The Falls City Journal

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." - Jerry Raehal

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Mold issue in Courthouse discussed

The Richardson County Board of Commissioners met on Wednesday, April 1, 2026. Commissioners Karas, Campbell and Caverzagie answered the roll call.

Sheriff Hardesty told the Board that the jail facility was currently housing 14 inmates. He also stated the new Sheriff's Department truck won't be ready until mid-May. The Sheriff also received a phone number of an individual in Nemaha County who is doing vehicle installs.

Next, Ted Godemann and Steve Frederick met with the Commissioners to discuss workplace safety and biohazards. Godemann began by saying he had met with the Board within the last two years and, at that time, discussed blood test results his wife, Mona, had received that tested positive for mold.

At that time, the Board had her office tested for mold. Godemann said on the day the office was tested, it "smelled heavily" of bleach and "had been gone over pretty good."

Chairman Caverzagie rebutted, saying they hadn't cleaned the office and didn't even know anyone had been there to test it until they received the results.

According to Caverzagie, the office was tested on August 29, 2024.

Godemann continued, stating his wife worked in many different offices and locations throughout the courthouse for over 20 years.

"The point is that mold may not be primary," said Godemann. "But it compromises immune systems that normally would help mitigate health conditions."

He said he wasn't there to point fingers at anyone, but he wanted to raise awareness of the situation and ensure it received proper attention.

"You're the ones responsible for the county employee, health and safety," Godemann told the Commissioners.

He asked the Board to hire a qualified and licensed mold remediation contractor.

Mr. Godemann also showed the Board mold samples gathered by a Courthouse employee.

Godemann provided a list of many former courthouse employees who have either died or are dealing with health problems. Godemann stopped short of blaming mold for the issues but said, "mold compromises the immune system."

Mr. Godemann said he's aware the current Board hasn't caused the issues; he just wants them to take care of it.

"You didn't start it, I'm just asking you to get it finished," said Godemann.

Bethaney Godemann, Richardson County Court Clerk Magistrate, said, "All we want is a safe and healthy workplace; we don't want to breathe this toxic in. I know that the average people don't understand how bad mold can be, but going through what we did with my mom, we

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EASTER Baskets filled fast as kids and parents spread out grabbing eggs during the Easter egg hunt hosted by Falls City Nursing and Rehab on April 4. Families lined the area as children of all ages joined in the hunt.

Cat safely rescued after week stuck in tree

Falls City volunteer firefighters Matt Beer, Tim Daniels and Jason Hall, along with community members, worked to rescue a cat that had been stuck in a tree for more than a week last Friday.

The scared cat avoided several attempts to bring it down before responders used water to safely coax it to the ground.

The cat was unharmed after the rescue, which drew a small crowd and additional help from residents who assisted on scene.

(Photos by Sarah Mez)

Shubert American Legion Auxiliary Unit #222 holds celebration

The Shubert American Legion Auxiliary Unit 222 hosted an evening of recognition and celebration March 22, honoring Richardson County veterans while also marking the nation's upcoming 250th birthday and the birthday of the American Legion.

The event was held at the Wayside Event Center and included a free soup supper for veterans and their guests. Co-President Vicki Beilke opened the evening by welcoming attendees and sharing a reading focused on the importance of the American flag. She then recognized veterans in attendance by calling out branches of service, with responses from those who served in the Army, Navy and Air Force.

Those in attendance were then asked to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the singing of the national anthem and "God Bless America," led by Tana Brown.

Beilke introduced the evening's featured speaker, Jerry Foster, who spoke about the work of the American Legion on behalf of veterans. Foster discussed recent efforts in which the organization was able to have a U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs decision reversed that would have negatively affected veterans. He also explained how membership supports those efforts, noting that participation helps strengthen the organization's ability to advocate.

Foster also addressed changes affecting veterans, including reductions in vehicle registration costs for disabled veterans.

Following Foster's remarks, Odis Fields spoke to those in attendance, encouraging all veterans to ensure they are registered with his office. He said that without registration, benefits are not accessible, and emphasized that those benefits are earned through military service.

After the program, Lacee Noa offered a prayer before the meal was served. The supper, catered by Wooden Spoon Catering, owned by Unit Co-President Jana Wheeler was followed by conversation among those in attendance.

As part of the event, each veteran received an honorary veteran pin.

Additional members of the auxiliary assisting with the evening included Linda Patchen, Dona Hall, Judy Schlosser and Diane Breitsch.

Falls City announces Stone Street Amphitheater and Park Development following State Grant Award

Falls City is proud to announce plans for the development of the Stone Street Amphitheater and Park, a new outdoor gathering space to be located at the corner of 15th and Stone Street in the heart of the community's downtown Creative District.

The project is made possible in part by a $100,000 Creative District Development Grant awarded to the Falls City Creative District by the Nebraska Arts Council, along with a significant private donation from the Stalder Foundation and donation of the lot at 1500 Stone Street by the Novak family. These combined investments position the project to break ground in July 2026, with anticipated completion by late fall. Currently, no local taxpayer funding is planned to be used for the con-

AMPHITHEATER -Page 3

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APRIL

-Nebraska Bank now open & offering full banking services

11
-Dunn Greenery Opening April 11

16
-Capital City at Prichard Auditorium, 7PM

21
-Miller Monroe/Ranch & Farm, Land Auction 153.3 AC ± 1:30PM Fisher Center-Hiawatha, KS

22
-High School Open House at Heartland Fine Art Gallery, 1-5:00PM. 4/11 thru 5/1

APRIL FC JOURNAL DEADLINE CHANGES

16 THURSDAY NOON DEADLINE for the following week's paper.

23 THURSDAY NOON DEADLINE for the following week's paper.

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PRAIRIE DOC®

What the heart wants (is exercise)

By Kelly Evans Hullinger, MD FACP

Cardiovascular disease remains the most common cause of death in the US as well as a very common cause of chronic illness and disability. Heart attacks, heart failure, and strokes result in about 2500 deaths per day in the US, according to the American Heart Association®. While huge strides continue to be made in treatment of these events, including medications and procedural abilities, as always, prevention is the best medicine.

Many risk factors exist for cardiovascular disease; some, such as genetics or family history, are out of one's control. However, there are many things we can do to reduce our risk, including quitting smoking and controlling high blood pressure, high cholesterol, or diabetes. One behavior that applies to us all is to get enough exercise.

The American Heart Association® recommends getting at least 150 minutes of moderate intensity exercise or 75 minutes of vigorous exercise per week, preferably spread over several days in the week. Moderate exercise might include brisk walking, gardening, or leisurely biking. Vigorous exercise might include walking on an incline, jogging or running, or heavy yard work. Additionally, they recommend resistance or strength training be included twice per week.

Starting from sedentary? No problem, but don't expect to go from zero to 150 minutes in the first week. Listen to your body; you can even start with walking or chair exercise for ten minutes per day. You will find that with consistency you will be able to build on that week to week. Most importantly, find a physical activity that you enjoy enough to keep doing. For many people, exercising with a family member or friend really helps.

We know that regular exercise can cut the risk of cardiovascular disease substantially; one large study showed a reduction in mortality by over 20%, with more exercise giving even greater protection. How exercise benefits the heart goes beyond its effect on obvious markers like weight; exercise improves blood flow in the vessels around the heart in a way that reduces future bad outcomes. As I tell my patients when we discuss exercise, its benefits are far greater than its effect on weight. Your heart will thank you for the exercise no matter what the scale says.

So let's all get moving this week! Any exercise is better than none, and there is something out there for everyone. The heart wants what it wants, and that's exercise.

Dr. Kelly Evans Hullinger practices internal medicine at Avera Medical Group in Brookings, SD. She serves as one of the Prairie Doc Volunteer Hosts during its 24th Season providing Health Education Based on Science, Built on Trust. Follow The Prairie Doc® at www.prairiedoc.org, Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and Tik Tok. Prairie Doc Programming includes On Call with the Prairie Doc®, a medical Q&A show (most Thursdays at 7pm, YouTube and streaming on Facebook), 2 podcasts, and a Radio program (on SDPB, Sundays at 6am and 1pm).

The Falls City Journal

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

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All things Nebraska

Another year, another round of tax breaks to retain corporations

By Paul Hammel, Retired Senior Reporter for Nebraska Examiner

"To the Arch by March."

That was the scary slogan circulating throughout Omaha back in the 1980s when both Union Pacific and ConAgra were threatening to move their corporate headquarters out of the River City. (U.P. was said to be looking at St. Louis, home of the Gateway Arch.)

That meant that hundreds of good paying jobs would be leaving Nebraska and that Omaha's status as a home of corporate headquarters would be diminished.

Never fear, the Nebraska Legislature and then-Gov. Kay Orr responded with the "Investment and Growth Act," Legislative Bill 775, which offered millions in tax breaks to companies who invested money and expanded employment in the state.

"Major revisions in Nebraska's tax structure are necessary to accomplish economic revitalization of Nebraska," read the official justification of LB 775, which was billed as a way to make the state "competitive" with other states offering similar tax breaks.

Fast forward to today, and the State Legislature is again passing tax breaks to retain, attract and inspire expansion of businesses.

It seems there's never enough tax incentives for businesses.

LB 775 begat the Advantage Act of 2005, which begat the ImagiNE Nebraska Act of 2020, which begat this year's "Grow the Good Life Act."

State Auditor Mike Foley, a black-belt finder of waste and abuse in state government, fired a warning shot in February with a letter to state lawmakers. He warned that current state tax incentives lacked sufficient oversight to ensure that state funds weren't flowing to businesses that hadn't earned them via job expansion and new investment.

The state's incentive programs, Foley pointed out, had cost the state $1.2 billion over the past four years. Some of those funds, he said, had continued flowing to businesses that had declared bankruptcy or had abandoned an expansion project.

Local communities, the auditor said, had contributed nearly $181 million in sales tax breaks to businesses – that's money and you and I have to make up to fund city services, in part through higher property taxes.

I remember the anguish on my state senator's face back in the '80s when he described his support for LB 775.

He said hated to do it – because it meant fewer funds for state services and tax breaks for you and I – but it had to be done. Omaha, and the state, can't afford to lose businesses like Union Pacific and ConAgra, the lawmaker said.

Boy, have we heard that argument over and over.

But it is a difficult issue, and companies basically have state leaders over a barrel – "pay up, or we'll move."

It's a disgusting conundrum. (And it doesn't always work – ConAgra eventually moved its HQ to Chicago. Though, it must be noted, they kept a lot of jobs in Omaha.)

Nebraska, due to its high property taxes, has historically ranked high on taxes compared to other states.

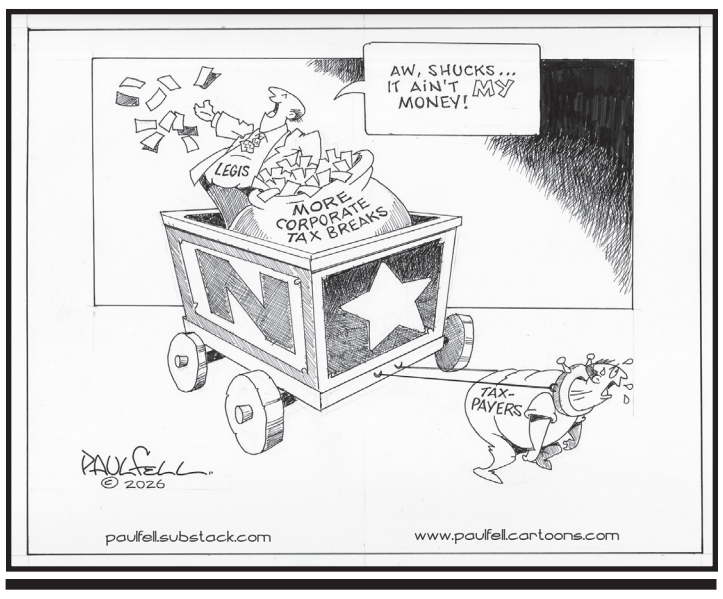
But the state has made progress in recent years, thanks mostly to a gradual, deep cut in state income taxes.

Nebraska now ranks 22nd among the states in "tax competitiveness." That's a ranking I think we'd take if it was the NU football team (though probably not one we'd accept if it was our basketball team, wrestlers or volleyball squad).

We always tout the advantages of locating in our state – low cost of living, cheap energy, abundant water, friendly people and a dedicated workforce.

But, when companies come threatening to move away, that's all forgotten as we open up the state's pocket book and provide more tax breaks.

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



STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

THEME: FAMOUS DUOS

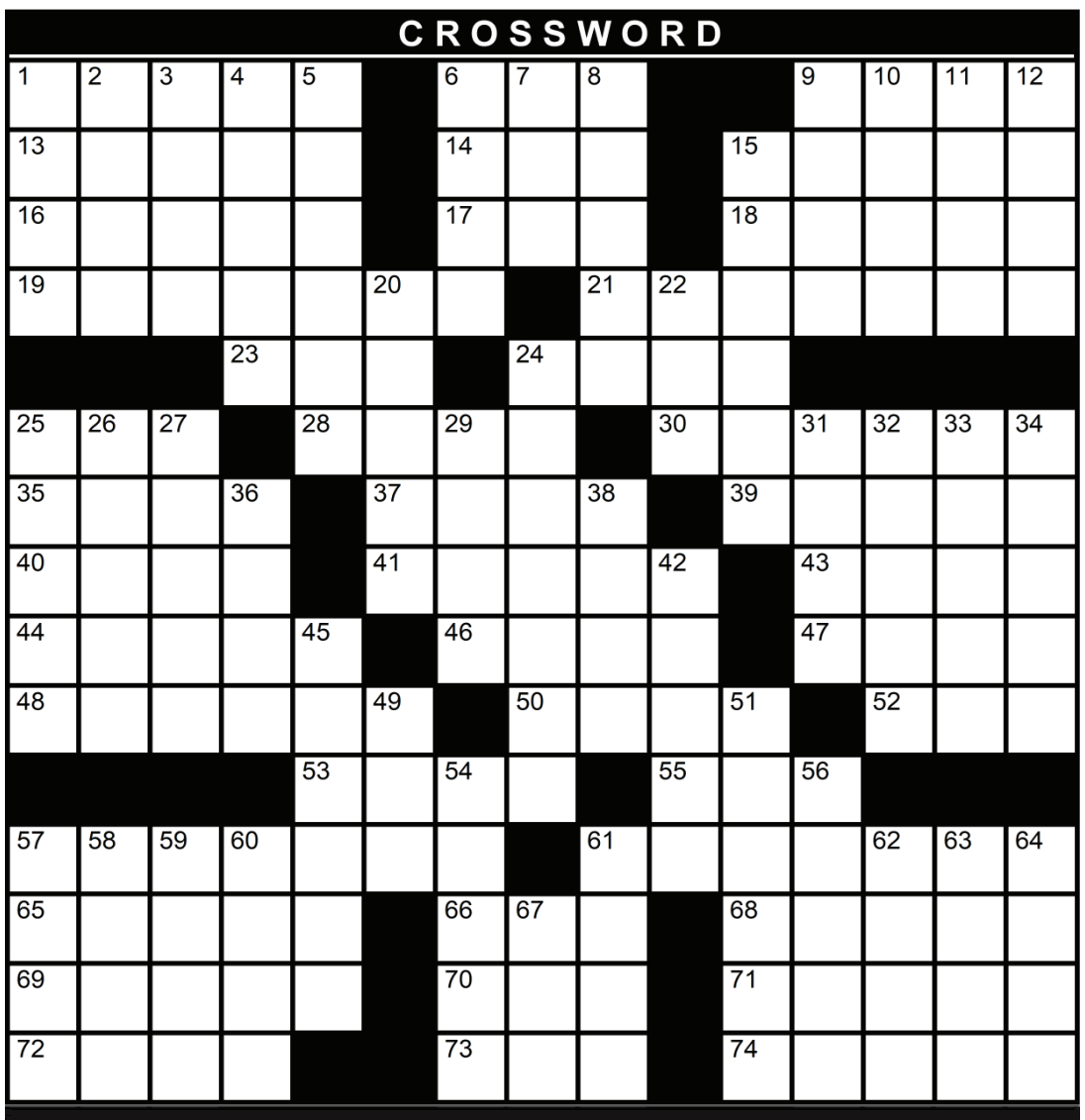
ACROSS

1. *Timothy Q. Mouse's friend, in Disney classic
6. River in Germany
9. Bridle parts
13. Whatsoever
14. Like tuna tartare
15. Forearm bones
16. Plural of #3 Down
17. Hardware store
18. "Gladiator" setting
19. *Ferb Fletcher's stepbrother
21. *Mr. White's unfortunate student
23. Welcome spot for weary traveler
24. It shall, for short
25. Cul de ____
28. Young herring
30. Dieter's cuisine, for short
35. Gator's cousin
37. French "place"
39. Chunk of iceberg
40. St. Louis monument
41. Like new TV set
43. Front of ship
44. Singular of loci
46. Additional
47. Reality TV's Spelling
48. *Assistant to regional manager Michael Scott
50. Missing a limb
52. More, in Madrid
53. Like acne-prone skin
55. Pimple fluid
57. *Shirley's roommate and fellow bottle-capper
61. *Rory Gilmore's mom
65. Make an effort
66. Legal org.
68. Long stories
69. Scottish valleys
70. Doctor Dolittle, e.g.
71. *One of The Carpenters duo
72. Bone-dry
73. Opposite of WSW
74. Red or orange announcement

DOWN

1. Slightly wet
2. *Malone and Stockton of the ____ Jazz
3. Skirt length
4. Shrovetide dish
5. *Mary-Kate and Ashley
6. Geologists' studies
7. *____ and cheese
8. Moved under the rug
9. "All ____, no bite"
10. Footnote word
11. *Amy Poehler's comedic partner
12. Welsh alternative to Siobh·n
15. Was almost out of gas, e.g.
20. Source of indigo dye, pl.
22. "____ Be Home For Christmas"
24. In the best possible way
25. Coffee burn, e.g.
26. *Bow and ____
27. Spherical bacteria
29. *Corona's main squeeze?
31. What willow did
32. Read-only chip
33. Greek bazaar
34. *Clark's fellow traveler
36. College party chant
38. Celestial bear
42. Dancer's beat
45. Daisy dukes, e.g.
49. "Wizard of Oz" man
51. Archimedes' exclamation
54. Furlough
56. Flower part
57. Frog delicacy
58. Wheel shaft
59. Swerve
60. European sea eagle
61. *David and Paul on the "____ Show"
62. Italian currency, pl.
63. Maple genus
64. Negative contraction
67. *Jerry's fellow treat-maker

CROSSWORD



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"Sez-I" Letters to the Editor

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

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

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

75 Years Ago, April 8, 1951 to April 14, 1951

As part of a program to screen children for eye defects before they became advanced, 986 youths in the Falls City School system during the school year were checked for possible sight defects, according to Superintendent R.R. Andrews.

According to the United Press, five weekend airplane crashes left 45 people dead and five injured. Thirty-one of the deceased were servicemen.

Dick Powell and June Allyson said they were getting ready to open an adoption home of their own "to make it easier for people to get babies." The two stars, incorporated under the name "Adoption Home of California," applied to the California commission for a license to operate.

Angered Republicans raised threats of impeachment against President Truman and possibly Secretary of State Dean Acheson within hours after the President fired Gen. Douglas MacArthur from his Far Eastern command.

Abbott and Costello starred in "Meet the Invisible Man" at the Rivoli Theater.

Hinky Dinky was having a Dollar Days sale. Center-cut pork chops were 59 cents per pound, sliced bacon was 45 cents per pound, and a 25-pound bag of Mother's Best flour was $1.93.

The Air Force reported that two B-29 bombers were shot down by enemy MIG-15 fighter planes in northwest Korea. They became the first four-engine U.S. bombers shot down by the enemy in the Korean War.

The supreme president of the B.P.O. Does, Mrs. Bernice Breland of McCook, was a guest of the local Does at a regular meeting held at the Elks Lodge. Mrs. John Eitel, president, presided at the regular lodge session.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Gillispie of Kansas City were the parents of a son, Daniel Joseph. Mrs. Gillispie was the former Betty Buchanan of Falls City.

Flood waters in the upper Mississippi River near St. Paul, Minnesota, were reaching all-time highs.

The new parking meters in downtown Falls City were up and operational. Time limits ranged from 12 minutes to two hours. They were set at a 12-minute parking rate for each penny deposited, or one hour parking for a nickel.

For sale—160 acres north of Verdon, well improved, mostly all tillable, electricity. Immediate possession. For quick sale priced at $200 an acre. Also, good farm implements for sale. This is one you'll want to see. E.R. Miller, Falls City.

Henry Hartman and Wilfred Karsten combined for a grand total of 1,305 to jump into the lead in the Falls City Men's City Bowling tourney doubles event.

50 Years Ago, April 8, 1976 to April 14, 1976

Southeast Consolidated students Paula Kite, Rhea Harshbarger and Bobbi Mehlin attended the State Speech Contest in Kearney. Harshbarger placed first in Original Public Address, and Mehlin was fourth in Extemporaneous Speaking. Pat Castle was the speech coach.

Jerry Kennedy, a 1975 graduate of Southeast Consolidated High School and Jerry Anderson, a senior at Southeast, were awarded the state Farmer Degree by the Future Farmers of America organization.

The Justice Department urged the Supreme Court to outlaw segregated private schools that, for years, allowed white parents to avoid sending their children into integrated public classrooms.

Ray Appleoff of Sun City, California, a former Falls Cityan and father of Bob Appleoff, won the 54-hole President's Cup Golf Tournament at Cherry Hills Golf Club, shooting a net of 196, 20 under par.

The Falls City Jaycees advertised the annual Easter Egg Hunt to be held at the baseball diamond at City Park. Age groups were 0-4, 5-7 and 8-9.

Jeff Fritz captured first place in the shot put with a toss of 39-1/2 at the Falls City double dual track meet against Plattsmouth, while Tom Wilson cleared 5-6 to win the high jump.

Richard Burkholder of Marysville, KS, arrived to become co-manager with Joe Waidley of the local Gibson Discount Center. He succeeded Jim Hefner, who moved to Chanute, KS, to become the manager of the largest store of the Pamida Company.

The Vets Club advertised Thursday night Fried Chicken for $1.75, and Friday night Carp for $1.75, with Catfish and Boiled Shrimp for $3.00.

Wilfred Swinton was installed as high priest of the Eureka Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, and Merle Prior was installed as illustrious master of Boaz Council of Royal and Select Masters at the Masonic Temple.

New PTA Council officers were Mrs. Paul Kaiser, Mrs. Dearl Eickhoff, Mrs. Jim Bahr and Mrs. Raymond Niemeyer.

The Falls City Federal Savings and Loan Association bowling team finished first in the final standings of the Tuesday Coffee League at Center Lanes. Team members included Mrs. Tony Otto, Mrs. Ken Coonce, Mrs. Tom Dunbar, Mrs. Sterling Kottich and Mrs. Bill Lee.

Jim Parrish set a new eighth-grade school record in winning the mile in 4:58.0, beating the old mark set by Randy Miller of 5:04.4.

25 Years Ago, April 8, 2001 to April 14, 2001

Mike Ellis was hired as the chief operating officer at the Medical Center in Falls City. Ellis previously had nine years of experience as a health care administrator in the U.S. Air Force.

The Lady Irish track team won 14-of-17 events in the "A" Division of the MUDECAS track meet at Tecumseh. Meanwhile, Troy Taft came home with four gold medals for the boys' team, which came in second to Bruning-Davenport in the team standings.

Huffy Bikes were in stock at Sailors & Sons at 1801 Chase Street. The store stocked men's, women's and children's bicycles and offered free assembly.

John Coonce, retired Chief Operator of the Falls City Water Plant in Rulo, was honored for over 25 years of service with a pendulum, chiming wall clock presented by Merle Veigel, chairman of the Board of Public Works.

Two Falls Cityans in the Peace Corps, Jack and Vicki Bangert, were enjoying life in Ecuador, according to a letter Vicki sent to her grandmother, Virginia Pethoud.

City employees were presented Certificates of Recognition from the League of Nebraska Municipalities for milestones in their service years. Larry Strecker was honored for 10 years, Mary Arnold for 30 years, John Rieger for 25 years, and Larry Franzen for 15 years.

The Southeast Consolidated School Board acknowledged receipt of a $151,258 lottery grant. Joan Christen, Southeast science teacher, wrote the grant. The gift provided 49 new computers, printers, cameras, video equipment and software for the entire K-12 science departments. Fifty-two applications were received, and only seven were funded.

Kerry Campbell of Falls City received a Peru State College Foundation scholarship.

Jon and Cathy Keithley were the parents of a daughter born at St. Elizabeth's in Lincoln. Elizabeth Rose was welcomed home by four brothers and a sister.

Alicia Goltz, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Doug Goltz, finished runner-up in the 10-year-old division at the Knights of Columbus State Free Throw Contest.

The Falls City High School cheerleaders captured fourth place in their division at the AmeriCheer National Cheerleading and Dance Championships held in Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

D-V Jet Heath Christiansen won the 200m dash (:24.5), placed third in the long jump (18-4) and was third in the 100m dash (:12.4) at the Iowa School for the Deaf Invitational.

MOLD

-Continued from Page 1

learned a lot about it, and it is very, very dangerous."

"It's not something that can't be dealt with on a very straightforward basis," said Mr. Godemann. "Just get somebody in there that's used to doing large projects or big buildings. Just getting a carpet cleaner in here isn't going to do it."

Commissioner Campbell replied that they would contact someone qualified in an effort to fix the situation.

Highway Superintendent Steve Darveau, Jr., also met with the Board. A motion was made by Commissioner Karas to accept the bid for the Dawson Northwest Project No. C74(2023-05) from Van Dorn Valley, LLC, for $40,720.78. The motion carried 3-0.

A discussion was also held about implementing GPS and an AI-Integrated camera system for County vehicles through Verizon. The system aims to improve safety and reduce liability.

The county could reduce insurance costs by up to 15 percent if cameras were installed in vehicles.

Darveau initially said the idea of installing cameras came after a child ran out in front of a county truck. He mentioned the cost for the cameras would be $52.70 per vehicle per month, or roughly $15,000 per year.

Darveau said they will have the ability to print reports for each vehicle, enabling them to see if a vehicle has been sitting or when a road last had rock on it.

The Commissioners will examine the information provided and discuss it at a future meeting.

The Board opened sealed bids for the 2026 Scrub Mastic Project No. C-74(2026-02) for the Dustless Highway. One bid was received from Hall Brothers, Inc. for $271,043.52, with a start date of July 6 and a completion date of July 16, 2026. Caverzagie made a motion to accept the bid; the motion passed 3-0.

A quote from Jones Air Conditioning for $2,542.00 for the replacement of a heating/cooling unit in the Assessor's office was approved. Claims were paid, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:33 a.m.

AMPHITHEATER

-Continued from Page 1

struction of the park.

The Stone Street Amphitheater and Park is designed as a vibrant, multi-use public space that will serve residents and visitors alike. Plans include a covered performance stage, flexible green space for seating and events, shaded gathering areas, walking paths, and landscaped features that incorporate opportunities for public art sculptures. Located directly north of the Falls City Library and Arts Center, the park will enhance connectivity within downtown and provide a central hub for performances, markets, and community programming.

While initial funding allows construction to move forward, additional donations will be sought to support key enhancements, including decorative privacy fencing along the alleyway, audio/visual equipment, picnic tables, trash receptacles, public art installations, and other amenities that will elevate the overall experience of the space.

The park is owned by the City of Falls City and is being developed through a collaborative partnership between the Falls City Creative District, Richardson County Arts and Humanities and Falls City Chamber and Main Street. This partnership will ensure strong programming, active use, and long-term stewardship of the space.

Additional grant applications are currently pending. If awarded, these funds would support expanded improvements such as ADA-compliant sidewalk renovations, development of the Mini Park across the street, integrating children's musical playground equipment, and a potential addition of public restrooms.

The Stone Street Amphitheater and Park is one of several projects funded through the Nebraska Arts Council's Creative District Development Grant program, which awarded over $1 million to 13 districts across the state. The program supports initiatives designed to drive cultural tourism, economic development, and community revitalization.

"We're excited to support the Creative Districts and see the economic growth these projects will bring to their communities," said Rachel Morgan, Program Specialist at the Nebraska Arts Council.

DUNN GREENERY
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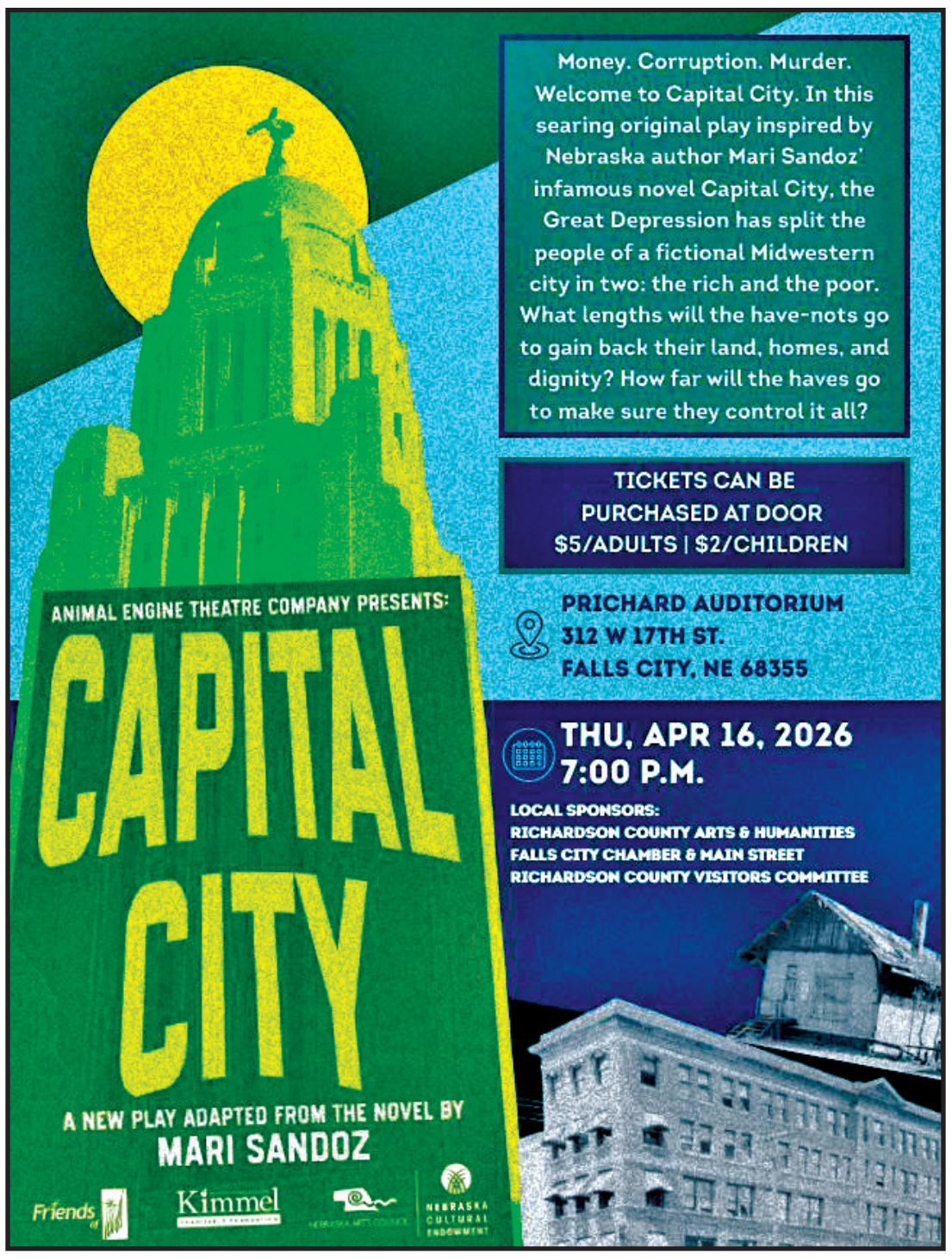
Opening April 11th!
Your local Greenhouse....
All plants grown on location!
Great Plants at Great Prices!
Visit us on Facebook to see what's new!
Located just 4 miles North of Falls City, NE & West on 711 Rd

High School Student Art Exhibit
April 21-May 1
OPEN HOUSE
Wednesday, April 22 • 1:00-5:00 PM
Heartland Fine Art Gallery
1620 Stone St., Falls City
Vote for your favorite student art.
Prizes awarded to artists. Details at the Heartland Fine Arts Gallery



BECK'S HYBRIDS HELD A TOWN HALL meeting at the Falls City Elks Lodge on Wednesday, February 11, 2026. Scott Beck, President of Beck's Hybrid, spoke to over 75 local farmers about Beck's expansion into Nebraska, rooted in a deep and genuine desire to help farmers succeed. Beck also discussed the legacy of the Beck's Hybrid Company, founded in 1937 and currently the largest independent, family-owned company in the industry.

Beck's opened in Nebraska in 2021 and has remained committed to supporting regional farmers through the construction of a Distribution Center, Research Farm, and Breeding Station in Goehner, Nebraska.

According to Beck, "These strategic investments and acquisitions reinforce our commitment to providing high-quality seed and exceptional service to farmers across our growing marketing area, especially in Southeast Nebraska."

Soccer enthusiasts, players and parents alike, braved a cold and windy morning on Saturday at Jug Brown Stadium.

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SOCIETY

PARISH CIRCLE

By Cathy Palmer

Parish Circle held their Valentine's Day Dinner February 16, 2026 at Bethel Global Methodist Church. There were 23 in attendance.

They enjoyed a potluck dinner with the hostess providing the meat and members bringing a covered dish. Grace was offered by the hostess Deb Rieger.

Following the meal Deb Rieger shared several Valentine readings.

The next meeting will be March 16, 2026 at Bethel Global Methodist Church with Deb Harris leading lesson #6 from the book "Ten women of The Bible" on The Samaritan Woman. Catherine Palmer will be the hostess.

March meeting

Parish Circle met Monday evening March 16, 2026 at Bethel Global Methodist Church. Eight members were in attendance.

Deb Harris opened the evening with prayer. She led lesson #6 from Study Book "Ten Women of the Bible" on The Samaritan Woman who went from outcast to evangelist.

Deb Harris, co-chair conducted the business meeting with discussion on plans for the program for the Friendship Tea being held next month. Catherine Palmer gave the treasurer's report and shared thank you notes she received for donations given in December . Deb Harris asked for prayer concerns and joys, which were shared by the group. She closed the meeting with prayer.

Refreshments were served by the hostess Catherine Palmer assisted by Deb Harris from a table with St. Patrick's Day decorations.

The next meeting will be The Friendship Tea at 2:00 P.M. on April 12, 2026 at Bethel Global Methodist Church. Parish Circle will have the program which will be Justin and Amy Hoehner talking about their work at Comeca Camp and Retreat Center in Cozad, NE and Woman in Mission will be the host.

District 13 Legion family convention

By Doris DeJonge, District 13 Secretary

Legion, Auxiliary and SAL's gathered in Falls City at the 96th District 13 Convention on Saturday, March 7, 2026 at the American Legion Club Post #102. District Commander Kevin McKinney of Tecumseh Post #2 and District Auxiliary President Bobbi Albers of Cook Unit #360 were the presiding officers.

Auxiliary Units representing District 13 were: Auburn #23, Burchard #156, Pawnee City #168, Shubert #222, Humboldt #269, and Cook #360.

Colors already displayed, a hand salute was given. Chaplain Linda Patchen gave the invocation; Vice President Tana Brown led in the Pledge of Allegiance; the Star Spangled Banner was played by Shari Karjala; and Parliamentarian Barb Washburn led in reciting the Auxiliary Preamble. Chaplain Linda read the POW/MIA 288 Resolution. Shubert member Marilyn Capps gave the welcome and Vice President Tana gave a response.

Secretary Doris DeJonge introduced our special Department guests: Past Department Presidents Barb and Amanda Washburn; Department Chaplain Vicki Colson; and, Department Leadership Chairman Tina Nelson. Former District Presidents were recognized. Secretary/Treasurer Doris DeJonge read the Roll Call. There were 24 senior members and two guests present. Treasurer Doris also gave the Treasurer's report.

District President and Vice President, County Presidents and Unit Presidents gave their reports. Poppy orders were handed out. Parliamentarian Barb then provided guidelines for the County Caucuses that were held to nominate candidates for the 2026-2027 District President and Vice-President.

A joint session of the Legion and Auxiliary was held at 11:00am. Burchard Unit #156 held the District Memorial Service recognizing those that have passed away since last year's Convention. A table blessing was offered before lunch that was catered by Wooden Spoon Catering of Stella, NE.

The Legion and Auxiliary reconvened their sessions at 12:30pm. A Gold Star Recognition was given by Shubert Unit #222.

The Little Red Schoolhouse ($25.00), Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation ($25.25) and AEF ($24.10) coin march was held. This money will be sent to the Department.

Amanda Washburn gave greetings from Department President Ruth Hietbrink and Department Membership Chairman Deb Albers. Department Leadership Chairman Tina Nelson urges all to work together at every level of the Auxiliary stating that "We Are a Family"; and, NEC member Vicki Ozenbaugh who supports the AEF Program.

District Awards: History Book - first to Shubert. Prayer Book - first to Shubert, second to Humboldt. Publicity Book - first to Shubert. Poppy Centerpiece - first to Burchard, second to Humboldt, third to Shubert. Judges were Jean Burns, Michele Tegtmeier, Barb Washburn and Amanda Washburn. Other specific awards presented were: Rosewood

Gavel and the Rodysill Bell to Burchard; Finger Gavel to Cook; Murphy Gavel to Auburn; and the Gauchet Bell to Cook.

The four County Caucuses were held to nominate the 2026-2027 District 13 President and Vice-President. The Nominating Committee Chairman Michele Tegtmeier presented the nominee for President Bobbi Albers and Vice-President Tana Brown. All in favor voted AYE. Doris DeJonge will continue as Secretary/Treasurer along with Linda Patchen as Chaplain, Jean Burns as Historian, and Barb Washburn as Parliamentarian.

Discussion was held on raising the mileage rate from $.20 for the District President to $.35. Motion was made by Amanda Washburn, seconded by Jana Wheeler; motion carried.

Bobbi announced that each unit in District 13 is to provide an item for a "Stirring Up Members" basket (Department President's Theme and Auxiliary Emergency Fund Project) that will be auctioned off at the Department Convention held in Columbus, June 25-28, 2026. Items could be baked goods, recipes, or ingredients. Bobbi needs these items by May first. Department Secretary Roxanne Hiatt requests that each Unit send in your updated Constitution and By-Laws regardless if there has been no change. One or two volunteers are needed at the Department Convention in Columbus for registration purposes.

From Tina Nelson, "for your information" there is a Disabled Veteran Motor Vehicle Tax & Free Exemption to receive for one vehicle owned and used for your personal transportation. Eligibility requirements, application process, and more information is available at veterans.nebraska.gov/vehicletax. Your County Veterans Office and county treasurer can also help you.

The Courtesy Resolutions was read by Amanda Washburn and the Registration Report was read by Doris DeJonge. Door prizes were passed out to our lucky winners. Fall Round-Up will be hosted by the Johnson Unit #330 on October 3, 2026.

There being no further business to come before this convention, Chaplain Linda Patchen gave a prayer for peace, God Bless America was sung, and the meeting was adjourned.

Work to begin on N-2 near Palmyra

Weather permitting, work will begin April 6 on Nebraska Highway 2 (N-2), from reference post 475.41 to reference post 476.91, according to the Nebraska Department of Transportation.

Paulsen, Inc., of Cozad, is the contractor for this project. Work includes grading, culverts, concrete pavement and lighting. Traffic will be maintained with single lane closures. A 12-foot width restriction will be in effect. Anticipated completion is fall 2026.

Motorists are reminded to drive cautiously in and near work zones, to buckle up, and put phones down.

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Lockard to be honored with Thousand Oaks Award

The noteworthy achievements of four Peru State College alumni will be celebrated at the annual Thousand Oaks Alumni Excellence Award event, set for Tuesday, April 14.

The 2026 Thousand Oaks Award recipients include Joan Christen '96 of Tecumseh, Neb.; Barry Lockard '90 of Lincoln, Neb.; Heather Nelson, Masters '14, of Omaha; and Erin O'Grady Sayer '91 of rural Dunbar, Neb., according to Dr. Robert Mock, President of Peru State.

Peru State College president, Dr. Robert Mock, stated, "At Peru State College, we're incredibly proud to see our graduates take what they've learned in our classrooms and make a real impact in the world. The achievements of this year's Thousand Oaks honorees reflect not only their dedication and talent, but also the strength of a Peru education. Their success is a powerful reminder that what begins here reaches far beyond our campus."

Nominations are submitted and compiled by the Peru State College Foundation. Information is provided to a selection panel which includes the deans of the college in their respective areas for input. The recipients are approved by the college administration and ultimately by the College president.

The awardees will return to campus in April, where they'll have an opportunity to address students and faculty in classes in their respective disciplines. Following a luncheon, they will receive the Thousand Oaks awards during a 2 p.m. ceremony in the College Theatre. The public is welcome to attend.

2026 Honorees: Erin O'Grady Sayer is the award recipient from Peru State School of Education. The graduate studies recipient is Heather Nelson.

Barry Lockard will receive the Thousand Oaks Award from the School of Professional Studies.

The School of Arts and Sciences winner of the Thousand Oaks Award is Joan Christen.

Barry Lockard '90: School of Professional Studies. From his humble roots growing up in Stella, Neb. where he helped run his family's grocery store, Barry Lockard has worked his way to his position as President and Chief Executive Officer of Cornhusker Bank in Lincoln, Neb.

Cornhusker Bank is a community bank with holdings of $1.1 billion. It's been a steady climb since he graduated from Peru State in 1990, during which time he joined the state's Army National Guard and served for eight years.

He joined the bank in 2006 after starting his career with Black and Decker, helping to develop their DeWalt power tool line, then serving Cincinnati Bell, becoming the Worldwide Account Manager for Microsoft, providing call center services in several countries.

Lockard's next stop was his introduction to banking, serving First National Bank of Omaha. In 2003 he launched his own consulting company, providing banks and insurance firms with business development and operational efficiencies. His last engagement was with Cornhusker Bank, who invited him to join the company in 2006.

In 2024 Lockard was selected as Chair of the Board of Directors of the Federal Home Loan Bank of Topeka, Kan. One of 11 Home Loan Banks in the United States, it is a federally chartered corporation that provides liquidity to its diverse financial institution members and promotes housing and affordable home ownership. FHLBank Topeka has approximately $80 billion in assets serving 652 banks, thrifts, credit unions, and insurance companies throughout Nebraska, Colorado, Kansas, and Oklahoma.

He's also a trustee on the board of the Colorado Graduate School of Banking. A resident of Lincoln where he lives with his wife Anne and family, Lockard has volunteered as a youth sports coach and serves on both the People's City Mission board for the homeless and the Lincoln Christian School Foundation board, among other community service activities.

Dr. Joan Christen '96: School of Arts and Sciences. A non-traditional student when she enrolled at Peru State after raising a family in Johnson (Neb.) County, Joan Christen made up for the delayed start to her professional career in a hurry.

Studying science at Nebraska's first college, taking coursework to become a teacher, and a more-than-full slate of campus and community activities was sandwiched around working for three years at Nebraska Public Power District's Cooper Nuclear Station in nearby Brownville, Neb., and a summer internship at the Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha.

Christen was also a work-study student, tutor, and lab assistant in the PSC science department and a research assistant for former faculty member Dr. Carol Pappas. Those opportunities led to numerous publications and presentations of her research at state and national conferences.

Her first teaching job was at the former Southeast Nebraska Consolidated Schools in Stella from 1996-2003. Christen then taught science at Beatrice (Neb.) High School from 2003 until her retirement in 2019. During her teaching career, she wrote and implemented over $2 million worth of science grants for students and teachers.

While teaching a full class schedule, Christen pursued her master's and then earned a doctoral degree in entomology with an emphasis on molecular genetics of insects from UNL in 2008. Additionally, Christen was an adjunct instructor of science at Peru State from 2008-19.

Among a lengthy and impressive litany of honors and awards, Christen was the state's Christa McAuliffe Award recipient for teacher excellence (2004), the Nebraska Science Teaching Association Exemplary High School teaching award in chemistry (2004), the Nebraska Department of Education Award of Excellence winner and a Teacher of the Year finalist (2003), and the national Presidential Award recipient for the state of Nebraska for Excellence in Science (2011).

From the Journal Archives

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ATV accident reported in Falls City on March 7

A two-vehicle accident was reported March 7 in Falls City, according to Falls City Police Department accident reports.

The crash occurred at 5:14 p.m. on East 22nd Street.

According to the report, a juvenile female, was operating an all-terrain vehicle when she struck a parked vehicle.

Two juvenile passengers were also on the ATV. The report states neither passenger sustained injuries.

The driver sustained injuries and was evaluated at the scene by Falls City Volunteer Ambulance Squad before being transported to Community Medical Center in Falls City by her mother.

The driver did not have a driver's license and was cited for no driver's license and operating an ATV for pleasure.

Each vehicle sustained approximately $1,000 in damage.

'Once Upon a Time' baseball exhibit opening at Brownville Antiquarium

"Once Upon a Time" baseball exhibit by Randy Lucasiewicz will celebrate its opening weekend at the Antiquarium in Brownville, NE.

Randy has been growing his exhibit for over 40 years. It focuses on small-town baseball and all the memories and stories that have been passed down over the years. Rural and community baseball has a legacy in Nebraska and you will enjoy reminiscing with Randy and others about an era that will touch your soul.

In addition to the exhibit, Brownville Education Center for Arts and Humanities (BECAH) is hosting a free-will donation baseball theme food fundraiser. Brats, hot dogs, nachos, and more, will be available.

Wear your favorite ball team's gear and join us from 4:00 to 7:00 on Saturday, April 11, at 309 Water Street, Brownville, NE

For more information about "Take Me Out to the Antiquarium", contact 402-414-2082.

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FALLS CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT CALLS AND STATISTICS

March 16, 2026 through March 17, 2026 calls: one alarm, four miscellaneous calls, one accident, one information-only call, one house watch, one VIN inspection, one referred-other-agency call, one fire call, one records check, one animal call, one ambulance/EMS call, one noise disturbance, and one disturbance. Two 911 calls and one fire call. One citation for maintaining a nuisance, and two warnings for careless driving and invalid registration.

March 17, 2026 through March 18, 2026 calls: three ambulance/EMS calls, one disturbance, five 911 hang up/misdial calls, two miscellaneous calls, one fire call, two law enforcement assists, one information only call, one parking complaint, one accident, one referred other agency call, one open door, and one animal call. Six 911 calls. One fire call for Rulo Fire. One citation for improper backing, one citation for no operator's license, and one warning for no splash aprons.

March 18, 2026 through March 19, 2026 calls: one fingerprint, one gun permit, one disturbance, two disturbance calls, one fire call, two 911 hang-ups/misdials, one ambulance/EMS call, one vandalism call, and three miscellaneous calls. Thirteen total calls. One 911 call, and two citations—one for criminal mischief under $500 and one for disturbing the peace.

March 19, 2026 through March 20, 2026 calls: one traffic/driving complaint, three animal calls, five miscellaneous calls, one information-only call, one burglary, one referred other agency call, and two HHS intake/referrals, for a total of fourteen calls. There was one 911 call. Two citations were issued for speeding and no operator's license.

March 20, 2026 through March 21, 2026 calls: two domestic disturbances, four ambulance/EMS calls, two animal calls, two HHS intake/referrals, two miscellaneous calls, two gun permits, one welfare check, one warrant arrest, and one investigation, for a total of seventeen calls. There were three 911 calls. Two citations were issued for domestic violence assault 3rd degree and fugitive from justice. Eleven warnings were issued for speeding (three), improper turn (two), muffler violation, plates not clear and visible, improper/defective vehicle lighting, muffler required, no license on person, and no valid registration.

March 21, 2026 through March 22, 2026 calls: two miscellaneous calls, one 911 hang-up/misdial, one welfare check, one animal call, two motorist assists, one information-only call, and one ambulance/EMS call. Nine total calls. One 911 call, three citations (careless driving, muffler required, and speeding), and fifteen warnings (traffic control violation, three for improper/defective vehicle lighting, failure to yield right of way, three for improper turn, three for speeding, two for muffler violation, and one for no license on person).

March 22, 2026 through March 23, 2026 calls: one ambulance/EMS call, two miscellaneous calls, one referred other agency call, one gun permit, one vandalism call, and one missing person/juvenile call. Seven total calls. One 911 call and one warning for invalid registration.

March 23, 2026 through March 24, 2026 calls: two ambulance/EMS calls, three miscellaneous calls, one animal call, one HHS intake/referral, one suspicious person/vehicle, one theft, three records checks, one parking complaint, one referred other agency call, and one runaway. Three 911 calls. One warning for improper/defective vehicle lighting.

COUNTY COURT

Christina E. Sipple, count one, unregistered, wrecked or junked vehicles, pled guilty, found guilty and fined $25.

Wade M. Tackett, count one, disturbing the peace, pled no contest, found guilty and fined $75.

Derek J. Olberding, count one, del/dsp/man/pos cntrl subs sch 1, 2, 3; Class 2A felony, amended to attempt of a class 4 felony, pled no contest, found guilty. Sentencing scheduled for June 1, 2026.

Brandt T. Chapple, count one, assault-1st degree, amended to assault-cause bodily injury, pled no contest, found guilty. Sentence includes jail for term of 30 days, credit for five days served; count two, assault-cause bodily injury, pled no contest, found guilty. Sentence includes jail for term of 30 days.

DISTRICT COURT

Matthew T. Nix, count one, sex offender Reg. Act violation-prior felony; Class 2A felony, pled no contest, found guilty. Sentence includes jail for minimum of eight years, maximum of 18 years, credit for 243 days served.

Chris M. Bryant, count one, theft-unlawful taking $5,000+, amended to theft-unlawful taking $1,500-4,999, pled guilty, found guilty. Sentencing scheduled for May 26, 2026.

Raul Casillas Martinez, counts 1-2, possess deadly weapon-prohibited person, pled not guilty; count three, possess controlled subs, pled not guilty; counts 4-5, possess deadly weapon while commit felony, pled not guilty; counts 6-7, carry concealed weapon where prohibited, pled not guilty; count eight, possess or use drug paraphernalia, pled not guilty; count nine, possess/consume open alcohol container, pled not guilty; count 10, no brake lights/turn signals, pled not guilty. Pretrial scheduled for April 21, 2026.

Raul Casillas Martinez, count one, possess deadly weapon-prohibited person, pled not guilty; count two, attempt of a Class 2A felony, pled not guilty; count three, use deadly weapon to commit a felony, pled not guilty; count four, assault-cause bodily injury, pled not guilty. Pretrial scheduled for April 21, 2026.

CITATIONS

Rene Erives Rios of Omaha, count one, no valid registration, pled guilty, found guilty and fined $25 and court costs. (Novak)

Adan Castro Leiva of Hiawatha, count one, no operator's license, pled guilty, found guilty and fined $75; count two, muffler required/good working order, pled guilty, found guilty and fined $25 and court costs. (Agena)

Ijazz Fields El-Lindsay of Detroit, MI, count one, no proof of ownership, pled guilty, found guilty and fined $50; count two, speeding 6-10 mph, pled guilty, found guilty and fined $25; count three, unlawful/fict display of plate/renew tab, pled guilty, found guilty and fined $50 and court costs. (Bredemeier)

Braylie Apperson of Lenexa, KS, count one, speeding 11-15 mph, pled guilty, found guilty and fined $125 and court costs. (Geyer)

Steven Corn of Humboldt, count one, no operator's license, pled guilty, found guilty and fined $75 and court costs. (Novak)

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

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

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

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

Senator Hallstrom Newsletter

We are down to the final few working days of the 2026 Legislative Session with adjournment currently scheduled for Friday, April 17.

The two main budget bills, LB 1071 and LB 1072, passed Final Reading and have been sent to Governor Pillen's desk for signing. In arriving at a balanced budget, the Legislature faced significant fiscal challenges. We started off the session with a projected $471 million deficit which was increased to $646 million after the Economic Advisory Forecasting Board met in late February. The budget shortage was ultimately addressed through a combination of spending cuts, fund transfers, and a $130 million withdrawal from the state's cash reserve.

FLOOR ACTION

LB 901, a Revenue Committee Priority Bill, passed Final Reading last week. My bill LB 873, which was added as an amendment to LB 901. It will impose a 10% excise tax on the retail sale of kratom products to consumers effective January 1, 2027.

LB 967, a Banking Committee priority bill, also passed Final Reading last week. A bill that I sponsored, LB 1138, was contained in that measure. LB 1138 adopts the Nebraska Protection of Seniors from Insurance Exploitation Act. The bill is designed to provide insurance companies and producers with the legal tools and immunity needed to identify, report, and temporarily halt transactions that appear to be the result of financial exploitation of "eligible adults" (seniors or vulnerable adults).

LB 803, a Revenue Committee priority bill, has advanced to Select File. Two bills that I introduced, LB 575 and LB 938, were amended into this package. LB575 limits political subdivisions' ability to increase property taxes when property valuations exceed the valuations from the previous year. The bill would limit the amount of property taxes collected to the same amount collected the previous year unless overridden by a two-thirds majority vote of the governing body. The bill also moves the joint public hearing from September to July, to allow more time to adjust budgets following public input. These joint public hearings are required whenever a political subdivision is seeking to exceed the allowable growth percentage in its property tax request. LB803, as amended, creates the First-Time Home Buyer Savings Account Act, which allows individuals or couples to establish a savings account to be used for a down payment and closing costs associated with the purchase of a primary residence by first-time home buyers and to deduct such contributions and earnings thereon from their federal adjusted gross income.

I welcome your input on issues of interest and importance to you. I encourage you to follow along on my Facebook page designated as Senator Bob Hallstrom, for updates on legislation and District 1 activities. Please feel free to contact me directly at Senator Bob Hallstrom, District 1 State Capitol, PO Box 94604, Lincoln, NE 68509; Telephone (402)471-2733; or email me at bhallstrom@leg.ne.gov.

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Tigers continue to climb the record charts

The Falls City track team is on pace to shatter records this spring. Last week at the Conestoga Invite, Caleb Offner set a new school record in the discus event. Offner's throw of 169-08 obliterated the old mark of 161-5 set in 2007 for Falls City alum Jacob Bartek.

On Tuesday, before the cold weather moved in, the Tigers were back at it, hosting the Falls City Triangular. Tanner Jackson moved into second place on the all-time charts in the pole vault, winning at 13-06. Peyton Weddle moved into 10th in the triple jump with a leap of 32-5.25 to win the event. Audrey Scrivens moved into 7th in the 200m dash, winning in 27.1, and is now 8th in the 400m dash, winning in 1:02.5.

The Tigers won the boys' side of the meet with 89 points, followed by Doniphan West (45) and HTRS (36). On the girls' side, HTRS won the meet with 78 points, FC had 55, and Doniphan West finished with 39.

Caleb Offner remained perfect on the season, having yet to lose a weight event. Offner, the South Dakota football commit, is a perfect 6-0 in winning gold medals in the shot put and discus. The senior won the discus on Tuesday with a throw of 160-01.50 and the shot put at 51-02.

Jacoby Bangert won the gold in the 100m dash (11.6), while Tanner Jackson was third (11.8) and Kacen Davis was fourth (12.00). Jackson won another medal in the 200m dash, taking the gold in 25.60, while Tobey Barnhart was close behind in second at 25.70. The Tigers scored twice in the 400m dash with Lathan Richey placing second (58.00) and Emmett Daake coming in third (59.90). Deacon Jacobs was second in the 800m run (2:30.70), and Ryker McCullough was third (2:31.30). McCullough was also third in the 1600m run (5:33.00). Elijah Leyden scored the gold in the 110m hurdles (17.80) and was second in the 300m hurdles (49.50). Martin Irizarry was third in the 110s, crossing the tape in 50.70.

The 4x100 team of Bangert, Davis, Irizarry and Jackson placed first in 47.8, and the 4x100 throwers team of Ryker Jones, Brantley Sells, Kaleb Kaiser and Brock Caudle won in 56.00. The Tigers' 4x400 team of Daake, Tallan Zimmerman, McCullough and Bangert ran a 4:07.50 for the silver.

Sells placed fourth in both the shot put (34-08) and discus (77-09). The Tigers swept the high jump with McCullough winning (5-08), Leyden placing second (5-06), and Irizarry was third (5-02.25).

Tallan Zimmerman won the long jump at 19-04, while Brandon Collier was fourth at 17-04.25. The final medal went to Kacen Davis in the triple jump. Davis leaped 37-07 for the win.

For the Lady Tigers, Tessa Gossman was third in the 100m dash in 13.30. Peyton Weddle placed third in the 200m dash, crossing the line in 27.80. Hallie Young ran the 400m in 1:07.90 for third, and Ella Glathar was fourth in 1:12.10. Destiny Pierce placed second in the 800m run in 3:29.30. In the 1600m run, Jennifer Sweeney was second in 6:03.00, while Madalynn Hawley was fourth in 6:59.70. Liv Buckminster placed third in the high jump, clearing the bar at 4-06. Tailah Moore cleared 6-00 in the pole vault for third place, and Josslyn Bangert jumped 12-06.75 for fourth in the long jump. In the triple jump, Brynna Glathar went 27-07.50 for third, and Bangert was fourth at 27-00.

The Tigers will enjoy some time off before their next meet. FC will compete in Palmyra next Thursday, April 9, and again in Syracuse on April 16.

Top: Caleb Offner uncorks the winning toss in the shot put at the Falls City Triangular. Middle: Peyton Weddle, under the watchful eyes of her coaches, wins the triple jump competition at Jug Brown Stadium. Bottom: Ryker McCullough soars over the high jump bar as he claimed first place last Tuesday. Bottom: Heave Ho. Emmett Glathar lets the shot fly in competition at Falls City last Tuesday.

HTRS girls team makes it two in a row

The Lady Titans won their second consecutive track meet on Tuesday, taking the Falls City Triangular. The Lady Titans accumulated 78 points to win the meet. FC was second with 55 points, and Doniphan West was third with 39. For the boys', FC won the team standings with 89 points, Doniphan West was second with 45, and HTRS came in third with 36.

Lillian Bowen and Jazi Frey led the charge for the Titans. Bowen took first place in the 800m (2:39.90) and first in the 1600m run (5:54.00). Frey won three individual titles. The freshman won the 100m hurdles (17.2), the 300m hurdles (54.07), and the pole vault (8-06). The pair were also on

HTRS -Page 8

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HTRS

-Continued from Page 7

the winning 4x400 relay team with Eden Duryea and Grayson Sherman (4:32.70).

Miranda Rist was second in the 100m dash (13.00), while Duryea placed second in the 400m dash (1:07.10). Sherman placed third in the 1600m run (6:08.00) and was first in the 3200m run (13:51.70). Emma Bredemeier placed second in the 3200m in 16:44.10. Makenna Dunlap won the silver in the 100m hurdles (17.90) and the 300m hurdles (59.80). The 4x100 team of Kassi Kanel, Rist, Eden Steward and Ava Grimes was second in 1:00.60. The 4x800 team of Duryea, Patricia Howe, Bailee Schmit and Sherman won the gold in 11:28.80. Grimes won the shot put with a toss of 30-07, and Ayvalie Lamb was fourth at 28-03.25. Howe earned second place in the discus with a throw of 85-02.50.

For the boys, Axton Wamsley won the gold medal in the 800m run in 2:19.80, and freshman Preston Mezger was second in the 1600 with a time of 5:27.30. The 4x100 team of DaeShawn McQueen, Ewan Guenther, Michael Wanek-Flores and Joseph Weesner was third (54.70). The 4x400 team of Wamsley, Dettmann, Emmett Glathar and Darius Bohling won the gold in 3:48.90, while the 4x800 team of Wamsley, Bohling, Mezger and Dettmann was first in 9:06.20. Glathar picked up a pair of silver medals in the throws, tossing the shot 46-05 and the discus 148-03.50. Guenther was second in the triple jump with a jump of 36-01.50. Bradyn Bowen added two additional medals to his haul, placing fourth in the high jump (5-02) and second in the long jump (18-09).

The Titans were back in action on Tuesday, April 7, at Johnson County Central and will be at Lewiston on Tuesday, April 14.

Often undersized, Irish boys battle with the best

The Sacred Heart Irish basketball team often faced teams with bigger lineups, but none could outdo the Irish grit and determination.

The Irish put on clinics at times this year, making a school-record 247 triples. That ties Bellevue West (2021) for the tenth most made threes in a single season. That's on the heels of the 2025 season total of 162 and the 2023 mark of 170. Twice this past season, the Irish sank 19 threes in a game. Ainsworth holds the state record with 22 in a single contest. Bo Fletcher also etched his name in history with nine threes in a single contest. The state record belongs to Damyn Rother of Central Valley, who made 14 triples in a single outing in 2018. Brenden Lemerond tied Sacred Heart's Evan Keithley with 70 made threes in a season. Senior Cole Taft ended his career with 195 made threes, including 73 last season and 69 this year.

"The three-point shooting of this team was the best of any I've coached," said Coach Doug Goltz.

That says something. Goltz's teams have made the state tournament 22 times, earning 11 championships. He is a remarkable 780-228 for his career and has never lost a state title contest.

"Our goal was to make the State Tournament, which we did," said Goltz. "Our schedule is tough, and we knew we would have to withstand some losses and keep our confidence and keep improving. This team always showed up and practiced well. Unfortunately, we did not have one of our best games at state and lost to eventual state champ, Archangels Catholic. I didn't do a great job that night of getting our team to adjust to Archangels' defense."

The always unassuming Hall-of-Fame coach continued, "After seeing how they rolled through the tournament, I could have done a better job of coaching."

The Irish finished the season at 17-9 and ranked No. 5 in the final Class D2 rankings.

Sacred Heart lost eight games to Class C1 and C2 schools. The only loss outside of Class C came to the D2 state champions, Archangels.

Playing schools like Syracuse, Tri County, Auburn and Johnson-Brock gives the Irish competition similar to what they might see at the NSAA Championships.

Sacred Heart shot 38% from the field in 2025-26, making 550 of 1434 attempts. The Irish went 247 of 795 from beyond the arc and 168 of 257 from the foul line. The Irish were outrebounded 646 to 770. However, the ever-active Irish defense forced a whopping 487 turnovers, while committing only 270. The Irish also held a 359-278 assist edge over their opponents.

Cole Taft led the Irish with 375 points, averaging 14.4 per game. The senior hit 69 triples, added 98 rebounds and 64 assists.

Bo Fletcher was right behind with 351 points or 14 per contest. Fletcher hit 52 threes, grabbed 71 rebounds, added 78 steals and dished out 43 assists.

Senior Brenden Lemerond finished with 339 points, 13 per game. Lem sank 70 triples, grabbed a team-best 100 rebounds, swiped the ball 73 times and led the team with 112 assists.

Hayden Clow also eclipsed the century mark, scoring 101 points, including 16 threes. Clow contributed 53 rebounds, 31 steals and 51 assists.

Noah Howard finished his freshman year with 88 points, making 14 threes. Howard added 51 rebounds, 24 steals and 28 assists.

JJ Lancaster added 79 points, including 21 triples. Lancaster secured 51 rebounds, 22 steals and 20 assists.

Cooper Knobbe added 69 points, 96 rebounds and six blocked shots.

The Irish outscored opponents by 8.2 points per game, 58.3 to 50.1.

"We became a good zone pressing team, not something we have really done in the past," said Goltz. "We played the least amount of man-to-man defense in several years and had success running zone. I'd rather play man-to-man, but we were better playing zone with this group of players."

The Irish lose four seniors, Taft, Lemerond, Knobbe and Kyler Sipple. However, Fletcher, Clow, Baxter and Howard return, as do a strong class of freshmen.

Despite opening-round loss, Lady Irish

The Sacred Heart Lady Irish had a usually early exit from the NSAA State Basketball Tournament in Lincoln this year. However, Sacred Heart ended the season rated No. 5 and finished with a remarkable 18-9 mark.

SH may have lost nine contests, but the never dropped consecutive games. The nine losses came to solid squads, with an overtime loss to Class C1 Syracuse being the lone loss to a team with a sub .500 record. Two losses came to Tri County (17-9), one to Rock Port (26-2), two to Class C2 Johnson-Brock (17-8), one two Class C2 Elmwood-Murdock (21-4) one to Weeping Water (16-10) and finally to the Class D2 Runner-Up Wynot, 54-49 in overtime. The Blue Devils eventually fell in the finals to Dundy County Stratton, 49-39.

For the season, the Lady Irish shot 34% from the field, making 453 of 1,347 attempts. The Lady Irish went 211 of 686 from beyond the arc and 238 of 427 from the foul line. SH outrebounded opponents 887 to 818, forced 401 turnovers while committing 350 and dished out 330 assists.

Leading the way this winter was senior Avery Santo. The guard made a team-best 83 three pointers and scored 327 points. Santo added 107 rebounds, 55 steals and 50 assists.

Close on her heals was Bailey Lemerond. The fab freshman hit 74 triples en route to scoring 284 points. Lemerond added 61 boards and 62 assists.

Next was senior Daycee Witt. The point guard averaged 10 points per contest for 269 for the season. Witt sank 36 from deep, added 128 rebounds and dished out a team-best 116 assists.

Hallie Jones also had an extremely successful season. The junior scored 260 points and hauled in 199 rebounds. Jones added 13 blocked shots and 28 steals.

Fellow junior Alise Reschke came on strong this season. The junior only scored 59 points, but she had 144 rebounds and led the team with 22 blocked shots. She also finished with 31 steals and 34 assists.

The Lady Irish outscored opponents 1,355 to 1,052.

The Irish will lose Santo and Witt but will bring back a lot of talent next winter. On top of Jones, Reschke and Lemerond, expect Payten Georges, Ryann Westengaard, and Kemper Sipple to all build on the success they achieved this season. All saw meaningful minutes as different times this season.

Head Coach Luke Santo completed his 20th season as the head coach at Sacred Heart and has an all-time record of 483 wins versus just 77 losses. The Lady Irish have won six state titles under Santo's watch and have finished as runner-up on three occasions. The future hall-of-fame coach has guided the Irish to the NSAA State Tournament in 15 consecutive seasons.

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Rules and Regulations: One entry per person, you must be present on the casino floor to qualify. You can only win one of the Registration CASH drawings. Registration will start at 6pm for the CASH drawings on Friday and Saturday, April 3rd and 4th. All tickets will be placed in the medium barrel. The tickets will remain in the barrel until after the Progressive CASH drawings on April 4th.

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Rules and Regulations for APRIL 11th, 18th, & 25th At 12:00am five names will be drawn from the big barrel; each winner will come to the Player's Club desk and select an envelope in the order their name was called. After everyone has chosen their envelope, they will all open their envelopes to reveal their piece of the $5,000 in CASH. Must be present on the casino floor at the time of the drawing. One entry per person unless you have won another entry. Registration will start at 6pm for the CASH drawings on April 11th, 18th, and 25th. All entries will be placed in the big barrel, the big barrel will be dumped after the 12am CASH drawing on each Saturday night of April 11th, 18th, and 25th. (Excludes April 4th) Bingo participants will not qualify for Hot Seats or registration drawings if they are playing bingo during the time of the registration drawings.

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Irish teams compete at Auburn Invite

The Sacred Heart track squads made the short trip to Auburn on Tuesday, March 31, to compete in the Auburn Invite at Bulldog Stadium. The Lady Irish placed fifth on Tuesday, while the boys clocked in at fourth.

Girls team scoring: Syracuse 155, JCC 11, Auburn 90, Rock Port 68, SH 55, Conestoga 43.

Boys team scoring: Syracuse 196.5, Conestoga 93, JCC 77, SH 61, Auburn 58.5, Rock Port 22, Weeping Water 16.

The only gold medal of the afternoon for the Lady Irish was won by Hallie Jones in the discus. Jones threw 115-07.50 for first place. Carlee Bailey scored a point and placed sixth at 90-10. The duo scored more hardware in the shot put. Jones placed second at 35-06.50, and Bailiey was fourth at 32-09.00. In the pole vault, Brookelyn Bebermeyer cleared the bar at 7-06 to earn fourth place. The 4x800 relay team of Daycee Witt, Kinlee Lechtenberg, Macy Taft and Emily Tubbs ran an 11:33.86 for third. In the 3200m run, freshmen Payten Goerges and Bailey Lemerond placed fifth and sixth. Georges ran a 14:34.92, while Lemerond was a half-step behind in 14:34.95. Taft placed fourth in the 800m, completing the two laps in 2:51.75, while Daycee Witt was sixth in 2:52.13. In the 1600m run, SH scored three medals. Witt was third in 6:25.95, Georges was fifth in 6:29.91, and Lemerond was sixth in 6:32.29. The Lady Irish 4x100 team of Tubbs, Kemper Sipple, CeeJay Tisdel and Dorothy Crouse ran a 1:00.65 for fifth, while the 4x400 team of Witt, Taft, Tisdel and Crouse was fourth in 5:10.41.

For the Irish boys, JJ Lancaster went 6-00 in the high jump for the silver medal. The Irish garnered two medals in the pole vault. Brenden Lemerond and Owen Santo each cleared 10-00 and tied for second. The 4x800 relay team of Reid Kirkendall, Santo, Kyler Sipple and Alex Nelson placed fifth in 10:23.45. Freshman Noah Howard scored a point in the 110 hurdles, placing sixth in 19.12. Sacred Heart scored well in the 3200m run with Bo Fletcher placing second in 11:02.21 and Hayden Clow right behind in third at 11:03.15. Lemerond won the only gold medal of the day for the boys, winning the 800m in 2:13.19. Howard scored again in the 300h, placing sixth in 47.01. The Irish picked up more hardware in the 1600m run with Lemerond placing fourth in 4:59.18 and Fletcher running a 5:00.96 for sixth. The 4x400 team of Howard, Charlie Rottinghaus, Kirkendall and Santo was sixth, running the four laps in 4:15.23.

The Irish competed at the JCC Meet in Tecumseh on Tuesday, April 7 and will compete at the Lewiston track meet on Tuesday, April 14.

Robert (Bob) Sines

Robert (Bob) Henry Sines, 79, of Hiawatha, Kansas passed on April 1st, 2026 at home with his family at his side. He was born on December 3rd, 1946 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa to Betty and Dutch Sines. He married the love of his life Nancy Carter on April 23rd, 1966. He proudly served in the United States Army as a Private in the Vietnam War, specializing as a missile launcher crewman. His time in service was marked by humility, courage and dedication which he carried that spirit throughout his life.

Following his military service, he followed his entrepreneurial spirit that led him down many paths. From owning a hotel to serving as President of Sales at Cedar Hollow Foods, he approached each role with determination and vision. In later years, he dedicated his days to creating Cedar Hollow Alpaca Farm alongside his wife, Nancy, and Cedar Hollow Farm & Building - ventures that reflected both his work ethic and his love for building something lasting. He also served as Chaplain of the Homer White American Legion Post 66 and was a member of the Brown County Veterans Honor Guard. He was known for his humor and generosity, and was a light to all he met.

He is survived by his wife; Nancy Sines, children; Daniel (Deb) Sines and Amy (Rick) May, grandchildren; Dutch Sines, Sarah May, Katlyn Howard, Lauren Paine, Jackson May, great grandchildren; Henry and Harper Paine, and his beloved dog, Sadie.

He was preceded in death by his brother, Leonard Sines and parents.

Family will meet with friends from 10-11 a.m. Thursday, April 9th, Bethany United Church of Christ, Hiawatha, followed by a Celebration of Bob's life at 11 a.m.

Memorial contributions suggested to Bob Sines Memorial Fund sent in care of Chapel Oaks Funeral Home, 124 S 7th St., Hiawatha 66434.

He will be remembered for his service to his country and all the love he gave to those around him. May we honor his legacy by carrying forward the values he lived by.

Friends may sign register book at funeral home during office hours starting Monday.

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Betty (McKinsey) Spitser

Betty June (McKinsey) Spitser, 94, of Pawnee City, Nebraska, passed peacefully in Anacortes, Washington on March 23, 2026. She was born June 24, 1931, in Verdon NE and was the fifth of eight children born to G.W. and Hazel (Goolsby) McKinsey. After graduating from high school at age16, she attended Peru State College. Upon receiving her teaching certificate, Betty taught at a local rural school until her marriage to Clifford Spitser, May 20th,1951.

Betty and Cliff were married 64 years. They farmed throughout their marriage; the first five years on a farm south of Verdon, and the remainder on the farm south of Pawnee City. They had two sons, Lawrence (Larry) and Kevin Spitser. After her marriage, Betty worked for a short time at the Cambell Soup Company and later for many years at the Pawnee County Memorial Hospital.

Betty was active in The First Christian Church of Pawnee City, was an accomplished quilter, an ardent reader, and an avid fan of Nebraska's Women's College Volleyball team. Most of all, she cherished her time with family and friends.

She was proceeded in death by her parents, husband Clifford, son Kevin, and siblings Roland, Raymond, Mary, George, Dean, and Bill.

Betty is survived by one brother, Charles McKinsey, sisters-in-law, Marilyn McKinsey and Pearl Schulenberg, one son, Lawrence (Cathi) Spitser, four grandchildren: Kirsten (Jeff) Swanson, Tracy (Tony) Lollmann, Azure Edwards, and Scott (Sarah) Spitser, as well as nine great grandchildren, one great-great grandson, several cousins, nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, April 4, 2026 at the First Christian/United Presbyterian Church in Pawnee City, Nebraska.

Visitation was held Friday, April 3, 2026 from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., with family greeting friends from 5-7 p.m. Interment was in the Pawnee City Cemetery, Pawnee City, Nebraska.

The family is deeply grateful for the exceptional care provided to Betty by Hospice. As a way to honor her memory, consider donating to a local Hospice Care Center or to the Pawnee City Library.

Online condolences may be left at www.wherrymortuary.com.

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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 United Methodist Church (1700 Harlan St.). Worship, 11:00am (Also Broadcast KTNC 1230am / 107.1fm) First Sun. fellowship 10:30; Adult Bible Study: 9:45AM. fumc@sentco.net Pastor Larry Heintz– 402-245-3281

First Christian Church Disciples Of Christ (1322 Stone St.) Sunday School, 10:45am; 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) https://stthomasepisc.com

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 Meysenburg, 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*

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*

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 9:15AM (1st, 3rd); Worship at Barada Global Methodist (2nd & 4th Sundays); *Check our Facebook page for worship schedule.* Fellowship & Sunday School following worship. *Pastor Mike Hader – 402-245-4584*

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*

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.*

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.*

ARAGO

St. Mary's (Arago) Sunday: Confessions, 10:10AM; Mass, 10:30AM. *Fr. Ben Rynearson, 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.gbfchurch.com.
Dave Lockard, Pastor. Office: 402-883-2110

HUMBOLDT

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

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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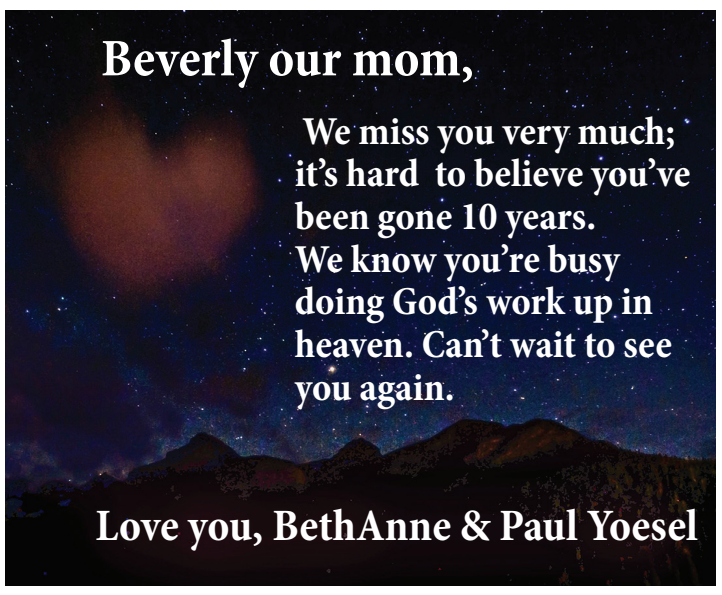

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PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

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.richardsoncounty.ne.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.richardsoncounty.ne.gov.

Mary L. Eickhoff
Richardson County Clerk

ZNEZ

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF RICHARDSON COUNTY, NEBRASKA

Case No. CI 25-123

CONTINENTAL RESOURCES,

Plaintiff,

vs.

KATHERINE E. OLSON; JOHN DOE; MARY DOE; and all other persons or entities UNKNOWN claiming any right, title, lien, or interest in the real estate described herein,

Defendant(s).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that by virtue of an Order of Sale issued by the Clerk of the District Court of Richardson County, Nebraska, in the above-entitled action, I will, on the 17th day of April, 2026, at 10:00 A.M., at the Richardson County Courthouse, 1st Floor Corridor, in Falls City, Richardson County, Nebraska, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash the following described real estate, to-wit:

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.

(Commonly known as: 723 10th Street)

Given under my hand this **19th day of March, 2026.**

RICK HARDESTY, JR.
Sheriff of Richardson County, Nebraska

25-1-8-15
ZNEZ

NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION
RIVER COUNTRY
HOME & GOODS, LLC

Pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §21-193 notice is given that River Country Home & Goods, LLC, a limited liability company, was organized on March 23, 2026 by filing a Certificate of Organization with the Nebraska Secretary of State setting forth the following:

1. The name of the company is River Country Home & Goods, LLC.
2. The period of duration of the company is perpetual.
3. The address of the initial designated office of the company in Nebraska is:

66062 703 Trail, Rulo, Nebraska, 68431, and the company's initial agent for service of process in Nebraska is Gracie Mae Kirkendall, 66062 703 Trail, Rulo, Nebraska, 68431.

4. The general nature of its business is to do any lawful act concerning any and all lawful business, other than banking or insurance, for which a limited liability company may be organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska.

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

1-8-15
ZNEZ

NOTICE
In the County Court of Richardson County, Nebraska.
In the Matter of the Estate of
Robert W. Harlow, Deceased.
Case No. PR26-12

Notice is hereby given that on March 25, 2026 in the County Court of Richardson County, Nebraska, the Registrar issued a written statement of Informal Probate of the Will of said Decedent and that Sally W. Harlow, whose address is 10661 Killdeer St. NW, Coon Rapids, MN 55433, was informally appointed by the Registrar as Personal Representative of the Estate. Creditors of this Estate must file their claims with this Court on or before June 1, 2026 or be forever barred.

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

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

1-8-15
ZNEZ

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

You are hereby notified that the following property will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder without warranty, by Eric H. Lindquist, Successor Trustee, on May 28, 2026 on the first floor, lobby area of the Richardson County Courthouse, 1700 Stone Street, in the City of Falls City, NE 68355, at 10:00 AM for the purpose of foreclosing a Trust Deed executed by Branson W. Dougherty and Patricia R. Dougherty, husband and wife, as Trustors, in favor of West Gate Bank as Beneficiary, and West Gate Bank as Trustee. The Trust Deed was filed for record on July 27, 2017, as Instrument No. 2017 00965, in Book 271, at Page 33. The trust property affected is legally described as follows. Lots 1 and 2, Block 1 of Novak-Zusman Addition to the City of Falls City, Nebraska; AND: Beginning 360 feet North of the Northwest corner of Block 4 in Crook and Towle's Addition to the City of Falls City, Nebraska; thence North 50 feet; thence East 126.7 feet, more or less, to West line of a tract of land conveyed to May C. Butler and Asa E. Butler by Warranty Deed recorded in Book 115, Page 176, Deed of records of Richardson County, Nebraska; thence South 50 feet; thence West 126.7 feet, more or less, to place of beginning, being in the NW1/4 of Section 10, Township 1 North, Range 16 East of the 6th P.M., Richardson County, Nebraska. TAX # 740075128. Purportedly known as 2522 Schoenheit St, Falls City, NE 68355 (the undersigned disclaims liability for any error in the address). West Gate Bank is the current Beneficiary of the Trust Deed. Record owners of the property as of the recording of the Notice of Default is reported to be Branson W. Dougherty and Patricia R. Dougherty. The highest bidder will deposit with the Trustee, or the attorney for the Trustee, a $5,000.00 deposit in the form of a bank or credit union cashier's check or a bank official check, payable to Halliday, Watkins & Mann, P.C. The successful bidder must tender the deposit at the sale and the balance of the purchase price by 12:00 noon the following business day. The balance must be in the form of a wire transfer, bank or credit union's cashier's check, or bank official check payable to Halliday, Watkins & Mann, P.C. A bank or credit union cashier's check must be pre-printed and clearly state that it is a cashier's check. A bank official check must be pre-printed and clearly state that it is an official check. Any party who wants to bid at the Trustee's Sale must display the check described above prior to submitting a bid. The requirement is waived when the Beneficiary is the highest bidder. Successor Trustee disclaims liability for any error in the street address shown herein. Successor Trustee may void sale due to any unknown facts at time of sale that would cause the cancellation of the sale. If sale is voided, Successor Trustee shall return funds to bidder, and the Successor Trustee and Beneficiary shall not be liable to bidder for any damages. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Beneficiary, Trustor, Successor Trustee, or the Successor Trustee's attorney. This is an attempt to foreclose a security instrument and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. **Important Notice to Potential Bidders:** Federal law administered by the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network ("FinCEN"), a bureau of the U.S. Department of the Treasury, requires certain residential real estate transactions to be reported to the federal government. If you are the winning bidder at auction, you may be required to provide identifying information about yourself and, if applicable, any entity or trust purchasing the property. This information is required by federal law and must be provided to complete the sale. Failure to provide required information after the sale may delay or prevent issuance of the foreclosure deed. Dated this 31 day of March, 2026.

/s/ Eric H. Lindquist, Successor Trustee
10050 Regency Circle
Suite 505
Omaha, NE 68114
Telephone: 801-355-2886
File No. NE21824

8-15-22-29-6
ZNEZ

LEGAL NOTICE

John D. Klaasmeyer
Attorney at Law
Box 597
Fremont, NE 68026

TO THE DEFENDANT (s),
SHIANNE MACKEY

You are hereby notified that Credit Bureau services, Inc., a corporation, filed its complaint in the County Court of RICHARDSON County, Nebraska on 12/l6/2025 on Case Number CI25-332, the object and prayer of which is to recover the sum of $175.00, plus interest, attorney fees and court costs. You are required to answer the complaint of the Plaintiff on or before 05/14/2026 or the allegations in said complaint will be taken as true and judgment entered accordingly.

CREDIT BUREAU SERVICES, INC., A CORPORATION, Plaintiff

BY: John D. Klaasmeyer, #21961
Its Attorney
525 N. "D" St.
Fremont, NE 68026
402-721-1850

1-8-15
ZNEZ

Public Meeting Notice
Board of Education District #70

Notice is hereby given that a regular board meeting of the Board of Education of the Humboldt Table Rock Steinauer School District #70 will be held at 7:00 PM on Monday, April 13th, 2026 in the Conference Room. The purpose of such meeting is to do regular business. A current agenda is available at the Superintendent's Office.

Kyle Hilgenfeld
Board President
8
ZNEZ

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Public notice is hereby given by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Falls City, Nebraska, that a public hearing will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, April 20th, 2026, in the City Hall, 2307 Barada Street, Falls City, Nebraska. The purpose of the hearing is to obtain public comment prior to consideration of a permit to harbor chickens on the below listed residential properties.

1601 McLean Street, Falls City, Nebraska.

All interested parties shall be afforded at such public hearing a reasonable opportunity to express their views regarding the issuance of a conditional use permit. A copy of the chicken hen application and supporting information can be viewed at the office of the City Clerk of the City of Falls City. Individuals requiring physical or sensory accommodations including interpreter service, Braille, large print or recorded materials please contact the City Clerk at the City Clerk's office at 402.245.2851.

Gary Jorn, City Clerk
8
ZNEZ

NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION

Notice is hereby given that ROOT CAUSE AG LLC, a Nebraska limited liability company, has been organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska.

The name of the company is ROOT CAUSE AG. The street and mailing address of the designated office of the company is 1803 Lane, Falls City, NE 68355. The name and street and mailing address of the initial registered agent of the company is Ashley Keithley, 1803 Lane St., Falls City, NE 68355.

The limited liability company is organized to engage in any lawful business activity for which a limited liability company may be organized under the laws of the State of Nebraska.

The company commenced its existence on the filing of its Certificate of Organization with the Nebraska Secretary of State.

Organizer: Danielle Ollendorf
8-15-22
ZNEZ

MORE PUBLIC NOTICES ON PAGE 11

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

RICHARDSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MARCH 25, 2026
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, March 18, 2026. 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 Campbell to approve the minutes of the March 18, 2026, meeting as presented. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-abstain, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Caverzagie to approve the agenda as posted. Motion seconded by Karas. 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.richardsoncounty.ne.gov.

LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER

Sheriff Hardesty updated the Board on the routine business within the Law Enforcement Center. He reported that currently 19 inmates are being held in the Jail with 1 being held out of the county.

Purchase orders were presented to the Board for approval for a responder center console for $1,453.04 and a police responder light bar quantum 2.0 49" dual color at $2,052.26 for the new 2026 Ford F150 patrol unit that has been purchased.

Motion was made by Karas to approve the following salary changes for staff within the Sheriff's Department: uncertified deputy in training from $25.00/hour to $28.40/hour and allow for a salary increase for 2 deputies who have served with the department for over one year and over two years. Motion seconded by Campbell. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

ROAD & BRIDGE DEPT.

Steve Darveau, Jr., Highway Superintendent updated the Board on the routine road and bridge maintenance being done this week. Samples of road rock were shown and discussed. The locations of the different quarries and types of rock available at each was also discussed.

A report was also provided to the Board on the amount of rock that has been placed on county roads in each of the townships in the County from July 1, 2025, through March 19, 2026.

Commissioner District 2 received 845 loads, 19,965.43 tons at $388,851.14; Commissioner District 3 received 1107 loads, 23,545.05 tons at $608,214.46 and Stockpile received 27 loads, 563.59 tons at $12,141.69 totaling 1979 loads, 44074.07 tons at $1,009,207.29.

Loads	Tons	Township	Aggregate Costs
125	3,034.66	Arago	$52,416.67
209	4,963.43	Barada	$94,604.86
201	4,552.95	Falls City	$98,623.73
203	4,526.42	Franklin	$118,391.28
126	2,522.84	Grant	$64,274.37
183	3,923.91	Humboldt	$102,627.99
66	1,598.07	Jefferson	$28,733.50
115	2,444.32	Liberty	$63,337.04
122	2,603.76	Muddy	$67,980.20
48	1,050.79	Nemaha	$27,372.87
178	4,161.75	Ohio	$87,525.65
152	3,188.26	Porter	$81,532.61
66	1,654.57	Rulo	$26,946.73
64	1,461.53	Salem	$36,834.56
94	1,823.22	Speiser	$45,863.54
27	563.59	Stockpile	$12,141.69
1,979	44,074.07		
		TOTAL	$1,009,207.29

OPEN SEALED BIDS

Dawson Northwest Project No. C-74(2023-05)

At 10:00 a.m. Chairman Caverzagie presented the proof of publication for the opening of sealed bids for the Dawson Northwest Project No. C-74(2023-05). Bids were received from the following: Malone Construction Co., Inc. of Douglas, NE for $113,766.50; MC Wells Contracting of Omaha, NE for $67,825.00 and Van Dorn Valley Construction, LLC of Denton, NE for $40,720.78.

Motion was made by Caverzagie to accept the bids that were received only for purpose of further review by the County's engineer and Highway Superintendent. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. The Board will consider awarding the contract for the project at next week's meeting.

Josh Keithley of Midwest Engineering, Inc. presented the engineer's estimate on the project at $65,344.00.

CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER CLAIMS

Motion was made by Karas to deny a claim to the Humboldt Standard for 192.22 as the charges included on the statement were past 90 days and to allow the payment of all other claims that were submitted today. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. 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

DAS State Accounting, serv 343.50
Falls City Mercantile, supp 185.44
Farm & City Supply, supp 12.96
Galls, supp..... 172.99
GT Distributors, supp..... 4414.50
Hy-Vee, supplies..... 65.73
Johnson County Hospital, serv.115.00
LA Police Gear, supp 129.13
Lincoln National Life Ins., ins. 1478.50
Medica, ins 58119.41
Quill, supp..... 165.86
Ram Exterminators, serv 48.00
Region 5 Systems, serv..... 214.00
Richardson County Sheriff, fees794.56
Sapp Bros., fuel 6824.79
Scott, Pam, reimb 30.96
SumnerOne, serv 227.71
Sunset Law Enforcement, supp663.00
Visual Edge IT, serv 235.90
Vollmer, Julie, serv..... 200.00
Weaver & Merz, reimb 9.70
TOTAL GENERAL FUND . $74,451.64

ROAD & BRIDGE FUND

Black Hills Energy, serv 224.74
NPPD, serv..... 142.77
Operation & Expense Account, reimb. 97.90
Rulo, Village of, serv..... 30.00
Sapp Bros., fuel 17784.19
Unifirst, serv..... 127.85
TOTAL ROAD & BRIDGE FUND..... ..... $18,407.45

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Karas to adjourn the meeting at 10:29 a.m. Motion seconded by Campbell. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. The Board will meet again on Wednesday, April 1, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. for the next 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

VILLAGE OF RULO

Village of Rulo
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, March 12, 2026 at Rulo Library at 6:00 PM

Advanced notice of meeting posted by 1:00pm on Monday, March 9, 2026 at Rulo Library, Swingin' Doors and Wild Bill's

Board Chairperson, Rebecca Simmonds, called the meeting to order at 6:00PM. Roll call – Present: Rebecca Simmonds, Mike Keller, Todd Thompson, and Clerk, Rachel Jean Absent: Regina Barber, Kraig Coonce

A motion was made by Thompson to approve the February regular meeting minutes and the February special meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Keller. Roll call – AYE: Thompson, Keller, Simmonds. Motion carried.

The Board discussed the upcoming city insurance policies and requested a quote for a few different options on property coverage. Discussion to continue in April.

Discussion took place with the Board regarding roof repairs needed at the Fire Station. Additional input added from Ralph Popejoy and Glen Kelley. A motion was made by Thompson to table action until April. Motion seconded by Keller. Roll call – AYE: Thompson, Keller, Simmonds. Motion carried.

Public comment was heard from Glen Kelley for a request to repaint the parking lines on 1st Street. Topic to be added to April agenda.

Discussion took place regarding the camera posted on an OPPD light pole on city property. The Clerk advised there is nothing within city ordinance preventing the recording of public property and the camera is not on a city owned pole. No action taken.

Discussion continued for the 2026 Easter Egg Hunt with Friday, March 27th being the night to prepare and the hunt is scheduled for March 29th. No action necessary.

Quotes from Municipal Supply still pending for extra water meters.

The Clerk advised that the 2026 Routine Sanitary Survey has been completed with inspection expected sometime during the 2nd quarter of the year which will be conducted with Water Operator, Steve Johansen.

The Clerk advised that a previous request to make changes to the boat ramp is still pending. The ramp is located within the floodway and all modifications are to be approved by both DWEE and the Army Corp of Engineers. The Board was advised that the ramp should be closed, as necessary, during times of low water level. Discussion to continue.

Bids for 2026 Cemetery mowing were reviewed. Four bids were submitted and reviewed. Additional comment added by Cemetery Board member, Steve Johansen. Keller made a motion to approve the bid from 4B Lawn Care LLC. Motion seconded by Thompson. Roll call – AYE: Keller, Thompson, Simmonds. Motion carried.

Discussion to continue regarding Ordinance 2026-001 Purchasing Card Policy. Not enough members in attendance for necessary action.

Discussion regarding road maintenance continued with monthly budget approved in previous meeting minutes.

The Clerk presented the February water report and January Keno proceeds totaled $6,734.43.

A motion was made by Thompson and seconded by Keller to approve claims as present. Roll call – AYE: Thompson, Keller, Simmonds. Motion carried and warrant approved.

GENERAL – Grey Snow $55.00 (svcs), OPPD $1130.82 (electricity), SNC $51.28 (phone/internet), Rachel Jean $306.98 (reimbursement – campground and road light bulbs), Home Lumber Co $651.55 (supplies), Falls City Journal $161.56 (publications), payroll $2138.20

ROADS – Con-Agg $570.23 (rock), Stoller Diesel Repair $300.00 (parts), Shields Mobile Welding $450.00 (svcs)

WATER – NE Dept of Revenue $35.35 (sales tax), City of Falls City $3139.45 (water)

KENO – NE Charitable Gaming $100.00 (license renewal)

Keller made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:59PM. Motion seconded by Thompson. Roll call – AYE: Keller, Thompson, Simmonds. Motion carried.

ZNEZ

NOXIOUS WEEDS MUST BE CONTROLLED

YOU ARE REQUIRED TO CONTROL NOXIOUS WEEDS ON YOUR PROPERTY

THE NOXIOUS WEEDS ARE: Musk Thistle, Plumeless Thistle, Canada Thistle, Leafy Spurge, Knapweed (spotted and diffuse), Purple Loosestrife, Saltcedar (Tamaricaceae), Phragmites (Common Reed), Knotweed (Japanese and Giant) and Sericea Lespedeza.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THIS 1ST DAY OF APRIL, 2026, pursuant to the Noxious Weed Control Act, section 2-955, subsection 1(a), to every person who owns or controls land in Richardson County, Nebraska, that noxious weeds being grown, or growing on, such land shall be controlled at such frequency as to prevent establishment, provide eradication, or reduce further propagation or dissemination of such weeds.

Upon failure to observe this notice, the county weed superintendent is required to:

1. Proceed pursuant to the law and issue legal notice to the landowner of property infested with noxious weeds and giving such landowner 15 days to control the noxious weed infestation. Conviction for noncompliance may result in a $100.00 per day fine to the landowner with a maximum fine of $1500.00; or

2. Should more immediate control be required, proceed pursuant to the law and have the weeds controlled by such method as he/she finds necessary, the expense of which shall constitute a lien and be entered as a tax against the land, and be collected as other real estate taxes are collected, or by other means as provided by law.

Also, the public is notified that noxious weed seed and propagative parts may be disseminated through the movement of machinery and equipment, trucks, grain and seed, hay, straw, nursery stock, fencing materials, sod, manure, and soil as well as articles of similar nature. Methods of treatment have been prescribed by the Director of Agriculture and may be obtained from the County Weed Control office.

BY ORDER OF RICHARDSON COUNTY WEED CONTROL

8
ZNEZ

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

REGULAR MEETING OF THE FALLS CITY BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS
March 12th, 2026
2307 Barada Street
Falls City, Nebraska

A regular meeting of the Board of Public Works of the City of Falls City, Nebraska, was held at the City Hall, 2307 Barada Street in said City on the 12th day of March 2026 at 5:30 o'clock P.M. Present were: Board Members: Froeschl, Joy, and Koopman. Absent: Johansen, Rieger. Trevor Campbell recorded the minutes of the meeting. Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by posting in three public places, a designated method for giving notice as shown by the Certificate of Posting Notice attached to these minutes. Notice of this meeting was given to the Board Chairperson and all members of the Board and a copy of their acknowledgment of receipt of notice and the agenda is attached to the minutes. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice and in the notice to the Chairperson and Board of this meeting. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public. The Chairperson publicly stated to all in attendance that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available for review and indicated the location of such copy posted in the room where the meeting was being held.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR REPORT

Trevor Campbell gave the Public Works Report. No action was required.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Joy and seconded by Froeschl to approve the consent agenda as follows: WHEREAS, certain business of the Board of Public Works of the City of Falls City (City) transpires on a regular and routine basis or is not of controversial nature; and WHEREAS, roll call votes on each individual issue greatly extend the meeting time. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY the Board of Public Works that in the interest of economizing time, yet complying with the Public Meeting Laws of the State of Nebraska, which require roll call voting, the following issues are hereby consolidated in this Consent Resolution: 1. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY the Board of Public Works that the minutes from the February 19th, 2026, meeting is hereby approved. 2. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY the Board of Public Works that the agenda for March 12th, 2026, is hereby approved. 3. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY the Board of Public Works that the Consent Agenda for March 12th, 2026, is hereby approved. Roll was called on this motion and the members voted as follows: "YEA" Froeschl, Joy, Koopman. "NAY" None. "ABSENT": Johansen, Rieger. Motion carried.

UPDATE ON THE NEBRASKA RURAL GENERATION PROJECT

The board received an update on the Nebraska Rural Generation Project. No action was taken.

CONSIDER MOVING FALLS CITY FOODS FROM LARGE POWER RATE TO GENERAL SERVICE URBAN (NO DEMAND) RATE

A motion was made by Froeschl and seconded by Joy to approve moving Falls City Foods from large power rate to general service urban (no demand) rate. If Falls City Foods restores normal operations, FCF will continue on large power rate. Roll was called on this motion and the members voted as follows: "YEA" Froeschl, Joy, Koopman. "NAY" None. "ABSENT": Johansen, Rieger. Motion carried.

RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE RESOLUTION AND CONTRACT AMENDMENT FOR THE GAS SUPPLY AGREEMENT FOR THE PEFA PROGRAM WITH CLAYTON ENERGY

A motion was made by Joy and seconded by Koopman to approve the recommendation to City Council to approve and sign the resolution and contract amendment as presented. Roll was called on this motion and the members voted as follows: "YEA" Froeschl, Joy, Koopman. "NAY" None. "ABSENT": Johansen, Rieger. Motion carried.

DISCUSS WAPA FIRM ELECTRIC SERVICE CONTRACT OPTIONS

The board discussed several contract options. No motion was made.

CONSIDER SETTING A PRICING STANDARD FOR STATE LAB TESTING

A motion was made by Joy and seconded by Koopman to set a pricing standard for state lab testing of $75.00 plus cost. Roll was called on this motion and the members voted as follows: "YEA" Froeschl, Joy, Koopman. "NAY" None. "ABSENT": Johansen, Rieger. Motion carried.

REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE CLOUD-HOSTED SCADA AGREEMENT WITH HOA SOLUTIONS INC.

A motion was made by Koopman and seconded by Joy to approve the agreement as presented. Roll was called on this motion and the members voted as follows: "YEA" Froeschl, Joy, Koopman. "NAY" None. "ABSENT": Johansen, Rieger. Motion carried.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:23 PM

I, the undersigned, City Clerk for the City of Falls City, Nebraska, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of proceedings had and done by the Chairperson and Board on March 12th, 2026, that all of the subjects included in the foregoing proceedings were contained in the agenda for the meeting, kept continually current and available for public inspection at the office of the City Clerk; that such agenda items were sufficiently descriptive to give the public reasonable notice of the matters to be considered at the meeting; that such subjects were contained in said agenda for at least twenty-four hours prior to said meeting; that at least one copy of all reproducible material discussed at the meeting was available at the meeting for examination and copying by members of the public; that the said minutes from which the foregoing proceedings have been extracted were in written form and available for public inspection within ten working days and prior to the next convened meeting of said body; that all news media requesting notification concerning meetings of said body were provided advance notification of the time and place of said meeting and the subjects to be discussed at said meeting; and that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available and accessible to members of the public, posted during such meeting in the room in which such meeting was held.

City Clerk
Secretary
Chairperson
ZNEZ

Public Reminder:

Real Estate & Personal Property
Taxes Due.
1st half due by April 30th

Delinquent first half payments will be charged interest starting May 1st, 2026 as per State Statute #77-204

We are CLOSED on 4-24-26 for Arbor Day

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We still have a dropbox on North Side of Courthouse to make applicable payments.

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Richardson County Treasurer
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Office hours M-F 8:30 to 5:00
(402)245-3511
Taxes payable online at www.nto.us

ZNEZ

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One Team - One Mission

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GUN SHOW

GUN SHOW: April 10-13 2026, High School Gym, Council Bluffs, IA Fri 4-9pm, Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. $10 (under 12 FREE) . More info: 563-608-4401www.marvkrauspromotions.net

KEARNEY GUN & Coin Show, April 18th and 19th Sat. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Expo Center, Fairgrounds, Kearney, NE.

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HTRS Public Schools is seeking qualified applicants for a High School Science Teacher
with knowledge or experience in Computer Science. Candidates must hold or be eligible for Nebraska teacher certification with an appropriate or related endorsement. The district is willing to work with individuals who are currently student teaching or who qualify for a Transition to Teaching pathway. Applicants should submit a letter of interest, cover letter, copy of transcripts, and three letters of reference. Application materials may be mailed to:
Dr. George Griffith HTRS Public Schools 810 Central Avenue Humboldt, NE 68376 Materials may also be submitted electronically to georgegriffith@htrstitans.org.
A willingness to coach is considered a plus.
HTRS is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Veterans' Preference.

12-15

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12-16

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14-18

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14-18

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Tigers take down Lions in first win of season

The Falls City nine got on the right side of the win/loss column on Tuesday night, defeating the Louisville Lions 7-4 at SNC Field.

The Tigers jumped all over the Lions' Brady Abbott, scoring four runs in the bottom of the first and never looking back.

Falls City pitcher Kam Huppert sat down the Lions in order in the top of the first inning.

The Tiger's Orion Catrell laced a double to left field to open the bottom half of the first. A walk by Jaiden Willman and RBI ground out by Huppert gave FC a 1-0 lead. Brock Niedfeldt then singled up the middle, putting runners on the corners with one out. An RBI single by Jayton Wilkerson put the score at 2-0. Next, Bowdy Jones came through with a base hit, allowing Wilkerson to score on an error. The final run of the inning came courtesy of an Elin Vonderschmidt base hit, putting FC in the driver's seat, 4-0.

Huppert kept cruising on the hill for FC. After hitting the first batter of the inning, catcher Niedfeldt picked off the runner attempting to steal second. A strikeout and pop out ended the frame with Huppert still facing just the minimum Lion batters.

Louisville broke through in the third, using a double, a single, two walks and a sac fly to make it 4-2 after three.

The score remained 4-2 until Cattrell swung a big stick on a 1-1 pitch, adding to the FC lead with a home run to center field, putting the Orange and Black in front 5-2.

FC added its final two runs in the bottom half of the sixth. Cattrell began a two-out rally by getting hit by a pitch. A triple by Willman to left made it 6-3, and a balk by the Louisville pitcher brought Willman home for the 7-3 lead.

Louisville added one run in the seventh, but pitcher Jayton Wilkerson got the final two batters to fly out to end the game.

Cattrell led FC with a double and a home run. Willman added a triple and a walk, while Wilkerson, Jones and Vonderschmidt all singled.

Huppert got the win for FC, allowing four hits and three runs in five innings of work. Hupp walked four and struck out three.

The win improved Falls City to 1-8, while Louisville fell to 1-5.

Falls City traveled to Lincoln on Monday, March 30, to take on the top-ten-ranked Lincoln Lutheran. The Warriors entered the game with a 5-1 mark.

The home team got to the FC pitchers for six runs in the first two innings, making it 6-0 entering the top of the third. FC's Brock Niedfeldt hit a one-out triple in the second, but a pop out and a strikeout ended the threat.

In the top of the third, Cattrell doubled to left field with two outs. An RBI single by Huppert to center put FC on the board at 6-1. Unfortunately for Falls City, that was all the offense they could muster as they fell to the Warriors 10-1.

FC was outhit 11-7 and committed just one error against the highly rated team from Lincoln.

Niedfeldt went 2-3 at the plate with a single and a triple, while Vaden Leyden tripled and Cattrell doubled.

Bowdy Jones took the loss, allowing seven runs (four earned) and seven hits over four innings of work.

The Holton Wildcats came to town on Thursday. Windy and cool conditions met the ballplayers at SNC Field, with the sun peeking through once or twice early on.

The visitors batted around in the top of the first and led 6-0 after the first half inning. The Wildcats used two Falls City errors, three walks and two hits to race out to the early advantage.

Tiger pitcher Elin Vonderschmidt settled down in the second frame, working around a one-out single and two-out walk to pitch a scoreless inning.

Meanwhile, FC picked it up offensively. Vonderschmidt laced a one-out single to center field. A walk by Carter Scholl and a flyout by Karson Simpson put runners at first and third. Vonderschmidt came in to score on an error by the Holton pitcher to cut the lead to 6-1.

With FC trailing 8-1 in the third, walks by Huppert and Jones and a ground out by Niedfeldt made it 8-2.

Callen Furnas led off the fifth with a bunt single. A stolen base, a bunt single by Ryder Hullman and an error made it 8-3. The final FC run came in the sixth. Vonderschmidt singled to left, followed by another walk by Scholl. A wild pitch and error brought Elin home to make the score 11-4. Holton scored three more in the seventh to make the final 14-4.

Vonderschmidt went 2-3 at the plate and scored two runs. Hullman and Furnas each singled, and Scholl walked twice. Vonderschmidt took the loss, surrendering six hits, eight runs (3 earned) and walking five in 2 1/3 innings.

Falls City hosted Auburn on Tuesday and Fairbury on Thursday, April 9.

Top: Elin Vonderschmidt slides into second base on Thursday against Holton. Below: Third baseman Jayton Wilkerson makes an acrobatic throw to first baseman Carter Scholl in FC's 11-4 loss to Holton.

Tigers swing clubs in Auburn

The Falls City golf team competed at the Auburn Country Club on Monday, March 30. The Tigers placed fifth out of nine teams, while HTRS finished seventh. JCC won the title with a score of 328, followed by Johnson-Brock (330), Rock Port (353), Auburn (363), Falls City (399), Southern (439) and HTRS (449).

Individually for Falls City, Ethan Morris shot the low score of 90 over 18-holes. Morris was consistent, going out with a 45 and returning to the clubhouse with a 45. Nolan Nicholson had a 97, and Kole Schawang shot a 99. Also for FC, Payton Brown came in with a 113, while Cade Caudle shot a 134.

For HTRS/PC, Jon Koch had the low score of the day with a 103. He was followed by Josh Manning (108), Grey Sherman (114) and Trey Kling (124).

Tayden Cook of Rock Port won the individual championship, shooting a 71. Caleb Dammast of Auburn placed eighth with an 80.

Falls City is back in action on Friday, April 10, at the Hiawatha Country Club, while HTRS/PC hosted Lewiston on Tuesday, April 7, for a dual at Kirkman's Cove Golf Course.

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