sacrament of Penance: Sat., 3:45-4:45PM, or by appt.
Fr. Jim Meysenburgh, Pastor 402-245-3002.

Zion United Church of Christ (65763 709 Rd, FC) Sunday: Worship service, 9:00AM; Communion, first Sun. of each month. www.facebook.com/fallscitycooperativeministry. *Pastor, Grant Speece 402-980-5960 cell 245-2398 office*

BARADA

Barada Global Methodist Church (717 Rd./652 Blvd.) Worship Service 9:15am; Sunday School 10:30am. Services held in Barada On The 2nd & 4th Sun. of the month. Services held at St. Peter's ELCA On The 1st & 3rd Sun. of the month. *Pastor Mike Hader, 402-245-4584*

Bethel Global Methodist Church (70656 656 Ave (½ mile N of Preston Corner) Worship, 11:00AM; Sunday School, 10:00AM; Wednesday Choir, 7:30PM. *Pastor Mike Hader – 402-245-4584.*

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA) Williamsville, 12 miles NE of Falls City) Worship 8:15AM (1st, 3rd, 5th Sundays); Worship at Barada Global Methodist (2nd & 4th Sundays) Fellowship & Sunday School following worship. *Pastor Mike Hader – 402-245-4584*

RULO

Immaculate Conception (Rulo) Sun. Confessions, 8:00AM; Mass, 8:30AM. Daily Mass schedule: Mon.-Fri., 6:30AM. *Fr. Ben Rynearson, Pastor*

Riverside Fellowship 117 S 3rd St., Rulo, NE. Sun. Worship 9AM. Fellowship, Sunday School, & Adult Bible Study 10AM Following Worship. *David Showalter, Pastor*

DAWSON

St. Mary's (Dawson) Weekend Mass: Sat., 5:30PM; Sun, 8:30AM. Daily Mass: 7:30AM Mon., Tues., Wed., Fri. Check bulletin for changes, weekday mass schedules. Call rectory; confessions before Mass. *Fr. Anthony Bedient, Pastor. 855-3595 or 245-4151*

SHUBERT

St. Anne's (Shubert) Sun. Mass: 10:30AM; confessions before Mass. *Fr. Anthony Bedient, Pastor. 855-3595 or 245-4151*

Shubert Christian Church Worship, 9:30AM; Fellowship, 10:30AM; Sunday School, 10:30AM. Thursday Fellowship, 5:00PM. *Pulpit Supply*

Prairie Union Baptist Church (Rural Shubert) Sun: Morning Worship 10:30AM, Sunday School 9:30AM. Communion is served the first Sun. of every month. *Bob Heusman, Pastor*

STELLA

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

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

HUMBOLDT

The Four Mile Church (South of Humboldt) Sunday: Church services, 9:00AM.
Howard Blecha, Pastor

ARAGO

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

VERDON

Verdon Christian Church Disciples of Christ (400 Walnut St.) Sun: Worship, Summer: 7PM, Winter: 6PM. Find us on Facebook at Verdon Christian Church. verdonchristianchurch@gmail.com. *Rev. Daniel Spencer. Call or text: 402-801-0374*

WHITE CLOUD, KS

Lighthouse Church of God (2202 330th, White Cloud, KS) Sunday School, 9:30AM; Church Service, 10:30AM. *Rev. Charles J. Haney, Pastor. 785-862-1107*

BIG LAKE, MO

Big Lake Baptist Church (213 Lake Shore Drive) Sun: Fellowship breakfast, 8:45AM; Sunday School, 9:30AM; Service, 10:30AM. Mon: Prayer & Share Monday, 8:30AM. Wed: Children's, Youth & Adult Bible Study, 7PM.
Dick Lionberger, Intern pastor

FOREST CITY, MO

River of Hope Fellowship 27765 Hwy 159, PO Box 176, Forest City, MO 64451. Sun. Worship: 10:30AM, Sunday School: 9:30AM. *Will Certain, Pastor. 816-824-8566. Randy Seedorff, Pastor. 816-507-7339*

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Death of the dial tone: Nebraska’s dwindling pay phones draw lots of curiosity, few calls

By Kevin Warneke
 Flatwater Free Press

Lane Handke called his wife, Cathleen, the other day to tell her he was bringing home the shelves they needed to finish their cabinet. The call cost him 25 cents.

Then, the Pierce physician phoned a friend in Omaha just to say hello. This call cost him an additional eight quarters.

Handke made his calls from a pay telephone standing outside of the Pierce Telephone Co. building. He felt drawn to this pay phone by curiosity. Pulled toward it by nostalgia.

“I hadn’t used a pay phone in decades,” he said. “People were looking and wondering what I was doing. I thought it was kind of cool.”

The pay phone in the northeast Nebraska town is one of 81 still operating in the state, according to the most up-to-date numbers from the Nebraska Public Service Commission.

The few that remain tend to owe their continued existence to a six-decades-old state law meant to ensure access to once-essential technology.

Today, they’re more a curiosity than a line of communication.

“They are a rare find these days,” said Cullen Robbins, director of telecommunications for the Public Service Commission. “Everyone has a cellphone.”

Robbins said working pay phones typically remain in places such as airports — Omaha’s Eppley Airfield has one in each terminal — or hospital emergency rooms like Nebraska Medicine’s ER, which has one tucked in a corner.

“You don’t seem to find them at gas stations like you used to,” Robbins said.

Actually, you can ... if you know where to look. One is available at the Eagle Travel Center where U.S. Highways 34 and 283 meet in Arapahoe. The phone, which requires a credit card for use, is by the propane tank refill station on the building’s east side.

Misty Barber, store manager, said she hasn’t seen a single person use that phone during the eight years she has worked at the travel center.

“I grew up with pay phones — it’s one of those things that draws my attention, but little use.”

Another working pay phone is inside Scott’s Place, a convenience store that sits where U.S. Highways 20 and 183 intersect in Bassett. Owner Scott Connery said he inherited the phone when he purchased the store 38 years ago.

Scott’s Place used to have a pay phone in a booth outside the store. “It got run over,” Connery said.

The inside phone does get occasional use — a trucker needing a landline, a motorist whose battery has died or someone without a cellphone. It functions far more often as a prop.

“People take their picture next to it all the time.”

A regulation in place since 1968 requires certificated telephone service providers in Nebraska to maintain a pay phone for public use in each municipality it serves. Service providers can ask the commission for a waiver to take a pay phone out of service because of vandalism, lack of use or excessive cost to maintain the phone.

Robbins said the commission typically receives — and grants — several requests for waivers each year, the most recent coming from the Hemingford Telephone Co.

The rapid demise of pay phones in some ways mirrors their rapid rise. More than 2 million pay phones existed in the United States in 1969, a century after the first one was installed outside of a bank in Connecticut.

Now, according to the Federal Communications Commission, fewer than 100,000 remain. The Nebraska Public Service Commission relies on reports from its carriers to track pay phones in Nebraska: 1,150 remained in

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UNL community pushes to save Earth & Atmospheric Sciences Dept.

Faculty, students, alumni, and community members are calling on the University of Nebraska–Lincoln to reverse a proposal that would close the Department of Earth & Atmospheric Sciences (EAS). If enacted, the plan would eliminate Nebraska’s only meteorology degree and

the state’s only path to becoming a licensed Professional Geologist. Graduate programs in geology and meteorology would also disappear.

Supporters emphasize EAS’s unique role in Nebraska: over 92 percent of graduates find jobs or continue advanced study, students have earned national recognition, and the department engages communities through outreach and research on weather, water, and natural hazards. “For a state like Nebraska, it should be inconceivable that these programs face elimination,” said Dr. Clinton Rowe, chair of EAS.

Community members are encouraged to share feedback with the University’s Academic Planning Committee and submit testimonials highlighting EAS’s impact.

The campaign stresses that losing EAS would mean more than closing a department—it would erode Nebraska’s ability to train future weather forecasters, geologists, and climate researchers who serve the state.

For more information, visit eas.unl.edu/save-earth-and-atmospheric-sciences.

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The Sac and Fox Nation has an immediate full-time opening for the Environmental Specialist position. The Environmental Specialist is responsible for conducting surface water/air sampling, conducting community outreach, developing/writing monitoring strategies, quality assurance project plans, standard operating procedures, site analysis for potential contaminated sites and maintaining inventory of Brownfield sites. Works with vendors/contractors for site assessment and clean-up.

The applicant must have computer experience and be willing to work in weather extremes. Must be able to lift 50lbs. A degree in science or related field is preferred but direct experience may be substituted. Must possess a valid driver's license. If selected, applicant will be subject to a drug screen prior to start of employment.

Hours 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM Monday - Thursday. Paid health, dental, vision, and short-term disability benefits. PTO and paid federal holidays.

Native American preference does apply.

Application form and full job description can be accessed by emailing tammy.epple@sacandfoxks.com or visit www.sacandfoxks.com.

Submit the application form, cover letter, and resume, outlining your skills, background, 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.

40-41

ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNICIAN
SAC AND FOX NATION
OF MISSOURI IN KANSAS & NEBRASKA

Position located in Reserve Kansas. Duties include/ but not limited to: Networking with environmental officials. Assistance with department functions such as filing, water/ biological sampling, and solid waste operations. Conduct community outreach. Performs other duties as assigned by the Environmental Department Director or Tribal Council.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS: Education or directly related experience is preferred. However, applicants with an interest in becoming an Environmental Technician and having the ability to learn and perform the duties of the position may apply.

Must have the ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing. Must be able to work in weather extremes. Must be able to lift 50 lbs. Must have valid driver's license.

Hours 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM Monday - Thursday. Paid health, dental, vision, and short-term disability benefits. PTO and paid federal holidays.

Native American preference does apply.

Application form and full job description can be accessed by emailing tammy.epple@sacandfoxks.com or visit www.sacandfoxks.com. Submit the application form, cover letter, and resume, outlining your skills, background, 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- 7471.

40-41



NOW HIRING

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES MANAGER

▶▶▶▶

We are looking for a motivated leader to join our team as the Environmental Services Manager. Come in or apply online today!

▶▶▶▶

@apostolicsabetha.com
511 Paramount St
Sabetha, KS 66534



41-42

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.

FOR RENT

Pack Rat Storage, Units Available. 402-245-7236. 49-TF

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

RICHARDSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SEPTEMBER 24, 2025 CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Richardson County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Caverzagie at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, September 24, 2025. Roll call was answered by Karas, Campbell and Caverzagie. The Invocation was given by Chairman Caverzagie and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice-Chairman Karas. Chairman Caverzagie announced that the open meeting laws have been posted at the entrance to the meeting room.

A motion was made by Caverzagie to approve the minutes of the September 17, 2025, meeting as presented. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campvll-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

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

ROAD & BRIDGE DEPT.

Highway Superintendent, Steve Darveau, Jr. updated the Board on the routine road and bridge maintenance being done this week. The recent heavy rains and the current road conditions resulting from the rains were discussed.

Mr. Darveau reported that the new loader is to be delivered sometime this week and that a contractor is reviewing the condition of the roof of the main shop at the Falls City County yard to determine the cost for repair and/or replacement. Discussion was also held on the future sale of surplus equipment and the repairs being made to equipment this week.

Preparations are being made to develop building specifications to replace the maintainer garage located in Verdon so that a bid letting can be scheduled in the next few months. Plans are also being developed to advertise for sealed bids for the resurfacing on the dustless highway north and east of Falls City next year.

LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER

Sheriff Hardesty updated the Board on the routine business within the Law Enforcement Center this past week. He reported that there are currently 20 inmates being housed and with one additional to be brought in today. The third patrol unit that was approved for purchase on the of August should be delivered in early November. He also reported that the 2021 patrol unit that needed engine repairs or replacement will just be repaired. The radio system in the dispatch incurred some problems through the early morning hours today and since has been remedied. The department will also be holding an interview with an applicant to fill a deputy position who holds a certification from the Nebraska Law Enforcement Academy. Other staffing matters were also reviewed.

CHRIS MEEKS, OPPD

Chris Meeks, Government & Community Relations Strategist-Public Affairs representative with OPPD requested to meet with the Board to present an update on the projects currently being done by OPPD.

COUNTY ATTORNEY, SAMANTHA SCHEITEL

County Attorney, Samantha Scheitel requested to delay the consideration of a resolution to approve the County Attorney to do divorce cases with their private practice until next week.

The Board did review with her at this time further the matter of emergency calls to the Sheriff's Department that are on either the Sac & Fox Nation of Kansas and Nebraska or the Iowa Tribe of Kansas & Nebraska. The Board has requested that the legal counsel for the tribes be contacted to arrange a meeting to review this matter and possibly develop a Memorandum of Understanding to provide proper coverage for emergency calls on the reservation areas. The question is whether the tribal police are required to respond to all calls and/or if the County Sheriff has authority to respond to calls and/or to issue citations, etc. The County Attorney has reached out to the tribal legal counsel and will follow-up to possibly get this meeting arranged in the near future.

WANTED

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

CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER Historical Societies Funding

Motion was made by Karas to approve the annual funding for the following historical societies in Richardson County: Richardson County Historical Society at \$10,000; Quad-County Historical Society at \$5,000; Pennsylvania Colony Historical Society of Nebraska at \$5,000. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

Law Enforcement Roof

Quotes are still being obtained for the repair and/or replacement of the roof at the Law Enforcement Center.

CLAIMS

Motion was made by Caverzagie to allow the payment of all claims that were submitted today. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. (The claims listed below are available for public inspection at the office of the County Clerk during regular business hours.)

GENERAL FUND

Amazon Capital Services, supp	30.03
Cooper, Sandy, fees	20.00
Creamer, Ashley, fees	113.64
DAS State Acctg., fees	150.00
Falls City Sanitation, serv	40.00
Farm & Home Publishers, supp	727.50
Futurity IT, Inc., subs	1500.00
Gage Co Treasurer, fees	10666.68
Godemann, Bethany, dues	5.00
Horner, Peggy, fees	98.54
Kawres, supp	132.00
Kennedy, Kaytlyn, reimb	434.77
Lenard Heating & Cooling, serv	180.00
Lippold, Mary Jo, fees	68.70
Microfilm Imaging Systems, serv	697.00
NACO, reg	75.00
NE Health & Human Services, fees	93.00
PIP Marketing Signs, supp	791.39
Quill LLC, supp	484.33
Region V Systems, fees	4539.78
RC EMA Petty Cash Acct., reimb	78.00
RC Sheriff Petty Cash Acct., reimb	838.57
Riggs, Kim, reimb	457.80
Scholl Lawn & Landscape, serv	954.00
Simpson, Kirsten, fees	44.36
Sumnerone, serv	19.97
Ultra-Chem Inc., supp	195.87
Unifirst, serv	82.18
Woods & Aitken LLP, serv	355.00
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$23,873.11
ROAD & BRIDGE FUND	
Bahr Welding LLC, serv	80.00
FC Sanitation, serv	40.00
Martin Marietta Materials, rock	40762.90
Midwest Petroleum Equipment, serv	1475.86
Nebraska Public Power District, serv	141.18
Norris Quarries, LLC, rock	7572.79
Operation & Expense Acct., reimb	462.12
Quill LLC, supp	84.06
Sapp Bros. Petroleum, serv	1870.49
Woods & Aitken LLP, serv	10517.85
TOTAL ROAD & BRIDGE FUND	\$63,007.25
INHERITANCE TAX FUND	
Pennsylvania Colony Hist. Society, funding	5000.00
Quad County Hist. Society, funding	5000.00
Richardson County Hist. Society, funding	10000.00
TOTAL INHERITANCE TAX FUND	\$20,000.00

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Karas to adjourn the meeting at 10:50 a.m. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. The Board will meet again on Wednesday, October 1, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. for the regular weekly meeting in the Commissioner's Meeting Room, Courthouse, Falls City. The agenda is kept current at the County Clerk's Office.

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

CERTIFICATE OF ORGANIZATION LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Name of the limited liability company: Robinson Roots, LLC. Street and mailing address of the initial designated office: 2121 Crook St., Falls City, NE 68355. Name of the initial agent for service of process: Jeremy Robinson. Street, mailing address and post office box (if any) of the initial agent for service of process: 2121 Crook St., Falls City, NE 68355. Effective date if other than the date filed: 9/12/25

/s/ Jeremy Robinson
Name of Organizer
1-8-15
ZNEZ

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

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

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

Mary L. Eickhoff
Richardson County Clerk

ZNEZ

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

You are hereby notified that the Trustee under the Deed of Trust recorded on November 16, 2012, in Book 250, Page 357 and a Modification of Deed of Trust recorded on January 11, 2016, in Book 264, Page 181, in the Office of the Richardson County Register of Deeds will be selling the following-described property at public auction to the highest bidder, for cash, in the lobby of the Richardson County Courthouse, 1700 Stone Street, Falls City, Richardson County, Nebraska, on the 14th day of November, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. The property is legally described as follows:

SOUTH 12 ½ FEET OF LOT 7 AND ALL OF LOTS 8, 9, 10, AND 11, BLOCK 3, ROULEAU AND BEDARD'S ADDITION TO THE ORIGINAL TOWNSITE OF RULO, RICHARDSON COUNTY, NEBRASKA.

DATED: September 24, 2025

Samantha K. Scheitel, #26389
Weaver & Merz Law Office
Attorney for Frontier Bank

1-8-15-22-29
ZNEZ

Public Meeting Notice Board of Education District #70

Notice is hereby given that a Americanism Committee meeting of the Humboldt Table Rock Steinauer School District #70 will be held at 6:15 pm on October 13, 2025 in the Conference Room.

Notice is hereby given that a regular board meeting for the Board of Education of the Humboldt Table Rock Steinauer School District #70 will be held at 7:00 PM on October 13, 2025 in the Conference Room.

Kyle Hilgenfeld
Board President
ZNEZ

NOTICE

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF RICHARDSON COUNTY, NEBRASKA, Case CI 25-123, CONTINENTAL RESOURCES, Plaintiff, vs. Katherine E. Olson, JOHN DOE, MARY DOE; and all other persons/entities UNKNOWN claiming any right, interest or title in the real estate described herein,

To: Katherine E. Olson, John Doe, Mary Doe; and all other persons/entities UNKNOWN having or claiming any right, interest or title in: A TRACT OF LAND IN HUMBOLDT, RICHARDSON COUNTY, NEBRASKA, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCING AT A POINT ON THE WEST LINE OF EDWARD STREET EXTENDED, SAID POINT BEING THE CENTER OF 10TH STREET; THENCE WEST ALONG THE CENTER OF SAID 10TH STREET A DISTANCE OF 64.5 FEET, THENCE NORTH 155.55 FEET; THENCE EAST PARALLEL TO AND 155.55 FEET FROM THE SAID CENTERLINE OF 10TH STREET A DISTANCE OF 84.5 FEET; THENCE SOUTH PARALLEL TO AND 20 FEET FROM THE WEST LINE OF EDWARD STREET EXTENDED A DISTANCE OF 155.55 FEET TO THE CENTER LINE OF 10TH STREET; THENCE WEST ALONG SAID CENTER LINE OF 10TH STREET 20 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, BEING IN THE EAST HALF OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 3, TOWNSHIP 2 NORTH, RANGE 13 EAST OF THE 6TH P.M., RICHARDSON COUNTY, NEBRASKA

You have been sued by CONTINENTAL RESOURCES. The object of the plaintiff's Complaint is to foreclose on Tax Sale Certificate No. 2022033 for the delinquent taxes on the real estate described above. The taxes due under the certificate are for the 2020 through 2023 taxes plus interest at the rate of 14% per annum. The Complaint asks the Court to find that the taxes are a lien against the real estate, as provided by law, and that upon establishment of such lien, the real estate, which may remain unredeemed, be sold at public sale to satisfy the decree so entered, together with interest and costs, including attorney's fees as provided for and by Nebraska Revised Statute §77-1909, as amended, and that the defendants be forever barred of all claims upon, interest in, right or title to, lien upon or equity of redemption in the real estate upon confirmation of the sale. To defend this lawsuit, an appropriate written response must be filed with the District Court of Richardson County, Nebraska, 1700 Stone Street Suite 301 Falls City, NE 68355, within 30 days of the last publication of this notice. If you fail to respond, the Court may enter a judgment for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

CONTINENTAL RESOURCES,

Anthony R. Medina, #21515
405 N. 115th Street, Suite 100
Omaha, Nebraska 68154
(402) 399-9049, ex. 103
anthony@usassets.net
Attorney for the Plaintiff

24-1-8
ZNEZ

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The City of Falls City, Nebraska, is requesting sealed proposals for RFP #2025-001 – SCADA System Material Procurement (Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories [SEL] Materials).

Qualified vendors are invited to submit proposals to furnish SEL protective relays, RTAC equipment, and associated materials as listed in the RFP documents. No substitutions will be accepted.

Sealed proposals must be clearly marked "ATTN: Trevor Campbell – SEL Material, RFP #2025-001" and delivered to: Falls City Clerk's Office
2307 Barada Street
Falls City, NE 68355

Deadline: 1:00 PM (CST), Tuesday, October 14th, 2025. Faxed or emailed proposals will not be accepted. All questions must be submitted in writing by 1:00 PM, Friday, October 9th, 2025, to Trevor Campbell, Public Works Director, at t.campbell@fallscityne.us.

For additional information, go to https://www.fallscitynebraska.org/bid-postings or call the Utility Department at 402.245.2851.

For project scope or technical specification questions, contact David Hunter, PE, Farris Engineering, at dhunter@farris-usa.com.

The City of Falls City reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any informalities.

Published: 10.1.25 & 10.8.25

ZNEZ



Not a yellow flag in sight, despite the two handfuls of jerseys by the Auburn blockers on this first-half Bulldog run. Pictured are (2) Jacoby Bangert, (77) Caleb Offner and (74) Chase Simpson.

Tigers can't keep pace with Bulldogs

The Falls City Tigers took on the Auburn Bulldogs on Friday, October 3, 2025, at Auburn High School. Falls City, playing with just 21 athletes on Friday, was outplayed by its rival. The Tigers kept the contest close early, but as the game wore on, the lack of depth began to wear down the Tigers, and Auburn pulled away for a 41-6 win.

FC trailed just 7-0 after the opening 12 minutes of action. Each team punted and turned the ball over on downs for its first two possessions of the game.

On its third possession, Auburn drove 60 yards in nine plays to take a 7-0 lead. The Bulldogs, facing a 3rd and goal at the FC 16-yard line, completed a 16-yard TD pass from Brenton Wenzl to Crew

Gulizia for the score. The Bulldogs closed the first period and began the second with a clock-eating, 16-play, 66-yard drive. On third and goal at the FC four, Drayven Lamb scored on a four-yard run to put the home team up 14-0 in front of a large crowd on homecoming night.

Falls City drove to the Auburn 31, but failed to complete a fourth-down conversion, giving the Bulldogs the ball back with only 1:32 to play in the first half. On the first snap, Wenzl hit Tayber Rademacher for a 69-yard strike down the sideline. The PAT kick put the Bulldogs in front 21-0 at intermission.

After FC forced a punt and a turnover on downs on the first two Bulldog

offensive possessions, Auburn scored on its final three possessions of the first half.

A quick three-and-out by the FC offense led to the fourth straight TD by Auburn. The FC defense battled but surrendered a seven-play drive that ate up nearly three minutes of clock and ended with a two-yard TD run by Lamb, his second of the game. The PAT kick was off the mark, and the game went to 27-0.

Auburn struck again quickly. An interception tossed by Blakely Sells gave the Bulldogs the ball at the FC 37 with 7:09 on the clock in the third. Again, the Black and Orange defense put up a fight, but the decimated squad eventually allowed Auburn to make it 34-0 with 4:12 to go in the period.

The Tigers put together a solid drive on the ensuing possession, highlighted by a 38-yard pass to Gavin Bauer. Eventually, the drive was stopped after an interception by QB Jacoby Bangert. Facing a third and 22 at the Auburn 24, Bangert's ball was picked off.

After stopping the Bulldogs on downs, FC got the ball back at its 20-yard line. Needing to drive 80 yards for the score, Bangert threw his second pick of the game. This time, Gulizia returned it 35 yards for the score, mak-

ing it 41-0 with 7:06 to go.

Falls City finally broke through the scoring column, scoring on a 12-yard run to make the final 41-6. The Tigers capped off the 4-play, 48-yard scoring drive with the scamper by Bauer.

FC was outgained 318 yards to 173 yards. The Tigers rushed 29 times for 104 yards and passed for another 69.

Tiger stats

Rushing: Wilkerson 15-44; Collier 3-36; Bauer 6-31, 1 TD; Sells 3-2.

Passing: Sells 5/17, 69 yards, 2 Ints; Bangert 0-2, 0, 2 Ints.

Receiving: Bangert 3-28; Bauer 1-36; Wilkerson 1-5.

Bauer and Wilkerson each had eight tackles, while Ashton Martin and Chase Simpson each added seven. Martin had one tackle for loss, while Simpson added two.

The loss dropped FC to 1-5 while Auburn improved to 2-4. Falls City will travel to Syracuse on Friday to take on the undefeated Rockets at 6:00 p.m.

Tiger cross country runs at Kearney meet for first time

After years of competing at the Rock Port Invite, the Falls City cross country team made the long trip to Kearney for the 2025 Kearney High School Invite on Monday, September 29, 2025, at the Kearney Country Club.

The Lady Tigers scored 272 points and placed 14th out of 31 Class C schools, while the boys finished with 696 points and placed 36th out of 37 teams.

The Lady Tigers had two girls finish inside the top 30, with Audrey Scrivens placing 25th in 22:38.11, and Jennifer Sweeney was 29th in 22:55.04. Kensie Riggs placed 104th in 26:00.77, Peyton Weddle was 114th in 26:36.34, and Madalyn Hawley ended up 123rd in 27:14.00. In all, 198 runners began the race, with Scout Bell of Gothenburg High School winning the Class C race in 19:37.32.

For the boys, Ryker McCullough was the top runner, finishing 144th in 21:46.04. Martin Irizarry was 169th in 22:27.42, Lathan Richey was 174th in 22:43.49 and Zade Bents ran a 26:08.11 for 312th. Trevin Opp of Lincoln Christian was the gold medal winner, leading the pack of 340 runners with a time of 16:35.48.

Columbus Scotus won the girls' team title with 54 points, while Lincoln Christian won the boys' championship with 26 points.

On Friday morning, the teams traveled to the Syracuse Country Club for the 2025 Rich Ziegler Cross Country Invitational.

Lincoln Pius X won the girls' meet with 11 points, while the Pius boys also won with 10 points.

Audrey Scrivens was the top finisher for the Tigers, placing 18th in 22:40.32. Jennifer Sweeney also won hardware on Friday, placing 22nd in 22:55.36. The final Tiger competitor was Madalynn Hawley, who ran a 26:01.60 for 48th. Malia Woosley of Pius won the event in 19:40.26; Liston Crotty of Auburn was the top local finisher, placing 9th in 21:23.73.

For the Tiger boys, Richey was the top runner on Friday, crossing the tape at 22:01.97 for 57th. Emmett Daake was next in 63rd at 22:43.08. Joe Majerus of Pius won the event, finishing in 16:14.69. Teagan Harbin of Auburn was the top local runner, finishing 40th in 19:55.02. Zade Bents ran a 24:49.80 to finish 59th in the JV race.

In the Middle School races, Ben Furnas continued to impress, running the 3,000-meter race in 11:38.76 for seventh, and Barrett Johansen was 25 in 13:18, 38 while Alaina Jackson was ninth in 13:22.88 for the girls.

The teams competed at the Tecumseh Country Club on Tuesday, October 7, 2025, for the ECNC Meet. Next week, the district meet will be held on Wednesday, October 15, 2025, at the Cass County Fairgrounds.

LAND AUCTION

MILLER-MONROE COMPANY

119.31 AC± | 2 TRACTS

RICHARDSON CO, NE

LIVE AND ONLINE AT RANCHANDFARMAUCTIONS.COM

AUCTION DATE: 10/27/25 AUCTION TIME: 2 PM CT

AUCTION HELD AT: ELKS LODGE, 1417 STONE ST

FALLS CITY, NE 68355

RANCHANDFARMAUCTIONS.COM

GO TO RANCHANDFARMAUCTIONS.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION, PHOTOS, SOIL MAPS AND TERMS.

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Thank you to the Richardson County Ag Society and Richardson County Farm Bureau for honoring our farm's 150th birthday. Thank you to everyone who celebrated with us!

Dick & Jennifer James and Family,
Truman Brownson Farm

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1701 Stone St

Falls City, NE 68355

402-245-2491 | fmbankfc.bank

Moving Day

SEPTEMBER 30, 1944 - Adopted by Larry and Faye Darling

John said that he tried "to put down on canvas a piece of America, a stage set, a framework for the imagination to travel around in." His panoramic covers with long views of people were a major departure from the Post's customary close-up designs. In fact, Norman Rockwell himself adjusted to the newer style for a time, which he later referred to as his "Falter Period."

johnphilipfaltermuseum.com

ARMBRUSTER's ALL-STAR PERFORMANCE

Congratulations to Falls City Math Team who finished 1st in the UNO Math Contest.

Burke Wissman qualified in the top 50 to make the justification round. Peyton Brown qualified for the top 6 head to head speed round.

The team had 14 individual place finishes as well.