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## Sheriff race candidates share positions in *Journal* Q&A

As the May 12, 2026 Primary Election approaches, the Falls City Journal is providing voters with a closer look at the candidates seeking local office, including Richardson County Sheriff, Falls City Mayor and Falls City Council Ward 2.

Polls will be open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Election Day, with early voting available through the Richardson County Clerk's Office.

As part of this feature series, each candidate was asked the same set of questions. Responses are printed exactly as submitted, with no edits made by the newspaper, to allow readers to review each candidate's positions in their own words ahead of the election. (Minor edits have been made to the candidates introductions.)

**Nicholas Aitken**, was born and raised in Richardson County, where he says he developed a deep appreciation for helping others, as well as the people, values, and way of life in the community. He has experience in law enforcement, fire, EMS, and emergency communications which he says has provided him with a broad public safety background, and a firsthand understanding of the challenges our county faces.

1. *What are your top three priorities for the Richardson County Sheriff's Office?*

My top three priorities are improving leadership and employee retention, strengthening relationships with other agencies and our community, and providing efficient law enforcement functions in all areas without placing unnecessary tax burden on the County. A Sheriff's Office should not be defined by one single focus or by jail numbers alone.

2. *How will you handle transparency and public access to information, including reporting of incidents and communication with residents in Falls City and rural parts of the County?*

Transparency starts with being open, honest, and proactive. I believe in timely and accurate reporting of incidents and making information accessible to residents across the County in its entirety. There are times when

information must be limited due to legal or investigative reasons, but that should never be used as an excuse to withhold information unnecessarily. I also believe in improving two-way communication. Residents and employees should feel comfortable bringing forward concerns and know they will be heard. That includes being present in the community and communicating clearly. Trust is built through transparency, and I believe such trust is essential for effective law enforcement.

3. *What is your plan to recruit, train and retain deputies, and how will you manage those costs within the County budget while maintaining adequate coverage for both town and rural areas?*

Recruitment and retention start with leadership. We need to make the Sheriff's Office a place where people want to work and stay. I don't want to have to 'sell' our agency to prospective employees or promise someone the world to entice them to relocate here. I want individuals who want to move here, work as a team, and have a positive impact on our community. While many law enforcement officers and other employees have moved to the area and made a positive impact in our community, I also believe local candidates often have a greater likelihood of remaining here and building a career committed to serving Richardson County for the long term. I don't want our County to just be a 'steppingstone' for candidates to leave for a larger agency. Turnover is expensive. Recruiting, hiring, and training new deputies requires a significant investment of time and taxpayer dollars. A revolving door of employees imposes an unnecessary financial burden on the community and weakens the effectiveness of law enforcement services provided to the public. When employees leave, that investment is lost and the process starts over. By improving leadership and retention, we reduce those costs and maintain a more experienced, effective workforce. I will focus on building relationships with potential candidates, while also prioritizing consistency and ongoing training for current employees. I will also ensure that concerns brought forth by employees do not fall on deaf ears. Training is

CANDIDATES -Page 3

## Talk of placing cameras in county vehicles still ongoing

The Richardson County Board of Commissioners met at the courthouse on Wednesday, April 15, for a regularly scheduled meeting. Commissioners Caverzagie, Karas, and Campbell answered the roll call.

Highway Superintendent Steve Darveau, Jr. updated the Board on work underway throughout the county. Darveau advised the Board that he would send a notice to a county resident who installed driveways on their property but didn't use proper drainage tubing. Mr. Darveau said he would give the property owner 30 days to fix the issue, or the county will remove the tube and charge the individual for the labor. Darveau said it appears irrigation pipe was used, which the county doesn't allow.

Darveau also said the project's engineer and state officials worked out the issues with NPPD regarding moving power lines for a project near Stella.

When asked about the GPS camera system, Darveau said he hasn't moved forward yet.

Mr. Darveau said he reached out to Otoe County, which has cameras that record only when an incident occurs. The cameras can go back 20 seconds before an incident and show the recording. The cost could drop from \$52.70 per camera to about \$10, mostly due to storage costs. Darveau said he would continue to explore options before pulling the trigger.

Next, Sheriff Hardesty met with the Board to discuss business at the Law Enforcement Center. Hardesty said the jail currently has 18 inmates. He also presented his monthly report, noting 611 calls were fielded in March,

COUNTY -Page 3

## Voters urged to check voter registration ahead of Nebraska Primary Election

Persons wanting to vote in the upcoming Nebraska Primary Election, May 12, 2026, are urged to check their voter registration status to make certain they are registered at the correct address and affiliated with the political party for which they are going to cast their nomination ballot.

Voters may check their registration at <https://www.votercheck.necvr.ne.gov> or by contacting the Richardson County Clerk's Office at 402-245-2911 ext 3.

Voter registration will be taken in person at the Office of the Richardson County Clerk during regular business hours through Friday, May 1 and on that day the office will remain open until 6:00 p.m. This is the deadline for registering to vote before the Primary Election.

Registering to vote can also be done online through Monday, April 27, 2026, on the Nebraska Secretary of State - Voter Registration Portal.

Early voting is now available in the office of the Richardson County Clerk's Office from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The office will also be open until 6:00 p.m. on Friday, May 1 for early voting.

Early voting applications are also available to request that your ballot be mailed to you if you are unable to vote at your regular polling place on Election Day. An application form can be obtained on the Richardson County website [www.richardsoncounty.ne.gov](http://www.richardsoncounty.ne.gov).

Please contact the County Clerk's Office at 245-2911 ext 3 if you have further questions or need more information regarding the 2026 Elections.



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### INSIDE THIS WEEK'S JOURNAL

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### APRIL

24  
 -County Courthouse will be closed in observance of Arbor Day.  
 25  
 -Wolf River Nursery Open House, 9AM-6PM.

27

-BPO DOES Annual Spring Luncheon, 11AM-1PM at the Elks Lodge.

29

-Nebraska Bank Open House, 4:30-7:30PM-3003 Bill Schack Blvd.

### MAY, 6

-Theodore Bebermeyer-Big Iron Online Auction.

### APRIL FC JOURNAL DEADLINE CHANGES

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

30 THURSDAY NOON DEADLINE for the following week's paper. Returning to the normal Friday by noon deadline on May 8.

No checks? No problem! Pay using Venmo!



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# Old age, only 10 years

By Dr. Becca Jordre

Every year I ask my students, “How old is old?” The answers vary, but the most honest response I’ve ever received came from a patient who said, “Old is 10 years older than my age.” We all tend to push aging just out of reach, as though it belongs to someone else.

As a physical therapist, professor and researcher in aging, I see the consequences of that distance every day. When we mentally place older adults in a separate category, we give ourselves permission to speak and act in ways that quietly do harm. We call someone an “old lady” without pause. We dismiss a symptom as “expected at your age.” We offer the well-meaning but quietly deflating compliment that someone is doing well “for their age.” Each of these small moments narrows what we believe is possible for that person.

This is ageism. Generally unintentional, ever-present in our society.

The problem is not acknowledging that aging brings real changes. It does. Health conditions, pain, and mobility challenges become more common with age, but not in some uniform pattern that warrants focus on a number. The problem is when age becomes the answer rather than the starting point. When decline is the expectation, we stop asking about goals, we stop noticing strengths and we start designing lives around an assumed limitation.

Consider a common piece of advice: move to a single-story home as you grow older. It sounds reasonable. But research tells a more nuanced story. Studies have found that those living in homes with stairs showed less decline in physical function over time compared to those without. Climbing stairs is demanding, repetitive physical work for the legs and heart. Removing that daily challenge in the name of safety may quietly accelerate the very decline we hope to prevent.

This pattern holds more broadly. Research consistently shows that vigorous exercise, not just gentle stretching or slow walks, produces the greatest health benefits as we age. Higher-intensity activity improves strength, balance, heart health and cognitive function in people well into their 80s and 90s. When we steer older adults toward only the lightest, most cautious forms of movement, we deprive them of the very stimulus their bodies need. In trying to protect, we inadvertently take away opportunity.

Language works the same way. When family members, neighbors and health care providers speak as though decline is inevitable, we coach people toward caution, avoidance and withdrawal. Expectation shapes behavior, and low expectations are their own kind of harm.

The answer is not to ignore age or pretend it doesn’t matter. It is to treat aging as a human experience, seeing a person not as a number but as an individual with unique aspirations, interests and abilities.

None of us are exempt from aging. We are all just at different points on the same road. The assumptions we make about older adults today are the assumptions that may one day be made about us. That alone is reason enough to think more carefully about what we say, what we recommend, and what we decide is possible with each passing year.

Dr. Jordre is a professor of physical therapy in the School of Health Sciences at the University of South Dakota. She earned her Doctor of Physical Therapy degree from Duke University in 2002 and her Ph.D. in Health Sciences from the University of South Dakota in 2021. She is board certified in Geriatric Physical Therapy and is a Certified Exercise Expert for Aging Adults. Her research centers on healthy aging, with a particular focus on athletes age 50 and older. Follow The Prairie Doc® at [www.prairedoc.org](http://www.prairedoc.org)

# All things Nebraska

## Another legislative session in the books, along with another budget crisis averted

By Paul Hammel, Retired Senior Reporter for Nebraska Examiner

Some State Capitol watchers say they can’t relax until state legislators go home for the year.

As a reporter who chased the occupants of the “Hall of Hot Winds” for too many decades, I can attest that the fire drill-like finish to legislative sessions leaves you ready for something different. Or a stiff drink.

Late-night sessions – which used to be a rarity – are par for the course these days, with debates extending 12 hours or more in the waning days of a legislative session.

Filibusters also used to be as unusual as a soaking rain in spring, but now are as common as the migration of the Sandhill cranes.

Reporters are notoriously underpaid (so please keep subscribing and contributing to this news source) but you have to wonder how state senators, who have been paid \$12,000-a-year for the past 38 years, put up with it.

They deserve a raise, if you ask me.

Senators went home last week after a 60-day session in which the crowning achievement was closing a monumental gap in state tax revenue that grew to beyond \$600 million. Passing a budget is really the only thing they’re obligated to do.

The gap was created when the projected collection of state tax dollars fell far short of funding government services.

What happened? There were some deep cuts passed by the Legislature to reduce state income taxes, which has been a popular move in many other states.

The cuts were scheduled to be gradual under the law passed in 2023. The state’s top rate for individual income tax, which had been 6.84%, is scheduled to eventually drop to 3.99% by the 2027 tax year. Corporate tax rates are also scheduled to fall to 3.99%.

Those were mighty deep cuts – cuts I thought I’d never see in Nebraska where he have many more cows and land than tax-paying people and corporations.

Lawmakers could have done the easy thing to solve the budget gap, by extending the gradual drop in income taxes to say 2028 or 2029, thus preserving hundreds of millions in tax revenue. They could have also increased cigarette taxes, something that hasn’t been done for 24 years, to come up with more funds.

But instead Gov. Pillen and the Gang of 49 again passed a series of “sweeps” from purportedly idle state reserve funds, along with cutting some services, to solve the second budget crisis in the past two years.

(This is a solution, but a pretty temporary one. You can’t keep stealing from the cookie jar forever, and it looks like next year’s lawmakers will again be facing another big budget gap.)

The biggest fight over this year’s budget was over a proposal by Gov. Pillen to spend \$7 million a year to help families pay for private and parochial schooling for their kids until President Trump’s tax credit for private school tuition takes effect in 2027.

As I recall, state voters rejected the use of state funds for private school tuition, opting instead to use that

money for public education. So, in the end, that proposal failed, and rightly so. The voters had spoken.

Pillen, meanwhile, berated legislators, writing in a social media post that if he ran “that show” (the Legislature) their work would be done by April 1, and that lawmakers would be too tired to “go out every night drinking and eating” with lobbyists picking up the tab. (That’s pretty bold talk from someone who is in hot water, and the subject of a law enforcement investigation, over the granting of a \$2.5 million, no-bid contract to a lobbyist/friend. Wonder if any eating and drinking was involved?)

I often mused when I was covering the Legislature that I’d make things run more smoothly if I ran “that show.”

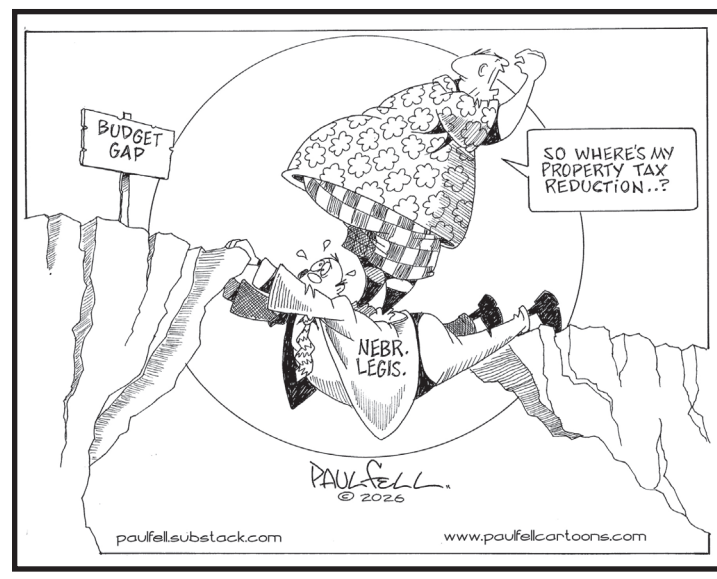
But I watched a lot of smart Speakers of the Legislature try, and fail, at their own efforts of getting 49 senators to get along better.

The bottom line is we have a unique Unicameral where debate, and disagreement, is encouraged, and where you can use the rules to block progress and force a compromise.

It’s like herding cats. It ain’t pretty always, but it seems to work, even during this last session.

And now that lawmakers have gone home, we can relax.

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: MATH 101

**ACROSS**

1. ¿ la mode
5. Westminster broadcaster
8. Lamb’s momma
11. Depression drifter
12. Alternative to truth
13. Like a Druid, e.g.
15. Verify
16. Flair
17. Avoid paying taxes
18. \*Same as power in math
20. Surrender territory
21. Mini, midi or maxi
22. Longnosed fish
23. \*Round #23 Down
26. Adverb derived from zone
30. Miner’s bounty
31. Curved like a foot
34. Mother Earth to Ancient Greeks
35. Truck amounts
37. “\_\_\_\_\_ the land of the free...”
38. Hitler’s Third
39. Capri, e.g.
40. Walked
42. Grande, e.g.
43. Remove scales
45. Accustomed, two words
47. Like arctic air
48. More capable
50. Tibetan priest
52. \*Part of a whole number
55. Grinding tooth
56. Stare amorously
57. Hoofbeat sound
59. Garlic mayo
60. Kick out
61. Gossamer
62. \*Pi’s second digit
63. High \_\_\_\_\_
64. “Brave New World” drug

**DOWN**

1. Half a particular dance
2. Past tense of heave
3. Type of mountain goat
4. Body six feet under
5. Harvest helper
6. Small goose
7. Abe’s coin
8. Exclamation of surprise, archaic
9. Do like fly fisherman
10. Between northeast and east
12. One who denies
13. Popular pie nut
14. \*Sum divided by count
19. Southern cuisine pods
22. Apollo to ancient Greeks
23. \*Three-dimensional object
24. Not poetry
25. Mends
26. \*Whole number between -1 and 1
27. Scottish landowner
28. In accordance with law
29. Search engine pioneer
32. Pigeon’s home
33. H in British HMS
36. \*Kind of point
38. Set to zero
40. Cunning
41. Pleasing to the ear
44. Ticks and mites, taxonomically speaking
46. Short for Fredericas
48. Lock horns
49. Popular craft wood
50. Under a fig leaf?
51. Gel producing plant
52. \*0.3048 meters
53. Pasta with \_\_\_\_\_ and alio
54. “Cheers” regular
55. Cultural Revolution leader
58. Money in Myanmar

### CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10		
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75 Years Ago, April 22, 1951 to April 28, 1951

S.G. Harper took the lease on the building formerly occupied by the United Wholesalers at 1020 Stone Street and planned to open a café and grocery store in the near future.

Master Masons from six southeast Nebraska counties attended an "Area Meeting" in Falls City sponsored by the Nebraska State Committee on Masonic Education.

Sixty-seven contestants ranging from sixth through eighth grade participated in a written spelling contest. Sixth graders, Gary Ingram of Falls City School and Alice Bachman of Dist. No. 91 tied for first. In the seventh grade, Jann Hoffman won with a perfect score. Her teacher was Miss Glennis Albin of Salem.

The Jim Deems' Men's Shop at 1516 Stone Street was purchased by Frank G. Abbey of Norton, KS.

Cecil Davis, coach at Stella, resigned his post and would be replaced by Archie Dean Chapman. In four years at Stella, Davis led his basketball teams to a 58-30 record.

After tabulating the "take" from four days of use, the new parking meters in Falls City generated \$342. It was expected that the devices would average between \$60-\$70 per day.

Officers of Cub Scout Pack 391 were introduced in a meeting at the First Christian Church. W.W. Marx was installed as chairman; Wayne Dunn as Cubmaster; Paul Gilkerson as assistant Cubmaster; Verner Carlson as institutional representative, and Orval Von Seggern as achievement representative.

A grand total of 91 lads, 15 years of age and younger, attended a meeting at City Park to show interest in playing baseball under the Junior Chamber of Commerce's new summer Midget program. Organizers Dean Niemann and Ernie Prosser were overwhelmed at the large turnout.

Denmark agreed to allow the United States to operate radar, weather stations and air strips in Greenland. The United States needed the use of Greenland for radar purposes to guard against any possible aerial attacks from across the Pole.

For Sale--Oil at 14 1/8 cents per qt. in your container in 25 gal. lots. In five gal. lots, 14 3/4 cents per qt., plus federal tax. Also, tank-wagon service. Northview Conoco Station. Phone 27.

A natural gas storage tank in Maryville, MO, exploded, touching off a college dorm fire that injured 50 female students. The blast shook residents from their beds and shattered half of downtown's store windows. Flames engulfed a three-story dormitory on the Northeast Missouri State campus.

Mrs. A.J. Weaver of Falls City was chosen as state president of the P.E.O. Sisterhood at the group's state convention in McCook.

50 Years Ago, April 22, 1976 to April 28, 1976

The Falls City High School Mathematics team placed ninth in the state in the National Mathematics Contest. Tedd Gentry was the top member of the Tiger team, placing 19th highest in the state.

The IGA Store at Dawson was broken into. Thieves pushed in the back door; however, it was believed that nothing was taken.

Ralph Gilkerson, 30, was appointed a city fireman at a special meeting of the city council. Gilkerson replaced his father, Don, who submitted his resignation.

Peru State College Football Coach Jerry Joy was the featured speaker at the annual Southeast Booster Club's All-Sports Banquet.

The American Legion Auxiliary Post 102 selected Teresa Casey as the Girls State representative. Nora Cowles was named as the alternate.

In observance of Arbor Day, North School Elementary students planted three trees on the school grounds.

A photo of the Tiger football team from 1917 was featured in The Journal. The team played its games at City Park back then. Pictured were John Whetstein, Henry Bassett, Kennings Wyatt, Wallace Abbey, William Keeling, Stacy Hoy, Charles James, Frank Kramer, Ernie Frehse, William Gatz and Dewey Hoy. The coach was Chester A. Beavers. Bassett and Dewey Hoy went on to play for the University of Nebraska, and Bassett later played professionally.

Morel mushrooms, measuring 8 1/2 inches in length, were found in the Barada area by Brett Hatfield.

Two buildings on the east side of the 1400 block of Stone Street were being demolished. The south building belonged to the Downtown Modernization, Inc., while Miles, Morehead and Weaver owned the north building.

Rhea Harshbarger and Paul Koehler were selected by the Shubert American Legion Post and its Auxiliary to represent Southeast Nebraska Consolidated High School at Girls and Boys State in Lincoln.

Patrick Hoy was among those receiving Air Force ROTC awards at the awards ceremony held in Lincoln.

Miss Mary Findlay of Stella received her diploma from Bishop Clarkson Memorial Hospital School of Nursing at the graduation ceremonies at Joslyn Memorial Art Museum.

Cudney's Construction advertised poured concrete for basements, driveways, parking lots and more. Orville and Glenn Cudney were the general contractors.

The Lady Tigers won a triangular at Jug Brown Stadium over Dawson-Verdon and Nebraska City. Janice Kottich set a school record in the 100, winning in 11.8 seconds, while Susan Leafy won the mile and Lisa Mann won the 880. Linda Schulze of DV won the long jump.

25 Years Ago, April 22, 2001 to April 28, 2001

Since its re-establishment in 1997, the Friends of the Library had contributed \$13,648.81 to the library through memberships and community donations. Board members included Nancy Merz, Della Meyer, Linda Stout, Tracie Heckenlively, Krista Anderson and Jill Meyer.

In a decision that was scathing in its assessment of the actions of former sheriff Charles Laux, the Nebraska Supreme Court unanimously affirmed Richardson County's negligence in the death of Brandon Teena and ordered a reconsideration of damages for which the county would be liable. The 20-page ruling written by Chief Judge John V. Hendry determined the Laux's conduct in the case was "extreme and outrageous, beyond all possible bounds of decency and is to be regarded as atrocious and utterly intolerable in a civilized community."

University of Nebraska Assistant Football Coach Ron Brown was scheduled to be the featured speaker at the Falls City Sacred Heart Booster Club Athletic Banquet.

Falls City Middle School athlete Alissa Gyhra earned three gold medals at the FC Middle School Invite. Gyhra won the 1600 (6:05.15), the 100-meter hurdles (17.9) and the 800m (2:42.80).

Three two-man teams tied for the championship of the Falls City Country Club's season-opening golf tournament. Max Milam and Tom Kopf, Ed Hartman and Bob Aitken, and Steve Simon and Bart Keller, all fired 68s and split the cash prize.

Falls City High School secretaries Sue Harmon and Joyce Armbruster were pictured enjoying the new office at the recently renovated school. The nearly \$6 million project wouldn't be completely finished until October.

BPD Does president Dessie Scholl was pictured presenting a \$200 check from the organization to Dr. Tom Bartek of the Falls City Recreation program.

Two Falls City students had their artwork shown at the 24th annual Nebraska Habitat Stamp Art Contest. Sixth-grader Jay Steinman was named a finalist in the junior division, and senior Chrissy Hunzeker received an honorable mention.

Dorothy Price, activities coordinator at Falls City Care Center, presented Sylvia Strasil with the Volunteer of the Year Award.

## CANDIDATES

-Continued from Page 1

necessary, but keeping good employees is the most cost-effective approach. I will also ensure all funding is used as intended so we can maintain adequate coverage for the entire County without placing unnecessary strain on taxpayers.

**Rick Hardesty Jr.**, is a 2016 graduate of the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center and has been Richardson County Sheriff since August of 2019.

1. *What are your top three priorities for the Richardson County Sheriff's Office?*

My top three priorities are public safety, strong community relationships, and supporting our deputies.

Public safety always come's first. That means being proactive, staying visible, and making sure both Falls City and our rural areas have the protection they deserve.

When I took over as Sheriff, we had our work cut out for us. We needed to clean up the drug problem and reestablish systems that had to be strengthened. I made a promise to the people of Richardson County that we would take that head on, make our communities safer, and build something that lasts long term. That's exactly what we have done, and it continues to be a top priority every single day.

Second is building trust and relationships with residents in our county. Law enforcement works best when people know us and feel comfortable reaching out. We are committed to being present, engaged, and accessible so your Sheriff's office is part of the community.

Third is supporting our deputies. That means investing in training, giving them the tools they need, and building a culture where good people want to stay and serve this county. Public safety is a team effort, and I strive to be a sheriff that supports his team.

It's about keeping Richardson County safe and continuing to build on the progress we have made together.

2. *How will you handle transparency and public access to information, including reporting of incidents and communication with residents in Falls City and rural parts of the*

county?

Transparency is essential to maintaining public trust, and it's something I take seriously.

We will continue to provide timely and accurate information through multiple channels, including social media, press releases, and coordination with local media. When incidents occur, our goal is to communicate clearly while also respecting ongoing investigations and privacy laws.

We also recognize that not everyone gets information the same way, especially in rural areas. That is why we will continue direct outreach, community meetings, and coordination with local leaders to make sure information reaches all parts of the county.

My approach is simple: be open, honest, and accessible.

3. *What is your plan to recruit, train and retain deputies, and how will you manage those costs within the county budget while maintaining adequate coverage for both town and rural areas?*

Recruitment and retention are ongoing challenges in rural law enforcement, so we have to be deliberate in how we approach them.

We are focused on hiring people who understand our community and want to serve here, while also being proactive about building a pipeline. One approach we're exploring is partnering with Richardson County Schools to create awareness and career opportunities so local students see a future in law enforcement. We are also looking at ways to help cover academy training costs to remove barriers for new hires.

Retention comes down to leadership and quality of life. We're committed to building a strong culture where deputies feel respected and supported. In a rural county, things like take-home vehicles and flexible scheduling can make a meaningful difference in keeping good people long term.

From a budget stand-

point, we remain disciplined, look for efficiencies, and pursue outside funding when possible so we can maintain strong coverage across both Falls City and our rural areas.

## COUNTY

-Continued from Page 1

including 335 traffic stops. The Sheriff's Department made 23 arrests in March. At 9:29, Commissioner Karas moved to enter a closed meeting with Hardesty, deputy trainee Candace Cox, and Clerk Eickhoff to discuss a personnel matter and to prevent needless injury to individuals' reputations. The meeting was reconvened to regular session at 9:38. Hardesty also discussed issues with a 2021 vehicle. It was decided to park the vehicle, strip it out, and prepare it for sale. The Sheriff also said that the Iowa Tribe wasn't interested in an MOU with the county regarding how law enforcement could and would respond.

According to Hardesty, the Iowa Tribe doesn't have an agreement with any surrounding Sheriff's Departments either. Hardesty said it gets difficult because the Iowa Tribe doesn't always respond to calls.

Jared Reimers, District Coordinator for District 3, Congressman Adrian Smith, updated the Board on work being done in Washington, D.C.

Remmers reported that Smith has played a major role in negotiations with Japan and South Korea regarding their trade agreements.

A subdivision was approved for Janet Warrick McMullen, trustee of the Janet Warrick McMullen Trust, located in S17, T3, R15.

Chairman Caverzagie also moved to issue a statement of background, intent, and direction for submission to the Richardson County Planning Commission to help develop a new Comprehensive Plan. The plan has not been updated in nearly 25 years. The motion passed 3-0.

The Board also reviewed the inventory reporting policy and decided to leave it unchanged.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:31 a.m.



## Sabetha Community Hospital Outpatient Calendar---May 2026

<p><b>Botox</b> Levi Grimm, APRN: May 7, 14, 21, 28</p> <p><b>Cardiology</b> Tonya Stallbaumer, APRN: May 8 Swapna Mamidipally, MD: May 4, 22 Hisham Hakeem, MD: May 14 Kevin Bernd, DO: May 5</p> <p><b>Dermatology</b> Tiffany Engelken, APRN: May 6, 13, 20, 27</p> <p><b>Diabetes Support Group</b> May 19<sup>th</sup> @3pm</p> <p><b>Dizziness &amp; Balance</b> Gary McKnight, AuD: May 21</p> <p><b>Ear, Nose, &amp; Throat</b> Jason Lepse, MD: May 8</p> <p><b>Endocrinology</b> Kelli Bradbury, APRN: May 26</p>	<p><b>Gastroenterology</b> John Riopelle, DO: May 12</p> <p><b>Neurology</b> Abra Woolard, APRN: May 7, 21</p> <p><b>Nephrology</b> Haley Wingerson, APRN: May 15 Keelyn Ericson, MD: May 11</p> <p><b>Nuclear Stress Tests</b> May 7, 14, 28</p> <p><b>OB/GYN</b> Jamesina Dickson, MD: May 6</p> <p><b>Oncology</b> Robin McKay, APRN: May 15</p> <p><b>Orthopedics</b> Adam Streit, DO: May 7, 21 Maria VanDyke, PA-C: May 12, 26 Michael McCoy, MD: May 7, 21</p> <p><b>Pain Management</b> Karl Haake, MD: May 5, 12, 19</p>	<p><b>Podiatry</b> Robert Shemwell, DPM: May 13, 26</p> <p><b>Surgery</b> Samuel Bruna, MD: 11, 13, 27 Denis Jimenez, MD: 4, 6, 18, 20</p> <p><b>Wound Clinic</b> Susie Lueger, APRN: May 4, 11, 18, 28</p>
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# Welcome to the world little one



**MAZE**-Julianne and Derek Maze, are the parents of a daughter, born February 9, 2026. Freya Lucinda weighed eight pounds, three ounces. Grandparents are Tom and Cindy Kopf, and Scott and Karen Maze.

## NACO celebrates National County Government month in April

The Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO) celebrate National County Government Month this April with a renewed focus on telling the county story and highlighting the people and services that impact the everyday lives of Nebraskans in all 93 counties. The celebration kicked off on April 1 when county officials from across Nebraska gathered at the Capitol to meet with senators, speak with state leaders, learn more about the legislative process, and engage in NACO's advocacy efforts.

In recognition of the essential role counties play in helping Nebraska thrive, Governor Jim Pillen has also signed a proclamation declaring April as County Government Month in Nebraska.

Counties are responsible for maintaining roads and infrastructure, administering elections, providing public safety, and delivering a myriad of other critical services that help their communities thrive. National County Government Month gives us an opportunity to celebrate these efforts and shine a light on the important work that counties do.

"Counties are the linchpins of our society," said NACO Executive Director Jon Cannon. "County government cares for the things everyone uses or relies on every day — whether it's roads, law enforcement, elections, or beyond. While everyone reads about what happens in Washington and

Lincoln, it's your local counties which have the greatest effect on your daily life. County officials are your friends, family, and neighbors. We encourage every Nebraskan to recognize the tremendous work our county officials and employees do for our communities."

NACO is proud to join the National Association of Counties and other associations across the country in championing the county workforce and encouraging civic engagement. This year's emphasis on storytelling will help residents better understand how county services impact their day-to-day lives.

NACO encourages county officials, employees, residents, and schools to participate in National

County Government Month by helping tell their county's story. Visit the NACO County Explorer page to learn more about your county and be sure to keep an eye out for county government day or county government month activities or initiatives led by your county officials.

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## Nebraska submits information to U.S. DOE for Nuclear Lifecycle innovation Campus consideration

The Nebraska Department of Water, Energy, and Environment (DWEE) submitted a response to the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Request for Information about the state's consideration as a potential future site for a Nuclear Lifecycle Innovation Campus.

The submission is the first step in DOE's process to identify potential locations for next generation nuclear campuses. The Nuclear Lifecycle Innovation Campuses are a federal effort to modernize the nation's full nuclear fuel cycle and strengthen the country's leadership in advanced nuclear energy.

The state's three largest public power utilities — Omaha Public Power District (OPPD), Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD), and Lincoln Electric System (LES) — joined together with the Grand River Dam Authority in Oklahoma in December 2025 to create the Great Plains New Nuclear Consortium. This group was formed to evaluate next-generation nuclear energy deployment in Nebraska, demonstrating proactive, forward-leaning leadership in advancing nuclear energy.

The Nebraska Legislature has also provided support toward advancing nuclear energy through funding directed toward a recent statewide siting analysis for viable locations of new nuclear energy developments. Advancing the development of a Nuclear Lifecycle Innovation Campus in Nebraska will require close coordination with the Legislature to ensure that necessary legislative and policy changes are addressed.

"This is the first of many steps, but taking this step ensures that Nebraska remains at the center of these important conversations at a national level as we work with our partners in public power to advance nuclear energy in Nebraska," DWEE Director Jesse Bradley said. "Any advancement of these efforts will be done in a manner that ensures public confidence, environmental protection, and responsible stewardship of the Ogallala Aquifer and our natural resources."

DOE's request indicated that certain support mechanisms will be made available toward selected Nuclear Innovation Campuses including, targeted financial assistance, cost-sharing, loan guarantees and others. These campuses are expected to drive significant investment and job growth in nuclear and advanced manufacturing, with other high paying support industries. Any advancement of a Nuclear Lifecycle Innovation Campus in Nebraska will require formal agreements between DOE and the state that would define roles, responsibilities, and future commitments.

"OPPD is proud to partner with Nebraska in developing a thorough and thoughtful response to the DOE's request," OPPD President and CEO Javier Fernandez said. "This effort reflects our shared commitment to advancing innovative energy solutions for our state. We look forward to continuing this work should Nebraska be selected to move forward in the process."

"NPPD supports the state's efforts to advance next-generation nuclear through a Nuclear Lifecycle Innovation Campus," NPPD President and CEO Tom Kent said. "Nebraska has a proud history of advancing nuclear power and a strong tradition of collaboration, and if selected, this campus would strengthen that legacy as we continue to work together to develop advanced nuclear solutions. Our team looks forward to continuing the exploration of this initiative with the state of Nebraska."

Nebraska has a long history of safe, reliable nuclear operations, including NPPD's Cooper Nuclear Station, OPPD's former Fort Calhoun Nuclear Station, uranium mining in northwest Nebraska, and several additional nuclear research and industrial facilities. Additionally, Nebraska public power utilities have a strong relationship with the University of Nebraska for studies related to nuclear operations and support for workforce development.

"Nebraska is well positioned to host a Nuclear Lifecycle Innovation Campus," Advanced Nuclear Coalition President Kristen Gottschalk said. "Not only do Nebraska utilities have long-term experience with safely managing nuclear facilities, but we have an engaged higher education system and a motivated workforce to make it a success."

Nebraska will await the DOE's review of this first-round submission. Nebraska's response to the DOE's Request for Information is available on DWEE's State Energy Information page: <https://dee.nebraska.gov/state-energy-info-stats>.

## BUILDING PERMITS

Linda Ebel, 2623 Towle St.; install new roof and gutters, \$31,842.50.

LaMarr Matthes, 2102 Stone St.; installing deck, \$3,000.00

Silvano Munoz, 924 Charles St.; new fence, \$3,000.00.

Mark May, 825 E 16th; re roofing house, \$8,279.92.

Gregory Smith, 1717 Towle St.; roof replacement, \$9,400.00.

## Nebraska Library Commission celebrates 125 years of service to Nebraska's Libraries and Communities

The Nebraska Library Commission (NLC) is marking a major milestone this year: 125 years of strengthening libraries, expanding access to information, and supporting lifelong learning across the state. Established by an act of the Legislature on March 27, 1901 as the Nebraska Public Library Commission, the Commission has grown from a small state agency into a statewide leader in library development, training, and resource sharing.

Established to encourage the growth and spread of public libraries in the state, the agency's purview has grown to support Nebraska's public, academic, school, and special libraries, the Commission has long served as a central hub for reference services, professional training, consulting, and statewide resource coordination. Its collections and expertise have supported librarians, state employees, government information seekers, and Nebraskans with print disabilities for more than a century.

Over the decades, the Commission has expanded its mission to meet changing community needs—embracing new technologies, strengthening rural library support, and ensuring equitable access to information for all Nebraskans.

Current Services Supporting Nebraska Libraries

As the Commission celebrates its 125th anniversary, it continues to deliver a wide range of programs and services, including:

Talking Book and Braille Services (TBBS), provides free audiobooks, audio magazines, and braille materials to Nebraskans with a visual or physical condition, or a reading disability which limits use of regular print.

NCompass Live, a weekly webinar series offering professional development

on emerging library topics, technology, and community engagement.

Statewide grants and funding opportunities, including annual NLC Grants that help libraries launch new programs, improve services, and expand community impact.

Reference and resource support, providing access to government publications, research assistance, and specialized collections for Nebraskans with visual or physical disabilities.

Training and consulting, helping libraries of all types strengthen operations, adopt new technologies, and meet accreditation standards.

Digital access and statewide resource sharing, including online catalogs, interlibrary loan support, eBooks and Audiobooks through Nebraska OverDrive Libraries, and digital literacy initiatives.

These services reflect the Commission's ongoing commitment to empowering Nebraska's libraries as essential community anchors. For more information on the history of the Nebraska Library Commission please visit <https://nlc.nebraska.gov/history/>.

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

Nebraska's Regional Library Systems consist of four non-profit corporations governed by boards representative of libraries and citizens in the region. The four systems were established to provide access to improved library services through the cooperation of all types of libraries and media centers within the counties included in each System area.

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# FROM THE JOURNAL ARCHIVES



The Stella Research Club sponsored four students this year to the Sophomore Pilgrimage event in Lincoln on April 1. This annual event started in 1984 and is an opportunity for sophomore-aged students to learn about the government of Nebraska. The students hear presentations by six of the state officers, including the governor, observe part of a legislative session, have lunch in the governor's mansion, tour the Capitol building, and hear a presentation by one of the Nebraska Supreme Court Justices. The event is sponsored statewide by the Nebraska General Federated Women's Clubs. The students representing the Stella Research Club are all from the Stella/Shubert area- Cale Zentner, son of Cole and Catrina Zentner, Rylee Dotson daughter of Olin and Samantha Dotson, Nora Jacobitz, daughter of Jed Jacobitz and Kathy Jacobitz, and Maxwell Johnson, son of Tony and Becky Johnson.



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**IDENTIFIED** By Mike Simon, from the April 8, 2026 edition. Pictured below is Don Brect, Charles Kreifels, and Bernie Kreifels. The Kreifels bought out Don to make vaults.

## Falls City Police Department releases information on e-bikes and the legality of driving on public streets

The Falls City Police Department has recently received inquiries into the legality of e-bikes and Motor-Driven cycles on public streets by both children and adults. Nebraska State Statute allows for the operation of e-bikes (which have fully operative pedals) on public streets while following the same rules of the road as a bicycle. The Motor-Driven cycles, which include electric motor scooters and electric motorcycles are in most cases classified as a motorcycle or minibike are either not allowed to operate on public streets or may operate on public streets with the proper licensing and registration.

If you have a questions please feel free to contact the Falls City Police Department at (402)245-4422.



## Ethan Henry elected to membership into Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi

Ethan Henry of Hiawatha, KS, was recently elected to membership into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society, at Kansas State University.

Henry is among approximately 20,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

For more information, visit [www.PhiKappaPhi.org](http://www.PhiKappaPhi.org).

## Parking lot accident at CMC

A two-vehicle, non-injury accident was reported at 10:42 a.m. March 16, 2026, in the parking lot of Community Medical Center in Falls City, according to Falls City police accident reports.

A Falls City Police Officer was dispatched to the scene and made contact with Dylan Crofford, who stated he was parked in his girlfriend's vehicle near the clinic entrance when it was struck on the passenger side.

Cheek then made contact with Linda Kirkendall of Falls City. According to the report, Kirkendall stated she was parking and had to make a wide turn into a parking stall due to a pickup being in the way, and in doing so collided with the parked minivan.

Damage to the minivan was estimated at \$1,000. Damage to the Explorer was estimated at \$500.

## Stone Street accident

A two-vehicle accident was reported on March 11, 2026, on Stone Street in Falls City, according to Falls City Police accident reports.

The crash occurred near West 17th Street.

According to the report, Amy Kopp of Hiawatha, Kansas, had parked a vehicle in a west-facing parking stall. Kopp later became aware the vehicle had been struck on the driver's side bumper.

Tabitha Bachman, the owner of the nail salon witnessed Amanda Kelsay back into the vehicle. Ms. Bachman told Kelsay about the collision she continued to leave the scene.

An officer was able to make contact with Kelsay and ask if she was aware that she was involved in an accident. Kelsay stated that she was aware. She was then cited for leaving the scene of an accident, and unsafe backing.

Damage to each vehicle was estimated at \$500.

## Alcohol breath tester \$1035 awarded to Falls City Police Department

The Falls City Police Department has received three hand held alcohol breath testing units through a traffic safety grant award from the Nebraska Department of Transportation, Highway Safety Office (NDOT-HSO). "The departments receiving this grant are all part of a statewide initiative to decrease the number of roadway crashes, fatalities and injuries," stated Rylee Egger, Administrator for the NDOT Highway Safety Office.

The units valued at \$345.00 each, are used to test the amount of alcohol in a driver's breath. The portable units display a digital reading of the blood alcohol level from a suspect's breath sample. These results along with field sobriety testing are used to establish probable cause that a driver is operating a vehicle while impaired.

According to Egger, "This is a quick test that can be performed in the field at the beginning of each investigation. In every state in this country, drunk driving is illegal. It's also incredibly deadly, and a risk we don't want to see people take. Driving under the influence of any substance will land you a DUI."

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Tiger athletes Kacen Davis (left) and Tailyah Moore (right), compete at the Scott Nisely Invite in Syracuse last Friday.

## Jackson soars to new heights

Sophomore Tanner Jackson took advantage of near-perfect conditions Thursday morning as the Falls City Tiger track teams competed at the Syracuse Invite. Jackson, a state qualifier in the pole vault last spring, has steadily improved each meet this spring, culmi-

nating in a new school-record vault on Thursday. Jackson cleared the bar at 14-02, surpassing the 14-01 mark set by Darren Trull in 1982. Jackson won the event by 2 1/2 feet.

Overall, the Lady Tigers set 11 personal records on Thursday, while the boys were close behind with 10 records.

The Lady Tigers scored 25 points on Thursday to finish seventh, while the boys totaled 30 points and also finished seventh.

Girls' team standings: Syracuse 121, Norris 117, Crete 90, Lincoln Christian 60, Beatrice 25, Fairbury 36, FC 25, Louisville 8, Auburn 8, Nebraska City 4.

Boys' team standings: Norris 145, Syracuse 118, Beatrice 73, Lincoln Christian 57, Fairbury 39, Crete 31, FC 30, Auburn 20, Louisville 14.

Jennifer Sweeney had the best individual finish for Falls City on Thursday. Sweeney completed the four laps in 5:54.65 to win silver and set a personal best. Peyton Weddle set a personal best in the 200m dash, placing fifth in 27.69. Audrey Scrivens also set a personal record in the 400m dash, placing third in 1:00.45. Scrivens is inching closer to the school record of 1:00.15, set last year by Taylor Kreifels. Hallie Young scored two points in the 800m run, eclipsing two laps in 2:41.93 and setting a personal record. The 4x100 relay team of Scrivens, Ashlyn Alexander, Tessa Gossman

and Weddle ran 53.68 for fifth place, while the 4x400 team of Scrivens, Gossman, Alexander and Hallie Young ran 4:30.73 to place fourth. The final points came courtesy of Weddle in the triple jump. Weddle placed sixth with a leap of 31-07.50 and earned one point.

For the Tiger boys, as previously mentioned, Jackson scored ten points by winning the gold medal in the pole vault. The Tiger 4x100 team of Brandon Collier, Tallan Zimmerman, Martin Irizarry, and Jackson ran a season-best 47.24 and placed fourth. Zimmerman also earned another medal in the long jump, placing sixth with a leap of 19-07.75. Teammate Kacen Davis also scored in the triple jump, placing sixth with a jump of 37-04.75. Caleb Offner continued to pile up points and medals in the throws. Offner placed second in the shot put with a throw of 54-03.50 and was third in the discus at 153-07. The top two in the discus tied at 153-10, but Syracuse's Hunter Holle finished first in the tiebreaker.

Additional athletes who set personal bests on Thursday were Liv Buckminster in the 100m (14.89) and Ella Glathar in the 200m dash (30.06). Destiny Pierce ran 3:16.84 in the 800m, and Josslyn Bangert jumped 27-05.50 in the triple jump. Bella Johansen also set a new high mark, throwing the disc 92-00.

## Golfers fight the wind and heat at Kirkman's

The Falls City and HTRS/Pawnee City golf teams hit the fairways on Tuesday, April 14, at Kirkman's Lakeview Golf Course for the annual HTRS Golf Invite. The Orange and Black placed fourth out of nine teams, while HTRS/Pawnee City finished eighth.

Final team standings: Syracuse 302 Johnson-Brock 344, JCC 355, Falls City 379, Nebraska City 389, Auburn 400, Southern 420, HTRS 444, Lewiston 465.

The only local medalist on Tuesday was Falls City's Ethan Morris. The senior fired an 82 to place sixth. Morris went out on the front nine and shot a 42, while returning to the clubhouse on the back nine with a 40 for his total.

Syracuse golfers accounted for the top five positions with Carter Kriefels winning the meet with a 72.

Kole Schawang followed Morris for FC with a 90. Schawang had a 48 going out, but caught fire and shot a 42 coming back in. Nolan Nicholson was next with a 47/49 for a 96. Knox Davis shot a 55/56 for a 111 and Peyton Brown finished with a 62/63 for a 125.

For HTRS/PC, Jon Koch shot a 46/48 for a 94, while Josh Manning finished with a 52/51 for a 103. Next, Grey Sherman had a 50/61 for a 111, Luke Hunzeker shot a 68/68 for a 136 and Trey Kling had a 68/86 for a 154.

HTRS/PC had a pair of golfers compete in JV action. Quinn Friedly placed tenth with a 59, while Aiden Tozer shot a 65.



**JOHN DEERE**





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# Irish teams take on competition and weather at Lewiston Invite

Facing warm temperatures and a breezy south wind, the Sacred Heart track teams squared off against the competition at Lewiston on Tuesday, April 14, 2026.

The Irish boys totaled 44 points and tied for fifth, while the Lady Irish finished with 26 points for an eighth-place finish.

Boys' team standings: Johnson-Brock 86, Cornerstone Christian 69, Freeman 54, Lewiston 50, HTRS 44, SH 44, Diller-Odell 43, Omaha Christian 35, Parkview Christian 35, Lourdes Central 32, Sterling 20, Beatrice 13, Southern 2.

Girls' team standings: Cornerstone 122, Johnson-Brock 99, HTRS 71, Freeman 61, Southern 57, Lourdes 49, Diller-Odell 28, SH 26, Sterling 7, Beatrice 3, Lewiston 2, Omaha Christian 1, Parkview 1.

The Lady Irish scored third in the first running event of the day as the 4x800 team of Macy Taft, Bailey Lemerond, Kinlee Lechtenberg and Daycee Witt ran an 11:28.97. In the 3200m run, freshman Payten Georges finished in 14:24.23 for fourth place. Macy Taft scored a point in the 800m run, placing sixth in 2:48.38. The Irish placed twice in the 1600m run,

with Daycee Witt running third (6:24.26) and Georges coming in sixth (6:32.63). Hallie Jones medaled in the discus, tossing 102-09 for the bronze medal, while Bailey Lemerond picked up a fifth-place finish in the high jump, clearing 4-06.

For the boys, Brenden Lemerond and Bo Fletcher placed third and fourth, respectively, in the 1600m run. Lemerond crossed the line in 5:14.54, and Fletcher was close behind at 5:17.42. The Irish distance runners scored two more medals, this time in the 3200m run. Fletcher was fourth in 11:42.97, and Hayden Clow was right behind in 11:50.49 for fifth. The Irish 4x100 team placed fourth in 48.38, while the 4x800 team of Fletcher, Owen Santo, Clow and Lemerond placed third in 9:13.10. Lemerond scored the only gold medal of the day for SH, winning the pole vault at 11-00. Teammate Owen Santo went 9-00 of fourth. The final points for SH came in the triple jump as JJ Lancaster leaped 37-11.25 for fourth place.

Sacred Heart hosted the Robert A. Roh Irish Invite at Syracuse on Tuesday, April 21 and competed at the MUDECAS Meet on Saturday, April 25.



Top: Kayden Groth leads his heat of the 100m dash at Lewiston last Tuesday. (Above) Ryann Westengaard clears the hurdles, qualifying for the finals in the 100h at the Lewiston Invite. (Below) Miranda Rist leads the pack in her heat of the 100m dash at the Lewiston Track Meet.



# Lady Titans placed third at Lewiston

The HTRS track teams competed in Lewiston on Tuesday, April 14. With temps soaring near 90 degrees and a south wind that could nearly blow you over, the Lady Titans totaled 71 points and placed third, while the boys' finished with 44 points and tied for fifth.

Girls' team standings: Cornerstone 122, Johnson-Brock 99, HTRS 71, Freeman 61, Southern 57, Lourdes Central 49, Diller-Odell 28, Sacred Heart 26, Sterling 7, Beatrice 3, Lewiston 2, Omaha Christian 1, Parkview 1.

Boys' team standings: Johnson-Brock 86, Cornerstone 69, Freeman 54, Lewiston 50, HTRS 44, SH 44, Diller-Odell 43, Omaha Christian 35, Parkview 35, Lourdes 32, Sterling 20, Beatrice 13, Southern 2.

For the Lady Titans, Lillian Bowen placed third in the 400m dash, completing the lap in 1:04.68. Teammate Eden Duryea also medaled in the 400, running a personal best of 1:07.01 and placing fifth. Bowen secured the gold medal in the 800m, running a season fastest time of 2:31.50 for the win. HTRS earned another gold medal in the 1600m run as Grayson Sherman finished at 6:09.97, six seconds ahead of second place for the win. Sherman also placed third in the 3200m run, completing the eight laps in 14:15.99. In the 100h, freshman Jazi Frey ran a 17.47 to finish fifth. The 4x400 relay team consisting of Miranda Rist, Duryea, Frey and Sherman placed third in 4:36.80, while the 4x800 team of Bowen, Makenna Dunlap, Duryea and Sherman won the silver in 10:50.00. Rist scored points in the high jump, placing fourth at 4-06. Frey set a personal best in the pole vault, winning the gold at 9-06, while Dunlap also set a personal record, clearing 8-06 for third. Eden Duryea leaped 14-5.50 in the long jump for sixth place.

The Titan boys scored double medals in the 800m run. Kameon Dettmann won the race in 2:09.58, while Axton Wamsley was fourth in 2:12.89. The 4x400m relay team placed second, just one second behind the winners from Diller-Odell. The squad of Darius Bohling, Dettmann, Emmett Glathar and Wamsley completed the race in 3:45.70 for the silver medal. Meanwhile, the 4x800 team also brought home silver, placing second in 9:11.88. The team consisted of Bohling, Dettmann, Preston Mezger and Wamsley. Emmett Glathar picked up a couple of individual medals on Tuesday, placing fourth in the shot put (44-02) and second in the discus (155-10). The final points came from sophomore Brady Bowen in the long jump. Bowen leaped 18-6.25 for fifth place.

The Titans competed at the Irish Invite in Syracuse on Tuesday, April 21, and will be at the MUDECAS Invite at Tri County on Saturday, April 25.

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## CITATIONS

Shannon Piper of Lenexa, KS, count one, speeding 11-15 mph, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$125 and court costs. (Agena)  
Kiffen Hunzeker of Humboldt, count one, speeding 21-35 mph, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$300 and court costs. (Holliday)  
Hsee Htoo of Omaha, count one, speeding 11-15 mph, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$125; count two, no valid registration, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$25 and court costs. (Novak)  
Christopher Jaekel of Gretna, NE, count one, speeding 6-10 mph, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$75 and court costs. (Geyer)  
Heriberto Enriquez-Urbina of Tecumseh, count one, muffler required/good working order, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$25; count two, plates not clear and visible, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$25; count three, no operator's license, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$75 and court costs. (Novak) Jonathan Vandenberg of Wolf-forth, TX, count one, no valid registration, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$25 and court costs. (Novak)  
Angel Vazquez of Houston, TX, count one, no valid registration, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$25 and court costs. (Aitken)  
Makenzie Dunkel of Scottsbluff, NE, count one, registration/plates, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$25 and

court costs. (Keller)  
Kayla Phipps of Temple, TX, count one, speeding 11-15 mph, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$125 and court costs. (Agena)  
Gavin Wiseman of Lincoln, count one, speeding 11-15 mph, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$125 and court costs. (Agena)  
Jennifer Hopkins of Omaha, count one, speeding 16-20 mph municipal school, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$400 and court costs. (Adams)  
Chris Crutchfield of Papillion, NE, count one, speeding 6-10 mph, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$75 and court costs. (Geyer)  
Pepe Cardenas of Beatrice, count one, no valid registration, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$25 and court costs. (Holliday)  
Omar Jaurez Lopez of Elk Creek, NE, count one, improper/defective vehicle lighting, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$25; count two, no operator's license, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$75 and court costs. (Novak)  
Dylan Liesser of Sioux Falls, SD, count one, no valid registration, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$25 and court costs. (Geyer)  
Troy Enger of Sheldon, IA, count one, speeding 6-10 mph, pled guilty, found guilty and fined \$75 and court costs. (Dutcher)

## FALLS CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT CALLS AND STATISTICS

**April 3 through April 4, 2026 calls:** four burn permits, three referred to other agencies, two miscellaneous calls, one accident, two records checks, one weather call, three traffic/driving complaints, and one 911 hang-up/misdial. Seventeen total calls. Five 911 calls. Seven warnings for improper/defective vehicle lighting, three warnings for unlawful/fictitious plates, two warnings for speeding, and one warning for invalid registration.

**April 4 through April 5, 2026 calls:** three ambulance/EMS calls, two check welfare calls, one found/lost property, four miscellaneous calls, one traffic/driving complaint, and one noise disturbance. Twelve total calls. Three 911 calls. One citation for invalid registration, one citation for commit child abuse (intentional/no injury), one citation for assault/cause bodily injury, and one citation for misuse of school permit. Three warnings for invalid registration, one warning for muffler violation, one warning for improper/defective vehicle lighting, and one warning for fail to use turn signal.

**April 5 through April 6, 2026 calls:** five ambulance/EMS calls, one investigation, one alarm, one motorist assist, seven miscellaneous calls, two check welfare calls, one found/lost property, four animal calls, two domestic disturbances, two referred to other agencies, and three burn permits. Twenty-nine total calls. Eight 911 calls. One citation for 3rd degree domestic assault. Two warnings for improper/defective vehicle lighting, one warning for fail to display two plates, and one warning for speeding.

**April 6 through April 7, 2026 calls:** ten burn permits, one HHS intake/referral, three miscellaneous calls, one accident, one information only call, one house watch, one parking complaint, one 911 hang-up/misdial, one fire call, and one referred to other agency. Twenty-one total calls. Two 911 calls. Fire call for Falls City Rural Fire. One citation for nuisance (dogs as a nuisance) and one citation for unlicensed dogs and cats.

**April 7 through April 8, 2026 calls:** two miscellaneous calls, one juvenile issue, one information only call, two referred to other agencies, two burn permits, two ambulance/EMS calls, one HHS intake/referral, one gun permit, and one disturbance. Thirteen total calls. Five 911 calls.

**April 8 through April 9, 2026 calls:** one HHS intake/referral, one animal call, one nuisance, three ambulance/EMS calls, three fire calls, one miscellaneous call, one disturbance, one referred to other agency, and one suspicious person/vehicle. Thirteen total calls. Three 911 calls. Two warnings for improper/defective vehicle lighting, two warnings for speed, one warning for no splash aprons, and one warning for fail to display two plates.

## LOCAL PLACES OF WORSHIP

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Don Shafer, Moderator - 402-245-5209

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

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

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

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

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

**First 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@sento.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://stthomasespisc.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 (1/2 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.gbfcchurch.com. Dave Lockard, Pastor. Office: 402-883-2110

### HUMBOLDT

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

### 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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# Senator Bob Hallstrom Newsletter

As we submit this newsletter, the Legislature is preparing to adjourn Sine Die. Final Reading of bills was completed on Friday April 10th. While a relatively quiet final day was anticipated, Governor Pillen issued vetoes on five legislative bills for which veto overrides will be considered.

During the 2026 Session, 546 bills, 10 constitutional amendments and three more policy-based Resolutions were introduced. Senators requested more than 1500 amendments during the session. A total of 167 bills passed this session, 163 amendments and more bills were amended into those bills that have or will soon become law. Bills that have an emergency clause take effect immediately upon signature by the Governor. All other bills will become law on July 18, three months after adjournment, unless adopted with a specific operative date.

I introduced 19 bills and one Legislative Resolution this session. Six of them were passed by the Legislature on their own and signed by the Governor. Twelve of them, as well as two of the bills I introduced last session, were amended into other bills that eventually passed and were signed by the Governor. All legislative bills can be examined at the Nebraska Legislature website, [www.nebraskalegislature.gov](http://www.nebraskalegislature.gov).

Bills/Resolutions passed  
 LB455- Change provisions of the Nebraska Worker's Compensation Act relating to first injury reports  
 LB783- Adopt the Uniform Assignment for Benefit of Creditors Act  
 LB784- Change residency requirements for sheriffs in certain counties, requirements for uniforms for sheriffs and deputies, and continuing education requirements for law enforcement officers  
 LB877- Designate certain substances as controlled substances under the Uni-

form Controlled Substances Act

LB1067- Change provisions relating to the rate and disbursement of the documentary stamp tax to provide funding for Rural Workforce Housing and Middle-Income Workforce Housing

LR296- Urge the President of the United States and members of Congress to make permanent changes to the Child and Adult Food Programs

Bills Amended into other Bills And Passed

LB575- Place limitations on property tax growth by requiring a two-thirds vote of the governing body to increase property tax collections and move the joint public hearing to an earlier date to allow for citizen input in the budget-making process

LB785- Prohibit conduct involving mail receptacle keys and locks with the intent to defraud another of property (Amended into LB965)

LB819- Change provisions of the Rural Workforce Housing Investment Act and the Middle-Income Workforce Housing Investment Act (Amended into LB768)

LB873- Provide for an excise tax on kratom products (Amended into LB901)

LB875- Amend the Equipment Business Regulation Act to change provisions relating to dealer agreements and the return of surplus repair parts (Amended into LB838)

LB876- Create a 72-hour "no-contact period" that applies to a person arrested for certain domestic or sexual assault offenses (Amended into LB935)

LB887- Change provisions relating to the pharmacists and transfer of prescriptions (Amended into LB912)

LB938- Adopt the First-Time Home Buyer Savings Account Act and provide for income tax adjustments (Amended into LB803)

LB969- Establish a database of financial information from counties and municipalities (Amended into LB1075)

LB1058- Provide for an additional grant under the Nebraska Visitors Development Act/ Lewis and Clark Visitors Center (Amended into LB1071)

LB1138- Adopt the Nebraska Protection of Seniors from Insurance Exploitation Act (Amended into LB967)

LB1139- Change provisions relating to liens arising from child and spousal support orders (Amended into LB935)

LB1160- Change provisions relating to civil procedure, decedents' estates, trusts, and inheritance tax (Amended into LB838)

LB1191- Change provisions relating to certain employment and investment requirements under the Nebraska Advantage Act (Amended into LB1165)

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](mailto:bhallstrom@leg.ne.gov).

## Economic value of family care-giving in NE reaches \$4.5 billion annual new, AARP shows

The report finds that 300,000 family caregivers of adults contribute 210 million hours of care annually, work that would be valued at \$4.5 billion per year if paid in the marketplace.

Nebraska's family caregivers now provide \$4.5 billion worth of labor each year, according to a new AARP report. Most of this work is unpaid, yet it forms the backbone of the nation's long-term care system that is essential to helping millions of older adults live independently at home.

Why this matters: Without family caregivers, many more Nebraskans would rely on expensive institutional care, driving significantly higher costs for taxpayers and public programs.

"Family caregivers are a major economic force that fill critical gaps in our health care system," said Jina Ragland, Senior Associate State Director of Advocacy for AARP Nebraska. "The economic value they provide now exceeds \$1 trillion annually in the U.S., yet this care often comes at a significant cost to caregivers' health, financial security, and well-being. AARP is elevating this important issue and fighting to save family caregivers time and money."

Key findings from the report, Valuing the Invaluable 2026, include: 300,000 Nebraskans are caregivers of adults, providing care for older parents, spouses, neighbors, and other loved ones, contributing 210 million hours of care annually, work that would be valued at \$4.5 billion per year if paid in the marketplace, based on a value of \$21.31 per hour.

Across states, the estimated value of caregiving ranges from \$14.12 per hour in Louisiana to \$27.05 per hour in Washington, reflecting regional differences in wages and the cost of care.

National Findings: 59 million Americans are caregivers of adults, providing care for older parents, spouses, neighbors, and other loved ones, contributing 49.5 billion hours of care annually, work that would be valued at \$1.01 trillion per year if paid in the marketplace, based on a value of \$20.41 per hour.

The 49.5 billion hours of care provided each year is the equivalent of nearly 24 million full-time workers, roughly 17% of the entire U.S. full-time workforce.

The value of family caregiving exceeds total federal, state, and local Medicaid spending nationwide, and almost doubles all out-of-pocket health care spending.

Caregiving has become more demanding and complex as chronic illnesses rise and more care shifts into homes:

Family caregivers are

## FC Journal will operate under adjusted deadlines in April

The Falls City Journal will operate under adjusted production deadlines during the middle and end of April.

Due to scheduling changes, deadlines for April editions will move to Thursday at noon for three consecutive weeks. These deadlines apply to all content, including advertisements, legal notices and news items. Obituaries will be excluded.

The adjusted deadlines are: Thursday, April 16 for the April 22 edition.

Thursday, April 23 for the April 29 edition.

Thursday, April 30 for the May 6 edition.

The Journal will return to its regular Friday noon deadline beginning with the May 13 edition.

Those with questions about submissions or deadlines may contact [nikki@fcjournal.net](mailto:nikki@fcjournal.net) or Brian McKim in the office. Early submissions are welcome anytime.

spending more time providing care, averaging 27 hours each week.

More than half, 57%, now provide high-intensity care, meaning they spend more hours helping with daily tasks like bathing and dressing, as well as complex medical and nursing tasks like wound care and administering injections.

Read the full report at <https://www.aarp.org/valuing>.

AARP continues federal and state advocacy to save caregivers money and time and get them the support they deserve, while also helping families navigate caregiving challenges by connecting them to trusted resources.

AARP Nebraska's resource guide helps family caregivers access key programs, services and agencies right in their community. Additionally, through its partnership with United Way Worldwide, caregivers can access local support services in 28 states, including Nebraska, by calling 211, offering help finding in-home care, respite care, transportation, and other essential services. For more information, visit <https://www.aarp.org/NEcaregiving>.

AARP is the nation's largest nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to empowering people 50 and older to choose how they live as they age.

We are able to handle all funeral services no matter how large or small with dignity & professionalism.



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## DISABILITY: Advocating for You

No one in Nebraska knows more than the League of Human Dignity about advocating for people with disabilities or about helping them to become advocates for themselves.

Contact the League and see how we can help you get the services you need. We are a partner agency with Nebraska's Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC).



Phone 833-800-5643

## NOTICE

The Verdon Cemetery Board is reaching out to friends and family of the Verdon Cemetery to consider contributing to help offset costs associated with annual maintenance. It costs more than \$5,000 per season to keep the cemetery looking nice.

The board feels that communities are inundated with numerous fundraisers and are asking for monetary donations instead.

If you would like to help the Verdon Cemetery, please consider making any size donation and send it to: Verdon cemetery, P.O. Box 114, Verdon, NE 68457. Thank you in advance for your consideration and help.



East View Apartments  
 Pioneer Plaza Apartments  
 Pawnee Village Apartments

Affordable Rent  
 Utilities & Trash Included  
 Prompt Maintenance  
 Off-Street & Garage Parking  
 Community & Game Rooms  
 Daily Living Services Available

Apply Online  
[www.housingnebraska.org](http://www.housingnebraska.org)  
 402-245-4204 (TDD)

## Losing or at risk of losing your health insurance?

If you are a woman, Every Woman Matters (EWM) may help cover well-woman visits, including preventive screenings.

For eligible clients, EWM offers:  
 \* Breast and cervical cancer screenings for women 21-64  
 \* Colon cancer testing for women and men 45-74

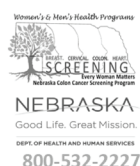
Prevention matters. Care matters. You matter.

Scan the QR code to enroll or call to see if you qualify TODAY!



ENROLL today!

[bit.ly/EWM-NCP-HLQ](http://bit.ly/EWM-NCP-HLQ)



800-532-2227

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 Board of Equalization of the County of Richardson, Nebraska meet when times may necessitate for the purpose of conducting any and all business that requires the action of the County Board of Equalization.

Mary L. Eickhoff
Richardson County Clerk

ZNEZ

NOTICE OF ORGANIZATION JUSTIN LECHTENBERG HOLDINGS, LLC

Pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §21-193 notice is given that Justin Lechtenberg Holdings, LLC, a limited liability company, was organized on April 7, 2026 by filing a Certificate of Organization with the Nebraska Secretary of State setting forth the following:

- 1. The name of the company is Justin Lechtenberg Holdings, 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: 65192 713 Rd., Falls City, Nebraska, 68355, and the company's initial agent for service of process in Nebraska is Justin J. Lechtenberg.
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

15-22-29
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

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

RICHARDSON COUNTY BOARD OF EQUALIZATION APRIL 8, 2026 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Richardson County Board of Equalization was called to order by Chairman Caverzagie at 8:45 a.m. on Wednesday, April 8, 2026. Roll call was answered by Karas, Campbell and Caverzagie, Assessor Riggs and Clerk Eickhoff. Chairman Caverzagie announced that the open meeting laws have been posted at the entrance to the meeting room.

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

TAX LIST CORRECTION
Motion was made by Caverzagie to approve the 4 tax list corrections as presented by Assessor Riggs. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT
Motion was made by Karas to adjourn the meeting at 8:49 a.m. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.
John Caverzagie, Chairman
Mary L. Eickhoff, County Clerk

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 Trustructors, 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

E.S.U. #4

The Board of Educational Service Unit 4 held its regular meeting on Monday, March 9, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at the Nebraska Center for the Education of Children who are Blind or Visually Impaired (NCECBVI) in Nebraska City, Nebraska. The following claims were paid for the month of March:

- General Fund -- \$183,588.00
Payroll -- \$482,774.39
NCECBVI -- \$35,111.17
Federal Programs -- \$10,687.73

The Board of Educational Service Unit 4 will hold its Regular Meeting at 5:15 pm on Monday, April 13, 2026, in the Carson Board Room at ESU 4, 2301 Dahlke Avenue, Auburn, Nebraska. The Region 4 Preschool Planning Team will hold their annual meeting at 9:00 am on Wednesday, April 22, 2026, in the ESU 4 Conference Center, 2301 Dahlke Avenue, Auburn, Nebraska. The agendas for both meetings are kept current and readily available for public inspection at the office of the Administrator during normal business hours.

www.esu4.org
ZNEZ

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

RICHARDSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APRIL 8, 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, April 8, 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 Karas to approve the minutes of the April 1, 2026, meeting as presented. Motion seconded by Campbell. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

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

ROAD & BRIDGE DEPT.

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

He reported that the building has been delivered to replace the county garage at Verdon. This garage/shop will be built to house 2 motor graders. A change in the motor grader districts is being implemented which will include the addition of a district.

Motion was made by Campbell to approve the implementing of the comprehensive GPS and an AI-integrated camera system designed to enhance safety and mitigate liability through Verizon. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. This system will allow the road department to maintain and document accurate grading records, placement of rock on the roads, etc.

LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER

Sheriff Hardesty updated the Board on the routine business within the Law Enforcement Center. He reported that currently 16 inmates are being held in the Jail.

A quote from IAO Electric, LLC for the labor and materials to provide power and the ability to add a mini-split in the outdoor storage shed to be used as the evidence storage area for the Sheriff's Department was received. The quote was \$4,792.85.

A review of the plans to update the video camera equipment at the Law Enforcement Center was held.

SOUTHEAST NEBRASKA COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERS

Representatives from SENCA, Susan Keholm, Development Director and Sherry Huddleston, Falls City Outreach Office presented to the Board the annual report of the organization. It was mentioned that May 2 will mark the 60th Anniversary of the organization and that May is designated a Community Action Month.

Motion was made by Caverzagie to make a proclamation that May 2026, be designated as Community Action Month in Richardson County, Nebraska. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

Debbie Green, SENCA CASA Coordinator, informed the Board of the progress happening with the program. The program provides neglected and abused children in the foster care system the opportunity to have a trusted and caring CASA volunteer advocating for their best interest during one of the most difficult times of their life.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Karas to recess and go into an executive session at 10:59 a.m. with Jerry Pigsley, special legal counsel; County Attorney, Samantha Scheitel and Highway Superintendent, Steve Darveau, Jr. to discuss possible litigation and for the protection of the public interest. Motion seconded by Campbell. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER Fee Reports

Reports were approved for the following officials for fees collected during the month of March, 2026: Pam Scott, Clerk of Dist. Court, \$592.00; Mary L. Eickhoff, County Clerk, \$216.67; Mary L. Eickhoff, County Clerk-Reg of Deeds \$8,297.47

Humboldt Shares, Inc.

Motion was made by Karas to approve an agreement with Humboldt Shares, Inc. for continued funding from Richardson County of \$5,000.00/year from August 1, 2025, through July 31, 2028. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. (Resolution Book 28, Page 103)

FSA Plan Document

Motion was made by Karas to approve the Richardson County FSA Plan Agreement for 2026 and to adopt Resolution 2025-2026-34. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. (Resolution Book 28, Page 102)

Approve Extension of Vacation

Motion was made by Karas to ap-

prove an extension to use accumulated vacation that has been earned in the past year for Veterans Service Officer, Odiss Fields to March 31, 2027. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. This extension was approved due to staffing changes within the office that made it difficult for vacation to be used.

Review of Courthouse and Grounds Maintenance

The Board reviewed several different maintenance items at the Courthouse and grounds. Commissioner Campbell has researched and found a product to use on the deteriorating areas of the sidewalks caused from ice melt products around the Courthouse Square and this will be applied on a trial area to determine if it will take care of the problem.

Commissioner Campbell also reported that he has been in contact with Mid-Continental Restoration Co., Inc. regarding the quote that was approved to make repairs to the masonry on the 4th floor north elevation area of the Courthouse and removing the bars over the windows and seal all joints. They indicated that they would begin this project later this year. He will be contacting them further to request that they make every effort to get this project completed as soon as possible.

The Board also reviewed information received by Commissioner Campbell regarding the intentions of the County Board to have an air quality test and analysis done on the Courthouse building. The firm of Techtron Environmental Solutions of Anoka, MN has been contacted who have technicians located in Omaha and Kansas City that service this area. They estimated the cost at \$1,320 to \$1,760 for the travel, testing and a protocol if necessary for any remediation.

The Board plans to contact Techtron Environmental Solutions and have them proceed with this matter.

The Board was also notified that an annual inspection is due on the fire sprinkler system in the 4th floor storage area that was formerly the jail facility and fire line backflow device which will be scheduled for July.

The City of Falls City notified the County Board that they approved the removal of the bench on the northwest sidewalk of the Courthouse square but that the bench on the southwest side will be kept in place.

The County has also completed the repairs needed to the stack/flue on the boiler systems and has submitted the completion of the repairs to the Nebraska State Fire Marshal Boiler Inspection Division.

Other

A check was received from Big Iron Auctions for surplus equipment that was sold on the March 18, 2026, sale totaling \$131,665.50.

CLAIMS

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

(The claims listed below are available for public inspection at the office of the County Clerk during regular business hours.)

GENERAL FUND

- Bartek-Ramsey, Amanda, reimb 162.80
BuckIT, serv .....7186.14
Clerk of District Court, fees.....296.00
Culligan, serv.....11.20
Falls City Sanitation, serv .....60.00
Farm & City Supply, supp .....11.99
Frederick, Keia, reimb .....162.80
Generators for Sale, serv .....783.63
Marvin Planning Consultants, serv.....1525.00
Midwest Mobile Radio Service, serv.....30.00
MIS, serv .....110.00
Nemaha County, reimb .....5709.14
Nestor & Mercure, reimb .....250.00
Postmaster, supp.....902.00
Quill, supp.....42.28
Richardson County Clerk Petty Cash, reimb.....5.00
Richardson County Court, fees.....1492.93
Richardson County EMA Petty Cash, reimb.....60.33
SNC, serv .....1067.84
Summit, serv .....780.00
SummerOne, serv .....119.00
US Signal, serv.....1016.40
TOTAL GENERAL FUND . \$21,784.48

ROAD & BRIDGE FUND

- A1 Iron Corp., supp .....298.08
Capital City Concepts, serv ....6000.00
Culligan, serv.....33.06
Falls City Journal, adv .....30.89
Falls City Utility Dept., serv.....634.52
Koch's Auto Service, supp.....30446.22
M&M Motorsports, supp .....700.00
NPPD, serv .....36.84
Norris Quarries, rock .....11475.85
Operation & Expense Account, reimb.....87.34
Richardson County Vendor, tax .....2506.00
Salem, Village of, serv .....25.00
SNC, serv .....105.77
Stateline Propane, serv .....262.70
Stella, Village of, serv .....105.00
Truck Center Companies, supp .....3584.33
Unifirst, supp.....39.95
Work Zone, supp .....369.90
TOTAL ROAD & BRIDGE FUND.....\$56,741.45

GENERAL ASSISTANCE FUND

- SE NE Housing Partnership, rent25.00
TOTAL GENERAL ASSISTANCE FUND.....\$25.00

INHERITANCE TAX FUND

- Humboldt Shares, funding .....5000.00
TOTAL INHERITANCE TAX FUND .....\$5,000.00

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Karas to adjourn the meeting at 11:21 a.m. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. The Board will meet again on Wednesday, April 15, 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

HTRS DISTRICT #70

Board of Education Regular Meeting Monday, April 13, 2026 7:00 PM Humboldt Board Conference Room

Attendance Taken at 7:00 PM. Quentin Bowen: Present, Kyle Hilgenfeld: Present, Mike Kanel: Present, Neal Kanel: Present, Dave Mezger: Present, Scott Ogle: Present.

1. OPEN MEETING NOTICE - CALL MEETING TO ORDER- ROLL CALL -PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE\*

2. WELCOME PATRONS & GUEST: PATRON COMMENT

3. APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA
Motion to approve. This motion, made by Scott Ogle and seconded by Dave Mezger, passed. Yea: 6, Nay: 0

3.1. Meeting Minutes
3.2. Bills for Payment
3.3. Review Treasurer's Report
4. REPORTS

4.1. Principal Caniglia - discussed upcoming events and recent accomplishments.

4.2. Principal Standerford - discussed upcoming events, testing and curriculum.

4.3. SPED Director Kroll - discussed the recent file review and upcoming important dates.

4.4. NASB Report - Neal Kanel
5. AGENDA

5.1. Board Member's Leave of Absence if Needed
5.2. Personnel
Resignation Jaime Frey
Motion to accept. This motion, made by Neal Kanel and seconded by Mike Kanel, passed. Yea: 6, Nay: 0

5.3. CKLA Professional Development (Will be Reimbursed by grant from ESU 4)
Motion to approve. This motion, made by Neal Kanel and seconded by Scott Ogle, passed. Yea: 6, Nay: 0

5.4. ESU 4 2026-2027 Services
Motion to approve. This motion, made by Scott Ogle and seconded by Neal Kanel, passed. Yea: 6, Nay: 0

5.5. Computer Rotation for 4th and 9th grades
10 Staff Members on a Five-Year rotation (Quote is only good for 14 days)
Motion to approve. This motion, made by Neal Kanel and seconded by Scott Ogle, passed. Yea: 6, Nay: 0

5.6. Box light Board Purchase (7 total)
Motion to approve the purchase of 7 box light boards. This motion, made by Mike Kanel and seconded by Scott Ogle, passed. Yea: 5, Nay: 1

5.7. Genetec Renewal (3-year Renewal saves \$1,795.72, 5-Year Renewal saves \$5,312.94)
Motion to approve a 5 year renewal. This motion, made by Scott Ogle and seconded by Dave Mezger, passed. Yea: 5, Nay: 1

5.8. Character Strong (SEL curriculum)
Motion to table. This motion, made by Scott Ogle and seconded by Neal Kanel, passed. Yea: 6, Nay: 0

5.9. Safety Review/Restorative Practices
Motion to approve the review of 5022. Goes with 5.9. This motion, made by Scott Ogle and seconded by Neal Kanel, passed. Yea: 6, Nay: 0

6. Superintendent Griffith's Report
7. BOARD MEMBER CONCERNS
8. ADJOURN
Motion to adjourn. This motion, made by Scott Ogle and seconded by Neal Kanel, passed. Yea: 6, Nay: 0

Respectfully submitted,
Chantel Farwell

Vendor Name Description Invoice Amount

- 3mt Test Prep, Po 8789 .....5,950.00
Act, Preact 8/9 Scoring.....297.50
Amazon Capital Services,Po 8813, 8785, 8787.....3,111.20
Amplify Education Inc., Po 8803.....26,832.96
Awards Unlimited Inc.Retiree Plaques .....290.79
Bauman, Amber, Mileage Reimbursement .....156.60
Beatrice Mechanical Service, Parts & Repairs .....105.00
Blecha's General Store, Paint ... 91.91
Boomgarn, Renee, Vehicle Maintenance/Parts.....1,058.15
Burk's Piano Service, LLC, Po 8806 ..

- .....980.00
Cardmember Service, Credit Card Charges-Gen Fund .....5,973.16
Chadwell, Mindy, Po Lmhp Jt. ....291.00
Cleaning Cousins, LLC, Groceries .....287.16
Coffey, Michael, Fuel Reimb.....68.03
Crisis Prevention Institute, Inc., CPI Membership Fee.....214.00
Das State Accounting - Central Finance, Tech / Ocio.....635.74
Eakes Office Solutions, Cartridge & Egoldfax.....207.37
Egan Supply Co, Po 8752 .....288.12
Electronic Contracting Co.....Alarm Monitoring Services.....221.55
Essential ScreensEmplmt Background Screenings.....80.90
Esu #4, Ec Billing+Workshops...9,178.30
Esu #6, Tech Hosting Services...61.23
Falls City Journal, Advertising . 262.03
FC Sanitation,Trash-Utilities....770.00
Farm & City Supply, Maint Supplies ...75.98
Fiber Platform, Llc . Distance Learning .....429.21
Holiday Inn Of Kearney, Po8793 Cf Conference.....149.95
Hometown Leasing, Staple Copier Lease.....1,377.80
Htmc, Advertising Messages ...153.00
Htrs Payroll Acct, Payroll Expenses ...619,935.78
Humboldt Standard, Ads.....179.58
Koch Auto Service, Maintenance & Parts .....2,182.02
Kroll, Amy , Mileage Reimbursement . 88.45
Ksb School Law .....Legal Services 829.50
Kurita America Inc. Water Soft Contract.....484.00
Malcolm, Mary, Occ Therapy - Sped Services.....2,636.38
Matheson Tri-Gas Inc, Cte Cylinder Rent.....137.76
Merz Ink, Po 8808 .....141.80
Metal Doors & Hardware Co, Maintenance .....198.15
Midwest Cdl Training, Dp Training/ Testing .....941.85
Nasb Nebraska Assn Of School Boards, Conferences.....280.00
National Therapeutic Associates, Inc, Physical Therapy - Sped Services.....702.38
Ncs Pearson, Inc.Psych Testing . 126.96
Ncsa - Nebraska Council Of School Admin, Po 8761 .....165.00
Pawnee Republican, Legals ...107.88
Pawnee True Value, Maint Supplies ...138.94
Raye's Restaurant, Llc, Po 8780 .....162.90
Sapp Bros., Fuel.....430.11
Schenkel Pest Control, Pest Control-Spraying.....150.00
Sherman's Station Llc, Fuel/Vehicle Maint.....5,397.16
Stalder, Jenna, Industrial Arts...87.32
Stitching FarmPo 8795 Kind Field Trip Shirts .....198.00
T-Mobile Usa Inc, Geo Tab Monthly Charges.....291.90
Tk Elevator Corporation, Elevator Maintenance.....595.72
Truck Center Companies,Parts .43.50
University Of Nebraska - Kearney, Gr Course .....125.00
Vandentop-Caniglia, Kimberly, Meals And Mileage.....305.82
Verizon Business, Long Distance .....147.16
Westover Rock & Sand Inc, Sand .....1,054.78
Wilcock, Joy, Occ Therapy - Sped Services.....4,394.70
Woodriver Energy Llc, Fuel-Utilities ...8,584.48
TOTAL .....710,843.62
ZNEZ

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the City Council of Falls City will hold a public hearing on Monday, May 4, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at the City Hall Building located at 2307 Barada Street, Falls City, NE for the purpose of hearing testimony concerning the Fairview Replat Lots 1, 2 and 3 of Tracts 1,2,3,3A and 3B Metes and Bounds. A copy of said replat is available for public inspection in the City Office.

22
ZNEZ

EARLY VOTING BALLOT REQUEST FORM PRIMARY ELECTION MAY 12, 2026

Nebraska Driver's License or State ID Number: [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

If you do not have a Nebraska license or state ID, include a photocopy of your ID (see VoterID.Nebraska.gov for valid IDs and how to get a free state ID) that has your picture and your name.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, the undersigned, declare that I am a registered voter in Nebraska and will not be going to the polls on the day of said election, therefore I request an early voting ballot for the Primary Election occurring on May 12, 2026.

I am a registered voter in Richardson County at the following address: \_\_\_\_\_ (address)

I am registered as:
Republican
Democrat
Libertarian
Legal Marijuana Now
Nonpartisan (As a nonpartisan voter I would like to request the following ballot):
Non-partisan Democrat
Non-partisan Republican
Non-partisan Libertarian
Non-partisan Legal Marijuana Now

I request ballots be mailed to me, (or the person I am acting as agent for), at the following address: \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ verify any information, which might be required prior to sending the ballots to me.

Voter's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_
Agent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Table with 2 columns: Request by (mail/person/agent) and EARLY VOTING DEADLINES (6:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 7:00 pm) for Friday, May 1, 2026; Monday, May 11, 2026; ELECTION DAY, May 12, 2026.

Mail Application to: RICHARDSON COUNTY CLERK
1700 STONE STREET, RM 203
FALLS CITY, NE 68355
Fax to: 402-245-2946
or
Email to: clerk@richardsoncountyne.gov

Election falsification is a Class IV felony and may be punished by up to two years imprisonment and twelve months post-release supervision, a fine of up to ten thousand dollars, or both.

ZNEZ

## BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

REGULAR MEETING OF THE FALLS CITY BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS  
April 2nd, 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 2nd day of April 2026 at 5:30 o'clock P.M. Present were: Board Members: Froeschl, Joy, Johansen, Rieger and Koopman. Absent: None. 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.

### REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF THE CGB MASTER SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH CONSOLIDATED GRAIN AND BARGE CO.

A motion was made by Froeschl and seconded by Koopman to approve the agreement, contingent on CGB accepting the red line changes. Roll was

called on this motion and the members voted as follows: "YEA" Froeschl, Joy, Johansen, Rieger, Koopman. "NAY" None. "ABSENT": None. Motion carried.

### REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF THE OLSSON P&ID DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT FOR THE RAW AND JACKET WATER SYSTEMS NOT TO EXCEED \$28,000.00

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

### REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF THE FAIRVIEW MILLS & AIRLANCO SEWER AGREEMENT WITH MILLER AND ASSOCIATES

A motion was made by Joy and seconded by Koopman to approve the agreement in the amount of \$9,400.00. Roll was called on this motion and the members voted as follows: "YEA" Froeschl, Joy, Johansen, Rieger, Koopman. "NAY" None. "ABSENT": None. Motion carried.

### REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF THE ON-CALL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH MILLER & ASSOCIATES

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

### CREDIT CARD CONVENIENCE FEE FOR UTILITY CUSTOMERS

The board discussed credit card convenience fees for utility customers. No action was taken.

### MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:31 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 April 2nd, 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

## DEA hosts the 30th National Prescription Drug Take Back Day on April 25th

The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will host the 30th National Prescription Drug Take Back Day on Saturday, April 25, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at nearly 4,200 locations nationwide, including 130 sites across the five state DEA Omaha Field Division, encompassing Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota.

Twice a year, DEA joins forces with local law enforcement and community groups to host DEA's National Prescription Drug Take Back Day, giving the public a safe and anonymous way to dispose of expired and unused prescription medications. By getting rid of unnecessary medications in the home, families can help prevent prescription drug misuse and reduce the potential for accidental poisonings.

"Since the inception of Take Back Day, locations across our five-state Field Division have secured more than 706,000 pounds of unwanted medications," DEA Omaha Field Division Special Agent in Charge Dustin Gillespie said. "The success of this event is due in part to our community members who are committed to keeping their homes and neighborhoods safe and our law enforcement partners who aid in the collection and safe disposal of these medications."

Since 2010, DEA's National Prescription Drug Take Back Day has provided an easy and accessible way to dispose of medications that could pose a threat if misused. Over the past 16 years, National Prescription Drug Take Back Day has removed more than 20 million pounds of unwanted medications from communities across the United States.

Opioids, such as oxycodone, hydrocodone, codeine, and morphine, are among the most misused prescription pain med-

# HELP WANTED

## HIRED HAND HELP WANTED One Day a Week

FLEXIBLE HOURS  
SKILLS:

Run and Maintain equipment  
Ability to lift 50 lbs  
Ability to run chainsaw  
Conservancy knowledge of farmland, pond and prairie, to maintaining landscape.

Please text contact information to: 785 393 9070 to set up an interview time. Short drive from Falls City, NE



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

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We sell & repair RED WING SHOES  
Marburger Shoe Store  
320 East Square,  
Humboldt, NE 68376

10-I8P

## Magnolia Metal Corp.

Currently accepting applications for:

- Manual Lathe Operator Day Shift
- Shipping & Receiving Clerk

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

\*\*\*\*\*  
\$22.94 / HOUR MINIMUM STARTING RATE  
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63859 730 Road ~ Auburn, NE 68305  
Or  
www.magnoliabronze.com and click on careers

14-18



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Contact Codi Sailors, CHRO at (402) 274-6121 with questions.  
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402.274.4366 | NemahaCountyHospital.com | f

14-18

## NEBRASKA PRESS STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS

### ANNOUNCEMENT

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING works! Place your 25 word ad into thousands of Nebraska homes for \$225. Contact your local newspaper or call 1-800-369-2850.

HELLO NEBRASKA! Introducing www.nepublicnotices.com, a new public notice website presented as a public service by all Nebraska newspapers. Free access, fully searchable – because democracy depends upon open government and your right to know.

AFFORDABLE PRESS Release service. Send your message to over 120 newspapers across Nebraska for one low price! Call 1-800-369-2850 or www.nebpress.com for more details.

### ANNOUNCEMENT - POLITICAL

LET'S BRING it home for Nebraska! Many feel that Pete Ricketts is disconnected from what really matters most to Nebraskans. Mac Stevens is ready to lead with a deep-rooted commitment to our communities. Stevens is a fourth-generation rancher and an University of Nebraska-educated nutritional businessman native to the Eustis-Farnam area. Mr Mac knows Nebraska firsthand. His campaign is built on the groundbreaking "Make America Cancer Absent" (MACA) platform—a mission that goes beyond politics to focus on saving lives. At this pivotal moment, your invited to visit www.mac4nebraska.com and learn more about the campaign's goals and how you can become a partner in this shared journey. Mac Stevens 301B Box 102, Bushnell, NE 69128 macstevens45@gmail.com

### HOME SERVICES

PREPARE FOR power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 5-Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-402-899-2584 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

DOES YOUR basement or crawl space need some attention? Call Thrasher Foundation Repair! A permanent solution for waterproofing, failing foundations, sinking concrete and nasty crawl spaces. FREE Inspection & Same Day Estimate. \$250 off ANY project with code GET250. Call 1-844-958-3431

### LEGAL SERVICES

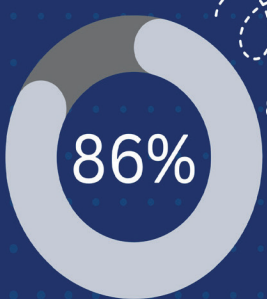
IF YOU or a loved one suffered injury/death because of a Boston Scientific PACEMAKER, after September 2019, you may be entitled to compensation. Call Attorney Charles Johnson 800/535-5727

### WANTED TO BUY

WE BUY 8,000 cars a week. Sell your old, busted or junk car with no hoops, haggles or headaches. Sell your car to Peddle. Easy three step process. Instant offer. Free pickup. Fast payment. Call 1-855-910-0760

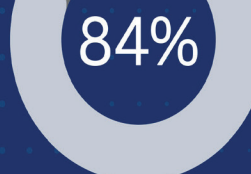
The results are in ...

## Public notices belong in newspapers.



86% of Nebraskans read public notices in their newspaper or newspaper website

84% of Nebraskans believe public notices should be required by law to appear in newspapers



Survey data from 2025 CODA Ventures study

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**CAPITAL CITY:** Members of the Animal Engine Theater Company held a performance of Capital City, on stage at Prichard Auditorium last week. The original play, inspired by Nebraska Author Mari Sandoz' infamous book "Capital City," was screened to students from Falls City, Sacred Heart and HTRS on Wednesday afternoon

## Learn about the earliest Anti-Slavery Days of Falls City

From 10 am to 2 pm this Saturday at 1601 Stone St., journalist, historian and Collection Museum board member Bob Nelson will be on site guiding tours and answering questions about Falls City prior to the Civil War, when it served first as a gun-running headquarters for fighting in Bleeding Kansas and then later, as an Underground Railroad stop for numerous men, women and children escaping slavery, including the famous "Twelve," who traveled with John Brown and the "Topeka Boys" through the a region infested with bounty hunters and pro-slavery militias.

Nelson, a Falls City native and former metro columnist for the *World-Herald* -- will have on hand a collection of 12 cap and ball firearms from the 1850s that are known to have been used by Free-State militiamen traveling into Kansas along "the Lane Trail" (which passed over the current site of the Richardson County Courthouse). This "Guns that Won Kansas" display includes both the highest tech weapon of the day -- the Sharps carbine known as a "Beecher Bible" and the 1851 Colt Navy revolver -- to the weapons most cash-strapped emigrants actually carried, everything from flint-lock muskets from the War of 1812 to muzzle-loaded double-barreled shotguns.

## BPO DOES ANNUAL SPRING LUNCHEON

Elks Lodge • 11AM-1PM  
**MONDAY, APRIL 27**

**\$12, Additional \$1 for Carry-out Choice of ham or chicken salad sandwich, salads & desserts.**

FUNDS WILL BE USED TO SUPPORT Community Activities & Other Community Organizations.

## Tigers outscored by Bulldogs

The Falls City baseball team fell to 1-12 on the year after dropping a 12-4 contest at Auburn last Thursday night. The Bulldogs never trailed, scoring in all but one frame as they cruised to the win. With the win, Auburn improved to 10-5. The Bulldogs out-hit FC 7-5, but the real story was the Tigers' nine errors. Only three of Auburn's 12 runs were earned.

The Tigers loaded the bases with two outs in the first, but a strikeout stranded the runners. Auburn quickly pounced on the opportunity. An error by the Tiger right fielder, a hit by pitch, and a ground out put Auburn in front 1-0. Moments later, pitcher Brock Niedfeldt surrendered a base hit, putting the Bulldogs in front 2-0.

Vaden Leyden drew a five-pitch walk against Bulldogs pitcher Ty Dunekacke in the second inning. A passed ball and a wild pitch put the runner at third with two outs. Jaiden Willman then singled, driving in Leyden to make it a one-run game, 2-1.

FC again loaded the bases with two outs in the third. Niedfeldt reached after being hit by a pitch. Mason Collier then laced a double to center field, followed by a walk to Kam Huppert. Unfortunately, the next batter struck out, stranding the runners yet again.

Auburn got to Niedfeldt in the third. Two singles, a double, and a walk made it 5-1 after three.

In the fourth, Callen Furnas walked on four straight pitches. Willman was hit by a pitch, and Elin Vonderschmidt singled to right field, loading the bases with one out. A groundout by Jayton Wilkerson drove in Furnas, cutting the lead to 5-2.

Auburn scored one in the fourth and three more in the fifth, pushing the advantage to 9-2.

Wilkerson knocked in Vonderschmidt with a base hit to right field, making it 9-3, but Auburn responded with three more runs in the bottom half of the frame to seal the win.

FC didn't go down without a fight. Huppert walked to open the seventh. A wild pitch and a groundout moved the runner to third, and Huppert eventually scored on a wild pitch, making the final 12-4.

Willman, Vonderschmidt, Wilkerson and Leyden all singled, while Collier added a two-bagger. Wilkerson led the team with two RBI, and

Willman drove in the third run.

Gavin Bauer went 1-2 with two walks and two runs scored for Auburn. Griffen Sikora was 0-3 with a walk and a run scored, and Jack Hilgenfeld was 0-2 with a walk and a run scored. Dunekacke got the win, allowing four hits, two runs (one earned) in 4 1/3 innings of work.

Niedfeldt took the loss, surrendering six hits and six runs (three earned) in three innings.

FC hosted the East Atchison Wolves on Tuesday, April 21. The Tigers played at Nebraska City on Wednesday and hosted Palmyra on Thursday, April 23. The Tigers concluded the week at Raymond Central on Saturday.

last week.

The event was sponsored by the Richardson County Arts & Humanities, Falls City Chamber & Main Street and the Richardson County Visitors Committee.

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\*Bloom Bonus Offers are available for a limited time and may be canceled without notice. Promotion is available from April 1, 2026, to June 30, 2026. One Bloom offer permitted per household, available for new Equity Bank households only, and subject to review and approval. A new Equity Bank household for the Bloom Bonus Offer is defined as applicant(s) not linked as an owner to an open Equity Bank consumer checking, savings or Money Market account within the past 180 days. The incentive may be paid for opening both a new checking and savings account during the promotion period. Incentive amount will be directly deposited into the customer's qualifying checking account after approximately 45 days of checking account opening, assuming all qualifications are met. To qualify for offer, customer must (1) open and fund both a new checking and savings account within 45 days of each other and no later than June 30, 2026, (2) maintain Equity Bank accounts in active and good standing at time of incentive payment, (3) receive a minimum of \$1000 in combined qualifying direct deposits into the new checking account within 45 days of account opening; (4) activate and use Equity Bank debit card within 45 days of account opening; and (5) When opening accounts online, enter "Bloom" under "Enter Promotional Code." If customer opens the accounts at an Equity Bank location, mention "Bloom" offer at time of opening. Promotion not available to current employees and employee household members of Equity Bancshares, Inc. or its subsidiaries. Customer will be issued a 1099-INT form for tax value of the incentive amount. Minimum \$100 deposits may be required to open Equity Bank checking account. Member FDIC.



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## ARMBRUSTER'S "BACK IN THE DAY"

This advertising major interned at the Falls City Journal in 1996.

Last week's "Back in the Day" was Wilfred "Butch" Young

